



# Shrewsbury Township News

Winter 2020

## **2020 Budget Approved**

On December 4, 2019, the Board of Supervisors adopted the Township's 2020 budget. The \$3,798,436 spending plan includes numerous capital projects, as well as an increase in financial support to the three (3) volunteer fire companies that serve Shrewsbury Township. The real estate tax rate will remain unchanged at 0.074 mill; however, the fire protection tax rate increased from 0.34 to 0.46 mill, which will result in a \$23 per year increase for the average Township residential home assessed at \$188,313. See "Fire Protection" on page 4 for details.

The Township's budget consists of seven (7) funds; one (1) is unrestricted and six (6) are restricted. The General Fund is unrestricted and the restricted funds include Liquid Fuels, Fire Hydrant, Fire Protection, Recreation, Sewer, and Street Lights. Unrestricted funds can be used for general expenses and restricted funds are for very specific uses and cannot be commingled with any other funds.



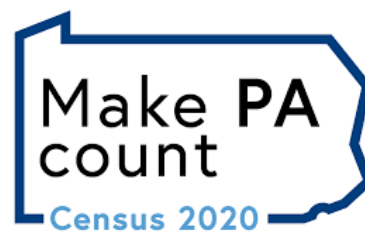
See **BUDGET**, page 2

## **Are You Ready For Census 2020?**

### **Message from the Board of Supervisors**

Census 2020 is rapidly approaching. It is an extremely important event nationally and especially for local municipalities. Shrewsbury Township will benefit in many ways from an accurate count. Political clout and millions of dollars of population-based funding are at stake. We strongly encourage all residents to participate in the census count. The effect of what takes place in the 2020 census will be felt in the Township for the next decade.

See **CENSUS**, page 5



## **South Central York County Senior Center**

### **Invites You To Join In The Fun!**

Are you looking to meet new people, catch up with old friends, take an exercise classes or learn a new hobby; then South Central Senior Center is the place for you! Daily activities may include: playing cards, board games, trips, bingo, movies, puzzles, community speakers, and health programs.

Transportation is available 2 weeks after registration with Rabbittransit.

SCYCSC's primary mission is to establish and maintain a senior center that provides programs to facilitate the social, emotional, cultural, economic, and physical well-being of senior citizens regardless of race, religion and nationality.



The Center is located at 150 E. Main Street, New Freedom. You can reach the senior center by calling (717) 235-6060, Monday through Friday, or email [southcentralsrctr@comcast.net](mailto:southcentralsrctr@comcast.net).

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## **Budget**, continued from page 1

The following is a summary of the revenues and expenditures of each fund.

### **General Fund – Unrestricted** Use

Significant revenue sources:

- ~ earned income, local services, real estate & per capita taxes
- ~ cable TV franchise fees
- ~ grants & state aid (Firemen's Relief & Pension)
- ~ planning & zoning fees
- ~ fines

Significant expenses:

- ~ tax collection, administration & maintenance department wages & benefits
- ~ operation expenses
- ~ building utilities, maintenance & operation
- ~ parks & grounds maintenance
- ~ professional services; legal, engineering, planning & zoning
- ~ property & liability insurance
- ~ road maintenance & improvements, winter maintenance, and bridge & culvert maintenance
- ~ contributions (community service organizations)

### **Recreation Fund – Restricted** Use

Generates revenue through a recreation fee of \$2,500 assessed to each new residential building lot created through subdivision. Use of the funds is restricted for park and recreation operation and improvements.

Shrewsbury Township has several parks and open space areas:

- ~ Miller Park
- ~ Windy Hill (John O'Keefe) Park
- ~ Hametown Park
- ~ Winchester Park
- ~ Strawberry Fields Park
- ~ Strassburg Circle (open space)
- ~ Briarwood (open space)
- ~ Mt. Airy Road @ Windy Hill Road (open space)



### **Street Light Fund – Restricted** Use

This fund includes annual assessments collected from thirty-five (35) properties located within two hundred and fifty (250) feet of a street light on Fieldstone Circle, Westbrooke Circle, Winchester Road, within the Southern Farms subdivision.

The assessment began in 1979, and the current assessment rate is \$0.72 per lineal foot, ranging from an annual assessment of \$28 to \$152.

### **Fire Hydrant Fund – Restricted** Use

The York Water Company and Glen Rock Water & Sewer Authority provide fire protection to a portion of the Township through fire hydrants, which they maintain and service. In turn, each public water provider invoices the Township a "hydrant rental."



2015 was the first year to implement the fire hydrant assessment at 0.12 mill on property within 780 feet of a fire hydrant. The distance from a fire hydrant is dictated by Section 1802 of the Second Class Township Code.

In 2004 there were 19 hydrants with an annual rental of \$2,758; today there are 77 hydrants with an annual rental of \$25,740.

Many homeowner insurance companies provide a premium credit if a fire hydrant is located within a certain distance of the insured property.

### **Liquid Fuels Fund – Restricted** Use

Revenue for the Liquid Fuels Fund is generated from three (3) sources; interest income, PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT) Road Turnback Program, and ACT 655 Liquid Fuels Allocation.

The annual allocation from the Commonwealth is calculated on a formula of Township road miles and population. In 2013, prior to the start of increases under ACT 89 of 2013, the annual allocation received was \$254,955. 2018 was the last year for incremental increases, with the peak in 2019 at \$394,812.

Use of funds is restricted; many of which require pre-approval from PennDOT, such as:

- ~ equipment purchases
- ~ street lighting
- ~ traffic control devices (signs/posts)
- ~ winter maintenance services
- ~ storm sewers and drains
- ~ road & bridge maintenance and repair
- ~ road construction and rebuilding

Shrewsbury Township typically limits its use of funds to road maintenance (calibrated chipping), culvert/bridge repairs, and equipment purchases.



### **Sewer Fund – Restricted Use**

This fund was established in 2012 to collect quarterly charges from sewer customers within the Pine Street and Seitzland Sewer District 1 service areas, which are served by the Glen Rock Water & Sewer Authority.

Fees collected are used to repay a \$625,000 General Obligation Note (loan) that the Township secured to pay for the Glen Rock sewer wastewater treatment plant upgrade (to meet Chesapeake Bay environmental requirements) and the construction of a new sewer collection system in Seitzland Sewer District 1.

The Pine Street sewer area serves 103 customers and Seitzland Sewer District 1 serves 25 customers.

### **Fire Protection Fund – Restricted Use**

First implemented in 2006, this tax replaced the annual \$10,000 donation to each fire company from the general fund. The fire protection revenues are equally distributed to the three (3) volunteer fire companies that serve the Township; Shrewsbury Fire Company, Glen Rock Hose & Ladder Company, and Rose Fire Company (New Freedom). Beginning with 2020, the annual allocations will be distributed on a formula consisting of a base amount of \$35,000, a percentage of the total assessed value of property, and a percentage of service calls.

The initial tax rate was 0.25 mill in 2006 and was in effect through 2014, which increased to 0.34 mill in 2015. Beginning in 2020 the tax rate will increase to 0.46 mill.

### **Fire Protection**, *continued from page 1*

Shrewsbury Township is served by three (3) volunteer fire companies: Glen Rock Hose & Ladder Company (Station 59 - Glen Rock Borough); Rose Fire Company (Station 1 - New Freedom Borough); and Shrewsbury Fire Company (Station 61 – Shrewsbury Borough). All three departments are volunteer driven by men, women, and junior firefighters; no paid fire fighters.

Under Pennsylvania law, Shrewsbury Township (as with all Pennsylvania municipalities), are required to provide fire protection. Across the Commonwealth, some municipalities are provided protection by full -time paid personnel, some by part-time paid personnel and volunteers, some are part of a regional fire department (full-time paid or part-time paid/volunteer personnel), and most are served by volunteer only fire fighters. Shrewsbury Township does not have any fire departments located within the Township limits, but is fortunate to be served by three (3) volunteer departments from neighboring departments.

Shrinking VOLUNTEER fire departments has been a growing crisis across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for numerous reasons. Our local fire departments are not immune to that problem and have also experienced a decline in volunteerism.

The Board of Supervisors recognize the importance of fire protection, as well as the value of our local volunteer fire companies, not to mention the cost if the Township had to provide a fully staffed and equipped fire department.

Following a year of review, the Board of Supervisors approved an increase in the fire protection millage rate from 0.34 to 0.46 mill. The increase on the average residential home (assessed at \$188,313) by \$23 annually, from \$64 to \$87.

In addition, the distribution of equal amounts to each fire department changed to a formula based on three components; 1) a flat allocation of \$35,000 to each department, 2) percentage of the total (assessed) value of property being protected by each fire department, and 3) percentage of number of emergency calls by each department.

The following table indicates the average allocation at 0.34 mill (2019) & 0.46 mill (2020). The allocations shown are before any reduction for tax collector commission & workers' compensation insurance.

<b><u>Fire Company</u></b>	<b><u>0.34 Mill</u></b> (2019)	<b><u>0.46 Mill</u></b> (2020)
Glen Rock Hose & Ladder Company #59	\$ 63,160	\$ 70,360
Rose Fire Company #1	\$ 63,160	\$ 85,970
Shrewsbury Fire Company #61	\$ 63,160	\$ 118,590

## Capital Projects Scheduled for 2020

### Construction:

- \* \$475,000 for bridge replacement due to 2018 flood damage repairs; Bohr Court & Line Road (shared with North Hopewell Township).
- \* \$175,000 for road calibrated chipping (commonly known as tar & chip).
- \* \$80,000 for various culvert repairs.
- \* \$60,000 for a retaining wall and steep slope landscaping at Strawberry Fields Park.
- \* \$563,950 for Phase 2 improvements at Miller Park (\$281,975 grant reimbursement).
- \* \$50,000 to construct a stormwater management basin at Hametown Park to manage stormwater from I-83 and upstream properties.

### Planning :

- \* \$150,000 for architectural services to develop plans and cost estimate to construct a new maintenance & administration building at the current site of the maintenance building (at Hametown Park).
- \* \$10,000 to update the Comprehensive Plan. This is a regional plan with the Boroughs of Glen Rock, Railroad, and Shrewsbury. Total cost is \$40,000; with the municipalities paying \$20,000 and a Community Development Block Grant paying \$20,000.
- \* Develop a sidewalk plan in conjunction with Shrewsbury Borough for E. Forrest Avenue & Mt. Airy Road; apply for a joint Multimodal Transportation grant through PennDOT.
- \* Update the Township's Official Map.

<b>2020 Budget Summary</b> All Funds		<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Liquid Fuels Fund</b>	<b>Recreation Fund</b>	<b>Sewer Fund</b>	<b>Fire Tax Fund</b>	<b>Street Light Fund</b>	<b>Hydrant Fund</b>
<b>Assets</b>									
	Cash - January 1, 2020	4,022,102	3,070,781	543,632	295,294	80,787	1,004	3,807	26,797
<b>Revenues</b>									
300	Taxes	1,657,170	1,352,550				274,920		29,700
320	Licenses & Permits	65,740	65,740						
330	Fines	12,000	12,000						
340	Interest & Rents	56,885	40,000	12,000	2,750	1,500	550	10	75
350	Intergovernmental Revenue	768,031	109,616	376,615	281,800				
360	Charges for Services	253,710	189,295		47,500	14,615		2,300	
380	Miscellaneous Revenues	8,500	8,500						
390	Proceeds (From Other Sources & Sale of Assets)	1,160	-						1,160
	<b>Total 2020 Revenues</b>	<b>2,823,196</b>	<b>1,777,701</b>	<b>388,615</b>	<b>332,050</b>	<b>16,115</b>	<b>275,470</b>	<b>2,310</b>	<b>30,935</b>
	<b>Total Available for Appropriations</b>	<b>6,845,298</b>	<b>4,848,482</b>	<b>932,247</b>	<b>627,344</b>	<b>96,902</b>	<b>276,474</b>	<b>6,117</b>	<b>57,732</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>									
400	General Government	649,020	646,020					3,000	
410	Public Safety	491,741	189,361				275,470		26,910
420	Other	-							
426	Sanitation	-							
429	Collection & Treatment	-							
430	Roads & Streets	1,556,455	755,615	800,840					
450	Culture & Recreation	821,775	144,650		626,750	50,375			
470	Debt Service	-							
480	Miscellaneous Expenditures	278,285	278,285						
490	Transfer to Other Funds	1,160	1,160						
	<b>Total 2020 Expenditures</b>	<b>3,798,436</b>	<b>2,015,091</b>	<b>800,840</b>	<b>626,750</b>	<b>50,375</b>	<b>275,470</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>26,910</b>
	<b>Unappropriated Fund Balance December 31, 2020</b>	<b>3,046,862</b>	<b>2,833,391</b>	<b>131,407</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>46,527</b>	<b>1,004</b>	<b>3,117</b>	<b>30,822</b>

## Your Real Estate Tax Dollar

The Township frequently receives questions about annual real estate tax bills. There are two (2) tax mailings each year; first tax bill is mailed in February for Shrewsbury Township and York County real estate taxes and the second tax bill is mailed in July for the Southern York County School District real estate taxes. The Township, County, and School District are independent governing bodies; as such, the tax payments received by each taxing authority stays with each individual governing agency.

How is your real estate tax dollar distributed between the three governing agencies? The following is a breakdown of the **\$4,776 real estate tax** due on the average Township single-family home **assessed at \$188,313**:

- School District - **\$ 3,651** (76.45%) (19.39 mills)
- York County - **\$ 1,111** (23.26%) ( 5.9 mills)
- Township - **\$ 14** ( 0.29%) ( 0.074 mill)





## **Census**, *continued from page 1*

Nationally, seats apportioned for the next 10 years in the House of Representatives and for the electoral college are based on the census count. Pennsylvania had 36 congressional seats in 1933 and has only 18 today. The state is expected to lose at least one more seat after the 2020 census.

Data collected from the census will drive how money for various federal and state programs is distributed to local governments, based on population breakdown by age, sex, race and other factors. Pennsylvania currently receives \$26.8 billion, or more than \$2000 per citizen in federal funding programs. Programs include Medicare, Medicaid, and grants toward education and highway construction and maintenance, among others.

Census data is also relied on by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to allocate funding for local improvements, services and projects. Funding sources include liquid fuels tax reimbursement, firemen's relief funds and various grants. The data collected helps to define who we are, where we live, and how we are changing. It helps individual municipalities, including Shrewsbury Township, to maximize grant and other funding opportunities for the next 10 years.

The goal of the census is to count everyone once, and only once, and in the right place. The Township needs your help to make sure the most up-to-date information is collected. This will make sure the Township has every opportunity to obtain federal and state funding and grants.

What do you need to do? Just make sure you respond by completing the 2020 census form. It should require only 10 minutes to complete. Here is how. In March, every household in the Township should receive a postcard on how to fill out the census data online. The form will also be mailed to enable a paper response. April 1 has been designated as Census Day. Phone calls and visits for follow-up will begin in April to make sure everyone is properly counted. On December 1, 2020, apportionment results will be delivered to the President of the United States.

Your participation is necessary for the Township to maximize funding assistance that it will receive from the federal and state governments for the next 10 years. Funding that will help maintain the very low Township tax levy. Please respond promptly with your completed census form to make sure the Township does not miss out on any of the funding that it deserves.

The Township Board of Supervisors and administrative staff welcome and encourage any questions you may have about the census process.

## **Be Properly Counted!**

## **Volunteers Cleanup Flood Debris in Township**



*Before Cleanup*

August 31, 2018 saw a flood event in York County that will be remembered for a long time. While most of the flooding was east of Shrewsbury Township, some flooding occurred here. One such area was Trout Run west of Shrewsbury Borough. Trout Run rose an estimated 10 feet and carried debris downstream. At one location along W. Clearview Drive numerous sheds and chicken coops washed away and wedged together against a stand of trees. When the flood waters receded a large, visible debris field was left behind. Several attempts were made to get volunteers to come and cleanup the pile.



*During Cleanup*

During the summer of 2019 volunteers from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints demolished the pile into manageable pieces and staged the material in the wooded area near W. Clearview Drive. On October 25, 2019 the former owners of the sheds, along with neighbors, friends, and volunteers loaded all the material into a 44 cubic yard dumpster. A pizza lunch was then provided. Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, in cooperation with local, county and state emergency management agencies, continue to help survivors of the August 31, 2018 flooding.



*After Cleanup*

# Shrewsbury Township

11505 Susquehanna Trail S  
Glen Rock, PA 17327

Phone: 717-235-3011  
Fax: 717-227-0662

[www.shrewsburytownship.org](http://www.shrewsburytownship.org)

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## Upcoming Meetings

The following meetings will be held  
at 7:00 p.m. in the  
Township Municipal Building,  
11505 Susquehanna Trail South,  
Glen Rock, PA 17327

### Board of Supervisors

February 5<sup>th</sup>

March 4<sup>th</sup>

April 1<sup>st</sup>

### Planning Commission

February 19<sup>th</sup>

March 18<sup>th</sup>

April 15<sup>th</sup>

## 2020 Seedling Sale

Sponsored by the York County Conservation District.

Order deadline is March 23, 2020; Pickup on April  
16, 2020 at Rocky Ridge County Park from 10:00  
a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Bare root seedlings available are two-, three-, and  
four-year-old. Evergreens average 8"-14" in height; and Deciduous hardwoods  
average 12"-18" in height. Fruit trees, Raspberries, Blueberries and ground  
cover plants.

Order forms can be found online at <https://www.yorkccd.org/events/2020-seedling-sale> or picked up at the Township office. Call 717-840-7430 or 800-441-2025 (ext. 7430) with questions.



## Office Hours

**Monday – Thursday:**

8:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

**Friday:**

8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

## Holiday Closings

**February 17<sup>th</sup>**

Presidents' Day

**April 10<sup>th</sup>**

Good Friday



# YCSWA DISPOSAL FEE INCREASE RAISES COLLECTION RATES FOR TOWNSHIP TRASH SERVICE

Under the terms of the Township's refuse & recycling contract with Republic Services, the hauler is permitted to pass along any tipping fee increases imposed by the York County Solid Waste Authority (YCSWA) during the term of the contract (same provision was in place with Penn Waste). In late 2019, the YCSWA increased the tip fee by \$3 per ton, from \$62 to \$65 per ton of trash disposed of at the YCSWA incinerator.

See the announcement below from the YCSWA.

Effective January 1, 2020, the total increase per customer is **\$2.69 per year**.



## **Full-Service customers**

- Accounts paid in full through June 30, 2020 will pay an increase of \$1.34 for the six-month period of January 1—June 30, 2020.
- Accounts billed quarterly will see an increase of \$0.69; from \$69.90 to \$70.57 per quarter (through June 30, 2020).

## **Per-Bag customers**

- Accounts paid in full through June 30, 2020 will pay an increase of \$1.34 for the six-month period of January 1—June 30, 2020.
- Accounts billed semi-annually will see an increase of \$1.34; from \$84.50 to \$85.84 through June 30, 2020.

**PLEASE NOTE** that the Township has made Republic Services aware of a billing error in which the increases included in the bills received in January 2020 were higher than those outlined above. Please review your July 2020 bill to assure that the proper credit has been applied.

Contact the Township at 717-235-3011 to report any issues you may have with collection, billing, or Republic Services customer service.

## **YORK COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY** **APPROVES 2020 BUDGET WITH \$3 INCREASE IN THE COST FOR WASTE DISPOSAL**

*The York County Solid Waste Authority has approved its budget for fiscal 2020. The tip fee (cost for disposal) for York County processible municipal solid waste at the York County Resource Recovery Center (RRC) for 2020 will increase from \$62 per ton to \$65 per ton. The **minimum** fee to dispose of waste is \$20 for up to 600 pounds.*

*The tipping fee and revenue from the sale of electricity support Authority operations which include the York County Resource Recovery Center, the Small Load Drop-off Facility, the Recycling Drop-off Center, the Education Center, the York County Sanitary Landfill/Hopewell Area Recreation Complex, electronics recycling and community outreach efforts and other programs aimed at waste reduction and recycling. The tip fee does **not** include collection costs charged by waste hauling companies hired to provide trash removal services. In most cases waste hauling companies charge customers a fee that covers the Authority's tipping fee, as well as costs for waste collection, hauling and curbside recycling.*

*Notes Dave Vollero, Authority Executive Director, "Under this increase, the cost of waste disposal alone for an average York County household will be approximately \$1.37 per week, a 7-cent increase from \$1.30. This is based on an average household waste generation rate of 1.1 tons of trash per year. The household **annual average** cost to York County residents for waste collection **and** disposal services is approximately \$245 a year, of which, just \$71 accounts for the disposal portion of those fees.*

*This increase in the tip fee is a response to fiscal pressures created by rising operational costs, a significant decrease in energy revenues and Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) pricing, resulting in a decrease in REC revenues. The RRC is a Tier II source of alternative power in Pennsylvania and as such, the Authority as owner can sell its Renewable Energy Certificates on the open market. In addition, the Authority is beginning the process of identifying and budgeting for technology needed at the Resource Recovery Center to provide future additional capacity and to continue to manage York County's waste responsibly.*

*Stabilizing the cost for disposal of waste has always been a top priority for the Authority and has been achieved through a process of effective operation and budget management. Moving forward, the Authority will continue to operate in a fiscally responsible manner to serve the citizens of York County. Until now, the Authority has held the cost for disposal at \$62 per ton since 2017. This increase represents a 4.8 percent increase.*

*The Authority facilitates responsible solid waste management through an integrated strategy that emphasizes waste reduction, reuse, recycling and resource recovery. The operations of the Authority are supported by its two revenue streams: the cost of disposal, or "tipping fee" at the York County Resource Recovery Center and the sale of electricity generated by the facility.*