

THORNBURY TOWNSHIP,
CHESTER COUNTY
8 TOWNSHIP DRIVE
CHEYNEY, PA 19319
PHONE: 610.399.1425 |
FAX: 610.399.6714
OFFICE HOURS:
MON-FRI 8:00 AM - 3:00PM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Robert Anthony, Chairman
James Benoit, Vice-Chairman
William Relly, Supervisor
Michael Gallagher, Supervisor
Joe Lisa, Supervisor

TAX COLLECTOR

Percy Neall

AUDITORS

Sandra Conn
Jacqueline Kirby
Ron Giacinto

FIRE MARSHAL/EMC

F. David Smiley, Sr.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Patricia MacPherson
Randell Spackman
Michele Thackrah
Kris Walker
Richard Webster

PARKS & RECREATION

Karen Mulligan, Chair
Teresa DeStefano, Secretary
Nicole D'Ulisse
Kim Spackman

PLANNING COMMISSION

Ryan Estrada, Chair
Terrence Donohue, Vice-Chair
Teresa DeStefano, Secretary
Mike Aiello
David Black
Dimitry Belokopyt
Chris Kirby
Tony Priestley

ROADMASTER

Mike Aiello

TOWNSHIP OFFICE

Judy Lizza, Manager
Teresa DeStefano, Township
Secretary
Maryann Furlong, Deputy Tax
Collector

ZONING HEARING BOARD

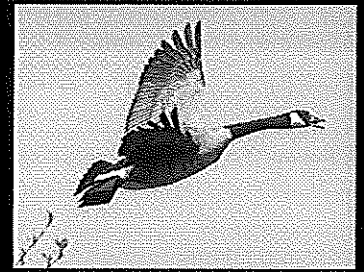
Thomas Jaagus, Chair
Peter DuFault
Merle Horwitz
Kal Seelaus
Robert Wiggins

ZONING OFFICER

James Dickey, BCO

The Gander

WINTER 2017



WINTER 2017

2017 Budget Narrative

The Township is charged with promoting safety, health, and the general welfare of its residents. The 2017 budget is the culmination of a process that takes into consideration the state and federal mandated requirements, and the goals and objectives set forth by the Board of Supervisors. The budget is the embodiment of how the Township will promote the safety, health, and general welfare of its residents in 2017.

The Township has five separate funds, each of which has its own budget for 2017. The five funds include the General Fund, Capital Fund, Sewer Fund, Liquid Fuels Fund, and Operational and Stabilization Fund. This budget summary will provide a brief overview of each fund.

General Fund

The General Fund is used to pay for the day-to-day operations and maintenance of Thornbury Township. The 2017 budget for the General Fund is \$1,804,471.25, which represents a 3% decrease from the approved 2016 budget.

Due to economic conditions and limited prospects for population growth, forecasts indicate a continued flattening pattern for tax revenues, earned income taxes,

and real estate transfer tax for the foreseeable future. No significant changes expected in the revenue line items.

General Government – This portion of the budget includes Township personnel, consultants, communications, rent, tax collection costs, and office expenses. The projected revenues for the 2017 Budget include the summary category of "Local Enabling Taxes" which comprises Local Service Tax, Earned Income Tax, and Real Estate Transfer Tax. This account comprises 55% of the Township's revenue (\$985,000.00). The Real Estate Tax accounts for 17.7% of the Township's revenue (\$320,500.00).

The 2017 budget allocates \$350,055.53 for the general government and administration services of the Township. This is a 2.6% decrease from the approved 2016 budget.

Public Safety – The Public Safety portion of the budget includes funding for police services, fire protection, building inspection, code enforcement, and animal control services. The total budget for Public Safety is \$1,027,019.19 (57% of the Budget). The 2017 budget includes \$867,775.00 for the Westtown-East Goshen Re-

gional Police Department contract, a 4% increase from 2016. The Police contract constitutes 48% of the total budget. This contract provides for all police services in the Township and expires December 2018. The budget also includes \$81,849.00 for the fire protection contract with the West Chester Fire Department. This contract expires December 2018.

Planning & Zoning – Funding for legal counsel and advertising as it relates to ordinance revisions, as well as Planning Commission and Zoning Hearing Board administration, is included in the budget. The budget for Planning & Zoning totals \$3,000.00. Most expenses are reimbursed by the applicant to the Township.

Public Works – The 2017 budget includes funding for the continued maintenance and repair of the approximately 18 miles of Township owned roadways. This includes road repair, roadside maintenance, traffic sign maintenance, stormwater inlet maintenance, and snow & ice control. If a particularly harsh winter requires additional funding, Township management will need to make proper adjustments to keep the budget bal-

anced. The 2017 Budget includes storm inlet projects with estimated costs of \$11,000.00 and a Road Program of \$125,000.00. The Township also shares traffic signal maintenance responsibility with Westtown Township for seven intersections and pays for 50% of these maintenance costs, totaling approximately \$15,000. For 2017, the Township has budgeted \$200,000.00 toward road paving, which will be funded partially by the State Liquid Fuels revenue, which is outlined in the Liquid Fuels Fund below. The total budget for Public Works is \$337,602.39 (decrease of 3% from 2016).

Culture & Recreation - The budget includes funding for the continued maintenance of Goose Creek Park and Squire Cheyney Park. This includes grounds maintenance, mowing, landscaping, and playground maintenance. The total budget for Culture and Recreation is \$26,000.00. In 2017, a comprehensive long term capital plan will be developed.

Town Center – The budget provides for continued maintenance and repair for the facilities at Town Center. (\$31,768.16)

Capital Fund

The Capital Fund is used for projects that are normally expensive, have a long useful life, and are usually planned in advance (i.e. buildings, public works projects, and equipment). The Capital Fund does not have a dedicated revenue source, so it only receives funding as it is transferred from other funds. (Balance of \$905,750.82)

Sewer Fund

The Sewer Fund was used for implementation of planned sewer projects, and is now for sewer operations in the Township. In 2017,

the Township expects \$11,200 in user fee revenue. Planned expenses include \$7,443.72 in conveyance and administration costs, and \$3,756.28 to be added to the sewer fund capital reserve. (Balance of \$31,135.63)

Liquid Fuels Fund

By Commonwealth law, the Liquid Fuels Fund can only be used for repaving and other road maintenance activities. Traditionally the Township has uses these funds for repaving. The Liquid Fuels Fund has a dedicated funding source through the State Liquid Fuels Tax (aka Gas Tax). In 2017, the Township will receive \$108,536.03 which is a 2.4% increase from the 2016 allocation. Depending on costs of paving and the assessment of the roads in the spring review, the planned paving projects for 2017 may include: Red Lion Road, Surrey Road, Fox Meadow Road, and Cheyney Road.

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The Stabilization Fund was created in 2012 to track the available fund balance for the Board to use. The Operational Money Market was established in 2015 to have General Fund balance earn in-

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Escalations of Contract costs for Emergency Services

Severity of weather – not just winter but also high wind storms.

Escalations in cost of materials, such as asphalt, concrete, etc.

Changes in cost of contracted labor

2017 BUDGET EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2017 Annual Operating Budget: \$1,861,065.71

Real Estate Tax Millage: 0% increase remains at 0.9950

Road Paving Projects*:

Red Lion Road, Surrey Road, Fox Meadow Lane, Cheyney Road

** Projects depend on funding availability*

Community Projects

- Exploration of Township facility
- Continue Comprehensive Plan Project
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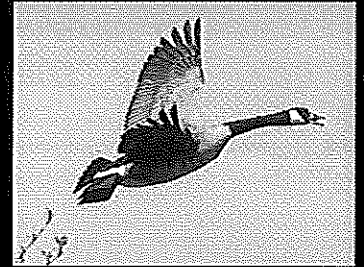
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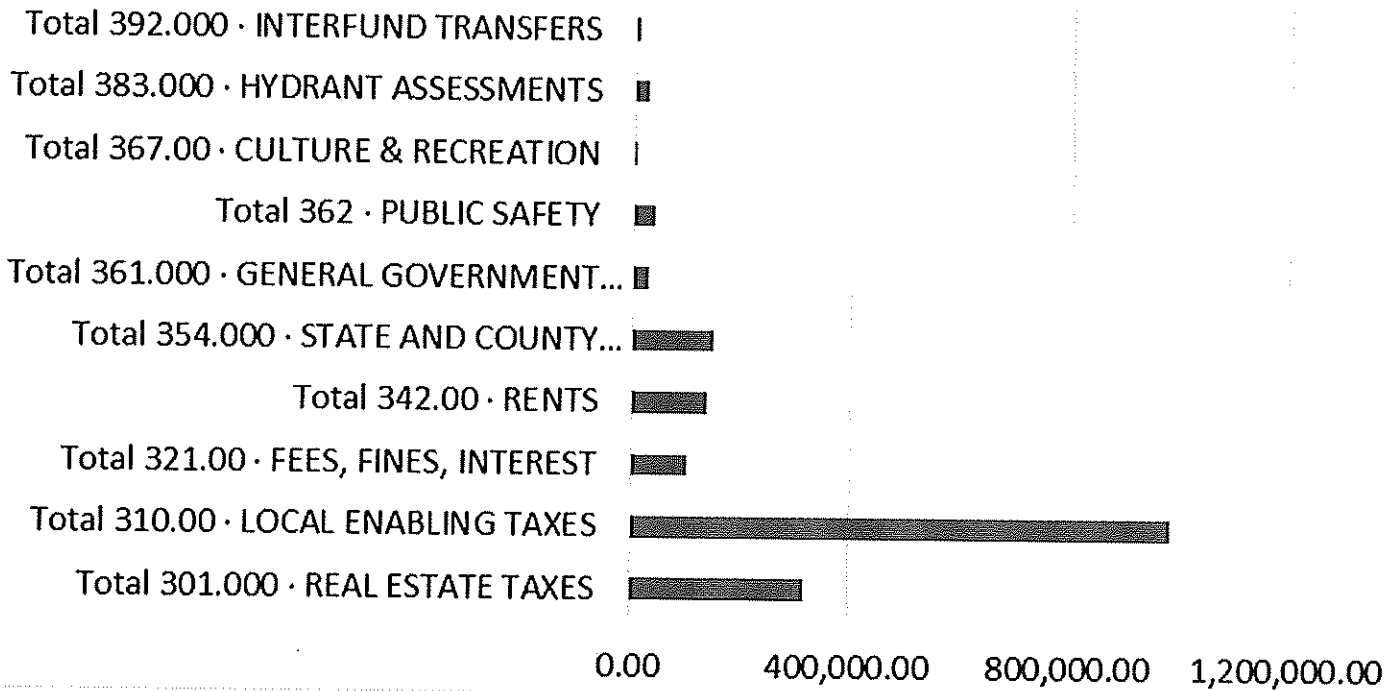
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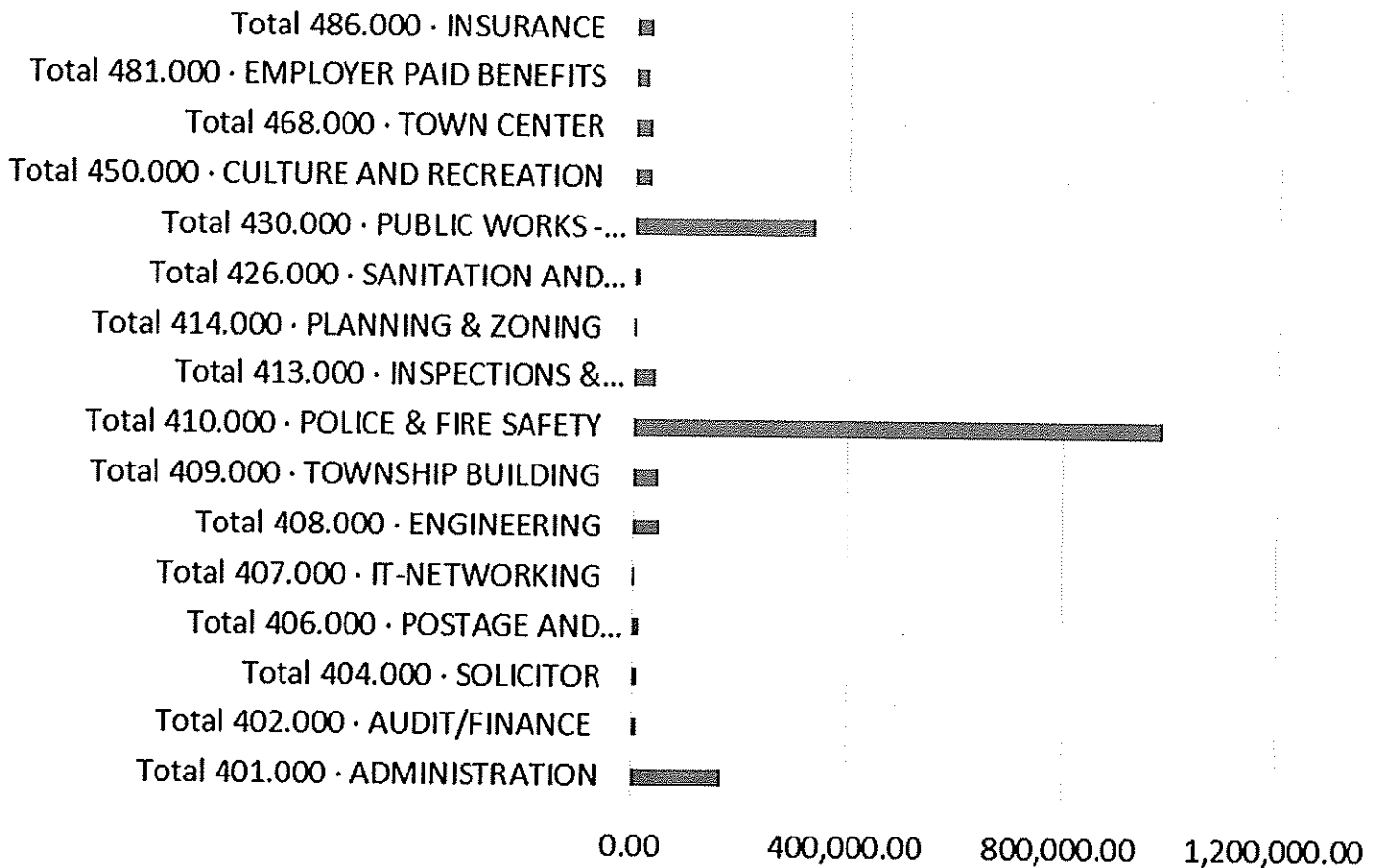
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- Continue Comprehensive Plan Project
- Zoning and Subdivision/Land Development Ordinance updates
- Adoption of Floodplain Ordinance

2017 Revenue by Account



2017 Expenditure by Account





The Shape of Thornbury Township

By Richard Webster, Historic Planning Commission
at Glen Mills

To understand how our Thornbury Township, became so small we have to begin in 1766, when citizens in western parts of colonial Chester County petitioned the provincial assembly to move the courthouse to a more central site. To do legal business required costly and onerous trips from western townships to Chester. Because of the War for Independence and the crises leading to it, the Pennsylvania Assembly did not authorize building a new courthouse and jail until 1780. Commissioners in Chester understandably dragged their feet, doing nothing. Four years later those favoring moving the county seat (called “removalists”) gained control of the county’s delegation to the Assembly and got legislative authority to build a new courthouse in Goshen Township within a mile and a half of Turk’s Head Tavern.

Work on the courthouse and jail began immediately, but as the buildings were nearing completion in spring 1785, Chester residents convinced the legislature to end the activity. To assure that their town would remain the county seat and that the western buildings would not be completed, a band of Chester citizens, armed with muskets, a field-piece, and a barrel of whiskey, headed to Goshen to tear down the walls. “Removalists” rallied and turned the incomplete courthouse into a fort. On the brink of battle, cooler heads prevailed. “Removalists” promised to cease construction, but soon broke their promise, and a year later celebrated when the legislature repealed the 1785 act suspending construction. Western citizens gloated and Chester residents moped and scribes for both sides exchanged taunts in the newspapers. Chester authorities believed the only solution was to form a new county with their town its seat.

In September 1786, everyone got what they wanted. The legislature authorized the opening of the new, more centrally located courthouse and jail, and the next day approved carving a new county, Delaware County, out of Chester County with the line dividing the two counties running through Birmingham and Thornbury townships. Property owners near the proposed boundary were allowed to select which county they preferred to reside in. This accounts for the very irregular boundary between the two Thornbury townships. Within three years, however, some Delaware County Thornbury residents had second thoughts and petitioned that they be re-annexed to Chester County. Apparently tired of more than twenty years of squabbling within Chester County, the legislature tabled the request and it died a quiet death. Our boundaries, irregular as they are, have remained the same ever since.

Winter Fun! Skiing in PA

Embrace fresh flakes on Pennsylvania slopes this winter! With many ski resorts to choose from, you can shred the gnarly on almost any kind of slope. Thornbury Township has discount tickets available.

Ski Area	Ticket Type	Gate Price	Selling Price	Customer Savings
Bear Creek	Midweek	\$50.00	\$34.00	\$16.00
	Weekend/Holiday	\$67.00	\$62.00	\$5.00
	Night (4pm to 10pm)	\$37.00	\$26.00	\$11.00
(open to close)				
Big Boulder/Jack Frost	Adult Midweek (age 18+)	\$48.00	\$38.00	\$10.00
	Adult Weekend/Holiday (age 18+)	\$58.00	\$49.00	\$9.00
	Youth Midweek (age 7-17)	\$35.00	\$33.00	\$2.00
	Youth Weekend/Holiday (age 7-17)	\$45.00	\$40.00	\$5.00
	Night (3 pm to close) BB only	\$30-\$34	\$27.00	\$3-\$7
Blue Mountain	Midweek	\$55.00	\$50.00	\$5.00
	Weekend/Holiday	\$70.00	\$63.00	\$7.00
	Night	\$40.00	\$33.00	\$7.00
(8 hour)				
Elk Mountain	Midweek	\$54.00	\$52.00	\$2.00
	Weekend/Holiday	\$66.00	\$62.00	\$4.00
(day or twilight)				
Hidden Valley	Mon-Thurs All Day	\$41-\$47	\$40.00	\$1-\$7
	Sun-Thurs Twilight	\$41-\$43	\$36.00	\$5-\$7
Montage Mountain	Adult (19+) Thurs-Sun	\$62.00	\$52.00	\$10.00
	Youth (6-18) Thurs-Sun	\$49.00	\$43.00	\$6.00
	3-Hour Snowtubing (Fri-Sun or Holiday)	\$25.00	\$22.00	\$3.00
	Airboarding	\$25.00	\$22.00	\$3.00
Roundtop/Liberty/	Midweek	\$69-\$71	\$52.00	\$17-\$19
Whitetail	Weekend/Holiday	\$75-\$79	\$65.00	\$10-\$14
	Night Lift	\$47.00	\$42.00	\$5.00
(open to close)				
Seven Springs	Mon-Thurs All Day	\$64.00	\$55.00	\$9.00
	Sun-Thurs Twilight	\$58-\$77	\$43.00	\$15-\$34
Shawnee Mountain	Adult Lift - Good Any Day	\$50-\$62	\$48.00	\$2-\$14
	Youth (18 & under) Any Day	\$40-\$45	\$38.00	\$2-\$7
	Ski/Snowboard Package	\$90-\$97	\$75.00	\$15-\$22



AMC MOVIE TICKETS

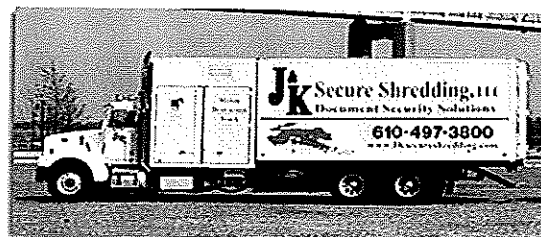
\$8.50 EACH!

Thornbury Township is offering discounted movie tickets available for purchase at the Township Building. Tickets may be used for any movie on any day at the local AMC Dine In Theatre. They make great gifts!

Please note that Thornbury Township does not accept credit cards. Check or cash only please.

Upcoming Township Event:

The spring Shredding Event will take place on April 22, 2017. Check out the website in early April for more information on the Shredding Event.



SNOW & ICE REMOVAL TIPS

Avoid high piles that may obstruct your vision entering the roadway.

Do not push snow into roads at any time!! It has the potential to create icy and hazardous conditions for drivers.

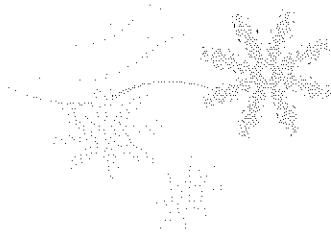
Clear an area in front of your mailbox or the carrier may not stop.

Remove vehicles parked on the roads or cul-de-sacs to your driveway to make it easier for the plows to maneuver through your neighborhood.

When shoveling driveways,

leave the last six feet un-shoveled until the road plowing is finished.

Please remember to be patient. Snow removal does take time. Our contractor will plow the most dangerous and heavily travelled roads first. They will get to your neighborhood as soon as possible.

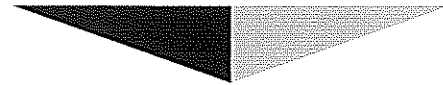


MS4 TIP: ICE & SNOW REMOVAL



Please think about environmentally-friendly ways to control ice.

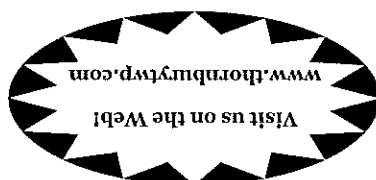
Traction agents help prevent slipping on ice but don't melt it. Sand, kitty litter and ashes can hurt vegetation, clog sewers, and degrade aquatic habitats. Rock salt is the most common product because it's effective and cheap, however, it is highly corrosive and ecologically damaging. A water-friendly option is Calcium Magnesium Acetate (CMA) products which are low in phosphorous. Use only the recommended amount. CMA is less problematic for soils, vegetation, water supplies, and concrete, and it is non-corrosive, made from corn or petroleum and converts ice into an oatmeal-like mush.



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