



Holland Charter Township

353 North 120th Avenue • Holland, MI 49424 • phone: 616.396.2345 • Fax: 616.396.2537

Memorandum

TO: Board of Trustees
FROM: Steve Bulthuis
DATE: April 12, 2026
SUBJECT: Public Safety Millage Renewal

Background

A voter-approved millage has long supported law enforcement and emergency medical response activities. The current version of this millage approved by voters, a 1.5 mill levy, is in effect through 2026. It is time to consider the renewal of this millage for the time period 2027-2030 which is scheduled to be placed before voters at the August 4 primary election.

Since the approval of the last millage, emergency fire and medical response services are now provided by a sixteen-employee, full-time fire department. A paid on-call firefighter corps is also available to assist with emergencies and staffing needs as warranted. Meanwhile, law enforcement staffing levels (16 persons) remained constant after the transition of emergency medical response from the Sheriff's E-unit to the Township's fire department.

Activity Levels

The Board receives monthly law enforcement and fire/medical response activities. In FY2025, the first full year the fire department provided medical response, there were 2,803 calls. FY2026 is starting off to exceed that number if current trends continue. Not surprisingly, Sheriff department activity did not decrease in FY2025 with deputies responding to 16,933 calls. With the Township's continued growth, it is projected that these levels will continue to grow.

Anticipated Costs and Recommended Millage Level

As discussed at budget study sessions the last few years, the costs of law enforcement and emergency fire/medical services have grown as the transitions noted above have occurred. Staff

developed cost projections for the fiscal years covered by the millage (2028-2031) utilizing historical cost factors as well as anticipated staffing/service levels:

FY2028: \$5,510,185

FY2029: \$5,785,694

FY2030: \$6,074,979

FY2031: \$6,378,728

A millage levy of 1.75 mills (reduced by Headlee) generated the following revenues for FY2028-2031*:

FY2028 – \$3,917,148

FY2029 – \$4,063,238

FY2030 – \$4,197,285

FY2031 – \$4,319,006

*Assumes township taxable value increases annually by 5%

The chart below shows, by year, the support needed from the general fund to meet anticipated costs at the recommended levy of 1.75 mills

	2028	2029	2030	2031
1.75 mills	\$1,593,037	\$1,722,456	\$1,877,694	\$2,059,722

Upon reviewing numerous scenarios with the Executive Committee, it is recommended that a millage levy of 1.75 mills be placed before the voters. A resolution containing ballot language reflecting the 1.75 mills level is attached. Please note that the language in the proposition is broad allowing millage revenues to be used for both fire and law enforcement services.

Please contact me with any questions concerning this matter.

EXCERPTS OF MINUTES

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Holland, Ottawa County, Michigan, held at the Riley Street Fire Station at 131 Riley Street, Holland Charter Township, Ottawa County, Michigan on the 16th day of April, 2026, at 7:00 p.m., local time.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

After certain matters of business were concluded, the Supervisor stated the next order of business was the consideration of a proposed Resolution concerning a millage proposition to be placed on the ballot for the August 4, 2026 primary election. A draft of this Resolution was then reviewed by members of the Township Board. After discussion, the following Resolution was offered by Board Member _____ and supported by Board Member _____.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Township Board desires to place before the Township electors at the August 4, 2026, primary election, a millage proposition with respect to Public Safety Services;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS.

1. The following proposition shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the Charter Township of Holland, Ottawa County, Michigan, at an election to be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2026:

RENEWAL PUBLIC SAFETY PROPOSITION

Shall an expiring increase of 1.50 mill for policing and emergency medical response services, reduced by required rollback to 1.4577 mill, above the Charter Township tax limitation of 5 mills upon the total amount of general ad valorem taxes imposed upon real and tangible personal property for all purposes in any one year under Michigan law, be renewed and increased for the Charter Township of Holland, Ottawa County, Michigan for 1.75 mills (which is equal to \$1.75 per \$1,000 of Taxable Value of all such property) for a period of four (4) years, 2027 through 2030, inclusive, and shall the Charter Township of Holland be authorized to levy such tax? The purpose of the millage (which will result in an estimated

amount of revenue of \$3,917,148 that will be collected in the first year that the millage is authorized and levied) is for paying costs for public safety services to provide emergency medical response and care and for policing services to provide community directed law enforcement, traffic safety and enforcement, and other general policing and public safety services.

YES ()

NO ()

2. The Township Clerk is authorized and directed to certify this Resolution, containing the foregoing Public Safety Millage Proposition, to the County Clerk for the County of Ottawa, Michigan, not later than 4:00 p.m. on May 12, 2026, or other deadline established by law.

3. All resolutions in conflict herewith in whole or in part are revoked to the extent of such conflict.

YES: _____

NO: _____

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

Dated: April 16, 2026.

Michael Dalman, Township Clerk

CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Township Clerk of the Charter Township of Holland, Ottawa County, Michigan, certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Resolution adopted by the Township Board at a regular meeting of the Township Board held on the 16th day of April, 2026. I further certify that public notice of the meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with Michigan Act 267 of 1976, as amended and that the minutes of the meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by the Act.

Michael Dalman, Township Clerk