

HEREFORD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Winter 2024

Board Of Supervisors

John Membrino

Keith Masemore

Karla Dexter

Address:

3131 Seisholtzville Road

Macungie, PA 18062

Phone: 610-845-2929

www.herefordtownship.org

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday

7 am to 12 pm, 1 pm to 3 pm

Closed Weekends

The Hereford Township Board of Supervisors adopted the 2024 budget at their December 20th meeting. The total appropriated and unappropriated budget of \$1,535,145.30 addresses several important issues with NO increase in taxes. Scheduled roads to be maintained are Long Lane, Hoch Road and Hert Lane. In addition, to be completed is the Spring Hill Road drainage pipe replacement. Several small sinkholes opened in the road and its shoulder last year. The township sold the 1998 John Deere 544 TCH Loader for \$39,335.00 back in the fall. The township is purchasing a John Deer Tractor in the spring for \$151,758.00 and the boom attachment for \$103,816.48.

The Township continues to save money by participating in a cooperative effort with our neighboring municipalities – Longswamp Township, Rockland Township and Topton Borough. The four municipal road crews work together on road paving, line painting, crack sealing and tree removal activities. The Co-op purchased a wider asphalt zipper to replace an aging piece of equipment. The cost of \$308,945 was split evenly between all four municipalities.

The Township continues to seek design and funding options for the restoration of Camp Mensch Mill Road and the streambank that was washed out by the hurricane a few years back. The repairs are estimated to cost over \$250,000 not including engineering and permitting costs. The Township is seeking grant funding through the Berks County Conservation District Dirt & Gravel & Low Volume Road programs as well as other grant opportunities. The roadway remains open with the damaged section regulated by stop signs to allow one lane of traffic through at a time.

Act 537 plan: The Township is working to develop its Act 537 plan for submission to PADEP. The 537 plan identifies sewage needs in the Township based upon several factors including density, zoning, existing and potential development, water quality and existing sewage disposal needs/issues. It also outlines the ability of the Township to provide public sewer to the most needed areas and sewage capacity and infrastructure needed to accomplish that. In conjunction with this plan is the potential for zoning ordinance amendments to address development requirements in sewage needs areas. The Township anticipates submission of the Act 537 plan to PADEP for initial review in summer of 2024.

Finally, the last item of note, the office has begun work on the process of codifying all the township ordinances. With the help of General Code, all township ordinances will be scanned, reviewed, revised to meet current laws, and readopted in one volume that will be indexed and available online. The process could take three years to complete, but once finished will make the information easily accessible to our residents.

The Board of Supervisors meets

the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month.

**Meetings begin at 7:30 pm and are held
at the Municipal Building.**

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Hereford Township Mailbox Policy

Any installation within the township road's right of way, including mailboxes, parked cars, or trash cans during a snow event, is placed there at the owner's risk. Owners are encouraged to install mailboxes at the maximum usable distance from the edge of the roadway. Posts should be checked for deterioration to reduce the possibility that the weight of the plowed snow may simply break or push the post over.

The Township shall not repair or replace mailboxes or posts damaged by the force or placement of plowed snow.

The Township may compensate for any mailbox located in the roadway right-of-way and that has had physical contact with the snow plow at a like-kind replacement cost not to exceed \$100.00.

Roadcrew Rumbblings

Hereford Township has an ordinance prohibiting parked cars along roadways during a snow emergency. During ANY snow event, we ask that residents remove their vehicles from the side of the roadway so the plows can safely clear the roads.

Furthermore, a reminder to move your trash cans away from the edge of the road when it snows. Blocking the road makes it hard for the plow trucks to efficiently remove snow.

Be Smart Drive Safe

“Never Fail Farm” – J. Masemore 1918



Hereford Township has a historical text for sale that was created by our previous Heritage Society. The 400-page book is called *Early Times in Hereford Township*, and it covers the history and families of Hereford Township. Each book sells for \$50, cash, or check, and is available at the township building.

Dog Licenses

All dogs three months or older must be licensed by January 1st of each year. As a courtesy to our residents, dog licenses are available at the Hereford Township office during regular business hours.

Regular and Senior Citizen annual dog licenses may also be purchased online at www.padoglicense.com. 2024 licenses are available January 1st.

Hereford Estates Permits

Residents of Hereford Estates who apply for a building permit need to first obtain approval from Hereford Estates, before coming to the township. When applying to the township for a permit you will need: the Hereford Estates permit/approval, the township permit application, your plans or drawings and applicable fees. Township permit applications may be found on our website at www.herefordtownship.org under the permits tab at the top of the page. Permits can take 2-3 weeks to be returned to our office.

Open Vacancies: Planning Commission (1), Emergency Management Coordinator and Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator (1), Joint Washington Planning Committee (1), Recreation Committee (2), Chairman of Vacancy Board (1), EAC (2).

Hereford Township hired a new Secretary/Treasurer back in May of 2023. Ms. Edwards is a local resident of Hereford for 30 years. She focuses mainly on the township budget, municipal regulations from the state, insurance management and is the main contact for the office.



**SCHWENKFELDER LIBRARY
& HERITAGE CENTER**

Researchers at the Schwenkfelder Library created a video on the history of Hereford Township. Every year Hereford Township donates to the library for the restoration of historical documents and history research. The video was narrated by Beth Houting who is the Executive Director.
Mission Statement: The Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center, with its internationally recognized collections and research facilities, engages visitors in exploration of the themes of religious freedom, tolerance, migration, and heritage in their own lives and the lives of their families through the stories of the Schwenkfelder's and the Pennsylvania Germans of the Perkiomen region – people whose bonds of faith, families, and the community tell a fundamental American story.

The video link is: <https://www.dropbox.com/t/tlkKH29JCYDEs5Hd>
Beth Houting contact: beth@schwenkfelder.org

Recreational Committee

2024 Meeting Dates: January 23, March 26, April 23, June 25, September 24, November 26.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

The Rec Committee would like to thank all our residents for using our parks and invite any interested parties to join the committee.

Environmental Advisory Council

2024 Meeting Dates: January 8, March 11, May 13, July 8, September 9, November 11.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

We would like to welcome our new members. In addition to advising the Board of Supervisors on environmental issues, the EAC has been asked to make recommendations and act as a conduit for tree removal and residents' concerns.

Hereford/Washington Township Joint Planning Commission

2024 Meeting Dates: March 12, June 11, September 10, December 10.

Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

Meetings will be held at Hereford Township and are open to the public.

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3131 Seisholtzville Rd.
Macungie, PA 18062



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Thurs: 7AM-12PM, 1PM-3PM

Fri: 7AM-12PM, 1PM-3PM

Hours may change on Holidays.

Secretary/ Treasurer Hannah Edwards
Email: hedwards@herefordtownship.org

Assistant Secretary Louisa Masemore
Email: lmasemore@herefordtownship.org

Telephone: 610-845-2929
Website: www.herefordtownship.org

Tax Collector Jackie Watkins
Email: jwatkinshfdtwptc@gmail.com
Phone: 484-941-3743
Mailing Address: 979 Gravel Pike, Palm, PA 18070

In person collection dates at the Hereford
Township Building are listed on your tax bill.