

PETERS TOWNSHIP,
PENNSYLVANIA

2024 CITIZEN'S FINANCIAL REPORT



**PETERS TOWNSHIP
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT TOWNSHIP MANAGER

TRACEY EAKIN

I am pleased to present the Peters Township Citizen's Financial Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024. This financial report is designed to convey important financial information to the residents of Peters Township in a reader-friendly and concise manner to provide transparency and accountability. The Citizen's Financial Report is suitable for those who prefer an overview or summary of the Township's government and its financial condition.

Peters Township continued to exhibit strong financial performance in 2024. The Township realized \$27.7 million in revenue, a \$225,978 or 0.8% decrease from 2023. Expenses incurred totaled \$27.3 million, a \$545,999 or 2.0% increase year-over-year. Our revenues and expenses last year were closely matched but still ended up increasing our net position by \$468,560 to \$51.7 million by year-end. In 2024, \$6.5 million was invested in our Township in the form of capital expenditures. No other municipality in Washington County provides such robust services and extensive amenities as Peters Township, those which rival communities in Allegheny County, but with a property tax levy below the mid-point for Washington County.

As stewards of the Township's assets, including its financial assets, Council members and staff must manage the financial affairs of Peters Township as if they were their own by building a solid financial plan, the budget, based on sound financial principles and a most likely business scenario. Then during the year, we need to make prudent, disciplined decisions by weighing the costs and benefits of competing priorities since we have finite resources to spend and ever-changing business conditions. Adherence to a budget is not always easy, and as external conditions impact the Township, priorities may change. Remaining agile, but not letting unexpected factors derail the thoughtful planning that took place when the budget was created, is essential. 2024 performance compared to the budget exemplifies this restraint.

Peters Township is a growing community of just under 20 square miles. According to Census.gov, as of July 1, 2024, we had 23,248 residents. 65.3% of our population 16 years and older are in the civilian labor force with a mean travel time to work of 28.4 minutes. Our 8,272 households, averaging 2.75 people each, have a median income in 2023 dollars of \$140,361 and a median value home of \$440,300. 98.3% aged 25 and older graduated from high school and 61.3% hold a Bachelor's degree or higher.

Each year, we like to highlight a particular department and their good work. The focus of the 2024 Citizen's Financial Report is the Peters Township Parks and Recreation Department. It may not be obvious how much time and effort are devoted by our Parks and Recreation department staff to ensure that residents have no need to look outside the Township for leisure activities, classes, and programs. We offer a wide selection for

many different interests and ages. Recreational amenities are highly valued by those who live in Peters Township and as such, we work diligently to ensure that our facilities and our parks continue to be upgraded and enhanced. Each year, a significant amount of the capital improvement budget is allocated to this ongoing investment.

The Township has a recently renovated community center, recently recoated hardcourt tennis courts, seven parks, a 3.5 mile-segment of the Montour Trail, playgrounds, fields for football, soccer, baseball, and softball, a lake, and an outdoor amphitheater.

Last year, work began on two significant projects in our parks. The first project involved major improvements to the two ball fields located in Peterswood Park. Administration staff was successful in securing \$650,000 in grant funding from the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program and \$500,000 from the statewide Local Share Account to enable us to replace the existing dugouts, press boxes, and lighting, and install artificial turf on both infields. With a moveable/replaceable mound and bases, both baseball and softball can now be played on these fields. They can also accommodate different age groups. This project was just completed and a ribbon-cutting ceremony took place in May.

Construction also began at the end of 2024 to construct a splash pad in Rolling Hills Park with the assistance of \$3.2 million in grant funding. When complete in the summer of 2025, there will be two distinct areas for play, one for older children and one for younger children. There will also be an indoor room and outdoor shelters for parties and other gatherings.

The Citizen's Financial Report is designed to supplement, not to replace, the Peters Township Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). The ACFR provides detailed reporting of the Township's financial position and operating activities each year, presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Due to the summary nature of the Citizen's Financial Report, it is not intended to conform to these standards. For those wishing to review the Peters Township ACFR, it can be found on the Township's website, www.peterstownship.com, at the library, or in the municipal building.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this report or any other matter, feel free to reach out to me at 724.942.5045 or teakin@peterstownship.com.

Sincerely,

Tracey Eakin
Assistant Township Manager



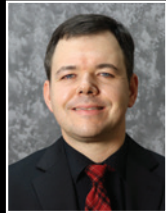
PETERS TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Peters Township, a Home Rule Community, is governed by a seven-member Council. Council members are elected for a four-year term. Four of the Council members are elected by district, and three Council members are elected at large. Our current members are:



Frank Arcuri



Frank Kosir, Jr.
Vice Chairman



Robert Lewis



Tom Pirosko



Matt Rost



Allison Shanafelt



Gary Stiegel, Jr.
Chairman

PROFILE OF GOVERNMENT

Peters Township is a general unit of local government and, as such, provides a wide variety of public services. These services include:

- Police Protection
- Fire Protection
- Road Maintenance
- Planning
- Zoning/Code Enforcement
- Parks and Recreation
- Library
- Community Television

The Township operates through the authority granted to it by the Peters Township Home Rule Charter. The Charter provides that the Township be governed by a seven-member elected Council. The Council is vested with a broad range of policy-making powers. To assist the Council in the formation of policy, a variety of Boards have been created:

- Planning Commission
- Zoning Hearing Board
- Park and Recreation Board
- Cable Television Board
- Environmental Quality Board
- Library Board
- Youth Commission
- Construction Appeals Board

Day-to-day administration is the responsibility of the Township Manager. Council appoints the Manager for an indeterminate period. The Township Manager, in turn, recommends to Council the appointment of all department heads.

The Peters Township organizational chart provides a visual representation of the Township's structure. The current chart is published in the 2025 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Plan as well as the current Annual Comprehensive Financial Report, both of which are available on the Township's web site.

FINANCIAL GOALS AND POLICIES

Peters Township has adopted a series of financial goals which it strives to attain over the long term. Financial goals, by their very nature, are broad and enduring guiding principles. They serve as the foundation for a system of belief or behavior or for a chain of reasoning. Every financial decision made by the Township is guided by the following financial goals:

- Provide a revenue structure that is dynamic and diverse to enable the Township to deliver services that residents and businesses need and desire.
- Maintain a strong credit rating.
- Deliver quality services to residents and businesses in a cost-effective manner.
- Provide skilled financial management that ensures that budgeting, accounting, and auditing processes comply with recognized standards, provide appropriate internal controls, encourage public involvement, are transparent, and provide the information necessary to make informed, prudent decisions.

Peters Township has also adopted financial policies designed to set parameters for decisions and actions for the Township. These financial policies are grounded in the financial goals which guide all our decisions. These policies fall into six categories: budget, revenue, expenditure, debt, investment and accounting/auditing/financial reporting. These policies are reviewed annually and are incorporated into our annual operating budget and capital improvement plan, which can be found on our website, at the library, or in the municipal building.

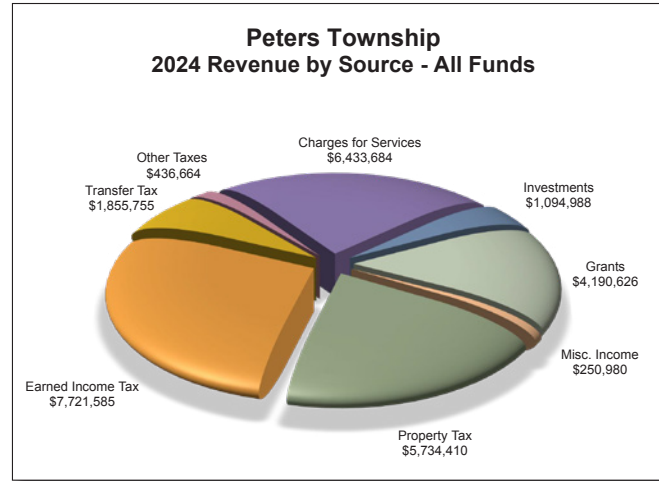
The ability of any municipal government to achieve its goals is fundamentally determined by the municipality's capacity to raise the funds needed to meet the needs and desires of its residents and businesses. In the case of Peters Township, these funds are derived from a variety of sources.

In 2024, 57% of Peters Township's total revenues of \$27,718,692 were derived from taxes. This compares with 57% in 2023 and 61% in 2022. Total tax revenue decreased by \$132,134 in 2024 primarily due to a \$299,533 decrease in real estate transfer taxes, partially offset by increases in earned income and property taxes of \$146,652 and \$54,084, respectively. Real estate transfer taxes have continued their downward trend since their recent high levels post-pandemic when interest rates were so favorably low to those securing mortgage loans.

The earned income tax is a one-half of one percent (0.5%) tax levied against the wages earned by Township residents. In 2024, earned income tax accounted for \$7,721,585 or 49% of the taxes levied for general government functions. Last year, the national labor market cooled with job growth slowing and the unemployment rate rising, national wage growth slowed, and the Township population is expected to have increased. Despite the overall calming of the market, this represents the highest year of earned income tax on record and was \$146,652 or 2% higher than 2023, the previous record high year.

The real estate tax is a tax levied against the assessed valuation of property located within the Township. The valuation of all taxable real estate in Peters Township in 2024 was \$3,421,082,989, up \$38,624,643 from last year. The 2024 real estate tax rate remained at 1.7 mils after having been raised in 2022 from 1.622 mils in 2021. 2024 real estate tax receipts were \$5,734,410 or 36% of total tax revenue. This represented a \$54,084 or 1% increase over 2023 receipts.

Real estate transfer tax is levied on the value of property in Peters Township whose ownership is transferred. The Township levy is one percent (1%) of the value of the property transferred. The tax is collected by the Washington County Recorder of Deeds who charges a two percent (2%) collection fee. In 2024, the Township collected \$1,855,755 in transfer taxes, or 12% of total tax revenue. 2024 real estate transfer tax revenue was \$299,533 or 14% lower than the prior year and was more in line with that experienced in 2020.



Non-tax revenues experienced a strong year bringing in \$11,970,278 or 43% of total revenue. Non-tax revenues include charges for services, grants, and investment income.

Charges for services in 2024 were \$6,433,684, \$1,642,454 or 34% higher than the year before. It is the Township's policy, whenever possible, to assess fees to the users of specialized services sufficient to cover their cost. Zoning and building permit fees offset the cost of municipal services associated with development activity. The costs of recreation activities are largely covered by program fees. The largest source of income from fees is related to the collection and disposal of solid waste and recycling. In 2024, fees for solid waste and recycling totaled \$3,267,101, an increase over last year of \$1,036,680 or 46%, due to the renewal of the Township's contract with Waste Management at the beginning of 2024. Consistent with neighboring communities, Peters Township experienced significant increases in the cost to deliver this service.

In 2024, \$4,190,626 was received in the form of operating and capital grants and represents 35% of the Township's non-tax revenue. An important ongoing source of grant funds is the Pennsylvania State Liquid Fuel Program. Under this program, the state provides individual municipalities with a portion of the monies derived through the imposition of a statewide gasoline tax. In 2024, the Township received \$779,574 in Liquid Fuel funds.

The Township receives funds from several state programs, including two block grants: the Local Share Assessment Program, by which the Township receives funds from state gaming tax, and the Gas Well Impact Fee Program, which provides local municipalities affected by unconventional gas drilling activities a share of funds to offset local impacts. The Peters Township Council has designated that funds from both state block grants be used to finance capital improvements. In addition, the Township receives funds under the Foreign Fire Fund Program that are mandated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be turned over to the Peters Township Volunteer Fire Company Relief Association. The Relief Association utilizes these funds to acquire and maintain firefighting equipment and personal protection gear. Finally, the Foreign Casualty Insurance Program provides funds to help offset local public employee pension costs. The amount received does not cover all pension expenses; the difference is made up by the general fund and employee contributions.

Selected Historical Revenue

	2024	2023	2022
Earned Income Tax	7,721,585	7,574,933	7,281,431
Real Estate Tax	5,734,410	5,680,326	5,614,772
Real Estate Transfer Tax	1,855,755	2,155,288	2,896,744
Other Taxes	436,664	470,001	458,243
Total Tax Revenue	15,748,414	15,880,548	16,251,190
Charges for Services	6,433,684	4,791,230	4,194,768
Investment Earnings	1,094,988	1,128,927	295,459
Grants	4,190,626	5,892,551	5,192,901
Miscellaneous Revenue	250,980	251,414	563,186
Total Non-Tax Revenue	11,970,278	12,064,122	10,246,314
Total Revenue	27,718,692	27,944,670	26,497,504

EXPENDITURES

WHAT THE MONEY IS USED FOR

All municipal governments, by way of their budgeting process, define an action plan for achieving goals and objectives by allocating funds between a variety of competing programs. As a general unit of local government, Peters Township provides a wide variety of public services. These services are grouped into five categories:

- General Government
- Protection to Persons and Property
- Public Works
- Culture and Recreation
- Interest on Debt

Total expenses for all programs in 2024 were \$27,250,132, an increase of \$692,937 or 2.6% over the prior year. General government, which includes administration, engineering, municipal complex maintenance, information technology, legal services, and the Township Council, represented 10% of all expenses in 2024.

In 2024, \$9,893,838, or 36% of all expenses, was spent for Protection to Persons and Property, which includes police, fire, emergency medical services, planning/zoning/building inspection, and animal control. \$549,941 of these expenses came from the Equitable Sharing Program and included law enforcement equipment, community education programs, and training.

Public Works expenses in 2024 totaled \$8,045,257, or 30% of all expenses. This category houses the cost associated with the curbside collection and

	2024	2023	2022
General Government	2,819,998	2,737,867	2,726,668
Protection to Persons & Property	9,893,838	9,646,347	8,462,709
Public Works	8,045,257	8,226,207	7,765,686
Culture & Recreation	5,455,416	5,020,665	4,454,758
Interest on Debt	1,035,623	1,073,047	849,124
Total Expenses	27,250,132	26,704,133	24,258,945

disposal of solid waste and recyclables. The remainder represents the cost, including staff expenses, to maintain the Township's roads, storm sewers, parks, and Township buildings and vehicles.

Programs under the category of Culture and Recreation include the Peters Township Public Library, Parks and Recreation, and Peters Township Community Television. In 2024, Culture and Recreation incurred \$5,455,416 expenses, or 20% of all expenses.

The remaining 4% of expenses incurred last year was for \$1,035,623 interest on long-term debt.

2024 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

A portion of the capital improvement program each year is dedicated to reinvestment in our infrastructure, to ensure these assets remain in good condition and function efficiently. These projects include maintenance of our roads, storm sewer system, and street signals and signs. Capital improvements are also made each year to continually improve residents' quality of life. An example of this is all the work you will read about that has taken place in our parks in 2024 and continuing into 2025. \$6,521,286 was spent last year on capital expenditures including:

- All or portions of 16 Township roadways were repaved, comprising approximately 5.3 miles. In addition, utility companies resurfaced another roughly 1.1 miles. As part of this annual effort, as roads are being resurfaced, any deteriorating stormwater catch basins are rehabilitated. Last year, Bruni Drive was extended to Sugar Camp Road. Pavement rejuvenator and crack sealer were also applied to help extend the useful lives of our recently paved roads. The total project cost for 2024 was \$2,023,183.
- Almost \$1.3 million was spent in 2024 to fund improvements to the ball fields in Peterswood Park including the addition of artificial turf, and replacement of the dugouts, press boxes, and lighting. This project was just completed, and a ribbon-cutting ceremony took place in May.
- Construction began on the Rolling Hills Aqua Park. This \$6 million project received significant grant funding from the PA Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Local Share Account through the Department of Community and Economic Development. The Aqua Park is anticipated to be complete by the beginning of the summer season. \$814,249 was spent on this project in 2024.
- Our Public Works department owns numerous vehicles and large pieces of equipment that need to be maintained properly and replaced timely to

ensure this team has the tools necessary to snowplow and salt our streets, maintain our parks, and perform large maintenance projects. In 2024, \$629,825 was invested in vehicles ranging from a Toro mower to our largest snowplow dump trucks.

- With financial assistance from the Equitable Sharing Program, the police department was able to spend \$538,916 on purchases including: tactical vests for the South Hills Council of Governments Critical Incident Response Team (\$169,516), two 2024 Chevrolet Tahoes (\$145,515), super duty rifles (\$81,840), in-car cameras (\$42,043), Haenni weight scales (\$31,770), body cameras (\$30,176), and automated license plate readers (\$27,341).
- The parking lot which services our library, tennis center, police station, and municipal building received drainage improvements and was resurfaced at a cost of \$268,590.
- \$221,253 was spent to protect and repair our township storm sewer system including storm sewer and storm water management pond rehabilitation.
- Planning for Rolling Hills Park Phase 2, building off the initial phase of development, continued to progress. The Rolling Hills Master Plan identifies basketball courts, a deck hockey rink, volleyball court, a park for people with dogs, and an additional driveway with parking spaces as part of phase 2. Expenses incurred for this initiative totaled \$190,017 in 2024.
- \$62,700 was used to repave the segment of Arrowhead Trail from Sugar Camp Road to Haberman parking lot.
- The tennis center's five hardcourt tennis courts were recoated with a rubberized sealer to prevent damage from weather and play at a cost of \$56,695.

ASSETS AND DEBT

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

The Statement of Net Position demonstrates the healthy financial condition of Peters Township as of December 31, 2024. Net position is the difference between our assets plus deferred outflows and our liabilities plus deferred inflows. It is similar to the for-profit concept of equity and represents accumulated resources. Deferred outflows mainly represent differences between expected and actual pension payouts, as well as deferred charges on bond refunding, while deferred inflows are net differences between expected and net investment income related to pensions.

The net position of the Township is estimated to have been \$51,651,479 at the close of 2024. Our year-end net position is not yet final as net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pensions are not yet available. As such, an estimate has been used instead. The Statement of Net Position as depicted here is a summary overview. For greater detail, please refer to the Peters Township Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which is available on the Township website or at the library or municipal building.

	As of 12.31.24	As of 12.31.23	As of 12.31.22
Assets			
Current and Other Assets	19,275,693	21,435,039	20,816,386
Capital Assets	69,693,846	67,843,832	66,198,782
Total Assets	88,969,539	89,278,871	87,015,168
Deferred Outflows of Resources	3,641,048*	3,685,931	5,088,247
Liabilities			
Current and Other Liabilities	4,586,312	4,352,019	2,416,801
Long-Term Liabilities	35,220,364*	36,290,619	38,624,105
Total Liabilities	39,806,676*	40,642,638	41,040,906
Deferred Inflows of Resources	1,152,432*	1,139,245	1,120,127
Net Position	51,651,479*	51,182,919	49,942,382

*Net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pensions are not yet available. An estimate has been used instead.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

The Statement of Activities reports all financial activity for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. The statement presents a summary overview of how the Township's net assets changed during the year as a result of all revenues realized and expenses incurred. For a more detailed view of financial activity, refer to the Peters Township Annual Comprehensive Financial Report which is available on the Township's website or at the library or municipal office.

	2024	2023	2022
Revenues	27,718,692	27,944,670	26,497,504
Expenses	27,250,132	26,704,133	24,258,945
Change in Net Position	468,560	1,240,537	2,238,559
Net Position, January 1	51,182,919	49,942,382	47,703,823
Net Position, December 31	51,651,479*	51,182,919	49,942,382

*Net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources related to pensions are not yet available. An estimate has been used instead.

LONG-TERM DEBT

As of December 31, 2024, Peters Township had \$30,055,000 of outstanding debt in the form of general obligation bonds. This represents a decrease of \$960,000 or 3% compared with last year as the principal is paid down. The Township also had \$87,417 of outstanding debt in the form of notes payable, a decrease of \$42,468 from the prior year as principal is paid on that obligation as well. There are no outstanding capital leases.

Pennsylvania state law regulates the type and size of debt obligations available to municipalities. Non-electoral debt is comprised of notes and/or bonds that a Township issues directly without voter approval. State law limits non-electoral debt to 250% of the annual average of revenues collected over the past three years. As of December 31, 2024, Peters

Township's non-electoral debt limit was \$61,867,480. Non-electoral plus lease rental debt is limited to 350% of the annual average of revenues collected over the past three years, or \$86,614,472. It is the policy of Peters Township to limit debt service payments to less than 10% of available funds, defined as cash and current revenues. In 2024, debt service payments amounted to 5% of available funds.

In 2022, the Standard and Poor's rating service reviewed Township financial information for the purpose of issuing a bond rating. Peters Township's bond rating remains at AA+. As a result, Peters Township bonds are investment grade and reflect the Township's strong financial capacity to meet its commitments.

PETERS TOWNSHIP PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



2024 was a year of growth in the Parks and Recreation Department. Not only are our facilities being upgraded and expanded throughout the park system, our staff has done a great job of expanding program and event opportunities to our residents of all ages. As the Director I feel that our residents do not have to leave the township to look for an activity or event throughout the year. We have a talented staff that works effortlessly to provide these activities/events. Increase in participation numbers throughout the year at the Tennis Center, Community Recreation Center, and Parks and Recreation programming shows the hard work of staff.

We are approaching a time where you will see many changes throughout our park system. A lot of planning behind the scenes has taken place for the following parks projects: Rolling Hills Aquatic Center Phase 1—Splash Pad design and Peterswood Park Ballfields 1 and 2 design. Both projects began construction in 2024 and will be complete in 2025. We are excited to debut these new amenities with our residents!

It is an exciting time to be a part of the growth and development of Parks and Recreation in Peters Township! Our staff is always looking for new ideas to keep Peters Township moving forward with top of the line programs and facilities in the region.

David Brooks
Parks & Recreation Director



Pictured left to right: Patty Cavolo, Lisa Morris, David Brooks, Kristen Martin, Ian Sopko, Maura George, Mike Schuster, Patty Bahr and Becky Goodwin-Sopko.

Peters Township Parks

Peterswood Park



Peterswood Park (133 acres)

- Outdoor Amphitheater
- 5 Ball Fields
- 4 Multi-Use Fields
- 1 Synthetic Turf Field
- 3 Playgrounds
- 4 Restroom Buildings
- 3 Concession Stands

Tennis Center



Tennis Center

- 4 Har Tru Clay Indoor Courts
- 5 Deco Outdoor Courts

Arrowhead Trail



Arrowhead Trail

- 3.5 miles paved surface trail
- Runs from Route 19 to Brush Run Rd.

Elm Grove Park



Elm Grove Park (14 acres)

- 1 Ball Field
- 1 Multi-Use Field
- 1 Playground

Peters Lake Park



Peters Lake Park (189 acres)

- Natural Walking Trail
- Fishing Pier/Kayak Launch

Rees Park



Rees Park (15 acres)

- 1 Ball Field
- 1 Multi-Use Field

Venetia Park



Venetia Park (7 acres)

- 4 Ball Fields
- 1 Restroom Building

Rolling Hills Park



Rolling Hills (90 acres)

- 3 Shelters
- 1 Playground
- Great Lawn Area

Old Trail Park Old Trail (7 acres neighborhood Park)

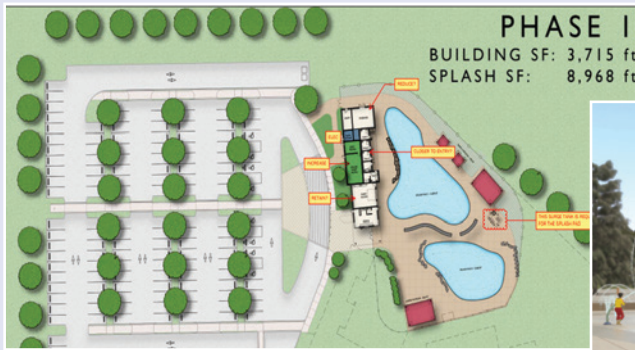
WHAT'S NEW

Peters Township boasts some of the best park amenities in the region, and we are always pushing forward to keep providing new facilities. We are approaching a time where you will see many changes throughout our park system.



BALLFIELDS 1 & 2 AT PETERSWOOD PARK

We are excited to debut the newly renovated Ballfields 1 & 2 in Peterswood Park! This project includes construction of dugouts, press boxes, synthetic turf infields, and drainage.



AQUA PARK AT ROLLING HILLS PARK

A focal point of our summer is sure to be the opening of the “Aqua Park” in Rolling Hills Park, which includes a beautiful splash pad, a party room, shelter, shade areas, and more! This facility offers a fenced in area with two splash pad areas that will provide amenities for kids of all ages, to include slides, dump bucket, and variety of sprayers and hands-on water features. Check the Peters Township Parks & Recreation Facebook page or our website for more details.



PLAYGROUND AT ELM GROVE PARK

Love playgrounds? Elm Grove Park is getting a much needed upgrade with a new, inclusive playground! Climb, slide, spin, and swing your way through this interactive play space, which will open this summer. This is sure to be the talk of the neighborhood.

Community Recreation Center Programs & Events



The Community Recreation Center offers a variety of amenities including two full-size basketball courts, a 10th of a mile track located on the second floor, fitness room, an indoor and outdoor accessible concession stand, conference room, classroom, and multipurpose room with a small kitchen. A skate park is located directly behind the facility.

Many different activities take place at the Community Recreation Center on a day-to-day basis. Our facility is open daily for participants to walk and “drop-in” to utilize our open gym. We host daily session classes provided by contracted instructors, to include yoga, volleyball, cooking classes, pickleball, SilverSneakers, dance, Zumba, karate, chess, cardio, and many more!



Our own staff creates and implements many one-day classes and large events throughout the year, which take place not only in the Community Recreation Center, but also at different locations throughout our parks. One-day programs include preschool classes, Tiny Tot Gym Time, Tween Night, Ladies Night, Senior Luncheons, Family Game Nights, House Decorating Contests, Creative Kids, and more.

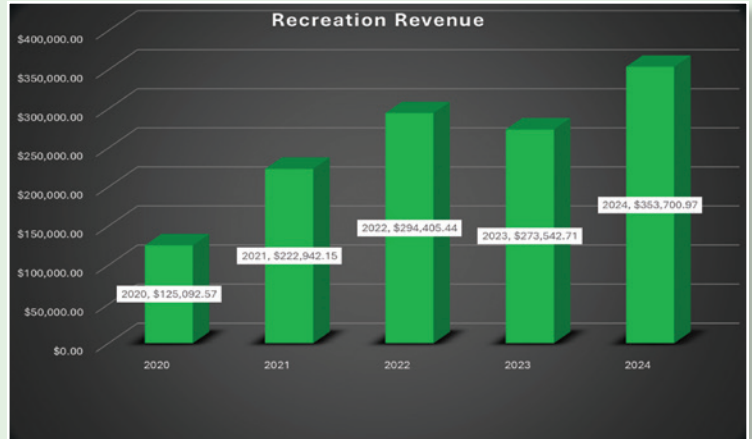


- ◆ Princess Ball
- ◆ Bunny Hop
- ◆ Egg Scramble
- ◆ Community Day
- ◆ Touch-A-Truck
- ◆ Fishing Derby
- ◆ Food Truck Festival
- ◆ Haunted Trail
- ◆ Trunk or Treat
- ◆ Superhero Night
- ◆ Holiday Kickoff
- ◆ Concerts at the Amphitheater
- ◆ Friday Night Flicks (outdoor movies)
- ◆ Children’s Events at Amphitheater



Administration

2024 was a year of growth in the Parks and Recreation Department. We were fully staffed and able to offer more programming. It is great to see the increase in participation numbers throughout all of our programs and events. We base our success on the number of participants that attend our activities throughout the year. This year numbers have surpassed the previous years. Revenue exceeded projections and has been the highest in the last 5 years. Staff has done a great job of growing these numbers through a period. A big part of the success came from advertising through IN Peters Township Magazine, email blasts throughout the school district, banners on the Arrowhead Trail Bridge and social media posts on Facebook and Instagram. These are great avenues to advertise at a very low cost.

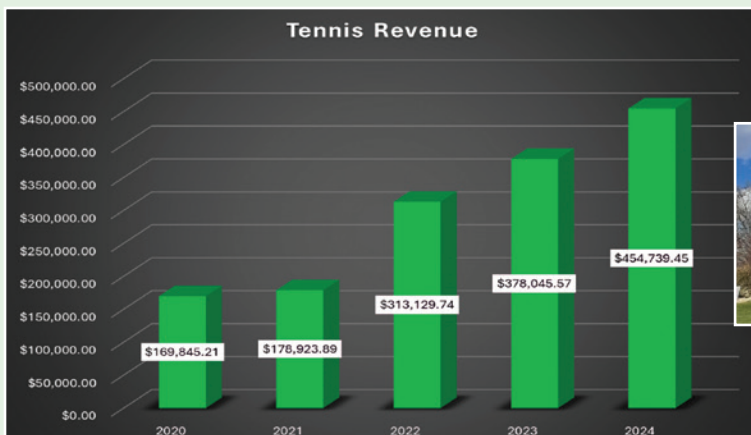


Tennis Center

In 2024, overall usage numbers and revenue for the Tennis Center increased. Two more instructors were hired this year, helping to significantly expand our Junior Development Program. Several new programs were offered including Cardio Tennis, and a new Senior League, as well as more weekend classes. Online court reservations continue to grow, especially increased pickleball play during the outdoor season. Tennis and Pickleball Fun Day was a big success, and we will be expanding the event next year as we continue to look for new ways to attract players to our Tennis Center.

Our largest improvement to the facility this year was resurfacing our five Hard Courts back to brand new condition in June 2024. Low spots were filled, cracks were patched, and the court surface was re-sealed and re-painted. The difference in the courts after the resurfacing was amazing. Our players are thrilled to play on the new hard courts. The clay courts also received annual maintenance in May 2024, allowing us to offer some of the best clay court playing conditions in the area. Additional electrical repairs were made to the tennis bubble, as well as improvements to the tennis center building, making for a more professional presentation when patrons enter.

The hard work of our staff, both full-time and part-time, is truly making a huge difference. We are excited to continue growing in 2025!



ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2024

GOVERNANCE/ADMINISTRATION

Council met 30 times, conducted 5 public hearings, adopted 12 ordinances and 23 resolutions, and awarded 30 bids. Council also approved the 2025 operating budget and 2025-2029 capital improvement plan. No tax increases were factored into this budget.

The Township rolled out PT AlertME, a text and email-based alert system for emergency notifications, non-emergency alerts, and community information. Sign up on the home page of peterstownship.com.

ENGINEERING

In anticipation of PennDOT's upgrade of the Bebout/East McMurray/Thompsonville Roads intersection, which began in the second quarter of 2025, the Engineering Department was involved with the utility relocations that needed to take place prior to the commencement of construction.

Annual reinvestment in Township infrastructure is not only prudent but critical to our commitment to provide safe roadways and efficient and reliable storm water management. In 2024, 16 roadways were resurfaced, four major storm sewer systems received cured-in-place lining, two stormwater management ponds were rehabilitated, and the municipal complex parking lot was resurfaced after drainage improvements were made.

POLICE

Victims of online scams may never see their scammer brought to justice nor recover the money stolen from them. We all know how easy it is to let our guard down and click on a link we shouldn't or believe a story from someone who is trying to take advantage of us. A report of scamming was made to the Police Department. They responded quickly, investigated, set a plan in motion, and ultimately caught and arrested the criminal. Officers found evidence of large-scale fraud which had been perpetrated all over the United States. They supplied crucial information to multiple police and federal investigators as far away as Alaska and assisted in identifying the suspect and victims in their respective jurisdictions. All victims were of an advanced age. They were also able to negotiate full restitution of the \$24,000 that had been taken from the resident.

FIRE

In 2024, the Fire Department conducted "smoke detector blitzes" in multiple neighborhoods where they had previously noticed aging or missing smoke detectors while on calls or where there had been critical incidents nearby. Crews visited over 100 homes and assisted residents by installing new detectors, checking old ones, and changing batteries. It was such a successful initiative; they plan to continue it in 2025.

In February 2024, the department partnered with EQT to hold a mock emergency drill involving a significant issue with a gas transmission line. It required preventative planning and included emergency response, protection, and subsequent mitigation. It provided both partners with critical information should there be an actual emergency.

PLANNING

Our Planning Department continues to be a hub of activity and in 2024, building activity did not slow, permit reviews and inspections increased, several subdivision and land development plans were evaluated, and numerous property maintenance issues were addressed. To help address the increased demands placed on this department, a concerted effort has been

made to ensure the department is fully staffed and technology is leveraged to streamline current processes, including the digitization of paper building permits and large, rolled plans.

PUBLIC WORKS

On May 11, a tornado touched down in Peters Township. Our Public Works Department responded quickly to the damaged area and provided aid to both the Police and Fire Departments. The following week they concentrated on the cleanup of fallen trees and the debris left behind.

Rarely do we receive as many calls as we did from residents thanking us for the beautiful 33-foot, LED-lit Christmas tree in the center of the Bebout/Valley Brook Road roundabout that our Public Works team installed for the holiday season.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Along with sizable financial assistance from grants, the Township appropriated significant funds last year for recreational amenities including improvements to Peterswood Park baseball fields 1 and 2 and the building of the Rolling Hills Aqua Park. The Parks and Recreation Department has been working closely with our Engineering department to ensure both projects are completed properly, on time, and in line with the budget.

Programming and events continue to expand as staff discover new crafts, fitness classes, volunteer groups, and educational programs that would interest residents. Due to the popularity of the Princess Ball each year, and the desire to be able to accommodate more fathers and daughters, both gyms were used in 2024, and as a result, the team welcomed their largest crowd to date - 286 participants.

LIBRARY

We are fortunate to have such a thriving and growing library in the Township. This past year, the library welcomed almost 120,000 patrons, 1,800 of whom were new, and circulated approximately 300,000 items to them. More than 23,000 community members attended library programs, both virtually and in person - a 26% increase over 2023! They also provided services and programs to another 2,800 patrons through outreach and community events, and to 1,700 community members who used library meeting rooms.

One measure of a library's success is the monetary value of the services provided to the community versus the Township's contribution - or its return on investment. The library's value of service provided was quantified using a special online calculator which determines how much library services would cost if patrons had to pay for them directly. Based on this calculator, for every \$1 of Township funding the library receives, between \$5 and \$6 of value is provided to the community.

COMMUNITY TELEVISION

Community television programming had its second most successful year in the history of the department with an increase of 5.2% over 2023. There were 682 productions created with record-setting viewership. The most watched programming included sporting events, the mock crash, Township information videos, Council meetings, National Honor Society induction, and Commencement.