



August 2012
TOWN NEWSLETTER
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 Berkshire Community Association

BCA
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**BERKSHIRE FIRE DISTRICT: NEW FIRE STATION PROGRESS
 CORRECTIONS AND UPDATE**

The Berkshire Fire Commissioners have informed us that some clarifications, corrections and updates to the “New Fire Station “ Article in the most recent Town Newsletter should be brought to everyone’s attention. The changes from the original newsletter article mainly concern the tax rate. Detailed explanation follows:

Assumptions to Construct New Fire Station:

Rural Development Loan at 4% interest for 25 years	\$	740,000
NYS Emergency Services Loan at 2.5% interest for 25 years	\$	300,000
Rural Development GRANT	\$	100,000
Total Project Bid cost to build new station	\$	1,140,000
Total Repayment with Interest	\$	1,590,989
Total Assessed Value for term of 25 years		62,715,875
Level Debt Service on both loans		63,883
Assume no growth in other operating costs for purpose of comparisons		82,400

Berkshire Fire District	2010	2011	2012	2013
General Budget	\$91,632.92	\$81,652.86	\$82,433.00	\$82,400.00
Building Reserve	\$0.00	\$43,667.00	\$43,667.00	\$63,883.00
Total Raised by Fire Tax	\$91,632.92	\$125,319.86	\$126,100.00	\$146,282.78
Rate per 1,000 of Assessed Value	\$1.464135	\$2.006258	\$2.010655	\$ 2.332468

Examples to assess your Tax for the new Fire Station:

True New Fire Station tax assuming no changes in assessment or building costs based on a \$100,000 assessed value would be \$101.86 per year.

On a home with an assessed value of \$100,000 this would mean approximately \$32.18 per year in addition to the 2012 Fire Tax

The referendum to build the new Fire Station will be voted on August 14th. This new Fire Station includes a 5 bay truck equipment area and a Community Center.

As stated in the newsletter, if this referendum fails then the Fire Commissioners will propose another referendum for the 5 bay equipment area without the Community Center because it will cost several hundred thousand dollars less to build. This position was announced by the District’s Attorney at the last public hearing and verified by the Commissioners. Although rumors abound, no official changes to this plan have been approved at a public District meeting.

If you have additional questions please call Bret Welch, Fire Chief at 607-427-0964 or Don Liddington, Fire Commissioner Chair at 607-657-8131.

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Berkshire August Newsletter Corrections and Update