

# NEWSLETTER

Spring time is for...



- Tree Trimming
- Fencing
- Sidewalks
- Spring Storms



- Yard Projects
- Grass Clippings
- DIY Projects
- Spring Cleaning



- Parks & Exploration
- Volunteer clean-up
- Spring Sports
- Gear up for Summer



In this year's Spring Newsletter, the Township wants to help you gear up for all things Spring. Whether it is from DIY projects around the house to reminders on yard waste and so much more!

So look for our special spread on page - 5

*David Burman*

# BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



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**H**averford Township is led by nine Township Commissioners who are elected by Ward residents.

Commissioners elect their own President and Vice President at the beginning of each new year. The Commissioners appoint a Township Manager who oversees daily operations and a sizable staff.

Regular meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Commissioners frequently communicate with their constituents through emails and social media. Please contact them directly to receive their communications as well as up to date information about your Ward.

Meetings are broadcast live on the Township Cable Network (channel 38 on Verizon and channel 5 on Comcast) and replay everyday at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

For links to all broadcasted meetings go to [havtwp.org/Multimedia\\_Library.html](http://havtwp.org/Multimedia_Library.html)

Please note: We do not do any type of live streaming to social media. You can access these meetings on YouTube usually the day after the meetings take place.



*Haverford Township*  
EST. 1682

# 2023 OPERATING BUDGET

On December 12, 2022, the Board of Commissioners adopted the 2023 Operating Budget and 2023-2026 Capital Improvement Plan. The 2023 budget included a 1.8% real estate tax increase to 4.295 mills (after 2 years without an increase) and a \$8 annual increase in the trash & recycling fee to \$283/yr which was largely due to price volatility in the recycling market. The sewer rate remained unchanged at \$4.65/1,000g of water used.

Our 2023 budgeted revenues are sourced as follows:

Real Estate Taxes	55%
Department earnings	17%
Local Enabling Taxes (e.g. business, transfer)	9%
Grants & gifts	7%
License & permits	4%
Interfund transfers and fund balance	5%
Other Income	3%

The \$49.9m general operating budget will fund all of the municipal services provided to our residents including administrative services, police, emergency medical, fire protection, code enforcement, zoning, highway maintenance, snow removal, curbside leaf removal, sanitation/recycling/brush collection (including bi-annual e-waste and shredding events), tree maintenance, maintenance of our street lights and traffic signals, maintenance of our extensive park system, offerings at the CREC, library operations, year-round recreational programming, preservation of historic buildings, debt service and programs offered at the Skatium.

Our 2023 budgeted expenditures are sourced as follows:

Public Safety (Police, Fire, EMS)	40%
Public Works	27%
Debt Service	10%
Recreation (including Parks & Skatium)	10%
Administration	6%
Code Enforcement & Zoning	3%
Library Operations	3%
Other	1%

# 2023-2026 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Among the capital projects included in the 2023-2026 capital improvement plan include the extensive library renovation, emergency apparatus replacement, streetscape projects, improvements to stormwater and sanitary systems, park improvements, continuation of the Pennsy and Darby Creek trails, road paving, neighborhood traffic and pedestrian safety improvements, improvements to the public works yard and a new software system to better manage constituent concerns. Our residents will hear more details about these and other projects at public Board of Commissioner meetings before contracts are awarded.

Township management is always looking for opportunities to improve efficiencies in our operations. We are in a unique business of providing community services specifically meant to enhance the quality of life of residents, businesses, and visitors and we hope the 2023 budget is seen as responsive to those needs!

# RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALES

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY SALES

Ward	Transfers	Total Sales	Average Sale Price
Ward 1	69	\$32,035,900	\$464,288
Ward 2	84	\$32,287,204	\$384,371
Ward 3	60	\$33,255,744	\$554,262
Ward 4	102	\$75,205,703	\$737,311
Ward 5	64	\$48,812,613	\$762,697
Ward 6	135	\$59,856,548	\$443,382
Ward 7	58	\$27,790,312	\$479,143
Ward 8	87	\$42,890,574	\$492,995
Ward 9	94	\$40,239,474	\$428,080
Totals:	753	\$392,374,072	\$521,081

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY SALES

Transfers	Total Sales	Average Sale Price
17	\$9,499,000	\$558,765
Total Use & Occupancy Application Fees Collected: \$72,490		
Business Use & Occupancy Certificates Issued: 37		
Total Commerical U&O Application Fees Collected: \$3,700		



## POLICE DEPARTMENT CORNER

**H**averford Township Police Department extends well wishes to Sgt. Christopher Chambers upon his retirement. Sgt. Chambers served for over twenty-five years in both Patrol and Investigations Divisions.

Haverford Township has recently experienced an increase in thefts from autos, mail thefts, and scam attempts. Residents are encouraged to take a few steps in order to better protect themselves from these potential crimes.

If possible, park your vehicles in your driveway. If you have to park on the street or in a public place, consider parking in an area with good lighting, remove all valuables from the vehicle, lock your doors, and never leave your key or fob in the vehicle.

One way to protect yourself from mail theft is to hand deliver your mail to the post office or hand it directly to your letter carrier. This eliminates the opportunity for thieves to remove your mail from mailboxes on the street or even at your home!

Almost anyone is susceptible to scam attempts these days. Residents are reminded government agencies will not contact you by phone and instruct you to conduct any financial transactions over the phone.

Remember do not hesitate to call 911 to report suspicious activity while it is in progress. Officers will respond and investigate accordingly. It is safer and easier for the community to have something that "just doesn't look right" checked out today, rather than wait for tomorrow only to find a problem that could have been addressed sooner.

# WELCOME TO

# Spring Season!

## Do I Need a Permit?

As the weather becomes warmer, there is a tendency to want to make our outdoor living areas more livable. Often times, we are in a rush to start our "To-Do" projects that have grown over the winter months without much of a second thought.

Did you apply for and receive a permit or even know whether a permit was required? A permit is required for new construction, additions, alterations, and any project that requires structural changes. Building permit applications are available on the Township website or at the Township office. Check with the Community Development Department before you make alterations to your home or business. Here are some improvements that require permits:

- Fences or walls
- Structural repair or replacement
- Sheds, Greenhouses
- Fireplaces
- Wood deck, patio, porch
- Alternative Energy Systems
- Swimming pools, spa or hot tubs. over 24 inches in depth
- Changes in use, home occupations, change in commercial tenants
- New building construction and additions
- Heating and air condition replacement or installation
- Roof replacement
- Plant, prune, remove or spray a public shade tree
- Plumbing alterations
- Electrical work or new installation
- Interior alterations
- Signs

Stormwater is runoff that comes from hard surfaces including roofs, walkways, driveways, and lawn grasses. The stormwater that leaves our properties enters the storm sewer system where it is discharged into our local waterways. Runoff can carry pet waste, oil, fertilizer, road salt, pesticides, and large volumes of water into our streams. These lead to reduced water quality and flooding. Taking small steps to manage some or all of the stormwater on your property can improve water quality and reduce flooding.

## Steps to include:

- Replacing lawn areas with native plants
- Planting trees and shrubs
- Installing rain gardens, rain barrels and/or downspout planters
- Reducing the use of fertilizers and road salt
- Picking up pet waste that can be washed into the street
- Fixing any leaks from automobiles

## Spring Fire Safety Tips

During your spring cleaning do not forget to add these important items to your "To-Do-List".

### Inside Safety Tips:

- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, change batteries immediately if needed.
- Check for overloaded or damaged extension cords, and replace where needed.
- Properly store household chemicals and never mix cleaning agents.
- Recycle: Get rid of old newspapers, magazines, and junk mail. These items tend to pile up and can greatly contribute to the severity and spread of a fire.
- Check and clean filters above the stove.
- Pull the refrigerator out and vacuum or dust the coils.

### Outside Safety Tips:

- Maintain a clear "fire zone" of 10' around structures.
- Check outdoor electrical outlets and other electrical appliances for animal nests and to ensure proper wiring.
- Remove leaves and trash from carports and garages: Combustible materials are dangerous if they are exposed to heated automobile components, especially under the vehicle.

## Bulk Trash and Brush Collection Reminders:

- Articles may not be placed in front / side of the property to be given away (e.g., furniture, appliances, large items). Pre-payment and registration is required by visiting the Township Building or can be done online.
- Collections take place on Wednesdays and can take up to 48 hours for the collection to be completed. Items must be placed at the curb by 7:00 AM Wednesday mornings. If items are still left by end of day, the items will be collected the following day.

- The Township's brush site CAN accept only: untreated wood products such as sticks, branches, brush or wood chips.

PLEASE NO litter, trash, garbage, bamboo, dirt/soil, leaves or grass clippings, kitty litter or pet manure. No bags, not even biodegradable bags, twine, no container in excess of 40 lbs., no branches over three feet in length no branches over 1 ½ inches in diameter.

For full listing visit

[www.havtwp.org/Public\\_Works.html](http://www.havtwp.org/Public_Works.html).



# Scams on our Seniors Series: Identifying Scams

*By Peggy Murr, Haverford Twp Senior Citizen Advisory Council in collaboration with Detective A. Matthew Hufnal of the Haverford Township Police Department and Detective Edward Rosen of the Delaware County District Attorney Senior Exploitation Unit*

**W**ith approximately 17% of our Township population in the 65 and over age group, our Police Department is seeing more scams perpetrated upon them so we are creating a 2-part article series. The top most common scams against seniors were identified below as we begin with

## ***Part 1 of the series with Identifying Scams***

### **1. Grandparent Scam**

Fraudsters call claiming to be the senior's grandchild who needs money for an emergency. There is distortion on the line and voices cannot be clearly heard so the senior may believe the grandchild really needs help. The scammer most often represents himself as a law enforcement officer. He/she will tell the senior to purchase gift cards (i.e., Visa, Amazon) to make needed auto repairs or pay a bail bond.

### **2. Imposter Scam**

Fraudsters call and claim they are from the IRS or Social Security Administration and tell the senior they owe back taxes and or penalties and to provide a credit card number to pay.

### **3. Computer Scams and Phishing**

Phishing is when a fraudulent email or a text message is designed to trick a person into revealing sensitive personal information to the attacker. Many of these scammers may impersonate trustworthy organizations like your bank, etc. This is by far the most common attack performed by cybercriminals and can result in identity theft.

### **4. Sweetheart Scams**

Internet dating sites and social media offer fraudsters opportunities to scam seniors looking for love. The new romantic interest gains the trust of the senior and then starts to request money be sent electronically for an emergency or for travel expenses to meet in person.

### **5. Property Scams with Services**

Fraudsters target seniors and try to sell them home improvement services that are never delivered. The fraudster takes the money and never return it.

Step 1 is Learning to Identify! We'll visit Step 2 in our next newsletter with methods on how to protect yourself from these top 5 scams. If you fall victim, call 911 to report the crime, and don't ever feel embarrassed. The 911 center will then route the call to our Haverford Township Police which works in partnership with the County DA's Senior Exploitation Unit. If you have any questions about a senior scam, you can simply call the non-emergency number of the Haverford Police Department at 610-853-1298 and our officers and staff will be happy to assist.

November 26th kicked off The Grange Estates' Winterfest and Holiday Season. We had more than 1,500 guests walk through the mansion and more than 4,000 walk through the Cobbs Creek Line Model Train Display which was set up in the Long Barn. The train masters worked on creating a scavenger hunt so that all the different settings could be explored on multiple platforms. In addition, the Grange Mansion had over 20 decorated themed Christmas trees that carried the spirit of the old to blend with the new. Each room was beautiful telling its Christmas story. A special thanks go to Channel 6 and Channel 17 which featured our glorious gem in special segments that ran throughout the season. We would also like to thank everyone who experienced the Grange during the season. We need your support to continue our efforts.

Now, in 2023, we are moving forward with the Grange Book Club which meets every other month. Follow the readings on Facebook (Historic Grange Estate) and our website <https://thegrangeestate.net>; members meet every other month and the date will be determined. The Grange is reaching out to the community for volunteer assistants to give tours, plan and prepare to host a meet and greet events, and get involved with beautification projects throughout the seasons. On April 1st, mark your calendars for Attic Treasures, the once-a-year sale to purchase gently used gifts and artifacts for you to treasure. On April 28th, the Grange will have an evening of history, tours, and discussions of the property owners who brought the Grange to life over the last 400 hundred years. The evening will conclude over wine and cheese and comradery.

Come visit the Grange Soon!



**WHAT IS FAIR HOUSING?**  
Fair housing is the right to choose housing free from unlawful discrimination. Federal law protects people from discrimination in housing transactions such as rentals, sales, lending, and insurance. Fair Housing is the key to all people having the roof they want over their heads.

**WHO IS PROTECTED?**  
The Fair Housing laws protect discrimination on the basis of age, race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender/sexual orientation, disability or familial status. Familial status protects discrimination against families with children from being denied housing. These are known as Protected Classes.

**WHAT IS PROHIBITED?**  
In the sale and rental of housing, it is illegal to take any of the following actions based on a protected class:  
-Refuse to rent or sell housing,  
-Make housing unavailable,  
-Set different terms or conditions,  
-Falsely deny that housing is available. In mortgage lending, no one may take any of the following actions based on a protected class:  
-Refuse to make a mortgage due to your protected class status,  
-Set different terms and conditions,  
-Discriminate in appraising a property.

If you believe you have experienced discrimination, CALL HUD!

1-800-669-9777(voice)  
1-800-877-8339(TTY)

For additional information and resources, visit the website for the Housing Equality Center of Pennsylvania @ [www.equalhousing.org](http://www.equalhousing.org)

**S**ewer backups and flooding can cause devastating property damage and are not covered by standard homeowners' insurance policies. The majority of these claims are the responsibility of the property owner.

Sewage from sanitary sewer lines occasionally back up into houses through drain pipes. These backups not only cause extensive water damage that is difficult and expensive to repair, but also creates health hazards.

Haverford Township is not responsible for damages caused by sewers, drains and sump pumps except under limited/special circumstances provided by the PA Municipal Immunity laws.

Township residents must be aware that they should review their homeowner's, flood and sewer backup insurance coverage with their agent/insurance companies in order to properly protect their personal residence probably the most valuable tangible asset that we all have.

Article I, Section 149-3, subsection C (2) Sewer Service Regulations of the Township Code states that all sewer service laterals from the Township's sewer, regardless of location, are the property of the customer and/or owner and shall be maintained by him in good condition and repair. Please pay particular attention to the following coverages:  
*Coverage for Sewers, Drains and Sump Pumps: This valuable coverage is not included under your standard homeowner's policy but can be purchased by endorsement for an additional premium.*

**Flood Coverage:**  
Flood coverage is not included under your homeowner's policy. However, flood insurance is available under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and can be obtained through your insurance agent or broker.

The Township does not provide flood insurance.

# SPRING 2023 CALENDAR

## Township Events & Announcements:

### • Township Brush, Trash & Recycling:

Monday, March 20, 2023 : NO BRUSH COLLECTION

Friday, April 7, 2023 : NO TRASH OR RECYCLING PICK UP - Moved to  
Monday, April 10, 2023.

### • Township Office Closed:

Friday, April 7, 2023 for Easter Holiday

### • Township Shredding Event

Saturday, March 25, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. (or until trucks are full)

Location: 1014 Darby Rd., Havertown

Details: 4 Box Maximum - No plastic bags, magazines, books or newspapers. Absolutely free service for Township residents only.

### • Township Sponsored CPR, First Aid Classes for Leagues, Teams, Coaches & Officials LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE

Saturday, March 11, 2023 at 1014 Darby Rd., Havertown - morning and afternoon classes.

Monday, March 20, 27, and April 3, 2023 at 900 Parkview Drive the CREC - evening classes only.

Sign up at [learn911.net/classes-being-held](http://learn911.net/classes-being-held)

## Parks & Recreation Events & Announcements:

### • Summer Registration Dates:

ECP (Extended Care Program) – registration opens at 8 a.m. on March 6, 2023.

For all other Summer Camps – registration opens at 4 p.m. on April 2, 2023.

For more information about camps & how to register visit the Township's website at [havtwp.org/Parks\\_and\\_Recreation/Summer\\_Camp\\_Info.html](http://havtwp.org/Parks_and_Recreation/Summer_Camp_Info.html)

## Local Area Events:

### • Delco Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, April 22, 2023 - Appointment Only

Location: Emergency Services Training Center @ 1600 Calcon Hook Rd.  
Sharon Hill (Darby Twp.) 19079

Details: Registration at [delcohw.eventbrite.com](http://delcohw.eventbrite.com). Absolutely Free service for County residents only.

*\*\* Note: Events, time etc. are scheduled to change. Visit [www.havtwp.org/Calendar.html](http://www.havtwp.org/Calendar.html) for most update information\*\**

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