



THE BINGHAM FARMS POST

Summer 2018

CHARTER AMENDMENTS TO BE ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

Every so often, the Village reviews its Charter to make sure it complies with State law and also reflects today's economic realities.

This review has just been completed and the Village Council has authorized a number of charter amendments to be placed on the November ballot.

The following is a synopsis of the proposed amendments.

1. Chapter II Powers in General - Change the value of personal property the Village is allowed to acquire by purchase, gift or lease personal property without prior approval of the voters to not exceed \$20,000 (previously \$10,000). The cost of the office copier is approaching the \$10,000 limit.
2. Chapter III Plan of Government - Section 8 (2) - this entire paragraph is changed from authorizing a Village Marshall position to clarifying the Village's ability to contract for police services and provide the authority for them to enforce Village ordinances and powers to preserve peace and safety in the community. The Village has hired police services and has not had a Village Marshal for many years.
3. Chapter III Section 8 (3) removes reference to removal of Village Mar-

shall.

4. Chapter IV Registration Section 21 clarifies that State law controls over any Charter election law provision which conflicts.
5. Chapter VI Ordinances Section 5 - rewrites this section to provide for a fine not to exceed \$500 for an ordinance violations (was previously \$100.) and allows the Village to consider an ordinance violation as a civil infraction rather than a misdemeanor.
6. Chapter IX General Finance Section 7 - Eliminates wording tying financial reporting to annual Village elections (which no longer occur at the time set out in the current provision). Instead it now states the Village will provide such financial reporting as required by State law.
7. Chapter XVI Miscellaneous - Section 11 - Wording amended to be similar to that in Chapter VI Ordinances Section 5.

The complete language of the charter amendments is on Pages 10-12.

Should you have any questions regarding these proposed amendments, feel free to contact the Village office.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS SET FOR NOVEMBER

The upcoming Village elections on November 6, 2018 will see a major change in the Village Council.

Jeffrey Modell, who has served as Village President since November 2012 has informed Council he will not be seeking re-position is elected separately by the election.

The President voters.

There are also three trustee seats up for election (two are 4-year terms and one is a 2-year term).

These positions are currently held by:

Mel Ettenson
Jeff Douville
Kurt Jones

Nominating Petitions are due by 4 p.m. July 24, 2018. At least 15 but no more than 20 signatures are required. Petitions must be submitted to the Southfield Township Clerk at 18550 Thirteen Mile Rd.

Without residents stepping up to volunteer, the Village could not legally function.

Southfield Twp. handles all elections for the Village. Should you wish to have an absentee ballot, please contact Sharon Tischler, Clerk, at 248.540-3420.

VOTER REGISTRATION INFO

Last Day to Register to Vote - October 9, 2018.

Places to register: Southfield Twp.

**18550 Thirteen Mile Rd. (next door to Beverly Hills municipal offices)
248.540.3420**

or at

Any Secretary of State office.

WANTED

**Village Clerk/Administrator
is retiring
Interested??
See link for details**

[http://www.mml.org/classifieds/
results2.php?id=9178](http://www.mml.org/classifieds/results2.php?id=9178)



Can you believe we are half way through 2018? Next, your 50-plus community center, has accomplished quite a bit so far this year. Here are just some of the highlights!

Membership continues to increase; we are thrilled to welcome 175 new members in just the past six months! Most new members learn about us from a friend or neighbor. Thank you for continuing to spread the good news about Next!

Thank you for those who participated in the recent, very successful Golf Classic at Lincoln Hills on June 11th. We had a full course of golfers, amazing silent auction and wonderful dinner. It was a beautiful day filled with a lot of community camaraderie! We hope you can join us next year!

In May, Next installed the area's first Fit Park; thank you to the Foundation for Birmingham Seniors Residents! Orientations have been well attended and every day, more and more members, and residents, are utilizing the new equipment. The Fit Park is available for open use anytime it fits into your schedule.

Next and the City of Birmingham are thrilled to partner together to bring expanded Pickleball sessions to the Ice Rink for the summer. Six courts, ladder play, lessons and mixers serve our players, and many players from around the community. Come join the fastest growing sport in America!

Each month, Next has close to 250 activities on the calendar. From creative arts, fitness, and enrichment, to the many new offerings like cycling groups and men's softball, we are offering a greater variety of programs than ever before!

Support services has also been very busy. Offering furnace checks and repairs, yard services, minor home repairs, housing tours, guidance and information to community members, this department is keeping a record number of residents safe, healthy and independent!

We encourage you to stop by for a tour, membership information or volunteer opportunities. We welcome the chance introduce you to Next and show why it is such a great place to stay active and connected!

Next is located at 2121 Midvale, Birmingham (248) 203-5270. Program information and registration can be found on the website www.BirminghamNext.org.

A Senior Must Have

They are called Vial of Life. The vials contain pertinent medical information to which emergency personnel can have immediate access.

The vial contains a medical sheet that identifies medical history and current medications. Fold the sheets and place them in the vial. Seal the vial and place it in your freezer, making sure the vial remains easily visible when the freezer door is opened.

Place a magnet on your refrigerator door and place the sticker adjacent to the entrance door of your home.

When emergency personnel see the stickers, they know you have a vial of life in your freezer and can immediately access the information.

The Village office has a supply of vials, so stop in and pick one up.

Have any questions? Call the Village office at 248.644.0044.



State Fireworks Law

With more municipalities veering away from fireworks celebrations, some folks may increase their private celebrations. The State changed its fireworks regulations over the years, so here are some reminders about the sale and use of fireworks in Michigan:

The Michigan Fireworks Safety Act *permits* the sale and use of flying and exploding fireworks. The Act requires that *licensed* vendors verify that all purchasers of the exploding and flying fireworks are at least 18 years of age; however, there is no age restriction on the user of the fireworks.

Some of the fireworks that are now legal under the Michigan Fireworks Safety Act include Roman candles, firecrackers, bottle and sky rockets, missile type rockets, aerial spinners, reloadable shell devices and singe tub devices with report.



Other fireworks remain illegal and cannot be sold or used in Michigan, including Cherry Bombs and M-80's. In addition, fireworks cannot be used on public property (schools, roadways, etc.), and the user of fireworks cannot be under the influence of intoxicants.

State law allows fireworks to be used any time, day or night, the day before a national holiday, the day of a national holiday, and the day after the holiday. **The Village prohibits excessive noise after 11:00 p.m.**

If you plan to light fireworks during the holiday season, have a charged garden hose or some other water supply nearby just in case there's an accidental small fire.

If you have any complaints about fireworks displays, call the police department at the non-emergency number 248-626-5444. Bingham Farms has been fortunate that residents have been considerate of their neighbors. Thank you.

Have a safe holiday.

The President's Letter

This is a tough letter to write. What can I say about a Village official who has served Bingham Farms for more than 30 years and been my indispensable right hand for as long as I have been President?

Kathryn Hagaman, our Village Clerk/Administrator, made clear years ago that she would not work forever. We had a contingency plan on file. A few months ago she gave Council official notice of her retirement, effective August 31, 2018.

What a leader, what a career! Kathy started running for Village Council as a new resident back in 1984 and lost that election by 6 votes. Council, however, realized she had a lot to contribute and soon appointed her to fill a vacant Trustee seat. In 1989 she was appointed President to fill that vacancy. In 1991 she relinquished the Presidency to accommodate the Village's urgent need for a replacement Clerk/Administrator.

As President, Kathy was instrumental in reworking a contract with the Village of Franklin for police services, creating a formula to determine equitable costs and eliminating the need for annual negotiations. She also renegotiated the contract with the Baldwin Public Library,

again developing a formula basis to determine cost for services. These contracts continue today.

Her accomplishments as Clerk/Administrator have been many. Kathy spearheaded the first recycling program in the Village and continued building it through the years. Council adopted its first recycling ordinance in October 1991. Back in the day, the Village relied on the business expertise of its Council members in finding resources for DPW services. When those members retired from office, new resources were needed. In 2007 Kathy negotiated an Interlocal Agreement with Beverly Hills to provide DPW and Engineering Services on an as needed basis. This Agreement has provided the Village with a cost effective rapid response capability. She also negotiated the first ever contract with SOCRRA (South Oakland County Resource Recovery Assoc.) to allow Village residents to bring their household hazardous waste services to that facility. Up until that time, only SOCRRA members had this service. It took years to accomplish. Since then, other municipalities have entered into similar contracts.

The latest of Kathy's accomplishments was working with MDOT and the Road Commission for Oakland County to install seasonal sidewalks at minimal cost to the Village along major roads within the Village limits. The construction of these sidewalks was in conjunction with the Telegraph Rd. Reconstruction and the Bridge Reconstruction on 13 Mile Rd. projects. Further, Kathy secured grants from state and local entities to replace the high number of trees lost to the Emerald Ash Borer disease.

All this while running the daily operations of the Village, working with the Village's attorney and engineers, enforcing ordinances and handling complaints.

What can the Village President say to someone who has worked for the residents so diligently for so long, who did the heavy lifting and shaped the character of the Village? Words seem inadequate but, Kathy, please know how deeply we appreciate all that you have done.

Jeffrey D. Modell, Esq.
Village President

Join Us at Mobile Watch

Please be our GUEST at the Franklin Mobile Watch Regular Meetings that are held on the second Wednesday every month at 7:00 PM at the Bingham Woods Clubhouse. Come meet your neighbors, get involved and enjoy a tasty snack!

A Snap Shot of What we Offer to our Community:

- Regular police updates are provided from the Franklin - Bingham Farms Police Department (FBFPD).
- Relevant information and safety training.
- All members are vetted by FBFPD.

- Drive, walk, jog, window watch - all forms of observation are useful.

Patrolling as little as an hour a month can make a BIG difference for our community!

"Mobile Watch is one of the best deterrents for crime that a community can have, because it encourages close interaction between its members and the police."

Police Chief Dan Roberts.

Fire Dept. Annual Meeting Set

Every resident in Bingham Farms is invited to attend the Franklin/Bingham Farms Volunteer Fire Dept. Annual Meeting.

It's set for Monday, July 16th at 7:25 p.m. at the Fire Department, located at 32707 Franklin Road, right next to the gas station.

It might be the perfect time to explore downtown Franklin too.



Village Website Goes Live

It's a whole new look for the Bingham Farms website.

The Village Administrator, Kathryn Hagaman and her Administrative Assistant, Anna Alberti worked with Revize to develop the new site.

It's easier to read, easier to access information and is functional on computers, tablets and mobile phones. No more problems getting the information you need to know on the go.

On the administrative side, it's so much easier and quicker to update. No more IT savvy needed; no more coding expertise needed.

One of the new features is an icon that will provide emergency alerts for important information.

Scheduled meetings are right on the Home Page. Agendas and meeting packets are just a click away from the Home page.

Also, a link has been provided so residents can easily contact the Village with any of the 3 Cs: comment, complain or compliment.

Last but certainly not least, this website is ADA compliant. Through a maintenance contract with Revize, the site will be continually monitored to make sure compliance is maintained.

Check it out.

Keep Your Lawn Healthy

Your lawn so far has survived a very dry spring. Now take steps to keep the lawn healthy by following these fertilizer tips.

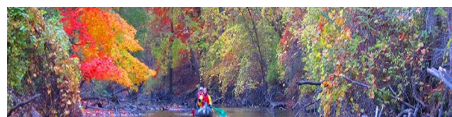
- **Mulch** your grass clippings. Let short clips fall back on the lawn. Clippings are a source of nitrogen.
- **Cut high.** Leave 3 inches on the grass blade after cutting. Tall grass promotes root growth and shades out weeds.
- **Rake** compost into the lawn. Rake 1/2 inch of compost into an established lawn to build soil fertility.

Friends of the Rouge

The Friends of the Rouge recently established the Friends of the Rouge Endowment Fund with the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan. The Fund will provide perpetual support for the organization's mission to promote the restoration and stewardship of the Rouge River ecosystem for the purpose of improving the quality of life for the people, plants, and animals of the watershed.

FOTR is currently working with local partners to develop a water trail on 25 miles of the Lower Rouge from Canton to the Detroit River. Much of the river corridor is protected within Wayne County Parks, making it ideal for the development of launches and amenities. Downstream paddling highlights the unique industrial history of the Rouge River with the massive Ford Rouge complex, suspension bridges and a freighter or two.

For more information, log on to their website:
therouge.org



When To Pull A Permit?

It's great to see all the activity in the Village with people working on landscaping, or making changes to the exterior of their home. So, when are permits necessary and what work needs Village approval?

New homes and additions need Village approval before getting a permit. Any significant changes to the exterior of a home may also require Village approval.

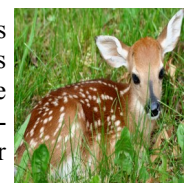
Before undertaking any exterior projects, give the Village office a call 248.644.0044. It could save you both time and money.



Don't Feed the Deer

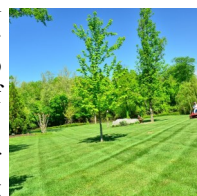
Cute to look at, but not when they're feasting on your hostas and other flowers. The Village receives complaints constantly, but there's not much the Village can do. Because we are in a populated area, it is not safe to cull the growing herds.

Making matters worse, some neighbors are actually feeding the deer. That is not a recommended activity for several reasons.



- Deer need to keep their foraging skills. This is how they survive.
- Having food out for them just draws more deer into the area.

There are a few products on the market that might detract the deer from eating your plants, products like Liquid Fence or Deer Off among others. One of the drawbacks for these products is that one has to rotate with different spray products because deer and rabbits will get used to the scent.



Looking for Cultural Arts Awards Candidates

Do you know someone who had made an impact on the arts in the Birmingham/Bloomfield community (Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township and Franklin)? Nominate him or her for the 2018 Birmingham/Bloomfield Cultural Arts Award.

Jointly sponsored by and the Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield

in conjunction with The Community House, the *Observer* and *Eccentric*

Newspapers, and the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, this year represents the 23rd year that the award has been granted. Past honorees have included musicians, philanthropists, writers, thespians, sculptors, painters, teachers, photographers, and volunteers.

The winning nominee will be honored at a reception open to the public at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center on Friday, Oct. 5, 2018 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. **Nominations due July 22, 2018.**

Download the [Nomination Form](#) for criteria.

For questions or further information please contact Marcy Heller Fisher at marcy1fish@gmail.com



**CHECK OUT THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
FACEBOOK PAGE**



Kindly Pick Up After Your Dog

This is somewhat embarrassing to write. One of the major complaints in the Village involve dog owners who do not pick up after their dog.

Some dog owners leave their dog poop wherever...on someone's lawn, even on the road. How about right in front of a mailbox.

There are others who do carry doggie bags and place the droppings in the bag. They even tie it off. But then, they will leave it on someone else's property.

Better yet, if it's garbage pick up day, they just deposit it in a readily available empty trash can, so that the property owner can either dispose of it or leave it in the trash can until the following week.

Best yet, someone called the Village office notifying us of someone who just left their dog's poop on the grass. And questioned who, from the Village office was going to come pick it up?. The caller provided a description of the dog and suggested we get the dog's DNA and track the culprit down.

Be a good neighbor and take your dog's droppings with you.



Water Rates Down Sewer Rates Up

The Oakland County water Resources Commissioner (WRC) has set the water and sewer rates for Bingham Farms residents. These rates include the cost to purchase water from the Southeast Oakland County Water Authority, the cost for WRC to operate and maintain the water supply system and establish a major maintenance reserve.

Water rates, beginning July 1, will decrease from \$26.17 to \$25.16 per Mcf, just under a 4% reduction.



On the sewer side, the increase is \$0.17 from \$25.65 to \$25.82 per Mcf.

For homes still on well water, the flat rate quarterly sewer charge will be \$129.10 up from \$128.25 last year.

Rules for Cutting Down Trees

In an effort to protect the significant forestation in the Village, a Trees & Woodlands Protection Ordinance was enacted more than 10 years ago.

No more than three regulated trees may be removed from a site within a two year period without first obtaining a tree removal permit from the Village office.



No tree removal permit may be issued for an activity that results in the removal of more than 20% of the

Cont'd on Pg. 9

**SIGN UP FOR
VILLAGE EMAIL BLASTS**

Go to

www.binghamfarms.org

Rubbish Pick Up Tips

The Village is seeing a few problems surfacing relative to what is considered a normal amount of trash on the regular Thursday pick up.

A weekly trash pick up should consist of one or two trash cans and maybe one or two other items.

If you are moving or have a large item to be thrown out, call Car Trucking and make special arrangements. They do not have the manpower to haul away large amounts of trash without prior notice.

Be advised, Car can invoice a property owner who places excessive amounts of trash out for a weekly pick up.

If you have a special item like tubs or sinks, hot tubs etc. call Car Trucking at 586-791-8480 and get pricing.

Or call another company for a trailer dumpster that can be dropped off right on your property.

Youth Group Set to Solicit in Village

Once again, a group of young people from the Michigan Conference of Seventh Day Adventists will be doing "door-to-door missionary work" in the months of July and August.

They will be asking to place Christian literature in each home that will accept it and enable residents to give a donation to help further their missionary training.

Religious organizations are protected by the First Amendment. However, they are subject to reasonable restrictions and must solicit during the day. They must obey any "No Solicitation" signs visible from the main door of a private residence.

As required by Village ordinance, the Michigan Conference of Seventh Day Adventists have fulfilled all the requirements necessary to "solicit" in the Village.

Baldwin Library News

Readers of all ages are welcome to join in the fun with BPL's 2018 Summer Reading Program **Libraries Rock!** Sign up online at www.baldwinlib.org/summer-reading, read books to win prizes, then join us for our finale events in August.

Children should be prepared to be amazed with Baffling Bill the Magician on Monday, August 13 at 10:30 a.m. Teens will wrap up the program with an After Hours Laser Tag Party on Saturday, August 11 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

For adults, The Great Foodini will share food, fun, and a little kitchen magic with Salt: The Great Magnifying Glass on Tuesday, August 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for concerts all summer long as we celebrate Libraries Rock!

Music Explorers, with The Baldwin Ensemble – Sunday, July 15 at 2:00 p.m.

Kuungana Drum & Dance Family Concert – Tuesday, July 17 at 1:00 p.m.

Guy Louis Family Concert – Thursday, July 26 at 1:30 p.m.

Harry Potter Wizard Rock Concert with Tonks & the Aurors – Saturday, July 28 at 7:00 p.m.

The History of Blues in America, with Joey Leone – July 30 at 7:00 p.m.

The Art of Electronic Music – Friday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Save the date for our 2018 Read in the Park event on Saturday, September 22. *New York Times* Bestselling author Elizabeth Berg and children's author Lisa Wheeler will be speaking and signing books at Beverly Park in Beverly Hills, Michigan.

Visit www.baldwinlib.org for a complete list of events.

Woody Debris Management on the River

Municipalities for decades have been working on cleaning up the Rouge River and its tributaries. This was done with municipal funding and millions of dollars of grants.

That program has been very successful.

Unfortunately there are not similar programs for that portion of the waterway that flows through private property.

There are no grants at this point available to assist homeowners in removing debris from that portion of the river that runs through their property.

It means the cost of clean up is borne by that particular property owner.

The best recommendation that can be offered is for the property owner to contact a local tree removal company to see if they handle this type of work.

Plus there are other requirements imposed by the MDEQ (Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality).

Local governments have no authority to regulate these waterways which are known as waterways of the state. The sole entity that does have this authority is the MDEQ.

There are a few ways property owners can prevent pollutants to enter the waterway.

- ♦ Do not fertilize plants or lawn near water source.
- ♦ Preserve a "Buffer strip" of at least 10-feet of dense, preferably natural vegetation to grow along the water's edge and stream bank. This allows pollutants to filter out and the bank to stabilize.
- ♦ Never mow to the edge of a stream bank or pond. Leave a buffer of at least several feet for root development.
- ♦ Never mow grass shorter than 2.5 inches. The height allows for larger and deeper root system, a strong defense against weeds and drought.



Bits n Pieces

Garbage Pick Up

- Regular garbage pick up is scheduled for Thursdays.
- Have garbage out by 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays or after 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening.
- Questions - call Car Trucking at 586.791.8480



Grass mowing

- It's best in the summer to keep your grass at 3" as this prevents it from drying out.
- Do not let grass/weeds get to 8" or more as this will cause the Village to issue a violation.

Construction Work

- Construction should not begin before 7:00 a.m. and should stop by dusk. Construction equipment should not start before 7:00 a.m.



Contractor Signs

- Do not allow any contractor doing work on your property to put up their signs. This is considered advertising and is prohibited by Village ordinance.

Tree Removal

- If you are taking down more than three trees, call the Village office to check whether a permit is needed. The village has a Tree and Woodlands Protection Ordinance.



Summer Storms

- If the power goes out, call DTE at **800.477.4747**. Call, even if your neighbor has already called it in. It helps DTE estimate how many customers are out of power.



Police Hold Cyber-Crime Seminar For Bingham Farms Residents

Cyber Crime continues to be a major problem not only in the U.S. but abroad.

Recently, Detective Sgt. Michael Bastianelli from the Franklin-Bingham Farms Police Department and Detective Jonathan Elges from the Oakland County Sheriff's Office gave a presentation to the Bingham Farms Mobile Watch and local residents on the topics of Identity Fraud and Cyber Security Awareness. It was held at the Bingham Woods Condominiums Clubhouse and attended by more than 40 people.

Beginning the presentation, Sgt. Bastianelli asked the attendees how many were victims of identity theft. About 10 people raised their hands. Then he asked the remaining folks to raise their hands. They did and then were told it was more than likely they too would become a victim at some point.

Identity theft targets anyone and everyone.

Det. Bastianelli then covered the various areas of identity theft, prevention and proper course of action if you have or become a victim of identity fraud. It is imperative that everyone routinely check their credit reports and watch for unusual activity on credit cards.

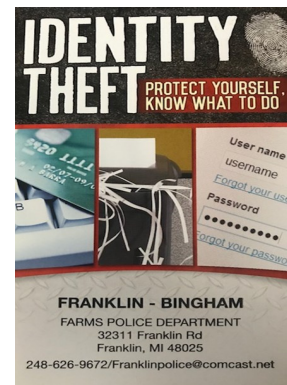
He then covered other fraud scams ranging from phone fraud to phishing schemes. He also pointed out that in today's day and age everyone is susceptible to identity fraud and that all of our information is likely already on

the internet primarily due to all the corporate security breaches which have been seen in the media.

Detective Jonathan Elges [of the Computer Crimes Unit](#) has been a Deputy with the Oakland County Sheriff's Office for over 18 years and is a Certified Forensic Computer Examiner with Certification in Smart Phone Forensics.

Deputy Elges gave instruction on several computer related topics such as computer security maintenance tips, simple online identity theft prevention tactics, securing your personal data, safe internet use, ways to monitor credit, email security, and practices online thieves use to gain access to your personal information.

For further information on identity theft prevention contact the Franklin Bingham Farms Police Department to get Identity Theft booklets or you can go to https://www.oakgov.com/sheriff/Pages/safety_tips/id_fraud.aspx. It provides resources to help you when your identity is compromised.



**UPCOMING VILLAGE
COUNCIL MEETINGS**
7:30 p.m.

**July 24
August 28
September 25**

Village Balances Its Budget Once Again

The Village Council recently approved a balanced Fiscal Year 2018/2019 Budget in the amount of \$1,998,915 and was able to maintain the 8.4 mill rate.

This was accomplished with just receiving a minor increase in state funding, and some savings in the rubbish category.

The total taxable value of properties in the Village this fiscal year is \$172,911,900, an increase of just 3.5% over last year, attributed to three new homes added to the tax roll in 2017. This total is less than the total taxable value of properties in **2001**.

Given the constraints of both the Headlee Amendment and Proposal A, both controlling the annual increases in property taxes, the Village probably will never recover from the real estate recession of 2008.

This is the result of these two amendments combined with the bottom dropping out of the real estate market in 2009.

Local municipalities are searching for other means to keep current levels of service. For Bingham Farms, that is through its millage rate.

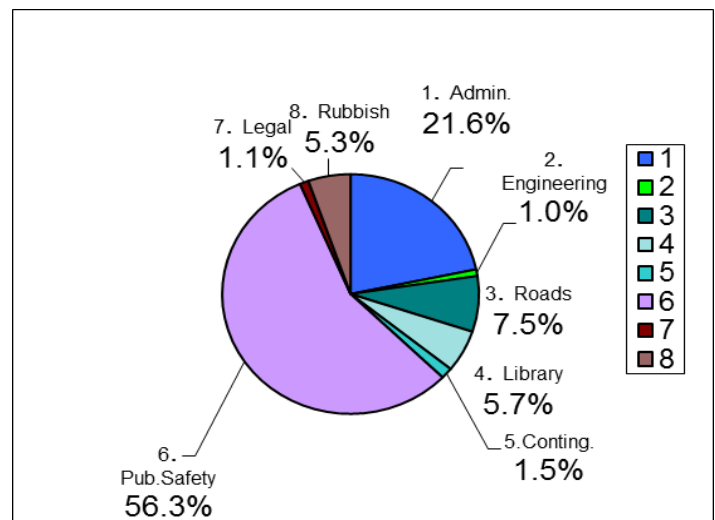
People believe that when a property is sold, it is uncapped and the

municipality benefits. But that's not correct as that gain is spread across all the taxpayers. The taxpayers benefit; the Village does not.

The only time the Village sees a bump is when a new home is built and only then does that assessed value become an addition to the tax base.

Adding up the impact and restrictions with Headlee and Proposal A, the loss of statutory state revenue sharing and the significant reduction in property values; hence the reason the Village must rely on its millage rates to provide necessary, quality services to its residents.

1 Administrative	433,651
2 Engineering	18,000
3 Appropriations-Road Imprvmnts.	150,000
4 Library	113,173
5 Contingency	30,000
6 Public Safety	1,125,221
7 Legal	22,000
8 Rubbish	106,870
	\$1,998,915



Budget Highlights

The Village Budget for FY 2018-2019 is \$1,998,915, a 5% increase compared to last year's budget.

There were two major categories with significant increases; Baldwin Library is up almost 4%. Rubbish is down 17% due to the elimination of the one-time charge for the new recycling carts.

As the graph depicts, 56% of the budget goes to public safety, which includes the purchase of services from the Franklin Police Dept. and the Franklin/Bingham Fire Dept.

The Village purchases library services from the Birmingham Baldwin Library. The cost this year is \$113,173, up about \$4,000.

Administrative expenses are \$430,411, up \$25,837. This category includes costs for office rent, rubbish collection, audit, planning, salaries, benefits etc.

The Village has concentrated on road maintenance projects. However, some of the roads now will need major reconstruction and the Village has established funding for these pro-

jects to avoid financing them.

**BINGHAM FARMS
VILLAGE TAX
Due without penalty by
August 31, 2018
SOUTHFIELD TWP. SUMMER
TAX
Due without penalty by
September 14, 2018**

Keep Fighting the West Nile Virus This Summer

Summer just started but the State's testing for West Nile Virus is ongoing and they've found the first mosquito testing positive. The virus develops more quickly as the summer heat progresses.

Last year, 40 Michigan residents were diagnosed with West Nile Virus and one death was reported. There were 2,002 cases and 121 deaths nationwide.

For most people the virus is just a slight nuisance.

Many don't even realize they've been infected. It's another story for older adults and very young children. The virus could cause major problems.



The Oakland County Health Department believes that the low numbers of human infections is directly related to the prevention methods people are taking. The best advice — keep doing what you are doing.

- ♦ Reduce areas where mosquitoes breed,
- ♦ Repel to protect against mosquitoes, and
- ♦ Report potential mosquito breeding areas.

Other measures that can reduce the risk of contracting the virus include:

- ♦ Repair all holes in windows and screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- ♦ Empty water from mosquito breeding sites such as buckets, barrels, cans, old tires etc.
- ♦ Avoid being outdoors when mosquitoes are most active (dawn and dusk).
- ♦ Wear light colored, long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.
- ♦ Apply insect repellants that contain the active ingredient DEET to exposed skin or clothing. Always follow the manufacturer's directions for use.

(Avoid applying repellent containing DEET on children less than two years of age.)

The state and the county still monitor the situation by recording the number of dead birds. This often is an indicator that the bird was infected.

If you find a dead bird, report your finding to the Oakland County Health Division Hotline at 1-877-377-3641. Then, properly dispose of the bird and wear gloves to protect yourself from direct contact.

At this point, no Zika virus infections have been reported in Michigan.

For updates on West Nile Virus, log on to the state or county website at:

www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus

or

www.oakgov.com.

How to Safely Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste

It's convenient, easy and available all year long. Best yet, **NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED**. Bingham Farms' residents can drop off their household hazardous waste products at the SOCRRA facility on Coolidge Highway in Royal Oak. The contract between the Village and SOCRRA also allows residents to drop off electronic equipment, such as televisions (no consoles) and computer equipment.



Put the items in your car, drive to the facility, drive up to the little building in the back. Just show proof of residency (driver's license will do). The SOCRRA staff will do the rest. They

will remove all the items from your vehicle.

The whole experience should take less than an hour and that's door to door.

Should you have any questions regarding acceptable materials, call SOCRRA at **248.288.5153** or visit their website at www.socrra.org.

Remember the contract covers just household hazardous waste and electronics. It does **not** cover business hazardous waste. Federal and state environmental laws prohibit the facility from accepting this type of waste.

Cutting Down Trees Cont'd from Pg. 5

regulated trees on a site, unless a tree replacement plan is submitted and approved.

This does not apply to dead, dying or diseased trees. However, it is strongly recommended that anyone taking down any trees, call the Village to inform us of the project, the # of trees involved etc. This will prevent unnecessary follow up by the Village.

Additionally, dead trees on private property can become an issue especially if they are located in an area where they are a danger to the public or adjoining property. These should be removed. Otherwise, the Village may notify the property owner to remove said trees.

If they are not removed, the property owner is subject to a civil infractions ticket.

A simple call to the Village office makes the process much easier for everyone.

***Bingham Farms
Proposed Charter Amendments
On November Ballot***

**BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION A**

Shall Section 2(1) of Chapter II of the Charter be amended to provide that the Village may acquire and/or dispose of personal property of a value not exceeding \$20,000.00 for any public use without approval of the electorate.

Yes ☐ ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment would increase the value of personal property the Village may acquire and/or dispose of for any public purpose without the prior approval of the electorate from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

**BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION B**

Shall Section 8(2) of Chapter III of the Charter be amended to provide that the Village Council may establish and/or contract for a Police Department including a Police Chief to insure that all ordinances and regulations of the Village are promptly enforced and to eliminate all references to a Village Marshall.

☐ Yes ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment eliminates the requirement that the Village appoint a Village Marshall and provides that the Village may establish and/or contract for a Police Department to reflect the fact that the Village currently contracts with the Franklin Police Department for police services.

**BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION C**

Shall Section 8(3) of Chapter III of the Charter be amended to eliminate any reference to the Village Marshall.

Yes ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment eliminates the reference to the Village Marshall, inasmuch as the Village currently does not have a Village Marshall, but instead contracts with the Franklin Police Department to provide police services to the Village.

BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION D

Shall Section 21 of Chapter IV of the Charter be amended to provide that if there is a conflict between the general laws of the State of Michigan and the Village Charter with respect to elections, the general laws of the State of Michigan shall control.

☐ Yes ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment provides that in the event there is a conflict between the general laws of the State of Michigan and the Village Charter with respect to elections, the general laws of the State of Michigan will control.

BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION E

Shall Section 5 of Chapter VI of the Charter be amended to provide that the maximum fine for violation of any Village Ordinance shall be increased from \$100.00 to \$500.00 and imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or a maximum period of imprisonment of 93 days if authorized by State law and to also provide that the Village Council shall have the authority to designate the violation of certain ordinances as civil infractions.

☐ Yes ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment authorizes the maximum punishments for violations of Village Ordinances that are consistent with current State law and/or the Village Charter.

BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION F

Shall Section 7 of Chapter IX of the Charter be amended to provide that the Village shall provide financial reporting in the manner required by State law.

☐ Yes ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment provides that the Village shall provide financial reporting pertaining to Village financial affairs in the manner required by the laws of the State of Michigan.

BALLOT QUESTION
PROPOSITION G

Shall Section 11 of Chapter XVI of the Charter be amended to provide that persons convicted of a violation of the Charter or Village Ordinances shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500.00 and/or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days, or imprisonment not exceeding 93 days if authorized by State law, or a fine not more than \$500.00 for a violation of civil infraction ordinances.

☐ Yes ☐ No

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This Charter amendment provides that the punishment for persons convicted of a violation of the Charter or Village Ordinances shall be as authorized by the laws of the State of Michigan.

SOUTHFIELD TOWNSHIP
ELECTION WORKERS
NEEDED

PAID POSITION

\$165-\$185



"INTERESTED"

APPLICATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

at www.southfieldtp.org

Click on the **Election Information** link, then at the bottom of the page, click on **Election Inspector Application**

Questions call: (248) 540-3420

State of Michigan Election Inspector Application

(Complete in your own handwriting and return to your local City/Township Clerk - find your local Clerk at mi.gov/vote)

personal information

Full Name _____

Date of Birth ____/____/____ Email Address _____

Home Address _____

Phone #'s Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Registered in ☐ City or ☐ Township of _____ Pct # _____ Ward # _____

County of _____

Political Party Affiliation (REQUIRED; must be a recognized state party & may not be Independent):

☐ Republican ☐ Democratic ☐ Libertarian ☐ U.S. Taxpayers ☐ Green ☐ Natural Law ☐ Working Class

Have you ever been convicted of a felony or election crime? ☐ Yes ☐ No

education and experience information

Education Background (include highest grade completed or degree held) _____

Employment Background (include current or last place of employment and type or work performed)

Languages other than English that you speak (if any) _____

Please rate your computer experience (data look-up, database processing, creating .pdfs, etc.):

1 = not experienced, 5 = very experienced

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Past experience as an election inspector, if any (include name of jurisdiction) _____

Do you have transportation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Will you work at any polling place? ☐ Yes ☐ No If not, explain: _____

signature and certification

I CERTIFY THAT I am not a member or a known active advocate* of a political party other than the party identified above. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT the foregoing statements are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant

____/____/____
Date

* A "known active advocate" of another political party is defined to mean a person who 1) is a delegate to the convention or an officer of another party; 2) is affiliated with another party through an elected or appointed government position or; 3) has made documented public statements specifically supporting by name another political party or its candidates in the same calendar year as the election at which the person will serve as an inspector. "Documented public statements" means statements reported by the news media or written statements with a clear and unambiguous attribution to the applicant.

ANY FALSE STATEMENTS MADE ON THIS APPLICATION WILL DISQUALIFY THE APPLICANT.

Approved by State Director of Elections (August 2017)

SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS

AND HOW TO RESPOND



NEED HELP?

Call Common Ground at 800-231-1127
or live chat at commongroundhelps.org

Warning signs indicate someone may be in danger of suicide, either immediately or in the near future.
Take immediate action using one of the three steps below to help guide you through.

Call 911 If

- Suicide attempt has been made
- A weapon is present
- The person is out of control

Call Common Ground If

- Someone makes a threat to kill themselves
- You notice someone is looking for a way to carry out a suicide plan
- Someone talks about death or suicide in text messages, on social media sites or in personal poems, music or art

Get Professional Help If You Notice These Behaviors

- Hopelessness
- Rage, anger, seeking revenge
- Recklessness or risky behavior, without thinking
- Dramatic mood changes
- Increased alcohol or drug use
- Withdrawal from friends, family or society
- Anxiety, agitation, inability to sleep or constant sleep
- Expressions of feeling trapped, like there is no way out
- No reason for living
- No sense of purpose in life
- Signs of depression

For more information please visit <http://bit.ly/1BJKFda>

NURSE ON CALL PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION
800.848.5533 NOC@OAKGOV.COM
[@PUBLICHEALTHOC](http://OAKGOV.COM/HEALTH)



The Oakland County Health Division will not deny participation in its programs based on race, sex, religion, national origin, age or disability. State and federal eligibility requirements apply for certain programs.

6-12-15/lanal/external/completed projects/suicide prevention flyer



FRANKLIN – BINGHAM FARMS POLICE DEPARTMENT

32311 Franklin Road
Franklin, Michigan 48025
PHONE NUMBER: (248) 626-9672 (non-emergency)
Emergency 911
Dispatch (248) 626-5444

HOUSE CHECK FORM

Fax Number: (248) 538-5450

DATE TAKEN: _____

NAME	ADDRESS	
PHONE () -	LEAVING	RETURNING
CAN BE REACHED AT:		PHONE () -

ALARM: YES ____ NO ____	TYPE: SILENT ____ AUDIBLE ____ OTHER ____
ALARM COMPANY: _____ PHONE () -	

MAIL / NEWSPAPER STOPPED: YES ____ NO ____ LAWN / SNOW CARED FOR: YES ____ NO ____

CAR IN DRIVEWAY: YES ____ NO ____ If yes, what kind? _____

TIMED LIGHTS: YES ____ NO ____ AREA: _____

WILL ANYONE HAVE ACCESS? YES ____ NO ____ If yes, WHO, WHEN? _____

NEIGHBORS WATCHING HOME:	NAME
	ADDRESS
	PHONE () -
OTHER INFORMATION:	

Each resident shall be advised of the following: The best deterrents for burglaries are trustworthy neighbors who will report any suspicious activity to the police and a good burglar alarm system. If, for any reason, the resident returns early or extends his / her stay, the resident is to let the Franklin – Bingham Farms Police Department know immediately.

TIME / DATE CHECKED	OFFICER (S)	REMARKS
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		

ALARM REGISTRATION FORM

Franklin Police Department
32311 Franklin Road
Franklin, MI 48025
Phone (248) 626-9672 Fax (248) 538-5450

Alarm System User

Business Name (if applicable): _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Suite: _____ Other Alarm Site Information: _____

Phone: _____ Alt.: _____ Email: _____

Alarm Panel Location: _____

Alarm Type: Panic _____ Break-In _____ Fire _____ Audible _____ Silent _____

Billing Information (If different from above)

Business Name (if applicable): _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ Title (check): ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms.

Alarm Company

Business Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Contact Person: _____

Job Title: _____ Email: _____

Monitoring Company (If different from above)

Business Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Contact Person: _____

Job Title: _____ Email: _____

Emergency Contact Information

	Name	Relation	Phone	Alternate Phone
1.	_____	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Cable TV Problems?

Having problems with your Comcast or AT&T TV service or have a question about your bill?

COMCAST 1-800-266-2278
Local Office 248-549-2100

Local office located at 1981 W. Maple (Walmart Shopping Center), Troy, MI

AT&T 1-800-288-2020

Birmingham Area Cable Board Complaint Line:

248.336.9445

The Last Word

As stated in the President's Letter, I am retiring at the end of August. As such, this will be the last Village Newsletter that is written, edited and published by me, Kathryn Hagaman.

It's been so many years since I started writing the Newsletter way back in 2001. So much has happened in the Village since then.

It was my intent to provide our residents with important information that impacted them, whether it be election information, road construction or new ordinances. I also tried to write articles on important associations the Village had with organizations like The Friends of the Rouge, the Baldwin Library and Next.

I hope you all found this newsletter informative. I certainly enjoyed writing it.

Upcoming Events

Birmingham

In The Park Concerts - 7 p.m. Shain Park Every Wednesday—June - August

Afternoon Concerts - 12:00 Noon Shain Park - July 11 & August 1

Farmer's Market - Municipal Parking Lot #6 Old Woodward, (south of Maple) every Sunday 9 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. thru October

Family Movie Night - Booth Park 7:30 p.m. Jul 20 & Aug. 24

Day on the Town - downtown July 28 9:00 a.m.— 7:00 p.m.

Street Art Fair - Sept. 15 & 16

Franklin

Farmers Market on the Green Sundays 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Music on the Green - downtown Franklin – 7:00 p.m.
July 11, July 25 & August 1 at 7:00 p.m. weather permitting

FCA Movies - Kreger House - 8:30 p.m.
Aug. 1, 8, and 15th

Labor Day Parade - downtown Franklin - Sept. 3 11:30 a.m.

Cider Mill - Open from Sept. 1 - Nov. 25

General

Woodward Dream Cruise - August 18
www.woodwarddreamcruise.com

**SIGN UP TODAY FOR
EMAIL BLASTS**

**LOG ON TO
www.binghamfarms.org**

The Bingham Farms Post is published quarterly by the Village of Bingham Farms.

Editor: Kathryn Hagaman

clerk@binghamfarms.org

248.644.0044

Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The next edition of the Post is scheduled for October, 2018. Deadline for submission of articles is September 14, 2018.

All articles must be submitted in writing to the Village office. The editing of articles is left to the sole discretion of the staff.

Website: www.binghamfarms.org