

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ORANGE TOWNSHIP, IONIA COUNTY**

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT

TO: ALL RECORD OWNERS OF OR PARTIES IN INTEREST IN LAND IN THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT DESCRIBED BELOW:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Township Board of Orange Township, Ionia County, Michigan (“Township”), will hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on May 12, 2026 at the Berlin-Orange Township Fire Station (207 David Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846), to hear objections to the proposed estimate of costs and the proposed special assessment district for the fire protection services as described below. At the public hearing, the Township Board will consider any objections, revisions, corrections, amendments, or changes to the plans, estimate of costs, or the special assessment district. This initial public hearing will not approve amounts of assessments to properties to provide the service, and a subsequent public hearing will address approving assessments (which will require a subsequent mailing notice). The proposed special assessment district to be established by the Township Board as the district against which the costs of the fire protection services are to be assessed are generally described as follows:

Proposed Special Assessment District: All Township properties eligible to be specially assessed under Act 33 of 1951, which generally is all Township parcels besides those exempt from the collection of taxes under the General Property Tax Act.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that plans showing estimated costs and the proposed special assessment district are on file with the Township Clerk, Wendy McBride, 207 David Hwy, Ionia, MI 48846, for public examination upon request (kindly coordinate an appointment using the contact information below) and at the public hearing. The special assessment proposal would assess the cost of the proposed improvements to the properties benefiting therefrom.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that the owner or any person having an interest in property within the proposed district may file a written appeal with the Michigan Tax Tribunal within thirty (30) days after confirmation of the special assessment roll. However, appearance and protest at the public hearing on the special assessment roll are required in order to appeal the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. An owner or other party of interest or his or her agent may (1) appear in person at the hearing to protest the special assessment, or (2) file his or her appearance or protest by letter before the close of the hearing.

The Township Board shall maintain a record of parties who appear to protest at the hearing. If the hearing is terminated or adjourned for the day before a party is provided the opportunity to be heard, a party whose appearance was recorded shall be considered to have protested the special assessment in person. To the extent applicable, impacted property owners may submit a petition to the Township requiring a question of whether fire protection services should be funded by special assessment as a ballot question. See MCL 41.801(3) (optional petition would require signatures of 10% of owners of land in proposed district). Furthermore, should these assessments be approved, in future years the Township Board proposes to re-determine the amounts to be levied

for such fire protection services in the special assessment district at a public hearing (which may include the annual budget hearing) each year without further mailed notice. However, if an increase in the levy in any year will exceed the estimated annual increase by 10%, notice of the redetermination hearing will be mailed to property owners.

Orange Township will provide auxiliary aids or services to individuals with disabilities. Persons needing such services should contact the office of the Township Clerk by writing or calling the Clerk not less than four days before the public hearing.

BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD

Wendy McBride, Clerk

207 David Hwy

Ionia, MI 48846

Phone: (517) 647-9828

Web: <https://orangetownshipioniami.gov/>

E-mail orangetownshipclerk@yahoo.com

(Publish April 25, 2026, and May 9, 2026)

(Mail April 24, 2026)