



Leet Township Newsletter

198 Ambridge Avenue
Fair Oaks, PA 15003
724-266-2280



Winter 2019

Visit our website: leettownship.org.

Leet Township Commissioners

Gary L. Bradel,
President
John J. Stephansky,
Vice President

James Janaszek
Jeff Besong
Donna Adipietro

Leet Township Contact Information

Betsy Rengers,
Township Manager,
Right to Know Officer
724-266-2280,
ext. 1

Cindy Phillips,
Secretary/Treasurer
724-266-2280 ext. 2

Bill Wanto, Chief of
Police
Non-emergency: 724-266-
6141

Fair Oaks Volunteer Fire
Department: Mark
Brooks, Fire Chief
Non-emergency: 724-266-
6133

Andy Wanto, Leet
Township Public Works
Foreman/Code
Enforcement: 724-266-
8072

Leet Township Municipal
Authority (sewer): Elaine
Macurak: 724-266-8516

Cindy Wanto, Tax
Collector, 724-266-2280,
ext. 3

Building Inspector
Brian Hill, 412-766-2565

Happy 150 Anniversary Leet Township!

On the 20th day of February 1869, a petition of diver (several) citizens of Sewickley Township, adjacent to the Ohio River and Sewickley Borough, was presented to court showing that they were labouring under many disadvantages in their connection with the back part of said Township and asking to have the new township erected out of that part of Sewickley Township lying between the river and the Ohio Township line. The new Township was to be called Leet.

After process and procedure, a vote of the citizens was taken on the 15th day of June 1869. The election results were as follows:

For Division: 88 votes
Against Division: 65 votes
Majority for Division: 23 votes

On June 26, 1869, Sewickley Township was officially divided into two townships with one known as Leet Township.

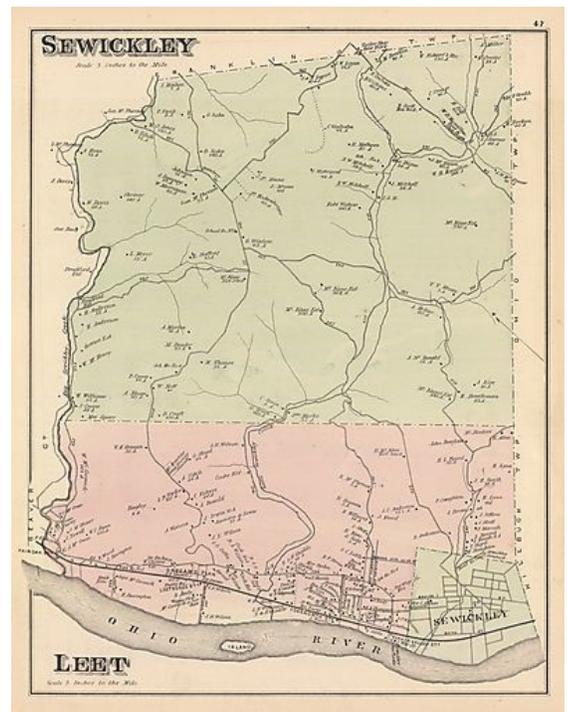


Through out the years, Leet Township has had a prolific history filled with famous residents and property owners; Robert Morris, Daniel Leet, the Shields Family, and the Hays Family to name a few. Leet Township had it's own train station at one time known as the Fair Oaks Station. D.T Watson was the site for historical medical break through's including Jonas Salk's polio vaccine. At one time, Leet Township had it's own school house called Fair Oaks School. Today, the Quaker Valley School District has purchased property in Leet with hopes of building a new high school. We will continue to highlight Leet's history in subsequent newsletters.

In celebration of Leet's 150th anniversary, we are in the process of creating a calendar of events to commemorate the anniversary.



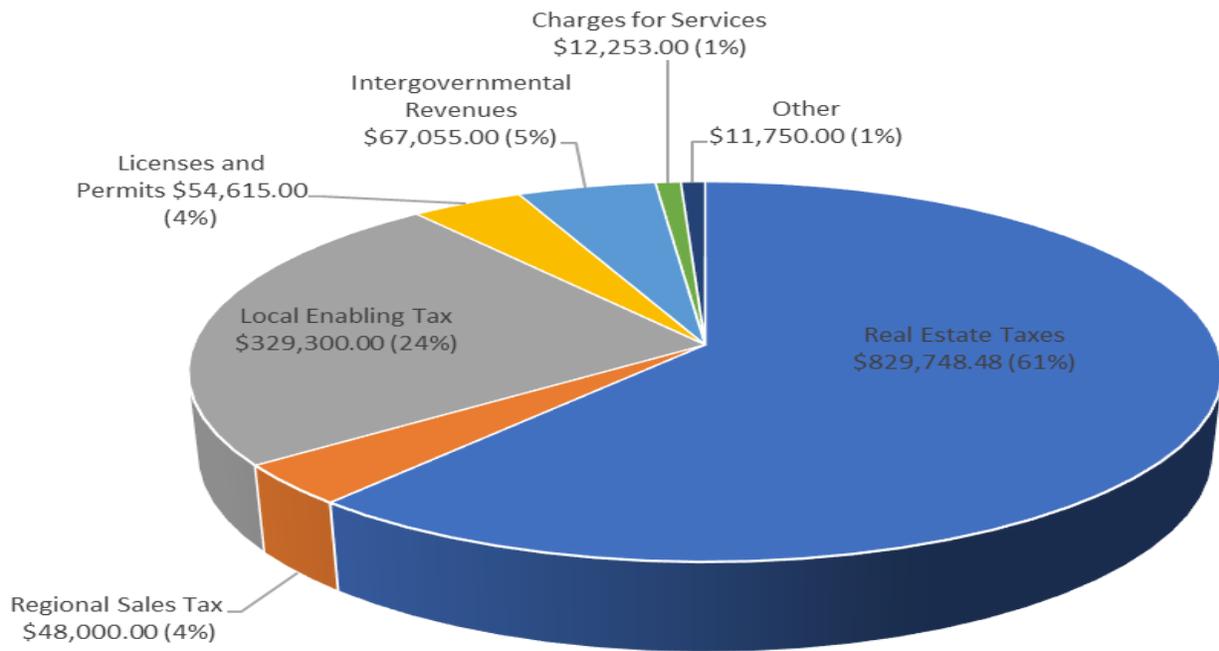
Fair Oaks School



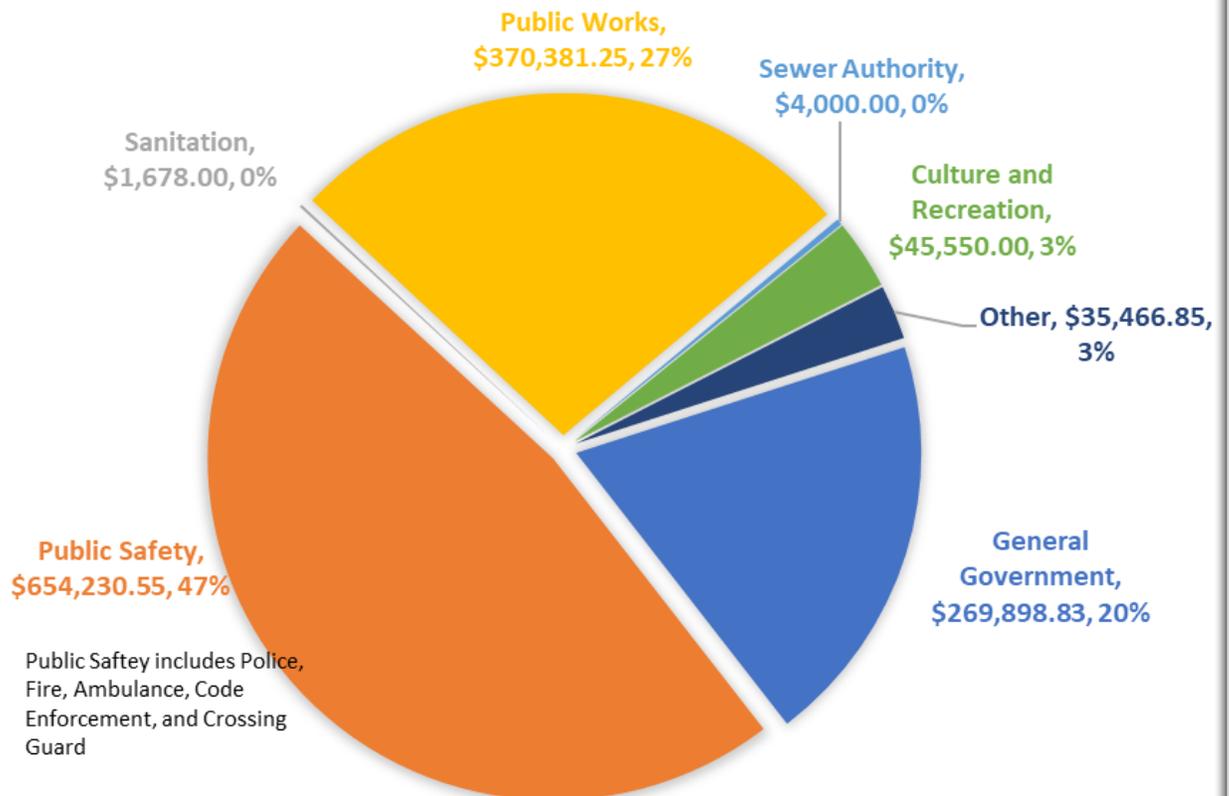
Sewickley Twp./Leet 1876

2019 Budget Highlights

2019 Leet Township Budget Income



2019 LEET TOWNSHIP BUDGET EXPENSES



2019 Pennsylvania Election Calendar

Leet Township has three open seats.

Municipal Primary - May 21, 2019

First day to obtain signatures for candidates' nomination petitions.	February 19
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County Board of Elections shall publish Primary Election Proclamation.	February 26
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Last day to circulate and file petitions.	March 12
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First legal date for Political Bodies and Minor Political Parties to obtain signatures to candidates' nomination papers.	March 13
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Last day candidate who has filed nomination petition may withdraw.	March 27
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Municipal Primary - Polls to remain open continuously between the hours of 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.	May 21
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Leet Township Representatives

U.S. Representative: (17th District)

Conor Lamb (D)
Pittsburgh Office:
504 Washington Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15228
412-344-5583
www.conorlamb.com

State Senatorial District: (37th District)

Guy Reschenthaler (R)
Robinson Twp. Office
5996 Steubenville Pike
Robinson Township, PA 15136
412-788-2967
www.senatorreschenthaler.com

Allegheny County Legislative Rep. (16th District)

Robert Matzie (D)
1240 Merchant Street, First Floor
Ambridge, PA 15003
724-266-7774
<http://www.pahouse.com/Matzie/Contact>

Allegheny County Council Districts: (2nd District)

Cindy Kirk
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
412-350-6490
cynthia.kirk@alleghenycounty.us

Leet Township Civil Service Board Alternate Needed

Thank you to Rich Guerreri for your service to the Civil Service Board. Thank you to Liesa Besong for taking Rich's place on the Board.

The Leet Township Civil Service Board is seeking a resident to fill the position of Alternate. This volunteer position serves a term of 6 years. The Alternate may participate in all discussions of the Civil Service Board, but may not vote. The Civil Service Commission meets, as needed, to provide for the examination of applicants to the position of the Police Department.

If you are interested in serving on this Board, please send your *Letter of Interest* to Leet Twp., 198 Ambridge Ave., Fair Oaks, PA 15003 by Feb. 7th.

BUILDING AND OCCUPANCY PERMITS

A Building Permit must be obtained from the Building Inspector before any existing or proposed building or alteration is made. This includes changes of grade, walls, fences, swimming pools, driveways, etc.

Occupancy Permits are required with each and every change in occupancy and annually if you are a landlord. If you need an Occupancy Permit, please call Jason Sarver at 412-766-2565 to schedule an inspection.

For building permits or if you have a question about requirements for a building permit, please call Leet Township Building Inspector Brian Hill at (412) 766-2565.



Leet Township Police Department
Non emergency: 724-266-6141

Chief William Wanto
Lieutenant Robert Simmons

Officer Ron Wilson
Officer Angel Moore
Officer Shawn English

Officer Mike Molinaro
Officer Barry McQuaid
Officer Mike Pszenney

Safe Winter Driving

Winter driving can be hazardous and scary, especially in northern regions that get a lot of snow and ice. Additional preparations can help make a trip safer, or help motorists deal with an emergency. This sheet provides safety information to your residents to help prevent motor vehicle injuries due to winter storms.

The three P's of Safe Winter Driving:

PREPARE for the trip; **PROTECT** yourself; and **PREVENT** crashes on the road.

PREPARE

Maintain Your Car: Check battery, tire tread, and windshield wipers, keep your windows clear, put no-freeze fluid in the washer reservoir, and check your antifreeze.

Have On Hand: flashlight, jumper cables, abrasive material (sand, kitty litter, even floor mats), shovel, snow brush and ice scraper, warning devices (like flares) and blankets. *For long trips, add* food and water, medication and cell phone.

Stopped or Stalled? Stay in your car, don't overexert, put bright markers on antenna or windows and shine dome light, and, if you run your car, clear exhaust pipe and run it just enough to stay warm.

Plan Your route: Allow plenty of time (check the weather and leave early if necessary), be familiar with the maps/ directions, and let others know your route and arrival time.

PRACTICE COLD WEATHER DRIVING!

During the daylight, rehearse maneuvers slowly on ice or snow in an empty lot. Steer into a skid.

Know what your brakes will do: *stomp on antilock brakes, pump on non-antilock brakes.*

Stopping distances are longer on water-covered ice and ice.

Don't idle for a long time with the windows up or in an enclosed space.

PROTECT YOURSELF

- Buckle up and use child safety seats properly.
- Never place a rear-facing infant seat in front of an air bag.
- Children 12 and under are much safer in the back seat.

PREVENT CRASHES

- Drugs and alcohol never mix with driving.
- Slow down and increase distances between cars.
- Keep your eyes open for pedestrians walking in the road.
- Avoid fatigue – Get plenty of rest before the trip, stop at least every three hours, and rotate drivers if possible.
- If you are planning to drink, designate a sober driver.

On-line Shopping Safety Tips

- Don't give your personal information unless you are absolutely sure that it is safe.
- This means where possible, not giving out your full name, your address, your phone number, your credit card number, your tax file number, or information on your family and friends.
- If you have to give a name to register or login to a forum or for some other online purpose, use a nickname or alias where possible.
- Sometimes you'll want to give personal details, including your credit card number, for shopping on the net. This is OK, as long as the online seller is reputable and has secure shopping facilities.
- Secure shopping means that they use secure servers which receive and store your personal information in encrypted form, so that if anyone intercepts your transaction, they won't be able to decode the data and get your details.
- Secure site pages will have addresses starting with 'https' rather than 'http' (e.g. you might browse around their site on unsecured pages, and then when you are ready to make a purchase, you'll be switched to secured pages).

Identity Theft

Identity theft is a crime where a criminal assumes someone else's identity for profit. It is becoming increasingly common in developed countries, especially the U.S. There is a multitude of ways your identity can be stolen. A few are listed below:

Bank Statements
Discarded Credit Card and ATM Receipts
Falsely Obtained Credit Card and ATM Receipts
Pre-Approved Credit Card Applications
Stolen Mail
Internet Websites
Theft of wallet or purse

Tips to Protect Yourself from Identity Theft:

- Shred sensitive documents with a personal shredder. Shredders with diamond cuts are best
- Don't give personal information over the phone
- Do not routinely carry your social security card or birth certificate in your wallet or purse.
- Disclose your social security number ONLY when absolutely necessary.
- Change your driver's license number to a randomly assigned "S" number.
- Contact card carriers (such as health insurance) who use your social security number as identification and ask if they can use a different identification number.
- Carry ONLY those credit cards you use regularly, and cancel all unused credit cards.
- Keep an accurate list of all credit cards and bank accounts including name, mailing address and telephone number of creditor, the account number, and expiration date. Update the list regularly and keep it in a secure place.
- Closely review all credit card statements each month to detect unusual activity or unauthorized charges.
- Destroy pre-approved credit card solicitations, contact all three major credit-reporting bureaus in writing and "opt-out" of pre-screening lists.
- You are entitled to a free copy of your credit report each year. Exercise this right, and check your credit report closely for accuracy.
- Do not use your year of birth or other easily identifiable code as a password or PIN for credit cards or ATM machines. Do not allow others to closely view you as you enter your password or PIN.
- Destroy all credit card and ATM receipts, do not discard them in banks or retail establishments.
- If you suspect that your mail is being stolen or tampered with, contact your local post office or postal inspector.
- Never give your PIN number out to someone over the telephone, even if they say that they work for the bank or financial company in question.



Fair Oaks Fire Department
190 Ambridge Avenue
Fair Oaks, PA 15003
Non-emergency:
724-266-6133
www.fovfd.org
Fire Chief: Mark Brooks



Volunteers Needed!

We need your help! A recent report finalized, at the state level, is predicting that the volunteer fire service in Pennsylvania is reaching a crisis stage. The report, released in November of 2018, was the work of a State Senate appointed committee that was to report and make recommendations on the current state of the volunteer fire and emergency medical services. The consensus of the report was that there is a looming crisis in funding, staffing and training of volunteer fire service providers in Pennsylvania. Below are a few excerpts from the report.

“According to the Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute, the number of volunteer firefighters has shrunk from 300,000 in the 1970’s to about 60,000 in the early 2000’s and to 38,000 in 2018. (See graph below as identified by the SR6 Government Support Subcommittee using statistics from the Office of the State Fire Commissioner.) And yet, Pennsylvania and its communities continue to rely in large measure on volunteers to perform this critical emergency response and public safety service. Of Pennsylvania’s 2,462 fire companies, more than 90 percent are volunteer companies.”

“The case for Pennsylvania playing a larger role in helping to maintain the viability of our volunteer emergency service organizations can easily be made in terms of public safety and funding needs. According to a 2001 Pennsylvania Fire and Emergency Services Institute Study, the value of the service that our volunteers provide was estimated at \$6 billion. That figure may be as high as \$10 billion in today’s dollars.”

“If we lose our volunteer fire and EMS companies and volunteers the taxpayers will face a very steep price tag.”

The full report can be found at the following link:

<http://pehsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/SR-6-REPORT-FINAL.pdf>

2019 Department Leadership



Assistant Chief Nathan Turner 20 years of service, Fire Chief Mark Brooks 34 years of service, President Mitch Soman 16 years of service.

The Leet Township community has always supported the department by attending our annual fund raiser “Turkey BINGO” and generously donates every year to the department’s fund drive. But what we can use are some enthusiastic volunteers who would like to train and serve the community as firefighters. **If you are interested in helping, please visit our web site at [www. FOVFD.org](http://www.FOVFD.org) or visit the station on training nights each Monday at 7 PM.**

**Leet Township Public Works
Andy Wanto, Foreman
724-266-8072**

2019 Recycling Guidelines

Lately, we have been hearing rumors and seeing stories on the local news about some changes going into effect in 2019 regarding recycling programs in the area. A lot of these reports seem confusing at times. We hear they won't take glass anymore, plastic bags are banned and considered contamination. It's alleged that if they notice any un-clean or otherwise contaminated items they will just throw it in with the trash.

While most of this may be true in different parts of the state, and even throughout Allegheny County, here in Leet Township, not much has changed. Recently, we reached out to Waste Management to inquire about some of these speculated changes and asked them to give us clarity on what our residents should expect for now and into the future.

According to the response from Waste Management, the only immediate change to our recycling program is no plastic bags. Apparently, when garbage bags or the ever classic "blue" bags (that are often mixed with recyclables) go through the sorting machines at the plant, they wrap around the belts and shut the plant operations down for however long it takes to unravel them and get them going again.

As for the glass situation; many recycle centers no longer take glass due to a lack of buyers. As of right now, this is not an issue in our area, however; we might see this change in the near future if the market doesn't expand. In other words, please keep recycling glass for the time being.

We also learned that many common items that citizens think are recyclable actually are not. Examples include; Styrofoam or clamshell to go containers, coffee and drink cups, and food stained or wet pizza boxes. Metal waste, such as car parts, propane tanks, lawn mowers, microwaves and furniture items should not be placed out for the recycle truck, but can be recycled at a scarp yard. Medical waste, such as syringes and needles should be carefully disposed of. Check with your doctor for disposal locations.

It's always a good practice to rinse out your cans, bottles and containers before recycling. For more information check out <https://recycleoftenrecyclerright.com/> and as always, please feel free to contact the Township Office with any questions.

Do not recycle these items in your Waste Management bin. You may recycle blue bags at the grocery store or Walmart.



Winter Weather/Snow Events

It looks like winter has finally arrived! Our public works team works 24/7 during snow events to keep the roads salted and plowed for our residents. Please help us with this task by parking in your driveways during snow events. This will allow the public works department to more efficiently clean your roadways.

Please make sure that your mail boxes and supporting post are in good condition and strong enough to withstand the force of snow pushed from the roads. The Township does not replace or repair mailboxes that are damaged or fall from the force of plowed snow that are not hit directly by the plow.

Please contact the Leet Township Public Works Department at 724-266-8072 if the snow plow damages your mail box and the Foreman will investigate.

Thanks!

Leet Township Meeting Dates/Times

Leet Township Board of Commissioners

Gary Bradel, President
 John Stephansky, Vice President
 Jim Janaszek
 Jeff Besong
 Donna Adipietro

2019 Meeting Schedule

All meetings held at:
 Leet Township Municipal Building
 198 Ambridge Ave
 Fair Oaks, PA 15003.

Meetings start at 7 p.m. are open to the public.

January 7
 February 11
 March 11
 April 8
 May 13
 June 10
 July 8
 August 12
 September 9
 October 14
 November 11
 December 9

Leet Township Municipal Authority

Gary Augustine, President
 Elaine Macurak, Vice President
 Fred Kellinger, Secretary
 Bill Wanto, Treasurer
 Matt Sample, Assistant Secretary

2019 Meetings Schedule

All meetings held at:
 Leet Township Municipal Building
 198 Ambridge Ave
 Fair Oaks, PA 15003.

Meetings start at 7 p.m. are open to the public.

February 5
 April 2
 June 4
 August 6
 October 1
 December 3

Leet Township Real Estate Tax Collection

Cindy Wanto
 Leet Township Municipal Building
 198 Ambridge Ave, Fair Oaks, PA 15003
 724-266-2280 x3

2019 Tax Collection Hours:
TBD

Quaker Valley School District Tax Collector

Jordan Tax Service
 Attn: QVSD TAX
 102 Rahway Road
 McMurray, PA 15317
 724-731-2300

Municipal Real Estate Taxes	Due Date
2% Discount	March 15th– May 15th
Face	May 16th– July 15th
Penalty	After July 15th
Turned over to Portnoff (Delinquent Tax Collector)	December 31st
School Tax	Due Date
2% Discount	July 1st– Aug. 31st
Face	Sept. 1st – Oct. 31st
Penalty	After Oct. 31st
Turned over to Jordan (School District's Delinquent Tax Collector)	April 30th
School Tax Installments (No discount)	Due Date
1st Payment	Aug. 31st
2nd Payment	Sept. 30th
3rd Payment	November 30th
4th Payment	Jan. 31st

The government is us; we are the government, you and I.

Theodore Roosevelt