

# Elsinboro Township

January 2013  
Volume 3, Issue 1

(856) 935-2200

## Important Information

Township Committee

Sean Elwell, Mayor

Jack Elk, Deputy Mayor

Jeff Stepler, Committeeman

## Office Hours

### Township Clerk: NEW TIMES

Tuesdays: 1:00-6:00

Fridays: 8:30-3:00

### Tax Office:

Mondays: 12:00-6:00

Wednesdays: 12:00-6:00

### Construction Office:

Thursdays: 4:30-6:00

### Christmas Contest Winners

#### Simplistic

1<sup>st</sup>-Barbara and Brian Duffy

2<sup>nd</sup>-Danielle and Mike

Khairzada

#### Creative

1<sup>st</sup>- Tara and David Travis

2<sup>nd</sup>-Melissa Medford

#### Original

1<sup>st</sup>-June and John Sieber

2<sup>nd</sup>-Russell Matlack

### Township Website

In our last newsletter we highlighted the new township website which has been implemented.

We have many updates since the original unveiling and continue to make changes. Please check back frequently.

[www.ElsinboroTownship.com](http://www.ElsinboroTownship.com)



## Emergency Management Reminder

Over the past several months Elsinboro Township has experienced significant flooding throughout the community. In the wake of Hurricane Sandy and the recent flooding on December 21<sup>st</sup>, the emergency management team wants to remind all residents about services which are available.

**Reverse 911:** This system is designed to notify residents in multiple ways in the event of an emergency that affects Salem County or Elsinboro Township. Entering as many means of contact as you may have will ensure you are contacted. You can register for this service by visiting the township website.

**Special Assistance:** The Elsinboro Emergency Management Office maintains a list of residents who require special assistance during an emergency. If you are in need of special assistance and wish to be added to the list, please contact the municipal clerk at 935-2200.

This information is maintained by Emergency Management officials and is confidential.

The Elsinboro Emergency Management teams meets frequently and is always open to suggestions to improve the services offered. The team is currently investigating additional ways to

communicate with residents during an emergency. In addition, the team is actively working with the county freeholders to address recent flooding concerns.

Additional information is available at the municipal building on how to ensure you are prepared for emergencies.

### Thank You

A special thank you to the Elsinboro Emergency Management Team, Elsinboro Fire Company, Township Committee and all of the volunteers who have helped to protect our town during these storms.

## Legislative Offices Visit Elsinboro Township

Recently, representatives from Senator Lautenberg's office and Congressman LoBiondo's office paid a visit to Elsinboro Township. They visited to survey the Elsinboro beachfront and show their continued support for a beachfront replenishment project in Elsinboro Township. Mayor Sean Elwell, Deputy Mayor Jack Elk, and several residents accompanied the representatives.

The project which was discussed is not a new one. The project, officially known as the Oakwood Beach project, was originally authorized in 1999. According to the project factsheet, the project location consists of approximately 2 miles along

the Delaware Bay Coastline along Oakwood Beach. The proposed project is designed to reduce the damage caused by flooding and coastal storm damages.

The proposed project includes beachfill and periodic nourishment over an eight year period to ensure the integrity of the design. The addition of this beachfill would protect the homes along the Delaware River from flooding and coastal storm damage.

Initial funding for the project was used to complete the preliminary design of the project, however, no federal funds have been made available for the project since 2001.

Completion of the project is dependent on a consistent federal funding stream. While the visit does not guarantee funding, it does ensure that our representatives remain aware of the constant erosion, which has caused a significant hardship on our residents and that they understand the importance of the proposed project.



## Clerk Shared Service

In September the township committee entered into a shared service agreement with Quinton Township for municipal clerk services.

By entering into the new agreement, the township will continue to have the services of a certified municipal clerk, while saving money on training and certification fees. These fees will be split by both townships.

This is one of several shared services agreements the township committee has successfully implemented.

### Clean Communities

On September 29th, community groups gathered together to do their part in keeping Elsinboro beautiful. This yearly tradition is made possible through grant funds that allow the organizations to be compensated for their efforts.

### Reminder

Dumping of any items on another property is considered illegal and action can be taken.

Questions about property maintenance should be directed to the township zoning officer.

### Your Opinion Matters

Feedback is important. We are always eager to hear your thoughts.

**Please reach out to us by email, [sean@seanewell.com](mailto:sean@seanewell.com) or by phone, 935-2200 to give us your suggestions and feedback.**

## Taxes, Taxes, Taxes

During the first Mornings with the Mayor, a resident suggested inclusion of tax information in our newsletter. Below is a brief local tax rate breakdown.

The local tax rate is \$0.29 per \$100 of assessed property value. The average assessment for a home in Elsinboro Township is \$180,000. The amount of money to be raised through the local purpose tax in 2012 was \$361,096.

For the average assessed home, residents pay approximately \$522 for their local purpose tax. The local tax rate is utilized to provide municipal services which include police protection, curbside trash and recycle pickup, snow removal, grass cutting, and other necessary positions such as municipal clerk, tax collector, and construction code official.

Of the average \$522 each home pays for their local

purpose tax, approximately \$150 goes towards police protection, while \$170 goes towards trash collection.

Each year state aid is provided to help offset costs to taxpayers. Over the last ten years state aid has been reduced throughout the state. This reduction has had a direct impact on the tax rate in every municipality.

The township committee is continually searching for ways to keep the local tax rate down and maintain services at the same level.

## Mayor's Corner-Year in Review

2012 was a year full of challenges for Elsinboro Township. Many changes occurred that had a positive effect on the entire community.

We were able to continue our quarterly newsletters. These newsletters are designed to keep our residents informed of what is occurring in Elsinboro Township.

ElsinboroTownship.com was created and continues to grow. The township website is a great resource for the latest information. In 2013, the goal is for the website to continue to expand.

Elsinboro Township was awarded the safety award through the Joint Insurance Fund (JIF). This award provided funding for the purchase of an AED for the municipal building, along with other safety supplies.

After widespread support from the community, the Township Committee agreed to enter into an agreement to have recyclables picked up with an automated truck. Although this required the purchase of cans for each resident, we believe we will see a cost savings over the next several years.

Mornings with the Mayor was created and had a great turn out. This town hall style forum allowed residents to have their questions answered directly as a group. In 2013 we hope to have this program once in the spring and once in the fall.

In May our Community Development Committee was able to hold our second annual community day. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all. Plans are already underway for Elsinboro Day 2013.

The speed reduction for South Tilbury Road was completed and requests have been submitted for several other roads. These reductions are necessary to ensure the safety of our residents.

We were also fortunate to receive several grants which allowed for many projects to be completed. These included funding for the Mayor's Book Club. Congratulations to Mrs. Demko's first grade class in exceeding our goal and reading 1,954 books!

As part of our continuous improvement program which was implemented in 2012, we are again asking residents to complete a year end survey.

Although many positive changes have occurred, we still have work to be done. We are continuing to look for ways to ensure fiscal responsibility, while maintaining the quality and services we are accustomed to. The township committee is the voice of the residents and it is important that we know the opinions of those we serve. As a direct result of last year's survey we were able to implement several changes.

The 2012 year end survey can be accessed electronically by going to the site: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GGXPDH7>

If you should experience any issues with accessing or completing the survey please contact our office so that we can ensure your voice is heard.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as the Mayor of Elsinboro Township. With your support we can continue to make Elsinboro the best place to live!

Happy New Year!  
-Sean Elwell

