



"GROWING TOWARD THE FUTURE"

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2
FALL 2016

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



2016 TOWNSHIP BALLOT ISSUES

Several issues on the November 2016 ballot are of significance to Hanover Township residents. The following information summarizes how proposed levy funds would be used as well as provides an explanation regarding the electric aggregation issue. (See page 2 for ballot issue language.)

FIRE/EMS LEVY

- Provides for two Emergency Medical Service personnel on station 24/7, 365 days per year to improve response times
- Provides for the replacement of Fire and EMS Equipment over the next five to six year period (costs estimated to be up to \$1,215,000.00)
- Provides for the continued maintenance of the fire station and equipment in top quality condition

GENERAL OPERATING LEVY

- Provides for Law Enforcement Services contract with the Butler County Sheriff (up to \$204,000.00 annually)
- Provides for Safety and Sanitary Park Improvements which would include Park lighting, restrooms, water and drainage upgrades (\$50,000.00 total)
- Provides capital for Road Department equipment purchases to replace worn out equipment (up to \$50,000.00 annually)
- Provides matching local dollars to obtain Federal and State grants to construct a new Park restroom

Other potential projects, depending upon availability of funds, would include Community Center Parking Lot and Drainage Improvements.

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION ISSUE

Electric aggregation would allow the Township to negotiate a bulk price on the electric commodity for residents who purchase electric from Duke Energy. Consumers would then decide if they wanted to opt-out of the electric aggregation program and continue to provide for their own electric supply rather than take advantage of the Township negotiated price. If approved by the voters, Duke customers would see no change in their electric services. Duke Energy would continue to carry, service, and bill for electric to these customers. Residents who purchase electric from Butler Rural Electric Cooperative already enjoy a group-purchasing benefit. While Butler Rural Electric Cooperative customers are not affected by this ballot issue, passage would provide residents who are Duke Energy customers a similar cost saving group-purchasing advantage.

The electric aggregation program **is not a tax** and **would be a completely voluntary** program. Residents would have the choice to opt-out of the program if they do not wish to participate.

2016 Ballot Language	2
Alamo Heights Update	3
Open Burning Regulations	3
Zoning Questions	3
Classification of Streets	3
Haunted Harvest October 30!	4

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- *Hanover Haunted Harvest*
Sunday, October 30
- *Halloween*
Monday, October 31 (6-8PM)
- *Election Day*
Tuesday, November 8
- *Veterans Day*
Friday, November 11
- *Thanksgiving*
Thursday, November 24
- *Christmas*
Sunday, December 25

Township offices will be closed:

- November 11*
- November 24 and 25*
- December 23 (afternoon)*
- December 26*

*The Board of Trustees meets
the second Wednesday of
the month at 6:00 p.m.
unless posted otherwise*

Why is Hanover Township seeking an increase in taxes?

Hanover Township was negatively impacted by the recession resulting in property values dropping over time. In addition, the State of Ohio significantly cut its funding to townships and eliminated Estate Tax revenue for local governments. The result has been a loss of revenue for the Township totaling over \$250,000 annually for the past few years. The Board of Township Trustees voted to put these levies before the voters to allow the Township to just stay even with where it was in 2011. With decreasing revenues and needed equipment replacements, as well as required maintenance of facilities, the Township does not have sufficient revenues to keep the same service level to residents. There is no dedicated source of revenue for law enforcement services, park services and operation of the Community Center.

FIRE/EMS LEVY BALLOT LANGUAGE

PROPOSED TAX LEVY (REPLACEMENT AND INCREASE)

HANOVER TOWNSHIP (UNINCORPORATED AREA)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

A replacement of one and seventy-five hundredths (1.75) mills of an existing levy and an increase of one and seventy-five hundredths (1.75) mills to constitute a tax for the benefit of the Hanover Township Fire District for the purpose of providing and maintaining fire apparatus, appliances, buildings, or sites therefor, or sources of water supply and materials therefor, or the establishment and maintenance of lines of fire alarm telegraph, or the payment of permanent, part-time, or volunteer firefighters or firefighting companies to operate the same, including the payment of the firefighter employers' contribution required under section 742.34 of the Revised Code, or the purchase of ambulance equipment, or the provision of ambulance, paramedic, or other emergency medical services operated by a fire department or firefighting company, at a rate not exceeding three and five-tenths (3.5) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to thirty-five cents (\$0.35) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of five (5) years, commencing in 2016 first due in calendar year 2017.

FOR THE TAX LEVY

AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

GENERAL OPERATING LEVY BALLOT LANGUAGE

PROPOSED TAX LEVY (ADDITIONAL)

HANOVER TOWNSHIP (UNINCORPORATED AREA)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

An additional tax for the benefit of Hanover Township for the purpose of current expenses at a rate not exceeding one and seventy-five hundredths (1.75) mills for each one dollar of valuation, which amounts to seventeen and five-tenths cents (\$0.175) for each one hundred dollars of valuation, for a period of five (5) years, commencing in 2016, first due in calendar year 2017.

FOR THE TAX LEVY

AGAINST THE TAX LEVY

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION ISSUE BALLOT LANGUAGE

PROPOSED RESOLUTION ELECTRIC AGGREGATION

HANOVER TOWNSHIP (UNINCORPORATED AREA)

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall Hanover Township have the authority to aggregate the retail electric loads located in the Township, and for that purpose, enter into service agreements to facilitate for those loads the sale and purchase of electricity, such aggregation to occur automatically except where any person elects to opt out?

YES _____

NO _____

UPDATE: ALAMO HEIGHTS ROAD IMPROVEMENTS



The streets in Alamo Heights were to receive a surface application of Black Mat to seal the street surface and complement the curb and gutter work previously completed. However, final approval to proceed from the grant source was not received in time for the work to be performed in 2016. Consequently, this work will be completed as part of the 2017 Road Program during the warm weather months.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH OPEN BURNING?

Why does Ohio law prohibit so many kinds of open burning? Depending upon the material being burned, open fires can release many kinds of toxic fumes. Leaves and plant materials send aloft millions of spores when they catch fire, causing many people with allergies to have difficulty breathing. The gases released by open burning can also harm neighboring buildings by corroding metal siding and damaging paint. Open burning can be a hazard for fields and farms which are very susceptible to fires during hot and/or dry periods throughout the year. Finally, open burning is not a very efficient way to get rid of wastes since open fires do not get hot enough to burn the materials completely.

The Ohio Administrative Code allows for opening burning for cooking for human consumption, heating tar, welding torches, smudge pots, ceremonial exercises, grilling and heating for warmth of outdoor workers. Open burning may also occur under certain circumstances including by permit which can be determined by **calling the Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency at 513-946-1711.**

An information pamphlet that covers the topic of open burning is available at the Township Administration Building.

DO YOU HAVE A BUILDING OR ZONING QUESTION?

If you have concerns about matters related to zoning, building permits, fences, junk vehicles, or unsightly debris, please call the **Butler County Building and Zoning Department at 513-887-3205** for assistance.



CLASSIFICATION OF STREETS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Hanover Township fields many questions about dead animals, signs, drainage and speed zones associated with the roadways throughout Hanover Township. The Township tries to be responsive to all requests for service but many roads are not under the jurisdiction of the Township. For instance, Old Oxford Road is a State of Ohio route (SR130), Millville Avenue is State Route 129, Millville Oxford Road is US 27 under State jurisdiction and Hamilton Richmond Road is a State of Ohio route (SR 177). Roads under the jurisdiction of the Butler County Engineer's Office include Minton Road, Stahlheber Road east of US 27, Stillwell Beckett Road, Nichols Road west of Lanes Mill to the Township line, Lanes Mill Road and Reily Millville Road. Neighborhood streets and other roads such as Krucker, Vizedom, Morman Road north of Old Oxford Road, Hogue Road and Darrtown Road are examples of streets under the Township's jurisdiction. To get assistance for the various roadways in the Township, you may call 513-896-7800 for Hanover Township; 513-867-5744 for the Butler County Engineer's Office and 513-863-6609 for the local office of the Ohio Department of Transportation.

HANOVER TOWNSHIP



*“Growing Toward
the Future”*

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We're on the web! Visit us at
www.hanovertownshipohio.org

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HANOVER HAUNTED HARVEST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30!

The Hanover Township Board of Trustees, working in cooperation with the Hanover Township Park Committee, is hosting the sixth annual Hanover Haunted Harvest on **Sunday, October 30** in the Hanover Township Memorial Park from **5:30PM to 7:30PM**.

The Township Park Committee, Hanover Township Fire Department, Butler County Sheriff's Office, Township Trustees



and Fiscal Officer, and Millville Baptist Church

volunteers will be on hand to give out candy, hot cider, popcorn, hot dogs, and juices. The event is designed to provide a sense of community and a safe haven for kids and adults to enjoy the Halloween season.

Kids are invited to bring their already decorated pumpkins to compete in the **pumpkin contests** which will be held at **6:00PM**.

The pumpkin contest will be judged by age groups (ages 2 to 5; 6 to 9; 10 to 14; and ages 15 and up!)

Kids and adults are also encouraged to wear their costumes to participate in



the **costume contests** scheduled to begin at **6:30PM**. Costumes will be judged by various categories and age groups (ages 5 and under; ages 6 to 9; ages 10 to 12, ages 13 to 14; and ages 15 and up!) All kids' activities are **FREE!**

For more event information or if you are **interested in being an event sponsor**, call 896-9059 and select the "special events" menu option.