



BUDGET 2014

Pursuant to the Townships of the Second Class, Article XXXII-Section 23, I present for your consideration the South Londonderry Township Annual Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2014 and ending December 31, 2014.

This budget was crafted with direct guidance from the Board of Supervisors and the various department managers with the following goals in mind:

- Take necessary steps to not increase the current tax rate.
- Evaluate all options to ensure that we are getting the best insurance/medical/ interest rates as well as purchased goods and services.
- Where possible, continue to utilize user fees to charge residents/developers for services.
- Continue to complete improvement projects in house to keep costs down.
- Forecast Long Term Trends and plans for South Londonderry's future.

With direction from the Board of Supervisors, the budget process began in August with the department heads submitting their FY2014 – FY2017 Capital Improvement Plans. Simultaneously to the requests coming in, revenue projections were developed; prior year's budget and actual expenditures as well as current year to date expenditures were listed comparatively. A preliminary budget was then drafted and submitted to the Board of Supervisors in early September. Workshops with the Supervisors were held during the month of October where fiscal discussions, line item explanations and policy implications were discussed.

For the fifth straight year, the Township is proposing a no property tax increase budget for FY2014. The FY2014 spending plan is a balanced budget that proposes \$2,738,003 in expenditures while generating \$2,846,709 in revenue. This balanced budget was achieved in part through increased earned income taxes, building permits and real estate transfer taxes.

Projections for local receipts from property and local enabling taxes (Property, Local Services, Real Estate Transfer and Earned Income) are about where we expected with our FY2013 Budget projections at \$2,004,000.00 or just \$9,000 above expectations.

We anticipate this trend to level off and have only included a \$5,000 decrease bringing the projected amount to \$1,999,000 in FY2014.

As in prior years, the FY2013 Budget reflects a number of pass through funds and reimbursable expenses that are paid to the Township from developers, the Municipal Authority and State funding sources.

These reimbursable costs are for the Township Engineer's review of developer's projects, to salary and benefits for the Public Works Director as well as the State's contribution towards the Township's Fire Companies and the Township's uniform and non uniformed pension plans. A new pass through fund was added in 2014 for the salaries and benefits of the Lawn Ambulance members, who are now operating out of the Campbelltown Fire Department and this amount is estimated to be 150,000 in FY2014.

The resources within the General Fund Budget are earmarked for the day to day operations of the Township from administrative functions, to law enforcement, to roadway maintenance. Salaries and benefits for the Township's Employees are the number one expenses of the General Fund.

The Township has one collective bargaining agreement in effect and that is with its Police Department. We are in the second year of this four year contract and the sergeant and the officers are to receive 3% cost of living adjustments in FY2014. All other cost of living adjustments for the remaining employees are at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors. This year's budget recommends a 3% salary increase with a 10% contribution towards their health care coverage, but is subject to the approval of the Supervisors.

This year's budget includes funding for items within the Township's three year Capital Improvement Plan. South Londonderry Township has tried to maintain its infrastructure and capital items but due to limited funding, many planning and preventive maintenance projects have fallen behind. However, over the past several years the Township has worked hard to reduce costs and streamline the township's government functions. This has resulted in the development of a capital budget that will allow the Township to invest in the long term maintenance of its buildings and grounds, roadways and fleet of vehicles.

During FY2014, The Township will be replacing its 1979 Paver with a 2005 model at an estimated cost of \$60,000 and will also consider the purchase of an electronic message board to be placed at the square in Campbelltown. The purchase of this vehicle and message board will be financed through the Capital Improvement Fund. Other capital purchases include computer upgrades, firearms and AED's which will be purchased through the general fund.

To meet the Township's goal of utilizing user fees for the residents who benefit from the services that are provided, the Township has several accounts which are specifically designed to process these funds. The Street Light Fund, the Hydrant Fund and the Sewer District Fund #1 and #2 are a few of such accounts with the fees established to cover the charges for the operation of street lights and fire hydrants within the Township. Those areas that do not have street lights, fire hydrants and/or public sewers are not assessed fees for these services.

During FY2014, the fees for the operation and maintenance of the Township's streetlights will be implemented because we have exhausted the surplus within this account which caused us to eliminate this fee for the past two years.



The Fire Tax Fund was established in 2001 and is funded through a property tax assessment and that assessment generated about \$85,000 in 2001 for the fire departments. The rate of this property tax has not been increased since 2001 and in 2013 is projected to bring in \$112,000, an increase of only \$27,000 over the past 12 years. However, the replacement costs of the department's equipment and gear has far exceeded this rate. As a result, the 2014 Budget reflects a 40% increase in the fire tax.

The Highway Aid Fund was established to handle the contribution from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the maintenance of the Township's Roadways. This funding is expected to cover all of the road improvement costs anticipated during FY2014 and the roadways scheduled to be paved are East Hinkle, Church Road and South Brandt Road. Other road improvement projects which are planned for FY2014 will be completed under the Public Works section of the General Fund.

Each year the Township contributes \$100,000 to the Capital Reserve Fund from the General Fund for capital purchases and the Township will use these additional funds to focus on preparing for the renovations to the municipal building and have budgeted \$100,000 for the final design, cost estimate and bid documents and some initial improvements.

The Township has received a \$193,300 grant from DCNR to develop the Campbelltown Community Park and this \$298,300 project will be financed through the Recreation Fund using the DCNR Grant and the remaining Recreation Funds. The remaining match for the grant award will be through in kind contributions of time and equipment by the highway department.

A new fund has been added to the budget for FY2014 and will cover the contributions and costs associated with the startup of the Police Department's K-9 unit.



In conclusion, I would like to thank the Board of Supervisors and the department heads of the Township who assisted me in the development of the FY2014 Budget.

If you should have any questions please do not hesitate to call.

Respectfully Submitted, Thomas Ernharth, Township Manager

NEW ZONING ORDINANCE ADOPTED

The Board of Supervisors adopted a new Zoning Ordinance in November 2013 designed to implement the goals of the Comprehensive Plan adopted March 2013. The Zoning Ordinance is intended to accommodate reasonable overall community growth including population and employment growth while protecting prime agricultural areas and farmland and preserving the natural and historic values in the environment. It emphasizes the protection of wetlands, aquifers, floodplains, rural villages and forested areas.

The Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, Storm Water Ordinance, and Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan are being updated to conform with the New Zoning Ordinance and updated State regulations. The amount of area served by public sewer will be limited and lot sizes will be adjusted to accomplish these changes. The Township's Environmental Advisory Committee will have increased input on development applications which come before the Planning Commission.

The purpose of these actions is to maintain in the traditional rural character of the Township while guiding inevitable growth. If you are interested in learning and understanding more about these changes contact Thomas Ernharth at (717) 838-5556 or manager@slondtwp.com.

CONGRATULATIONS

Cliff Orley, Township Supervisor, has been elected to serve as 1 of 2 Eastern Region members of the Board of Trustees of the American Simmental Association. This area encompasses the Eastern 1/3 of the U.S. The association represents 4000 producers of Registered Simmental beef cattle in the U.S. This is for a 3 year term. The association office is located in Bozeman, MT.



REPORTING OUTAGES



There have been numerous streetlight outages reported to the Township. If you are reporting a streetlight outage, in order to expedite the service to the lights, please provide the pole numbers when calling the Township office.

SPRING AHEAD

Daylight savings time begins on March 9, 2014. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night!!!



IN THE SPOTLIGHT



South Londonderry Township Police Department is pleased to welcome Jordan Herr as the department's student intern. Jordan is a Lieutenant with the Lawn Fire Company and is a 2010 graduate of Palmyra High School. He is currently attending Lebanon Valley College, studying criminal justice and will graduate in May of 2014.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Volunteers needed for Historical Commission and Environmental Advisory Committee. Please contact Tom Ernharth at the Township office, 838-5556, if you are interested.

THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

The Municipal Authority is currently undertaking two major projects this year, one at the Campbelltown East facility on North Brandt Road and the other at the Colebrook facility on Mount Gretna Road.



The Campbelltown East facility is in the process of an upgrade to meet more stringent regulations to remove phosphorus as mandated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Concurrent with the phosphorus upgrade will also be upgrades to the general treatment process, which includes modifications to the settling tanks, installation of a screen to remove unwanted organic and inorganic materials prior to entering the treatment process and modifications to the system that feeds air to various processes.

The Colebrook facility at the southern end of the township will be undergoing a total change in the way wastewater is treated. The existing system, an aerated lagoon, built in 1985, has been producing a discharge of inconsistent quality, especially in cold weather, and must be replaced with a facility of higher performance.

After evaluating all available means of treatment, the Authority chose to construct a sequence batch reactor (SBR) treatment facility at the existing Colebrook site. The sequence batch reactor, a more contemporary process than the lagoon type of treatment, is known to produce an effluent discharge of excellent quality.

The Authority has been planning for the Campbelltown East and Colebrook upgrades for some time now and therefore has funds available to make a sizeable contribution towards the two projects, however, in order to retain a responsible amount of funds for the day to day operation and maintenance of all facilities and any other unexpected expenditures that may come along, additional funding must be sought by way of grants or a loan – and yes, to cover rising operational costs and the reduction of tapping fee revenues, the Authority will be implementing a user fee increase of 3%, which will mean that the average homeowner who is now paying \$144.50 per quarter, with the increase, will be paying \$149.00 per quarter. You will be seeing this increase in the second quarter of this year.

As always, the Municipal Authority goes to great lengths and explores all avenues before a rate increase is even considered, but there are times, especially when state and federal regulatory agencies mandate stricter discharge criteria, that a rate increase is unavoidable.

PARPC BALLET CONDITIONING PROGRAM

The Palmyra Area Recreation and Parks Commission (PARPC) will be offering a six week Ballet Conditioning Class from February 11 through March 18, 2014 at the South Londonderry Twp. Municipal Building. The cost is \$10 per class or \$50 for the 6 week program.



RUN FOR THE CHILDREN



The Palmyra Area Recreation and Parks Commission (PARPC) will again be conducting our 9th Annual Run for the Children 10K, 5K, 1 mile Fun Run on May 10th, 2014. Registration forms will be available on Tuesday, January 14th, 2014 at the Palmyra Municipal Building or on-line. Proceeds from this event will benefit the “Maggie Leach Scholarship Fund” which provides Summer Camp scholarships for economically disadvantaged youth residing within the Palmyra Area School District.

For more information or a registration form, please contact PARPC at 838-9244 or check out our web-site at www.palmyrarec.org

12 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO CLEAN UP PENNSYLVANIA'S RIVERS AND STREAMS

Twelve Ways to Reduce Polluted Runoff

- Make an appointment to service your septic system. Septic systems should be inspected yearly to ensure proper functioning. Waste from failing systems can leak into the groundwater and eventually end up in local waterways and the Bay.
- Properly dispose of hazardous household items. Oils, anti-freeze, paint, solvents, cleaners, preservatives, and prescription drugs should not be poured down a household or storm drain. Check with your county waste management service to find out what hazardous materials they accept.
- Reduce or eliminate use of fertilizers and chemical herbicides and pesticides. Learn to live with a dandelion or two. Lawn fertilizers and chemicals are a big source of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution and toxic runoff.
- Landscape with native plants. Bay-friendly landscaping reduces storm water runoff. In addition, native grasses and other plants don't require the amount of watering or fertilizing necessary for non-natives. Consider involving and educating your community by using Bay-friendly landscaping on community property near your home. Find out more about gardening with native plants.
- Eliminate bare spots in your yard. Bare spots are places where vegetation (such as plants, shrubs, grasses, flowers) no longer exists in the soil. The outcome of having any type of bare spot is the same: storm water hits the ground and is not able to soak in to the soil. Use our step-by-step guide to fix the bare spots in your school or home yard.
- Make a rain garden. Rain gardens are special gardens placed in low-lying areas that typically receive a lot of runoff during storms. Planted with native species that can handle wet soil, these gardens help reduce flooding and erosion and filter runoff. Learn how to build your own rain garden. If you have a really wet area or one with heavy clay soil that drains slowly, you might want to consider a backyard wetland.
- Install a rain barrel (or two). Placed at the base of a downspout, a typical rain barrel can hold 55-75 gallons of storm water runoff from a rooftop, reducing flooding and erosion. They can be bought from garden supply centers or easily built. Learn how to build and install your own rain barrel.
- If you live on the water, build a living shoreline. Living shorelines prevent erosion, allow wildlife access, and beautify your waterfront. This is another great community project. Learn more about living shorelines.
- Resurface with permeable pavers. Time to replace that crumbling driveway? Consider using permeable pavers that allow runoff to soak into the ground and be filtered naturally rather than runoff into the nearest storm drain.
- Participate in a local training or certification program. Programs such as CBF's Volunteers as Chesapeake Stewards (Voices) and Pennsylvania's new Environmental Leadership Training teach citizens how to engage their communities in identifying and solving environmental problems. Look for a local program near you. CBF offers programs in Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. Several states also offer Watershed Stewards Academy or Master Watershed Steward's programs.
- Scoop the poop. Make your neighbors happy and keep harmful nutrients and bacteria out of waterways by always cleaning up after your pet.
- Don't litter. Reduce the amount of trash that ends up in the Bay.



WILL TAKE OLD CARS

BY MARK HOUSER JR, CAMPBELLTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY SAFETY OFFICER

Do you have an old car that you would like to get rid of or get off your property? Consider giving that car to the Campbelltown Volunteer Fire Co. The CVFC needs old cars as we are training to be certified, but we have several new members that need training. Campbelltown is one of only a few fire departments in Lebanon County that has a rescue truck capable of heavy rescues.

Training would consist of removing doors, roof and the entire side of the car, pushing dash panels and identifying possible air bag locations. Cars would be positioned on their wheels, sides and roofs to simulate different accidents we would encounter.

Your car would go to a good cause as it helps the CVFC with hands on training. It is always difficult to arrange vehicles for extrication classes. After our training is over, the CVFC would be responsible for disposing of your vehicle and the CVFC can also help you with the forms that considers your car a donation to charity.

If you feel this is intriguing, please consider joining our department. We are an all volunteer fire company. Help us help you!!!



HELP YOUR LOCAL FIRE COMPANY

THE EASY WAY

BY MARK HOUSER, JR, SAFETY OFFICER CAMPBELLTOWN VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

Here is an easy way to help the Campbelltown and Lawn volunteer fire companies: check your homeowner's insurance policy and make sure your address shows you live in South Londonderry Township. If your homeowner's insurance company is not based in the state of Pennsylvania, they pay a fireman's relief tax to the state of Pennsylvania. The fireman's relief tax money is distributed to the fire companies in the municipalities where their customers reside.

So if your address is Palmyra, Annville, Hershey, Lebanon or Elizabethtown, the fire companies in those towns are getting your fireman's relief money unless you specify you live in South Londonderry Township.

A small change to your policy can be a big help. The Campbelltown and Lawn fire companies work hard with fund raisers to get everything to keep the fire company running.

Please consider joining our organizations, we are always looking for volunteers. If fire fighting is not your thing, maybe medical, fire police, ladies auxiliary or helping at one of the fund raisers. Campbelltown has bingo every Friday night to raise funds.

Stop by either Campbelltown or Lawn fire station on a Monday night. We are usually there for training or a meeting unless it's a holiday.

Please help us help you. Thank you.



Save the Date: Tuesday, August 5th 6-9pm

Location: Campbelltown Volunteer Fire Company

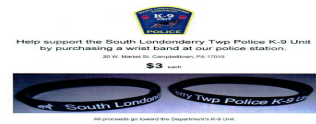
The South Londonderry Township Police Department would like to cordially invite you to this free event sponsored by our local businesses and organizations. We hope to see you there!



Anyone wishing to contribute to the K-9 Unit may do so in the following ways:

-By sending a check to South Londonderry Township Police Department, P.O. Box 3, Campbelltown, PA 17010. Please memo your donation "K-9 Fund."

By credit card through a secure PayPal link located on our website homepage, <http://www.southlondonderry.org/PD/swtpd.php>. You do not need a PayPal account to donate.



-By purchasing a "South Londonderry Twp. K-9 Unit" wrist band for \$3 at the police department.

SPORTS/SPECIAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

The Palmyra Area Recreation and Parks Commission (PARPC) is accepting applications for the position of a part-time (30-35 hours per week) Sports/Special Programs Coordinator. Salary: \$12-\$15 per hour DOQ. Some evening and weekend work required.

Applications packets may be obtained at the Palmyra Area Recreation and Parks Commission office during normal business hours at 325 S. Railroad Street, Suite 1, Palmyra, PA 17078 or online at www.palmyrarec.org. The PARPC Office is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Wednesday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM and Friday from 8:00 AM to noon.

Completed applications and resumes must be returned to the PARPC office by Tuesday, February 18th, 2014.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Saint Patrick's Day or the Feast of Saint Patrick is a cultural and religious holiday celebrated on 17th of March. It is named after Saint Patrick, the most commonly recognized of the patron saints of Ireland. It is celebrated worldwide by Irish people and increasingly by many of non-Irish decent.



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Www.southlondonderry.org

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THANK YOU!



The Police Department is very pleased to announce that we have reached our initial goal of raising \$25,000.00. This should hopefully allow us to implement the K-9 Program this year. Our tentative target time frame is to now have our K-9 in service in the Fall of 2014.

We are very grateful for those who have financially supported this effort. Businesses, Organizations, and literally hundreds and hundreds of individual citizens generously sent in their hard earned money to offer their support for this Program.

We also want to recognize our largest financial donor, the Dela-Ches Fishing Club located on Elizabethtown Road in South Londonderry Township. The Dela-Ches donated several thousand dollars to put us "Over the top" in the funds that were needed.

As we move ahead, we will continue to update the K-9 Unit's progress on our website. Please make sure you continue to check back, especially in late Summer and Fall, as we will update our website with photos and information to tell you about our progress.

The K-9 Unit will continue to accept donations and we will participate in fund raisers to secure the money needed to keep our Program running. Again, we offer a huge "THANK YOU" to all that have contributed to making our K-9 Unit possible. We look forward to providing this valuable service to our area.