



December 2014 Issue

FEW WORDS FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Dear Lyceum Newsletter Readers:

Thank you for your interest in the affairs of the Township and your subscription to this newsletter. Following is an update related to a number of ongoing matters of general interest:

Tercentennial (Tricentennial if you prefer) Celebration – On September 27th the Township held its Tricentennial celebration with a day of fun activities in the park. This was certainly a major milestone in the life of the Township and one which deserved our attention. Thanks to all who helped make this event a success and to all who came out to enjoy the day and this very special event.

Regional Policing – The study conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to assess the viability, cost and functionality of forming a regional police department is complete and the final report delivered to the participants in the study which included New Garden Township, Kennett Township, Kennett Square Borough and London Grove Township. So far, there is a high level of interest and great participation among these municipalities. Each municipality has agreed to take the next step in the process and evaluate the results of the study and begin to assess the viability of its implementation. Public input will be solicited early next year as the process moves forward.

Road Repairs – The Public Works Department has been doing a great job of keeping the Township's roads in decent condition; particularly after a very difficult winter. A number of roads have been paved, potholes have been patched, shoulders cleaned, base repairs made, road banks mowed, signs maintained and much more. With a limited staff and budget, certainly not all of the items on the list can be addressed in one season. Please be patient as the items on the list are addressed. If you have concerns about the condition of any of our roads, please send an email or call.

Sewer System – The process is ongoing with respect to investigating the sale of the sewer system. There are three well qualified entities which have expressed a very strong interest in purchasing the system and providing the service. The Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued and responses are due on December 4, 2014. The responses will then be carefully evaluated and the results made available in January 2015. There comes a time when owning and operating a system such as the one here in New Garden is best accomplished by an entity that is "in the business" as opposed to having local government involved.

2015 Budget – The Board of Supervisors has been working on the 2015 budget with the expectation the preliminary budget will be adopted in late November and the final budget adopted in December. The Supervisors have devoted several public meetings in October and November to the budget preparation process. Preparing the budget is a very challenging task with many competing interests. The Supervisors are committed to providing the highest level of services possible without unduly burdening the taxpayers of the Township.

Township Manager – By the time you read this edition of the Lyceum Newsletter the Supervisors will have named a permanent Township Manager. The expectation is that official action will be taken at the Board of Supervisors meeting scheduled for December 15th to appoint Mr. Tony Scheivert to the position. Tony comes with years of experience as an assistant township manager and broad experience in the township management.

Thank you again for your interest in the Township and subscription to this newsletter. We will continue to try our best to keep you informed.

Betty Gordon, Chair
Board of Supervisors