



# Runyan Lake Inc.

PO Box 105  
Fenton MI 48430-0105

Dear Runyan Lake Inc. Members,

While the Runyan Lake Board has traditionally maintained a politically neutral position on election issues, the membership has specifically asked us to look out for the best interests of Runyan Lake Inc. members. Those who attended the Spring General Meeting viewed a presentation by Brian Miles regarding the Tyrone Township general fund status and the costs for public safety and sewer bonds. After careful consideration, **the Runyan Lake Inc. Board is encouraging all Runyan Lake Inc. members to vote YES on the Public Safety Ballot proposal on August 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Attached is a copy of the township's newsletter with details.

Your Runyan Lake Inc. Board supports this vote for the following reasons:

- 1) The special assessment for Public Safety will secure funds which can only be used for that purpose. No matter what other expenses the township incurs, and no matter how much additional state funding previously provided to the township is cut, there would be sufficient funding for Public Safety (fire and police services). And because the township is experiencing high rates of property tax and sewer assessment delinquency, the township general fund has insufficient funds to meet all of its obligations. The funds currently spent on Public Safety from the general fund are running out, but a special assessment would allocate funding for Public Safety use only.
- 2) If the special assessment passes, as a result of secure funding, the three area fire departments which provide services to Tyrone Township residents have indicated they would enter into longer term (3 or more years) contracts. Contracts such as this typically offer reduced costs and ensure continuous service. Without secure funding for Public Safety, the three area fire departments have indicated they are unwilling to enter into long term contracts, and may be unwilling to enter into short term contracts because they are concerned they will not get paid. This could result in the loss of fire and police services, which would likely result in home insurance increases far greater than the special assessment being requested.
- 3) Despite many believing this special assessment request is simply a way to divert money to pay for the sewer bonds, in reality Public Safety is the single largest expense the township has, and just like other services the cost continues to increase. This combined with the effects of state revenue sharing cuts, delinquent property taxes, and delinquent sewer assessments means there is very little money to fund Public Safety or anything else. The township is unfortunately faced with the reality of either funding Public Safety through a special assessment or cutting or eliminating Public Safety services. If residents want Public Safety services a special assessment is the best method to provide dedicated funds sufficient to provide those services without relying on uncertain and insufficient general funding.

We encourage Runyan Lake Inc. members to research this ballot issue, read the attached township news letter, and contact Tyrone Township officials if you have questions.

Please exercise your right to vote on August 3rd, regardless of your position on this issue.

*Your Runyan Lake Inc. Board*

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