

SPRING 2023



P. O. Box 380, Harrisville, PA 16038

724-735-2705

mercertownship@zoominternet.net

<https://mercertwpbutler.com>

Chairman:
John Bennett, Jr.
724-735-2757

Vice-Chairman:
Richard Stuchal
724-967-2451

Road Master:
Emil Treese
724-372-8940

Emergency
Management
Coordinator:
Jason Yasment

Auditors:
Karen Kellogg
Sandy Snyder
Heidi Yasment

Tax Collector:
Lisa Bauer
724-735-6616

Secretary/Treasurer: Nikki Ciochetto
mercertownshipnikki@zoominternet.net
Assistant Secretary/Treasurer: Lori Giesler
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Spring 2023

MERCER TOWNSHIP UPDATE

2023 TOWNSHIP ROAD PROJECTS: Our road projects this year will be to tar & chip Harmony Rd. from Browntown Rd. to Tieline Rd; Prairie St. Ext.; and Shields Rd. berms along the new pavement. We will spend no greater than \$90,000 for the projects.

BROWNTOWN RAILROAD BRIDGE: The bridge was repaired this past fall with new crossmember structures installed. The deck and columns needed no repairs. The last repair on this bridge was in 1995.

NEW EQUIPMENT: After spending close to \$10,000 over the last couple of years on our skid steer, we purchased a new JCB 407 wheel loader, which was delivered in July at a cost of \$54,584.85.

PERSONNEL: Last year Nikki Ciochetto was our part-time office clerk managing our sewer billing and learning other duties. This year Nikki has agreed to take on the Secretary/Treasurer responsibilities and Lori Giesler, who has filled that roll for 20 years, has moved into the office clerk position and is planning to retire in a few years. Lori will continue to train Nikki with the many aspects of the Township office activities.

John Bennett, Jr. has moved into the Chairman position and Richard Stuchal has taken the Vice-Chairman position. Rick will continue to provide training to John during the year as Rick's term expires at the end of 2023 and he will retire after 24 years as a supervisor. Pete Treese was re-elected for 6 more years as a Supervisor and he will continue to be our Road Master.

SEWER NEWS: Mercer Township is currently working through intermunicipal agreements to have Kozy Rest Campground on Campground Road connect into the Township sewer system. In November, 2022 we began to offer **Automatic Recurring Payments** using debit and credit cards. There have been no problems with this payment method. Once you authorize us to do so, we will set up your payment through CardConnect and they will automatically charge your card each month on the set date. They send you an email each month to notify you of the transaction. We send your monthly invoice to you via email. **You can set up this service even if you don't have email.** You will see the monthly charge on either your credit card or bank statement, and we will only mail you an invoice if there is a problem with processing your payment and your account carries a balance, and only if we are unable to reach you by phone to resolve the issue. **The form to set up Auto Pay** can be found on our website. Print the form, fill it out and return it to our office. Once we receive the form, we can process a payment that same day. **If your account is delinquent**, we will work with you to set a monthly automatic payment amount to help you get caught up. Once caught up, you will pay the monthly invoice balance. Legal progress is being made via our Solicitor to resolve the severely delinquent and unconnected properties.

BROADBAND: The FCC offers an **Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)** that helps lower income households pay for broadband services. If you are an Armstrong customer, there is information on your online dashboard that will lead you to the form to complete the application. <https://armstrongonewire.com/Internet/ACP> You are required to recertify annually to verify your eligibility. More information can be found at: <https://www.AffordableConnectivity.gov>. Also, the Federal government is currently working on a grant program to bring quality broadband services to everyone nationwide. In addition to providing this service, their goal is for all households to have proper devices and proper training to use these devices. More information can be found at: <https://www.spcregion.org/connected> and <https://dced.pa.gov/programs-funding/broadband-in-pennsylvania>.

WARM PROGRAM: First Energy Corp. continues to provide the WARM program, which is designed to give you FREE energy-saving home improvements that could help save money and lower electricity usage. To apply for WARM, call the Dollar Energy Fund at 1-888-406-8074 or complete the online form at FirstEnergyCorp.com/WARM or fill out and mail a paper application.

HVFC: Brush fire season is here. The Harrisville Volunteer Fire Company is asking that you please use extra caution when you are burning, and refrain from burning on extremely windy days.

Mercer Township Supervisors are your managers for the Township. Please continue to supply us with feedback for future direction throughout the year. Thank you.

John, Rick and Pete

COMMUNITY LINKS FOR YOU

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

Any emergency call 911 immediately

Pennsylvania State Police, Troop D—724-284-8100

Harrisville Volunteer Fire Company—724-735-4646

Superior Ambulance—724-458-5350

BUTLER COUNTY

www.butlercountypa.gov

BUTLER COUNTY TOURISM

**[https://
www.visitbutlercounty.com/](https://www.visitbutlercounty.com/)**

EDUCATION

SLIPPERY ROCK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

<https://www.slipperyrock.k12.pa.us>

BUTLER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

<https://www.bc3.edu>

SLIPPERY ROCK UNIVERSITY

<https://www.sru.edu>

SLIPPERY ROCK AREA LIBRARY

<https://slipperyrocklibrary.org>

BUTLER AREA VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL SCHOOL

<https://www.butlertec.us/>

UTILITIES:

COLUMBIA GAS CO.

<https://columbiagaspa.com/>

Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. ET. Gas Emergencies: 1-888-460-4332. 24/7.

WEST PENN POWER COMPANY

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/west_penn_power.html

To report an emergency or an outage 1-888-544-4877

ARMSTRONG UTILITIES, INC.

<https://armstrongonewire.com/>

Armstrong Service 1-877-277-5711

TRI-COUNTY INDUSTRIES, INC.

<https://www.tricountyind.com/>

WASTE MANAGEMENT

<https://www.wm.com/us/en/home/residential-waste-recycling-pickup>

SERAFINE HAULING, LLC

<https://serafinehauling.com/trash-collection>

Clean Up Day



2023 CLEANUP DAY: Cleanup day is scheduled for **Saturday, May 13th from 7 am to Noon** at the **OLD TOWNSHIP BUILDING**, 152 Boomerang Rd. Enter Boomerang Rd. at the **North** end and exit at the **South** end. Acceptable items include stoves, refrigerators and other white goods, furniture, and lawn mowers. **Unacceptable Items:** Liquids of any kinds, hazardous materials, batteries, nothing over 5 feet in length (except furniture), construction debris (drywall, cement blocks, etc.), dirt, sod, grass, rocks, stones, tires, household garbage. Residents are limited to one pick-up truckload per address. Place appliances at rear of truck to be removed first. **For safety purposes**, please keep children inside the vehicle at cleanup site! Any questions, please call 724-735-2705 or email

mercertownship@zoominternet.net

WE CANNOT ACCEPT TV'S OR ELECTRONIC ITEMS. Staples has free electronic recycling all year: <https://www.staples.com/sbd/cre/noheader/sustainability-center/recycling->