



KENNETT TOWNSHIP

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TO: Kennett Township Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Eden Ratliff, Township Manager  
SUBJECT: December 2021 Department Head Report

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**1. Reorganization Meeting**

The Board of Supervisors will be holding their 2022 reorganization meeting on Monday January 3, 2022 at 7:00pm. Like current Board of Supervisor meetings, this will be a hybrid meeting. You are encouraged to join us in person in the Township Public Meeting Room or remotely via Zoom. The Zoom link will be available 24 hours in advance on the Agenda Center on the website ([www.kennett.pa.us](http://www.kennett.pa.us)). Newly Elected Supervisor Geoffrey Gamble, Esq. will be sworn in, the Board of Supervisors will consider many annual appointments, and the Board will consider any other business that may come before the Board. The 2022 meeting schedule will be considered at the reorganization meeting.

**2. Sewer**

The Township is continuing to work with the Borough of Kennett Square on short- and long-term sewer related issues. Kennett Square has alleged that Kennett Township is in violation of an existing intermunicipal agreement regulating total sewer flows the Township can send to the Borough per day. The Borough has not provided reliable data to document the allegation and the Township Engineer’s analysis shows a total Township flow nearly 100,000 gallons per day under the permitted amount. The Township and Borough are continuing to work together to determine if the allegation has merit and what a resolution could look like.

In addition, the Township and Borough Engineers are developing a joint proposal to engage in the development of a regional Act 537 Plan. The Board’s consideration of the proposal will be in the early part of 2022.

The Township finance team continues to work on challenges with our internal sewer billing. We appreciate the patience of our sewer customers and look forward to greater improvements in this area in 2022.

**3. Cedarcroft/Route 1 Project**

The Cedarcroft/Route 1 Intersection project progress is coming along well, as can be noted by those passing by. The intersection lights are up, there is a temporary traffic pattern, and changes to the groundwork are being made. The project is nearing

completion which will end a long-term campaign by Kennett Township to see this infrastructure upgrade completed. Please use caution now and when the changes “go live” as the community will be adapting to the changes and new traffic pattern. Please have patience with new travelers as they do the same.

#### **4. Commonwealth Financing Authority Grant Award- Amendment**

In 2017, the Township was awarded a Commonwealth Finance Authority Multimodal Transportation Fund award. This grant, in the amount of \$1.7 million, funded the rehabilitation of the Chandler Mill Bridge and will be applied to the Chandler Mill Trail (Kennett Greenway). The original application, and subsequently the grant agreement, did not contain an allowance for engineering (all grant costs were to be directed towards construction). In late November 2021, the Township submitted an official request to DCED (who administers the grant) for consideration for engineering costs to be added. See attached. That request has been granted. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Kennett Township Supervisors have received the amendment for their signature, which is required for the amendment to take effect.

#### **5. Bridging Digital Divide – Digital Infrastructure**

Southern Chester County, with the leadership of Kennett Township, has made great strides in identifying gaps in our digital infrastructure including lack of broadband and cellular service. Digital connectivity is part of how we stay connected and is critical infrastructure. Our region has received \$250,000 in grant funding to map the gaps in this infrastructure so there can be coordination with service providers to make needed upgrades. I recommend the region consider if there is value to a formalized regional digital infrastructure to continue to collaborate on these issues. Current partners include the southern Chester County municipalities, school districts, Chester County, Chester County Intermediate Unit, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and other local nonprofit organizations.

#### **6. Greenwood Elementary School – Water Line**

Kennett Consolidated School District has advised the Township that they are in emergency need of water at Greenwood Elementary School. The elementary school was previously served by a well that has run dry. The school is now being served by water tankers after test pits for a potential new well were unsuccessful. The district is now working with Chester Water Authority to extend a water main down Greenwood Road from Baltimore Pike so that Greenwood Elementary can tie into the public water system. The project is scheduled to begin as soon as materials are available and will lead to an additional fire hydrant in the Township at a cost of \$435.60 per year.

Respectfully Submitted.

Eden R. Ratliff  
Township Manager