

## **Essex Township – Consolidated Services & Employee Compensation**

Governor Snyder has asked local governments to reduce expenses by sharing services and/or consolidating government functions. In his State of the State Address on January 20, 2011, the Governor said:

***“We need to positively encourage our local jurisdictions, both municipal and school, to move to service consolidation and better deliver value for money. We will provide better services, for less money.”***

So, one might ask what is Essex Township doing in this regard. Here is a list of cost cutting measures that are already in effect in Essex Township. If you have additional suggestions to help reduce expenses, please contact one of the Essex Township Board Members with your thoughts.

1. Township Hall – Several Townships are building new structures, or renovating their old ones. Essex Township doesn't even own a hall. Essex Township rents the Maple Rapids Community Center for Township meetings and elections. This “shared” service with the Village of Maple Rapids saves the Township significantly.
2. Fire Protection – Some Townships in Clinton County have their own fire services. Essex Township contracts with the Maple Rapids Fire Department for this “shared” service.
3. Public Safety – Essex Township relies on the Clinton County Sheriff's Department and the State Police for police support.
4. Libraries – Essex Township does not have its own library, but provides some financial support to the Maple Rapids library and the Saint Johns library.
5. Parks and Recreation - Essex Township uses the county, city, and village facilities rather than have facilities of their own.
6. Planning and Zoning – Essex Township relies on the County for these services.

In regard to compensation for Township Employees and Board Members:

1. The Township provides no medical, dental, or eye coverage for its employees or Board members.
2. The Township provides no pension or 401K benefits for its employees or Board members.
3. Salaries for employees and Board members are reviewed yearly to ensure they are in line and competitive.

We believe these “shared services” deliver better value for your tax dollars. Let us know what you think.

Respectfully,  
Essex Township Board