PRESS RELEASE

BLACKBERRY TOWNSHIP SCHEDULES MILL CREEK OPEN HOUSE

Rod Feece, Blackberry Township Highway Commissioner wants everyone in the Township to have the opportunity to hear the facts prior to making up their minds about how they are going to vote on the April 7, 2015 referendum. Rod points to the Engineering Enterprise (EEI) Road condition report presented at the February Township meeting to make his case.

Rod Feece and Supervisor Fred Dornback are inviting the Mill Creek residents to an open house to give voters a chance to see the report and to ask questions. The Township has 27 miles of roads in Mill Creek. Most of the roadways are still original. The vast majority of roadways are in need of resurfacing in the next few years.

A community meeting is scheduled for the Rejoice Lutheran Church in Mill Creek on Monday March 23, 2015 at 7:00 pm. The result of a recent road condition study conducted by EEI will be shared and the plan if the referendum passes and if it does not pass.

The Blackberry Township Highway Department, which is responsible for 95% of Mill Creek roads, has never had a highway tax increase since the road taxing district was established. During that same time span the number of road miles has doubled and the population skyrocketed. The township has approximately 58 miles of roadway they are responsible for maintenance. About half of the total roadways are in Mill Creek. With current resources, the Township has been able to resurface about a mile a year. In 2014, because of the extra expenses related to winter snow removal it was only possible to patch roads and fill potholes. More than 70% of the roads are over ten years old. Over 64% of the roads are classified as being in fair to poor condition.

The report also projects the cost of maintenance and rehabilitation. The open house will give citizens the opportunity to see and learn the full results of the study and ask question about what needs to be done and the implication if the status quo is maintained. The reality is they are your roads and your choice.

The referendum asks voters to increase the limit on the road district tax rate by 14 cents per 100 dollars assessed evaluation. Rod believes an informed public will make better choices. Everyone is welcome to come and learn where the dollars for roads come from, where it goes and most important what happens if the referendum passes and if it fails again. It is important to remember the importance of first impressions. If you are going to put your home on the market the condition of the roadways make a difference.

For more information call 630 365 9109, Extension 2 or visit www. blackberryroads.org/.



























