

# WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP TOWNSHIP BOARD

## REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

**TO:** Township Board

**FROM:** Justin Quagliata, Staff Planner

**DATE:** December 11, 2023

**RE:** 2024-2033 Parks & Recreation Millage Recommendation

---

On December 13, 2023 it is anticipated the Parks and Recreation Committee will recommend the Township Board authorize the Township Attorney to prepare ballot language consistent with the 2018 millage for a new 10-year (2024-2033), 0.50 mill parks and recreation millage. 2023 is the last year of the current millage (six-year, 0.3 mill approved in 2018 (permanently reduced by Headlee to 0.2845)) and it is estimated to collect \$420,918. An increase to 0.5 mill is estimated to collect \$791,533 in 2024. As an example: the typical White Lake single-family residential property has a taxable value of approximately \$175,000. With the current millage, a property owner pays \$49.79 annually. With the proposed increase, a property owner would pay \$87.50 annually.

The Committee discussed the millage proposal at three meetings this year. It considered millages levied by other townships in Oakland County (attached for reference); the average township parks and recreation millage in Oakland County is 0.6841 mill. The Committee also considered the capital improvement priorities in the 2023-2027 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes over a dozen park and pathway projects with an estimated total cost of \$25,315,000. While grants can be applied for (and possibly received) to defray project costs, the current millage does not collect sufficient funds to complete the projects identified in the CIP.

The following items should be considered by the Township Board:

- Millage to be levied; millage length; election (August 2024 or November 2024)

### Attachments

1. 0.5 mill collection estimate for years one through four of proposed 10-year millage.
2. Parks and recreation millage comparables of townships in Oakland County.
3. Ballot language of 2018 White Lake Parks and Recreation millage.
4. Parks and Recreation Committee draft meeting minutes of December 13, 2023.

## White Lake Parks & Recreation Millage Estimates

YEAR	TV	Mill Rate	Taxes	Note
2023	1,479,500,110	0.2845	\$ 420,918	Current estimated Collection
2024	1,583,065,118	0.5	\$ 791,533	Increase to .50 Mills
2025	1,654,303,048	0.4975	\$ 823,016	.995 Headlee
2026	1,728,746,685	0.49004	\$ 847,151	.985 Headlee
2027	1,806,540,286	0.48268694	\$ 871,993	.985 Headlee

Increase to .50 Mills for December 2024

**Townships in Oakland County**  
**Millages: Parks & Rec, Safety Paths, and Trails**

<b>Township</b>	<b>Millage Purpose</b>	<b>Millage Levied</b>	<b>Expiration Date</b>
Bloomfield	Safety Paths	0.4515	12/31/2023
Commerce	Parks/Open Space	0.3662	12/31/2023
Independence	Safety Paths	0.4162	12/31/2028
Milford	Rec Trails	0.0960	12/31/2023
Oakland	Parks	0.6941	12/31/2026
	Land Preservation	0.6121	12/31/2030
	Trail System	0.1612	12/31/2026
	Total:	1.4674	
Orion	Parks & Rec	0.9537	12/31/2027
Oxford	Parks & Rec	0.9698	12/31/2029
	Parks Debt	0.2050	12/31/2025
	Total:	1.1748	
Springfield	Parks & Rec	0.7175	12/31/2023
Waterford	Parks & Rec	0.4603	12/31/2023
West Bloomfield	Parks & Rec	0.2265	12/31/2023
	Parks & Rec	0.3258	12/31/2023
	Parks & Rec	0.3598	12/31/2027
	Parks & Rec	0.2245	12/31/2030
	Total:	1.1366	
White Lake	Parks & Rec	0.2845	12/31/2023

Average Millage: 0.6841

**EXHIBIT A**

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF WHITE LAKE  
PARK AND RECREATIONAL MILLAGE PROPOSAL**

Shall the tax limitation on all taxable property within the Charter Township of White Lake, Oakland County, Michigan, be increased and the Township be authorized to levy a new additional millage in an amount not to exceed .30 mill (\$0.30 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) for six (6) years, 2018 to 2023 inclusive, to provide funds for all park and recreational uses permitted by law, including but not limited to maintaining, improving, purchasing, constructing or acquiring property, property interests, trails, pathways and facilities for park and recreational purposes? The estimate of the revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the 2018 calendar year (the first year of levy) is approximately \$336,000.

Yes

No

54955:00001:3556520-1

**WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE  
December 13, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Chairperson Carlock called the special meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll was called.

**ROLL CALL:**

Andrea Voorheis, Township Board Liaison  
Kathleen Aseltyne, Vice-Chair  
Rhonda Grubb  
Merrie Carlock, Chair

**Absent:**

Alexandra Schillack

**Also Present:**

Justin Quagliata, Staff Planner  
Hannah Kennedy-Galley, Recording Secretary

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION by Member Aseltyne, seconded by Member Grubb, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried with a voice vote: (4 yes votes).**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of October 11, 2023

**MOTION by Member Grubb, seconded by Member Aseltyne, to approve the meeting minutes of October 11, 2023 as presented. The motion carried with a voice vote: (4 yes votes).**

**CALL TO PUBLIC**

Gianna Pendley, 5335 Wayne Road, spoke regarding her non-profit and wanted input regarding creating a war memorial concept for the Township.

**NEW/CONTINUING BUSINESS**

A. Recommendation to the Township Board: 2024 Millage Proposal

Staff Planner Quagliata summarized what the Committee had previously discussed: the millage recommendation was 10-years (2024-2033), 0.5 mill and an estimated \$791,533 would be collected in 2024 if the increase was passed. A property owner would pay \$87.50 annually if the proposed increase was passed. Funds collected from the millage increase would help supplement parks and recreation projects outlined in the 2024-2029 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Staff Planner Quagliata thought the Board of Trustees (BOT) would be in favor of the recommendation.

**MOTION by Member Aseltyne, seconded by Member Grubb, to authorize the Township Attorney to prepare ballot language consistent with the 2018 millage for a new 10-year (2024-2033), 0.5 mill parks and recreation millage. The motion carried with a roll call vote: (4 yes votes) (Aseltyne/yes, Grubb/yes, Carlock/yes, Voorheis/yes).**

B. Discussion: Tree Lighting Recap

Kelly Lang, Supervisor's Office, stated the Tree Lighting was a success. She gave a summary of the event, and the amount of money spent and the amount of money donated. There was an estimated 750 people in attendance.

**Member Voorheis excused herself at 6:40 P.M.**

**OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Meeting Time Update

Staff Planner Quagliata said the Township Board approved meeting start times for BOT, Planning Commission, Parks and Rec Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to begin at 6:30 P.M. beginning January 2024.

**STAFF REPORT**

Staff Planner Quagliata said the Triangle Trail and Stanley Park projects would be advertised for bid in January.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

A. Member Communications

Member Aseltyne and Member Carlock would not be present for the January 10 meeting. There was a possibility of the January meeting being canceled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION by Member Aseltyne, seconded by Member Grubb, to adjourn at 6:44 P.M.**

**The motion carried with a voice vote: (4 yes votes).**