

Doylestown Township Newsletter

Volume 14 Issue 1
Winter/Spring 2017



Preserving the Past. Embracing the Future.

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Chairman's Message

By: Barbara N. Lyons

In the last issue of the Chairman's Message (Fall 2016), I introduced members of the administration responsible for the operations of the business of the Township. This issue is about more of your township team.

I am writing this as we head into the depths of winter, which leads me to an appreciation of our road crew, who you no doubt witnessed putting in long hours salting and plowing the roads and trails. Snow removal is just the tip of the iceberg (pun intended) when it comes to the responsibilities of the road crew.

They repair the roads, rebuild culverts and build the trails; maintain, install and repair the storm water system; install, repair and maintain signs; do vegetation control – meaning roadside mowing, weed control and tree trimming; storm clean up; assist the police with accidents; assist with special township events; they do street light repairs and pick up all manner of debris off the roadways from trash to car parts to road kill. Paul Garr is our Road Superintendent and has been with the Township for over twenty-eight years.

The Director of Operations is responsible for the physical infrastructure. Dick John has served in this position for twenty-nine years and will be retiring shortly after you receive this newsletter. Dave Tomko is the new guy, succeeding Dick John, and will be assisting with the construction of the new administration buildings.

The Finance Department pays the bills. Every check written for Township services or products goes through the finance department. Ken Wallace and his staff of three, Jill Antonucci, Koun Lim and Kaci Milligan, manage a ten plus million dollar budget and are responsible for preparing the Township budget each year.

Downstairs from Finance is Code Enforcement, headed by Sinclair Salisbury who has been with the Township eight years. Efficient and congenial, Mr. Salisbury is the chief inspector of



Left: Sunrise over Central Park, submitted by Tom Kelso

new construction, commercial and home renovations and enforcing the many and various Township building codes. He is also responsible for helping to develop and implement the emergency response plan now in effect.

As his responsibilities overlap with Code Enforcement, Rick Shea is an invaluable resource and has been with the Township over twenty-two years. Rick serves as the Fire Marshal and Facility Manager. He also assists with the road crew during major storms and is the resident carpenter. Rick will also be helping Dave Tomko with the new construction.

Chief Dean Logan and Lieutenant Matt O'Connor head our twenty uniformed police officers. The Department also has three indispensable non – uniform members, Holly Dodson, Janet Casey, and someone you all have seen at one time or another, Rose Reith, the Kutz Elementary School crossing guard. Our department is an educated group and among them there are two Masters degrees, seven Bachelors and three Associate degrees. Four members of the Police Department are veterans and two are in the Active Reserves.

This year, the Police Benevolent Association (PBA) has launched a fundraising campaign (you may have received a letter from the PBA), seeking funds in their effort to better serve their community with education programs, support of local events and neighborhood engagement.

This will be an exciting year as we prepare for the construction of the new administration offices and recreation center and plan for the two hundred year anniversary of the Township to be celebrated in 2018. History enthusiasts and anyone interested in celebration planning are encouraged to apply to the now forming Bicentennial Committee. Please send your letter of interest to Township Manager Stephanie Mason, at sjmason@doylestownpa.org. Thank you!

On the Road: Public Works Update

Public works is just as busy as ever. From the Chairman's article, it is clear to see they have quite a lot to do around the Township. Below are some pictures of their recent projects, including construction of the Heritage Trail and leaf and yard waste recycling with the Township's new tub grinder acquired through grant funds.

Right: Heritage Trail Construction



Left: Sponsor Signage

In the Parks: Public Works Update

A lot has been happening in the Parks Department the past few months. Parks maintenance staff has been completing the fall chores such as aerating, fertilizing, overseeding sports fields, trimming trees in the parks and along the Bike and Hike system, removing leaves and debris from Township areas and the list goes on. They've also been busy crack sealing the tennis courts, basketball courts and trails. Beyond these activities, they've been keeping up with mowing and maintenance of retention basins and open space in the Township as well as fencing and providing signage for the Sauerman Park pond.



Left: Castle Valley Park

Right and Below: Loading the tub grinder for the leaf and yard waste recycling program



Right: Sauerman Park



Left: Turk Park Gazebo

Right: Central Park Life Trail



A Message from our Telecommunications Advisory Board

Township Video programs are now on the website! Visitors to the township website can now click on a “Videos” button located in the upper right corner of the homepage and be taken to a channel showing township produced videos. Once there, you will find six playlists covering a variety of information of interest to township residents and visitors:

- Township – providing basic information
- Parks
- Medical topics
- Environmental topics
- Senior programs
- “Who we are” programs – describing the activities of Township departments and Advisory Boards

There are thirty-one videos now on the channel, and that number will grow. This channel will help show a wider audience the excellent amenities our township has to offer.

This channel is in addition to, and does not replace, the video replay of township Board of Supervisor meetings, that are also accessible via the township website. The playback of the Board of Supervisor meetings remains one of the most visited portions of the website. It allows people, even those located outside the township to see the Board of Supervisor meetings, an important window into how we govern ourselves

The addition of this channel allows viewers, both inside and outside the township, to see some of what is aired on the township cable access channel (channel 22 on Comcast, channel 31 on Verizon Fios). This has long been a request of people that live outside the township but who also utilize groups and features of the township, such as the parks system, the Central Bucks Senior Taskforce, and health improvement events held in the township.

Remember, simply go to the Township website, www.doylestownpa.org and click on the “Videos” button. Happy viewing!

If you received a letter designating your property as being part of the cone of influence affected by the PFOA/PFOS in the Cross Keys area, we encourage you to contact DEP for well testing if you have not. Follow the instructions on the letter you received. For further information about the affected area visit www.doylestownpa.org.

2017 Budget Approved

After five public budget work sessions the 2017 Budget was approved on December 20, 2016. The budget was available for inspection as required by law at the Township Building and on the Township website for twenty days prior to the final approval. Anticipated revenues are \$25,263,424 and expenditures \$25,929,926. Revenues and expenses are significantly higher than in previous years because of the planned \$10 million bond which will be used to fund the replacement of Chapman Bridge and the Township Administration building renovations. The Township will be using \$666,502 in reserves to balance the budget with the majority coming from the General Fund. The fund balance at the end of 2017 will be \$5,405,780. The other major projects that are planned for 2017 are:

- Robust road resurfacing program of \$925,000
- Federal TAP grant of \$1.3 million for the Lower State Road Trail; the Township is responsible for a match of \$107,487
- Replacement of a Township truck and backhoe in the public works department
- Police Department purchases of two vehicles, body cameras, and polygraph equipment
- Addressing stormwater needs to meet NEW state mandated permit requirements

The implementation of the above projects, plus providing all the other services the township performs everyday, will result in a one mill increase to the real estate tax, bringing the total real estate tax rate to 11.875. The average residential assessed value of a property in Doylestown Township is \$40,331. The average property will pay about \$478.93 in Township real estate taxes in 2017. This results in an average increase of \$40.00 per household.

With detailed data reviews and the development of strategies, the Ways and Means Committee is able to look forward and recommend alternatives to ensure financial stability for the Township. While the Township must focus on the approval of an annual budget we also must develop a five-year view. The Ways and Means Committee has developed a five-year projection that lays out a sound fiscal path.

In addition to the detailed budget reviews it is also important to minimize waste and streamline operations, in other words, increase productivity. The Township has initiated a program to do just that. With all these activities in place the Township will be able to provide key services to the residents (road maintenance, snow plowing, parks, etc) and provide for the future.

Helping Beneficiaries Receive Proceeds Owed to Them

by Representative Marguerite Quinn (R-Bucks)

Over the past couple of years, Pennsylvania has participated in national settlements related to the use of the Social Security Administration's Death Master File (DMF) database. This database provides insurers with the names of deceased people with social security numbers. It is a very useful tool for insurers to identify life insurance policy holders whose beneficiaries had not filed claims, most often because they were unaware that the deceased had a life insurance policy.

The state settlements addressed the asymmetrical use of the DMF database. Some insurance companies were using it to identify deceased annuity holders in order to stop making annuity payments, not to identify policy holders in order to pay life insurance benefits.

In November 2016, Governor Wolf signed into law my proposal, HB 1403, that will require an insurer to compare its insureds' in-force life insurance policies, contracts, and retained assets accounts against the same death master file, on a semi-annual basis. My intention is for beneficiaries to receive funds owed to them soon after the death of the policy holder, not when the money lapsed into Unclaimed Property.

Another proposal I introduced, House Bill 2010, has been endorsed by the Pennsylvania Department of Insurance (PDI). This bill would allow family or a legal representative of the deceased to query the PDI to learn if a life insurance policy was in place. PDI will maintain a database of all companies with in-force life policies in Pennsylvania, and would require those companies compare the information on the deceased against their policy holder databases.

Insurance Commissioner Teresa Miller has taken steps to implement portions of House Bill 2010 as official policy, but changes in state law are necessary to require compliance on the part of insurance companies and to guarantee these policies continue into future administrations. I look forward to working with PDI to fully implement this life insurance policy finder database.

Support the Environmental Advisory Council through a magnet fundraiser! Be one of the first to have this 2017 collectible treasure! Call 215-348-9915 for more information.

Historic Red Maple Tree on Country Brook Drive

by Jeannine Mitchell, EAC General Member

Adam and Cheri Skelding have lived on Country Brook Drive for 26 years. Their back yard, adjacent to Cook's Run, is dominated by a giant native red maple tree (*Acer rubrum*). Where once there was a treehouse, two swings are now suspended from its arched branches. It has been a source of pleasure for the whole family. When Cheri saw an article in a local newspaper about a large tree in Doylestown Township that was named "historic" but was clearly not as large as theirs, she contacted the township. Two members of the Environmental Advisory Council and Shade Tree Commission - Marty Brooks and Don Richardson - then paid a visit to inspect the Skeldings' tree.

Marty and Don's inspection revealed the following: the tree's circumference (measured 3 feet off the ground) is 20 feet 6 inches; it is over 125 feet high; its spread to the drip line is 68 feet; and it is over 100 years old. They determined that as a large, old specimen native tree it should be recognized as part of the township's Historic Tree Program.

The Skeldings were presented with a recognition certificate at the EAC's December 13, 2016 meeting. More importantly, they continue to enjoy this quiet giant. Children and grandchildren have benefited from this tree's presence on the Skeldings' property. Though not far from the Route 611 Bypass, this stately tree protects the view and shares the space with abundant wildlife including deer, fox, native songbirds, and waterfowl. It is one of those trees that earns respect and admiration.

If you have a tree on your property that you think might be worthy of being designated as a Historic Tree, call the township office. Marty and Don will be glad to pay your tree a purposeful visit.



Record Tree: Red Maple

Drought Watch Issued for Bucks County Residents

by Doylestown Township Municipal Authority

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in November 2016 declared a drought watch in 30 Pennsylvania counties including Bucks County. A significant rainfall deficit last year caused local groundwater and reservoir levels to drop.

As a result of the drought watch declaration, the DEP encouraged Doylestown Township residents to voluntarily reduce their water usage by 5%. The DEP suggests residents take the following steps to reduce water usage:

- 1) Run water only when necessary. Don't let the faucet run while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- 2) Shorten the amount of time you let the water run to warm up before you shower.
- 3) Run the dishwasher and washing machine only with full loads.
- 4) Check for household leaks. A leaking toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water each day.
- 5) Replace older appliances with high-efficiency, front-loading models that use about 30 percent less water and 40 to 50 percent less energy.
- 6) Install low-flow plumbing fixtures and aerators on faucets.

For more information on the drought please contact the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority or visit: <http://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/Water/PlanningConservation/Drought/Pages/default.aspx>.

Recycling in Doylestown Township

In Doylestown Township, all trash haulers collect recyclables as well. Residents are required to recycle newspaper and other clean paper; aluminum, steel and bimetal cans; clear, amber and green glass; #1 and #2 plastics; and yard waste. Individual trash haulers may accept more recyclables than listed here.

For a complete list of trash and recyclable haulers in the township, visit our website at www.doylestownpa.org under the information tab.

Remember, our Leaf and Yard Waste recycling drop off location is open from March through December, every third Saturday of the month between 9am and 11am. Visit www.doylestownpa.org for a list of dates. Christmas tree drop off is allowed until February 15th.

Police Benevolent Association

The Doylestown Township Police Benevolent Association (PBA) is a fraternal organization consisting of all current Doylestown Township Police Officers. The goal of the organization is to foster a positive relationship between the police department and the community while representing its membership.

The Doylestown Township PBA is interested in becoming more involved in community events. They are looking to expand their involvement in the community by financially supporting more local events. Not only are they looking to be able to financially support more local area events, but they are looking to participate in these events as well.

In order to meet their needs and be able to participate in these events and donate to the various local organizations, the Doylestown Township PBA is doing a fund raiser. The Doylestown Township PBA is mailing a letter to each resident. Your donations will assist in helping officers give back to the community in which they serve.

**WHEN YOUR CAR'S LEAKING OIL ON
THE STREET, REMEMBER IT'S NOT JUST
LEAKING OIL ON THE STREET.**



Leaking oil goes from car to street. And is washed from the street into the storm drain and into our lakes, streams and into coastal waters including the Chesapeake Bay. Now imagine the number of cars in the area and you can imagine the amount of oil that finds its way from leaky gaskets into our water. So please, fix oil leaks.

If you have questions regarding storm water, please contact your municipality or Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Regional Office. For general questions, you may also contact DEP's Bureau of Water Management at (717) 771-1666 or visit www.dep.state.pa.us. Thanks to the Washington State Water Quality Consortium for permission to adapt and use this poster.

Heating Assistance Program Supports Low-Income Households

by Senator Chuck McIlhinney (R-Bucks)

As colder temperatures chill communities throughout the area, cost of heating and fuel is a serious concern for many families throughout the region. Individuals and families who are having trouble with their energy bills this winter can apply now for the state's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

The program provides grants to help low-income families pay heating bills. LIHEAP also provides crisis grants for families who experience heating emergencies, such as a broken furnace, utility termination or fuel shortage. Applications are available now.

LIHEAP applications can be completed online on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Access to Social Services (COMPASS) website at www.compass.state.pa.us. District residents can also apply by contacting the Bucks County Assistance Office by calling 215-781-3300. More information is also available by calling the statewide LIHEAP hotline at 866-857-7095.

In order to apply for LIHEAP, applicants will be required to submit the names, Social Security numbers and proof of income for all people in the household.

Many local utility companies offer assistance plans in addition to LIHEAP. Consumers should contact their utility companies to learn more about other programs available to ensure that all local residents will be able to stay warm this winter.

Senator McIlhinney represents the 10th Senatorial District, which includes parts of Bucks County.

2017 Water Meter Replacement Program

by Doylestown Township Municipal Authority

In 2017, the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) will be replacing approximately 1,000 meters in customers' homes and businesses. The current meters have reached the end of their expected life. The new radio meters will enable DTMA employees to read your water meter from a vehicle equipped to receive and store the reading. This will increase productivity and reduce meter reading labor costs. DTMA customers will receive more detailed information about the conversion through future correspondences from DTMA.

Tax Collection Hours

9:00am - 2:00pm Tuesday and Thursday at
118 Wood St. in Doylestown Borough.
Additional Hours will be published on tax bills.

Tis the Winter Season

by David Tomko, Director of Operations

As the Public Works Department prepares for another winter season we would like to remind you, our residents, that the Township is responsible for clearing township roads of snow and treating for ice. We do our best to keep the roads open for emergency vehicles and the traveling public. A few things that help our efforts are keeping trash and recycling containers, portable basketball and hockey nets, etc. out of the roadways. Also, parking in driveways is a great help.

Also, is it a violation of the township code if a property/business owner and/or your snow removal contractor plows or deposits any snow or ice removed from a private driveway or road onto a public street, alley or right-of-way so as to leave an accumulation of the same on a public highway.

If you can stay off the roads during storms, please do. If a roadway is closed, please do not move the barricades or drive around them! The road is closed for safety reasons.

Thank you and have a safe and happy winter season from the Doylestown Township Public Works staff.

A Message from the Fire Company

Doylestown Fire Company No. 1 has continued to serve the Doylestown community in many ways during 2016 and into 2017. Our all-volunteer membership works hard to keep their skills finely honed and ready for any emergency. Over the past year we have instituted a Duty Crew program which has members at the station ready to respond quickly. The bulk of the program is at night, ensuring a crew on the road quickly to respond to any call. The fire company has responded to over 500 calls for assistance in 2016, and responded 602 times in 2015.

Our annual fund drive is underway. We appreciate your continued support of our efforts.

Our firefighter of the year for 2016, Peter Mills, was honored at the Central Bucks Chamber Of Commerce Emergency Services Awards Dinner in October, for his efforts. Peter has been a member of the fire company since 1999, and has held many positions in that time, including presently as Recording Secretary.

Two of our younger members, Rachel Loux and Nick Tartaglia, were honored by the Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce at the Young Citizens Awards in November, for their tireless efforts with the fire company.

We continue to seek community residents who are looking for an opportunity to serve. We have added members this year from Delaware Valley University, students who are firefighters back home and want to serve while they study here in Doylestown. We meet on Wednesday nights at both the Warden Road and Shewell Ave Stations at 7 PM, except for the first Wednesday our company business meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Come out and check us out, talk to the members and take home an application.

We have placed an order for a new Utility vehicle for the Warden Road station, which will operate as Utility 79. We were just informed that we have been awarded a grant to help us replace the gear racks at both stations through the Pa. Office of the State Fire Commissioners. The new racks are steel, and much easier to clean than our existing wood racks.

As we enter the cold season, we encourage all home and business owners to make sure all heat sources are well maintained and ventilated. Check your smoke detectors monthly, and replace any that are more than 10 years old. Homes should have a detector in every bedroom, on every floor, and within hearing distance of all living spaces. There are new detectors which are wirelessly connected that sound all detectors when one sounds, making the notification of all parts of the home automatic. We know smoke alarms save lives, but only if they work!

An early reminder- save March 18, 2017 for our annual pancake breakfast! More information on our website and social media channels as the date draws near!

We're on social media, on Facebook at [facebook.com/DoylestownFireCompany](https://www.facebook.com/DoylestownFireCompany), on Twitter and Instagram at @dfc1979news, and our web site at www.doylestownfireco.org.

Are You A New Resident, Or Have Recently Moved Home Within The Township?

by Sinclair Salisbury, Director of Code Enforcement

Well first, we would like to welcome you to the Township and hope your move went smoothly. Please take a moment to look at the Township website if you have not already done so, www.doylestownpa.org where you will find information that will inform you of recreation programs, Township meetings and what activities may need a permit. On the Code Enforcement page you will find guidelines which describe in detail requirements for making various permit applications. The full Township code can be accessed under On-Line Services/Township Code.

When moving into, or relocating within the Township there are two requirements that every resident has to complete. In addition to a deed being recorded at the County Courthouse, Ordinance 218 (Chapter 131 in the Township Code) requires that a copy of the new deed be filed with the Township. Deed Registration currently costs \$10.00. At the same time a Move-In Permit form is to be completed and also filed with the Township as required by Ordinance 258 (Chapter 110 in the Township Code). Move-in Permits are also to be filed by tenants. Both Deed Registration and Move-In Permit application forms can be found under Forms For Download/Code Enforcement on the Township website.

If your new home is serviced by an on-lot sanitary sewage disposal system (septic system) you are part of the Township Septic Management Program, Ordinance 299 (Chapter 136 in the Township Code), and will be required to have your system pumped in cycle (the Twp. is divided into three areas, each area on a three year cycle). Those properties that also have a well along with the septic system have to have a bacteriological water test at the same time. Both, evidence of pumping and results of the water test, must be submitted to the Township by the homeowner. Please see a full description of the Septic Management Program on the website. The Septic Management program is intended to prevent and abate water pollution and hazards to public health caused by the improper treatment and disposal of sanitary sewage.

Finally, some homes have Stormwater Management facilities for which there is a recorded (at the Courthouse) agreement which requires regular maintenance. Those properties will receive yearly letters from the Township to which they will reply with details of the maintenance performed. Examples of Stormwater management facilities may be rain gardens, drywells or detention basins constructed to help prevent flooding.

Please call the Township Administration if you need assistance or guidance in complying with any of these programs.

Tax Reminder

County/Township tax bills will be going out by the middle of March.

Contact Sarah Tomlinson at 215-489-5416 or at sarah.tomlinson@gmail.com with any questions or if you don't receive a bill.

Thank You to our Sponsor Matt McGuigan & Family

by Joe Salvati, Chairman, Friends of Kids Castle



We are overjoyed by Matt McGuigan's generous sponsorship of the Little Slide installed at Kids Castle for children to enjoy (pictured above). His gift given in Memory of his daughter Alyssa McGuigan helps us continue our move forward with the necessary improvements needed at Kids Castle for children of all abilities.

The goal achieved through ongoing donations and sponsorships like Matt's, is a new play environment at Kids Castle that welcomes everyone including children with sensory processing disorders, autism, and people of all ages using wheelchairs and other mobility devices.

Through these improvements, children with diverse abilities will grow in the self-confidence that comes along with that sense of belonging by being included in the fun on our playground and by having new opportunities to interact with each other and play together as one.

Matt's daughter Alyssa was a loving, caring and beautiful young woman with a huge heart and was well known for her smile and quick sense of humor. She was always there for her family and friends. Those close to her will remember her famous saying – "I got your back"!

Well, Alyssa still has got our back and her loving care has reached us all the way here at Kids Castle through this Sponsorship, so children who are waiting for their chance to play, will have that opportunity to do so.

Please join me in thanking our Little Slide Sponsor Matt McGuigan and Family in Memory of Alyssa McGuigan.

To find out how you can support the initiative to Build the Kingdom at Kids Castle for children of all abilities, visit the "Donate Your Way" section of our website at www.SaveKidsCastle.org

On behalf of all those children who are waiting for their chance to play, we thank you for your support.

Joe

Dr. Joshua Feldstein Honored by Bucks County Commissioners

Long-time Township resident Dr. Feldstein was honored December 7th by the County Commissioners for his many contributions in the areas of Agriculture and Land Preservation. Dr. Feldstein serves as Chairman of the Township's Agricultural Security Area Advisory Council and is former Chairman of the Township's Open Space and Farmland Preservation Board.



Cross Keys Area PFOA and PFOS Update

In May 2016, as a result of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) lowering the health advisory level of the unregulated contaminants perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluoro-octanesulfonate (PFOS) to 70 parts per trillion (ppt) the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority (DTMA) closed the public Cross Keys Well after sampling revealed levels above the EPA's health advisory level. In addition, DTMA initiated a sampling program at all of their other public wells. This sampling revealed the remaining wells have detectable levels of PFOA and PFOS. However, these levels are well below the new health advisory level. DTMA will continue to monitor and sample all their wells in the future for these contaminants. Also, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) continues to conduct their sampling program within a one mile radius of the Cross Keys well for Doylestown Township residents with private wells.

As a result of the Cross Keys public well closure, the DTMA began using a temporary, backup source of water. In the meantime, DTMA began investigating cost effective alternatives to find a permanent source. It was determined a water main extension from Sawmill Road and Swamp Road connecting DTMA's North Water System to the Cross Key System will provide with a safe, reliable supply of water for years to come. Engineering and permitting is ongoing for this project and construction is slated for early 2017.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the above information please contact the DTMA.

Director of Operations Retires After 29 Years

Hi, I'm Richard John, Doylestown Township's Director of Operations and Forestry and the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority Executive Director.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE:

By the time this newsletter reaches the residents of Doylestown Township I will be close to entering the retirement world. On March 21, 2017 I will close out the twenty-ninth year of working for Doylestown Township and its residents and the Authority and its customers. What a pleasure it has been.

My first day on the job was March 21, 1988. I was looking for a career changing job and boy did I get it. Having been trained in horticulture I spent the first 19 years of my working life in the landscaping and nursery world; the next ten in grounds maintenance for a local school district and would you believe, I then reported for duty as Doylestown Township's first full time Public Water & Sewer Operator. The Township was in the throws of a building boom and by 1992 as farm fields gave way to housing developments we were looking at 32 new developments in various stages of the development and construction process. Water and sewer were just a part of many issues needing to be dealt with on a day to day basis. As developments came to fruition the Township found itself taking ownership of new roads with thousands of feet of curbing, sidewalks, and drainage systems with underground piping, storm inlets and drainage basins to be maintained and kept operational. Somehow, in the early nineties I found myself being promoted to a new position known as the Director of Operations. Now I was not only keeping an eye on water and sewer concerns, but also on the road systems which today numbers 77 + miles and parks and open space which exceed 700 acres of land with passive and active recreational facilities.

A street tree program was created in the nineties and I became the first Director of Forestry as required by our 19 year membership in the Tree City program. Over the years, more than 3000 trees and shrubs have been added to the Townships streetscapes and parklands thanks to the efforts of many volunteers who came out and participated in the Arbor Day tree plantings. No matter whether the weather was sunny, windy, rainy or a snowy spring day, volunteers came out. Of special note are the many trees growing along the 611 Bypass in the area bordered by the Old Dublin Pike over pass and the recently constructed 202 Parkway. They stand as a living testament to a volunteers' effort to make the environment a little better, even if only one tree at a time.

Some how while wearing the above two hats, I was appointed as the Executive Director of the Doylestown

Township Municipal Authority. Taking this position meant working with not only the Township management and its staff and residents, but also the Authority management, staff and customers. I had no idea what I was getting into. But I learned quickly; knew I loved working with public infrastructures; knew that I had a great and supportive administrative and public works staff and hundreds of volunteers.

Being the Township's Director of Operations and Forestry, I am proud of our road restoration program and our "Pot Hole Patrol" and the snow removal program and its goal of "Black Roads" in the winter; our tree plantings especially on the Bypass and Business Route 202 near the hospital; our park system and especially Kids Castle in Central Park and our Bike and Hike Trail system throughout the Township.

As Authority Executive Director, the installation of the Cross Keys public water system which allowed the residents of Buckingham, Doylestown and Plumstead Townships to come together in an effort to replace their on site contaminated wells with potable water; and to provide public water to several other areas of the Central Bucks community surrounding Doylestown Township.

As I look back, it's not hard to pick out some areas (though there are many) which I believe have allowed this township to be a special place. It's "people." Whether they be residents, governing boards, volunteers, the uniform and non-uniformed staffs and of course, the lay of the land, its topo, flora and fauna. It's hard to beat southeastern Pennsylvania beauty and its people.

As I finish out my 29 years, I will be training two new staff members. Dave Tomko will take over on the Township side as Director of Operations and Forestry and Keith Hass will take over on the Authority side as Executive Director for all things water. I am sure both will serve you well for the next 25 – 30 years in growing and maintaining your public infrastructure.

Thank you, Doylestown Township for a great 29 years!



Township Information

Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors

Barbara N. Lyons, Chairman
Richard F. Colello, Vice Chairman
Ryan Manion
Shawn Touhill
Ken Snyder

Government Access Channel

Comcast Channel 22
Verizon Channel 31

Volunteer Boards and Commissions

Agricultural Security Advisory Council
Bicentennial Committee
Bike & Hike Committee
Board of Auditors
UCC Board of Appeals
Central Bucks Senior Task Force
Doylestown Dog Park Advisory Committee
Environmental Advisory Council/Shade Tree Commission
Friends of Kids Castle
Historical Architectural Review Board
Doylestown Township Municipal Authority
Park & Recreation Board
Planning Commission
Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board
Telecommunications Advisory Board
Traffic Advisory Committee
Ways & Means Committee
Vacancy Board
Zoning Hearing Board

Township Staff

Township Manager
Stephanie J. Mason
Chief of Police
Dean Logan
Director of Operations
Richard John
Dave Tomko
Executive Director of DTMA
Keith Hass
Special Projects Coordinator
Autumn Canfield
Parks Superintendent
Butch Froehlich
Road Superintendent
Paul Garr
Water Superintendent
Scott Miele
Finance Director
Ken Wallace
Director of Parks & Recreation
Karen A. Sweeney
Parks & Recreation Program Coordinator
Kaitlyn Finley
Director of Code Enforcement
Sinclair Salisbury
Fire Marshal
Rick Schea
Open Records Officer
Jackie Rowand

General Information

425 Wells Road
Doylestown, PA 18901
Phone: (215) 348-9915
Fax: (215) 348-8729
info@doylestownpa.org
Monday through Friday 8:30-4:30

Social Media

www.doylestownpa.org
www.doylestownrec.com
www.facebook.com/doylestowntwp
<https://twitter.com/doylestowntwp>

Helpful Phone Numbers

Bucks County Conference & Visitor's Bureau: 215-639-0300	Doylestown Hospital: 215-345-2200
Bucks County Court House: 215-348-6000	Doylestown Post Office: 267-880-3918
Bucks County Free Library: 215-348-9082	Emergency: 911
Bucks County Health Department: 215-345-3318	Keystone Collections Group: 888-539-1100
Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority: 215-343-2538	PA Hotline (for State Roads): 800-349-7623
Central Bucks School District: 267-893-2000	PennDOT: 215-345-6060
Doylestown Borough: 215-345-4140	Police Non-Emergency: 215-348-4201
Doylestown Fire Company #1: (Non-emergency) 215-348-2656	Tax Collector: 215-489-5416

Social Media

Stay informed of Parks and Recreation events, summer concerts, road closures, winter weather and police emergencies:

By joining our Google Group: Go to www.doylestownpa.org and left click "Click Here to Subscribe to Doylestown News" at the bottom of the page

By following us on Twitter @DoylestownTWP: Go to <https://twitter.com/doylestowntwp> and click "Follow" in the top right corner

Like us on Facebook: Go to www.facebook.com/doylestowntwp and then click "Like" in the left sidebar

Check out our newly created Youtube channel. This can be accessed via the "videos" button on the homepage of our website, www.doylestownpa.org.

Township Closures

President's Day, February 20th
Good Friday, April 14th
Primary Election Day, May 16th

Drug Awareness, Prevention and Education:

Doylestown Township has created a new webpage that lists resources to assist those afflicted by drug abuse. It includes community groups, Township resources and educational materials. The Police Building also features a drug drop off location.

For more information, please visit doylestownpa.org/information or call 215-348-9915.

Septic Management Reminder

Cycle Two Residents must have their septic systems pumped and inspected and have their well water tested for Coliform bacteria by December 31, 2017. Please remember that although your pumper hauler will send us a copy of your pumper's report, it is the homeowner's responsibility to send a copy of your water test results to the Township. We are located at 425 Wells Rd., next to Central Park. If you have your water test done at the Bucks County Health Department, it is located on Almshouse Road. They do not forward us a copy of your water test.

Remember to maintain a healthy septic system because water conservation is key!
Check out our Stormwater Survey and Hotline at Doylestownpa.org under information!

Doylestown Township Parks and Recreation Upcoming Events

- *Cherry Blossom Festival Trip – Saturday, April 1st
- *Community Yard Sale – Saturday, April 29th
- Touch-A-Truck – Saturday, May 6th
- *Home Run Derby – Thursday, May 18th
- Barkminster – Saturday, May 20th
- *Township Golf Outing – Monday, June 5th

*Pre-registration is required.
Visit www.doylestownrec.com for more information or to register.

Don't forget!

Ready Bucks Emergency Notifications are available to residents. It's recommended that every resident sign up for this emergency alert system! Visit www.readynotifypa.org for details.

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