



# REPORT

Second Edition 2006

## Office Location

110 Bell Tavern Road  
Phone: 610-269-1989  
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## Mailing Address

110 Bell Tavern Road  
Downingtown, PA 19335

## Board of Supervisors

Edward J. Dymek  
Donald D. Maheu  
Joel F. Swisher

## Secretary/Manager

Robert H. Glisson

## Treasurer/Administrative Assistant

Barbara Kelly

## Planning Commission

Donald Ash  
David Bolger  
Tony DeLuca  
Inge Forlenza  
Stephen Pizzi  
Paul Socorso  
Bruce Taylor

## Zoning Hearing Board

Mark Brunstetter  
Dyanne Delaney  
William van Roden  
Mary Simme  
Pam Turpin  
John Kiefel, Solicitor

## Recreation Board

Steve DiLuigi  
Loretta Kukles  
Felicia Meakim  
Susan Shrum  
Mark Smith  
Rita Sullivan

## Township Solicitor

Landis & Setzler Associates

## Township Engineer

Buchart-Horn, Inc.

## Building/Zoning Officer

Brian Gallagher

## Fire Marshal

James R. McGowan, III

## Check For Safety Equipment Presented To Downingtown Volunteer Firemen

On Wednesday evening the 19<sup>th</sup> of April, the Board of Supervisors presented a check in the amount of \$62,763 to the Downingtown Volunteer Firemen's Relief Association for the purchase of two major items of safety equipment. Board Chairman Donald Maheu welcomed everyone and stated that the Board of Supervisors was "... extremely pleased on behalf of the citizens of East Caln Township to make such a significant donation to help improve the safety of the many volunteers of the Downingtown Fire Department who place themselves at risk for the benefit of the community". The fund for purchasing equipment was created by the Board of Supervisors with the establishment of the shopping centers. Contributing owners were Brandywine Square LLC and Pacific Crest Holdings LP for Ashbridge Square. Representing Ashbridge Square was A.J. Urbanski, the site manager from Fameco Management Co. The equipment that will be purchased are an incident scene surveillance camera with magnification capabilities that can be elevated to a height of 30' and will provide a view of the emergency area such as different levels of a burning building, assessment of hazardous spills from a safe standoff range, etc. The other item is a new air compressor charging unit for filling the self contained breathing apparatus tanks worn by the volunteers during fires and hazardous material threats. It will be able to charge the tanks to a higher pressure for more time for the firemen and do so with greater safety than the current system. Accepting the check on behalf of the fire department was Deputy Chief Thomas Lee, Jr. who noted, "It means a lot to us to receive such a donation for items that we would not be able to afford. The scene surveillance camera will provide the incident commander a tool to better assess an emergency situation and make more informed decisions. Also our current compressed air charging unit is over 24 years old and does not provide the safety features found on the new unit." Many of the volunteer firemen attended in their dress uniforms and thanked the Board for their efforts to improve safety within the department.

## Township Newsletter Honored

The Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) recently honored our newsletter with a second place finish for our population class of 2,501 to 5,000 in the 38<sup>th</sup> Annual PSATS Citizen Communication Contest. Judging was based on the usefulness of the information presented, how well the information was communicated, and the overall attractiveness and readability. The judging team was composed of members of the Association's Publications- Public Relations Committee, representatives from the Governor's Center for Local Government Services, and members of the Township News staff (PSATS monthly magazine). The honor provided a yardstick to measure the value of the information presented in our newsletter on a statewide basis. Typically, input is gleaned from a number of sources that include Township staff, Chester County government, and review and suggestions from the Board of Supervisors.

## Manager's Minute

- **Williams Transco Pipeline:** The Township and adjoining property owners to the natural gas pipeline recently received letters of a potential expansion of their pipeline facilities in their existing right-of-way. Control of an interstate pipeline operator such as Williams falls under the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The operator is required to obtain a federal Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity. Based on information provided by Williams, they intend to file this document in early 2007. Prior to this formal proposal, the Township and other interested parties will have the opportunity to review the proposal and make comments. The Board of Supervisors will track this closely for its impact on affected residents and ensure they have been properly notified.
- **Park Cleanliness:** The advent of warmer weather has brought a return of many citizens to Bell Tavern Park to enjoy its many amenities. Unfortunately, the amount of trash strewn about seems worse than in the past. We have strategically placed trash "toters" throughout the park to make it convenient for trash disposal. Please use them. Parents and other adults should encourage children to dispose of trash properly and to clean up after themselves. Just for the record, the Park bathrooms and grounds are cleaned everyday from April into October, but we need your help with the appearance of your park. Thank you in advance.
- **Scams & Unregistered Contractors:** 'Tis the season to beware of homeowner scams such as "Gee, we've got leftover sealant material and can do your driveway today for a very cheap price" and other "We were just in the neighborhood" offerings. Contractors are required to register to do work in the Township. This is a common and well grounded practice in most municipalities. It only costs the contractor \$75.00 for the year and provides us with a business address, credit references, and proof of workers compensation insurance (self employed single contractors are exempt from this last requirement). Registration is designed to help protect against unscrupulous contractors and scam artists. For example, you elect to hire a contractor to install a landscaping wall and one of the workers is injured on your property. The contractor's workers compensation insurance is designed to cover such an incident. Without it, your homeowners insurance may have to cover the worker and will in all likelihood result in higher premiums to you. Most construction also requires a permit. If a contractor is hesitant to confirm his registration, please call the Township to confirm it.
- **Cellular Tower Variance Opposed:** The Board of Supervisors appealed a recent zoning variance granted by the Township Zoning Hearing Board. At issue is the replacement of the existing cellular flagpole tower just west of Rt. 113 near Webb Rd. with a higher pole with proposed external antennas. The Board has taken this action in their belief that it would best serve the residents of the Township. Sometimes government bodies respectfully frame the same issue differently.

## Recreational Corner

Your Recreational Board has a lot of activities planned for 2006. With great success, we have continued our 'Dogs Days in the Park', 'Do The Hill- 5K' and 'Kids Day in the Park'. We hope you will join us at these fun events!

Here are the dates and times (for some) of the events. Mark your calendars!

Community Yard Sale: Saturday, May 20th from 8:00 – 2:00

Dogs Day in the Park: Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 12:00

'Do The Hill'- 5K Run/ Walk: Saturday, September 23rd

Kids Day in the Park: Saturday, September 23rd

Holiday in the Park: Saturday, December 2

A word about Dogs Day in the Park: The "heat was on" at last year's event...a lot of sun. So the Rec. Board took the feedback and moved the event from the afternoon until the morning and made it two weeks earlier. At this year's event we will have a dog obedience demonstration, pet vendors (including groomers and veterinarians), two doggie wading pools, and a number of contests (including the largest and smallest, best dressed, and the ever popular look-alike contest). Remember dogs must be leashed!

If you would like to volunteer or help out with the other events please contact the following Event Chairs:

Dogs Day in the Park: Rita Sullivan at [rsullivan@harcum.edu](mailto:rsullivan@harcum.edu)

'Do The Hill' 5K Run / Walk: Mark Smith at [mes1919@earthlink.com](mailto:mes1919@earthlink.com)

Kids Day in the Park: Felicia Meakim or Rita Sullivan

Holiday in the Park: TBA

If interested in becoming a part of the Parks and Recreation Board, please contact the Rec. Board Chairman, Felicia Meakim, at [fmeakim@aol.com](mailto:fmeakim@aol.com). If you have any suggestions or recommendations for future events that you would like to see East Caln sponsor or coordinate, please send your ideas to Felicia Meakim, Rec. Board Chairman, or speak to one of our other Board members: Vice-Chairman Loretta Kukles, Steve DiLuigi, Mark Smith, Rita Sullivan, or Susan Shrum.

Please use the enclosed magnet to remind you of our upcoming events!

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## For Your Information . . .

**New Permits Clerk:** We welcome Mrs. Melba Forcine who now handles scheduling and processing of building permits for the Office of Life Safety and Codes Enforcement as the full time permits clerk. A separate telephone number (610-269-7326) has also added to better serve residents and contractors. Please use this number when you have Codes Dept. questions.

**Grass Cuttings into the Storm Drains:** Please don't discharge the yard clippings into the street where it may not only clog drains, but also impacts stream ecology with nutrient overloading from fertilizers, pesticides, and herbicides. A simple solution is to make your first two cuts with the discharge chute aimed at the interior of the yard. **REMEMBER STORMWATER IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS!!!**

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# DEP Issues Drought Watch For Entire State

## *Lack of Rainfall Leads to Call for Voluntary Water Use Reduction*

ISSUED 11 APRIL 2006

HARRISBURG — Environmental Protection Secretary Kathleen A. McGinty today put all 67 Pennsylvania counties under a drought watch and called on residents to voluntarily reduce water use by 5 percent.

"Despite recent rainfall, precipitation levels over the last two months are below normal in every corner of the commonwealth," McGinty said. "Two-thirds of our counties are 50 percent or more below their normal precipitation levels. The remaining counties are reporting a deficit of at least 25 percent.

"Although conservation is a year-round responsibility, now is the time for residents to manage water resources even more carefully to avoid serious problems if precipitation levels do not return to normal in the coming weeks," McGinty said.

In addition to below normal precipitation, groundwater and surface water levels are low in many regions of the state. Even in areas with normal or near-normal groundwater and surface water levels, those levels are declining rapidly.

The Susquehanna River is 65 percent below its normal flow. Several streams and rivers recently posted record low flows for this time of year, including: Loyalhanna Creek, Westmoreland County; the Clarion River, Clarion County; Dyberry Creek, Wayne County; the Schuylkill River, Schuylkill County; Muncy Creek, Sullivan County; and Conodoguinet Creek, Cumberland County.

Public water suppliers, businesses and industries should monitor supplies during this drought watch period. Water-intensive commercial users should try to conserve water.

A drought watch is the lowest of three levels of drought status, asking for a 5 percent reduction in water use by residents. The next stage, a drought warning, calls for a voluntary reduction of 10 percent to 15 percent. A drought emergency, the final stage, includes mandatory water use reductions of at least 15 percent. Pennsylvania's last declared drought emergency was in 2002.

All 67 Pennsylvania counties have been in normal status since seven counties on the western edge of Pennsylvania were upgraded from a drought watch to normal on June 18, 2003. With that upgrade, it was the first time since Aug. 8, 2001, that the entire state was normal.

"There are actions that all of us can take to reduce our daily water use in and around our homes," McGinty said. "Not only will these actions conserve water, but they also will help families save money."

### **Indoor water-conservation tips include:**

- *Using washing machines and dishwashers only when loads are full.*
- *Not running water continuously while shaving, brushing teeth or washing dishes by hand.*
- *Refrigerating tap water to avoid running the faucet waiting for cold water.*
- *Taking shorter showers.*
- *Installing new shower heads and sink faucets equipped with water-saving devices, such as aerators or spray taps.*
- *Repairing leaking and dripping faucets and leaking toilets.*
- *Replacing older toilets with newer, low-consumption toilets.*

### **Outdoor water-conservation tips include:**

- *Holding back from watering lawns, unless newly seeded (grass often goes dormant — it does not die — during dry conditions).*
- *Limiting vehicle washing.*
- *Sweeping sidewalks and driveways, rather than washing them.*

*Pennsylvania's Drought Task Force will meet Friday, April 14 to review the current precipitation numbers and overall status of surface water and groundwater resources.*

*More information on drought conditions, as well as real-time monitoring of drought indicators, is available on DEP's Web site at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us), Keyword: "Drought."*

EDITOR'S NOTE: Chester County had a deficit of -4.2 inches and a percentage from what is normal for this time of year of only 51-75% for the past 60 days.

## **ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS**

East Caln Township has a web page at  
[www.eastcalntownship.com](http://www.eastcalntownship.com)

*E-mail may be sent to the following addresses:*

Board of Supervisors:  
[supervisors@eastcalntownship.com](mailto:supervisors@eastcalntownship.com)

Township Manager:  
[manager@eastcalntownship.com](mailto:manager@eastcalntownship.com)

Administrative Assistant  
[admin@eastcalntownship.com](mailto:admin@eastcalntownship.com)

Building & Zoning Officer  
[codes@eastcalntownship.com](mailto:codes@eastcalntownship.com)

## **Thank You for . . .**

This section offers the Board of Supervisors an opportunity to extend a public thank you to individuals or groups for their efforts in the Township. On our list this time is:

- Those volunteers who gave their time and efforts for this year's Great PA. Clean-up in April

## Land Development

- Tall Trees Townhouse development containing 75 homes has broken ground on the right side of W. Uwchlan Avenue (Rt. 113) partially up the hill. Bala Investments is the developer and Ryan Homes is the home builder.
- The Board and public were recently shown a concept plan for the Sonoco paper mill site. Sonoco has decided to sell their holdings which are spread between the Township and the Borough of Downingtown along the Boot Road and Brandywine Avenue corridors. What is proposed is rezoning to allow a residential and commercial mix. The Township and the Borough have each appointed a three member joint task force to study the proposal in depth and make recommendations to their respective planning commissions and elected bodies.
- Residential construction at both the Villages of Bell Tavern and the GlennRidge projects are either nearing completion or has ended. Close out issues at the developments are being reviewed.
- Another land development plan currently working through the process is for the construction of a building on the south side of Boot Road opposite Mainline Concrete and owned by the same owners. This building will provide a retail outlet for the "hardscaping" materials (stone pavers, etc.) offered by Mainline Concrete to homeowners and landscapers.
- The Township Planning Commission has been actively pursuing proposed amendments to the current OC-1 Zoning District that would allow residential uses in the district. The district encompasses both sides of Rt. 113 just past North Woodmont Drive up to Webb Road. Currently there is mixed residential and commercial use. In order to continue these uses, existing zoning regulations require amending.

## Calendar

### JUNE

1	Parks & Recreation Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
5	Planning Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
7	Board of Supervisors.....	1:30 p.m.
15	Bulk Trash Pick-up.....	5:30 a.m.
19	Zoning Hearing Board (If Required).....	7:30 p.m.
21	Board of Supervisors.....	7:00 p.m.

### JULY

3	Planning Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
5	Board of Supervisors.....	1:30 p.m.
6	Parks & Recreation Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
17	Zoning Hearing Board (If Required).....	7:30 p.m.
19	Board of Supervisors.....	7:00 p.m.
20	Bulk Trash Pick-up.....	5:30 a.m.

### AUGUST

2	Board of Supervisors.....	1:30 p.m.
3	Parks & Recreation Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
7	Planning Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
16	Board of Supervisors.....	7:00 p.m.
17	Bulk Trash Pick-up.....	5:30 a.m.
21	Zoning Hearing Board (If Required).....	7:30 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

6	Board of Supervisors.....	1:30 p.m.
7	Parks & Recreation Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
11	Planning Commission.....	7:00 p.m.
18	Zoning Hearing Board (If Required).....	7:30 p.m.
20	Board of Supervisors.....	7:00 p.m.

NOTE: Trash and Recycling is collected on scheduled days including holidays

Regular trash pick-up every Monday and Thursday and recycling pick-up is also on Thursday. Pick-ups scheduled on a holiday WILL STILL BE MADE. All material for pick-up should be at curbside by 5:00 AM. Bulk pick-up is 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday. See our website for details.

ALL MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE TOWNSHIP BUILDING  
110 BELL TAVERN ROAD

(Bell Tavern Road intersects with East Lancaster Avenue)

Please contact the Township Office, 269-1989 for any further details.

Township Office Hours: 8:30 A.M. to

4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday.

East Cain Township  
110 Bell Tavern Road  
Downingtown, PA 19335

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Downingtown, PA  
Permit #54

