

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Mayor, Kenneth Hock and President of Council, Allen B. Coffman at Ice Fest 2023

+ 2023 FORECAST

THE TOWN IN PENNSYLVANIA WITH THE MOST SERVICES & UTILITIES

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION • ELECTRIC GENERATION • WATER • SEWER • SANITATION
STORM SEWER • NATURAL GAS • EMERGENCY SERVICES • RECYCLING • POLICE
PUBLIC WORKS • RECREATION • LAND USE • COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



PRESIDENT OF TOWN COUNCIL

Allen B. Coffman

As I am writing this article, we have just finished Ice Fest 2023. It certainly appeared to be a success and featured over 100 ice sculptures. Since the fountain was not yet back in place, I was hoping that we would have a sculpture in the empty area. The fountain is not missing from the Square, or Diamond as it was called in the past, very often. The sculpture for Ice Fest 2023

was located in front of the Franklin County Visitors Center. From what I observed, many enjoyed that and took photos with the sculpture in the background. The temperature was cold enough to prevent melting too quickly. The addition of the lights in Founding Father's Park really added to the festivities.

Many have asked about the famous fountain and the status of its return. It is still in Lancaster PA for the final repair after the auto crash. Some additional damage was discovered and will be repaired. It will be back in its proper location and ready to be placed back in operation by Spring.

Much has happened in the last year. While the COVID-19 issue is behind us, we all continue to deal with inflation, rising energy costs, and fuel prices. The housing market seems strong and Franklin County continues to grow. Over the last year, new housing, both apartments and townhouses, are being built in the North end (Nicholson Square) and in the Southwest part of the Borough.

With that being said, the Borough is well positioned to provide the utilities needed for this expansion. Our utility rates remain the lowest, or some of the lowest, in Pennsylvania. As of September 2022, Chambersburg electric utility rates serving some 11,300 plus customers were the lowest in the state. We have had a very slight rate increase but we are still much less than other electric providers statewide. Our Natural Gas Utility is used by nearly 7,000 customers now. The natural gas rate is about half what those out of the Borough are now paying.

Those low rates exist due to the hard work of our Electric and Gas Utility leadership. Those individuals are known at state and national levels of those industries. We are members of the American Public Gas Association (APGA), Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia (MGAG), Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association (PMEA), and American Public Power Association (APPA). In addition to those groups, we also use our solicitor's office and consultants. All of these groups work in the customer's (Your) best interest to provide low-cost electricity and natural gas for the Borough of Chambersburg.

Our Water and Sewer Utilities work hard to provide an excellent level of services. These rates are substantially lower than what is paid by customers to their utilities in other municipalities

The Stormwater Utility will be working on projects this year to include camera evaluations of pipes not yet checked or cleaned. Flood and pollution control is very important.

I am sure you have noticed the ongoing work at Borough Hall. Actually, two projects are in progress now. The police station project is well underway. It is on schedule for completion in the Fall. An exact date is yet to be determined. The second project is the renovation of the clock tower which has a large bell above it. It hasn't been seen by the public for many years. The crowning touch is the new copper dome on the building which dates to 1830. I am told the bell is dated 1835. The clock and bell tower now closely resemble the original construction of the building, as depicted on the Borough seal.

The purchase of the Southgate Shopping Center has been completed and the property is under the control of the Chambersburg Area Municipal Authority (CAMA). A prospectus will be made public for the purpose of determining qualified buyers of the Southgate real estate. This document should be ready for distribution by the end of March 2023. Replies will be received several months after the prospectus release. Those buyers will need proof of previous successful projects, have a plan to illustrate their project, and financial means to bring the project to completion within the proper time frame. In addition to CAMA, there will be an advisory committee to also review all submitted proposals to buy and build.

That committee will be advisory in nature and will consist of 5 or 7 individuals. It appears now that Keystone Health will be the first new property owner at the Southgate location.

As you may remember, property has been purchased on Wayne Avenue as a location for a future Borough Public Works Facility. Much of that area was the old Wagner Supply business. The old cold storage building on South Fourth Street is also owned by the Borough. It is being torn down for additional usable land for the public works project. At this time, there are no design plans completed. However, there is staff work being done to determine the needs for a new public works facility to replace the 100-year-old building on Loudon Street.

Please feel free to volunteer and participate in your local government. We have many opportunities to serve on local committees and your attendance and participation at our various public meetings is always appreciated.

You can learn much more at the Borough website:

www.chambersburgpa.gov

Please click on the Transparency Page to see all manner of information about Borough government.



The 20th incarnation of IceFest in downtown Chambersburg was in January 2023, featuring more than 90 ice sculptures created by DiMartino Ice Co. of Jeannette, Pa., on view throughout the downtown area to remind people of the cold months' beauty. This year, there were 17 giant sculptures, the largest number to date. Those giants- all of which are sponsored by businesses.



BOROUGH MANAGER & DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES

Jeffrey Stonehill

CHAMBERSBURG BOROUGH ADOPTS 2023 BUDGET & MOVES INTO THE ECONOMIC FUTURE FOR CHAMBERSBURG

Chambersburg Borough has the most complex budget in Pennsylvania. We are unlike every other town, including big cities. Separated from the other operations of the Borough, our utility financial transactions are in over a dozen separate funds (accounts). Our unique size is due to our expansive utility operations (unmatched in Pennsylvania) and because of our complex utility support operations (internal service funds). To account properly for expenses, we use cost-based accounting. Like a law firm or medical practice, many employees bill their time and equipment to the various functions upon which they are working. This includes money spent between the separate funds, many transactions are to cover expenses, back and forth between accounts, and thousands of internal transactions. This concept makes Chambersburg a unique government organization, especially in the Commonwealth.

Chambersburg is one of 35 Boroughs in Pennsylvania to operate a non-profit public power electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and the only one to operate multiple generation stations. Chambersburg is one of two municipalities in Pennsylvania to operate a non-profit public natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Chambersburg is one of around 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and one of 1,000 communities to run a natural gas system, but one of only about 60 in the U.S. to operate both systems, out of about 89,000 local government units. In addition, Chambersburg operates a regional water system and a regional sanitary sewer system; not through an independent Authority or an intermunicipal board, but under Town Council control directly. Further, Chambersburg operates a trash utility, a parking utility, an aquatic center, and a storm sewer utility. The Storm Sewer Utility was one of the first such storm sewer utilities to form under the Federal mandate to regulate stormwater through the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) program.

Almost all employees of the Borough and most of the equipment of the Borough, is owned and operated by our utility departments (Electric, Gas, Water, Sanitary Sewer, Storm Sewer, and Sanitation Departments) and our utility support departments (engineering, motor equipment, and administrative services). Borough tax revenue does not support any utility operations, personnel, or equipment. Further, the Borough's utility rates are very reasonable.

Residents inside the Borough who have both Chambersburg electric and gas can save as much as \$1,000 per year when compared to similar residential customers outside the Borough.

The 2023 budget was the most difficult budget to create in all our years of creating budgets. The cost of operations saw a huge increase in the last year because of inflation, supply chain interruptions, record-low-unemployment, and the increasing demand on fuel, energy, and limited equipment. This was a challenging, painful, and difficult budget.

We are very fortunate to be starting the financial downturn from an incredibly successful and stable perch. The continued growth and development of Chambersburg, the importance of the utilities to our Borough finances, and our macroeconomic impact on the Chambersburg area, have allowed us to move forward cautiously despite the impact of inflation and the economy on all our lives.

As was reported in the 2022 Budget, and approved by Town Council, the second step of the two-step phase-in of the new Police Station Bond Tax will occur in 2023. Originally, this second step was to add 1.5 mil of new tax to complete the Police Station Renovation project. Due to timely financing of the debt (mortgage) for the Police Station and a generous State grant to offset some of the construction costs, **that necessary tax increase was reduced from 1.5 mil to 1.0 mil; to go into effect in 2023.**

In addition to a successful funding of the Police Station Renovation Project, the Town Council effectively refinanced the existing 2016 Recreation Bond and lowered the necessary tax, already in effect to pay off this 2016 debt, from 3 mil to 2.5 mil.

This marks the second time in four years that Town Council has reduced a tax category that had already been levied.

The Chambersburg Police Department is majority funded by a dedicated Police Tax. It was last increased in January 2020. Unfortunately, due to the cost of operating this public safety agency, **the Police Tax will go up 1 mil in 2023 from 24 mil to 25 mil.**

There is no change in the Fire Tax, which is at State-mandated maximum, or 2.5 mil.

As a result, the total real estate tax rate for Borough taxable property owners will rise from 31 mil to 32.5 mil. This real estate tax increase is absolutely necessary and unavoidable. Fortunately, the important operations of the Chambersburg Police Department and Fire Department are fully funded.

Chambersburg real estate taxes remain earmarked only for police and fire operations. Real estate taxes are not the source of funding for any other department or employee. In fact, the Recreation Bond Tax is specifically for paying off the 2016 Recreation Bond, and the Police Station Bond Tax is specifically for paying off the 2022 Police Station Bond(s), both of which are similar to mortgages. Therefore, one can reliably say, "No real estate tax will pay for any operations of the Borough of Chambersburg other than police and fire." It is important to acknowledge that real estate taxes are not used in support of most departments, operations, or employees; not parks or street maintenance or the Borough administration, are paid for using real estate taxes. The only use of these taxes are police and fire, and to pay off the 2016 Recreation Bond and the 2022 Police Station Bond(s). This has always been our financial plan for the Borough's use of taxes.

Further, Chambersburg receives no sales taxes, no liquor taxes, no business taxes, nor hotel taxes. These types of taxes are not an option under State Law. In other states, these other types of taxes are the foundation to the fiscal health of local government. In Pennsylvania, the Commonwealth denies them as an option to communities like Chambersburg. Town Council has a toolbox with one tool inside (real estate taxes) and it is a dull and poorly honed tool, but that is the only tool given to them by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Borough Manager Continued...

This poor local tax system has gotten some attention recently:

On October 7, 2022, the Pennsylvania Municipal League and Pennsylvania Economy League released a new study that demonstrated how the current local taxation structure, developed in 1965, does not meet today's municipal revenue needs. Called, "It's Not 1965 Any More – State Tax Laws Fail to Meet Municipal Revenue Needs", the publication is in response to the League's Strategic Plan that called for an updated report on Pennsylvania's local taxation structure. Pennsylvania's municipal tax authorizations have failed to keep pace with modern realities, and municipalities need more flexible revenue options just to keep the lights on.

According to these experts, "Much has changed in the landscape of local government since 1965 – population shifts, aging housing stock in older core communities, increased cost of municipal services, and increases in tax-exempt properties receiving services. Currently, new tools are only available to communities that have become fiscally distressed. Municipalities need access to these proven tools before fiscal distress sets in. Tools should be optional to allow each community to decide the best mix based on the make-up of the community such as: increased Local Services Tax, flexibility to increase the Earned Income Tax, Payroll Tax, county or regional Sales Tax, Drink Tax, or a regular reassessment..." process.

**Chambersburg is a member of the
Pennsylvania Municipal League.**

<https://pelcentral.org/its-not-1965-anymore-state-tax-laws-fail-to-meet-municipal-revenue-needs/>

The 2023 budget reflects the limitations of the 1965 funding system, as well as the extremely poor planning by Franklin County, the last county of the 67 counties in Pennsylvania to update their taxation system. The continued neglect of the requirement as defined by State Law has a direct impact

on poor tax collection, and an over-burden on older property owners, as a result of waiting so long and ignoring the current tax system. Only County leadership can address this shortcoming.

Chambersburg does receive income beyond the property tax. Ancillary miscellaneous tax revenue available to the Borough of Chambersburg amounts to: a wage tax set to a State mandated maximum rate; a local services tax (worker tax), which is set to a State mandated maximum rate; and a deed transfer tax (for real estate transactions), which is also set to a State mandated maximum rate. These so-called Act 511 taxes are important, but cannot be adjusted year-to-year based on need or economic realities. Therefore, they are minor, appreciated, and set by the State since 1965.

Each year, the payment and receipt of tax revenues grows slightly as the value of Chambersburg real estate grows slightly. We have a mixed record for our wage tax and our worker tax. It seems that less Borough residents are employed, but those who have jobs seem to be making more income. Finally, there was no shift in the yields from transfer of property, which are sometimes better or worse in any given year.

There seems to be a quiet strength to the local economy, which allows us to be more confident in our future and saves our municipal budget in such bad times. All indications are that the Borough can survive another economic downturn and be ready to weather the storm better than many other towns.

However, the 2023 budget is sober, contains costs as much as possible, and does have a tax increase and increases in many fees. Some residents will suffer as a result of the needed changes. We are cognizant of the impact of our municipal budget upon the local economy more so than other towns. Every tax and fee increase herein is absolutely necessary, and living in the Borough remains affordable compared to elsewhere. Despite increases in utility rates, Chambersburg utilities remain some of the most affordable in Pennsylvania.

**No change to rate for Borough natural gas delivery rate since 2013.
(Average Home Pays \$804 per year)**

**The Borough electric rate will go up 2% & remain lowest in Pennsylvania.
(Average Home Pays \$102.90 per month)**

**No change to the Borough sanitary sewer rate, same since 2012.
(Average Home Pays \$29.50 per month)**

**First sanitation rate increase in 2 years & one of the lowest rates.
(Average Home Pays \$25.00 per month)**

**Small change to the Borough water rate. Increase of 5¢ per unit.
(In 2022, average family bill based upon consumption: \$17.85 per month)
(In 2023, average family bill based upon consumption: \$21.35 per month)**

Chambersburg has the lowest monthly utility bill in the State of Pennsylvania.

Borough Manager Continued...

In addition, 2023 is a year with a municipal election. It is important to point out that the professional staff of the Borough avoids political issues as much as possible. We serve the Council that the electorate selects. Council sets the policy priorities and we help make those priorities a reality. Any accusation that our service is somehow political is nonsensical. We are proud civil servants and this budget does not make policy choices, but rather financial choices for the community. Further, Council is welcome to articulate now, or mid-year, if their priorities evolve.

That being said, there are well-developed projects within this budget that reflect years of discussion and planning. Furthermore, Council is well aware of these projects and these spending priorities. Projects and priorities must continue in good-years and bad-years. We must continue our work on building a better community for the future.

Feel free to contact us or check our website for additional information about the budget.

BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE

Chambersburg has an opportunity to use the resources and positive impact of our low rates and excellent services to continue the growth of the local economy even in these lean times. It is impossible to know how long the economic downturn may last, but we have seen steady demand for new housing and transportation improvements, for expanded redevelopment of blighted areas, and new recreation and civic amenities during this challenging time.

Therefore, the Borough of Chambersburg, unlike other urbanized areas through Pennsylvania, can capitalize on its assets and its position to build an improved community for our residents and businesses.

On Monday, September 12, 2022, Town Council adopted a new Comprehensive Plan for the Borough named Chambersburg Vision 2035.

I want to thank the citizens, Town Council, Planning and Zoning Commission, and other Borough employees that were involved in the planning and implementation for initiatives recommended through the new Comprehensive Plan.

VISION 2035: "Chambersburg is a thriving, cohesive community we are proud to call home. Our town has a high quality of life, a vibrant downtown, safe and healthy neighborhoods, excellent municipal services, many employment opportunities, and plentiful natural and cultural resources that extend throughout Franklin County. Our Borough works to collaborate with public and private partners to strengthen our quality of life as it continues to make both urban and social investments."

The entire plan document is available on the website.

BOROUGH REAL ESTATE TAX INCREASES <i>(Historical)</i>		INCREASES
2007	16 years ago	No
2008	15 years ago	No
2009	14 years ago	No
2010	13 years ago	No
2011	12 years ago	No
2012	11 years ago	No
2013	10 years ago	No
2014	9 years ago	Yes
2015	8 years ago	No
2016	7 years ago	Yes
2017	6 years ago	No
2018	5 years ago	Yes
2019	4 years ago	No
2020	3 years ago	No <small>(Slight Decrease)</small>
2021	2 years ago	No
2022	Last Year's Budget	Yes
2023	This Year's Budget	Yes

TAXES

The total tax increase approved in this year's budget is 1.5 mil or a 4.8% tax increase entirely to pay for the Police Station project and funding the operation of the Chambersburg Police Department. None of this increase will be used for any other operation, project, or employees.

Chambersburg rarely raises real estate taxes and generally only for Police Department and Fire Department needs. In 12 of the last 16 years, there was no real estate or Act 511 tax increase. The Borough of Chambersburg did not raise real estate taxes between 2007 and 2013; then, the Council was very conservative in minor increases in 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022, and the proposed increase in 2023.

In recent history, in most years Chambersburg has not raised the real estate tax rate. Other entities often raise taxes on our taxpayers, such as Franklin County or the Chambersburg Area School District; and that sometimes leads to confusion. In 2014, 2016, 2018, 2022, and now in 2023, the Borough raised the real estate tax rate, but only to fund police and fire services, and in 2018 to begin paying off the 2016 Recreation Bond. Beginning a decade ago, and through 2023, there is a constant theme in our finances: real estate tax increases were rare and only dedicated to funding police and fire services.

In 2020, Town Council repealed the Ambulance Tax. This was in conjunction with the establishment of a new ready-to-serve mandatory Ambulance Fee on all water utility invoices (because water fees are attributed to the property owner or owner's designee). A Police or Fire fee is specifically prohibited. However, emergency medical services is different. *Beginning in 2023, there will also be proposed an increase to the monthly Ambulance Fee, which appears on utility bills.* The surcharge, unlike a real estate tax, is broad-based. Utility customers of the Borough will continue to pay this flat fee.

The Ambulance Fee will rise from a flat \$7.50 per month per water service connection to a flat \$9.50 per month per water service connection. This fee supports the EMS service, but it is clearly not a tax because tax-exempt property owners pay it on their monthly water bills.

Borough Manager Continued...

Only 73.6% of properties pay real estate taxes (as measured by assessed value). Whereas, 100% of water customers pay a fee placed on utility invoices. If there was a more broad-based tax available (i.e., a sales tax), that might be a more appropriate tax to fund an emergency service such as our struggling ambulance service. However, that is not a possibility under State Law.

The 2016 Recreation Bond paid for capital investment in a number of Recreation Department facilities including new playgrounds, tennis courts, a new roof and windows on the Rec Center, and a new state-of-the-art Aquatic Center. To fund the bond, which is a form of debt like a mortgage, Council at the time imposed a special Recreation Bond Tax on all property owners who are not exempt from real estate taxes. The resulting assets built from the bond were added as community owned assets to the Borough's balance sheet.

The 2022 Budget included selling the bond, establishing the bond tax, and undertaking the project. When the bonds were sold, the interest rate was better than originally estimated. As a result, the tax resulted in a low cost for the debt to finance the project than was in the previous budget.

The project costs and the taxes to pay off the debt are kept separate from the balance of Borough finances, just as was done for the 2016 Recreation Bond, and the ongoing Recreation Bond Tax.

The debt issued by the Borough pays for the Police Station Renovation Project and the Temporary Police Station Project both. The facility on 1540 Orchard Drive is owned by the Chambersburg Area Development Corporation and is rented to the Borough.

The Borough has used debt to invest in infrastructure, not to balance the budget, which is considered good debt. "Good debt is investment debt that creates value," says Eric Gelb, CEO of Gateway Financial Advisors and author of "Getting Started in Asset Allocation." The latest example is the sale of the 2022 Police Station Bond(s), which will finance the construction of a new Police Station for the town. A dedicated real estate tax liquidates the bond, not to run the Police Department, but to pay for the construction loan and the costs associated with the Temporary Police Station.

Paying a tax for a bond issue, as was decided by Town Council, is not the same as paying a tax for the operation of the Borough. For example, it is a similar difference to opening a mortgage to buy a house or fix the roof, in contrast to using a credit card to pay the telephone bill. Debt should only be used to add asset value. The Police Station Bond Tax, the new tax that started in 2022, is not to pay for any Police Department operations. It will pay off, over years, the debt to build the new Chambersburg Police Station at City Hall and the Temporary Police Station expenses.

These projects will serve the community for generations and this is how in business and industry, this recommended practice grows the value of corporations. With adoption of last year's budget, Council has now done this twice. First, with the 2016 Recreation Bond and then in 2022 with the 2022 Police Station Bond(s). Staff is committed to not using debt unless it provides asset value to the Borough.

This budget includes the initial planning for another large-scale construction project in the future. Over many years, the Borough has

This use of debt to build asset value for the community is a corporate way of funding improvements. Further, dedicating a tax to pay it off is not dissimilar to when a homeowner takes out a mortgage. In 2022, the Borough refinanced this debt to a lower interest rate. As a result, the annual debt payments dropped and a small tax decrease was possible.

In 2022, Town Council approved a new bond (actually two companion bonds) associated with the renovation of the Borough's 1971/1972 Police Station on S. Second Street. This new debt will be used exclusively for that project, for the replacement of the roof on the old part of City Hall (the 1930s addition) and the roof/historic clock tower on the original part of City Hall (the Market House). Further, a new dedicated tax was established by the 2022 budget to pay off that bond. Construction is well underway and the renovated and expanded Police Station (as well as the clock tower renovation) will be done in 2023.

POLICE STATION BOND TAX		
	<i>Estimated</i>	<i>Actual</i>
2022	1.0 mil	1.0 mil
2023	1.5 mil	1.0 mil
TOTAL	2.5 mil	2.0 mil

acquired space along Wayne Avenue to someday consolidate and relocate the public works, trash, sewer, water, and fleet operations of the Borough of Chambersburg. That site sits dormant (except for storage) awaiting a plan and approval from Town Council. In 2022, a small office building adjacent to this site, on S. Fourth Street, was renovated to be the field office of the Water & Sewer Department street crew. However, no plans yet exist for the main functions of this public works campus. In this 2023 Budget, there exists money to begin the planning process. The goal is to have a construction plan by 2024 or 2025 for Council to consider, for construction likely in 2026.

In Chambersburg, our citizens pay no dedicated Recreation Tax, no dedicated Highway Tax, and no taxes to support any of the Borough's operations, utilities, or utility support departments other than police and fire. Our taxes are very limited, yet misinformation is abundant on this topic.

Until 2014, the Borough used exclusively 100% of the real estate taxes collected to support the Chambersburg Police Department. In 2014, Town Council added a small share to support the Chambersburg Fire Department. In 2018, the Borough Manager recommended, and Town Council approved, an increase in the Fire Tax for use by the Fire Department and its emergency medical service as well as an increase in the Police Tax. The 2018 increase in the Fire Tax (½ mil) was reversed out in 2020, in order to shift Ambulance funding from this tax to a broad-based fee on utility invoices. In the 2020 Budget, the Borough Manager recommended repeal of the Ambulance Tax portion of the Fire Tax and Council agreed.

Within the Borough, all the real estate taxes collected are for the Police Department and the support of the Chambersburg Fire Department; none of this revenue is used to support any other department or operation. As of 2023, we will still only use real estate taxes to support police, fire, and to pay off the 2016 Recreation Bond and 2022 Police Station Bond(s). No real estate tax will pay for any operations of the Borough of Chambersburg other than police and fire. No other department, operation, or employee; not parks or street maintenance or administration are paid using real estate taxes.

Borough Manager Continued...

In addition to the other types of taxes currently set at the maximum allowed by State Law, we use the other taxes of the Borough (such as Earned Income Tax and Deed Transfer Tax) to pay for the Highway Department operations, Land Use & Community Development, and the Recreation Department operations. The Sanitation Department is a separate utility (not unlike the Electric, Gas, Water, or Sewer Departments) and they keep the streets clean, free of leaves, and well swept. Highway construction projects are done with Highway Aid grant money, which is a grant from the State created by the sale of Liquid Fuels, and maybe if there is excess balances from prior year revenue. Our Highway Aid grant only pays for construction on Borough owned streets and not much of that at all. Keeping up with all highway maintenance on Borough streets without a dedicated funding source has

always been very challenging. Street repair is extremely expensive and Highway Aid is very small.

No one likes a tax increase. However, council approved the increases detailed herein as of moderate concern to continue the Borough's investment in public safety. There is no need to provide less funding or less financial support to the Borough's Police Department and Fire Department. They are important core functions of our municipality. Further, the condition of public safety outside the Borough of Chambersburg is already of concern to those informed on such subjects. Volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance companies, and the Pennsylvania State Police, are not worthy substitutes for professional municipal operations.

THE 2023 BUDGET IS BALANCED AND THERE IS A 1.5 MIL TAX INCREASE AND SEVERAL UTILITY RATE CHANGES.

In 2023, the Borough will have an **ALL FUNDS BUDGET** of \$134,698,549. In 2022, the **ALL FUNDS BUDGET** was \$129,721,991. This represents a 3.8% increase, with no major changes to accounting or operational practices. This net increase is attributable to increased expenses of grant and bond issue proceeds, as well as increases in energy, vehicle, personnel, and capital project expenses.

In 2023, the Borough's **OPERATING BUDGET** will be \$114,940,320. In 2022, the Borough's **OPERATING BUDGET** was \$108,622,527. This represents a 5.8% increase, with no major changes to accounting or operational practices. This increase is largely attributable to revenue in the Electric, Gas, Water, Water Capital Reserve, General, and Administrative Services Funds, as a result of utility rate and real estate tax increases, as well as the increased revenue resulting from increases in energy costs/sales.

In 2023, the Borough's **GENERAL FUND BUDGET** will be \$19,517,700. In 2022, the Borough's **GENERAL FUND BUDGET** was \$17,928,830. This represents a 8.9% increase, and is a combination of a realistic gauge of actual growth in the Borough's spending plan, given the employment of the Police (which is necessitating a 1 mil real estate tax increase) and Emergency Services Department, but also represents the proceeds/expenses of the operation of the Southgate shopping center on behalf of the Chambersburg Area Municipal Authority (CAMA) and bond issue and grant funding proceeds intended to fund the renovation of, and addition to, the existing Police Station.

USE OF TAXES TO FUND 2023

- *Chambersburg is the only town in Pennsylvania to have an electric, gas, water, sewer, sanitation, and storm sewer utility. These utilities are never funded by local tax money.*
- *The 2023 budget includes a 1 mil tax increase to help pay for the Police Station project.*
- *The 2023 budget includes a 1 mil tax increase to help pay for the operations of the Police Department.*
- *The 2023 budget includes a ½ mil tax decrease for the Recreation Bond Tax.*
- *The net real estate tax increase to property owners inside the Borough is a 1.5 mil increase.*

REAL ESTATE TAXES

The Borough of Chambersburg collects four types of property taxes from landowners inside the Borough. Each year the annual MIL rate is set by Council:

POLICE TAX 2023

A 1 mil increase to fund only the operation of the Chambersburg Police Department.

First annual rate increase since 2018; 100% of this tax goes to support the Police Department.

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MIL	21	23	23	24	24	24	24	24	25

Avg. Single-Family House
in the Borough
Police Tax Per Year: \$438

FIRE & AMBULANCE TAX 2023

There is no change in the Fire Tax; State law requires a split of this tax with 2.5 mil for apparatus & 0.5 for firefighting.

The Fire Department collects other fees including inspection fees and the Ambulance Fee.

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
FIRE MIL	2.5	2.5	2.5	3	3	3	3	3	3
EMS MIL	0	0	0	0.5	0.5	0	0	0	0

Avg. Single-Family House
in the Borough
Fire Tax Per Year: \$53

RECREATION BOND TAX 2023

A ½ mil decrease in this tax, which goes to pay off the Recreation Bond only.

Started in 2016, this tax pays down this specific bond only and does not pay for any of the operations of the Recreation Department. This is the bond that built various Rec. Department facilities.

This bond was refinanced by Council in the beginning of 2022 to a lower interest rate; therefore less tax is needed.

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MIL	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	3	2.5

Avg. Single-Family House
in the Borough
Recreation Bond
Tax Per Year: \$48

POLICE STATION BOND TAX 2023

A 1 mil increase in this tax, which goes to pay off the Police Station Bond.

Started in 2022, this tax pays down this specific bond only and does not pay for any of the operations of the Police Department.

This is the bond that is paying for this project. The forecasted tax rate was lowered from original expectations because the Borough received generous grant assistance and a lower interest rate on debt.

YEAR	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
MIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2

Avg. Single-Family House
in the Borough
Police Station Bond
Tax Per Year: \$35

Borough Manager Continued...

The average single-family home in the Borough will pay \$574 per year (\$25.50 more than 2022) in real estate taxes to the Borough. Half will pay less. This is what the average single-family home inside the Borough actually pays per year before discount. Commercial properties may pay more. Assessed value is not fair market value. Township properties pay no taxes to the Borough.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all involved in preparing this proposed budget, especially Jason Cohen/Finance Director, Melinda Thompson/Administrative Services Director, Kris Baker/ Human Resources Supervisor, Phil Wolgemuth/Deputy Borough Manager, Jamia Wright/Borough Secretary, Cindy Harr/Assistant Borough Secretary, Mary Plasterer in my office, and our amazing management staff.

I would also like to thank those members of Town Council who provided ideas and guidance through this process. I could not have successfully managed the community this year without the support of Council, especially Council President Allen Coffman, Vice-President Bill Everly, Finance Chair John Huber, and Vice-Chair Tom Newcomer.

Visit the Franklin County Tax Assessment Office
to learn your property's assessed value at

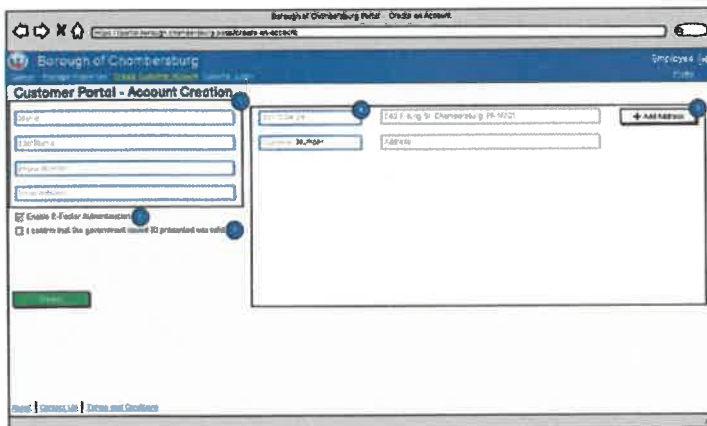
272 N. Second Street, Chambersburg, 17201

or click:

<https://gis.franklincountypa.gov/taxparcelviewer/>
to check your home's assessed value.

If your property is inside the Borough, click on your lot on the map.
Divide the number by 1,000 and then multiply that by 32.5,
for 32.5 total mils of Borough Tax.

NEW WEB-BASED CUSTOMER PORTAL FOR UTILITY BILLING AND CUSTOMER SERVICE COMING SOON!



Originally contemplated in 2018 with the contract with Harris Software, this project is a second attempt at installing a system to permit our customers to interact with the Borough through a web-based portal. In this attempt, a different strategy has been employed. Instead of installing all new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software throughout the organization, the existing backend of the current software system will be retained and a new front door will be added to allow interactivity.

It has long been the goal of the Borough to provide utility customers with a web interface portal that is easy-to-setup, user-friendly, and safe, authenticate, and could match to Borough accounts, tenants, property owners, etc.. Additionally, it could allow the use of all types of payment methods (credit, debit, EFT, etc.) at the Front Counter and remotely online with ease and comfort for customers. If transactions done at the Front Counter could also be posted in real-time to the utility billing system, that would make the system seamless between at-home and in-person transactions. Also, a portal would permit statement billing online so customers can view an up-to-date reflection of their account status.

In 2022, a planning committee, comprised of the IT Supervisor, IT programming staff, members of Town Council, the Borough Manager, members of the Customer Service Department, the Director of Finance, and the Director of Administrative Services, spent the better part of this year working tirelessly with Fresche Solutions to design such a portal.

The project is ongoing with the goal of having some utilization by the end of 2023. The customer portal project, including design and implementation, is in the 2023 budget as a capital improvement project request.

The Borough has contracted with Fresche Solutions, a long-time Borough consultant, to build this new front-end on the existing mainframe computer system. Fresche Solutions and the planning committee just completed the design and cost estimate of this new interface.

Staff believes this project has a high likelihood of success because it is merely an interface and retains the existing, complex, and convoluted back end. This back end software was custom-written for the Borough by a previous consultant in the 1990s using an IBM System 7 language, a mainframe language, which is strong and versatile, but very unfriendly to Borough employees and customers.

The new customer portal will be so powerful that even Front Counter Tellers in Borough Hall will be able to use much of the same functionality as customers sitting on their home computers.

Finally, the Borough will be transitioning to a new credit card processing vendor from our existing vendor, Official Payments. The new vendor, Paymentus, will provide significantly more opportunities for all payment types as well as being fully integrated into the new utility web portal, under development, and available hopefully in 2023.

The planning committee recommended, and Council approved, this transition. As we enter into a contract with Paymentus for the processing of all electronic payment methods through the customer payment portal, and in person at Borough Hall, due to the number of payment options that can be made available to customers, as well as the fee structure, in which no fees or charges are assessed to, or absorbed by, the Borough or its departments.

Paymentus accepts almost every imaginable payment source including all credit cards, Google Pay, Apple Pay, and Venmo.

The total cost for Fresche Solutions to complete development of the new interface is \$426,000. Staff believes that if successful, this interface may be the single largest improvement in customer service in Borough history.

MARKET HOUSE CLOCK TOWER RESTORATION

Originally constructed with the first phase of City Hall in 1830, the historic clock tower symbolized the commerce and vitality of the Borough of Chambersburg. The first phase of the building, often referred to as the Market House, was the original square tower single room structure bounded by the intersection of Queen Street and S. Second Street. Called the Market House, the first floor of the structure, now the Borough's administrative offices, were originally a marketplace for the selling of goods from the greater Chambersburg area; especially agriculture.

Before the age of supermarkets, or even neighborhood corner markets, which proliferated Chambersburg in the 20th Century, the Market House was the place folks came to arrange for all types of meat, produce, services, and supplies. It is hard to imagine that this small space was a bustling center of commerce for our town. Borough offices were also located in the Market House, which replaced the original such facility just north of the Diamond, the original name for Memorial Square (it is more diamond shaped than square). This market was expanded with additions on the building in later years, and eventually all of the original market was incorporated into Borough offices as a new market was constructed on S. Third Street. You may know that third market as the current home of the original gymnasium at the Recreation Center. The clock tower stood overlooking the Market House and the town as a symbol of Chambersburg.

In the early 20th Century, an artistic rendering of the Clock Tower was adopted as the seal and symbol of Borough government. Weather, birds, bats, and time took their toll on this proud installation. In the 1990s Borough officials were forced to wrap the historic monument in vinyl siding to stop its deterioration. When Town Council began to plan and fund the renovation of the 1972 Police Station addition on City Hall, the goal of renovating the historic symbol of our municipality was added to the project budget. Begun in 2022, by spring 2023 the clock tower will be mostly restored, although some modern materials and innovation was incorporated into the project. The Borough discovered that the clock, which still works, had a large bell with several hammers to play chimes. This bell is documented as being installed with the clock but has been non-functional for generations.

The bell remains in the tower but the current budget prevented restoring it to operation. Perhaps that will be a future phase of the project. In the meantime, the copper dome now shines in the sunlight once again, and the symbol of our proud metropolis is visible from miles away. Thank you to our community leaders for its restoration.



Clock Tower 1961



Clock Tower BEFORE



Clock Tower AFTER

RELEASE OF PROSPECTUS TO BEGIN THE PROCESS TO RE-SELL AND REDEVELOP THE SOUTHGATE SHOPPING CENTER

Chambersburg Town Council met on Monday, October 11, 2021, and approved a list of projects to utilize the Borough's share of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF). On October 11, 2021, Town Council approved the final list of projects.

The Borough of Chambersburg collaborated with a citizen advisory group to embark on a proposed long-term initiative to reclaim and redevelop the Southgate Shopping Center into a mixed-use residential neighborhood.

The project's goal is to create a new sustainable neighborhood that promotes a mixture of uses to include housing, employment, retail and business services into the neighborhood adjacent to downtown.

The neighborhood's ongoing involvement in the Southgate redevelopment process is vitally important to the success of this community development initiative. To codify the neighborhood's continued participation in the redevelopment project, the council approved Southgate Neighborhood Overlay District legislation which includes a provision to establish a permanent advisory committee made of neighborhood volunteers, which would review all planned development going forward.

Several elected councils over the last few decades have explored the concept of redevelopment at the Southgate Shopping Center. The 2007 Elm Street Neighborhood Plan included the concept of a public-private partnership to redevelop the shopping center into a new mixed use neighborhood. Other plans over the last 15 years, since that plan was adopted by the Town Council and submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development in the form of a community goal, echoed that objective. The recent adopted Comprehensive Plan called for economic development in the Southgate neighborhood. Finally, Town Council adopted the project as a 2021 priority when the 2021 budget was approved in December 2020, directing staff to determine a way to fund such a project.

Economic development is a core mission for Pennsylvania boroughs, townships, and cities. This is why Chambersburg had a Main Street Plan and an Elm Street Plan for decades; to spur private economic development, encourage public-private partnerships, increase tax yields, and sell more utility services.

The Town Council, working with the Chambersburg Area Municipal Authority (CAMA), a separate body politic, organized in the 1940s to assist with, among other things, community and economic development, set about to use the Federal funding provided to move forward with a decades old community vision to redevelop the Southgate Shopping Center.

The project's goal is to create a new sustainable neighborhood that promotes a mixture of uses to include housing, employment, retail, and health services into this neighborhood while increasing the Borough's tax base and utility sales. The proposed project is not to be funded with Borough taxes. The project would have a beneficial impact on the tax yield.

Town Council and the previous owners reached a negotiated sales agreement to permit CAMA the opportunity to purchase the existing shopping center in two phases so it could be subdivided and resold to responsible third-party private developers for redevelopment.



The Dilapidated Half-Empty Shopping Center as it Appears in 2022

A Resolution was approved by Town Council on October 11, 2021, authorizing entering into an agreement to purchase the Southgate Shopping Center in two phases, with a 90 day due diligence period for Phase 1 (the shopping center between W. Catherine Street and W. Washington Street) and 365 days for Phase 2 (the shopping center between W. Washington Street and Loudon Street).

Town Council authorized the execution of an Agreement of Sale for the purchase of the Property, for a total purchase price of \$4,500,000 for both phases. **Chambersburg Town Council authorized CAMA to proceed with the purchase of the Shopping Center.**

On April 7, 2022, CAMA purchased Phase 1 of the Shopping Center.

On August 24, 2022, CAMA reached an agreement to sell the former Gold's Gym building at the Southgate Shopping Center to Keystone Health. Keystone Health is the only federally qualified Community Health Center serving Franklin County. It is estimated that Keystone Health will buy the former Gold's Gym building sometime in 2023.

On October 13, 2022, CAMA purchased Phase 2, or the balance of the shopping center. This includes the building currently occupied by Rent-A-Center as well as the former home of the JCPenney Auto service facility. This is also the site of the famous meeting August 19 to 21 in 1859, between Frederick Douglass and John Brown. The two abolitionists met here at a stone quarry and discussed Brown's plans to raid the federal arsenal at Harpers Ferry. He urged Douglass to join an armed demonstration against slavery. Douglass refused, warning the raid would fail; the October 16, 1859 attack confirmed his fears. Brown was captured with his surviving followers and was executed December 2, 1859 near Harpers Ferry, about one hour south of Chambersburg.

Recently, CAMA discussed the release of a prospectus, an invitation for proposals, to sell the majority of the shopping center site to other third-party private developers as was contemplated during the original authorization to buy the shopping center. That invitation will be issued by the end of 2023.

The shopping center will be owned on an interim basis by CAMA until resale, but managed by the Borough staff.

Borough Manager Continued...

It is important to note the role CAMA will play. CAMA is an existing entity with the mission to support the community and economic development of the greater Chambersburg area. An independent agency, CAMA is organized under the State Law known as the Municipality Authorities Act. The Act permits CAMA to undertake a series of important projects for the community. Most commonly, CAMA provides "pass-through tax-exempt debt sales" for community organizations including the Shook Home, Wilson College, SpiriTrust Lutheran, and other tax-exempt organizations. In addition, CAMA stands by to help with "pass through financing" associated with the Borough, including the shopping center purchase, and the water and sewer systems of the Borough. They have more flexibility than the Borough when making real estate purchase and sale decisions, whereas Council can only sell real estate to the highest bidder through the public bidding process. As such, they are a critical component of the shopping center purchase and redevelopment process, to ensure the land is acquired and then sold to developers that will redevelop the land based on a developed realistic and market-based plan, that was developed by Town Council.

The realistic and market-based concept plan was requested by the Town Council at the beginning of 2022. It is a vision of what private third-party developers might build at Southgate. The Borough and the CAMA Board will not be the final developers. They are merely providing the conduit to sell the land to private developers for the project.

No local taxpayer money would be involved in this plan: the American Rescue Plan Act provided a \$7,763,037 non-competitive, federal formula grant from the U.S. Treasury Department to the Borough to help the community respond and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Of that amount, Town Council allocated \$4,151,857 to purchase the Southgate Shopping Center, which qualifies for the funding and allowed CAMA to make the purchase without a local match that could impact Borough real estate tax rates. When the parts of the shopping center are resold, Council can reuse the resulting proceeds from the sale for other investments.

Using the ARPA money, CAMA is able to obtain control of the site, something no other private developer has been able to do for generations. This is as a result of the Borough obtaining a grant, which makes the project make sense.

Town Council leadership requested the revised realistic and market-based concept plan based upon existing zoning regulations now in place for the neighborhood. It was their belief that a new realistic and market-based concept plan rendering would assist in the marketing of the site to private third-party developers. It is just one vision. It is not what might eventually be built. However, professionals believe it is a realistic view of what might be built by third-party private developers once they buy back the land.

Further, it creates an incentive for private developers to imagine what the community thinks is acceptable. This new vision contains the same land uses and attributes of the original concept plan but is more realistic. The new concept plan integrates the existing community and weaves a series of spaces that entice walkability. The plan also addresses the block that faces West Washington Street by creating a new plaza and mix of buildings that serves as a termination view and welcome gateway into the community.

The plan illustrates a mix of uses in the same block. This allows for a mixture of offering to the residents and create vitality that is important to retail and specially restaurants and supermarkets. The plan illustrates integrating open spaces. These spaces are of different scale, and types including water, landscape and plazas that allows public gathering. The plan connects W. Washington Street to E. Queen Street as a way of maintaining commercial traffic away from the residential neighborhood. A series of continuous sidewalk allows pedestrians to walk safely. These are connected to the trail that connects this plan to the regional context. This is an idea of what Council would like to see from the developers.

It is the intention of the CAMA Board to release the prospectus document in 2023 and begin the redevelopment process.





MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Kenneth "Hockey" Hock

My first 12 months as the Mayor of Chambersburg have been so fulfilling; and, it has been a privilege to interact with this community in so many ways. What stands out above everything else is that serving as Mayor is not an individual duty, but a team effort. Throughout the past year, that team has consisted of residents, police, county commissioners, council

members, our borough manager, and the borough employees who all contribute each day to make a difference in this community. I have leaned into my curiosity and have grown my awareness around so many different functions that drive Chambersburg each day. I have learned fast that Chambersburg's success relies upon being a melting pot of ideas and collaborative efforts to turn those ideas into action.

I attended each of our downtown events including Applefest, Old Market Day, IceFest, and our inaugural Martin's Potato Roll Drop on New Year's Eve. I had a front row seat on many of these occasions to see the work that went into bringing these events to life. Even on New Year's Eve where it rained heavily, our residents came out in full force to support the event. That is the kind of overall team effort and community pride which impresses me time and time again throughout my first year as Mayor.

I have also had an opportunity to attend many ribbon cutting ceremonies as we welcomed new businesses into our community which will help our downtown thrive. Being a small business owner, I can relate to the challenges and risks involved, and that is why I have always supported local businesses with my patronage. I did that before I was Mayor,

and I will continue to do that after I am no longer Mayor. Success breeds success so, I really want each of our local businesses to be successful.

Successful events and growth throughout our downtown would not be possible without a community where everyone feels safe. The Chambersburg Police Department continues to do what it takes to protect our community. I have witnessed our officers' commitment to interacting with the community and turning feedback into positive results. I have also been on ride-alongs with several officers so I can learn more about what they experience and encounter during their workday. I am excited and look forward to the newly renovated police station that should be completed around this time next year. Chief Camacho and all of our officers deserve gratitude and the very best for their unwavering commitment in keeping Chambersburg safe.

Additionally, leading our Color Day Parade with Chief Camacho and riding in our downtown Christmas parade have been two things where I am most proud. I cannot put the feelings into words as I witnessed everyone smiling and waving during those events. This should not be news to anyone at this point when I say I truly love Chambersburg and I will continue to do what it takes to support our residents. I encourage everyone to continue to say "hello" to me when you see me around. If anyone is ever interested in contacting me, please follow my Mayoral Facebook page and send me a message.

I look forward to continuing this journey with everyone as we continue to work together making Chambersburg a great place to live! Here's to a great 2023!



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief Ron Camacho

The Chambersburg Police Department remains steadfast to its mission of upward trajectory and growth for its continuous commitment to improve services to Borough residents, visitors,

and agency personnel. In 2022 the police department fully implemented the Body Worn Camera (BWC) program, acquired and implemented a state-of-the-art virtual reality (VR) training system called APEX, and implemented a traffic enforcement and accident reduction strategy which, in part, relies upon citizen input and continuous analysis via a data-driven approach toward improved community safety. The traffic enforcement strategy rolled out in 2022 will continue in 2023. In addition, many department members have completed undergraduate and graduate-level degrees in 2022, and more are on track to receive college degrees and command school endorsements in 2023.

In addition to the stated initiatives, the department also received and implemented a FARO scanner into its operations during the year, which is used for vehicular accident reconstruction and crime scene documentation and analysis. Further, the department anticipates another Lexipol Gold Award for policy management and best law enforcement agency practices.

In 2022 the department was humbled, grateful, and overwhelmed by our local community's numerous donations and support. Nearly fifty local business entities and citizens donated food items or provided monetary support to the department in 2022. In addition, several local businesses donated cash funds that will be used to support and offset the cost of the department's K9 program and for the purchase of a new vehicle that will be used for community policing and officer recruitment events. Furthermore, the department is establishing the Chambersburg Police

Foundation in 2023. The Foundations' creation allows for monetary donations to provide for new agency equipment and service support to offset capital expenditures. The Foundation enhances the agency's ability to continue first-rate service delivery with no or minimal impact on borough taxpayers.

The renovations to the police department's headquarters started in 2022, and it is anticipated that the agency will move back into its revamped building that will be fully equipped for 21st Century policing operations in late 2023. Additionally, the department expects to gain accreditation in 2023 through the Pennsylvania Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (PLEAC). Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping law enforcement agencies evaluate and improve their performance. The cornerstone of this strategy lies in promulgating standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives. The commitment to gain accreditation status through PLEAC coincides with the department's current continuous commitment to unceasing improvement.

The department will roll out Public Safety Announcement (PSA) videos in 2023. These PSAs will provide public safety information to the community and feature many CPD Officers as actors in the published videos. These features will focus on pedestrian safety, downtown sidewalks, bicycle safety, and property theft awareness; the CPD targeted traffic enforcement strategy, aggressive driving, and consequences of leaving vehicles running and unattended.

The department had a great 2022 and looks forward to an even better 2023!

FINISHING THE POLICE STATION RENOVATION PROJECT

As the construction of the Utility Departments' Addition for City Hall finished at the end of 2018, a second Building Committee formed to discuss another phase of the project originally conceived in 2013. The next phase would be a return to the old Borough Hall building and discussion on the future of the space utilized by the Chambersburg Police Department. In 2007, the first priority was the Police Department. However, due to several reasons, including the lack of available physical space, as well as funding, the issue of how to provide the Police Department with adequate space was placed on the back burner.

The goal of the first phase, the Utility Departments' Addition for City Hall, was to provide updated office and meeting space for the utility departments, Town Council, and the utility support departments; and more importantly, to provide extra space in the old Borough Hall building in order to allow the Police Department to expand their footprint.

In 2017, the Borough entered into a professional services agreement with SGS Architects/Engineers to do a utilization study of the Chambersburg Police Department; determine their needs and to evaluate the condition and opportunity in the 1971 existing addition to Borough Hall. Built and opened to the public in 1972, the 1971 project, or the southern part of Borough Hall, provided for a police station for the Police Department on the first floor and basement, and a meeting space for Town Council on the second floor. Since 1972, this has been the programming in this addition; the site of the old Borough Fire Hall, which used to sit on this site, south of the Market House, on South Second Street. By the 1960s, converted to a Police Station for the Borough, the volunteer fire hall had become clearly inadequate for Police Department operations. This is becoming true of the 1971 addition as well. By moving Town Council out of the 1971 addition and relocating other office space to the Utility Departments' Addition, the Police Department could expand and make better use of the 1971 addition.

The second building committee consisted of the Borough Manager, the Mayor, the Police Chief, the Water/Sewer Superintendent, a Council Member, police staff, and the architects. The committee studied police station design concepts and visited projects in other communities including Derry Township, Dauphin County, York City, Baltimore City, and a newly renovated

similar sized community police station during a conference in Texas. This information, and other information provided by the architect led to a design plan for a renovated Police Station to fill the 1971 addition to Borough Hall, plus a building add-on in what was once the drive-thru teller driveway next to the Police Station.

In 2020, Council decided that the area was insufficient for the building add-on. As a result, Council entered into a sales agreement to acquire 138 S. Second Street, the private house adjacent to the existing police annex, which itself was a private house, purchased by the Borough in 2009. This enlarged the project scope and cost. However, it made much more sense in the end.

Back in 2019, our partner, GMS Funding Solutions, was able to obtain for the Borough a \$1.7 million Redevelopment and Capital Assistance Program (RCAP) Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority. This is a great achievement. In 2019, Town Council accepted the grant, obligating the Borough to spend no less than three times this amount on the project.

In a spectacular feat, GMS Funding Solutions was able to get this grant expanded to \$3.4 million in 2020. The grant funding made the Police Station Project feasible for the community.

In 2021, Council approved the plan for the Police Station Bond for this project, just as with the list of capital improvements associated with the 2016 Recreation Bond, this Police Station Bond includes a dedicated real estate tax (a Police Station Bond Tax), to liquidate the debt over the next twenty or twenty-five years. The first year of the new tax was in 2022. In 2023, the second phase of the tax will be implemented.

The final design of the project, which was bid out in 2022, and awarded to Lobar, Inc., as General Contractor, included a complete gut of the 1971/1972 addition to City Hall as well as the construction of a new addition on the building, and the renovation of the Borough's historic clock tower. The project increased the size of the Police Station from 10,350 ft² to 23,700 ft².

The approved 2023 Budget, includes a 1.5 mil (approximately \$33.12 per year) tax increase, in exchange for the completion of the Police Station renovation project, and to continue full-funding of the Chambersburg Police Department. We remain grateful for the community's support of our law enforcement agency.

POLICE DEPARTMENT RENOVATION & ADDITION

CONSTRUCTION COSTS	\$7,108,600
CHANGE ORDERS (Through October 17, 2022)	185,385
RACP GRANT(S)	(\$3,200,000)
ADDITIONAL COSTS (Property, Outfitting, Security, Project Management, Contingency, Etc.)	\$1,772,015
TOTAL PROJECTED COSTS LESS GRANT(S)	\$5,866,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS (Through September 30, 2022)	\$2,947,000
TEMPORARY POLICE STATION	
TEMPORARY POLICE STATION CAPITAL COSTS	\$545,610
TEMPORARY POLICE STATION NON-CAPITAL COSTS	\$731,100
TOTAL PROJECTED TEMPORARY POLICE STATION COSTS	\$1,276,710
TOTAL TEMPORARY POLICE STATION COSTS (Through September 30, 2022)	\$885,200

The total cost of the Police Station Project is estimated to be \$5.866 million. The total cost of the temporary relocation of the Police Station to Orchard Drive is estimated to be \$1.28 million.



Modern reconstruction with PVC materials, a copper roof, restored chimneys, and bird protection



The Addition (and Sally Port Driveway) Added to the Police Station, Under Construction



FIRE & EMS DEPARTMENT

Dustin Ulrich, Fire Chief & EMS Director, and Ben Myers, Assistant Chief

The Chambersburg Fire Department (CFD) is fully dedicated to serving and protecting our community from any emergency that may arise through a highly trained and dedicated staff of firefighters all awhile having compassion and professionalism at the forefront. The guiding force is the department's mission for all personnel to provide high quality emergency medical

service, fire suppression, fire prevention, fire safety training, and fire code enforcement services for the protection and enhancement of life and safety for those who live, work, and visit this wonderful town.

As with previous years, the department has seen a steady increase in responses to emergency medical services and fire/rescue incidents. Basic Life Support emergency incidents are the primary call type for the agency and in 2022 staff responded to 4,941 EMS calls. Many of these incidents are handled by a single, basic life support unit that is staffed 24/7 that responds out of the Headquarters Fire Station on North Second Street. The department's emergency medical services continue to be one of the busiest in Pennsylvania and much of this is contributed to the amazing growth of health care and nursing facilities in the Borough, as well as the extremely strained EMS system in the area. The department responded to 1,330 emergencies with fire apparatus bringing the overall call volume to an astounding 6,271 calls for service last year.

Financial and staffing burdens continue to have detrimental effects on fire and EMS departments nationwide and in many cases creates closures of these public safety facilities. As the department's operational costs continually expand with limited ways to close this unfunded gap, Council adopted an ordinance that established an ambulance service fee beginning January 2020. In 2023, the monthly ambulance service fee will slightly increase to \$9.50 and will allow the Borough to continue providing essential ambulance services. This monthly fee does not affect any services rendered through the annual Ambulance Contribution Program.

Funding for public safety is the most important commitment Council makes on an annual basis.

All personnel for the department take great pride in setting operational and training standards that get adopted by many fire and EMS departments across the state. In 2022, two new firefighters were hired and successfully graduated from the nine-week long fire academy at Harrisburg Area Community College. All fire department personnel attended an intensive weeklong vehicle rescue and extrication training becoming nationally certified in this discipline. Additionally, staff attended the first year of the department's leadership training courses consisting of tactical decision making, administrative services, and staff management. This all-inclusive training path is a multi-year succession plan to develop future skilled leaders within the agency. Having a highly trained, mission driven, staffed department allows us to provide rapid responses before any major damage can occur as well as provides essential lifesaving medical care when time is critical.

Each year, the Department focuses on available alternate means of funding for equipment to be as fiscally responsible as possible. Since 2010, CFD has been blessed to receive over \$2,340,339.33 in Federal and State grants. In 2022, this successful practice of funding continued when the Pennsylvania State Fire Commissioner's Office awarded the Chambersburg Fire Department a total of \$63,325.05 in grants as well as an award of \$37,237.00 in a Federal grant. CFD utilized these funds toward the purchase of firefighter turnout gear, structural firefighting equipment, and station maintenance.

In all assurance, the Borough of Chambersburg Fire Department will continue to meet the future needs and services to the residents with both professional career and volunteer staff. All of the officers and members of the Department look forward to serving you in 2023 and invite everyone to stop in at one of our stations, meet the firefighters, take a tour of the fire engines and facilities, and see what we are actively doing to make the community safer.

SIX STEPS OF THE CRR APPROACH



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION (CRR)

CFD is extremely proactive and takes great pride in fire safety and prevention education as well as conducting risk reduction recognition and mitigation activities. The concept of Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Prevention is a process to identify and prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources (emergency response and prevention) to reduce their occurrence and impact. Not only does the CRR process allow first responders to be properly educated on hazards within the Borough of Chambersburg, it also allows for the firefighters to engage the community through education and awareness.

Starting in 2010, the department took an innovative approach at CRR and did an extensive community smoke detector install as well as teamed up with the Burn Prevention Network to educate and prevent injuries to all ages of residents. This highly successful outreach allowed for early notification of fires as well as an overall decrease in fires and burn injuries. After twelve years and thousands of smoke detectors installed, the program has evolved into an amazing partnership with the American Red Cross. Currently, the American Red Cross supplies the detectors to the fire department who in return offers to install the proper amount of smoke detectors in any residence within the Borough of Chambersburg at no charge.

A community risk reduction program needs re-evaluated every five to ten years based on the growth of the community. With the overwhelming success of the Borough, the department will be conducting a complete evaluation of the program in 2023. This process consist of six steps: Identify risks, prioritize risks, develop strategy and tactics to mitigate the risks, prepare the plan, implementation, and evaluate the plan.

The potential risks that could be identified may be items such as residential fires, falls, drownings, injuries from motor vehicle incidents, and medical items. During this year select department personnel will reach out to key stakeholders in the community and internally within the Borough to collect essential data as was done in previous evaluations. Almost all of the studies focus around key items such as identifying risks based on social interactions, economic factors, environmental elements, cultural influences, and factors specific to our Borough.

Upon completion of analytical studies of the information, CFD will develop what the next five years of community risk reduction truly looks like. As with previous reviews, the department will focus on education and mitigation, as well as providing as many necessary tools to assist with reducing these risks. At the end of the day, we all want a safe, prosperous community with a focus on safety.

Fire & EMS Department Continued...



PICTURED ABOVE:
CFD crews participate in vehicle extrication training and become nationally certified.

PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT:
Firefighters Trevor O'Donnell and Kevin Ecke successfully graduated the HACC Fire Academy

In January, the fire department placed in service a 2021 Pierce 750 Gallon Pumper. Engine 1-2 is housed at the McKinley street station. This unit replaced a 2004 Pierce Pumper.

To take advantage of the current risk reduction activities that the Chambersburg Fire Department has available for Borough residents, such as the installation of smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors, address identification street signs, File of Life program, or child safety seat programs please contact the Chambersburg Fire Department at: 717-263-5872

BOROUGH HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM RE-STARTED

Phil Wolgemuth, Deputy Borough Manager

The Borough is pleased to announce that Town Council has established a partnership with Luminest Community Development to re-start the Borough Housing Rehabilitation Program. Together, Council and Luminest Community Development secured a \$250,000 HOME Investment Partnerships Program Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to support the program. The Borough operated an owner-occupied housing rehabilitation program from 1992 through 2015 that rehabilitated more than 150 houses.

Luminest Community Development was chosen as a partner based on their strong history of providing affordable housing opportunities in Franklin County and the Borough. They are one of seven non-profit Community Housing Development Organizations in Pennsylvania certified by DCED, organized specifically to provide affordable housing services. They have planned and developed the expertise and staff capacity to add housing rehabilitation to their menu of services, in this case to rehabilitate owner-occupied houses in the Borough where 74% of the housing stock was built before 1969. Luminest Community Development will market and operate the Borough Housing Rehabilitation Program to provide rehabilitation for low and moderate income homeowners anywhere in the Borough, with the goal of rehabilitating five houses before December 31, 2024.

The Borough Housing Rehabilitation Program was created to assist low and moderate income families bring their homes not only into compliance with local codes but also to make them safe and habitable.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- The house to be improved is owner-occupied
- The house is located within the limits of the Borough of Chambersburg
- The household's total gross income does not exceed 80% of the area median income.
- The minimum loan request is \$2,000
- The house is not a mobile home
- To be eligible for the program, an owner occupied household income cannot exceed the income limits as established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) based on household size.

Eligible homeowners will receive financial assistance through a non-interest-bearing loan. A contractor will be hired by the homeowner to complete housing rehabilitation work, to include the examples below.

- Insect infestation extermination (if needed)
- Attic insulation
- Hard-wired smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors
- Structural deficiencies
- Roofing deficiencies
- Plumbing deficiencies
- Heating deficiencies
- Electrical deficiencies
- Creation of safe ingress & egress
- Removal of all blighting exterior conditions
- Elimination of lead-based paint hazards per EPA Standards

80% INCOME LIMIT	1-person household	2-person household	3-person household	4-person household	5-person household	6-person household	7-person household	8-person household
	\$46,600	\$53,250	\$59,900	\$66,550	\$71,900	\$77,200	\$82,550	\$87,850

If you would like to apply for the Borough Housing Rehabilitation Program, please contact Eric Wagaman at Luminest Community Development at 717-977-3900, X125 or ewagaman@luminest.org, or stop by their office at 82 West Queen Street in Chambersburg, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

Ron Pezon, PE, Director of Electric Planning and Compliance

CHAMBERSBURG ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT DELIVERS ONE OF THE LOWEST RETAIL ELECTRIC RATES IN PENNSYLVANIA

2022 SUMMARY

Three years of the broad-reaching 2019 Electric Bond and its wide range of projects ended financially and successfully in mid-2022. The capital infrastructure improvements have placed the borough in a better operational and energy portfolio position to handle the future, whether turbulence, economic downturn comes our way, or if the Department experiences continued growth and prosperity.

Looking back and forward, the following recently completed capital projects have placed the electric department in a very good asset-infrastructure and cost-effective electric delivery position.

PROJECTS WERE:

Electric Delivery: Transmission & Distribution equipment, Relay and Control upgrades, Commerce, Mill, and Grant Substations

Generation: Control Upgrades at the Orchard Park (OPGS, 2 engines) Falling Spring Generating Stations (FSGS, 3 engines). Rebuilt all three engines for a projected 20-year renewed life at the FSGS

Substations: Commerce Street Substation Transformer upgrades and the Chambersburg Community Solar Center Interconnection Substation.

Power Supply: Community Solar Project (PPA) and the solar interconnection substation became fully operational, commercial, and also began generating valuable solar renewable energy credits (SREC's)

Distribution Operations Center: A new facility to house electric distribution line trucks and wooden wire reels to reduce weather effects, increase wire reel handling safety, extend motor equipment and asset life.

The bond, usual capital, and the identified/completed maintenance projects expenditures in 2022 put Chambersburg Electric in an excellent operating position going into 2023.

Significant changes are on the horizon it's true, but long term investments, system work, along with other energy portfolio additions, improvements over the past 10 years in particular, have not only reduced rates in the first half of the decade since 2013 but also helped maintain stable rates at least though the fall of 2022.

In the second half of 2022, the department began seeing power supply market price pressures rising which ultimately resulted in a small 2% rate increase in December 2022. A second 2% rate increase was enacted through the Power Supply Adjustment (PSA) in January 2023 to avoid further significant under-collections and until a cost of service study could be conducted, completed in 2023.

Watching historic, anticipating further cost increases and supply challenges, probable effects on rates, Borough Council approved an APPA (American Public Power Association) standard Cost of Service Retail Rate Study to determine the extent of the cost increases and the possible forward-looking effects on each electric rate class served in the Borough. Retail Rates will be relevelled in 2023, in a similar way to that completed in 2014, and based on the recommended outcomes of the study.

CHALLENGES

The markets, including natural gas and liquid fuel oil prices rising since May 2022 has begun to put upward price-pressure on the Borough's portfolio of energy products, used successfully since 2012 to stabilize electric rates. The department experienced significantly high fuel, market prices, and other consumables prices in its generation fleet though the cold snap over the Christmas holiday in 2022. Coupling volatility of fuel prices along with fuel delivery challenges, both gas and oil, the Department experienced a difficult year-end. The generation fleet was forced to run on fuel oil as natural gas supply was interrupted to the generators either by price or take penalties that would have been imposed by continuing to run on natural gas.

Chambersburg had to reduce generation output due to the lack of fuel, fuel oil storage, as many other generators in the State experienced during the declared emergency.

Market pressures toward high pricing around peak times will likely present themselves from this winter and forward-looking winters for a time, as old and uneconomical fossil fuel and some nuclear units have retired, with more to be taken out of service over the next five years. Further complicating energy supply is the quantity of, placement of generation, long queue positions to bring the needed generation on-line, and the slow nature of building of transmission systems to serve the (so far) increasing PJM load.

To improve fuel supplies and the supply-coordination between gas and electric markets, departments, the Borough manager formed a strategic energy procurement team consisting of the gas and electric utilities while using consultants in an effort to avert future fuel price, availability, and therefore hopefully also future local power supply emergencies. The goal of this team is to identify new futures/supplies, cost saving measures, to find and effectively mine extra financial values and benefits out of the electric and gas markets as well as from the Borough's existing generation assets and market "tools" as planned for 2023.

THE 2023 OUTLOOK

Market pricing and fuel availability challenges will likely continue until such time as the PJM generation sources, types, and capabilities settle out to some sort of balance with its expected load profiles. The PJM natural gas generation fleet makes up about 40% of the annual power supply to its members and customers. Of that, approximately 30% of the gas-fired generation was unavailable for lack of gas-fuel in late 2022. With that high gas-fired concentration in the PJM, at least in winters for now, there may be a significant winter price, pressure/flow challenge for the foreseeable future.

OTHER CHALLENGES:

- Workforce, succession planning, steep learning curves, hiring and keeping qualified electrical workers
- Economic pressures, 2023 budget, inflation, and supply chain delays, experienced with critical path systems, parts
- Federal, State, Policy including strict environmental and possibly new regulations
- FERC driving distributed generation projects, aggregation, interconnection complexities to be determined, implemented by PJM, transmission owners, and the fallout of these market forces on municipal electrics.
- Renewables, fossil fuel, and new generation queue costs, and backlogs

STRENGTH & OPPORTUNITIES:

- Existing diverse portfolio of energy products and historic department "tools" as changing and feasible
- Study, add new good-fit, financially justifiable, generation and other joint-venture energy projects
- External energy supplies and internal systems innovations including better Gas and Electric coordination
- Gas, Electric and other forms of Energy Storage Systems
- Coordinated utilities- profiled, supply-side and demand-side, load profiled cost-effective, revenue producing programs
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure sales growth in coordination with existing and new Federal and State programs

The Electric Department has faced in the past and is presently facing many complexities, outside forces beginning in 2023 and which will likely press-in for many years to come, as it is in other regions of the Country. With its many valuable employees, partnerships with APPA, AMP, vendors of applicable products & services, strategic consultants, the Department will get through these pressing times and possibly even thrive more so through it all.

GAS DEPARTMENT

John Leary, Director of Natural Gas Utility

NATURAL GAS UTILITY MARKS RECORD GROWTH IN 2022

The Chambersburg Gas Department is focused on benefitting Borough residents to the greatest extent possible. This includes providing a safe gas system, with low utility prices, for our residents. As natural gas service is one of the safest and lowest cost energies available, expanding our gas service to new customers increases our ability to benefit more residents of the Borough, and allows us to keep costs lower for all customers. Chambersburg is proud to provide our residents with the lowest priced natural gas in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

In 2022, the Gas Department saw the highest customer growth, and largest volume of gas sales, in our history. Much of this growth can be attributed to our extremely successful loan programs, which provide interest free loans for new residential and small commercial customers, as well as the developers of multi-family housing projects, for gas space and/or water heating.

Additional sales growth has come from gas main extensions, new commercial development in the Borough, as well as from expansions at Borough industrial facilities. This growth is good for the local economy, and the Gas Department is thankful to be able to help make it possible.

Over the past 20 years, we have increased our customer count from 5,000 to 6,700, averaging about 85 new customers per year. In 2022, we added 322 new gas customers, the highest increase in history.

Gas sales increasing is also great news, as the more gas we sell, the higher we can make Payments In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) to the General Fund to keep residents' taxes lower, and the more we can spread out our fixed costs to keep our gas rates low. The Gas Department is paying \$750,000 through our PILOT in 2023 to the General Fund. That means that Borough residents have \$750,000 less to pay in taxes than they would without the Gas Department PILOT.

Due to much of our gas load being for space heating, gas sales are highly dependent on temperatures. Despite having the average temperature in 2022 being near normal, Borough gas sales totaled a record of 1,591,000 Dekatherms (DTH). This amount is a whopping 21% higher than our previous largest year of 2005, when we sold 1,316,000 DTH.

2022 gas sales were helped by strong Borough power plant use of 321,000 DTH. However, even when excluding power plant use from the total, we still had 2022 gas sales of 1,270,000 DTH, which is also a record for non-plant sales. The previous gas sales record year of 2005 included Power Plant sales of 303,000 DTH. The non plant sales in 2005 were 1,013,000 DTH.



The Gas Department thanks all of our customers for allowing us to serve you. In 2022, we provided \$12 million in direct benefits to Borough residents. We are proud of the fact that we help residents save so much on their utilities and on their taxes.

Our goals for 2023 is to maintain the lowest residential natural gas rates in Pennsylvania and maintain a safe and reliable energy system for Borough customers.

WATER & WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT

Travis Amsley, Assistant Director of Water and Wastewater

CHAMBERSBURG WATER PLANT RECEIVES "COMMENDABLE" RATING

This past June 28-29, 2022, staff from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Bureau of Safe Drinking Water, were onsite to evaluate the optimization level of treatment at the Chambersburg Water Plant, specifically the filtration process for drinking water.

DEP views optimization as a process of continual improvement of the effectiveness of treatment processes to provide the highest level of consumer protection from waterborne pathogens and to ensure long-term process reliability. Through the evaluation, each process component was assessed for its capability to consistently meet the turbidity and disinfection requirements of the Pennsylvania Filtration Rule. Additionally, individual treatment processes were evaluated on the ability to continuously provide optimized or most-effective barriers to the passage of microorganisms.

The evaluation follows specific target performance goals for sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection processes – goals that are easily met during normal routine operation at the Chambersburg treatment plant. DEP staff collected samples and data during the evaluation, including installation of in-line instruments to verify the readings of the plant's continuous-monitoring instruments.

At the conclusion of the evaluation, settled and filtered water turbidities remained below the optimization goals. Historical turbidity and water quality data from the previous year also indicated optimized performance. Due to these findings, the Chambersburg treatment plant received a "commendable" performance rating for its ability to remove waterborne pathogens and similar-sized particles through optimized filter plant performance.

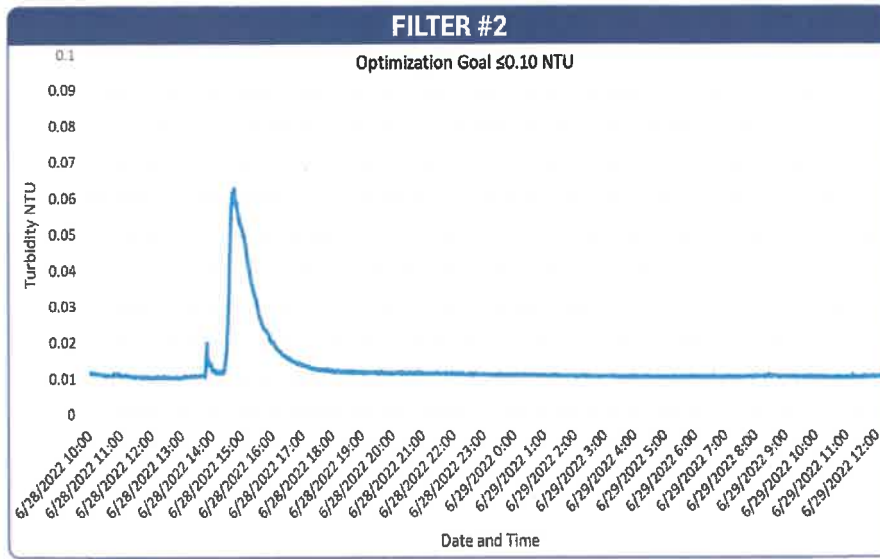
Of the performance rating determinations, "commendable" is the most desired outcome of a filter plant performance evaluation. "Satisfactory" and "Needs Improvement" are the other rating determinations and both indicate that there are operational and/or performance weaknesses that are hindering optimized filter plant performance. In 2022, only 18% of all water filtration plants in the state of Pennsylvania received a "commendable" performance rating.

Plant staff should be pleased with the rating determination and continue with process improvements to ensure that Borough consumers are receiving the highest quality drinking water that the Chambersburg water treatment plant is capable of producing.



Chambersburg's Julio D. Lecuona Water Treatment Plant

Water Department Continued...



Filter effluent turbidity for filter #1 below the optimization goal of .1 NTU. Data collected by DEP June 28-29.

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PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Charles Nipe, Director of Public Works, and Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager

CHAMBERSBURG BOROUGH CONTINUES TO PLAN FOR A NEW PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY

In a transformational project for the neighborhood, the Chambersburg Sanitation Department purchased the old abandoned cold storage building on S. Fourth Street. This derelict and blighted structure will be demolished in early 2023, and the land incorporated into the new site of the Borough's future public works facility. The ARPA grant provided sufficient funding to secure the building, plan for and helped pay for its demolition and the clearing of the site. Additionally, this location may also collocate future storm water facilities to alleviate chronic and repeated flooding on S. Fourth Street. Finally, the site may also provide a part of a future pedestrian trailhead connected to the Borough's Rail Trail, which now terminates at S. Main Street.



Former Cold Storage Building on S. Fourth Street.

At the end of 2019, the Borough had the opportunity to acquire a vacant commercial building at 366 Wayne Avenue in order to plan the relocation of the Loudon Street Sanitation Department, Motor Equipment Department, and Highway Department facility.

The site, once the home of Wagner Supply Depot, will be renovated over time to eventually replace the existing Borough public works facility located on Loudon Street, at the corner of S. Franklin Street. The existing facility on Loudon Street is reaching the end of its useful life. Problems exist, including vehicle maintenance bays that are too small for today's modern trucks,

equipment and materials storage, no room to grow, a cracked foundation, and is in the floodplain along the Conococheague Creek.

The 2021 purchase of the old Cold Storage Building at 1335 S. Fourth Street, utilizing the American Rescue Plan Act funding, allowed it to be added to the Wagner site. In addition, the Sewer Department purchased 1334 S. Fourth Street. Across from the old Cold Storage Building, which will become new offices for that department, nearby the Wagner site.

Further, the Borough purchased an adjacent home at 342 Wayne Avenue, which has been demolished. Those two tax parcels have been added to the Wagner site.

Finally, the Borough remains interested in other possible nearby parcels.

The Borough engaged SGS Architects/Engineers of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to do a facility review and according to their principal, Dennis Sowers, the facility might be less expensive to replace rather than renovate. A number of scenarios are being evaluated in order to accommodate the eventual uses as proposed by the Borough. The consultant was engaged in 2020, a building committee was established, and conceptual design will begin in earnest in 2023.

The building purchase and design stage have had no impact on taxes. The site will provide a much-needed new home for the Sanitation Department and Public Works, and provides a site, which over time, might be expanded to add other adjacent tax parcels. It is also very exciting that at the end of this project, a new park near the Conococheague Creek will encourage access to the creek near the Southgate Shopping Center, where the Public Works garage is now located.

At this point, it is unclear what renovation will occur at the site. The decommissioning of the Loudon Street facility and construction of the new Conococheague Creek Park would then occur in 2026 or 2027. The new Borough recycling transfer station nor any trash storage will be at this Wagner site. Those type of functions, with trash and recycling,

Public Works Department Continued...

would not be appropriate at this location. We want the neighbors to know that we do not foresee this location housing, even on a temporary basis, trash or recycling. This facility will be used for offices, trucks, truck maintenance, equipment, equipment repair, and the storage of dumpsters and other Sanitation Department items.

Finally, staff has been in contact with adjacent property owners. We have explained the goals of the project and invited them to consider whether the sale of their property to enhance the project site might make sense. The 2022 Budget includes resources for continuing site development as well as to explore the purchase of adjacent parcels.

Town Council is not being asked to commit to any design, any cost estimate, or any funding sources at this time.

Included as a part of the 2023 CIP budget, Council approved commencing design development for the new Public Works facility. The site is currently comprised of approximately five acres. The ultimate buildout of this site is expected to house Sanitation, Motor Equipment, Highway, and provide vehicle and material storage for Water and Sewer. Additionally, future expansion may include other Borough operations.

The design effort had its kick off meeting with the building committee and the architecture firm SGS Architects Engineers, Inc., on February 8th. It is our goal to wrap up this design phase by early fall and plan on providing a

milestone status update at this year's budget presentation. Also, the CIP budget presentation will include our proposal, for Council consideration, to continue moving this project toward completion.

Public Works staff remains enthusiastic regarding the improvement on operations and service enhancements we anticipate from this Capital Investment.

If you live in the neighborhood, watch for additional information as planning continues throughout 2023.



The Former Wagner Supply Depot is Owned by the Borough as is the House on the Right, Now Demolished, and the Cold Storage Building to the Rear, Scheduled for Demolition

STORM SEWER DEPARTMENT

Phil Wolgemuth, Deputy Borough Manager

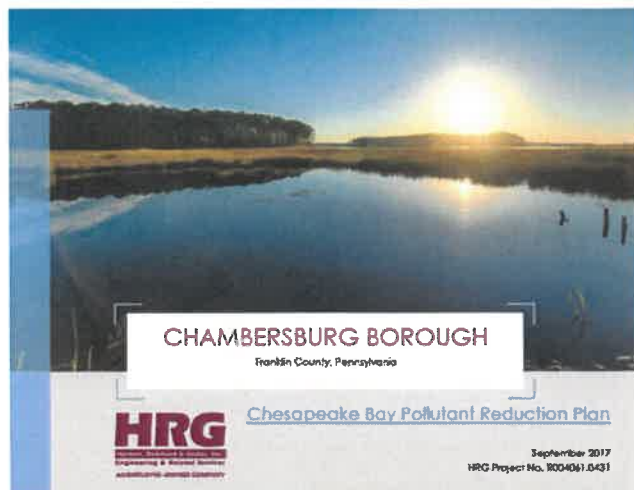
LARGE STORM WATER CHANNEL ALONG SOUTH MAIN STREET TO BE IMPROVED IN 2023

In January 2021, Town Council approved an agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for an Environmental Stewardship and Watershed Protection Grant in the amount of \$200,000 for the South Main Street Stormwater BMP Implementation Project.

The project will address infrastructure concerns associated with a Borough-owned open channel that conveys stormwater from the east side of town, under South Main Street, to the west side of town. To reduce further erosion and sedimentation of this important channel, occurring as a result of fast-moving stormwater, the proposed scope of work will include the installation of rock aprons, erosion control matting, re-grading, rock embankment and slope stabilization, and plantings. These Best Management Practices (BMPs) will provide significant water quality benefits, meeting important goals of the Borough's Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan that was approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in 2018. It is estimated that the project will achieve a reduction of approximately 20,960 pounds (5% of the Borough's total sediment reduction) of total suspended solids per year entering the storm sewer system, which empties into the Conococheague Creek to the Potomac River to the Chesapeake Bay.

The estimated project cost is \$311,060 with the \$200,000 grant to be matched with \$111,060 from the Storm Sewer Utility Capital Reserve account. Bid specifications will soon be released to hire a contractor to complete the project during the 2023 construction season.

If you have questions about the South Main Street Stormwater BMP Implementation Project, or the Storm Sewer Utility, please contact Andy Stottlemeyer, Storm Sewer System Manager, at 717-251-2434 or astottlemeyer@chambersburgpa.gov.



CHAMBERSBURG BOROUGH

Franklin County, Pennsylvania

HRG
Engineering & Environmental
Sustainable Design Company

Chesapeake Bay Pollutant Reduction Plan

September 2017
HRG Project No. 1004061-0431



SEWER DEPARTMENT

Lance Anderson, PE, Director of Water & Wastewater

SEWER DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO ADDRESS AGING INFRASTRUCTURE IN 2023

The Borough of Chambersburg has operated a Sanitary Sewer System since 1911. The current collection and conveyance system includes nearly 87 miles of mains and 2,305 manholes. An interceptor is a major sewer line that receives wastewater flows from collector sewers. Interceptors are the largest diameter lines in a sewer system and carry wastewater directly to the treatment facility or to another interceptor.

THE BOROUGH'S INTERCEPTORS INCLUDE:

- East Conococheague: 24" pipe; constructed 1911; upgraded in 2019
- Falling Spring: 27" pipe; constructed 1965; upgraded 2005
- West Conococheague: 42" pipe; constructed 1977
- South End: 21" pipe; constructed 1987
- Plant Approach: 48" pipe; constructed in 1957; upgraded in 2016

While the Falling Spring, West Conococheague, and South End interceptors were built as the Borough and the surrounding townships developed and expanded, the East Conococheague interceptor has remained in service since the beginning of wastewater treatment in 1911. The interceptor begins at the intersection of Vine Street and Wolf Avenue and terminates at the connection to the Plant Approach Interceptor near the Hollywell Avenue and Dump Road intersection. Shown below are portions of the original 1911 interceptor that are still in service today.



Location: Adjacent to King Street Bridge



Location: Near Chambers Street

In 2019, a portion of the East Conococheague Interceptor from W. Queen St. to N. Hackberry Dr. was upgraded in order to increase flow capacity and support future growth and development. In 2023, a portion of the East Conococheague Interceptor is to be replaced due to age and location.

THE PROJECT DESIGN WAS COMPLETED IN 2022 AND INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:

- The abandonment of 1,450 feet of the East Conococheague Interceptor between Chambers St. and W. King St. (including the areas pictured above). This section of the interceptor was constructed in 1911 and includes cast in place pipe as well as above ground cast iron pipe.
- The construction of a duplex pump station to transfer interceptor flow across the Conococheague Creek to the West Conococheague Interceptor. The pump station will be located in the undeveloped Chambers St. right-of-way. Walking access to the creek will be maintained after construction is complete.



Typical Sewage Pump Station



Project Location

The project is scheduled to be bid in Spring 2023. The estimated cost for the project is \$2,000,000 which will be funded by the Sewer Department's Capital Reserve. Once awarded, construction is expected to take 6 months and will have no impact to customers in the area.

Once completed, the remaining sections of the East Conococheague Interceptor will continue to serve the Borough and surrounding municipalities by conveying existing peak flows in addition to flows from future growth and development to the recently upgraded J. Hase Mowrey Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility.

CHAMBERSBURG HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT'S CURBSIDE – LEAF COLLECTION

Charles Nipe, Director of Public Works

The Borough's Public Works department operates an annual curbside leaf collection service, which typically commences in early October and runs through mid-December unless operations are impacted by weather conditions.

Beginning in 2021, the Sanitation department developed a tentative schedule for the collection of leaves at the curbside or alley. To reduce inquiries from residents, leaf collection now corresponds to the refuse/recycling collection days for each Ward.

LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

- WARD ONE IS NORMALLY COLLECTED ON MONDAYS
- WARD TWO IS NORMALLY COLLECTED ON TUESDAYS
- WARD THREE IS NORMALLY COLLECTED ON WEDNESDAYS
- WARD FOUR IS NORMALLY COLLECTED ON THURSDAYS
- WARD FIVE IS NORMALLY COLLECTED ON FRIDAYS

Variations from this schedule occur when refuse/recycling collection dates are shifted to meet certain holidays such as Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Merely rake your loose leaves into a wind row along the curb outside your property.

It is important to note this schedule is the Public Works department's goal, as it can be impacted by equipment and manpower availability, leaf volume, and other extenuating circumstances. To mitigate these delays in services, to the extent practicable, in 2023 departmental staff will be evaluating the use of Highway and Sanitation staff volunteer overtime hours to meet collection service demand surges. The use of volunteer overtime will be added to the beginning and/or end of workdays, potentially increasing the daily timeframe from 7am to 3pm to 5am to 5pm.



To supplement our curbside leaf pickup, and to allow for proper disposing of items that are not allowed for curbside collection (grass clippings, limbs, twigs, brush, and other vegetation), our green waste facility located at 491 West Commerce Street provides a corresponding disposal option for these items. Started in 2014, this facility continues to receive a consistent stream of woody debris that is stockpiled through our normal operation season of April until November.

In an effort to further our recycling efforts, collected leaves are transported to two private facilities that turn these leaves into compost which is sold as a "green" alternative to chemical fertilizer. This partnership reduces costs to Borough residents and has a positive impact on the environment. The items received at the Green Waste Facility are ground into a mulch and transported to a Spring Grove PA facility. This product is then further refined turning it into a finished mulch product which is sold to consumers. Additionally, these processes reduce the unnecessary filling of landfills by removing these components from the waste stream.

The leaf collection and green yard waste facility continue to be fully operated by Borough Public Works staff, thereby maximizing our service level while minimizing costs.

PROJECT HEAT

PROJECT H.E.A.T IS FOR ALL SEASONS!

Chambersburg neighbors have been helping neighbors with Utility Bills since 1984 through contributions to Project H.E.A.T. (Helping Everyone Avoid Termination). Utility termination creates additional challenges for people experiencing economic hardship. This year, the challenges have been exacerbated by the Covid-19 health crisis. YOU Can Help! Here's how...

- "Overpay" – Add a contribution to your utility bill payment and check the box indicating that your overpayment will support Project H.E.A.T.
- Donate directly – Make your check out to "Borough of Chambersburg – Project H.E.A.T." (Mail to: PO Box 1009, Chambersburg, PA 17201)
- All Contributions to Project H.E.A.T. are tax-deductible

NEED HELP WITH UTILITY PAYMENTS?

Contact Customer Service – (717) 264-5151 (ask for Customer Service), M-F, 8am-5pm

Walk-in: 100 S. 2nd St., Chambersburg, PA 17201 (Main entrance at rear of bldg.)

Call 2-1-1 or go to <http://www.contacthelpline.org>

— Se Hablamos Español en Servicio al Cliente —

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Julie Redding, Recreation Department Director

RECREATION DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2022 AND THE FORECAST OF FUN TO COME IN 2023

Engaging in recreational activities enhances the quality of one's life. The Chambersburg Recreation Department annually strives to fulfill its purpose by providing diverse programs and activities for all ages that do just that – improve the quality of one's life, and 2022 was no exception. Recreation upgrades, aka, quality of life enhancements, included an assortment of new programming opportunities, various facility refurbishments, and the installation of new park features. The two most noteworthy projects included the construction of two, half-court basketball courts and a small pavilion at Mill Creek Acres Park, and the installation of two, fully inclusive playground components at Memorial Park.

Mill Creek Acres Park, located in the southwest corner of the Borough, has experienced an explosion of residential development, and the construction of the basketball courts and pavilion could not have come at a more opportune time. These new amenities will quickly prove to be a necessary addition to this eight-acre, neighborhood park. The park previously included a walking path, playground, and a large multi-purpose field. The basketball courts, positioned on the south side of the park, close to the Channing Drive entrance, will fill an essential recreation void for older youth through adults. The pavilion, which accommodates approximately thirty people, positioned in close proximity to the playground, will offer a shaded respite for people wanting to watch their children playing on the playground, or enjoy a picnic, party, or small community gathering.

The project is substantially complete, but will require additional ground maintenance in the spring, along with final painting and striping of the basketball courts. These new park amenities are open and available for use from dawn through dusk.



Mill Creek Park Basketball Court



Mill Creek Park Pavilion

To reserve the pavilion or obtain rental information, please call the Recreation Office at, 717-261-3275.

The project was financially supported by CDBG funding (Community Development Block Grant), and FIL money (Fee in Lieu of Land Donation) received from developers who have continued to expand the residential footprint in this south/southwest section of the Borough. Paying a fee per unit of housing is one method developers can choose to satisfy the Borough's recreation requirement. When money is offered in lieu of land, it is generally earmarked for improving or expanding recreation opportunities in the nearest existing park to the residential expansion.

This park is also one of four additional Borough parks that Town Council approved as a "dog friendly" location on a temporary, one-year pilot term.

This trial period allows dogs to be walked on-leash in the park. Dog waste stations have been installed on the east and west sides of the park, and dogs are permitted along the pathways and in the grass. Dogs are not permitted on the playground, in the pavilion, or on the basketball courts.

Considering that 156 rental apartment units were recently completed adjacent to the west side of the park, it will naturally start to experience increased usage. Consequently, the Recreation Department will be applying for additional CDBG funding in 2023 for the purpose of installing a small restroom facility on the east side of the park, close to the playground and pavilion.

Also, this year pedestrian friendly crossings are to be added to Hollywell Avenue.

In addition to the recreation installations at Mill Creek Acres Park, Memorial Park, a 38-acre regional park located on the east side of the Borough, received two new fully inclusive playground components. This means that any wheelchair bound individual can wheel directly into the newly installed apparatus (the We-Go-Round and We-Go-Swing), and enjoy the activity without needing to transfer or be transferred on to the equipment. Prior to this installation, all eight playgrounds within the Borough met the minimum ADA standards, (and some parks include components which allow non-ambulatory individuals to engage in play experiences), but none have provided an opportunity to play or engage in therapeutic movements without requiring further assistance to use an apparatus. Neither of these inclusive play components, nor anything similar, exists within an hour of the Borough, and Chambersburg was the first in the Commonwealth to install the We-Go-Swing and the fourth to install the We-Go-Round.

Funding for this project was provided in part by a grant awarded from DCNR (Department of Conservation and Natural Resources), and Town Council acknowledged its support by earmarking Recreation Capital Reserve Funds as the source to satisfy the balance of the project. At the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in November, various residents and professionals shared how these play components would greatly benefit their family members, friends, students and clients wanting and needing to engage in this type of inclusive play opportunity.

In 2023, the Recreation Department plans to work with GMS Funding Solutions, and submit another grant that would financially support the installation of fully inclusive ground-level sensory panels that would allow any individual to engage in beneficial sensory learning activities. These panels would be installed in the same linear path as the We-Go-Swing and We-Go-Round, also creating a more cohesive connection between the existing preschool and youth playgrounds.

We hope you'll plan to visit one of our eight playground parks, engage in a program, or swim at the Aquatic Center this year! New to Chambersburg and not sure where parks are located or what opportunities await?

Visit our website at: www.chambersburgpa.gov/rec_dep for details, or in person at the Rec Center Office located at: 235 South Third Street. We'll look forward to seeing you in 2023!



Pictured Above:
We-Go-Swing &
We-Go-Round

Pictured Left:
Ribbon Cutting
Ceremony,
November 2022



CHAMBERSBURG AQUATIC CENTER INFORMATION

Membership Rates

Hours of Operation for Season Pass Holders: Monday through Friday: Early admittance, 12-1 PM through 8 PM

Saturday and Sunday: Early admittance, 11:30 AM-1 PM through 8 PM

Category	2023 Rates	2023 Boro Rates
Family Memberships		
Family Membership Regular Season	\$395	\$255
- 15% Family discount by March 31	\$335.75	\$216.75
- 10% Family discount by May 26	\$355.50	\$229.50
Adult Memberships		
Adult Membership Regular Season	\$199	\$145
- 15% Adult discount by March 31	\$169.15	\$123.25
- 10% Adult discount by May 26	\$179.10	\$130.50
Youth Memberships		
Youth Membership Regular Season	\$175	\$125
- 15% Youth discount by March 31	\$148.75	\$106.25
- 10% Youth discount by May 26	\$157.50	\$112.50
Sr. Citizen Memberships		
Sr. Citizen Membership Regular Season	\$165	\$115
- 15 % Sr. Citizen discount by March 31	\$140.25	\$97.75
- 10% Sr. Citizen discount by May 26	\$148.50	\$103.50
Membership Additions		
- Grandparent/Nanny	\$95	\$75

Definition of a Family Membership:

A family membership includes up to a maximum of five (5) family members, residing at the same address. It is limited to four (4) adults, age 18 and older. Each additional person age one (1) and older: \$20/person

Must accompany a pass holder or pay the daily rate accordingly.

***To receive a discounted rate, payments MUST be received by close of business (5 PM) on the indicated deadline date.**

*Financial Assistance provided to Franklin County residents only who are income eligible. Call the Recreation Office for full details.

*Military Benefit: Active Military Personnel and dependents showing proper ID receive 10% off a regular season membership rate.

Daily Rates

Hours of Operation for Daily Admission: 1-8 PM, Sunday- Saturday

Category	2023 Daily Rates	*2023 Daily Rate (Franklin County & Shippensburg Residents)	*2023 Daily Rate (Chambersburg Borough Residents)
Infants UNDER 1 yr of age	Free	Free	Free
Over 42" Sat/Sun	\$17	\$12	\$8
Over 42" M-F	\$15	\$12	\$8
Age 1+/Under 42" Sat/Sun	\$11	\$8	\$5
Age 1+/Under 42" M-F	\$10	\$8	\$5
Sr. Citizen (Ages 60+) Sat/Sun	\$11	\$8	\$5
Sr. Citizen (Ages 60+) M-F	\$10	\$8	\$5
Twilight (After 5 PM)			
Age 1+/Over 42" Sat/Sun	\$12	\$9	\$6
Twilight (After 5 PM)			
Age 1+/Over 42" M-F	\$11	\$9	\$6
Twilight (After 5 PM)			
Age 1+/Under 42" Daily	\$10	\$8	\$5
Chaperone/Non-Swimmer Sat/Sun	\$10	\$7	\$5
Chaperone/Non-Swimmer M-F	\$8	\$7	\$5
Special Days / Events			
-Teen / Adult Night	\$6	\$6	\$4
Discount Pass Booklets			
- Book of 10 passes	\$140		

*To qualify for these daily rates you must provide proof upon entry (see website for details) that you reside within one of the following zip codes or pay the highest applicable rate:

17201 17210 17217 17220 17222 17225 17232 17236 17244 17247 17251 17254 17257 17263 17268 17272

17202 17214 17219 17221 17224 17231 17235 17237 17246 17250 17252 17256 17262 17265 17271

For complete details of Aquatic Center Memberships and Rates, visit our website at www.chambersburgpa.gov/rec_dep

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FOLLOW & LIKE US ON FACEBOOK! @ChambersburgRecreationDepartment

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER! @ChambersburgRec



CHAMBERSBURG AQUATIC CENTER INFORMATION

Category	2023 Rates	2023 Boro Rates
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Parties During Operational Hours

Standard Pool Party

\$145	\$125
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- All parties include ONE coupon good for a free small ice cream at the concession stand which must be used during current season.
- 3 hours includes up to 30 people, children under age of 1 not included in this count.
- Each additional person, \$3 per person. Max amount of 50 people per party. May not schedule the same group back to back to create a 6 hour party package.
- Discounts at concessions (food options provided with reservation form)
- Parties may be scheduled beginning at 1 PM and be held in 3-hour increments. All parties must end by 7:45 PM.
- Picnic tables near mini golf (not under pavilion).
- One umbrella per table. Each table seats 8.

Pool Party with Pavilion Rental (Whole)

\$209	\$199
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- Includes all Pool Party options, but with tables under the pavilion instead of near mini golf. Seats approx. 75

Pool Party with Pavilion Rental (Half)

\$175	\$165
-------	-------

- Seats approx. 35

Pool Party with Event Room

\$185	\$169
-------	-------

- Capacity: approx. 30
- Includes all Pool Party options, but with Event Room instead of tables near mini golf. Tables / chairs provided.
- Time slots: 1-4 PM or 4:45-7:45 PM.

Pool Party with Picnic Pad Rental

\$165	\$139
-------	-------

- Includes all Pool Party options, but with Picnic Pad instead of tables near mini golf; Seats approx. 15 people
- Grill; Electricity
- Time slots: 1-4 PM or 4:45-7:45 PM

Full-Day Amenity Rental Rates – No Party

Pavilion, Full Day Rental

- Whole (seats 75)	\$99	\$85
- Half (seats 35)	\$79	\$69

Event Room Rental Only

- Capacity: approx. 30. Tables/Chairs provided.		
- During operational pool hours	\$29/hr	\$25/hr
- Before / After pool hrs. (year-round avail.)	\$45/hr	\$39/hr
- These rates apply to corporations as well.		

Picnic Pad, Full-Day Rental

- Seats approx. 12-15; Grill; Electricity	\$69	\$65
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Private Picnic Tables

- Includes 2 picnic tables	\$39	\$35
- Seats approx. 12-15		

*Full Facility Pool Rental after hours (8-10 PM)	\$475	\$465
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*Activity Area <u>Only</u> Rental after hours (8-10 PM)	\$149	\$129
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For more information about the Aquatic Center, visit our website at www.chambersburgpa.gov/rec_dep

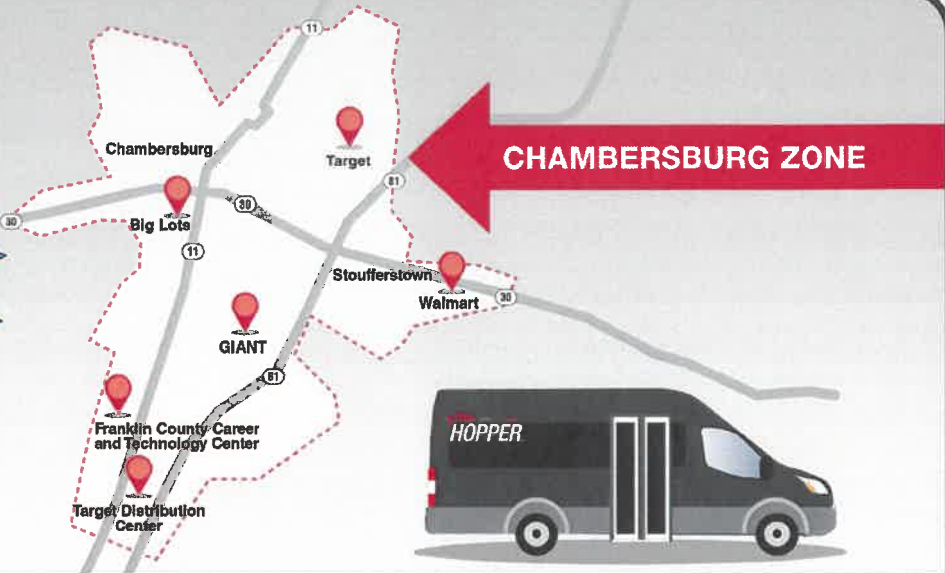
* Aquatic Center Special Events * Swimming Lessons * SPLASHtastic time

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FOLLOW US ON TWITTER! @ChambersburgRec

AVAILABLE NOW!
ONLY \$2 PER RIDE



The affordable way to get around, for everyone!

Stop Hopper is an on-demand microtransit shuttle service in Chambersburg available Monday-Friday, 6:30am-6:30pm. Booking a ride is available through the Stop Hopper app on a smart phone or by calling 1-800-632-9063. This popular service is available for everyone for just \$2/ride! Payment is made in cash, through the Token Transit app, or by credit card within the Stop Hopper app. The Stop Hopper vehicle can accommodate mobility devices like walkers and wheelchairs. Visit ridethestophopper.org to learn more about the specific service areas.

Seniors ride **FREE** with a PA Senior ID Card!

How to Ride:



1. Download the app and create your account.
If you have a smartphone, search "Stop Hopper" in your app store or scan the QR code.



2. Request a ride.
Enter your pick-up and drop-off addresses, and we'll send you some ride options! Choose the pick-up time that works best for you.



3. Meet your driver.
You'll meet your driver at your pick-up spot! Check your phone for updates when the vehicle is near or has arrived.



4. Hop on and enjoy your ride!
All vehicles are ADA accessible.



¡DISPONIBLE AHORA!

SOLO \$2 POR VIAJE



La manera asequible de viajar, ¡para todos!

Stop Hopper es un servicio de microtransporte a demanda en Chambersburg, disponible de lunes a viernes, 6:30 am - 6:30 pm. Puede reservar un viaje desde la app de Stop Hopper en su smartphone o llamando al 1-800-632-9063. ¡Este popular servicio está disponible para todos por solo \$2 por viaje! Se puede pagar en efectivo, por la app Token Transit o con tarjeta de crédito desde la app de Stop Hopper. Los vehículos de Stop Hopper se adaptan para llevar andadores o sillas de ruedas. Visite ridethestophopper.org para obtener más información sobre las áreas de servicio específicas.

¡Los adultos mayores viajan **GRATIS** con la PA Senior ID Card!

Cómo viajar:



1. Descargue la app y cree su cuenta.

Si tiene un smartphone, busque "Stop Hopper" en su tienda de aplicaciones o escanee el código QR.



2. Pida un viaje.

Ingrese la dirección de partida y de destino, ¡y le enviaremos opciones de viaje! Elija la hora más conveniente para usted.



3. Espere a su conductor.

¡Su conductor estará en el lugar de partida! Revise las notificaciones en su teléfono cuando el vehículo esté cerca o haya arribado.

¡Súbase y disfrute de su viaje!

Todos los vehículos son accesibles conforme la ley ADA.

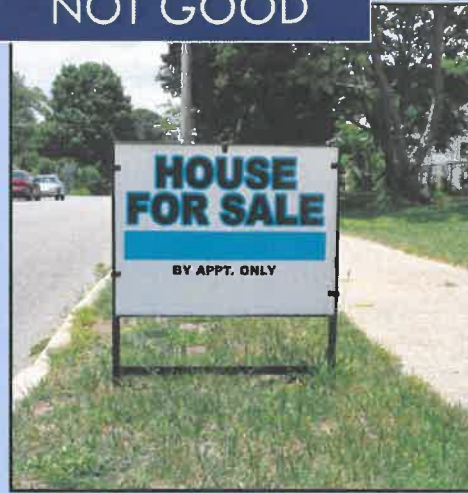


Chambersburg Local Law on Temporary Signs

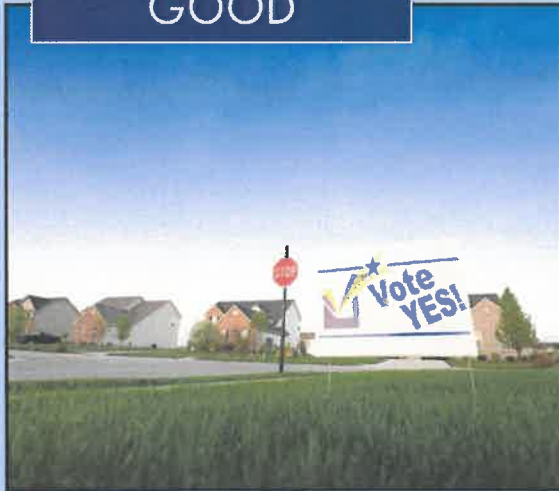
GOOD



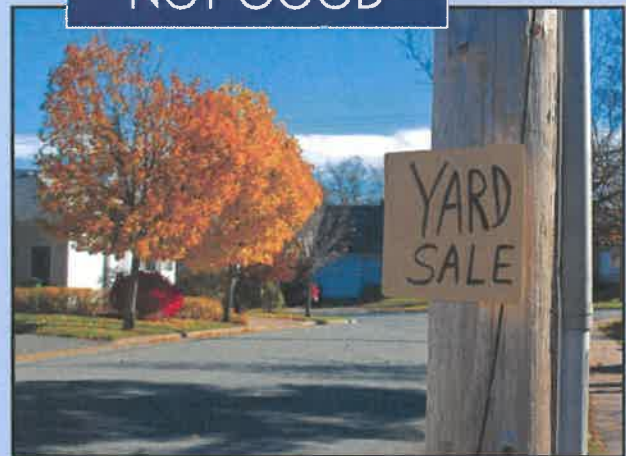
NOT GOOD



GOOD



NOT GOOD



WHERE ARE SIGNS GENERALLY PROHIBITED?

Essentially, the space between the building-side edge of the sidewalk and the curb **OR** about four to six feet from the street surface is considered the Right of Way. While the Right of Way may not be the same from street to street, it is generally the area near the street including grass areas along the street. Absolutely no signs are authorized in this area including (but not necessarily limited to) real estate signs, yard sale signs, political signs, lost animal signs, etc.

No signs on medians, traffic islands, street lights, traffic sign poles, and telephone poles and garbage cans (all of which are almost always inside the right of way).

Signs are prohibited in the "Right of Way"

Borough of Chambersburg—www.chambersburgpa.gov—For information call Code Enforcement at (717) 261-3232.

ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE WITH ON-TIME POSTAL DELIVERY OF UTILITY BILLS?

WE WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR **PETE** PROGRAM: **PETE STANDS FOR PAYMENTS EASILY TRANSFERRED ELECTRONICALLY**

A checking or savings account at any bank or credit union can be used, and there is no fee for this service. You will still receive a copy of your utility bill. The date that payment will be withdrawn from your account will be printed on your bill; this date will not be sooner than four (4) days before the due date of your utility bill. To sign up, please return an application along with a voided check, or a letter from your bank with the routing number & account number of the account you wish to use.

It can be mailed/dropped off with your payment, or sent on its own, or emailed to: jrutan@chambersburgpa.gov. You will receive a utility bill verifying your enrollment, when the process is complete. This will happen prior to the first automatic withdrawal. If you have questions, please call the main switchboard at (717) 264-5151, or stop by our office during regular business hours.



"PETE"
Payments
Easily
Transferred
Electronically

Let "PETE"
help you pay
your utility bill

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Jason Cohen, Director of Finance/Borough Treasurer

CHAMBERSBURG FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

In 2022, the Finance Department managed thirty-six state, federal, and local government grants, maintained 300+ loans totaling over \$1.24 million, facilitated three routine audits, processed and recorded over \$120 Million in accounts receivable, and over 8,000 accounts payable and internal transactions.

The Finance Department continues to work directly with the Borough's investment advisors – Truist Wealth, with \$53.2 million under management, in order to realize an average yield of 1.09%, with an average maturity of only 3 years, and an estimated annual income of \$552,509. The average S&P rating of the Borough's holdings is AAA. These increased returns should further lessen the burden on the Borough's tax and operating revenues for the funding of operations.

The Finance Department also administers the Borough's Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) solicitation campaign, in which tax exempt agencies that pay no property tax, yet still receive the benefit of municipal police and fire services, were requested to contribute towards those services, in lieu of taxes. The campaign raised \$30,373 to be used towards those services, which the Borough would not have otherwise received. This represents an increase of 8.4% when compared to PILOT's received in 2021. Revenues are anticipated to remain stable in 2023, as the economy hopefully normalizes.

The Finance Department also continued to administer the Borough's collections process, instituted in 2015, which resulted in the collection of 40% of delinquent debt, identified as collectible as of January 1, 2022, and total collections of delinquent debt exceeding \$130,000 – a figure that is

83% greater than last year (\$71,289), as we are effectively containing delinquency, but due to billing for more services, etc. This process has significantly mitigated the number of outstanding invoices being placed into third-party collections, and the Borough is exceeding the expected performance of third-party collection agencies by collecting 95% of debt within sixty days of delinquency.

Over the course of 2022, the Finance Department continued to administer an outreach campaign intended to increase customer participation in the electronic funds transfer program known as PETE (Payments Easily Transferred Electronically), in order to ensure timely and convenient payment of utility invoices. Participation increased by another 12%, for a total of 60% since beginning active promotion of the program in 2021. Participants now represent about 21% of our total utility accounts.

In 2022, The Finance Department, in cooperation with the Information Technology Department, began working with external partners to design and deploy a new customer portal designed to allow Borough utility customers to access their (and their tenants') utility accounts electronically, and make use of multiple modern automated and/or electronic payment types. Deployment is expected in the second quarter of 2023.

Finally, the Finance Department, again, proudly received recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association, via the award of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2021.

2022 ACTUAL & PROPERTY TAX RATES

REVENUES:

AMOUNT:

Taxes: Property, Wage, Deed Transfer, Emergency & Municipal & PILOT	\$12,962,255
Police Fines & Costs	\$147,191
Recreation Department - Pool & Park Receipts	\$208,185
Federal, State & Other Reimbursements	\$1,427,004
Licenses, Permits, Ambulance, & Other Receipts	\$15,948,051
Enterprise Funds	\$67,844,102
Internal Service Funds	\$13,754,892
Payroll, Employees' Pensions & Other Trust Funds	\$21,374,132
Surplus Operating Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$38,418,373
Surplus Special and Reserve Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$32,462,516

TOTAL RECEIPTS

\$204,546,700

Inter-Fund Transfers

\$18,217,003

TOTAL RECEIPTS AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS

\$222,763,704

APPROPRIATIONS:

Fire, Ambulance, & Police	\$15,644,130
Highway, Traffic & Lighting	\$2,793,652
Public Recreation	\$1,659,356
General Administration	\$3,232,522
Community Development	\$5,908,725
Enterprise Funds	\$74,778,497
Internal Service Funds	\$16,499,888
Payroll, Employee Pensions & Other Trust Funds	\$21,512,702
Surplus Operating Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$35,940,659
Surplus Special and Reserve Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$26,576,569

TOTAL EXPENDITURES

\$204,546,701

Inter-Fund Transfers

\$18,217,003

TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS

\$222,763,704

PROPERTY TAX RATES - DIRECT AND OVERLAPPING GOVERNMENTS

TAX YEAR	BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG	CHAMBERSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT	FRANKLIN COUNTY	FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY
2022	31 mils	122.4974 mils	29.10 mils	1.30 mils
2021	30 mils	118.9296 mils	29.10 mils	1.30 mils
2020	30 mils	118.9296 mils	29.10 mils	1.30 mils
2019	30.5 mils	115.019 mils	29.10 mils	1.05 mils
2018	30.5 mils	109.647 mils	27.60 mils	1.05 mils

1. Chambersburg Town Council adopts only the Borough rate; not the other rates.
2. Chambersburg Town Council did not raise taxes for six years prior to 2014.
3. Your Borough Property Tax represents only 17¢ of every \$1 paid in property taxes in 2022.
4. The Borough also collects Earned Income Tax, Deed Transfer Tax, and Local Services Tax.

2022 COUNCIL ROSTER

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Dominique J. Brown
335 Channing Drive
Third Ward - 2022-2025
djbrown@chambersburgpa.gov

Sharon A. Bigler
359 High Street
Fourth Ward - 2020-2023
sbigler@chambersburgpa.gov

Allen B. Coffman, President
112 Pennsylvania Avenue
First Ward - 2022-2023
acoffman@chambersburgpa.gov

Alice C. Elia
1447 Wilson Avenue
First Ward - 2020-2023
aelia@chambersburgpa.gov

Bill Everly, Vice President
910 Leidig Drive
Fifth Ward - 2020-2023
beverly@chambersburgpa.gov

**Thomas Newcomer,
Assistant Finance Chair**
129 Highfield Lane South
Second Ward - 2022-2025
tnewcomer@chambersburgpa.gov

John Huber, Finance Chair
234 S. Coldbrook Avenue
Second Ward - 2020-2023
jhuber@chambersburgpa.gov

Kathy J. Leedy
191 Eisenhower Drive
Third Ward - 2020-2023
kleedy@chambersburgpa.gov

Larry Hensley
110 Brookview Avenue
Fourth Ward - 2022-2025
lhensley@chambersburgpa.gov

Weston Waytow
744 E. Garfield Street
Fifth Ward - 2022-2025
wwaytow@chambersburgpa.gov

MAYOR

Kenneth Hock
406 S. Coldbrook Avenue
Chambersburg, PA 17201
Mayors Office: 717-261-3243
mayor@chambersburgpa.gov

COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00 P.M.
REGULAR PUBLIC GENERALLY:
2ND AND 4TH MONDAYS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
1ST FLOOR

OFFICE ADDRESS:
100 SOUTH SECOND STREET,
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201

CUSTOMER SERVICE:
(717) 264-5151

BOROUGH STAFF

Jeffrey Stonehill
Borough Manager
Director of Utilities
(b) 717-251-2433

Phil Wolgemuth
Deputy Borough Manager
Land Use and
Development Director
(b) 717-251-2436

Jamia L. Wright
Borough Secretary
(b) 717-251-2437

Cindy Harr
Assistant Borough Secretary
(b) 717-251-2447

G. Bryan Salzmman
Borough Solicitor
(b) 717-263-2121

Andrew J. Benchoff
Assistant Borough Solicitor
(b) 717-762-8222

Ron Pezon
Director of Electric
Planning & Compliance
(b) 717-251-2426

Jeff Heverley
Director of Electric Operations
(b) 717-251-2418

John Leary
Director of Natural Gas Utility
(b) 717-251-2422

Jon Mason
Assistant Director of
Natural Gas Utility
(b) 717-251-2423

Lance Anderson
Director of Water & Wastewater
(b) 717-251-2405

Charles Nipe
Director of Public Works
(b) 717-251-2496

A. Elwood Sord
Assistant Public Works Director
(b) 717-251-2479

Dustin Ulrich
Fire Chief & EMS Director
(b) 717-251-2475

Roland Camacho
Police Chief
(b) 717-264-4131

Julie Redding
Recreation Director
(b) 717-251-2470

Guy Shaul
Community & Economic
Development Specialist
(b) 717-251-2446

Andy Stottlemeyer
Storm Sewer System Manager
(b) 717-251-2434

Jason Cohen
Director of Finance/Treasurer
(b) 717-251-2412

Arnold Barbour
Sanitation and Recycling
(b) 717-261-3213

Brenda Hill
Borough Tax Collector
(b) 717-263-6565

Franklin Co. Area Tax Bureau
(b) 717-263-5141

BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG

100 SOUTH SECOND STREET | CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201
www.chambersburgpa.gov | Phone: (717) 264-5151
boroughsecretariesoffice@chambersburgpa.gov

*En el departamento de servicio
al cliente se habla Español.*

BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG
100 South Second Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201-0909

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
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THE MAILMAN
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CHAMBERSBURG PA 17201



BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG

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