

Douglass Township

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 Boyertown, PA 19512
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Douglass Township Newsletter

Berks County

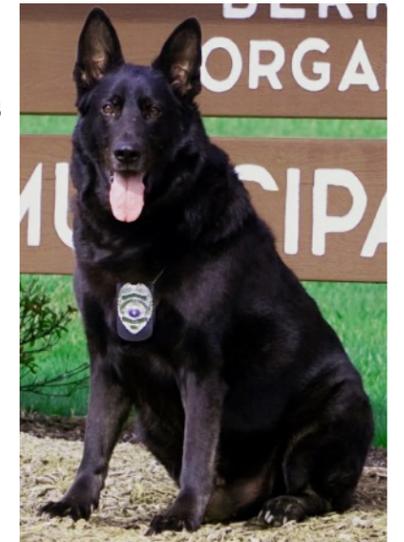
MARCH 2018 • Volume 14, Issue 1

Township Office: 610-367-8500 Fax: 610-367-0360 Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30
 www.co.berks.pa.us/Muni/Douglass Email: dougberks@comcast.net

A Fond Farewell



K-9 Officers Akimbo “Bo” (left) and Dagger (right), were both laid to rest in 2017. Both K-9 officers served Douglass Township for the entire careers.



**DOUGLASS TWP.
 BERKS
 POLICE
 K-9 UNIT**

For Two of our Finest

Dagger joined the Douglas Township Police force in November of 2006 and served until October of 2007 when an injury left him unable to continue to perform his duties. After his retirement he spent his remaining years in the home of then Supervisor Rosemarie Bauman and her family. Dagger enjoyed his retirement immensely and was surrounded by his loved ones up until his passing in July of 2017

Akimbo “Bo” came to join the Police force all the way from Holland in November of 2007. Bo proudly served his community until January of 2013. During his tenure he assisted with the apprehension of numerous suspects and aided in the retrieval of cash and drugs totaling One Million dollars. After retirement he lived his last several years at home with our Chief John Dzurek, until his passing in October of 2017.

The Township is very honored to have had both K-9 officers serve their entire careers here for the residents of Douglass Township.

iiPlease see the included insert for information on this years Easter Egg Hunt!

A special thank you to the volunteers at Douglass Village who assisted with the mailing of this newsletter.

DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP	NEWSLETTER	MARCH 2018
Elected and Appointed Officials:		
Township Supervisors:		
Chairman Douglass Rhoads		
Vice Chairman John Bauman		
Supervisor Grant Yergey		
Township Manager-Toni Hemerka		
Township Solicitor - The law firm of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullen, Maxwell & Lupin- Joseph McGrory, Esq.		
Township Engineer/Zoning Officer/Sewer Enforcement- Systems Design Engineering-Thomas Unger, P.E.		
Tax Collector -Mary K. Heimbach		
Treasurer/Asst. Secretary -Kaleena Breitbarth		
Public Works Department -Roadmaster: Harold Wagner, Jr., Kevin Albiser & Robert Alberts		
Police Department -Chief: John Dzurek, Patrolmen: Bryan Sockel, Duane Duncan, James Yost & Micah Long		
Planning Commission -Chairman: Kenneth Kirch, Vice Chairman: Jerry Silberman, Grant Yergey, Patricia Follweiler & Peter Dannecker		
Zoning Hearing Board -Chairman: Joseph Cioa, Vice Chairman: Eugene Rinehimer, Dr. David Szymanski, Alan Golden, David Babb		
Park & Recreation Board - Richard Zuber, Peter Dannecker, Lawrence Martin, Eileen Gilbert & Sally Stetler		
Agricultural Security Committee - Douglass Rhoads, Gunnar Scott, Donald Grim, David Howerter & Warren Lloyd		
2018 Township Meetings:		
Board of Supervisors -7:00 PM, January 3 rd , February 12 th , March 12 th , April 9 th , May 14 th , June 11 th , July 9 th , August 13 th , September 10 th , October 8 th , November 12 th & December 10 th		
Planning Commission -7:00 PM January, 16 th , February 20 th , March 16 th , April 17 th , May 16 th , June 19 th , July 17 th , August 21 st , September 18 th , October 16 th , November 20 th & December 18 th		
Park & Recreation - 7:00 PM March 5 th , April 2 nd , May 7 th , June 4 th , July 2 nd , August 6 th , September 4 th , October 9 th		
Zoning Hearing Board - 7:00 PM the 4 th Monday of the month as needed.		

Around the Township

2018 Tax Information

Per Capita Tax Elimination: The Supervisors have decided to eliminate the Per Capita Tax of \$15.

They had also voted to increase the Township Tax from 3.3 mills to 4.3 mills. This was done in order to increase the police department to six full time officers. With input from the residents over the last few years, it was evident that ample police coverage was a priority.

What this means is for example your home is assessed for \$100,000, your 2017 Township taxes were \$330, this will increase to \$430.

Providing services for the residents always comes at a cost. Providing the best services to the residents of Douglass Township is always top priority.

The County and Township Tax bill will be mailed on March 1st. Collection dates and times will be listed on the bill.

Internet Purchase Exchange Location -

With the increased popularity of online purchases through yard sale sites such as Facebook and Craigslist, Douglass Township is pleased to provide a safe location for your exchanges. Please feel free to use the parking lot at the Township Building for your exchanges. Our parking lot is under 24 hour camera surveillance.



Do you Know???

Every Tuesday from 1-4 PM John Wascavage, our Zoning and Building Officer is in the Township office to assist residents with any questions they may have about their property and permits in regards to building and zoning.

Douglass Township Annual Community Day

October 6, 2018 10:30 – 2:30

We are always looking to add new vendors to our event. Also, if you would like to volunteer to help with running a table game at the event for a few hours, please contact the Township Office at 610-367-8500 or email managerdouglass@comcast.net

2018 Operating Budget

GENERAL FUND

Income	
Taxes	\$1,303,259.06
Licenses & Permits	\$65,000.00
Fines	\$31,000.00
Interest / Land Rental	\$40,300.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$59,100.00
Charges for Service / Misc.	\$78,316.00
Interfund Transfers and Refunds	\$167,156.98
Total Income	\$1,744,132.04
Expenses	
General Government	\$389,641.87
Police	\$752,225.21
Public Safety	\$174,223.30
Health & Human Services	\$3,475.00
Roads, Streets, Sanitation	\$335,320.55
Hydrant Fees / Recreation	\$53,201.47
Insurances	\$35,492.80
Total Expenses	\$1,743,580.20

SEWER FUND

Income	
Interest	\$2,200.00
Use Charge	\$210,240.00
Finance & Surcharges	\$9,100.00
Total Income	\$221,540.00
Expenses	
Operating Expenses	\$19,300.00
Sewage Treatment	\$68,700.00
Capital Improvements	\$15,000.00
Transfer to Other Funds	\$117,156.98
Total Expenses	\$220,156.98

LIQUID FUELS FUND (road projects)

Income	\$174,399.87
Expenses	\$170,000.00

Recycling Events for 2018

Household Hazardous Waste:

April 14th from 8 AM to 2 PM at the Governor Mifflin Intermediate School

October 20th from 8 AM to 2 PM at the Berks County Ag Center

Paper Shredding:

April 21st from 8 AM to 2 PM at the Governor Mifflin Intermediate School

October 13th from 8 AM to 2 PM at the Berks County Ag. Center

Electronic Recycling:

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8 AM to Noon at the County Recycling Center

Tire Collection (Fees Apply):

Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 8 AM to Noon at the County Recycling Center

The County has a new Recycling App that will make recycling even easier. Scan the QR code above for more information or look for the Recycle Coach app in the app stores.



Help Wanted

Boyertown Area Multi-Service, 200 West Spring Street, Boyertown, PA

The Center at Spring Street needs volunteers.

Kitchen volunteers and meals on wheels packers are needed to assist with the preparation and clean-up of hot meals served to Center members at The Center at Spring Street, Monday thru Friday. The volunteer hours range from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Facility volunteers are also needed for assisting to set up and tear down the Center for special events such as Bingo Night, Friday Night Dances, and Center rentals.

Meals on Wheels: Boyertown Area Multi-Service is looking for volunteers to deliver Meals on Wheels at least once a month for 2 hours between the hours of 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on weekdays. Sign up with a partner or by yourself. Let us know which weekdays are best for you and we'll put you on the schedule. We'll work around your vacations and commitments. Training is provided.

Medical Transport: Boyertown Area Multi-Service is looking for volunteers to drive residents of the community, who have no other means of transportation, to and from medical appointments. The residents are ambulatory and need no help entering or exiting the car. The areas to which you will need to drive may be Allentown, Boyertown, Pottstown or Reading.

If you've got a few hours to spare, if you're seeking to serve your community, or if you know of someone looking for volunteer opportunities, please consider volunteering at the Center.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact, MaryAnn Gruber (Volunteer Coordinator for Boyertown Area Multi Service), 610-367-6957 or mgruber@BoyertownAreaMulti-Service.org.

Berks County needs registered voters to work the polls for the May 15th General Primary. Workers will receive a stipend for their service along with payment for attending training. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact the Office of Election Services at 610-478-6490.

All about that Park

Douglass Township has spent many years developing its parks into fun and relaxing recreational areas for the community. We encourage you to visit all of our locations and let us know what we could do to make them even better!



Ironstone Park playground built in 2016

- **Ironstone Park** - Located on Grist Mill Rd, this park offers two pavilions, restrooms, a playground, basketball courts, volleyball and more all with the creek flowing through the park. Pavilions can be rented April through October by contacting the Township Office.
- **Goose Run Park** - Located off of both Colebrookdale and Levengood Roads, this park offers an extensive walking trail that goes from one entrance to the other.
- **Douglass Park** - Located behind the Township Building, this park offers basketball courts, tennis courts, a pavilion, restrooms, baseball fields, walking trail. The pavilion is available for rent April through October.
- **Ganshawny Park** - Located at 343 Old Philadelphia Pike, this park is as quiet as it is peaceful, with a pavilion and grills. Not to mention the boat ramp for kayaks and small boats.

MEDICATION DROP BOX

Protecting Yourself and Your family

Douglass Township supports the free and safe disposal of unused, unwanted or expired medications

This is a Berks County Program operated through the Berks County District Attorney's Office in conjunction with CVS.

The Drop Box is located at the Township Office, with access Monday-Friday 8:30am – 4:30 pm.

Properly disposing of unused medications not only prevents accidental and intentional misuse, but it also helps protect the environment.

Items Accepted: Any unwanted or expired medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, including pet medications, ointments, inhalers, powder or patch form medication.

Items NOT Accepted: Any loose pills that are not in their standard container or a bag, syringes, thermometers, bandages, sun block.

For More information: <http://www.co.berks.pa.us/Dept/DA/Pages/Prescription-Drop-Box.aspx>

