

FOX CHAPEL BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

Published by

Fox Chapel Borough &
Fox Chapel District Association



Winter 2011

2011 BUDGET APPROVED

On December 20th, Borough Council approved the 2011 Budget and set the real estate **tax rate at 2.40 mills** which means for a house assessed at \$500,000, the real estate tax will be \$1,200. As the illustration clearly indicates, the Borough tax is a very small portion of your total real estate tax bill.

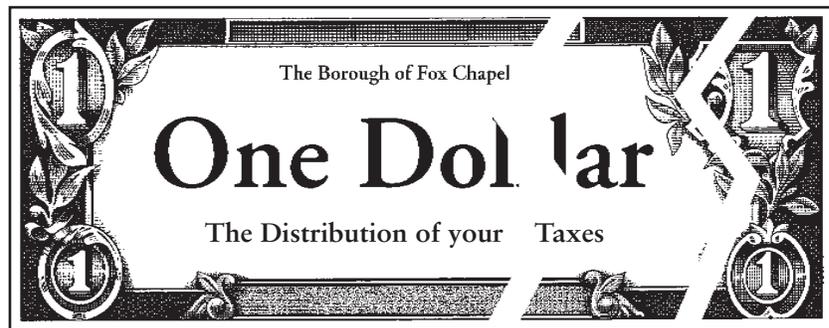
The 2011 Budget predicts that total General Fund revenue will be \$6,561,300, an increase of \$301,760 over 2010 actual revenue. Major revenue sources are real estate taxes (\$2,333,600) and EIT (\$2,705,000).

The 2011 Budget proposes General Fund expenditures equal to \$6,550,600, an increase of \$259,000 over 2010 ac-

tual expenditures. Major expenditures are Public Safety (\$1,450,500), Public Works (\$1,772,400), Refuse Collection (\$793,500) and Administration (\$586,200).

The 2011 Budget may be reviewed in the Borough office during normal business hours or on the Borough's website at www.fox-chapel.pa.us.

WHERE YOUR PROPERTY TAX DOLLAR GOES



SCHOOL
21.26 mills
75%

COUNTY
4.69 mills
16.53%

BOROUGH
2.40 mills
8.47%

Recycling reminders

All Borough residents are reminded that all households are required by Pennsylvania law to recycle all of the following materials:

- Glass, food and beverage containers
- Aluminum and bimetal cans, including food and beverage containers, plus aluminum foil
- Steel food cans
- All plastic containers having the international recycling symbol on the bottom, regardless of the number
- Newsprint, magazines, catalogs, phone books, corrugated paper, cardboard, junk mail, etc.

Your recyclables will be picked up the same day as your trash. ALL recyclable materials are to be placed in the recycling container provided by the Borough. **Newspapers no longer need to be bound or placed in a separate paper bag before placing it in your recycling container.** They can be comingled in the recycling bin. Your recyclables should be rinsed but the labels are not required to be removed.

HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE

Sewer Rates Adjusted.....	2
Driveway Improvements.....	2
Borough Website.....	2
Brush Collection	2
NIXLE	3
District Association	3
Litter Pickup	3
Garbage Collector Change	3
Back Yard Composting.....	3
Snow Removal	4
Snow-Covered Driveways.....	4
Street Parking Ordinance.....	4
Garbage Collection.....	4
Summer Jobs	4
Library Programs.....	5
New Beginnings	6
Brush Collection Schedule	7

Sewer rates adjusted

For the third time in the last fifty years, Council has approved increasing the sewer rate. The rates have changed from \$1.65 per thousand gallons of water used to \$2.35 per thousand gallons of water used and a quarterly \$15 customer service charge. This action was taken because:

- The State of PA report prepared by the Governor's sustainable infrastructure Task Force published in November 2008 states "after examining all options, the Task Force finds that consumer rates that reasonably reflect the full cost of the service received are needed to assure reliable and sustained investment in our water infrastructure".
- The recommendations of the Borough's Engineer that the cost of service should be reflected in rates.
- The Borough Sewer Fund is faced with near term future liability of the Federal Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Consent Decree with Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN) and Allegheny County Health Department Consent Order with the Borough. These Decrees and Orders will prevent sewer overflows into streams and rivers and has an estimated cost to the Borough from \$442,000 to \$2,200,000.

The Borough has been subsidizing sewer rates for several years with real estate and earned income taxes. Sewer rates are used to pay for repair, replacement, cleaning and inspection of over 77.04 miles of sewer line in the Borough. Most of the sewer lines are constructed of clay pipe installed in the 1930's through the 1970's.

The average household sewer rate will change from \$150.73 to \$183.23 per quarter or \$10.83 a month. 

Brush collection

The Borough will provide spring brush collection beginning March 7th according to the schedule found in this newsletter. Please be advised that the spring leaf pickup begins May 2nd, and it would be appreciated if leaves were not placed at the curb until brush collection is completed the week of April 18th. Please inform your landscapers of the collection schedule.

All brush must be placed at the roadside with the larger end toward the street. No tree limbs larger than five inches in diameter or eight feet in length will be collected. Hedges, vines, rose bushes, shrubs, multi-flora hedges, etc. must be securely tied in bundles not exceeding 16 inches in diameter. Loose hedges, vines, bushes, etc., will not be collected. No leaves, grass clippings or other debris will be collected as part of the brush program. Please make certain no metal objects are in the branches.

Borough personnel are not permitted to enter onto private property for the collection of brush or trimmings. Of necessity, the amount of brush or tree trimmings to be collected from individual properties must be regulated. Accordingly, the volume of material that will be collected by the Borough must be limited to a single pile per property, said pile not to exceed four feet in width by six feet in height by eight feet in length. 

Borough website

The Borough strongly encourages residents to visit the Borough's website www.fox-chapel.pa.us to get answers to frequently asked questions such as garbage collection schedules, office closings, meeting agendas and minutes. 

Driveway improvement permit

While planning property improvement projects for the spring, please be aware that driveway modifications require a Driveway Improvement Permit from the Borough before starting any work such as repaving, changing the material, grade or drainage pattern. The Borough would appreciate residents making the contractor aware of the requirement for a permit. The Driveway Permit Application is available at the Borough office or on the Borough's website. If you have any questions, please contact **Chuck Smith** at 412/963-1100 x 126. 

NIXLE



Just a reminder to residents that the Borough is using a new communications service that allows important Borough information to be sent directly to residents.

The Nixle Community Information Service allows the

Borough to deliver messages to those who subscribe via cell phone, text message and/or e-mail. Messages may include road closures, public safety issues and other relevant Borough information. The service is free, reliable and has no hidden costs. Residents can choose how they wish to receive the information: e-mail, text message or over the web. Visit www.nixle.com for additional information or to register for this service. 🐾

Volunteer for litter pickup

The Borough's spring "Redd-Up" Day is Saturday, April 16th. Volunteers will be meeting at 10 AM at McCahill Park. Litter will be picked up on Squaw Run Road. Vests, gloves and bags are provided by Allegheny CleanWays. 🐾



Change in garbage collector contract



Borough Council awarded a contract to locally-owned Vogel Disposal for garage door pickup of garbage beginning March 1st. Please watch for a separate letter in the mail from Vogel Disposal that will describe the collection service including expanded collection of municipal waste. The letter will also include changes in the rubbish bin regulations. 🐾

Back yard composting

The Pennsylvania Resources Council will present an informative workshop entitled "Back Yard Composting" on Saturday, March 19th, at Boyd Community Center, from 11 AM to 1 PM. For information about the class and to register, contact PRC at <http://prc.org>. 🐾

Fox Chapel District Association

Now that we are in the throes of winter, it's a good time to reflect on home and community. How fortunate we are to live in an area that values each as evidenced by the unprecedented support of the 2010 Fox Chapel Follies! A record amount was raised – over \$70,000, so our local library, community center and trails system will reap the rewards of your generosity. If you weren't one of the fortunate ones to attend the sell-out performances, a DVD is available for purchase through our web site – www.foxchapeldistrictassociation.org.

The FCDA is proud to be the driving focus on making our communities a more inviting place to live and raise our families. The 2011 Winter Fest held at Squaw Valley Park every January is a prime example of people coming together and sharing in the community. This year's event was another huge success as throngs descended upon the park to take advantage of the unique winter setting. 🐾

Snow removal

Help reduce the possibility of a broken mailbox post. While plow operators are urged to take precautions to avoid hitting mailbox posts, experience has shown that reduced visibility during a storm can make it difficult for a driver to see a post in time to avoid striking it or pushing it over with plowed snow. Any structure within the street right-of-way, including a mailbox, is placed there at the owner's risk. Therefore, homeowners are encouraged to install mailboxes at the maximum usable distance from the edge of the roadway. Posts should also be checked for deterioration to reduce the possibility that the weight of the plowed snow could simply topple the post.



If possible, wait until the road in front of your house has been plowed before cleaning out the end of your driveway since there is no practical way for the Borough to plow its roads without depositing snow into your driveway.

Do not shovel snow into the road or have your driveway plowed into the road. This can cause a serious traffic hazard and subject the property owner to a hefty fine. If possible, it is best to place snow on the side of the driveway opposite the direction that the Borough's plow travels. By implementing this technique, the plow will carry snow away from your driveway rather than back into it. 🐾

Snow-covered driveways

Unplowed driveways make it dangerous or impossible for the garbage collectors to get to many homes. It is the homeowner's responsibility to make certain that driveways are plowed and ice/snow free to permit the garbage collectors to access homes. The garbage collectors cannot be expected to trudge through snow- and ice-covered driveways to collect your garbage and then carry it out to the street. The collectors are authorized to skip any property where the driveway has not been cleared and will not be required to make a return visit before the normal collection date the following week. If a driveway is inaccessible or blocked by vehicles and the garbage needs to be picked up, it will need to be at the curb. 🐾

Street parking ordinance

The Borough has a new ordinance prohibiting the parking of vehicles on streets during periods of snowfall, ice accumulation and inclement weather and also prohibits the dumping, shoveling, pushing or placing snow or ice into the public roadways of the Borough. Vehicles parked on public roads during the deposit or accumulation of snow or ice present a traffic hazard and impair the Borough's ability to effectively remove all snow or ice from the roads in a safe and expedient manner. Snow and ice storms can impair the flow of vehicular traffic and emergency vehicles which may result in conditions adverse to the welfare and safety of the public. 🐾

Garbage collection

The following is the 2011 garbage holiday collection schedule. Garbage will NOT be collected on these days resulting in a 1-day collection delay:

Memorial Day,
Monday, May 30th

Labor Day,
Monday, September 5th

Thanksgiving Day,
Thursday, November 24th



Summer jobs

Even though it's still winter outside, it's not too soon to start thinking about summer employment for your college student. The Borough is currently accepting applications for summer employment in the Borough's Public Works Department. Applicants must be at least 18 years old and capable of performing manual outdoor labor. Preference is given first to individuals who have previously worked for the Borough and second, to Borough residents. Please stop in the Borough Office to obtain an employment application.



Lauri Ann West Memorial Library

1220 Powers Run Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Phone: 412/828-9520 • Fax: 412/828-4960 • Email: lawestref@einetwork.net • www.lauriannwestlibrary.org



Winter Reading Program for Children, Teens and Adults

Enter to win a prize in the winter reading program. For adults: Sign up online by going to the library's web page at www.lauriannwestlibrary.org, or stop by the library to sign up. For children and teens, sign up at the library.



Adult Programs

For more information and a complete list of programs, send an email to lawestref@einetwork.net or call the Reference Dept. at 412-828-9520 x 15

College Admissions 101 Monday, February 7th, 7:00 PM

A college admissions expert will advise on the best strategies for being accepted to colleges and universities. Parents and students are invited to attend.

Free Healthy Eating Cooking Demos Series of three Monday evenings begins February 21st, 7:00 PM

You'll learn how to make healthy, great-tasting meals and have a chance to taste some delicious meals. Attend one or all three. There is no charge for the demonstrations.

Computer Class: How to Manage Files and Maintain Your PC Thursday, February 10th, 1:30-3:30 PM

Find out how to maintain your PC and have your PC questions answered in this 2-part class. The cost is \$43 and is taught by Silver Scholars.

Chamber Music Performance by Hot World Tuesday, March 1st, 7:00 PM

Enjoy a discussion and a performance by the Ortner-Roberts Duo who draw their inspiration as well as their repertoire from a myriad of different sources from around the world, including Jazz-Era 20s, 30s, and 40s music, Calypso, Gipsy, Tango, Rembetika and the Valse Musette from Paris. The cost is \$3, and is sponsored in cooperation with the Boyd Community Center.

UPMC Physicians Series Wednesday, March 2nd, 7:00 PM

Various health topics will be discussed by UPMC physicians. Contact the library reference department for a schedule.

Maintain Your Brain Thursday, March 24th, 7:00 PM

The Alzheimer's Association of Southwestern Pennsylvania will present "Maintain Your Brain". This 1-hour interactive workshop features nutritional and lifestyle advice, strategies to keep your memory sharp, interactive exercises and activities and materials to take home for further reading.

Food for Life: Nutrition and Cooking Classes

Board certified holistic health counselor Janet McKee will present a valuable program of information and cooking demonstrations with light meals designed to show how a healthy diet can cut down your risk of cancer. For the cost, date and details, please contact the library reference department.



Children's Programs

Story Times Tuesday, February 1st, through Thursday March 31st

All dates are subject to change - Registration is required for all story times

Toddler Story Times (Ages 24 to 36 months) Mondays or Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Preschool Story Times (Ages 3 to 5 years old) Tuesdays at 10:30 AM or Wednesdays at 1:30 PM

Baby Lap-sit (Ages infants to 24 months) Fridays at 10:30 AM

Chess Tournament

It's our last tournament at this building! Children in grades Kindergarten through 8th are encouraged to participate on February 26th at 9:30 AM. Registration ends on February 22nd. We require at least 12 registrations to hold our match. Our winners go on to the city-wide event in March in Oakland.

Birds of Prey

We are pleased to announce that Beechwood Farms educators will visit our library in March to present a program on birds of prey. We will have the opportunity to meet a red tail hawk up close and personal along with the possibility of visits from several other raptors. Please join us on Saturday, March 5th, at 11:00 AM and learn more about Beechwood Farms, a great asset in our community. Children and their families are welcome to attend this special event. Registration is required.

New Beginnings



It started as a dream.....
Our dream became reality.....
And our reality became our future.

Have you heard the exciting news! Have you seen the new building at 403 Fox Chapel Road next to the borough building? We will be moving into our new Cooper–Siegel Community Library in the spring. The exact date and length of closure are yet unknown. As a result of this uncertainty, we will offer a reduced number of programs over the next several months to address the many issues the move entails. Patrons will begin to see evidence of preparation soon. Our beloved dollhouse will be removed to Lylott Miniatures for refurbishment by Debbie McManus and her team (Thank you Debbie for this generous contribution to our new library). The stained glass lion in the hall way will be moved soon to a prominent location in the new library. Our new children’s area is fantastic with separate story time and craft rooms. So please bear with us – any inconvenience now will be minimal and well worth our new space.



2011 BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULE

<u>MARCH 7 & APRIL 4</u>	<u>MARCH 10 & APRIL 7</u>	<u>MARCH 14 & APRIL 11</u>	<u>MARCH 17 & APRIL 14</u>	<u>MARCH 21 & APRIL 18</u>
Alpine Circle	Berkshire Drive	Catalpa Ridge Road	Autumn Path Lane	Dietrich Road
Colbert Lane	Buckingham Road	Chapel Knoll Drive	Bobcind Drive	Dorseyville Road
Delafield Road	Buckingham Place	Deer Spring Lane	Chapel Hill Drive	Edgemoor Lane
E. Waldheim Road	Fieldvue Lane	Dogwood Lane	Chapel Oak Road	Fair Oaks Drive
Edgewood Road	Grandview Drive N	Evergreen Road	Chapel Ridge Court	Fairview Manor/Road
Elmhurst Road	Grandview Drive S	Fairway Lane	Chapel Ridge Place	Flower Hill Road
Glendale Road	Guyasuta Road	Fawn Meadow Ct.	Chapel Ridge Road	Hallsborough Drive
Glover Place	Hemingway Lane	Field Club Road	Easton Road	Haverford Road
Hampton Road	Hunt Club Lane	Fox Chapel Road	Forest Drive	Hill 'n' Dale Lane
LaTourelle Lane	Hunt Road	Foxtop Drive	Foxhurst Drive/Road	Jamesborough Drive
Little Lane	James Ross Place	Glenhaven Lane	Foxwood Drive	Lakeside Drive
The Maples	Longfellow Road	Hawthorne Road	Greenwood Road	Mayflower Drive
Meadowood Drive	Marvelwood Lane	Hickory Hill Road	Hidden Spring Lane	Millstone Lane
Notre Dame Place	Marvelwood Place	Hidden Falls Court	Highland Road	Millview Drive
The Oaks	Nottingham Circle	Hillcrest Road	Long Meadow Drive	Nantucket Drive
Pasadena Drive	Oakhurst Road	Indian Hill Road	Normandy Court	Old Mill Road
Pasadena Drive S	Riding Trail Lane	Long Shadow Court	Old Indian Trail	Orchard Lane
Riverview Terrace	Surrey Lane	North Drive	Old Indian Trail Court	Settler's Ridge Road
Rutledge Drive	Tomahawk Drive	Olde Chapel Trail	Old Timber Trail	Shannon Drive
St. James Place	Twin Pine Court	Pheasant Drive	Powers Run Road	Spring Forest Drive
Shady Lane	Twin Pine Road	Poplar Drive	Quail Hill Road	Staffordshire Place
Valley Drive	Wedgewood Lane	Ridgedale Lane	Shadow Ridge Drive	Stoney Camp Lane
Waldheim Road	Westchester Drive	Rockwood Drive	Silent Run Road	Sweet Water Court
Warwick Place	West. Farms Lane	Royston Road	Sweet Gum Road	Sweet Water Lane
West Drive	Woodbrook Drive	Shirl Drive	Tree Farm Road	The Trillium
West Waldheim Road	Woodcock Drive	South Drive	W. Chapel Ridge Road	Trillium Lane
Windsor Road	Wynnwood Drive	Springhouse Lane	White Fawn Lane	Twin Stream Drive
		Squaw Run Road	Wildberry Road	Wesport Drive
		Squaw Run Road E	Windmere Drive	Whispering Pines Drive
		West Manor Drive	Wise Hill Road	Willow Farms Lane
		Woodcliff Road	Woodland Farms Road	Willow Run Road
				Wilmar Drive
				Woodland Road

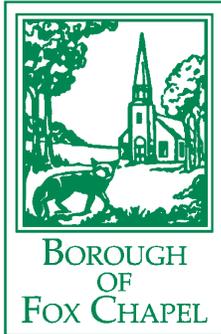
BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL

401 FOX CHAPEL ROAD

PITTSBURGH, PA 15238

(412) 963-1100

www.fox-chapel.pa.us



**BOROUGH OF FOX CHAPEL
ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Kathleen Toole, *Chair*
David C. Cannon, Jr.
Thomas D. Cramer
Bruce H. Laswell
Walter A. Scott, III
Peggy G. Jayme

Meets each month on the 2nd Monday
at 7:30 P.M.

**BOROUGH
COUNCIL**

Nathan K. Parker, Jr., *President*
Andrew C. Bennett, *V. President*
Harrison S. Lauer
Jay S. Troutman
Walter A. Scott, III
Kathleen Toole
Ann R. Meyer

Harry W. McLaughlin, *Mayor*
Edward L. McGrath, *Treasurer*
Gary J. Koehler, *Manager*

Meets each month on the 3rd Monday
at 7:30 P.M.

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**

Harrison S. Lauer, *Chairman*
Betty E. Butler
Lane D. Dively
James M. Royston
Jeffrey B. Todd

Meets each month on the 3rd Monday
at 7:00 P.M.

PARK COMMISSION

Nancy Fales, *Chair*
Dottie Beckwith
Jay Troutman
Brian Shema
Ferd J. Sauereisen
James W. Pashek
Maria Harrington

Meets the 2nd Monday in March, June,
September and December at 9:00 A.M.

**ZONING
HEARING BOARD**

Richard E. Jaynes, *Chairman*
Elizabeth C. Kampmeinert
John B. Montgomery

Meets as needed each month on the
Wednesday following the 3rd Monday
at 7:00 P.M.

**TELEPHONE NUMBERS
Office 412-963-1100**

Extensions:

Administration 0
Building Permits/Zoning..... 113
Public Works 119
Sewer Department..... 126

Police Dept. 412-963-7220

**MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE BOROUGH BUILDING AND ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
ALL RESIDENTS ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.**