

TOWNSHIP OF UPPER PROVIDENCE

www.uprov-montco.org

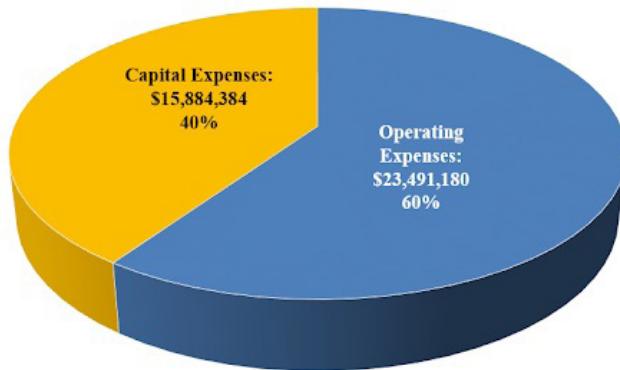
Winter 2024

Vol. 24, No 1



2024 Adopted Budget

On December 4, 2023, the Upper Providence Township (UPT) Board of Supervisors (BOS) voted unanimously 5-0 to adopt a 2024 operating and capital budget. The combined \$39.38 million spending plan appropriates 60% or ~\$23.49 million to operating expenses and 40% or ~\$15.88 million in planned capital expenditures. The budget is balanced and includes no real estate tax increase. The 2024 mill levy will remain unchanged at 2.5 mills, which still remains among the lowest rates in Montgomery County for a full-service community.



The 2024 operating budget contains three major funding categories: General, Sewer and Capital. The General Fund (GF) is UPT's main operating engine, funding all major municipal departments. These departments include police, fire/emergency services, public works, administration, parks, and planning/development. Information technology (IT) and finance were added as separate cost centers. The table at right shows each cost center's proportional share of the General Fund.

The general staffing levels for each department remain fairly level. We added a new IT help desk technician to help manage a growing technological network of computers, software programs and cloud-based technologies in addition to increased cybersecurity protections, as UPT continues its transition to digital workflows. Where economically justified, the Township has privatized certain planning, finance and communication services to help streamline costs. Of the \$22.72 million in GF expenditures, ~ \$3.25 million entails departmental assessments to other capital



Administration

Township Administration Hours
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM- 4:00 PM
Phone: (610) 933-9179
Email: admin@uprov-montco.org

2024 Adopted Budget Continued

Cost Center	Budget	GF %
Board of Supervisors	232,219	1.02 %
Administration	1,177,682	5.18 %
Finance	479,908	2.11 %
Information Technology	510,546	2.25 %
Tax Collection Services	201,250	0.89 %
Legal Services	127,500	0.56 %
Pooled Building Expenses	1,215,500	5.35 %
Police Protection	7,216,974	31.76 %
Fire and Emergency Services	4,724,431	20.79 %
Planning and Zoning	775,050	3.41 %
Public Works	4,163,318	18.32 %
Parks and Recreation	956,721	4.21 %
Transfers Out	940,151	4.14 %

funds, leaving ~ \$19.47 million in net operating expenditures. These GF assessments are accounted for in the ~ \$15.88 million Capital Budget, which represents a collection of different capital funds earmarked for specific projects. The next table shows each fund and their proportional share to the 2024 capital program.

Cost Center	Budget	GF %
Capital Assessments	1,272,292	8.01 %
Internal Service Fund	1,071,540	6.75 %
Capital Expenditure Fund	1,994,421	12.56 %
State Liquid Fuels	1,100,000	6.93 %
Sewer Capital Fund	2,722,000	17.14 %
Stormwater Fund	240,000	1.51 %
Capital Financing	5,000,000	31.48 %
Park and Open Space Fund	661,500	4.16 %
Grants and Donations	1,822,631	11.47 %

Major 2024 capital initiatives include:

- ~ \$7 million road pavement project divided into Projects A, B, C.
- New Geographic Information System (GIS) to improve digital workflows
- Procurement of new police technologies for license plate and body cameras
- New Police K-9 Unit for drug and bomb detection
- New communication and protective gear for firefighters

- Replacement of a 2007 bucket truck and related public works equipment
- Greenwood Avenue Sewer from Ridge Pike to College Avenue
- Anderson Farm Park Trail Extension
- Taylor Park Improvements

Last year's capital budget included \$19.5 million in awarded federal grants for flood mitigation projects in the Mont Clare and Port Providence neighborhoods of Upper Providence Township (UPT), which were devastated by Hurricane Ida in late 2021. After the 2021 presidential disaster declaration, 54 property owners expressed an interest in the buyout program. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has only recently begun releasing these funds. Because of these delays, 16 owners have withdrawn from the buyout program. As of late December, we will have purchased 24 homes with more scheduled during the holiday season. Once all these properties are razed, UPT officials will be developing a long-term plan passive recreation and environmental preservation plan for these reclaimed floodplains.

The Township's ~ \$4.3 million Sewer Fund serves as the billing agent for the Lower Perkiomen Valley Regional Sewer Authority (LPRSA). While the Authority treats all UPT sewage effluent regionally, the Township is responsible for maintaining the local sewer collection system, which consists of ~ 115 miles of sewer pipe. Most homeowners are assessed one Equivalent Development Unit (EDU) and billed around \$173 semi-annually. UPT still has one of the lowest sewer rates in Montgomery County. The full context of the 2024 Budget is available on the Township's website at <https://www.uprov-montco.org/DocumentCenter/View/2502/2024-Budget>

Welcome New Board Members!

Magisterial District Justice Richard Welsh administered the oath of office for Upper Providence Township's Board Members. We welcome Kelly Stevens and Maria Sadler to the UPT Board of Supervisors!



Pictured Above: Kelly Stevens is sworn in



Pictured Above: Maria Sadler is sworn in

Subscribe to Ready Montco

The Upper Providence Township Office of Emergency Management relies on the ReadyMontco system to notify residents, businesses, and visitors of important emergency alerts and community event notices. Messages can be sent via text, email, or phone call. To receive these important messages, please subscribe at <https://www.montgomerycountypa.gov/3311/ReadyMontco>

Proper Mailbox Placement Avoids Mishaps

The Public Works Department reminds residents to properly place their mailboxes to avoid snow plow damage. Please follow the recommendations below:

- Make sure the mailbox is installed and maintained to stand up to heavy snow and wind
- The mailbox should be no closer than 8-inches from the face of the curb or edge of the road.

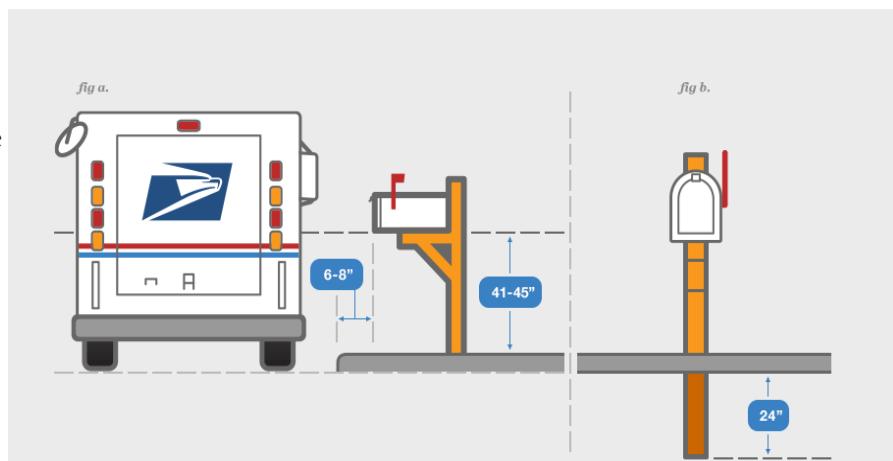
Should your mailbox sustain damage, please note the following:

- If the mailbox is protruding into the road and is hit by a plow unit, it is the responsibility of the homeowner to replace or repair.
- If the mailbox is installed properly and is accidentally hit by a snowplow unit, the Township will replace the damaged parts of the mailbox and/or post, however the resident is responsible for installation.



Pet of the Month, Meet Miley!

Miley is a 10 year old pointer/border collie mix. She has been busy walking 3 miles each morning around Collegeville to keep her young and enjoy the peace from her 2 human brothers!



Public Works



A snow emergency is a local emergency put out by the township manager that usually follows the states issuing of an emergency. During this time travel on the roadways should be limited and extreme caution should be used. All vehicles should be removed from the sides of the listed roads here, to make for safer snow removal operations.

TOWNSHIP SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES

- Arcola Road
- Bechtel Road
- Cider Mill Road
- Fifth Avenue - Royersford Line to Vaughn Road
- Gay Street
- Green Tree Road
- Gumbes Road
- Hopwood Road
- Longford Road
- Mennonite Road - Yeager Road to Route 113
- Port Providence Road
- Rittenhouse Road
- Vaughn Road
- Walnut Street
- Yeager Road

STATE SNOW EMERGENCY ROADS

- Black Rock Road
- Egypt Road
- Lewis Road
- Ridge Pike/Main Street
- Route 29
- Route 113
- Township Line Road ♦

1286 Black Rock Road, Phoenixville, PA
Compost Site: 1094 Longford Road, Phoenixville, PA

Snow Removal Information for Residents



Upper Providence, The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), and private communities are all part of the winter team when it comes to clearing snowy and icy roads. Plowing begins on designated Snow Emergency Routes to provide safe access for emergency response vehicles and then continues onto main roads.

You can help crews clear roads faster and stay safe by following these simple winter rules and suggestions:

- Park all vehicles off the street before, during, and after a snowfall.
- Do not throw snow onto the roadway when shoveling, or you may be fined.
- Shovel an area for trash and recycling containers on the curb or your driveway, but not in the street.
- Parents, please watch your children closely, and instruct them that it is extremely dangerous to play or stand near the street when snow plows are working. Do not leave sleds or toys in the street.
- Remove snow from the end of your driveway and in front of your mailbox.
- Shovel snow to the right of the driveway to limit the amount of snow that will be cleared from the roadway back into a clean driveway.

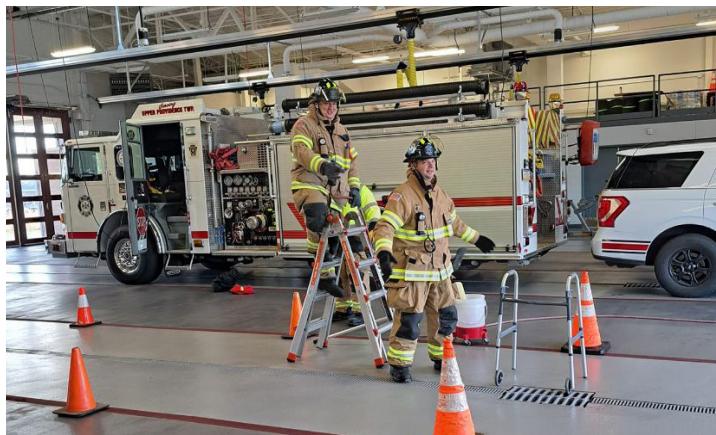
Fire and Emergency Services News

Promotions



At the November 20th UPT Montgomery County Board of Supervisors meeting, three of our firefighters were promoted to the rank of Captain. The new Captains were joined by their families, friends, and fellow firefighters to be sworn into their new roles. Each Captain leads a crew of firefighters on three separate platoons. We congratulate Captain Will Clemens (A-Platoon), Captain Ryan Colelli (B-Platoon), and Captain Carmen Conicelli (C-Platoon) on their new roles.

Hazmat Training



Members on duty along with UPT Public Works completed our annual Hazmat Operations refresher training.

All DFES personnel completed online training along with this morning's practical training.

Keep Fire Hydrants Clear

Help us out by shoveling snow away from your nearby Fire Hydrant: We ask for a 3-foot by 3-foot clearance, so firefighters can quickly get water out of the fire hydrant. Did you know the on average fire engines only carry 500 gallons of water? Therefore, it is crucial to have a fire hydrant cleared out and ready at a moment's notice.



Winter Road Safety Information

As winter arrives, so do frosted windshields and the potential for snowfall. Be smart and start your car before leaving to defrost your windshield completely. Our officers often respond to crashes where one of the drivers failed to defrost their windshield, hampering their ability to see! Better yet, when you have to defrost your windshield, AND your car is covered in snow, defrost the windshield while you clear the snow off the roof, hood, or truck bed cover. If not adequately removed from the vehicle, snow can turn into a projectile once you get up to speed on the road and cause crashes or injuries.

Finally, we always ask residents to stay off the streets during snowstorms unless they absolutely need to be out and about. Slick road conditions, low visibility, and frigid temperatures can all be a recipe for disaster if you get stuck out in the elements. ♦

Parks and Recreation

JOIN US!

The UPT February Activity Guide is HERE



Check our website for the latest activity guide.

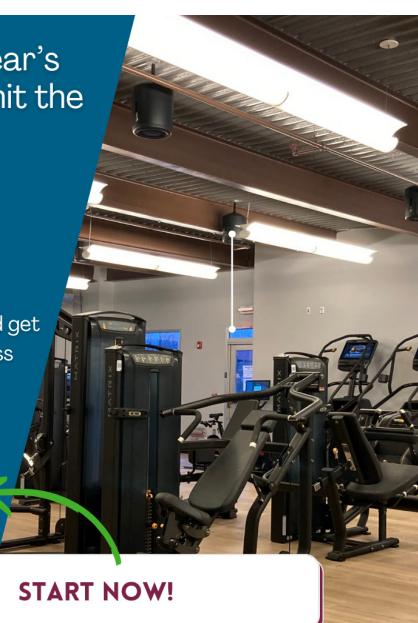
*New Year's Resolutions?
We can help with that!*

Memberships to the Upper Providence Township Community Center are incredibly affordable! You'll love our fitness equipment and group exercise classes, or maybe even meet the personal trainer who can help you on your way to peak fitness in 2024!

Is your New Year's Resolution to hit the gym?

We can help with that!

Check out the Upper Providence Township Community Center and get started on your wellness journey today!

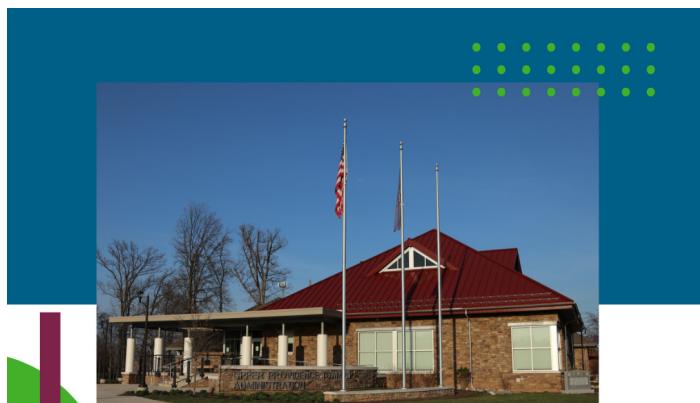


START NOW!

Opt-in to receive Quarterly Mailed Newsletters

If you wish to continue to receive the paper quarterly newsletter mailed to your home, please use the form below to opt-in OR you may call us at 610-933-9179 with your mailing information.

Quarterly newsletters will no longer be mailed to all households in the Township.



QUARTERLY MAILED NEWSLETTERS

Opt-in to receive the quarterly paper newsletter mailed to your home



We're doing our part to stay sustainable and in 2023, began a monthly digital newsletter. You may continue to receive the quarterly paper newsletter by opting in on our website.

Camp Black Rock



Police News



Sgt. Jeff Hilt and Chief U. Mark Freeman went to Harrisburg, where the P.A. Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission held its quarterly meeting. Based on the written report previously submitted to the Commission by the Lead Assessor, the Commission voted unanimously to grant re-accreditation status to the Upper Providence Township Police Department.

Thanks to the Board of Supervisors for their unwavering support of the department in its quest to continue in the accreditation program. Many thanks to Jessica Flatley, who did an outstanding job as accreditation manager, Lt. Ryan Sheehan, and Sgt. Jeff Hilt for the assistance they provided to her.

Sergeant Reynolds Celebrates 20 Years of Service as an Upper Providence Township Police Officer

The Township thanks and celebrates Sergeant Scott Reynolds for 20 years of dedicated service as an Upper Providence Township police officer. We thank Sergeant Reynolds for his years of service and his hard work and sacrifice that have made a significant impact on the lives of those he has served. "The Upper Providence Township Community is safer and more secure because of Sergeant Reynolds' steadfast commitment to upholding the principles of justice and ensuring the safety of its residents.", states Chief Freeman.



The Wall That Heals Escort

The Wall That Heals Escort was a success! Thank you to everyone who participated in the ride, came out to support us along the way, and those who welcomed the wall at the Community Center. We want to especially thank all of those who planned this event and spent countless hours developing the route, staffing the escort, and seeing that it was a safe journey.



Save the Date!

UPT PARKS & RECREATION

CAR SHOW



What's Inside:

- Information on the 2024 Budget - Pages 1 & 2
- In the Community - Page 3
- Public Works - Page 4
- Fire and Emergency Services News - Page 5
- Park and Recreation - Page 6
- Police News - Page 7

Wimber 2024

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Township of Upper Providence