

Polk Township

Monroe County
Pennsylvania

2025 Budget



"A Sesquicentennial Community"

Founded in 1840s: Brief history of Polk

By Amy Leiser, Executive Director
Monroe County Historical Association

Polk Township

Polk Township is located in the western portion of Monroe County and was formed on September 26, 1846, when it was removed from a portion of Chestnuthill Township. The newly-formed township was named for James K. Polk, the 11th president of the United States. Polk served one term as president from 1845-1849, and was seated in office when the township was formed.

It is believed that the first European settler in Polk Township was Philip Shupp who built a small log structure home around 1750. Most of the earliest European settlers in present-day Polk Township were of German ancestry and included Conrad Dotter, Conrad Dreisbach, William Kresge, John Kunkle and John Serfass. The land is very fertile, attracting many farmers to this portion of Monroe County.

Roughly one hundred years prior to the creation of Polk Township, early settlers faced an uncertain life. Native peoples inhabited the land, and tensions between European settlers and Indians escalated during the French and Indian War (1756-1763).

Due to this tension, Benjamin Franklin ordered forts to be built to protect the European colonists; Fort Norris was located in present-day Polk Township. While the structure no longer stands, it is believed the fort was located behind where the Polk Elementary school along Route 209 stands today. Fort Norris was named for Isaac Norris who was the Speaker of the Provincial Assembly. The fort was commanded by Captain Weatherhold.

Frederick Hoeth and his family were Moravians who settled on 700 acres of land along the Pohopoco Creek in 1750. Five years later, in 1755, Hoeth and his family members were either captured or murdered following an Indian raid on his house. In 1760, the Moravians, a Protestant religious sect from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, established two mission settlements in Monroe County; one of those missions was located in Polk Township. The Moravians named this mission, "Wechquetank" and its purpose was to convert native people to Christianity. Because of the ever-growing hostilities between the farmers and the Indians, Wechquetank was abandoned in 1763 after only three years.

The first school was built circa 1830 in Kresgeville on land that had been donated by Nicholas Hawk. In 1855, Edward Hawk discovered a deposit of slate in Polk Township. He excavated a quarry to mine the slate and sold the slate to area schools, so students had tablets on which to write their lessons.

The earliest road through Polk Township was the State Route, now Route 209, and the first church was St. Timothy Evangelical Church, which was built in 1866. The largest village in Polk Township was Kresgeville. Within the town limits in 1880, there were stores, hotels, two gristmills, four blacksmith shops, a shoemaker, a saddle shop, and a furniture shop. In 1940, the population was 1,005. By 2010, 7,874 people resided in Polk Township.

The villages of Polk Township:

- Dotters Corners
- Jonas
- Kresgeville

Elected

Polk Township Supervisors:

Brian K. Ahner – Chairman

Michael D. Hurley – Vice-Chairman

Carl S. Heckman – Supervisor

Tax Collector: Polk Township, Monroe County, Pleasant Valley School District

Angela Schwartz

Appointed CPA:

Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC

Elected Auditors:

Candy Burger

Dennis McMahon

Trenton Schaffer

Appointed Officials

Solicitor:

Attorney James V. Fareri

Engineer:

Russell Kresge Jr., PE, PLS

SEO:

Jonathan Shupp

Appointed Boards & Commissions

Planning Commission

Parks & Recreation

Veteran's Memorial

Zoning Hearing Board

Nuisance Hearing Board

AG Security

Uniform Construction Code Board of Appeals

Historical Society

Departments

Township Secretary:

Rebecca Tippet

Zoning Officer:

Tracy Herman

Treasurer:

Pam Thompson

DPW

Brian K. Ahner

Blaine Borger

Harold Touni Jr.

William C. Tippet

David Novajovsky

Troy Meckes

Thomas Longyhore Jr.

Derrick Burger

Polk Township 2025 Budget

Polk Township proposed 2025 Budget was made available to the public at the November 18, 2024 Supervisors Meeting. The Polk Township Supervisors maintained the real estate millage rate at .62. A .37 millage rate will take effect in 2025 for the sole purpose of supporting the important needs and services of the Polk Township Volunteer Fire Company. Therefore, the total proposed millage rate for 2025 will be .99.

Example: For every \$200,000 of real estate tax assessment, the .62 mills will generate \$124 dollars in real estate taxes, and the .37 mills will generate \$74 dollars.

The Polk Township Supervisors, Public Works Department, Zoning Officer, Township Secretary and the Treasurer work tirelessly to maintain and improve our community. The Township was proud to open the new playground in the Walking Park on Polk Township Road in 2024. The 2025 Budget will include funding for various township projects such as improving the roads, repairs to buildings and the purchase of much needed new equipment. To assist in providing for the community, Polk Township intensely seeks grants to help fund township costs. Our hopes are to continue to better our services for all who live in Polk Township.

ALL FUNDS

		2025
		Budget
REVENUES		
301	REAL PROPERTY TAXES	
	301.10 - RE Taxes - CY	322,850
	301.20 - RE Taxes - PY	4,700
	301.40 - RE Taxes - Tax Claim	12,700
	Total 301 - Real Property Taxes	340,250
310	TAXES - LOCAL TAX ENABLING ACT	
	310.10 - RE Transfer Taxes	200,000
	310.20 - Earned Income Taxes	927,500
	Total 310 - Local Tax	1,127,500
321	LICENSES & PERMITS	
	322.30 - Driveway Permits	1,355
331	FINES & FORFEITS	
	331.10 - Court - District Magistrate	1,200
341	INTEREST, RENTS & ROYALTIES	127,000
355	STATE SHARED REVENUE	
	355.01 - PURTA	1,500
	355.02 - Motor Vehicle Liquid Fuels	304,033
	355.03 - State Road Turnback	24,040
	355.04 - Liquor Licenses	600
	355.05 - Mun. Pension State Aid	79,500
	355.07 - Foreign Fire Insur. Premium	48,000
	Total 355 - State Shared Revenue	457,673
361	CHARGES FOR SERVICES	
	361.31 - Sub Land Dev Plans Fees	3,500
	361.32 - Fees for Engineering Review & Insp	1,200
	361.33 - Zoning Permit Fees	24,740
	361.34 - Hearing Fees-Conditional Use	1,500
	Total 361 - Charges for Services	30,940
362	PUBLIC SAFETY	
	362.41 - UCC Building Permits	46,820
	362.44 - SEO Fees/Sewage Permits	35,000
	362.47 - Well Permits	1,000
	Total 362 - Public Safety	82,820
364	SANITATION	
	364.30 - Solid Waste Coll & Disp Permits	126,750
	364.31 - Additional SW receipts	8,500
	364.50 - Sale of Recyclables	11,500
	Total 364 - Sanitation	146,750
	TOTAL REVENUES	2,315,488
	Carryover / Cash	3,110,500
	TOTAL AVAILABLE REVENUES	5,425,988

EXPENDITURES

400	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
	400.05 - Supervisors Wages	8,500
	400.33 - Supervisors Mileage	325
	400.46 - Meetings and Conferences	5,280
	Total 400 - General Government	<u>14,105</u>
402	FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION	
	402.20 - Supplies	400
	402.31 - CPA / Auditing Services	8,000
	Total 402 - Financial Administration	<u>8,400</u>
403	TAX COLLECTION	
	403.05 - Elected Tax Collector / RE	26,195
	403.10 - EIT Tax Collection	1,200
	403.20 - Supplies	4,350
	403.23 - Tax Collection Postage	145
	Total 403 - Tax Collection	<u>31,890</u>
404	LAW	
	404.31 - Solicitor	19,000
405	SECRETARY / CLERK / TREASURER	
	405.12 - Secretary / Treasurer Wages	125,100
	405.35 - Treasurer Bond	1,426
	405.46 - Conferences and Conventions	1,025
	Total 405 - Secretary/Clerk/Treasurer	<u>127,551</u>
406	GENERAL GOVT ADMINISTRATION	
	406.21 - Office Supplies	7,890
	406.23 - Postage	850
	406.31 - Admin Professional Services	32,210
	406.34 - Legal Advertising	5,620
	406.39 - Bank Service Fees	100
	406.42 - Dues, Subscriptions & Memberships	6,130
	Total 406 - General Govt Administration	<u>52,800</u>
407	IT NETWORKING SERVICES	
	407.45 - IT Networking - Support & Maint	4,200
408	ENGINEER	
	408.31 - Professional Services	57,000
409	GENERAL GOVT BLDG & PLANT	
	409.24 - Operating supplies - Bldgs	2,750
	409.26 - Building Small tools & Equip	12,880
	409.36 - Public Utility Services	7,385
	409.37 - Bldg Repair & Maint Services	120,000
	409.44 - Other services - Cleaning	3,625
	409.48 - Telephone / Internet	4,890
	409.49 - Heating Oil	4,550
	Total 409 - General Govt Building & Plant	<u>156,080</u>

411	FIRE	
	411.50 - Contribution of Volunteer Fire	125,000
	411.54 - Fire Relief Fund	48,320
	Total 411 - Fire	<u>173,320</u>
413	CODE ENFORCEMENT	
	413.23 - Postage	535
	413.31 - SEO	52,800
	413.37 - Building Inspector Services	54,200
	Total 413 - Code Enforcement	<u>107,535</u>
414	PLANNING AND ZONING	
	414.10 - Planning and Zoning Wages	76,458
	414.31 - Court Reporter	1,650
	414.46 - Meeting and Contin Ed	850
	Total 414 - Planning and Zoning	<u>78,958</u>
415	EMERGENCY MGT & COMMUNICATIONS	
	415.10 - Monroe County Control Center	40,697
	415.53 - Contribution to Gov't EMS	5,000
	Total 415 - Emergency Mgt & Communications	<u>45,697</u>
426	RECYCLING COLLECTION & DISPOSAL	
	426.21 - Supplies	10,890
	426.36 - Public Utility Services	1,640
	426.37 - Recycling Repairs & Maint Srvcs	24,600
	Total 426 - Recycling Collection & Disposal	<u>37,130</u>
427	SOLID WASTE COLLECTION & DISPOSAL	
	427.10 - Wages	102,746
	427.21 - Supplies / Building	7,750
	427.45 - Disposal / Hauling	91,540
	Total 427 - Solid Waste Collection & Disposal	<u>202,036</u>
430	PUBLIC WORKS - HIGHWAYS & STREETS	
	430.10 - Wages - Road	351,161
	430.26 - Small Tools & Minor Equip	3,400
	430.33 - Fuel - Public Works Equip	45,200
	430.37 - PA One Call Services	120
	430.44 - Uniforms & Clothing Allowance	4,700
	430.75 - Minor Machinery & Equip	209,000
	Total 430 - Public Works Highways & Streets	<u>613,581</u>
432	SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL	
	432.24 - Snow Removal Oper. Supplies	48,000
433	TRAFFIC SIGNALS, SIGNS, ENG	
	433.24 - Street Signs & Signals	25,800
434	STREET LIGHTS	
	434.36 - Street Light Electric	2,036

437	REPAIRS OF TOOLS & MACHINERY	
	437.25 - Repair tools & mach - supplies	37,600
	437.37 - Repair of Mach - Services	53,850
	Total 437 - Repairs of Tools & Machinery	<u>91,450</u>
438	MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS OF ROADS	
	438.25 - Maint & Repair Rds & Brdg Supplies	244,890
	438.37 - Maint & Repair Rds - Services	480,000
	438.38 - Rent of Equip for Roads	10,450
	Total 438 - Maintenance & Repairs of Roads	<u>735,340</u>
450	CULTURE & RECREATION	
	453.54 - Spectator Recreation - Donation	7,500
	454.24 - Park Supplies	15,600
	454.37 - Parks - Services	16,060
	454.74 - Parks - Capital Purchase	12,000
	Total 450 - Culture & Recreation	<u>51,160</u>
459	VETERANS	3,500
481	EMPLOYER PD BENEFITS & W/H	
	481.10 - Social Security Employer	37,000
	481.20 - Medicare - Employer	8,600
	481.30 - PA - UC	12,800
	Total 481 - Employer Paid Benefits & Withholding	<u>58,400</u>
483	NON-UNIFORM PENSION CONTRIBUTION	100,392
486	INSURANCE	76,190
487	HEALTH INS EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	400,320
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	3,321,871
	Net Revenue (Loss)	2,104,117
	Total Approp & Unapprop Funds	5,425,988

Polk Township State Liquid Fuels Fund

Established and restricted under Act 655 of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, revenues for this fund are derived from the State gasoline tax. This fund is restricted in use for the maintenance, repair and construction of roads, street, and bridges for which the township is responsible.

		Budget	2025
COA	Description		
	PRIOR YEAR BALANCE	\$	371,830
REVENUES			
341	INTEREST EARNINGS	\$	17,600
351	INTERGOVERNMENTAL SVCS	\$	328,073
TOTAL REVENUES		\$	345,673
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION		\$	717,503
EXPENDITURES			
430	PUBLIC WORKS - MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT	\$	148,784
430	PUBLIC WORKS - ROADS	\$	315,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$	463,784
TOTAL APPRO & UNAPPR		\$	253,719

