

SEPTEMBER 2011

Letter to Residents from Mayor Ted Andrzejewski
City of Eastlake, Ohio

Hello Residents:

As we head into the fall season I would like to remind all the rock music fans that there is a Rock Music concert at Classic Park on Saturday September 17. The groups featured will be Puddle of Mud, Buckcherry, Papa Roach, Alien Ant Farm and others. Gates open at 4 p.m. and the show starts at 5 p.m. Tickets are sold at the Classic Park box office, 440-954-9467.

I would like once again to ask for the support of all Eastlake voters for the small General Fund levy that will be on the ballot in November. The cost will be \$10 per month for a \$100,000 home or \$15 a month for a \$150,000 home. The levy is absolutely necessary to keep city services at their current level. This money will be used to keep policemen, firemen and service department employees. **Without this additional money there will be layoffs** to these areas. The State of Ohio requires by law that a city has a balanced budget – there is no increasing the debt ceiling as the federal government does. The governor of Ohio has cut \$1.4 million from the funds we receive from the state and there is no way other than this levy or drastic layoffs that we can make up \$1.4 million. We are not overspending, and the stadium debt has nothing to do with this levy request. We need these funds to keep your city services at current levels. Please remember that we have not had a general fund levy increase since **1982** and that our city taxes will still be among the lowest in Lake County. We are giving the choice to our voters and I hope you will vote to support the levy and avoid cutting city services with massive layoffs. Our city unions and all city workers have agreed to no raises for two years and most likely for years after that so they are doing their part to help our finances. As Mayor, I have not had any increase in pay since I became Mayor in 2004; I make the same today as I did in 2004.

Please look at your last real estate tax bill from Lake County. If your tax bill for example is \$2,500 then only 10% of that or \$250 comes to the City of Eastlake. The W/E schools receive 60% or \$1,500 and Lake County programs such as Lakeland Community College, the MRDD program, the library, crime lab, Lake Metroparks and Drug and Alcohol program receive the other 30% or \$750. **The City of Eastlake** does not get all of your real estate taxes as some residents believe; we get only a very small portion. But it is your city that provides all the services that you expect such as police and fire protection, snow removal, leaf pickup, the swimming pool, and road repair and paving. For \$250 that is a bargain and we will not be able to continue at our current level if the levy is not approved.

We will be holding informational meetings for residents to attend, with the first one scheduled for 7 p.m. Monday, September 12 at City Hall. If you have any questions for the Mayor, Finance Director or any Council members please contact us. We will discuss the need for this levy with you and answer any questions that you have. Until next month enjoy the change of seasons and the nice fall weather.

Thank you,

Mayor Ted Andrzejewski