

NORTH NEWTON TOWNSHIP
2009 Budget Message
A Year of Planning & Improving

The General Fund Budget for 2009 totals \$1,982,600. This figure represents the following:

Projected January 1, 2009 General Fund Balance	\$1,300,000
2009 Budgeted Receipts	+ 682,600
Total of General Funds Appropriated & Un-appropriated	\$1,982,600
2009 Budgeted Expenditures	- 732,600
Total Un-appropriated General Funds	\$1,250,000

2009 General Fund Receipts are anticipated to be \$682,600, while expenditures are projected at \$732,600. The \$50,000 difference between the receipts and expenditures is attributed to the engineering expense for the preparation for replacement of the Fish Hatchery Road bridge. These funds will be drawn from reserves in order to balance the budget. Revenue projects are down 15% from 2008 due to the county and state grants received in 2008 for the park. Budgeted expenditures are only anticipated to decrease by \$65,000 or 8% from 2008 as the Board moves forward with needed building maintenance, park improvements and land development and construction plans for a municipal office.

The major revenue streams for the township are taxes projected at \$234,400 and landfill tipping fees projected at \$340,000. Additional income of \$58,900 will be received from state sources. Of this amount \$37,100 will be the balance of the PA DCNR grant for the park construction performed in 2008. The remaining income is based on payment for township services, state and local fines, interest income, and various other small revenues.

While the park construction consumed the majority of the township's efforts in 2008, attention will be more equally appropriated in 2009. The Board has plans to continue with park development including replacement of the community building's roof with a green metal roof, adding a vestibule over the building's concrete entrance pad, and construction of a picnic pavilion. The Board hopes to use the pavilion project as an opportunity to bring township residents together to have a "pavilion raising". The goal is to save money on labor while building community ownership in the project. The Board hopes residents will enjoy using the pavilion they helped make possible.

In addition to the park, the Board has earmarked \$23,000 to coat the roofs of both the blue township building and the large red maintenance shed and to replace the skylights. This project is one that has been on the schedule for a couple years and has been pushed back.

2009 will be a year of planning and the \$140,000 in account #408 is for the bulk of this expense. Engineering and preparation for the replacement of the Fish Hatchery Road bridge is projected at \$50,000. Engineering associated with the new municipal office will include a lot addition plan, land development plan, construction plans and bid packet preparation. This expense could be as high as \$70,000, if Brehm-Lebo does the construction drawings from scratch. Brehm-Lebo Engineering, Inc. has suggested we use \$180 per square foot as anticipated cost of construction for the municipal office building. This is another project that has been postponed for two years while the park moved forward.

In a year of many expenses the good news is health insurance premiums will only increase by 12%. Smaller expenses include a grass catcher for the mower (account #430.70) to make a neater job at the park and an increase in the snow and ice removal allotment (account #432) by \$5,000 to \$17,000.

While the Board has not come to a decision on whether to draft a zoning ordinance, \$15,000 has been budgeted. Use of Tri-County Planning’s model zoning ordinance could lower this amount considerably.

State Liquid Fuels Fund - 2009 Projects

A list of 2009 road work is still being developed. The Board anticipates doing a tar and chip project. Additional time will be dedicated to pulling side gutters, but this item will be paid as payroll from the general fund.

A review of the State Liquid Fuels 2009 Budget shows the following:

Projected January 1, 2009 State Fund Balance	\$190,000
2009 Budgeted Receipts	<u>+100,044</u>
Total of State Funds Appropriated & Un-appropriated	\$290,044
2009 Budgeted Expenditures	<u>- 151,500</u>
Total Un-appropriated State Funds	\$138,544

Street Light Fund

The street light assessment will increase this year for the first time in over 20 years. PPL plans to raise their rates by as much as 40% in early 2010. Oakville Road properties will increase their assessment from 45 cents to 60 cents per foot of road frontage. North Newton Hills residents will increase their contribution from \$60 to \$68 per lot. Because there is not much buffer in this account, another increase may be needed in 2010 depending on the percentage of the increase in the electric bills.

Projected January 1, 2009 Street Light Fund Balance	\$ 640
2009 Budgeted Receipts	<u>+4,010</u>
Total of Street Light Funds Appropriated & Un-appropriated	\$4,650
2009 Budgeted Expenditures	<u>- 4,300</u>
Total Un-appropriated Street Light Funds	\$ 350

Summary

The 2009 Budget will cover a year of planning. A lot of work that is done may not be visible until construction projects on the Fish Hatchery Road bridge and the municipal building begin and are hopefully completed in 2010. The park will move forward with the completion of Phase II.

Projected January 1, 2009 Balance of All Funds	\$1,490,640
2009 Total All Budgeted Receipts	<u>+ 786,654</u>
Total of All Funds Appropriated & Un-appropriated	\$2,277,294
2009 Total All Budgeted Expenditures	<u>- 888,400</u>
Total All Funds Un-appropriated	\$1,388,894

Respectfully submitted by _____ November 19, 2009

Bonnie L. Myers, Secretary/Treasurer