

# Hamiltonban Township Highlights

July 2013

*Dear Hamiltonban Township Resident,*

It is once again time for our Mid-year Newsletter. We hope that you find it complete in updating the news that has been happening since January and also in addressing what is coming in the future so please, read on.

In an effort to save money, this will be the last Mid-year Newsletter mailing. As an alternative to mailing, the newsletter will be emailed to all who have signed up to be on the Township email group, it will be available on the Township website at [www.hamiltonban.com](http://www.hamiltonban.com) and paper copies will be available at the Township Office. We would like to hear your comments on this money saving idea. We will continue to mail the Budget Message each year in January.

## **Municipal Facilities Open House:**

We are opening our doors to you. An open house has been scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2013 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Come tour the new Township Maintenance Facility, see the new building that now includes the EMA office, learn about the regional fueling station and new equipment. Mark your calendars now.

## **Road Department News:**

This summer you will not see as many major road projects taking place as you have in the past. The dirt portion of Newman Road has been graded and rolled with help from Franklin Township. To save on equipment rental costs, we borrowed Franklin's grader for the job. Trading services with Franklin Township has been very cost effective. Bridges on Hickory Bridge, Gum Springs and Moritz Roads have been inspected. Like so many bridges in the Commonwealth, our bridges are in need of some major care. Bridge repairs are being scheduled for the 2014 budget year. Franklin and Hamiltonban Townships are jointly responsible for two of the bridges and we plan to work with Franklin to share the cost of those repairs.

Two major road projects that are to be completed this summer are on Cold Springs Road. Just recently a pipe was replaced on Cold Springs Road by the Carrolls Tract Road intersection and the road was paved (scratch coat and wearing course) from the Carrolls Tract Road intersection to the railroad tracks. The "dip" by the railroad tracks was also re-graded to make travel over the tracks easier on trucks. Unfortunately, this project had many complications. The extreme heat would not allow the oil to set quickly and the paver being wider than one lane made the road impassable at times. We apologize if anyone was inconvenienced by this project.

The second road project is scheduled to begin the second week of August around the 1500 block of Cold Springs Road. As we all know Cold Springs Road has endured major storm damage over the past years, causing extensive erosion of roadside drainage. A new larger culvert will be installed to collect 70% of stormwater that comes down the mountain. This is the first of four culverts that will be replaced and installed over the next couple years. It is our goal to maintain the road and solve the road erosion problem.

A Dirt and Gravel Road Grant application has been submitted to The State Conservation Committee for Knox Road. If granted, the road will be graded, ditches will be established, and one pipe will be replaced and two pipes will be added to convey water off the road.

### **Recreation and Parks Commission (RPC):**

The RPC is working toward the goal of creating and implementing recreation programs and facilities, and creating a recreation department. Projects the RPC has been working on are as follows:

**OFFICIAL MAP:** An Official Map is a combined map and ordinance designed to aid in proactively planning for future growth in a municipality. Over the past two years, the RPC has been working with students from Shippensburg University and the Adams County Office of Planning and Development (ACOPD) to complete a guiding document that could connect open space corridors in the Township, as well as, show the possibility for future community bike and hiking trails. The Official Map was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on February 5, 2013. Hamiltonban Township is the first municipality in Adams County to enact an official map ordinance.

**THE MIDDLE CREEK TRAIL PROJECT:** The RPC has been working with Michaux State Forest (Bureau of Forestry), Strawberry Hill Nature Preserve (SHNP) and Camp Eder to establish a hiking trail that would connect the Borough of Fairfield and Hamiltonban Township to the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (AT). We hope to support the trail with a trailhead at the proposed future Hamiltonban park located on three acres of the Hamiltonban Township Educational Campus on Bullfrog Road. The trail would follow along Middle Creek and include Camp Eder, SHNP, connect to the State Forest trail system, and then connect to the AT. A joint Trail Feasibility Study Grant Application has been made through DCNR in partnership with SHNP, Camp Eder, Michaux State Forest and the ACOPD to formalize a proposed path for the trail, identify stakeholders, develop signage options and feature costs. The RPC and Hamiltonban Township have also joined in supporting a grant application with SHNP for the Strawberry Hill trailhead through the PA DCED. The Glatfelter Tract of Michaux State Forest forms the final leg of the trail that includes public access points, a defined trail system and the future use of the buildings on the Glatfelter homestead with a connecting trail spur to the AT.

**HAMILTONBAN TOWNSHIP PARK:** The RPC has been working with KPI Technology of Gettysburg on a concept park plan. The funding for KPI's work came from a grant through the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society to design a neighborhood park on the three acre tract of land adjacent to the township maintenance facilities. The plan is now in the final stages of approval. The next steps are to create grant partnerships and build park sponsors, identify and secure the grant funds for park construction and provide park amenities. If you are interested in more information or want to get involved, please contact the Township Office. We are looking for volunteers to help form committees for programs and projects.

### **Fire and EMS:**

The Board of Supervisors recently received a letter from Fairfield Fire & EMS that we felt should be passed along. The letter states that the Department has had difficulty finding properties that are improperly marked. In an emergency, responders depend on house numbers to find a location quickly. Many house numbers are hard to find or not present at all. In the letter, the Department lists recommendations for addressing structures. Hamiltonban Township Ordinance 1990-09 requires all houses and business establishments to display street numbers. This ordinance has not been enforced in the past but we will start enforcing this ordinance in 2014. Please make sure that your house numbers are on your mailbox, and especially if your house is down a lane, at the foot of your driveway and on the house itself. Green Address Markers can be purchased through Fountaindale Volunteer Fire Department for \$15. Please call Sam Ginn at 794-2841 to place your order. Ordinance 1990-09 and the complete list of recommendations are posted on the Township website at [www.hamiltonban.com](http://www.hamiltonban.com). We appreciate your voluntary compliance.

Another important topic that deals with area Fire Companies is the recent Fire Funding Study that was sponsored by the Adams County Council of Governments (COG) and the Adams County Volunteer Emergency Services Association (ACVESA). This study provides Adams County municipalities the information needed for each entity to determine how they would provide equitable funding to their respective fire companies. Currently the area fire companies receive donations from approximately 25% of their residents and municipalities also donate funds to the fire companies that respond in their Township or Borough. The fire study recommends a .25 mill tax increase across the board to go directly to the Adams County Fire Departments. Visit the COG website at [www.accog.us](http://www.accog.us) to read the full study.

### **Orrtanna Sewer Plant News (OTP):**

In April, the Hamiltonban Township Sewer Authority Board moved their bi-annual meeting to the Orrtanna United Methodist Church in an effort to give Authority members the chance to address any questions that residents might have had on the proposed sale of the Treatment Plant. Those plans are moving forward with an expected sale date in late 2014. The next Sewer Authority meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Township Office. All users of the Orrtanna sewer system are invited to attend.

### **Ordinances:**

In case you missed the notices in the Gettysburg Times, the Nuisance Ordinance (Ordinance #2013-04) has been updated to include sections regarding stagnant water, traffic hazards, drainage of water and disposal of organic waste. A Construction and Material Specifications manual has also been adopted to go along with the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. All ordinances and resolutions can be viewed online at the Township website [www.hamiltonban.com](http://www.hamiltonban.com) or picked up at the Township Office.

### **Receive Township Information by E-mail:**

To better communicate with our residents, Hamiltonban Township maintains an e-mail distribution list of all residents who are interested in receiving information from the Township via e-mail. Information that is distributed includes emergency notifications and road closures, special notices, news of interest, happenings in the Township and surrounding areas, budget messages, and the like. Your e-mail address will be kept **CONFIDENTIAL**. It will not be sold or given to anyone and will only be used for official business. Also, your e-mail address will not be displayed in the e-mail itself, so no one else will be able to see who is receiving the e-mails. We highly encourage you to sign up for these emails so that you may stay on top of all Township news. Please contact the office at 717-642-8509 or e-mail your information to: [hamiltonban@embarqmail.com](mailto:hamiltonban@embarqmail.com). At this time 83 residents have signed up for this service.

The Township website [www.hamiltonban.com](http://www.hamiltonban.com) is always up to date with the latest Township information. You can also access meeting minutes, ordinances and Township forms from the site.

### **Board and Commission Meetings:**

We would like to formally invite all our residents to attend our monthly meetings. All meeting are at 7:00 PM at the Township Office.

*Board of Supervisors:* First Tuesday of each month except for November when the meeting will be on Wednesday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

*BOS Workshop:* Last Thursday of each month except for November when the meeting will be on Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> and December when the meeting will be held on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>

*Planning Commission:* Fourth Tuesday of each month except for December when the meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>

*Recreation & Park Commission:* Second Wednesday of each month

*Municipal Authority:* Third Wednesday of April and October

### **Additional Information:**

Robert L. Gordon: Supervisor, Chairman & Road Coordinator - term expires 12/31/2017

Coleen N. Reamer: Supervisor, Vice-chairman & OTP Coordinator - term expires 12/31/2017

James Grinder: Supervisor - term expires 12/31/2013

Harry Rood: Supervisor & Office Coordinator - term expires 12/31/2013

Doug Woerner: Supervisor - term expires 12/31/2015

Deborah K. Feiler: Secretary/Treasurer Office: 717-642-8509 Email: [hamiltonban@embarqmail.com](mailto:hamiltonban@embarqmail.com)

John A. Harbaugh, Jr.: Roadmaster Office: 717-642-8531 Email: [hbtroads@embarqmail.com](mailto:hbtroads@embarqmail.com)

Don Wills: Emergency Management Coordinator Office: 717-642-8820

Sam Ginn: EMA Deputy Coordinator Email: [hamiltonbanema@embarqmail.com](mailto:hamiltonbanema@embarqmail.com)