

Police Millage Renewal Ballot Question May 7, 2019

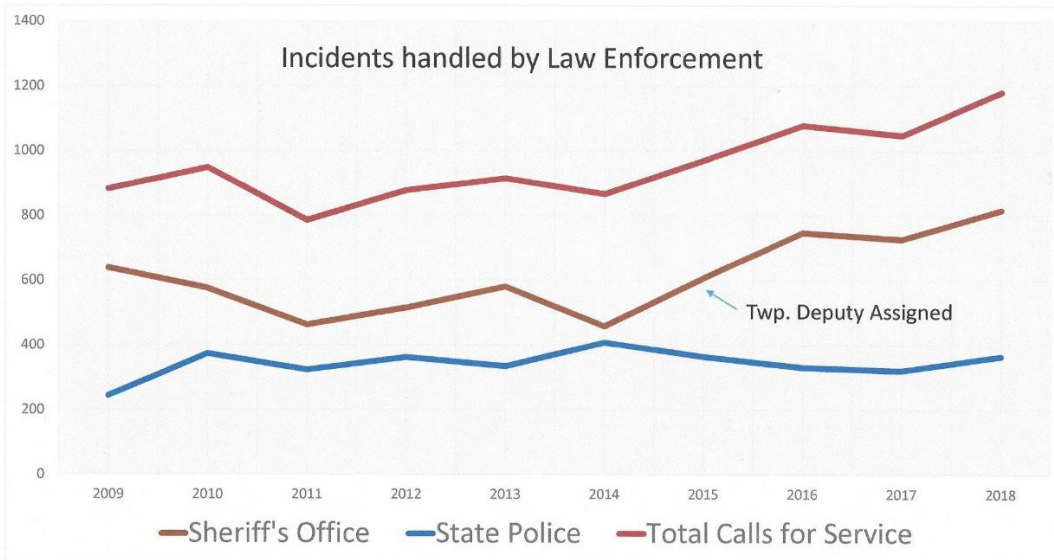
On May 7th 2019 Casco Voters will be asked to renew the Township Police Millage.

In August of 2014 a .65 mill Police Millage was approved by the voters of Casco. The Township has used the millage to contract with Allegan County for a Deputy to be dedicated to Casco Township. The Deputy is on duty 40 hours per week in Casco and is responding to calls in addition to the County Deputy that is assigned to Casco and a multi-township region of the County.

The Board has committed to only collect what is needed and has not collected the entire millage as approved (.65). The goal has been to fund the county contract and pay the cost of a car plus expenses thus in 2018 the board collected .45 mills. The township expense of the dedicated Casco Deputy has also been reduced by the County funding 25 percent of the total actual cost as additional patrol creates a more effective service.

| | Sheriff's Office | State Police | Total Calls | Township Deputy's Calls | |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2009 | 638 | 244 | 882 | | |
| 2010 | 575 | 373 | 948 | | |
| 2011 | 462 | 323 | 785 | | |
| 2012 | 515 | 362 | 877 | | |
| 2013 | 580 | 334 | 914 | | |
| 2014 | 458 | 408 | 866 | | |
| 2015 | 607 | 364 | 971 | 223 | Deputy Contract Started |
| 2016 | 747 | 331 | 1078 | 291 | |
| 2017 | 727 | 321 | 1048 | 240 | |
| 2018 | 817 | 365 | 1182 | 282 | |
| | | | | | |
| Total over 10 yrs | 6126 | 3425 | 9551 | 1036 | |

Casco Township



In 2013 (prior to Casco having a deputy) there were 580 complaints and the number has grown to 820 complaints in 2018 (283 were handled by the Casco Deputy). Casco has not experienced a significant increase in crime but rather the call volume is up primarily because people feel more confident that their calls will be answered, and issues addressed. In addition, the Township has expanded local activities and services such as a Parks, Senior Service, Blight and Code enforcement, and our dedicated local deputy has played a key role to the success of these activities. In the future, the Deputy will be expected to play an even expanded role to help insure these local services and activities are conducted and deliver value to all of Casco's residents. In addition, residents have benefited from property checks, having a direct contact to follow up on complaints and issues with law enforcement. The local deputy has been a great resource and direct contact to get non-emergency questions answered.

Finally, the Casco Deputy carries an AED with him when he is on patrol and is ready to answer calls for help, for example: on May 21, 2018 at 4:35pm, an open broadcast was sent out by Allegan Central Dispatch for a 4-year old male not breathing/choking. Deputy Borgic (the Lee Township Deputy) and Casco Deputy Katje responded. Upon arriving, the blue lifeless child was located on the front porch of the residence in the grandmother's arms. Casco Deputy Katje took the child from the grandmother and started the Heimlich maneuver. After 4-5 abdominal thrusts, the child expelled a foreign object that was blocking his airway. The child along with his mother were transported to the hospital for further evaluation.

Casco Township Board