

# NOVEMBER 5, 2024 GENERAL ELECTION:

## BE AN INFORMED VOTER

BY ART OLIGERI

On November 5, Millcreek voters will see the following question on their ballot:

**“SHALL A GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMISSION OF SEVEN MEMBERS BE ELECTED TO STUDY THE EXISTING FORM OF GOVERNMENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY TO CONSIDER THE ADVISABILITY OF AN OPTIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND TO RECOMMEND WHETHER OR NOT AN OPTIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE ADOPTED?”**

**WHAT WOULD BE STUDIED AND HOW?** Seven Millcreek resident volunteers, selected by Millcreek voters, would work on behalf of the taxpayers to study and compare the operations of other large Pennsylvania townships to determine whether Millcreek’s form of government (implemented in 1803) meets the fast-changing requirements of a 21st century township, or if a different form of government may be better suited to meet the needs and concerns of the citizens and provide services in a more affordable and efficient manner.

**WHAT WOULD IT COST?** The Study Commission members would not be paid. The cost is estimated to be \$1.50 per township resident for study expenses.

**HOW WOULD A STUDY BENEFIT TAXPAYERS?** Examining the best practices of other large townships should result in ways to improve services and cut costs.

**WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE STUDY IS COMPLETED?** All Commission meetings would be open to the public so residents could voice any concerns. The Commission would publish the study results and hold public hearings to explain them. If change is recommended, it would go before the voters. **MILLCREEK’S FORM OF GOVERNMENT CAN ONLY BE CHANGED BY THE VOTERS.**

**WAS THERE A PREVIOUS STUDY?** Yes, almost 13 years ago. Much has changed.

**A WORD FROM MILLCREEK RESIDENT TINA DONIKOWSKI, RETIRED GENERAL ELECTRIC VICE PRESIDENT AND BOARD MEMBER OF ADVANCED ENERGY, A GLOBAL FORTUNE 500 COMPANY:**

*“In my 40+ years of business, I have observed that the most successful outcomes occur when leaders continually seek better and improved methods of operation. Maintaining the status quo in light of an ever-changing environment leads to inefficiencies and waste. Millcreek voters deserve the opportunity to elect a commission to study the existing form of government and to understand if an optional form of government could be adopted to better serve the needs of the Millcreek residents.”*

**A WORD FROM MILLCREEK SUPERVISOR JIM BOCK:**

*“As a Supervisor, I am grateful township residents are volunteering a year of their time to conduct this research. Receiving a report containing the best operational and financial practices of other large townships will help us save money and improve the services we provide.”*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE QUESTION, AS WELL AS CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR THE STUDY COMMISSION, GO TO [abettermillcreek.com](http://abettermillcreek.com).**

