

**PRAIRIE RONDE TOWNSHIP
KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

EMERGENCY SERVICES SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

**NOTICE OF MARCH 12, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING ON ESTIMATED COST AND
EXPENSES OF FIRE PROTECTION AND RELATED EMERGENCY SERVICES IN
2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR AND RESULTING PROPOSED 2024 SPECIAL
ASSESSMENT ROLL**

TO: THE RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF PRAIRIE RONDE TOWNSHIP, IN KALAMAZOO COUNTY, MICHIGAN; AND ANY OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS:

Please take notice the Township Board has estimated the cost of financing the Township's contribution to the budget of the South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority for fire protection/emergency medical services to be provided by the Authority in the 2025-2026 budget/fiscal year---Prairie Ronde Township (\$93,538.80). The Township Board has also estimated legal/administrative expenses of \$4,000 associated with the 2024 special assessment process.

The Township Board has scheduled a public hearing to be held at its next regular scheduled meeting to review and hear any objections to the resulting proposed 2024 special assessment roll prepared by the Township's assessing officer and the individual special assessments thereon proposed to be billed with the winter 2024 property tax statements, as follows:

- **March 12, 2024, 7:00 p.m., Prairie Ronde Township Hall, 14050 S. 6th Street, in the Township of Prairie Ronde, Kalamazoo County, Michigan.**

The proposed special assessment roll (or column in the regular tax roll) for Prairie Ronde Township includes all lots/parcels of land within the Prairie Ronde Township Emergency Services Special Assessment District (the entire Township) that are not exempt from such special assessments pursuant to applicable law. The specific amount proposed to be specially assessed against each such lot/parcel in the Prairie Ronde Township Emergency Services Special Assessment District in 2024 is **\$72.51** for each separate non-exempt lot/parcel (developed or undeveloped) with a separate identification number for property tax purposes (one "benefit unit"); except for the following properties with multiple dwelling units that are proposed to be specially assessed multiple benefit units as specified in the proposed special assessment roll and as indicated by the parenthetical after each parcel number [parcel nos. 3913-02-110-010 (3), 3913-04-126-021 (2), 3913-06-201-011 (2), 3913-11-201-031 (3), 3913-29-201-020 (2), 3913-24-201-021 (4), 3913-24-201-026 (8)]. The special assessments on this proposed special assessment roll are expected to total approximately \$93,537.90, with all such revenues to be used for the sole purpose of funding the Township's required contribution to the budget of the South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority to provide fire

protection and other emergency services in Prairie Ronde Township for the fiscal year beginning April 1, 2025 and ending March 31, 2026. The Prairie Ronde Township Board is proposing to use general fund revenues to cover the estimated shortfall in the Township's contribution to the Authority budget (\$0.90) and all legal/administrative expenses associated with the 2023 special assessment process (estimated at \$4,000).

Please take notice the Township Board may revise the proposed special assessment roll prior to or during the public hearing pursuant to any updated calculation by the Assessor of the total number of benefit units properly included on the proposed special assessment roll to be confirmed by the Township Board and any resulting revised total amount of the special assessment roll.

Upon approval of the special assessment roll, either as submitted for the public hearing or as corrected or otherwise revised, the Township Board will annually thereafter redetermine the total amount to be specially assessed for emergency services and any incidental legal/administrative expenses, and will also therefore annually redetermine the amount of such total to be specially assessed to the individual lots/parcels in the Emergency Services Special Assessment District. The Township Board will make this annual redetermination at its regular scheduled meeting in March of each year, or at such other regular meeting in January-March of each year as may be more feasible to coordinate with the timing of the approval of the annual budget of the Authority. If the amount proposed to be specially assessed in any year subsequent to 2024 exceeds the 2015 special assessment by less than 10% the Township Board will make its redetermination of the special assessments to be included on the winter property tax billings for a subsequent year without a further public hearing or further notice to property owners, to the extent allowed by law. Otherwise, the Township will hold a noticed public hearing on the proposed annual special assessment redetermination. In each such instance the special assessments on the individual lots/parcels resulting from any annual redetermination shall be based on the method used for allocating/distributing the 2024 special assessments, subject to changes in the total amount to be specially assessed and/or the total number of non-exempt lots/parcels (or "benefit units") in the Special Assessment District from the previous year.

All relevant information relating to the public hearing to be held by the Township Board, including the proposed 2024 special assessment roll, the estimated cost of the emergency services made available to the Township by the Authority, and a map of the Township-wide Emergency Services Special Assessment District, may be examined at the office of the Township Clerk as indicated below, and may further be examined at the public hearing. Written comments on any aspect of this matter can be submitted to the Township Clerk, regardless of whether the person also makes an oral comment at the public hearing, and all such written comments received on a timely basis will be given consideration by the Township Board at or subsequent to their public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT APPEARANCE AND PROTEST AT THE HEARING HELD BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD IS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT ON THAT PROPERTY TO THE MICHIGAN TAX

TRIBUNAL. AN OWNER OR PARTY IN INTEREST OR HIS OR HER AGENT MAY APPEAR IN PERSON AT THIS HEARING TO PROTEST A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT, OR MAY FILE AN APPEARANCE OR PROTEST BY LETTER WITH THE TOWNSHIP CLERK BEFORE THE CLOSE OF THE HEARING OR WITHIN SUCH FURTHER TIME AS THE TOWNSHIP BOARD MAY GRANT, IF ANY, AND IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES A PERSONAL APPEARANCE AT THE HEARING SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED. THE OWNER OR ANY PERSON HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE REAL PROPERTY WHO PROTESTS IN PERSON OR IN WRITING AS PROVIDED ABOVE MAY FILE A WRITTEN APPEAL OF A SPECIAL ASSESSMENT WITH THE MICHIGAN TAX TRIBUNAL WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE CONFIRMATION OF THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT LEVY, OR WITHIN SUCH OTHER TIME AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY LAW.

All of the proceedings associated with this special assessment matter will be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, including 1951 Public Act 33, as amended (*MCL 41.801 et. seq.*); 1954 Public Act 188, as amended (*MCL 41.721 et. seq.*); 1962 Public Act 162, as amended (*MCL 211.741 et. seq.*); and the Michigan Open Meetings Act (*MCL 15.261 et. seq.*).

Necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services will be provided at a public hearing/ meeting to individuals with disabilities, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audiotapes of printed materials being considered, upon not less than 10 days prior notice, directed to the Township Clerk as indicated below.

Dale L. Smith, Clerk
Prairie Ronde Township
14050 S. 6th Street
P.O. Box 794
Schoolcraft, MI 49087-0794
(269) 679-5666