

Managers' Report

March 18, 2026

Submitted by John M. Barrett

This report will summarize the activity from our February meeting. We have advanced the South Fayette Activity Center project to the public bidding phase. The final design will include a series of add-alternates that will provide the Township with tools to help ensure the project stays within our range of construction estimates. The project will be bid for thirty days, and we will immediately tabulate and report findings to the Board. Additionally, we have concluded our hiring search for a Fire Services Coordinator position and will ask the Board to take action this month to fill the role. We are working with our VFD's to structure an orientation program for this newly created position and will keep everyone informed on our progress. Our Independent Auditors have started their field work in the Township, and we are currently working together to allow their work to advance smoothly and efficiently. We were able to provide them with the requested information that will permit their work to continue outside of the Township building for the next phase of the audit. Below you will find additional information on these projects as well as details on other issues.

Bid Schedule for 515 Millers Run. Our design professionals have completed the plan set for the South Fayette Activity Center, which includes the value engineering items that the Township requested. Our architects, MS Consultants, will take the plans through a QA/QC process before uploading the plans and all required public bidding documents on the MuniBid platform. We anticipate the project garnering significant interest in the construction community, and we hope to benefit from competitive bidding. As we discussed previously, the construction will displace both the Library and Seniors from the facility for the duration of construction, which is believed to be 7-9 months. We have been working on a transition plan for both groups, which includes dedicating space inside the Township Building for the South Fayette Library to remain operational during construction, as well as helping the Seniors find locations for monthly luncheons, bingo and other programs. We are still working through these logistics and will report back to the Board on any issues we may encounter. Once our transition plans are completed, we will communicate through our website, social media, and other communication outlets to inform residents of our plans. Our project calendar has tentatively projected late winter/early spring of 2027 as a target opening date for the facility. We intend to brand the facility as the South Fayette Activity Center.

DPW Facility Improvements. Another priority project for our organization is the rehabilitation of the Public Works building. The Board previously selected an architect to lead the Township through a schematic design process. Indovina and Associates have scheduled a kick-off meeting for this project later this month, and we hope to have more information to share with everyone in the coming months. Once we have a schematic design and a construction estimate, we will make a decision to take the project to Design Development before public bidding on the construction of the project. We don't believe the process will be as lengthy as the Activity Center, largely because this building is entirely focused on Public Works operations and the last process had Library, Senior and Recreation activities to balance. While we believe the process will be shorter, the elements of the process will remain the same as followed for the Activity Center and will include opportunities for public input.

Bridge Street Temporary Bridge Planning. We previously shared with the Board that the replacement of the bridge off of Thoms Run Road onto Bridge Street will be 100% covered by the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) coordinated by PennDOT District 11-0. While that is great news for the Township, the program moves slowly, and the condition of the bridge is quite poor. Given that the replacement bridge is likely a 2028 project, the Township will be obligated to implement a temporary plan to maintain access to Bridge Street until the replacement project is completed. The structure is currently in a state of failure and will require action before 2028. We are working with Gibson Thomas Engineering to secure an emergency permit for a temporary bridge and are currently speaking with vendors to assist with temporary solutions. We anticipate having some options for consideration later this quarter, with the expectation that we will need to install a temporary solution before year-end.

Fire Services Coordinator. I was part of an interview committee that was tasked with conducting a search for a newly created position of Fire Services Coordinator. The position was reviewed and supported by the Fire Services Advisory Committee (FSAC), and the personnel expense for the position was included in the 2026 General Fund Budget. The committee consisted of a representative from the FSAC, the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator, Assistant Township Manager and me. We were pleased with the response to the job advertisement and ultimately interviewed a short list of qualified candidates for the position. The interview committee has unanimously recommended Rodger Ricciuti for the position of Fire Services Coordinator. Rodger has accepted the position and is slated to start on Monday, April 13, 2026.

Independent Auditors. Our independent auditors have begun their review of the Township's 2025 financial statements and recently spent a full day onsite meeting with staff and examining preliminary documentation. They also provided a punch list of materials and reports needed to advance their work. As part of a standard financial audit for the Township, the auditors will evaluate internal controls, verify account balances, test transactions for accuracy and compliance, and confirm that our financial statements fairly present the Township's financial position in accordance with applicable accounting standards. We believe they will need another 2-3 weeks to complete their field work and will have a preliminary report to us in early May.

If anyone would like clarification or further discussion on any item in this report, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

John M. Barrett
Township Manager