

# Feasibility Study for Social Hall Completed

In April of 2019 the Township assumed ownership of the Firemen's Social Hall at 5400 Dutch Ridge Road. In 2020 the Board of Supervisors appointed a Study Committee to evaluate the structure and determine it's best use to continue to serve the needs of the community. The Study Committee included representation from the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Parks and Recreation Board, Brighton Township VFD, Cub Scout Pack 499 and the Township Manger. A planning team was utilized by the Committee consisting of Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. and the architectural firm of Moshier Studio. The Committee held a series of meetings, including two public meetings and one joint public meeting with the Board of Supervisors during which their recommendations and feasibility study were presented.

Consistent with past planning efforts, including the comprehensive plan, the Committee found that the Township lacks an indoor recreation center facility that can be used by the Parks and Recreation Board for events or programming. The Township also has excess demand for indoor rental

space. The recommendations included renovations that bring the facility into compliance with the 2010 ADA Standards and Accessibility Design Requirements, and implement energy efficient and sustainable design elements. Likewise, the site development will implement stormwater controls, including retention, and the parking lot will be reconstructed for ADA compliance, improved access, traffic flow and increased green space.

The recommendation includes the ability to split the large room into two independent spaces through the use of a room divider. Each space will have toilet rooms and access to a renovated catering kitchen. Storage space for tables and chairs is provided for both areas. The lower area will also be renovated for use. The exterior renovations include new siding and windows and a proposed deck.

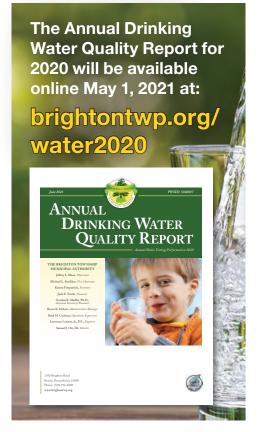
The full 2021 Indoor Recreation Center Feasibility Study is available on the Planning Page of the Township website. Grant applications are now being prepared to assist in the funding of the proposed renovations.

Exterior view of Social Hall from Dutch Ridge Road



## Inside this Issue

2020 Police Department & VFD Annual Reports2-3
Township to Relocate Police Department
Planning Commission Annual Report4
Leaf Waste Collection Program, Permit Renewal9
Delinquent Collection of 2020 Stormwater Service Fee10
MS4 Updates10
Comprehensive Plan Project Update11



## 2020 Annual Police Department Report

## Chief of Police Howard Blinn has issued the following Department statistics for 2020:

Hours Worked ......34,621 Miles Patrolled......137,405 Accidents Investigated ......64 Criminal Arrests.....89 Moving Traffic Citations Issued......1,097 Nonmoving Traffic Citations Issued......62 **Traffic Warnings** Issued......136 Parking Violations......14 Fines Collected......\$42,099 Homes Security Alarms Answered ...... 127 Assists to Other Departments ......199 911 Calls ...... 154 Aid to Sick or Injured ......629 Animal Calls......121 Vacation Checks ......30 Chief Blinn thanks all Township residents for their kind support to the Department and encourages the reporting of all suspicious activity to the Police Department. Please be reminded of the following:



### **LOCK VEHICLES**

Vehicles parked outdoors should be locked at all times, especially when parked upon a street. Do not leave valuables (purses, laptops, etc.) within the vehicles. Unlocked vehicles are an easy and common target for theft.



### **VACATION CHECKS**

If you are going to be away from your home for a period of time, the police department will make periodic checks on your residence while you are away. Prior to leaving, phone the department at 724-728-1134 with departure and return dates.



### **DOGS**

It is unlawful for the owner of any dog in Brighton Township to permit the dog to run at large upon any street or upon the property of any other than the owner or keeper. Violators are subject to penalties. Dogs are prohibited in Township Parks, other than areas specifically designated.



### **SOLICITING OR PEDDLING**

Soliciting and peddling is regulated within the Township and requires the securing of a license. Soliciting or peddling is prohibited on Sundays and holidays, before 9:30 a.m. or after sunset or 6:00 p.m., whichever occurs first.



### **PARKING**

Vehicles must be parked on the right-hand side of the road with the flow of traffic or it will be subject to ticketing.



### **CURFEW**

It is unlawful for any person under the age of 18 years to be or remain in or upon any street, park or public place in the Township between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless a parent, guardian or other person having legal custody, accompanies the person.

**Township Supervisors** 

Business Check/Closure......239

John Curtaccio, Chairman Mark Piccirilli, Vice Chairman James E. Equels, Sr., Supervisor Bryan K. Dehart, Manager Kathryn L. Johnston, Solicitor

Ned Mitrovich & Marie S. Hartman Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering, Inc. Township Engineer Municipal Authority 724-774-4800

Jeffrey S. Maze, Chairman

Michael L. Keeliher, Vice Chairman

Kerien Fitzpatrick, Secretary

Jack E. Erath, Treasurer

Gordon R. Sheffer, Ph.D., Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Sewage Authority 724-774-4800

Gordon R. Sheffer, Ph.D., Chairman

Jeffrey S. Maze, Vice Chairman

Jack E. Erath, Secretary

Kerien Fitzpatrick, Treasurer

Mark Piccirilli,

Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

# Officer Joshua Curtaccio Recognized



While on patrol Officer Joshua Curtaccio observed smoke coming from a non-typical location. By promptly investigating the situation he was able to identify a structure on fire. He quickly radioed County Dispatch of the fire and notified the occupant to vacate the

home. Through the use of a fire extinguisher he was able to put the fire out and minimize damage to the home. The Township would like to recognize Josh for his quick actions and fulfilling the police oath to serve and protect life and property.

# Welcome Officer Kevin Margetic

Kevin Margetic is the newest full-time police officer with the Brighton Township Police Department, beginning in May. He has worked part-time with the Department since 2018. We wish him a long and successful career with Brighton Township.



# **Township to Relocate Police Department**

The Township has entered into an agreement for the purchase of the PA State Police Barracks property located at 1400 Brighton Road. The property owner is Mercier Straight Investments, LLC. The purchase price is \$555,000. The property market value was determined to be \$565,000 based upon a professional real estate appraisal. The intended use is the relocation of the Brighton Township Police Department. The availability of the State Police Barracks was a unique opportunity to serve the long-term needs of the Department since the building's interior construction and centralized location specifically meet the needs of the Police Department. The building has sufficient space to accommodate the 13 member full-time police force, including specialized rooms, locker rooms and sufficient desk space/work areas to accommodate each officer. The new facility has independent male and female restrooms, and a restroom for the public or detainees. The additional space will serve the Department's needs for the foreseeable future.

## V.F.D. 2020 Annual Report

Fire Chief Mitchell Curtaccio has issued the following 2019 statistical report for the Brighton Township Volunteer Fire Department.

TYPE	NUMBER
Structural	17
Fire Alarms	89
Brush	10
Vehicle Accidents	33
Vehicle Fires	5
QRS	298
Service Calls (i.e. CO Alarms, Gas leaks, Wires down, etc.	c.)98
TOTAL CALLS	550

The Fire Department is still in need of volunteers willing to join and help protect and serve our community. Do you want to join them? All training and equipment is provided by the Department. Volunteering provides an opportunity to serve and give back to the community. If you are interested or just want to investigate membership further, please visit Fire Station #3 located on Grange Road behind the Social Hall on any Monday night between the hours of 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. The other volunteers look forward to meeting you and answering your questions. Or, e-mail us at station63@comcast.net if you want more information or are interested in volunteering.



**SMOKE DETECTORS** — Several years ago the Fire Department instituted a smoke detector program to provide free smoke detectors to Township residents in need. For more information about the program or how to obtain free smoke detectors please contact the station at staton63@comcast.net or 724-495-3803.



FIRE HYDRANTS — Township Code makes it unlawful for any person, other than those authorized by the Township, Fire Department or Municipal Authority, to open, tamper with or interfere in any manner with any fire hydrant. Violators are subject to a \$1,000 fine. No obstructions are to be planted, constructed or placed within six (6) feet of any hydrant to permit unrestricted access to the hydrant in the case of an emergency.



**BURNING** — Burning of household papers or other permitted refuse must be done within a salamander wire basket or masonry enclosure with a top to prevent fly ash from escaping. Such burning is prohibited on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays or legal holidays. Burning is permitted Wednesday through Saturday between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please monitor all outdoor burning activity closely to prevent brush and other wild fires.



**DONATIONS** — If you wish to financially support the Fire Department, donations can be made online through the BTVFD website www.brightontwpvfd. org or by check to BTVFD and mailed to 84 Grange Road, Beaver, PA 15009.

# **Brighton Township Planning Commission 2020 Annual Report**

### 2020 Commission Members:

William L. Snider, Chairman Jeffrey S. Maze, Vice Chairman Karen Green, Secretary Tim O'Brien Mark Piccirilli Matthew Stewart Kimberly Radler Kathryn L. Johnston, *Solicitor* 

## Subdivision & Land Development Application Plan Reviews:

1.	County of Beaver Plan of Subdivision	
	Number 2	.2 Lots @
2.	Deerfield Plan of Lots Phase No. 1	.40 Lots
3.	Lenore P. Radler Plan	.2 Lots *#@
4.	Plan of Lot Revision for	
	Ceravolo & Defrancesco	.2 Lots **@
5.	Bertoni Plan of Lots (Consolidation)	.1 Lot *@
6.	Lynda Bateman Plan No. 2	.2 Lots *@
7.	Jenkins, Suder, Bobish & Dinan	
	Plan of Subdivision	.2 Lots #@
8.	Furgiuele Subdivision Plan No. 1	.2 Lots @
9.	Beaver Woods Parcel B Lot 56	
	Consolidation Plan	.2 Lots *@
10	. Mixter Plan of Lots	.3 Lots *@

- @ Denotes final approval granted by Board of Supervisors plan recorded.
- Denotes 1 lot with existing dwelling/building.
- # Denotes lot with non-building waiver

During 2020 the Commission concluded review and recommendations on a number of applications that were filed in 2019 and included on the Annual Report for 2019.

### Conditional Use

The Commission heard and made recommendations on the Conditional Use application for Clover Communities Brighton LLC for a Senior Housing use within the HC-1 Health-Care Service District. The project is a 4-story 116 unit apartment complex.

### Comprehensive Plan

During 2020 the Planning Commission began preparation of a new Comprehensive Plan. The previous comprehensive plan was adopted in July 1999 and last updated in 2007. The Township engaged Envision Group LLC to prepare the plan. The process has included a series of Study Committee meetings. Key person interviews were conducted and questionnaires/surveys have been conducted on-line and in print. The time-frame for preparation has been extended due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Commission will complete the plan during 2021.



# **Building & Zoning Permit Requirements**

Brighton Township has adopted the International Construction Code (ICC) to regulate all construction within Brighton Township, with the exception of a few items that have been excluded pursuant to The Pennsylvania Construction Code Act, as amended. However, a Zoning Permit is required for all construction activity, including items that may be excluded by the Act.

Confirmation of compliance with the ICC is by site inspections that are conducted by certified building inspection officers. The Township has contracted with the Middle Department Inspection Agency (MDIA) to perform plan reviews and inspection services. MDIA also issues final occupancy permits. Applicants for building permits are required to submit documentation with the application that the proposed construction complies with the code. These codes apply to general construction, plumbing, electrical and HVAC/Mechanical.

Due to the plan review requirements of the ICC, please allow more time for the processing and review of your permit application if you are planning a construction project this year. You may also visit the Applications and Forms Page within the Resident's Center at brightontwp.org where Customer Assistance Guides have been posted to assist you through the permitting process.

Do you have code questions? Contact: **Chris House, Building/ Plumbing/Electrical Inspector at (800) 922-6342.** 

## **Building Permit Activity for 2020**

Estimated Construction Value	\$10 607 967
Nonresidential	12
Pergola/Gazebo	2
Building Repairs/Remodel	1
Solar Panels	21
Swimming Pools	17
Sheds/Pole Bldgs./Barns	29
Garages/Carports	8
Porches/Decks	15
Residential Additions	7
Demolitions	6
Single Family Dwellings	23

## Real Estate Tax Office

The elected Real Estate Tax Collector, James W. Onuska would like each property owner to be aware of the following:

- The 2021 Brighton Township Real Estate Tax bills were mailed March 1, 2021.
- If a mortgage company does not hold your taxes in escrow and you did not receive your tax bill, please contact the tax collector.
- The 2021 Beaver Area School District Real Estate Tax bills will be mailed July 1, 2021.
- Unpaid 2020 Beaver Area School District Real Estate Tax bills were filed on April 1, 2021 at the Court House.

### Office Hours:

Tuesday:	4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday:	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursday:	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

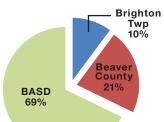
Personal appointments may be made by contacting the tax office.

The tax collection office is located in the lower level of the Municipal Building, 1300 Brighton Road. A drop box has been installed for your convenience. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact James W. Onuska, Brighton Township Real Estate Tax Collector at 724-774-2622.

NOTE: When mailing, please do not include your tax payments within the same envelope as your water & sewer payments. These items should be mailed independent of each other. Those utilizing bill payment services should also notify their bank of this requirement.

### **Real Estate Tax Dollar**

Taxing District	Mills Assessed	
Brighton Township	12.0	
Beaver County	26.0	Real Estate
Beaver Area School	85.2	Tax Distribution



## Example of House Assessed at \$35,000

Township Tax 12.0 mill x \$35,000 = \$420.00 County Tax 26.0 mill x \$35,000 = \$910.00 School Tax 85.2 mill x \$35,000 = \$2,982.00

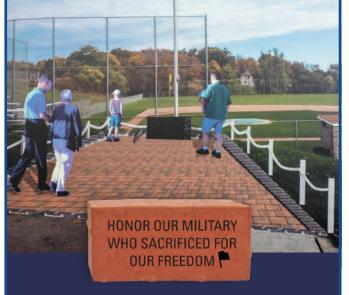
Total \$4,312.00

# WE'VE LOST ONE OF OUR OWN



Funds are still being collected to be able to construct the war memorial this year.

Shown Left: USAF Staff Sergeant Dylan Elchin, who gave his life in 2018 while deployed in Afghanistan.



All donations will be administered by Legacies Alive.

If you have questions or wish to help, please contact Ron Bogolea at 724-495-3238 or rle8@students.ptcollege.edu

More details including on how to donate:

https://bthtwarmemorial.com



## **FREE BUS TRIPS** to Washington D.C. **National Memorials**

There will not be a May 2021 trip to visit the Washington D.C. national memorials such as the WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery. However - plans are underway for an early October 2021 trip. The team is working on a special attraction to be added for that trip.

Look for more information in the next newsletter and on the Township's social media platforms. These trips are provided at no cost for WWII and Korean War Era Veterans, and all who served prior to May 15. 1975.

## **Beaver Library** Annual Book Sale

The Beaver Area Memorial Library will host its popular book sale at the beginning of June. A limited number of people will be allowed to browse with masks and social distancing being required.

A presale will be held on Friday, June 4th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 each, which includes a bag of books. Visitors must register and pay at the library to reserve a spot. The preview is limited to the first 45 people who register.

A bag sale will be held on the following dates with a bag of books costing \$10.

- Saturday, June 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 7th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 8th from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Books will be arranged by categories to make it easier for browsing. A limited number of people at a time will be permitted to attend the sale.

The library will begin accepting gently used books for the sale on Monday, May 24th. Please no Reader's Digest Condensed books, encyclopedias, textbooks, or magazines.

Proceeds will go toward the library's operating

The library is located at 100 College Avenue in Beaver. For more information, please call the library at 724-775-1132.



## Disc Golf Course at Two Mile Run **Extension Tees Off for Second Decade**

The COVID pandemic has had at least one bright spot: a huge growth in the sport of disc golf.

Because disc golf can be played alone or with others outdoors in a socially-distant way, many new players picked up the game over the past vear.

The disc golf course at Two Mile Run Extension in Brighton Township, opened in 2010, saw increased usage by both recreational and competitive players in 2020.

The Two Mile Run Extension course at 1250 Brighton Road, Beaver PA 15009 is open year round and is free to play. The 9-hole par-35 course features two tee pads (recreational and intermediate levels) and two baskets (Red and Yellow) on each hole which allows players the choice of playing 4 different layouts. A 9-hole round takes about 90 minutes.

Organized play at Two Mile Run Extension includes the April-September Monday Doubles league run by the Beaver County Disc Golf Alliance https://www.facebook.com/BCDGA14

The FlexStart FriendZv @2MRX Driven by Innova was the first Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA) tournament held in Beaver County and brought 80 men and women to Brighton Township to compete in July 2020.

The FlexStart FriendZy @2MRX Driven by Innova returns July 2 and 3, 2021. Players can register themselves and two others for a tee time to play an 18-hole round on either July 2 or July 3. PDGA Live scoring will be used so all can follow the action online. Both amateur and professional players can register in divisions for women and men. The field has been expanded to 162 players this year, and registration is open at: https://bit.ly/3tuHB0K

Many players use the online app **UDisc.com** to find area disc golf courses and to record their scores.

www.brightontwp.org • f



# **Be Courteous to Cyclists on Township Roadways**

Bicycling is currently experiencing a tremendous boom in the United States, thanks in large part to societal changes brought about by the pandemic. Many have joined the growing ranks of cyclists after transitioning to work-from-home, finding considerably more time to exercise without a daily commute. Many cyclists can now be found on Brighton Township roadways almost every day, for training or leisure.

As cycling becomes more mainstream as a recreational activity or as a means of transportation, an increasing number of cyclists are taking to the roads. However, many misconceptions exist around PA's traffic laws and the rights of cyclists. With motorists encountering cyclists more frequently, increasing awareness of these laws is important in keeping our community safe.

Pennsylvania's Vehicle Code considers bicycles as vehicles and grants cyclists all the rights and responsibilities applicable to a driver of a vehicle. Freeways are the only exception, which means cyclists may travel any road in Brighton Township except I-376. On the Township's two-lane roadways, bicycles may legally ride two-abreast (side-by-side) in the right lane in the same direction as the flow of traffic. However, nearly all cyclists ride single-file as far to the right as possible to minimize the impact on traffic flow.

Although cyclists may ride on the shoulder of the road, they are not required to do so. Because of debris and other obstructions, riding on the berm is often dangerous for cyclists. Since cycling in a predictable manner can be difficult on the shoulder, riding to the left of the white line is generally safer for both cyclists and motorists overtaking a bicycle.

Passing requires particular consideration; motor vehicles must

allow a four-foot distance and travel at a cautious speed. Ensuring this distance is the responsibility of the motorist, not that of the cyclist. Current motor vehicle code permits drivers to pass a bicycle in no-passing zones to avoid excessive delays. Even crossing a center double yellow line is legal, if necessary. However, a motorist must first assess oncoming traffic and maneuver around only when reasonably safe to do so while providing the required four feet of clearance.



PennDOT highlights a number of additional bicycle safety tips applicable to motorists traveling Brighton Township roadways, including:

- Do not sound a horn close to bicyclists unless required to avoid a crash.
- No turn by a driver may interfere with a bicyclist proceeding straight on a roadway or shoulder.
- Forcing a bicyclist off of the road is illegal; drivers who do so may face criminal charges.

A full discussion of bicycle safety and Pennsylvania laws, including useful resources and manuals for both cyclists and motorists, is available at www.penndot.gov/TravellnPA/RideaBike.

# Project Lifesaver®

The Brighton Township Police Department is a certified participating member agency of Project Lifesaver®, a program designed to help people that have the tendency to wander. Project Lifesaver has two goals; to streamline search and rescue procedures and to help save lives. Designated officers of the Police Department have undergone an extensive training course covering Autism, Alzheimer's, Down syndrome and other cognitive conditions and are now certified as electronic search specialists.

### How does the program work?

Persons enrolled in Project Lifesaver wear a small personal transmitter around the wrist or ankle that emits an individualized tracking signal. If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver notifies the Brighton Township Police Department acting as the Project Lifesaver agency, and a trained emergency team responds to the wanderer's area. Program participants have found that most who wander are found within a few miles from home, and search times have been reduced from hours and days to minutes. Each bracelet costs \$300. The Department is now accepting donations to assist program participants with a financial need.

If you want to determine if you are eligible to participate in the program, or if you wish to make a tax deductible donation, please contact Officer Eric Schwartz at 724-728-1134 ext. 207 or by email at eschwartz@brightontwp.org.





2021 Roadway Improvement Program to Youngblood Paving, Inc. in the amount of \$381,492.60. The paving lists includes: Westview Drive, Midway Drive, College Avenue (Western Ave. to Lion Ave.), Upland Avenue, Beaver Street, Western Avenue (Beaver St. to Dutch Ridge Rd.), and 8th Avenue (North Ave. to Dutch Ridge Rd.).

The Road Department will also conduct their annual oil and chip program for the treatment and maintenance of certain roads to supplement the road paving program, as well as performing other important road maintenance and drainage projects.

## Non-Residential Recycling Requirements

Commercial and other non-residential establishments are reminded that participation in the Township's recycling program is mandatory. Township ordinance requires that all businesses must separate high-grade office paper, aluminum food & beverage containers and corrugated paper (cardboard) from the waste stream, and store the materials until collection. Each location is also encouraged to recycle food and beverage containers; steel and bimetal food and beverage containers; newspaper and magazines; and PET (1) and HDPE (2) plastics. An annual report must be submitted to the Township by the establishment or their contracted hauler disclosing the type and weight of materials recycled during the previous year. The Township is required by the PA Department of Environmental Protection to report annually the types and amounts of materials recycled by both residential and commercial sources.



## **How to Prepare Your Materials**

### **Plastic Bottles and Jugs Only**

- All containers labeled # 1-5 and 7 are accepted!
- · Rinse, flatten and securely fasten cap back on.
- · Labels do not need to be removed.
- · Containers that originally held oil or chemicals must be completely emptied and not contain any potentially hazardous material.

**○ NON-RECYCLABLE MATERIALS** 

**Electronics / TVs** 

**Glass Pane** 

& Pyrex

Ink/Toner

Cartridges

· No plastic bags or buckets.

Glass

**Food Waste** 

Food

**Containers** 

· Place in green recycling container with other recycling items.

### Aluminum, Bi-Metal & Tin Food and **Beverage Containers and Aluminum Foil**

- · Rinse and flatten or crush containers.
- · Labels do not need to be removed.
- · Place in green recycling container with other recycling items.

### **Aseptic Containers** (Milk Cartons)

- · Rinse and flatten containers.
- · Place in green recycling container with other recycling items.

### **Newspaper and Other Paper Products**

- Include newspaper, magazines, phone books, junk mail, and all other paper.
- Do not place in plastic bags.
- · Cereal and cracker type boxes can be included - remove inner bags or liners and flatten.
- · Place directly in green recycling container with other recycling items.

### Remember...

- · Glass is NO LONGER accepted for recycling.
- · Place your recycling container at roadside on the same day as your regular garbage collection during the recycling weeks.
- · Place recyclables directly into recycling container. Do not place items in separate bags or they will not be collected.
- · Recover your recycling container promptly after collection.
- Green recycling containers are available for purchase at the Brighton Township Municipal Building, 1300 Brighton Road.





## Drop Off Site Will Remain Operational

Consistent with the program offered in the fall, the Township will again provide a fee-based curbside collection program for leaf waste through May. The yard waste drop-off site will continue to operate on the same basis as it currently is and, therefore, participation in the curbside collection program is optional. Homeowners are encouraged to continue to use the drop-off site, or compost the leaves in their own yards.

The collection of leaves and yard waste is a fee-based program whereby residents purchase biodegradable paper collection bags at a cost of \$2.00 each within which the leaves, garden residues, shrubbery clippings or tree trimmings must be placed. Bags are pre-sold at the Municipal Building. Bags utilized must be purchased from the Township. and not be from another source, such as a home improvement store. Those purchasing bags will be contacted to schedule collection. Bags must be placed at the curb on collection day.

# Time to Renew Your Yard Waste Permit!

Yard Waste Composting Site Permits must be renewed for use of the site. Permits may be renewed annually as follows:

- 1. In person at the Municipal Building, 1300 Brighton Road, Beaver, PA 15009. The cost of the permit is \$15.
- 2. By mailing a check payable to "Brighton Township" in the amount of \$17.00 (\$2.00 to cover return postage) along with the number from your previous permit. Your new permit will be issued and mailed to you within five days. (This form is also available on the Applications & Forms page in the Resident's Center of our web site at www.brighton. twp.org.)

First time permit applications must be made in person, with proof of residency, at the Municipal Building, 1300 Brighton Road, Beaver, PA 15009.

During the past year the Township experienced numerous occasions of improper use of the site. Only grass, leaves, brush/tree limbs are to be deposited at the site. Please refer to the rules and regulations for site use. Plastic bags, stones, boards, landscape timbers and garbage are not acceptable. Disposal of unauthorized materials can damage the equipment used to operate the site, and can cause other hazards. Use of the site without a valid permit, or in violation of the rules, can result in enforcement action. The site is under video surveillance.

If you have any questions about our composting site, please call 724-774-4800.

Brighton Township 2021 Yard Waste Permit Renewal			newal	
 Name				
Address				
Previous Per	mit No.			
Signature				

## **Delinquent** Collection of 2020 Stormwater **Service Fee**

Stormwater Service Fee bills for 2021 were mailed at the beginning of February by Berkheimer. All unpaid 2020 bills were included in the billing. Delinquent notices were also previously sent by Berkheimer. Final notices will be sent by the Township this summer, and 2020 fees not paid by the identified date will have the unpaid balance filed as a lien upon the property and incur additional fees and interest until paid. The Lien Preparation, Filing Fee & Satisfaction Fees total \$80.50. Over 150 properties had liens filed for non-payment of the 2019 fee.

As reported in prior newsletters, the Township adopted a Stormwater Service Fee effective in 2019. The rate is established at \$66.00 per year (\$5.50 per month) for each single-family detached residential property. The billing provided discount, face and penalty periods. Developments that own and maintain their own stormwater infrastructure, and are part of the Township's inspection and maintenance program may be eligible for a partial credit. The fee unit is identified as an Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). An ERU is designated as 4,700 SF of impervious surfaces based upon the Township's Stormwater Service Fee Analysis and Report. Non-single family properties pay fees based upon how many ERUs their property has.

Stormwater is now highly regulated. Requirements of the Township's NPDES General Permit for its Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) as issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) necessitates frequent inspection, maintenance and quality monitoring, similar to water, sewage or other utilities. Costs for these activities continue to increase as a result of regulatory requirements. As a result, the Township has become more proactive with the maintenance of existing storm sewer systems and site inspections. The Township will be investing in new infrastructure and site improvements that are necessary for regulatory compliance and to implement the requirements of the approved Pollutant Reduction Plan.

Page 10

## **Township MS4 Permit Update**

Annual MS4 compliance activities are underway for 2021. The Township's NPDES MS4 Permit, as issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PaDEP), requires the Township to annually comply with six Minimum Control Measures (MCMs). The MCMs have been established by PADEP to meet permit goals to preserve and improve water quality in surface waters – streams, lakes and rivers. The Township's MS4 Permit requires implementation of a stormwater management program that addresses each of the six Minimum Control Measures identified in the Permit, as follows:

• MCM #1: Public Education and Outreach on Stormwater Impacts

• MCM #2: **Public Involvement and Participation** 

• MCM #3: Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

• MCM #4: Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control

• MCM #5: Post-Construction Stormwater Management in New and

Re-Development Activities

• MCM #6: Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping for Municipal Operations

MCM #5 requires the Township to ensure adequate operation and maintenance of post construction stormwater best management practices (PCSM BMPs) throughout the Township. PCSM BMPs are facilities that control or treat stormwater runoff, such as detention basins, rain gardens, bioretention basins, underground stormwater detention tanks, and other stormwater control facilities. To evaluate whether these facilities are operating properly, representatives of the Township and Township Engineer complete annual field reviews of each BMP. This includes both BMPs owned by the Township and those owned by private entities, including developers, businesses, homeowners' associations and others. Where deficiencies are found during the inspection, parties responsible for maintenance are notified to take corrective action such that the BMPs function as designed to help address downstream flooding and water quality.

As part of MCM #6, the Township implements an annual training program for Township officials and staff. The training program provides information on permit activities and requirements. Specific training is given annually to Road Department, Municipal Authority and Sewage Authority staff regarding the Township's Pollution Prevention and Good Housekeeping Operation and Maintenance Plan. This O&M Plan, developed as a requirement of MCM #6, establishes procedures implemented by the Township to prevent stormwater pollution during municipal operations. Elected official training was conducted at the February 8, 2021 Board of Supervisors Meeting. Elected official training included a general review of the Township MS4 program as well as progress related to the Township's Pollutant Reduction Plan which must be fully implemented by 2023.

## **Township PRP Plan Update**

The Township is currently in the process of implementing the Pollutant Reduction Plan as part of the MS4 Permit. Currently, the Township has retrofitted the existing stormwater facility in Phase 1 of the Brighton Fields development. The next project to be completed is the Beaver Woods Stormwater Facility located in the rear of the Beaver Woods Development. This facility is located on land recently acquired by the Township from the original developer of the Beaver Woods Development. The overall scope of this project includes regrading the facility to provide additional storage volume to allow sediment to settle out before being discharged, constructing a new access road, replacing the outlet structure to provide better discharge control, and overall general stormwater facility maintenance. Design and permitting are ongoing. Preliminary discussions with PaDEP have been initiated regarding the scope of the proposed project. Once all necessary permits have been received, the project will be publicly bid and constructed.

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# Brighton Township Comprehensive Plan **Project Update**

## PLANNING PROCESS

Brighton Township is nearing completion of a new Comprehensive Plan. A Steering Committee comprised of local representatives helped to facilitate the planning process and develop several public engagement strategies including a community survey, a virtual workshop, and a series of stakeholder interviews. This robust public engagement effort had 570 residents respond to a community survey and 187 residents participate in a follow-up virtual workshop. The input from these outreach activities helped identify community issues and shape the draft plan recommendations.

## DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Comprehensive Plan culminates in a series of implementable strategies for Priority Issues and Other Topics which are summarized below and highlighted in more detail on the pages that follow.

## PRIORITY ISSUES







## **Other Topics**









## **NEXT STEPS**

The Steering Committee will begin reviewing the draft plan recommendations this month. Draft plan recommendations will be made available to the public for review and comment later in Spring 2021. Thereafter, the Planning Commission will be able to develop and consider zoning and development code changes to take steps towards implementing the recommendations, as well as make recommendations to the Supervisors on funding options needed to implement conservation and open space preservation action steps.



## Brighton Township Comprehensive Plan **Project Update**

## **PRIORITY ISSUES:** Implementable Strategies

94%

OF WORKSHOP **PARTICIPANTS SUPPORT LAND CONSERVATION** 



## **Conserve Land & Natural Resources**

- Explore level of public support for an increased real estate tax levy or a referendum for an increased earned income levy for Open Space Lands, Acquisition and Preservation [PA Act 113]
- Educate landowners on the financial and environmental benefits of voluntary conservation easements & engage land conservancies that are active in Western PA to raise awareness of environmentally sensitive areas and local support of conservation efforts
- Pursue state grant funding assistance for acquisition of strategic parcels for conservation through PA DCNR or PA Act 13 funding opportunities
- Continue to annually set aside funds dedicated for the acquisition of land or conservation easement as previously recommended by the 2016 Greenways and Trails Plan



61% SURVEYED DESIRE **WALKING & BIKING PATHS** 

## **Provide Trail Connections**

- Pursue state grant funding assistance for priority trail segments along Two Mile Run through PA DCNR
- Leverage potential referendum for Open Space provision that allows for 25% of funds to be used toward recreational development [Act 115 of 2013] as local matching funds for state/federal grants
- Coordinate with transportation funding agencies to ensure on-road bicycle routes have proper signage, pavement markings and safety measures





INTERCHANGE **PREFERRED** 

LOCATION FOR **COMMUNITY-SCALE DEVELOPMENT** 

## **Ensure Future Development Maintains Rural Character**

- Ensure zoning encourages community-scaled development that maintains overall Rural Character by incorporating greenspace, natural features & buffering into site development standards
- Explore the possibility of multi-municipal zoning with neighboring municipalities to locate higher-intensity commercial/industrial development in appropriate settings
- Work with regional agency partners (e.g. BCEDA) to identify potential financial incentives/assistance for community-scaled mixed-use development end users (e.g. office/professional) that enhance the local tax base



# Brighton Township Comprehensive Plan **Project Update**

## **OTHER TOPICS: Implementable Strategies**



## **Maintain Quality Housing**

- Enact a rental residential inspection program
- Dedicate additional municipal resources to proactively enforce property maintenance rather than relying on a reactive complaint-based system
- Explore the possibility of offering financial incentives for the rehabilitation of aging and distressed properties



## **Improve Connections**

- Require that sidewalks be installed on both sides of all new subdivision streets when any portion of the new subdivision is in close proximity (e.g. 0.5 miles) of a park or school
- Consider requirements for maximum block lengths and cul-de-sac lengths within residential subdivisions to increase neighborhood connectivity
- Implement a Connectivity Index for new residential subdivisions that permits greater flexibility than using specific block length requirements to accommodate environmental features such as floodplains and steep slopes
- If the Township implements a connectivity index, consideration should be given to creating impact fees for developments that do not meet Township standards



## **Maintain Infrastructure**

- Continue maintenance of Township roadways including paving, oil and chip, road patching, street sweeping, roadside mowing, street sign maintenance, storm sewer maintenance projects, shoulder grading and winter maintenance
- Continue the Municipal Authority program to replace undersized and aged waterlines, valves and fire hydrants to improve water supply and fire protection
- Continue the Municipal Authority leak detection program and make repairs as necessary to maintain or improve low level of water loss
- Continually monitor water system demand to determine if system capacity is met or exceeded at the high level and low level service area pumping stations and storage tanks
- Continue the Brighton Township Sewage Authority program to maintain existing pumping stations, sewer lines, and manholes



## **Enhance Recreation**

- Expand programming and amenities at Municipal Parks to increase community usage
- Continue to implement the recommendations of the Township's 2016 Greenway Plan
- Implement the 2021 Indoor Recreation Feasibility Study completed for the Social Hall property to provide an indoor recreation facility and to provide an additional location for indoor rental space

## **Brighton Township**

1300 Brighton Road Beaver, Pennsylvania 15009 PRSRT STD US Postage PAID Pittsburgh, PA Permit No. 428

## Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at the Municipal Building. Meetings are subject to change. Call to confirm meeting date and time, 724-774-4800.

### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Second Monday of each month 7:00 p.m.

### PLANNING COMMISSION

First Monday of each month 7:30 p.m.

### **MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**

Third Monday of each month 8:00 p.m.

### **SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

Third Monday of each month 6:45 p.m.

## ZONING HEARING BOARD

As requested.

## PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Fourth Wednesday every other month, starting in January 7:00 p.m.

# Summer Playground Program at Hardy Field

Looking for a fun and safe environment for your elementary age children this summer? Then you will want to participate in the 2021 Y On the Fly Summer Recreation Program! Brighton Township has contracted with the YMCA to conduct this program at Hardy Field. In prior years it was held at the Dutch Ridge Elementary School. The 8-week program runs from June 14th to August 6th and is for students in K-5th grade. It is operated from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. YMCA trained staff supervise the program and provide needed resources; including games, crafts, sports and special events. All YMCA staff members hold current CPR and First Aid certifications. There is no registration fee to participate in the program. Please watch for more details later this year.



## **Sewer Deduct Meters Available**

The Brighton Township Sewage Authority (BTSA), in cooperation with the Brighton Township Municipal Authority (BTMA), have made a program available to water customers to have a separate meter installed to measure the flow of water that does not enter the sanitary sewer system. This meter typically reads water used outside for watering lawns or gardens, washing vehicles or filling swimming pools. This sewer deduct meter is read at the same time as your water meter at the end of each quarter. The reading on the sewer meter is deducted from the excess use based on the water meter reading. The minimum amount billed during each quarter remains at twelve thousand gallons. Absent a sewer meter, no credit will be given for outside water use, such as filling your swimming pool or watering the lawn and garden.

The cost of the additional meter is one hundred & fifty dollars (\$150.00). This one-time charge includes the meter and installation. Payment in advance to BTMA is required. All inside plumbing revisions will be at the expense of the owner and are subject to inspection prior to meter installation. Applications for sewer meter installation are available within the Resident's Center on the Water & Sewage Authorities Page or the Application & Forms Page of the Township web site www.brightontwp.org.