

2023 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The Board of Supervisors held their Annual Organization and their monthly business meeting on Tuesday, January 3, 2023. All other public business meetings were held on the second Monday of each month. Public Work Sessions were held on the fourth Monday of each month except for April, May, and December. There was a Special meeting that was held on November 14, 2023.

The following **RESOLUTIONS** were approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2023:

- 01-2023 Recognizing the month of April 2023 as “Pennsylvania 811 Safe Digging Month” (February 13, 2023)
- 02-2023 Authorize Township Manager to submit DCED grant application for Phase I of Turtle Creek Park construction and sign on behalf of the Township (February 13, 2023)
- 03-2023 Authorize Township Manager to submit the resolution as part of DCNR C2P2 application Grant Agreement, Signature page for Phase I Spruce Hills Park construction and sign on behalf of the Township (February 13, 2023)
- 04-2023 Approve disposition of identified Township records dated 01.01.2011 thru 12.31.2015 (February 13, 2023)
- 05-2023 Approve the governing body of each Prospective Investor, complete the New Investor Application and form W-9 for PLGIT Accounts (February 13, 2023)
- 06-2023 Weathervane Lane to Wilderness Lodge Lane (replaces 10-2022 White Tail Drive resolution) (Private Road) (March 16, 2023)
- 07-2023 Plan Revision for New Land Development – Hardscrabble Lane 5-Lot Residential Project (June 13, 2023)
- 08-2023 Sale of Township Personal Property Less than \$2,000 (August 14, 2023)
- 09-2023 2024 EBT Non-Uniformed Employees Pension Plan Minimum Municipal Obligation \$39,829 (September 11, 2023)
- 10-2023 Procedure by which EBT Personal Property with fair market value of less than \$2,000 may be sold (November 13, 2023)
- 11-2023 Extend Hardscrabble Lane 5-Lot Residential project recorded date extended to 90 days from 11/13/2023 (November 13, 2023)

12-2023 Spruce Hills Park Statewide Local Share Assessment grant (November 28, 2023)

13-2023 EBT 2024 Budget Milage

Utilizing a public hearing process, the Board of Supervisors approved the following

ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 409 Amending Chapter 27 Add Part 9, Section 905, to provide for regulations regarding Lot Consolidation (February 13, 2023)

Ordinance 410 Not Used 9 (June 12, 2023)

Ordinance 411 Amending Chapter 2 regulating animals in East Buffalo Township, Feral cats, and chickens (July 10, 2023)

Ordinance 412 Amending Chapter 21 regarding street closure and street utilization for special events in East Buffalo Township (July 10, 2023)

Ordinance 413 Amending the East Buffalo Township, Union County, Pennsylvania Zoning Map to include the described area in the Agricultural-Residential Zoning District. Eight (8) tracts of land abutting Hardscrabble Lane with the following Property Identification Numbers: 002-044-075.A4000, 002-044-075.A2000, 002-044-075.A1000, 002-044-075.00000, 002-044-075.A0000, 002-044-080.A0000, 002-044-080.20000 and 002-074.0000, on the Union County GIS Map (August 14, 2023)

Ordinance 414 Amending Chapter 27 of the Code of Ordinances of East Buffalo Township regarding the keeping of chickens and domestic livestock in the R-1 Zoning District of East Buffalo Township, Union County, Pennsylvania (August 14, 2023)

Ordinance 415 Amending Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances of East Buffalo Township to amend the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance regarding Utility Easements (November 13, 2023)

PUBLIC WORKS

- The Public Works Crew managed four (4) snow/ice events requiring plowing and/or winter road treatment. These events took place last week in January, one day in March and one day in December.
- Christmas tree collection was completed in January 2023.
- The Public Works Crew did their Spring Street sweeping cleanup which includes sweeping, stormwater inlet cleanouts, and pothole patching in February and March.

- The Crew continue to work on weed and brush removal in March. The Township provides brush and yard waste collection in April, May, June, September, and October. The Crew rotated around the township traveling up and down every public street one time picking up resident's brush and yard waste material that were laid out nicely along the curbside. If the piles were a mess the Crew left a notice on the pile as to why it was not removed. Curbside leave collection, performed using a driver-controlled vacuum, began in October and the last round of collection throughout the Township was completed by the middle of December, after which, vacuuming of leaves continued with the clearing of ditches and inlets.
- Curbside collection was completed once per month; collection included clear glass, brown glass, green glass, and aluminum cans.
- The drop-off center is staffed by one member of the Public Works Crew during hours of operation to assist users and to ensure that materials are source separated. Individual bins for source separate materials are provided for clear glass, green glass, brown glass, PETE plastic; HDPE plastic, aluminum, bi-metal, paperboard, magazines, corrugated cardboard, office paper and newspaper. The Township Drop-off Center is open Monday of each week, except for Township holiday's which shifts the opening day to Tuesday and the second Saturday of each month. The recyclables collected by the Township, either curbside or at the drop-off center, must be source-separated, prohibiting the Township from providing on-site Single Stream Recycling. However, since 2012 private haulers have been providing Single Stream Recycling service for Township residents and businesses. This has proven to be a popular option for residents, due to the high convenience factor and low service cost.
- The Township Public Works Crew prepped the Township Recycling Dumpsite for a new fence that was installed to keep unwanted motorists out. Buffalo Valley Fence installed the 400 Linear Feet 8' High, 9-Gauge, 2" Wire Mesh, Galvanized Fence for \$27,600.00 after being awarded the bid. Five (5) contractors were notified and three (3) submitted bids. Bids ranged from \$27,600 - \$35,420.
- The Public Work Crew performed some stormwater facilities maintenance that included cleaning and reshaping drainage ditches, culvert and inlet cleaning, headwall maintenance, pipe installation and replacement and roadside grading. The replacement of failing pipes and inlets required work to be done on Beth Ellen and Stein Lane (\$1,877.40); Iron Cave (\$2,831.79); James Road (\$625.84) and Poplar Street (\$15,394.97).
- Relying on the skills and labor of the Township Public Work Crew Bull Run Crossing was reconstructed saving the Township (\$69,221) to do this project in-house (\$125,479) vs contracting (\$194,700) it out.
- 21 miles of Township streets were included in contracted road construction and/or maintenance projects. The final construction cost was \$227,682.24. Final maintenance cost was \$501,480.38.
- Due to an August 7, 2023, heavy rainstorm the Public Work Crew had to deal with major washouts and road closures due to flooding. This storm closed Turtle Creek Bridge due to roadway eroding away from flood water and material removed from bridge structure.

- A large-scale stormwater facility was started on Keila Avenue in the Fairfield Development. (\$301,910.65)
- The traffic signal at the intersection of SR0045 (Old Turnpike Road/West Market Street) and SR2007 (Fairground Road/Smoketown Road) and the Union County Rail Trail Authority (Buffalo Valley Rail Trail) was started utilizing a Multi-Modal Fund Grant. This is a joint grant and construction project with the Union County Rail Trail Authority, with EBT serving as the Lead Agency. (\$674,571)
- Assistant Roadmaster Nathan Fisher step down (July) and Jeffrey Oberdorf was promoted to new Assistant Roadmaster (July). Four (4) new members joined the Public Work Crew Zachary Fedorchik (March); Cameron Heimbach (September); Maximos Mitchell (September) and Robert Ward (September). After twenty-three (23) years working on the Public Work Crew Gregory Crebs retired (December).

EQUIPMENT PURCHASED

- Case IH Maxxum 145 Tractor (\$187,707.80)
- Berti Tam F-160 Flail Mower (\$29,200)
- HY H60FT 6,000lb Capacity propane powered Hyster Forklift (\$34,900)

MUNICIPAL COMPLEX

- Township purchased/installed hallway window blinds to help with the heating/ac unit running constantly from FD Yoder Interiors (\$3,315).
- The board agreed to purchase a HVAC Duct Heater Unit from Silvertip (\$8,350).

PARKS & RECREATION

FAIRGROUND ROAD Park

- The Township was awarded a DCNR grant in 2020 for (\$500,000) for the Fairground Road Park Phase I project. This project was put on hold because of COVID-19 and then supplies were hard to get in 2021. Finally, the project was started in April of 2022 and completed in August of 2023 with the parking lot getting paved. The Township was notified in April 2023 by PPL that they would be running new electrical lines and upgrading some of the electrical poles in and along the park creek bank (\$507,267.42).
- Township was awarded a DCED grant in 2022 for (\$100,000) for the Fairground Road Park Phase II project. During the second phase of planning the Township purchased playground equipment from Playworld for ages 5-12 (\$14,937); a play structure for ages 2-5; a childhood T-Swing with 2 tot seats and 8' single-post swing with 2 belt seats from George Ely Associates (\$19,301.00)
- A pavilion was purchased by the Township as part of the Fairground Road Park Phase II project (\$27,345).

TURTLE CREEK PARK

- The Township received all the DCNR funds from the Turtle Creek Park Land Acquisition (\$685,700).
- The Township and Merrill Linn Land and Waterway Conservancy signed a Declaration of Public Trust and Grant of Conservation Easement for Turtle Creek Park.
- The Township applied for a DCED grant for Turtle Creek Park Phase I (\$290,000).
- Turtle Creek Park has a fence in tree nursery (\$6,000) and a gazebo that was purchase by the Township (\$9,356.50). Josh Leauber and members from this Boy Scout Troop helped to put the gazebo kit together as an Eagle Scout project.
- Township purchased a Turtle Creek Park main entrance sign (\$3,384.34); a park rules sign (\$1,211.89); a message center sign (\$2,119.64); five (5) park educational signs (\$925) and two nursery signs (\$92.40).
- Township bid out the lawncare service to Hillyard’s Landscaping to keep trails and park ground mowed down (\$11,310). Occasionally the Township Public Work Crew would have to remove down trees; water tree nursery; fix drainage pipes; add stone and wood chips to trails.
- The Fish and Boat Commission did part of a creek restoration project on the banks of Turtle Creek in the Turtle Creek Park.

SPRUCE HILLS PARK

- Township applied for a DCNR grant for Spruce Hills Park. (\$540,000).

PLANNING & ZONING

- Surprisingly, there was a 10% decrease in the number of Planning and Zoning permits issued compared to the number issued the previous year. Although the number of permits decreased, the increase in revenue highlights the shift in the type of projects undertaken during the year.
- The East Buffalo Township Planning Commission approved the following plans: Paul Lin Rezoning; Minor Subdivision Plan for Matthew and Beth Miller/Dale and Joan Miller; Hardscrabble 5 lot Residential Subdivision Plan and Victor Udo – Curtin Avenue.
- The East Buffalo Township Zoning Hearing Board heard testimony on the following plans: Victor Udo – Curtin Avenue (09.21.2023) and Erdley Variance (12.14.2023).

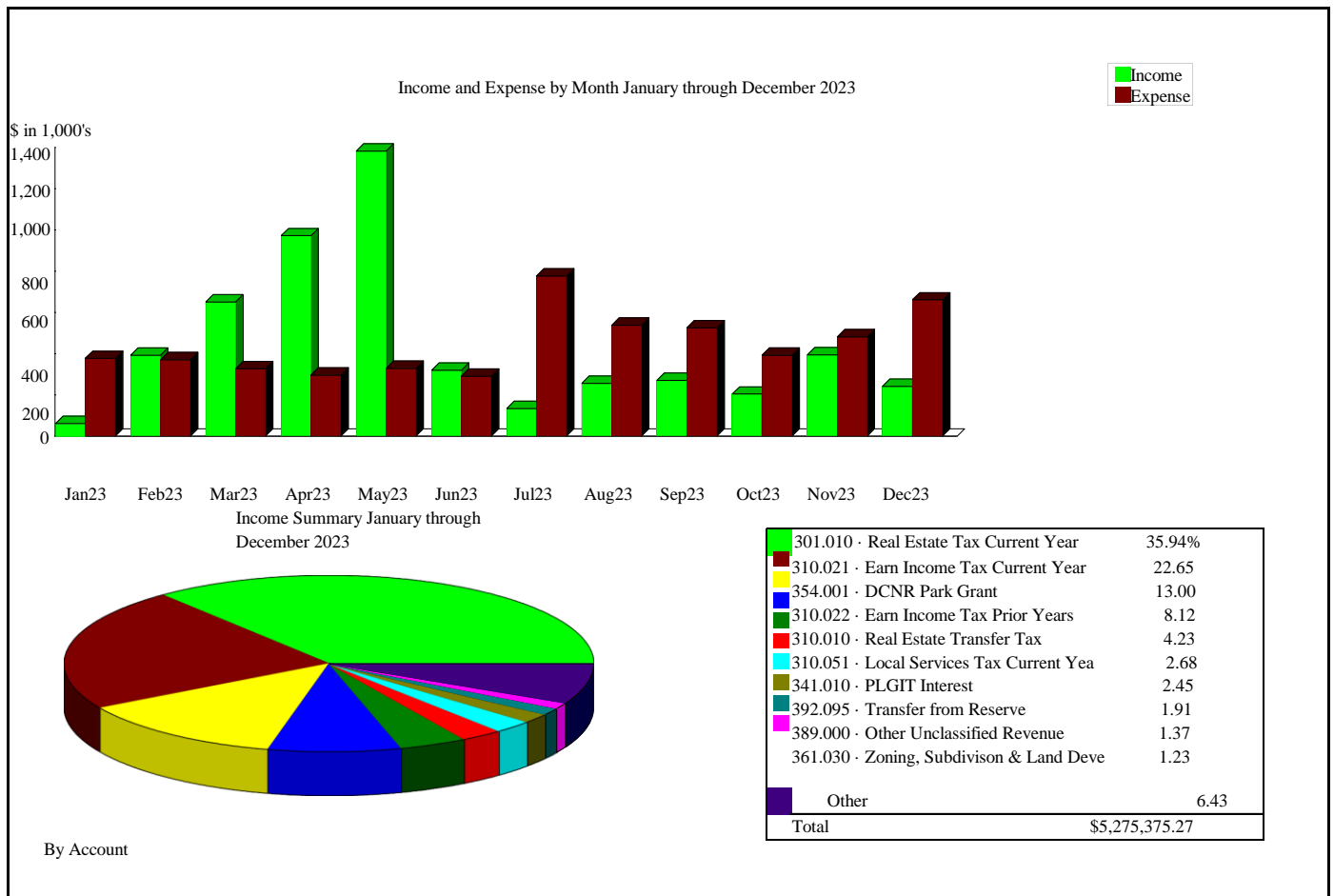
2023 BUDGET

- The General Fund 2023 real estate millage rate stayed even at 3.7%, a level not seen since the 2019 tax year.
- The Board of Supervisors opened two new investment accounts with Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT). One account was opened with General Fund money along with two CDs. The other account was opened with Capital Reserve Funds.
- From the Capital Reserve Funds \$1M was transferred to the PLGIT Reserve Fund account, but transfers from the General Fund totaled \$3.934M for the year. The General Fund transferred \$2M to the PLGIT General Fund and purchased two (2) \$500K CD’s. One (1) cd was a six (6) month term, and the second cd was a nine (9) month term. The

General transferred \$934,306 to the Capital Reserve for Parks & Recreation. At the end of 2023, the Capital Reserve balance is \$2.1M, the PLGIT Reserve Fund is \$1.03M, giving the Township a solid base for future infrastructure and maintenance projects.

- The Fire Protection real estate tax assessment millage for all taxable properties was increased from 0.45 to 0.50. For fiscal year 2023, the contribution rate to WCEC converted to a per capita increase from \$27.37 to \$46.28 total contribution was \$324,375.08.
- At the end of 2023, the Pension fund balance was \$1,655,846.53.
- The Other Post Retirement Benefits fund's total value as of December 31, 2023, was \$1,807,815.09.

GENERAL FUND INCOME CHARTS FOR 2023



GENERAL FUND EXPENSE CHARTS FOR 2023

