

# **BOROUGH OF EDGEWORTH**

Office of the  
Borough Manager

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## **Annual Borough Manager's Message**

The Edgeworth Borough Council, Mayor and professional staff are committed to providing exceptional service to the residents of the Borough, and keeping our Borough an enjoyable place to live. Please take a few minutes to read this year-end summary of some of the progress and accomplishments from 2017. While this summary is by no means an all-encompassing list of activities that have taken place in the Borough, I hope it will serve as a way to show you the work that is being done on your behalf!

### **The Financial Position of the Borough**

As a resident in Edgeworth, you can rest assured that your tax dollars are being spent wisely, and with the same care that you would manage your own money. I am proud to say that all three departments, Administration, Police and Public Works submitted expenses in 2017 that came in below budget. This conservative spending, combined with a strong real-estate market and earned income tax revenues allowed for a Capital Expenditure budget for 2018 which will include infrastructure repair and maintenance and park improvements, to name a few. Based on these financial strengths of the Borough, Council adopted the 2018 Budget with no tax increase - for the fifteenth consecutive year!

### **Improvements throughout the Borough**

A number of capital improvements were made during the course of 2017. In an effort to better serve those who use Walker Park, three new modern restroom facilities were installed near three of the shelters. These restrooms are designed to minimize odors and are easy to clean. Many residents enjoy Walker Park every day, and the restrooms are a much needed improvement. The old restroom facility will be removed this year. The 2017 Roadway Improvement Project included complete or partial repaving of six roads in the Borough – over 4,000 feet of roadway! This project included resurfacing, new storm inlets and ADA ramps at intersections, helping to make the Borough sidewalks more accessible. Trees are just as an important part of our community as sidewalks are too – the Borough planted fifty-two trees in 2017!

One of the most visible new pieces of equipment in the Borough is the leaf vacuum truck which arrived in September. This modern leaf collection unit allows for cleaner and safer operation that increased the speed and efficiency of leaf collection this fall. This new operation requires only one employee rather than two employees that were required in the past – saving costs and allowing additional work to be accomplished. Public safety projects included the installation of thirty LED street lights, the purchase of a new Police vehicle, and the purchase of Tasers for the Police Officers as well.

## **Borough Personnel**

Long-time Public Work's employees Dave Trocki and Robert "Abby" Abercrombie both retired in 2017. Each of these men had committed over 25 years of service to Edgeworth Borough. Their replacements, Jim Wigton and Shawn Johnston have both been doing a great job since they were hired and come with significant work experience.

Borough employees who reach retirement age and who are vested in the pension plan are eligible for pension benefits. Borough Council has employed a professional investment firm to manage the assets of the pension accounts that fund these benefits, and we are very proud of the fact that through smart investments and adequate contributions, the pension accounts are at a level where they are more than 100 percent funded! In a time where some municipal pensions are under the microscope for being underfunded, you should be proud to know that the pension fund for our employees is well-managed and strong.

We were also afforded the opportunity to host an intern this summer, sponsored by the Local Government Academy. This internship provided a graduate student from the University of Pittsburgh the chance to work in local government. His task was to locate and map all of the street trees in the Borough and place them in GIS format to create a tree inventory which will guide us in future removal, pruning and plantings – take a look for yourself on the website – [www.edgeworthborough.org](http://www.edgeworthborough.org)

### **So – What's in store for 2018?**

Improvement projects are off to an early start in the Borough this year! Some of the major projects that we expect to undertake during 2018 include:

- Sewer line extension on Little Sewickley Creek Road
- Wall stabilization and repair along Beaver Road
- Minor Borough Building renovations including paint and wallpaper
- Expansion of the salt storage building
- Beautification along Rt. 65
- New street signs throughout the Borough and new posts along Beaver Road
- Tree planting and pruning throughout the Borough

I hope you've enjoyed this brief snapshot of what we've been working on in the Borough! The staff at the Borough office including the Dispatchers, Police, Public Works and Administration work diligently to provide you, the residents, with the best quality of services available. The Borough Council, Mayor and Professional Staff are always ready to listen if you have thoughts, ideas or suggestions. I welcome anyone to stop by the office and visit at any time – or reach me through phone or email at [john.schwend@edgeworthborough.org](mailto:john.schwend@edgeworthborough.org) or 412-741-2866.

I wish you a happy and enjoyable 2018!



John Schwend  
Borough Manager