

WINTER 2015

2015 was a busy year in Upper St. Clair! The 2015-2025 Comprehensive Plan was approved by the Board of Commissioners in November, a culmination of 2 years of study. We thank all of the residents and business owners who took the time to return the questionnaire and attend meetings. We would not have a successful final product without you. In December the 2016 Budget was approved with no tax increase. Recreation continued to be an important part of the community with The Community & Recreation Center at Boyce Mayview Park continuing to operate in the black. Improvements were completed at Wiltshire and Clair Parks (with Baker Park set for improvements in 2016) and The Clubhouse at Boyce Mayview Park has been a successful addition since opening day. Participation in The Miracle League is also at an all-time high. Lights were installed at the Boyce Mayview playing fields which will allow for early evening sports events to keep up with the high usage demand for those fields. And the "old" Recreation Center on McLaughlin Run Road was renamed the "McLaughlin Run Activity Center" or the "MAC" and continues to host many activities. On another important note, the Township entered into a Consent Order and Agreement with the Allegheny County Health Department as required by the Department of Environmental Protection. We have also been fortunate in being awarded more grant money than ever before.

Events such as Community Day, the Bounty at Boyce Mayview, and Public Works Day, among many others, attracted large numbers of residents from both Upper St. Clair and the surrounding communities.

On January 4, 2016, the swearing-in of four Commissioners took place. Commissioners Robert W. Orchowski (Ward 3), Russell R. Del Re (At-Large), and Nicholas J. Seitanakis (Ward 1) were re-elected. Newly elected Ward 5 Commissioner Ronald J. Pardini was also sworn-in. All will serve four-year terms through 2019. Sitting Commissioners Rex A. Waller (Ward 2), Mark D. Christie (Ward 4), and Daniel R. Paoly (At-Large) are in the midst of their four-year terms, set to expire December 2017. As outlined in the Home Rule Charter, a reorganization meeting of the Board was also held on January 4, with Commissioner Christie elected President and Commissioner Waller as Vice President to serve two-year terms in those capacities.

Looking forward, we anticipate the opening of Whole Foods along with other establishments at Siena on Washington Road. A Dunkin' Donuts is planned at the site of the former gas station at the corner of McMurray and Bethel Church Roads. You will also see improvements at that juncture along with the Morrow Road bridge, and the Lesnett, McMillan, McLaughlin Run intersection.

As of this posting, the winter of 2015-2016 has been extraordinarily mild, but it's likely it won't stay that way! Be reminded that it is against Township Code to push or shovel snow/ice into the streets.

In local government along with triumphs we also face occasional challenges. You can be assured that the Township faces both with integrity and openness and strict adherence to the Township Code and Home Rule Charter.

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, the volunteers who serve in many capacities, and Township staff, we look forward to a safe productive New Year and wish all of you a happy and healthy 2016!

Matthew R. Serakowski
Township Manager