

Upper Frederick Township

Summer 2023 Newsletter

UPPER FREDERICK TOWNSHIP

3205 Big Road
Zieglerville, PA 19492
Phone: 610-754-6436

Website:

www.upperfrederick.org

E-mail:

admin@upperfrederick.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Sean A. Frisco, Chairman
Ronald Di Francesco Vice-Chair
Thomas Trojansky, Supervisor

Township Manager

Tracy L. Tackett, AICP

Public Works Director

Steve Heller

TOWNSHIP OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Thursday
9am to 4:30pm
Friday 9am to 4pm

MEETING DATES & TIMES

Board of Supervisors

Workshop:

First Thursday of each month 7pm

Monthly Regular Meeting:

Second Thursday of each month
7pm

Planning Commission

Last Thursday of each month 7pm,
as needed

Park & Recreation Board

Third Tuesday of each month 7pm

Zoning Hearing Board

Third Tuesday of each month,
as advertised 7pm

Welcome to our newest Supervisor Thomas Trojansky



Upper Frederick Township and the Board of Supervisors are pleased to announce the appointment of Thomas Trojansky to the vacant Supervisor position on February 9, 2023. Supervisor Trojansky is a 15-year resident of Upper Frederick Township and he works for Plymouth Community Ambulance Association serving as the Chief of Operations. Prior to working for Plymouth Ambulance, Supervisor Trojansky was a Physician Assistant with extensive surgical and emergency room experience. Supervisor Trojansky looks forward to getting input from employees and residents during his tenure as Supervisor, and he values integrity and fairness in the decision-making process. He would also like to control growth, while respecting a property owners right to develop their property in accordance with the applicable regulations.

Upper Frederick Community Day Sept 30th!



Mark your calendars! We are pleased to announce Community Day will be held Saturday, **September 30, 2023 from 10 AM to 3 PM at Frederick Friendship Park 3205 Big Road.** Many of your favorite activities will be returning including, but not limited to, the chili cook-off, bungee jump & rock climbing wall, local farmer/craft vendors, emergency service vehicles, and more! Watch for more information on the Township website and Facebook page. If you know of a local farmer or crafter that would be interested, let us know.

Upcoming Township Projects



Staff are busy this year working on several significant projects, a few of which are briefly summarized here. Check our website for more information.

- **Faust Road**- stormwater upgrades and repaving from Little Road to Scioto Creek bridge.
- **Sweisford Road**- staff will be completing upgrades to the drainage along the edge of the road and the section of the road from Gottshalk Rd to the bridge over-Goshenhoppen Creek will be repaved.
- **Meeting Room and Campus Upgrades**- alternatives are being developed for a larger meeting room to accommodate increased resident attendance at public meetings. This project will include space and security upgrades to the Administration building and Public Works space. Funding received from the American Rescue Plan Act and a grant from the State will be utilized for the proposed upgrades, together with reserve funds the Township has on hand dedicated to these upgrades. The Supervisors are committed to completing the needed upgrades within the existing budget.

Upcoming Events

2023 GREEN LANE PARK SUMMER CONCERT SERIES



Concerts will be held at the Amphitheater, bring your own blankets or lawn chairs to sit on. All programs free of charge. For more information go to: <https://www.montcopa.org/3474/Events>

- **The Mystic Rituals – July 7th, 2023 from 6pm to 8pm.**
- **The Asbury Fever Band – July 16th, 2023 from 6pm to 8pm.**
- **We May Be Right – August 20th, 2023 from 6pm to 8pm.**

55th ANNUAL GOSHENHOPPEN FOLK FESTIVAL RETURNS AUGUST 11TH & 12TH

Enjoy this classic event showcasing the daily life of the Pennsylvania Germans in the 18th and 19th centuries.

For more information visit www.Goschenhoppen.org

For volunteering information contact redmens_hall@goschenhoppen.org



Upper Frederick Township, together with Upper Salford and Lower Frederick, are pleased to present:

Movie on Spring Mountain

September 16, 2023 (rain date September 23rd)

Enjoy this popular event sponsored by Victory Bank (movie to be announced late summer)

Have you Visited your Township Parks Lately?

Township staff and volunteers have been working hard to improve our parks this past year and more projects are planned for the upcoming months. To help fund these projects, the Township was recently awarded grant funds from the Pennsylvania Local Share Account for new playground equipment and renovations to the historic school house located at the entrance of the Township municipal complex. The following is a summary of park projects:

- **Speelhoffer Park**– Recent improvements to Speelhoffer Park include the paving of much of the trail around the outside of the dog park. The Upper Frederick Public Works crew together with the Lower Frederick crew will finish this paving later this year. Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy spearheaded a tree planting project in the fall of 2022, which resulted in volunteers planting approximately 50 trees in the park to improve the riparian corridor, which is a tributary leading to Swamp Creek. Thanks to funding from the Department of Natural Resources new fencing was added to create a small dog area and improved separation. Finally, two new shade structures were recently ordered to offer some shade in the dog park.
- **Wayland Park**– Eagle Scouts are working with Township staff and the Parks Board to develop an improved trail marker system in the park and install bird houses throughout the park. Updates will be provided on the Township website when available.
- **Friendship Park**– Our Public Works crew has been working hard to extend our trail system through the woods and around the stormwater basins behind the township building. It's a great addition to the park, so we encourage you to come check it out. New playground equipment will also be added to the park later this year thanks to the grant recently received from the Pennsylvania Local Share Account.

Lessons Learned from 2021 Ethics Violation

An ethics violation was issued by the State Ethics Commission where the State Ethics Commission determined that the proper process was not followed relating to the January 2021 purchase of a piece of equipment being sold by a Supervisor to the Township. The State determined the purchase did not meet procedural requirements and the Supervisor selling the equipment should not have voted on the 2021 budget as it relates to the equipment, or voted on the bills which included the piece of equipment in question. To avoid such mistakes in the future, the township has taken several steps to improve the process.

First, since the violation in 2021, the Township has hired a new Manager. She is attentive to the requirements of the Second Class Township Code, as well as the State Ethics Code, and has made it her priority to provide the Supervisors with needed background information well in advance of their meetings to allow adequate time for review and questions.

Additionally, a new Treasurer was hired in January of 2022 who has improved our financial reporting and internal processes.

Further, Township staff are working closely with our new Township So-

licitor to ensure applicable regulations are followed.

Finally, newly appointed Supervisor Trojansky will not vote on budget appropriations to the ambulance company due to his position as Chief of Plymouth Ambulance.

The Township staff and Supervisors continue to work hard to avoid such violations in the future. For more information, please contact the Township Manager at

admin@upperfrederick.org.

Water Supply Standards Strengthened

On May 16th the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 2023-01 amending the Township Water Supply Ordinance to strengthen the well protections for residents with existing wells located within 1/2 mile of any new development that is estimated to withdraw 10,000 gallons per day or more. To view the language of the ordinance go to:

www.upperfrederick.org/DocumentCenter/View/792/Ordinance-2023-01--Water-supply-Ord



Upper Frederick not Immune from Development Pressures

You may have heard talk in recent months about new residential development proposed in the Township. In August of 2021 a developer purchased 112 acres along Colonial and Big Roads, generally across from Frederick Living. The same developer then purchased an additional 70 acres on Heimbach Road in 2022, also across from Frederick Living. All of these properties had previously been proposed for more than 400 residential dwellings in the early 2000's, but the developments did not move forward following the recession. This developer is now exploring development opportunities on these same properties. Concept plans provided by the developer are showing fewer than 300 units between all the properties, which is a significant reduction from previous proposals thanks to stronger natural resource protection standards adopted by the Township since the recession. No official subdivision/land development plan has been submitted, just concept plans. The Supervisors continue to work to protect the rural character of the community to the best of their ability.

To follow the progress of this potential development, and other developments, check the township website at www.upperfrederick.org and look at upcoming agendas for the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors for topics of interest. To see current plans go to the development plans folder at www.upperfrederick.org/documentcenter.

Message from Township Tax Collector

The discount period for school and per capita taxes ends August 31st. These bills may be paid by mail or online. Or, if you prefer paying in-person, the tax collector will be at the Upper Frederick Fire House August 22nd, 24th, 29th and the 31st from 6:30–7:30 PM to accept in-person payments.

The Upper Frederick Fire House is locat-

ed at 2837 Little Rd. Appointments are also available by request by contacting mrhtaxcollector@comcast.net or 267-664-9219.

If your County/Township real estate taxes are paid by your mortgage company, be sure and send the school tax bill to the mortgage company. The Per Capita taxes are NOT paid by the mortgage companies.

Reminders

Sump-pump discharge- avoid discharging water from your sump pump into public or private sewers and avoid pumping into the right-of-way. It overloads sewers and can undermine the roadways.

Septic Tank Pumping- Don't forget to have your septic tank pumped every three years, or sooner, if needed. You can contact the Township office if you need to know your last service date.

Updated Website on the Way

In an effort to have a more user-friendly website with expanded information, the Township is in the process of switching to a new web host and redesigning the website.

The goal is to have a more user-friendly website that has easy links to the most requested information. Additionally, in response to recent requests from the public, the new website will have basic information relating to development applications and other information relating to Township business. We anticipate the new website will go live later this summer.

«City»«State»«Zip»

«Address_1»

«Resident»

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