

Worcester Erier



VOLUME 17, NUMBER 1

WINTER 2012

What's Happening in Worcester - 2011 Year End Report

No tax increase

By Arthur Bustard, Chairman, Board of Supervisors

2011 was a challenging year for Worcester Township. However, our budget again allowed us to keep your local real estate taxes at only 0.05 mills. We continued to work on preserving our township's open space, improving our parks, maintaining our roads, and creating more efficiency in our township's government.

In Mid 2011, Dave Burman, our township manager, informed us that he was accepting a new position closer to his home. The Supervisors hired Keystone Municipal Services to conduct a search for a new manager and hired William McCauley as the interim manager. After an extensive search that resulted in over 30 resumes and multiple interviews, the Supervisors hired Mr. F. Lee Mangan as our new Manager in November (see bio on page 2). We know that his experience and abilities will serve us well.

The township again worked in 2011 to maintain the many miles of road infrastructure for which we are responsible. Our Township Road Master left to work for Montgomery County in August and we hired Bob D'Hulster to take his place. Bob comes to us with an extensive background in construction management and road building (see bio on page 2), which will help us to improve and maintain our current network of roads and buildings. The township replaced a deficient bridge on Kriebel Mill Road in 2011 along with resurfacing portions of our roads.

The new contractor in charge of maintaining our two wastewater treatment facilities made the township staff aware of several deficiencies in equipment, with the result that we replaced and repaired equipment for both plants in 2011. The ongoing evaluation of the treatment infrastructure has indicated that we will be facing significant issues in the next several years to upgrade the facilities to meet new regulations from the State DEP. More information will be forthcoming as we determine the extent of the needs.

Looking forward in 2012, we are hopeful that the economy will grow and expand sufficiently to help fund our growing infrastructure needs. The township budget is again frugal, making sure we cover what needs to be accomplished, while prioritizing those issues that need to be addressed in terms of the available funds. In the fall of 2011 the Supervisors authorized a transfer of \$500,000 from the General Fund balance to a capital

reserve fund designed to help handle the costs of the Army Reserve Center being transferred to the Township. We are looking for assurance from the Army that the environmental conditions of the base have been studied and are in condition for us to accept it.

The township is planning on creating a trail on the Moran Property this spring, as part of our agreement with the state and county when we helped purchase the development rights on the land. This trail will run between Kriebel Mill Rd. and Grange Ave., and allow people access to Evansburg State Park.

The township has several large items on the agenda for 2012, including a discussion on TDR's (Transferable Development Rights) which has been an objective for the Planning Commission for many years. We will be looking at zoning issues for several of the villages in the township, an ordinance for football field lights, and dealing with the Army Reserve Center. The Township Engineer will again be evaluating the condition of the our roads and we will be looking at culverts and pipes to handle water runoff. Storm water management issues will become increasingly important in the next several years as the state and federal government regulations become more stringent .

If you have any questions about Worcester Township I encourage you to visit our official web page at www.worcestertwp.com where we have an extensive library of information. You can also contact the township staff at 610-584-1410.



Arthur C. Bustard



**BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS**

Arthur C. Bustard, Chairman
Susan G. Caughlan, Vice Chair
Stephen C. Quigley, Member

**INCORPORATED AS A
TOWNSHIP ~ 1733**

F. Lee Mangan
Township Manager
Administration Building
(610) 584-1410
www.worcestertwp.com

F. Lee Mangan Named New Township Manager

On November 7, 2011, F. Lee Mangan was appointed to the position of Township Manager by the Board of supervisors. "I am extremely pleased that the Township was able to attract a seasoned professional like Lee Mangan," said Board Chairman Arthur Bustard. "I believe that attracting a manager the quality of Lee is a sure sign that Worcester has arrived as a premier community in Montgomery County," said Bustard.

Selected from 40 candidates that applied for the position, Mangan was the Borough Manager of Lansdale from 1978 until 2010. He has a Bachelor's in Education from East Stroudsburg University and a Master's in Urban Management from Drexel University. Mangan is a member of the Montgomery County Revitalization Board and a past member of the Montgomery County Greenprint Task Force and the Green Fields/Green Towns Task Force.

Bob D'Hulster Appointed Director Public Works/Roadmaster

In October, 2011, Bob D'Hulster was named the new Worcester Director of Public Works/Roadmaster. Bob has 20 years experience in landscape maintenance and site development management, which will assist him in overseeing a diverse array of projects throughout the township.

Specifically, Bob was a project manager for TH Properties, which afforded him the opportunity to oversee infrastructure installation and site development projects. He has extensive familiarity with road work, snow plowing operations, utility installation and landscape operations.



Where Can I Dispose My Yard Waste?

Spring is just around the corner. Many Worcester Township residents ask where they should dispose of vegetative waste. Your private hauler is required by law to offer 2 calendar days a year to pick up vegetative waste materials or you may drop off your waste materials at:

Barnside Farm Compost Facility
 991 Halderman Road
 Schwenksville, PA 19473
 Phone: (610) 287-8880

Hours:
 7am-4pm Monday through Friday
 7am-12noon on Saturday
 Or by appointment



Barnside Farm Compost accepts leaves, yard waste, fill dirt, logs and woodchips.



As a friendly reminder Montgomery County is designated as a "NO OPEN BURNING" zone. Open burning of your vegetative waste is not an acceptable measure of disposal. Please take all necessary measures to properly dispose of your vegetative waste in Spring 2012.

Worcester awarded TreeVITALIZE Grant



Worcester Township was recently awarded a grant to help offset the cost of planting trees along the Zacharias Creek. The project will help to restore the riparian buffer, subsequently protecting the water quality, helping to stabilize the stream bed and enhancing the local habitat.

Full Line Up of Bus Trips in 2012!

To register for all trips, please call Worcester Township at 610-584-1410. Space is limited!

For details on all trips, please visit www.worcestertwp.com/bus_trips.htm **(New trips added throughout the year)**

MOHEGAN SUN at POCONO DOWNS

Wednesday, March 28
 Depart Worcester Area: Approx. 8am
 Depart Casino: Approx. 4pm
\$39 per person



Package includes \$30 in FREE slot play and \$10 Food Coupon

Ride our luxury motor coach to the

Mohegan Sun casino at Pocono Downs, with over 2,300 slot machines and all of the popular table games (craps, blackjack, poker and more!). Enjoy one of the many restaurants on site, simulcast racing and all of the excitement of a top-tier casino!

NEW YORK CITY ON YOUR OWN

Saturday, April 28
 Depart Worcester Area: Approx. 8am
 Depart NYC: Approx. 6pm
\$45 per person

Spend a day in NYC and leave the driving to us! Our motor coach will drop you off in Times Square, near the Visitors' Center where discounted tickets are available to Broadway shows. Design your own itinerary for a day in the Big Apple.



GREAT PA FLAVOR FEST

Saturday, May 26
 Depart Worcester Area: Approx. 9am
 Depart Mount Hope Estate: Approx. 4pm
\$35 per person



Join us at the Great PA FlavorFest for the best that Pennsylvania has to offer in food, dining and entertainment! 20 wineries will provide complimentary samples of some of their most popular vintages, while food and craft vendors showcase their handmade delights! Don't miss out on this annual favorite!

NYC GOURMET FOOD TOUR

Saturday, June 2
 Depart Worcester Area: Approx. 8am
 Depart NYC: 5:30pm
\$48 per person

Bring your appetite to sample the culinary delights of Manhattan. We will stop at Citarella in Greenwich Village, Dean & DeLuca in SoHo, Little Italy, Chinatown and the Chelsea market. Bring along your cooler!

ATLANTIC CITY, NEW JERSEY

Wednesday, July 25
 Depart Worcester Area: Approx. 9:30am
 Depart AC: Approx. 4:30pm
\$35 per person

\$20 in free slot play included!



Enjoy a summer day in the city that is always turned on. Our luxury motor coach will drop you off and pick you up at the

Resorts Casino, centrally located on the Atlantic City Boardwalk, where you will enjoy a care-free day without the hassle or cost of driving to the shore. Must be 21 or older.



GETTYSBURG

Saturday, September 22
 Depart Worcester Area: Approx. 630am
 Depart Gettysburg: Approx. 3:30pm
\$68 per person

Join us as we visit Gettysburg for a day that will be fun for the whole family. We will start with a visit to the Welcome Center where you can explore the museum, watch the movie



and view the Cyclorama followed by lunch at General Picketts Buffet. After lunch, we will have a 2 hour guided tour of the battlefield. Your cost includes: transportation, entrance to the Visitors Center, Guided Tour and Lunch. We will stop for dinner on the way home.

Please close out your open building permits

The Building Department has performed a review of all inactive Building Permits (Open Permits) that have not completed their required inspections. This would mean a Use and Occupancy (U&O) certificate has not been issued and in accordance with the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code (UCC) the building project should not be used or occupied until one is obtained.

The building department will first attempt to contact the applicant (property owner or contractor) by telephone. The applicant would normally be the person responsible for scheduling the inspections. If this is unsuccessful, the property owner may receive a friendly reminder in the mail informing them of the open permit and requesting to schedule the required inspection (s). The failure to resolve the status of these Open Permits may affect future transactions of the property, so please help us help you.



Township of Worcester
1721 Valley Forge Road
P.O. Box 767
Worcester, PA 19490-0767

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www.worcestertwp.com

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TOWNSHIP MONTHLY MEETING TIMES

Board of Supervisors

1st Monday at 9:00 am

3rd Wednesday at 7:30 pm

Planning Commission

4th Thursday at 7:30 pm

Planning Commission Work Session

2nd Thursday at 7:30 pm

Zoning Hearing Board

4th Tuesday at 6:30 pm

*All Public Meetings are held in the
Worcester Township Community Hall
1031 Valley Forge Road
Fairview Village*

Residential Sewer Rates increase after 20 years

Worcester Township owns and operates two wastewater treatment plants that serve approximately 900 residents in the Township. Other residents are served by sewer authorities in Towamencin and Upper Gwynedd. After maintaining rates for approximately 20 years, it has become necessary to raise the quarterly flat rate from \$78.75 to



\$88.00. This decision was made by the Board of Supervisors at the December 21, 2011 meeting after reviewing the prior years' income and expenses statements, future demands that will be placed on the treatment and operations of the plants and necessary repairs and updates. Utility costs have increased, capital improvements are required at both treatment plants and Township owned pump stations. In addition, Pennsylvania DEP required sample testing costs have increased over \$20,000. The rate increase will help offset the DEP costs.

The Township reviewed costs previously and in 2010 awarded the maintenance contract to a new firm resulting in a substantial savings but could not hold costs in other areas. This rate increase is effective January, 2012 and will be seen by residents on the April, 2012 bill for the period of January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012. The fee remains a flat rate in the amount of \$88.00 per quarter or \$352.00 per year.