



Leet Township Newsletter

198 Ambridge Avenue
Fair Oaks, PA 15003
724-266-2280
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday -Friday

Fall 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, option 1

Cindy Phillips, Treasurer 724-266-2280, option 2

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

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

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

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

Cindy Wanto, Local Real Estate Tax Collector: 724-266-2280, option 3

Building Inspector:
Brian Hill: 412-766-2565

Occupancy Permits: Jason Sarver 412-766-2565

Curbside Leaf Removal Service

Public Works will begin curb-side leaf pick-up the week of October 7th and continue until the week of December 9th, weather permitting.

We ask residents to place their leaves in rows as close to the roadside as possible. Please avoid piling leaves by mailboxes, underneath trees and shrubs, near yard ornaments, and decorations, or in any other hard to reach places, as they may not get picked up.

Please do not mix grass clippings, mulch, sticks or any other yard waste in the piles! It can damage our equipment, and shut us down for unnecessary repairs and maintenance. We will not pick up leaves from hard to reach areas, or if they contain any yard waste/debris. If this situation occurs, please check that your pile is in a good location for pickup and/or remove any debris so we can get it the next time we come around.

Feel free to bag up grass clippings or other yard waste and place it out for regular scheduled garbage pick-up. If you use a contractor for yard maintenance, please advise them of our policies. Thank you!

Trick or Treat Night in Leet Township/Fair Oaks

Thursday, October 31st from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Stop by the Leet Township Police Station before you go Trick or Treating to pick up a *Free* reflective Trick or Treat bag and glow stick. (one per child, please, while supplies last)



Leet Township Board of Commissioners
Gary L. Bradel, President
John Stephansky, Vice President
Jim Janaszek
Jeff Besong
Donna Adipietro

Leet Township 2019 Audits in Review

2019 proved to be a very busy year for Leet Township. Take a look at our accomplishments:

DCED Audit: The Township is subject to annual audits starting with the DCED (Department of Community and Economic Development) Audit. This audit is completed by a CPA and due in March. It reflects revenues and expenditures.

Liquid Fuels Audit: The Township receives monies from the State for Township owned roads. These monies can only be used for certain items regarding road work and payments for streetlights and streetlight usage.

Uniformed and Non-Uniformed Pension Audit: These audits are comprehensive and based on revenues and expenditures of the respective accounts throughout the year. The Township is careful to follow the guidelines set for the use and purpose of these monies and keeps careful documentation of all transactions. The Township works with an Actuary and CPA firm to manage these accounts.

General Audit: The Township has an annual comprehensive audit of all Township finances including the pension plans. This audit takes into account all of the Township's assets: roads, buildings, parks, and greenspace and then looks at the Township's liabilities. This year's audit results for 2018 were exceptional! The Auditor reported to the Board that the Manager had addressed and corrected every issue from the 2017 General Audit, had cut spending and had finished the year with a large increase to the fund balance.

MS4 Audit: The Township received its first Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Audit (MS4). The auditor reviewed the Township's stormwater management plan along with the public education and outreach campaign. The auditor was very complementary of the Manager and Foreman for implementation of the plans and the Township received a high score.

In conclusion, there were no comments or findings received on any of the Township audits. The auditors were very complementary of the management of the Township.

Neighborhood Work in Review

Olde Sewickley Highlands: This year the Township removed several diseased and hollow trees from the island at Olde Sewickley Highlands. The upgrades will continue in 2020 with more improvements to the island. The Township is in the process of budgeting for this project.

Fair Oaks: This year Leet Township was awarded \$65,412.00 through the Community Development Block Grant. These monies will be used to upgrade and install new sidewalks for a portion of Ambridge Ave. The Township has applied for Phase Two of this project through the Quaker Valley COG. If awarded, Phase Two would begin in 2020.

Leet Acres: A big thanks goes to Gary Bradel who gifted the township four vacant lots located along Ridge Street in Leet Acres.

Quaker Heights Park : The upgrade of playground equipment continued this year with the installation of a new swing set. The playground received a new layer of mulch, the gazebo was painted and a picnic table was installed. Electricity was installed in the park and the island on Pilgrim Drive. Lighting was added to the entrance to enhance the landscaping. A new street light was added to Alden Drive.

Thanks to Commissioner John Stephansky

As the year comes to a close, we thank Commissioner John Stephansky for his hard work and diligence with the Township. John served on the Board for 16 years, and was on and off the Board prior to that, creating a wealth of knowledge and history with the Township. John is the Public Works Commissioner whose main focus was management of the Department. His knowledge was unprecedented when it came to the equipment that was needed, contracts, and working with the Engineer. John was a reliable resource for support of this department. John was also on the Finance Committee and kept a close eye on Budgeting and expenses.

Thank you John!

Thanks to Commissioner Jeff Besong

Thank you to Jeff Besong for four years of service as Leet Township Commissioner. Jeff's training and experience is unparalleled. Jeff could always be counted on for help with human resource issues and he also serves as the Chair of the Finance Committee. Jeff is a reliable source when it comes to law enforcement and his talent and influence will be missed!

Thank you Jeff!

Leet Township Purchases New Building

In the late 1970's, the Township built a municipal building on property located in Fair Oaks. At the time the building was constructed, it was supposed to last for 25 years. Forty-some years later, the building is still standing and has developed a multitude of major and costly maintenance issues. This spring, an opportunity to purchase the building adjacent to the Township building came about. After many public meetings, the Township was successful in acquiring the property. The Township now owns four adjacent lots on Ambridge Avenue from the Fair Oaks Fire Department to the Leet Township Municipal Building. The Township is in the process of preparing the building for the Administration and Police Department to move in. The building also has a large Commissioners' Chamber area. The Township will notify residents with a post card once we have a move in date and we will hold an open house for residents to visit.





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



HALLOWEEN FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Make Halloween safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips...

- Use a battery-operated candle or glow-stick in jack-o-lanterns.
- When choosing costumes, stay away from long trailing fabric.
- Teach children to stay away from open flames including jack-o-lanterns with candles in them.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources like lightbulbs and heaters.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations so nothing blocks escape routes. Make sure all smoke alarms in the home are working.

CHECK OUT SPARKY.ORG FOR MORE SPOOKY FUN!

The NFPA logo, featuring a red flame icon inside a white square with the letters "NFPA" below it. The name and logo Sparky are trademarks of the NFPA.



Leet Township Police Department

Non-emergency: 724-266-6141

CHIEF WILLIAM WANTO
LIEUTENANT BOB SIMMONS

Officer Ron Wilson
Officer Mike Molinaro
Officer Shawn English
Officer Nate Swierkosz

Officer Angel Moore
Officer Barry McQuaid
Officer Mike Pszenny

Leet Township Police Department History

As a continuation of the last newsletter and my research into the history of the Leet Township Police Department, I would like to fast forward a bit to the 1964-1969 era. The reason I chose this time period is because it was at this point that the Police Department assumed its role as a full time 24-7 department. With the development of homes in Quaker Heights and on Buhlmont Drive, it was deemed necessary to expand the department to include several more officers than normally hired. In 1964, the department had only two officers, Harry Savage and Steve Kucan. Both were allotted up to 24 hours per month at a salary of \$48.00. These officers were often "on call" and received calls at home. Also, the department maintained a "School Officer" (Foster Mellott) at a salary of \$35.00 per month. At that time there was no designated Chief of Police. That changed in June of 1965 when Stanley Lapinski was hired as Chief.

Several changes also took place such as the purchase of a fully equipped patrol car. A few items of note...it wasn't until late 1966 that the car was equipped with a speedometer clock and in July of that year, Chief Lapinsky was given an award for outstanding achievement by the Ambridge Area Chamber. Leroy Zimmel and John Villella were appointed Special Police to focus on speeders on Main and Ambridge Ave. For those of us who knew Leroy, you know he took that seriously.

In 1966 -1967 the department consisted of Chief Lapinsky, Richard Schaffer, and Jim Flevaris. Later additions of John Seech and John Villella came in 1967. A bid was approved by the Board to purchase a patrol car from Gourley Chevrolet in 1967 for \$2,393.00. Today \$38,000.00 is the norm. In September 1968, Solicitor Ludwig informed the Board that under 1st Class Township Code they had the authority to create and maintain a department through standards created by the State. The Township hired Rutherford Gregory, Mike Lucas, and Sam Guido that year. Some of the complaints during this period involved mostly juvenile complaints with "kids creating trouble" (c'mon, you know who you were). Of course, traffic was always a concern. Several residents from Quaker Heights had concerns over burglaries at the time.

Note: I enjoy researching this history and if anyone has questions or can add to it, I would love to hear from you.

~Chief Wanto~

Get your Free Trick or Treat Bag

During the week of October 28th stop by the Leet Township Police Station to get a reflective Trick or Treat Bag containing treats.

Happy Halloween
from the Leet Township Police Department!

LEET TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Foreman: Andy Wanto

724-266-8072

Department Hours: Monday –Friday 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Keep Leet Neat Initiative

Take a look around your property: is it neat and clean, free of debris, cardboard boxes, junk vehicles, construction supplies and garbage in general? Leet Township residents take pride in their neighborhoods. If your yard or front/back porch needs a little attention, please take care of the issue. It will make your neighbors happy and prevent you from receiving a violation letter from the Code Enforcement Officer and possibly a fine.

Leet Township subscribes to the International Property Maintenance Code. This code speaks to property maintenance to help insure the health, safety and welfare of our residents. Properties should be keep free of debris, old tires, and junk. Entryways into homes should be accessible and free of clutter in case of an emergency. Cars must be registered and have current inspection stickers.

The Township has been sending letters to those in violation of the Property Maintenance Code. The letter includes request for the issue to be resolved in a timely fashion. If the issue is not resolved in the time allotted, an “in house” fine may be issued. Avoid a fine or possible trip to the Magistrate; please help us Keep Leet Neat!

Testing for Contaminants of Water Ways in Leet Township

Leet Township does regular testing for contaminants in Big and Little Sewickley Creeks to make sure that they fall within certain quality levels in order to be in compliance with our Municipal Separate Stormwater Permit. Leet Township also conducts a public outreach to educate residents about clean stormwater and how our behaviours effect our waterways.

Please remember that our storm drains discharge directly into Big and Little Sewickley Creeks. Help us protect the aquatic life that depends on these creeks by making sure to pick up dog waste, wash your car at a car wash, discharge your pools and hot tubs according to DEP regulations, such as, into your sewer drain or into a vegetated area in your yard, and don’t dump anything into the storm drains.

For more information on clean stormwater practices please visit:
<http://leettownship.org/stormwater-education/>



Plum Street Park Pavilion Closes for the Season

After another great summer season,
Plum Street Park Pavilion will close:
Week of October 14th

Join our Notification System: Swift 911

Go to <http://leettownship.org/> to add your contact information to Leet Township Swift 911 to receive emergency notifications and announcements from the Township.



Dispose of Old and Unwanted Medications



Dispose of your old and unwanted medications at the Township Building in the MedReturn box located on the front porch, 198 Ambridge Ave., Fair Oaks, PA 15003.

Be sure to properly dispose of your household hazardous waste.



Contact Waste Management to use the
At Your Door Special Collection Service

Call 1-800-449-7587 or visit
www.WMAtYourDoor.com for more information

Available to residents at no additional cost to participate.

At Your Door
Special CollectionSM



Waste Management Holiday Pickup Schedule

There is no change to the pickup schedule through the holiday months.



New Lines at Quaker Heights Entrance

Thank you to resident Tom Weber for his suggestions and help with design of the line placement at the entrance to Quaker Heights. The Township worked all summer to get the electricity and lighting installed. The finishing touch was the line striping!

2019 Important Dates



Daylight Savings Time

Daylight Savings Time begins November 3rd.
Turn your clocks back and enjoy an extra hour of sleep.

Election Day

Election Day will be held on November 5th. Fair Oaks Residents may cast their votes at the Fair Oaks Fire Hall. Residents located in the Camp Meeting Road area may cast their votes at Health South. Polling hours are from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Leet Township Board of Commissioners Meetings 724-266-2280

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

Meetings are open to the public.

- ⇒ October 14th-Regular Meeting (7 pm)
- ⇒ October 23rd-Budget Meeting (6 pm)
- ⇒ November 11th-Regular Meeting –Reading of the Budget(7 pm)
- ⇒ December 9th-Regular Meeting (7 pm)

Leet Township Municipal Office Holiday Schedule

The Municipal Office will be closed the following days:

Thursday, November 28th(Thanksgiving Day)
Friday, November 29th
Tuesday December 24th
Wednesday December 25th

Leet Township ushers in the Holiday Season!

Join us at
Ambridge Avenue Park
for

Leet Township's
Gazebo and Tree Lighting Ceremony!



To be held on
Thursday, November 21st
from 7-8 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served.
Quaker Valley High School will provide music.

