



House Local Government and Municipal Finance Committee

February 3, 2021



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## Michigan Townships Association

***Our Mission:***

*To advance local democracy by fostering township leadership and public policy essential for a strong and vibrant Michigan*



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## Townships...

- Vary in size & population
- 1,240 in total



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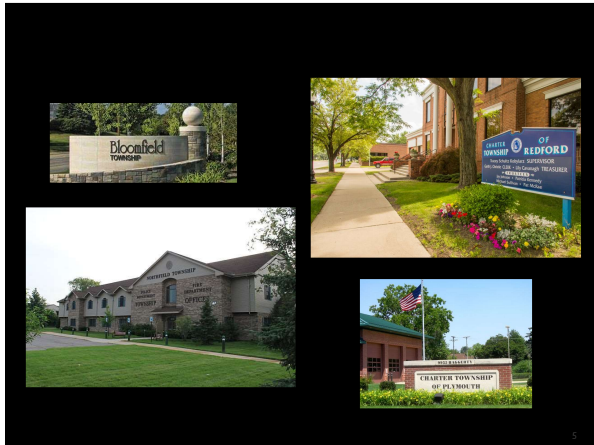
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**Townships ....**

- are home to 52 percent of all Michigan residents
- regulate 96% of Michigan's land area

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## Revenue Sources

- Property taxes
- Revenue Sharing
  - Constitutional
  - Statutory



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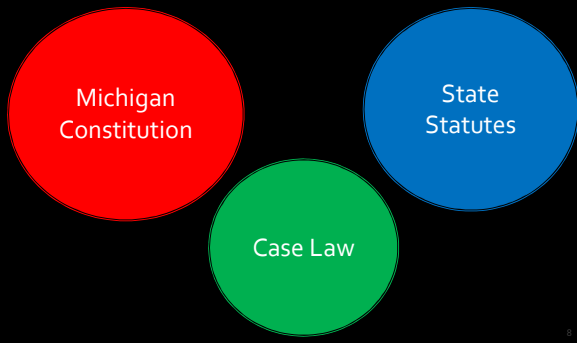
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## Sources of Authority...



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## Township Officers

- Supervisor
- Clerk
- Treasurer
- Trustees - not to exceed 4
- Terms - 4 years



■ Article VII, § 18 Township officers; term, powers and duties.



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# Service

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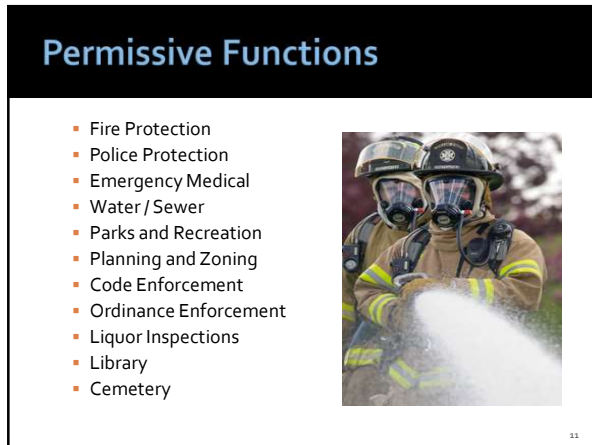
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## Permissive Functions

- Fire Protection
- Police Protection
- Emergency Medical
- Water / Sewer
- Parks and Recreation
- Planning and Zoning
- Code Enforcement
- Ordinance Enforcement
- Liquor Inspections
- Library
- Cemetery




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## Public entity

- Open Meetings Act
- Freedom of Information Act
- Accounting, Audit & Financial Reporting
- Public scheduled meetings
- Decisions in best interest of the public



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## Municipal corporation

- Acquire, own and dispose of real and personal property
- Sue and be sued
- Appoint necessary agents and attorneys for that purpose
- Make contracts necessary for the exercise of their corporate powers
- Incur and pay obligations
- Receive and deposit monies



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## Ordinance Authority

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| <b>"Police Power" Ordinances</b>   | <b>Administrative Ordinances</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Blight Elimination</li><li>▪ Cemetery</li><li>▪ Dangerous Buildings</li><li>▪ Utility Franchise</li><li>▪ Cost Recovery (Fire Run Charge)</li><li>▪ Land Division Ordinance</li><li>▪ Liquor Control</li><li>▪ Noise and Public Nuisance</li><li>▪ Noxious Weeds</li><li>▪ Nuisance Abatement</li><li>▪ Outdoor and Open Burning</li><li>▪ Truck Route</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Group Insurance Benefits</li><li>▪ Retirement Benefits</li><li>▪ Establishing Planning Commission</li><li>▪ Fire Department Structure</li><li>▪ Officials Compensation Commission</li><li>▪ Housing Commission</li></ul> |
|  | <b>Zoning Ordinances</b>   |



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## Board Administrative Authority

The township board:

- Authorize contracts
- Acquire/convey property
- Control uses of property
- Manage facilities
- Direct litigation
- Employ township personnel, contractors, consultants, volunteers



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## Statutory Boards & Commissions

- **Statutory boards and commissions** are public bodies either required or authorized by law
- **Advisory committees** are not mandated



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## Statutory Boards & Commissions

Common township boards and commissions:

- Planning Board
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Board of Review
- Election Commission
- Library Board
- Park Commission



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## Interact with gov't entities...

- Efficient delivery of services
- Infrastructure expansion
- Appropriate economic development site selection



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Regional Collaboration

### Joint Services Agreements

#### Terms of the Proposed 425 Agreement

- Land located west of the Village, south of Quirk Rd and East of Fish Lake Rd.
- Orange Hill Rd. Corridor
- Areas south along Riverside Dr. west of the Airport Subdivision, and south to the railroad tracks

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## Work with local units...

- Fire/police departments
  - Jointly
  - Contracted
- Cemeteries
- Parks/recreation
- Utilities
- Libraries
- Planning/zoning



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## Strengthening for the future

- Regional partnerships for economic growth
- Job creation
- Maintaining and creating attractive communities



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for a vibrant Michigan

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## Michigan's Local Governments

- Michigan has 10<sup>th</sup> largest population
- Michigan has fewer local units
  - Rank in bottom half of local units on a per capita basis
  - Lowest ratio of any other Great Lakes State

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## Maintaining Local Democracy

- allow people to live and work in **unique communities** that best match their **values and preferences** for taxation, service levels and regulatory climate



for a vibrant Michigan

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