

in this issue >>>

- Elected Officials
 - Recycling
- Police Department
 - Litter in Lehman
- Road Department
 - Project Updates
 - Partnerships
- Zoning Office
- Announcements & News
 - New Website
 - Events

Issue
EIGHT



Keeping you connected to your community

in Lehman

Spring/
Summer
2021

elected officials >>>

A Message from your Supervisors:

We wanted to take a moment to thank our residents for their efforts in being cleaner and greener. We have a steady flow of residents utilizing our recycling center; many taking advantage of our yearly paper shredding and electronics recycling events; and most recently, our first Pick Up Lehman Litter Cleanup event. We are humbled to see our residents stepping up and taking care of our area. We all know this is the land in which we are leaving future generations and efforts made today, no matter how small they seem, make a huge difference. For more information about what small steps you can make, we urge you to visit LehmanTwp.com/cleaner-greener/

Township Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 7:00pm unless otherwise advertised.

Visit us on



“Lehman Township,
Luzerne County, Pennsylvania”

Call us at **570-674-7788**

or check our website
www.LehmanTwp.com

Recycling >>>

Recycling Update

As most of you are aware, we were having trouble getting our recycling bins emptied regularly. We have had to unexpectedly close the center more times this year than any other year combined. We want our permit holders to understand this has been extremely frustrating to us as well. In full disclosure, we currently pay a greatly reduced rate through our current hauler, making a change incredibly difficult. We have been price checking and would most certainly pay at least double for the center if we use any that we have found thus far.

Our hauler has been able to empty the bins regularly for a few months now, we hope things stay as is. Back in 2019, we did a small survey for a few weeks. We found over 95% of our residents were prepared to pay a yearly fee for use of the recycling center. We hope to avoid this but in reality, to have a working center, it may be our only viable option if we emptying becomes a regular problem again. The supervisors and staff are working hard to find a viable solution to keep our recycling center open for you. We will continue listening to our residents and make the best decisions based upon your needs and wants. If you would like to comment about this situation, please feel free to email Chrisandra at Lehman@LehmanTwp.com. Thank you in advance for your input.

You may have heard a “vehicle built in the 21st century is supposed to be more durable than ever”. It has also been said that these vehicles can perform well into the 200,000-mile range. We drive our fleet vehicles to around the 100,000-mile level, as we know the best time to retire a law enforcement fleet vehicle is around that time. As these vehicles get past 100,000 miles, that is when major service issues and high expenses usually occur.

Since we are able to rotate these vehicles to our road and zoning departments, we prefer to retire them from law enforcement before major issues start arising. We need to be aware and understand the risk of driving these vehicles too long. The police department’s fleet is used in emergencies on a daily basis; keeping an unpredictable vehicle is unacceptable. Thankfully, by applying and using grants offered to us, we have been able to keep a healthy law enforcement fleet of vehicles.

Most recently, we purchased a 2021 Dodge Durango “Police Pursuit” Sport Utility Vehicle. Like the Charger, Dodge created the Pursuit with the help and guidance of the Police Advisory Board. It is technologically advanced and packed with law enforcement friendly features.

Production of our Pursuit began in the 1st quarter of 2021 in Detroit, Michigan. We accepted delivery of it on April 27th and it has since been fully customized and decaled for LTPD.

Our current Fleet: 2014 Ford Explorer (purchased); 2015 Dodge Charger (purchased); 2017 Ford Explorer (granted); 2018 Ford Explorer (granted); 2020 Ford Explorer (purchased); 2021 Dodge Durango (purchased).

welcome >>>

We welcome Justin Tokar to the Lehman Township Police Department.

Officer Tokar was sworn in at the Township Supervisors Meeting on May 17, 2021.

Officer Tokar will start as our newest School Resource Officer in the Lake-Lehman Jr/Sr High school after additional trainings are completed this summer.



litter in lehman >>>

Our first Pick Up Lehman Litter Clean Up was a success! We had a total of 22 volunteers clean up almost a ½ ton of garbage from our roadways! Over 80 large bags of litter.

We were excited to have our volunteers suggest and clean roadsides they saw and were familiar with. There is nothing more rewarding than driving down a country road you've cleaned and seeing its beauty again. Its impressive what a few hours and a couple helping hands can accomplish.

We fully intend on utilizing the Great American Cleanup's resources anytime they are available to offset the cost of supplies and landfill space. By hosting our litter pick up during the month of April and in collaboration with the Great American Cleanup we were able to secure the following resources:

- free vests, gloves and trash bags from a partnership between Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, PennDOT, Keep America Beautiful, GLAD Products Company and the Ocean Conservancy
- a participant banner from Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful;
- free landfill space sponsored by the Great American Cleanup of PA.

Our Road Department has been busy keeping our roads safe and clear. Daily our crew is out making sure sight lines are clear and drivers have safe pathways for travel. Tree trimming, brush cutting, general clean-up and mowing on and near the roadways is just a few of the tasks our Road Department have been handling.

Over the winter, our plow truck (aluminum dump body) was damaged. We were able to continue to use the plow and it has since been repaired and is back in service.

We have also been working closely with the Police Department to ensure that all road signs are erected to meet state and federal requirements. Signage is missing and/or faded is being replaced and new road signs are being erected throughout the Township.

- Bids were opened for crack sealing on all township paved roads – bid was awarded to Pocono Spray Patching.
- A Dirt & Gravel Road grant was applied for and obtained on the unpaved portion of Sayre Road in the amount of \$25,000. We also were able to negotiate and was rewarded an additional \$3,000 for dead tree removal on Sayre Road.
- PennDOT will be replacing pipes and box culvert in the roadway on State Route 118. SR 118 AND Golf Course Road will be closed during this time.

zoning office >>

Zoning is busy with numerous new additions and new construction. Township residents are reminded that permits are required when doing any type of addition or new construction. If you are not sure if your project needs a permit, please call the zoning office at 570-675-8224 and inquire as to whether or not your project is one that requires a permit.

Also, residents are reminded that when cutting your lawn or fields, you may NOT project any residue onto the roadways. This is a serious hazard for motorists, motorcyclists and bicyclists that travel on these roads. Please project all lawn clippings towards the lawn to avoid lawn waste residue on the streets.

Thank you and have a great & safe rest of the summer.

announcements & news >>

Are you aware that we have over 40 helpful resources on our website to help our residents in time of need? Hover over “POLICE DEPARTMENT” from any page on our site – when you hover, a dropdown will appear titled “HELPFUL RESOURCES”. We have compiled a list, with the help of the community, of over 40 resources from domestic abuse and drug abuse to disaster relief and gun safety. Please check them out and spread the word that these resources are for all.

