

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS
MAY 2024
SIMSTOWNSHIP.ORG

Flags for Veterans ... At the cemetery, on Monday, May 20th, at 6 p.m. the veteran flags were replaced with new by residents of Sims and Whitney Townships. We thank and acknowledge our veterans for their service.

Flag Ceremony ... The Veterans Memorial Service will be at the Sims-Whitney Cemetery on Sunday, May 26th at 11.

New police vehicle ... After 137,000 miles and the failure of both turbos on our 2017 Ford Explorer Interceptor, the board agreed to the purchase of a 2024 Z71, Chevy Silverado Police Pursuit Vehicle. These vehicles are built to withstand the rigors of police work and are offered to municipalities through GMEvolve, which is the GM Division that handles the government subsidizing program for GM emergency vehicles. The cost of the truck through this program was about \$53,000, but the overall costs do not stop there. The vehicle must be equipped with all the high-tech equipment that allows law enforcement to do their jobs. There are four companies in Michigan that can do these "upfits." The largest one, and the one we will be working with, is Canfield Equipment in Warren as they have the largest inventory of the equipment required. The other companies are smaller and must order the equipment as needed. The truck was purchased from Berger Chevrolet in Grand Rapids as they were the only dealer in the state that had an inventory, and that inventory was two trucks. GM builds a limited number of these specialized vehicles yearly, even though their orders exceed what they produce by several thousand nationwide. Production was crippled for two years in part, due to covid. GM production of these vehicles for 2025, will try to accommodate outstanding orders received in 2024. New orders will begin in September 2024, with delivery about 2.5 - 3 years from that date, maybe. Trevor will work with Canfield to select the equipment he requires, and that cost will vary from \$22,000 to \$30,000. The Police Chief of East Tawas, Frank Anthony has the same vehicle and he kindly stopped by the hall last week to show Trevor and the board his truck and answered questions from the board. The upfit may take a few weeks to complete. The Explorer will be put up for sale by sealed bid when it returns from the dealer and the minimal bid accepted will be \$10,000.

Finale ... The "experts" say 99% of the world-wide population are fundamentally people of good will, at least we hope and are optimistic it continues to be that high, with all that's going on in the world right now ...! On the surface, our minds process this 1% and say that's not bad considering. The population of the world in 2024 is 8 billion and 1% of that is 80 million and that means there are that many that may not be people of good will? The highest populated city in the world is Toyko with 37 million people.