

State of Ross Township - 2024

Administration:

- \$15,000 Refund for Electric Vehicles
- \$26,000 Purchase Price Refund / \$11,000 Engineering and Consulting from Duquesne Light for EV Fueling Units
 - State Representatives, Emily Kinhead & Lindsay Powell, along with Duquesne Light visited Public Works to tour the EV Fueling Stations
- \$49,869 – 904 Municipal Recycling Grant for 2022
- \$50,000 estimated – 904 Municipal Recycling Grant for 2023
 - Amounts awarded are based off the tonnage of commercial and residential recycling
- \$301,984 – Transportation Alternatives Set Aside (TASA) Grant – Browns Lane Sidewalk Connector Project
 - Construction of a new portion of sidewalk from the Toyota dealership down to McKnight Rd., creating safe pedestrian passage on Browns Ln. from Babcock to McKnight, and upgrading a PRT bus stop
- \$312,134 – Green Light Go Grant – Traffic Signal upgrades at the intersection of Babcock and Thompson Run
 - Complete replacement of traffic equipment
- \$241,448 – Green Light Go Grant – Traffic Signal upgrades at the intersection of Babcock and Rochester
 - Complete replacement of traffic equipment
- TASA and GLG Grants received support from Rep. Emily Kinhead & Sen. Lindsey Williams
- \$153,325 – (NHCOG) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Ross Municipal Center ADA Upgrades Project
 - Sidewalk replacement and ADA ramp installations
- \$43,900 – ALCOSAN GROW Grant – York Drive Infiltration Control Project
- \$114,700 – ALCOSAN GROW Grant – Connie Drive Lining Project
- \$65,501 – ARPA PA Small Water & Sewer Grant – Mayer Drive Cast Iron Sewer Replacement Project
- \$200,000 – Gaming Economic Development & Tourism Fund (GEDTF) Grant – Nelson Run Bridge #1 Replacement
- \$930,585 - Liquid Fuels Reimbursements
- \$300,000 – H2O PA Grant – MS4 Compliance
- **\$2,815,446 – TOTAL** for grants and reimbursements

- Completed Phase II of the Digitization Project of old Township paper documents.
 - Records from 2002-present are 70% complete
 - Documents are text searchable
- Board of Commissioners recognized:
 - Building Safety Month (May 2024)
 - National Library Week (April 2024)
 - McKnight Women's Club – 70 years
 - Local Government Week (April 2024)
- Sponsored Township participation in the Great American Cleanup (April 2024) – Community Wide (7 sites)
 - Township provided safety and pickup supplies as well as collection of the garbage
- Duquesne Light LED Rebates
 - Yielded 20% reduction in our electricity billing after converting Municipal Building to LED
- Collaborated with Allegheny Land Trust (ALT) on green space conservation projects
- Equal Opportunity Board (EOB) held the Township's 1st ever Pride Event/Celebration
 - Received a gubernatorial proclamation in recognition
 - 100+ participants
- Allegheny County 2024 Banner Community recognizing excellence in local government
- Suburban Whitetail Management had the highest number of hunters, 24, for the 2023-2024 season, tripling the harvested deer count from the previous year – 54 deer
- Qualified a ½ dozen residents for the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) for unpaid water bills.

Public Works:

- Accepted delivery of 2 EV Ford F150 for use at Public Works.
- Hosted 2 shredding events for State Rep. Emily Kinkead & Sen. Lindsey Williams
- Hosting a License Plate Replacement Event in October for State Representatives, Emily Kinkead & Lindsay Powell, and Senator Lindsey Williams
- Maintained a \$2 million dollar paving program for 4 consecutive years
- Hosted 2024 North Hills COG Equipment Show
 - 30 Communities & 7 Water Authorities participated
 - 500+ people in attendance
- Completed 76 requests for limb pick up
- Collected 728 cubic yards of leaves this spring yielding free compost to Ross Township residents

Finance:

- Paystubs are emailed rather than printed & mailed, saving time & money
- Ross earned \$170,537 in Interest Income from combined fund balances (Held at FNB & PLGIT) during the period of 1/1/24 to 7/31/24
- Combined Pension Plan increased \$2,362,683 in funds during the period of 1/1/24 to 7/31/24
- Sold 8 vehicles for \$133,000 during the period of 1/1/24 to 7/31/24
- All Payrolls, Check Runs, Filings, & Financial Audits all completed properly, on time, and without major exceptions

Police:

- Hired 3 new officers:
 - Lizzi, Lloyd, and Green
- Promoted 2 officers to the position of Sergeant:
 - Immekus & Chuberko
 - (4 promoted in November of 2023 – Papale, Seese, Chiaramonte, & Garcia)
- Retired K9s:
 - Cezar & Neeko
- New K9s:
 - Tyr & Arrow
- Created a Theft Investigation Unit
- 1st ever Citizens Police Academy
- Exceptional Citizens Public Safety Expo
- Partnered with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime & Delinquency to create an Opioid Overdose Prevention Program
- Successful Social Worker Program
 - Jordan Sager presented at a National Police Social Worker Conference
- Lifesaving Awards to Novak, Anderson, & Horak

Parks & Recreation:

- New Parks & Recreation Director – Casey Hausner
- Hired an Outdoor Recreation Coordinator – Morgan Hurley
- Reached 100% of the 2024 revenue goal in the first 6 months of 2024
- Hosted Steel City Shakespeare in the Park

- Hosting a Senior Fair in October for State Rep. Emily Kinhead & Sen. Lindsey Williams
- Parks & Recreation Director, Casey Hausner is a Certified Playground Inspector
- Partnered with the Pennsylvania Resources Council (PRC) to hold a Rain Barrel Workshop
- Celebrated 5 Successful Neighborhood Days
 - Denny Park
 - Herge Park
 - Scharmyn Park
 - Bruno Sammartino Park
 - Evergreen Community Park
- Increased Parks & Recreation Programming, including expanding Pickleball
 - Including 2 new events for fall/winter
 - Trunk-or-Treat
 - New Winter Light Event* (not yet named)
- Completed the Quail Park Improvements
- Hosted a successful Summer Camp with 115 kids

Community Development:

- Building Code Official, Evan Russell obtained a Commercial Building Plans Examiner ICC Certification
- Building Code Official, Evan Russell obtained a Commercial Accessibility Inspector/Plans Examiner Certification
- Code Enforcement implemented a Ticketing System
 - Allowing for a monetary penalty in lieu of the issuance of a summary citation for violations
- Administration (site review & approval), issuance of permits, inspections (site, building, fire) for the Foundmore, ModWash, and DSG, House of Sport Developments.
- Building Code Official revised and added functions to the permitting database system allowing for the administration of additional tasks for more effective review and approval of permits.
- Code Enforcement initiated and fostered relationships with numerous investors to identify derelict homes, resulting in the elimination of the \$90,000 demolition line item in the departmental budget
- Fire Marshal, Jim Hughes, renewed his Fire Inspector Certification
- Coordinated the rescoping of the McKnight/Siebert MTF Grant
 - Rescoped cost went from \$2.3 million to \$1.2 million, reducing the Township match to \$358,000 with all monies coming from \$600,000 Traffic Impact Fees
- Created and implemented a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for all departmental Township projects

- Implemented a process for the investigation of residential stormwater related issues working in conjunction with DPW

Community Development Departmental Statistics:

○ Building Inspections Conducted:	643
○ Building Plan Reviews:	190
○ Permits Issued:	1669
○ Zoning/Occupancy:	550
○ Code Enforcement Violations:	151
○ Code Enforcement Complaints:	253
○ Code Violation Tickets Issued:	74
○ Code Violations filed with Magistrate:	91
○ Code Enforcement Derelict Properties Renovations:	30
○ Fire Hydrant Permits:	123
○ Dye Test Permits:	330
○ Land Development/Subdivisions/Variances:	20
○ Commercial Name/Change of Use (Not with Building Permits):	7