



2010 WINTER REAL
PROPERTY TAX STATEMENT
AMOUNT DUE AS OF: 06/08/2011

CHESHIRE BRUCE A
54660 67 1/2 ST
HARTFORD MI 49057-8833

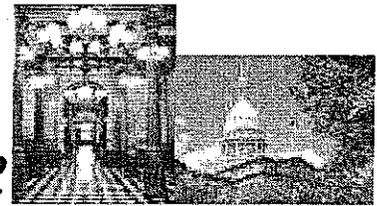
Permanent Parcel #: 41-13-25-111-016	
Property Address: 245 LEXINGTON AVE NW	
School District: 41010 Grand Rapids Public Schools	
Princ. Residence Exemption:	0%
Taxable Value:	\$1,154
SEV Value:	\$4,400
* Notable Changes From The 2009 Tax Bill *	
The assessed and taxable value for most real properties declined due to a negative CPI. This results in most real property parcels having a lower tax bill in 2010 than in 2009. The personal property tax bills are based on statements businesses submit and the Assessor's evaluation or, absent a statement, the value the Assessor considers reasonable.	
<i>US Postal Service Postmarks (Not Private Metered) By The Due Date Are The Standard For Timely Payment. Allow Extra Time If Paying By Mail.</i>	
<i>Treasurer's Office Is Not Responsible For Payment On Wrong Property.</i>	
Questions? Call: (616) 456-3020 Or Email: grtreasurer@grcity.us Web site: www.grcity.us/payments	

TAXING UNIT	MILLS	TAX
County Jail	0.78930	0.91
County Senior	0.32440	0.37
Total Tax	1.11370	\$1.28
Admin Fee	1%	0.01

Let's stop this foolishness!



Michigan Senate



Senate Committee on Finance

Senate Bills 322 and 323

Thank you for taking the time to receive comments about legislation that will help avoid unneeded local government expenses and provide for simplification of the annual property tax billing process. I appreciate your review of this bill and want to thank my Senator, Senator David Hildebrand, for introducing this legislation. The bill is very straight forward – it provides an opportunity to use a single summer tax bill for the whole year's property tax levy when the winter tax bill is going to be \$100 or less. The legislation provides discretionary authority for some local units to avoid unneeded expenses incurred to collect winter property tax bills for amounts under \$100 by moving the levy to the summer.

The City of Grand Rapids' winter property tax millage levy since 2007 has been only \$1.1137. This levy represents only about 2 cents of every dollar of the annual property tax levy for businesses and 4 cents of every dollar of the annual bill for a homeowner. Analysis of our records shows that if we had consolidated the tax bill into one levy for tax bills of \$100 or less, the City of Grand Rapids would have saved \$217,628. In addition, citizens would have saved over \$61,600 of their own postage expenses as they would have had to mail only one payment.

Each December, we receive numerous calls, email, and notes from taxpayers wanting to know when we are going place all their property taxes on just one bill and get rid of the annoyance of paying such a small amount for their tax bill every December. Help us help ourselves!

Last December, we had 59,979 tax bills fall under the \$100 amount. It will be more this year as out taxable values decreased. The City could have saved \$46,234 of "out of pocket" savings if this bill had been in place. This does not include the \$13,329 of citizens' savings from not paying for postage as they do not have to mail in a small winter property tax bill or our "soft dollar" staff savings. We do not want to be answering phone calls and emails from people wanting to know why we are sending them such a small bill and wondering why we can't just put the amount on the summer tax billing.

The City is seeking legislation to allow the option to have a County Allocation Board to authorize one tax bill for cities. The proposed legislation involves altering how the current winter property taxes are levied so local tax collecting units (with the approval of their affiliated counties) are given the option to consolidate the property tax billing. The City of Grand Rapids, other communities, and their citizens can save money and make us all more efficient.

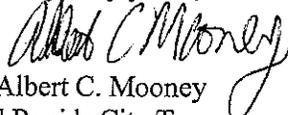
The bill allows a choice so it is at the discretion of the county and the tax billing unit and impacts only certain communities. The townships and cities that split school levies so 50% is billed in the summer and 50% is billed in the winter will not be impacted. It will save the affected communities many hours of staff time, printing, postage, depository fees, and save citizens postage expense.

Kent County Treasurer Ken Parrish, the Ann Arbor and Lansing City Treasurers, and treasurers of other local units are in favor of having the enclosed proposed legislation approved.

The citizens in Grand Rapids, Lansing, Sterling Heights, Flint, and many other communities are finding the process to be wasteful and would like the law revised. The City of Grand Rapids pulled out 566 bills under \$1.00 and paid them ourselves to avoid citizens asking why they received such a small bill. It is time to put common sense back in our tax laws.

The City of Grand Rapids Mayor, our City Commissioners, and most of our citizens wholeheartedly support this bill and encourage you to assist local units such as Grand Rapids as we address our fiscal problems. If you have any questions or wish to contact me for further information, please e-mail me at amooney@grcity.us or call me at (616) 456-3285. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Albert C. Mooney". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Albert C. Mooney
Grand Rapids City Treasurer