

# Oxford Fire Dept. millage on Nov. 5 ballot

**Who?** Oxford Township and Village voters.  
**What?** A millage proposal to support operations and capital expenses for fire protection, emergency medical services and advanced life support services. Voters will decide on a 5.25-mill, 6-year request, which represents **a renewal, plus an increase**. The previous fire millage expired in December 2023 and was last levied at a rate of 4.3997 mills due to Headlee rollbacks. **Without this millage, there is no dedicated funding for the fire department.**

**How much?** One mill equals \$1 for every \$1,000 of a property's taxable value, which is generally equal to half the assessed value. If approved, the fire millage will cost property owners \$525 per \$100,000 of their taxable value. **This represents an \$85 increase for every \$100,000 of taxable value.** The millage is expected to generate \$6.42 million in its first year.



*\* This is an informational piece produced by Oxford Township.*

In 2023, the OXFD responded to 1,891 medical calls. The Oakland County Medical Control Authority recognized OXFD personnel for saving the lives of two cardiac arrest patients last year.

## Why is the OXFD seeking an increase with a renewal?

- All **4 ambulances must be replaced**. Three are 2015 models and one is from 2013. They have 115,444 to 171,226 miles on them as of August 2024. Three replacements were ordered for **\$1.21 million**.
- **Two fire engines**, built in 2002 and 2010, have **reached or exceeded the age** at which they should no longer be used for frontline service, according to the National Fire Protection Association. It will cost **\$1.55 million** to replace both engines.
- The OXFD has spent nearly **\$325,000 on vehicle repairs and maintenance** since 2022. **Up to \$45,000 more** could be spent by December 2024.
- The **entire air pack system** must be replaced over the next two years. Firefighters need air tanks to breathe while inside burning structures. It will cost approximately **\$300,000**. If awarded, a grant request could cover up to \$130,000.
- In the coming years, the OXFD will need to replace its utility vehicle for grass fires, all cardiac monitors, the HVAC system at Station #1 and the pavement at both stations.

## Did you know?

- The Oxford Fire Dept. responded to **2,348 calls** for service in 2023.
- The OXFD offers free monthly CPR classes to the public. Since September 2023, a total of **138 people** have learned lifesaving skills.
- The OXFD distributes and installs smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, free of charge.

- There are **24** career firefighters/paramedics. This includes 18 shift members, Emergency Medical Services coordinator, fire marshal, fire inspector, recruitment and retention manager, assistant chief and chief.
- There are currently **20** paid-on-call firefighters and EMTs.
- Since 2020, the OXFD has held an EMT class for **Oxford High School seniors**. To date, **33 graduates** have earned EMT licenses.

