

Dear Residents and Business Owners,

We want to inform you of several changes to your 2025 tax bill and provide background on the reasons behind them.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

Earlier this year, Crozer Health announced that it would cease providing Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for Bethel Township residents as of April 1, 2024. In response, the Board of Supervisors acted swiftly to secure competitive bids and to select a new provider to ensure uninterrupted emergency response and ambulance services. The selection of Main Line Health as the township's EMS provider means that EMS services will continue to operate within Bethel, as opposed to being served by EMS services located in other communities. To fund this vital service, a dedicated EMS millage of 0.361 will be implemented. For each \$100,000 of assessed property value as shown on your tax bill, this will result in an additional \$36 in taxes. The Board made this decision with public safety as its top priority.

Trash and Recycling Services

The trash fee for applicable parcels will increase to \$480 for 2025. Bethel Township's previous agreement for trash and recycling services was set to expire at the end of 2024, so the Board of Supervisors solicited competitive bids for a new contract. After careful evaluation of three bids, the Board approved an agreement with Opdenaker Trash and Recycling Services for a five-year term. The bids for ALL vendors reflected a significant rise in costs for both trash and recycling services across the board, and this necessitated a trash fee increase. However, the new contract locks in this fee for the duration of the agreement, providing cost stability for residents.

Fire Company Funding

The fire company millage will increase from 0.067 to 0.086. This change will result in an additional \$1.90 in taxes for every \$100,000 of assessed property value. This fund is dedicated to purchasing fire apparatus (e.g., trucks and support vehicles) which are purchased every seven years to ensure the oldest vehicles are compliant with NFPA 1912. With the rising cost of fire apparatus, the increase will allow the fire company to invest in new or replacement equipment to enhance its ability to serve the community effectively.

Commitment to Responsible Decision-Making

We understand that these changes will have an impact on all taxpayers. Please know that each decision was made after thorough review and consideration with the goal of maintaining the safety, health, and well-being of all Bethel Township residents. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Sincerely,

Bethel Township