



# **2017 Budget Presentation**

**October 17, 2016**

**John Jacobs, Chairman**

**David Brown, Vice – Chairman**

**Mike Schneider, Member**

**Erica L. Batdorf, Township Manager**

*Welcome To West Vincent Township*

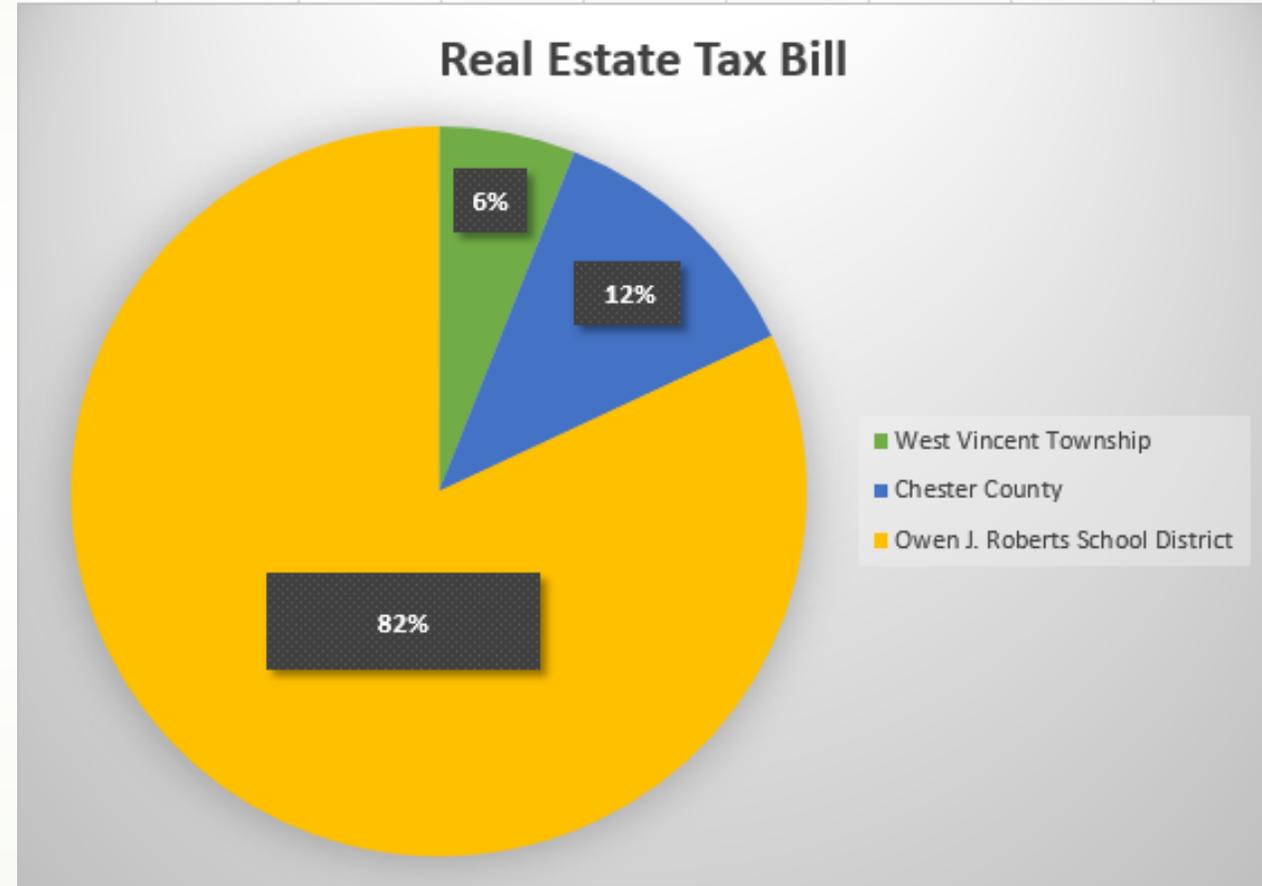
# Budget as *Policy*



- The goal of the Budget is to set a work plan for annual Township operations
- Delivers primary functions of government
- Investment in public safety and infrastructure
- Dedicates nearly \$1,000,000 toward the Road Improvement Program
- Budget has been streamlined, chart of accounts have been updated
- Intended to be implemented with fund balance policies

# Your Real Estate Tax Bill

- Municipal Millage: 2.09 mils
- County Millage: 4.163 mils
- School Millage: 29.6305 mils
  - The mill rate represents the amount per \$1,000 of the assessed value of property
- A home assessed at \$250,000 x 2.09 mils % 1,000 = \$522.50, Represents total West Vincent Township Tax Bill
- Township assessed valuation in 2016 was \$513,069,360





# Local Taxes

- ▶ Real Estate Transfer Tax – The Township levies a 1.0% tax, which it shares equally with the School District, on the transfer of title of real property in the Township.
- ▶ Earned Income Tax – The Township levies a 0.5% tax on the wages, salaries, commissions, and other earned income of Township residents and non – residents working in the Township.
- ▶ Dedicated Earned Income Tax – In accordance with act 153 of 1996, the voters of the Township approved a referendum authorizing an increase in the Earned Income Tax of 0.25%, with revenues dedicated to open space preservation and acquisition. The revenue is issued to pay a portion of our debt service on our general obligation bonds, and the rest is dedicated to open space projects.



# Anticipated Revenues

- ▶ Housing developments underway
  - ▶ Courts at Chester Springs (Pulte)
  - ▶ Eagle Farms (Toll/Lennar)
- ▶ Real Estate Tax expected to increase modestly by \$30,000
- ▶ Transfer Tax expected to remain steady
- ▶ Earned Income Tax to increase modestly by \$45,000
- ▶ The portion of Earned Income Tax dedicated to Open Space is expected to increase by \$10,000
- ▶ The Township is not planning to borrow any additional funds in FY2017.
- ▶ Monitoring activity of Weatherstone Town Center



# Anticipated Revenues

- ▶ The Building/Public Safety Department is projected to see increased revenue due to development activity by Pulte, Lennar, and Toll Brothers. These developments increase the associated reimbursable legal and engineering fees in the Township budget.
- ▶ In the area of Culture/Recreation, revenues from field and park usage, as well as income from the community garden plot rentals are expected to remain steady.
- ▶ Per PennDOT, our annual Liquid Fuel Fund allocation is expected to remain at the same level as 2016.
- ▶ With regard to planning projects, the Township will be participating in the Phoenixville Regional Comprehensive Plan update through funding assistance by the Chester County Planning Commission through the Vision Partnership Grant Program.
- ▶ Sewer system revenues currently reflect no increase in rates. The Township is undergoing an important sewer valuation project which will guide the future management of the plants.

# Anticipated Expenses – Government Administration

- ▶ Salaries & wages increased by 3% for AFSCME employees
- ▶ Salaries & wages increased by 3.5% for Police per contract
- ▶ Township health insurance renewal received: 7.6% increase
- ▶ General Government Buildings & Plant – Includes an architectural study of Township facilities, (est. \$15-20,000)
- ▶ Data Processing/Technology – expenses include general computer and server maintenance, replacement of (2) computers, conversion from Microsoft Exchange to Office 365
- ▶ Engineering services are expected to increase to account for engineering, design, permitting, bidding, and construction management services for projects such as French Creek Bridge, Hollow Road Bridge, Buttonwood Bridge, Fellowship Trail, MS4, and road program implementation.
- ▶ Other General Government Administration costs include township operating activities such as payroll, accounting/auditing, communications, office supplies, and human resources.



# Government Administration cont.

- ▶ Legal expenses
- ▶ General Liability & Property Insurance
- ▶ Workers' Compensation Insurance



## Community Development

- ▶ Community Development – includes Environmental Advisory Committee activities, West Vincent Land Trust contribution, maintenance of Griffith Farm House
- ▶ Culture/Recreation – includes general maintenance of Township park, community garden, Parks & Recreation Commission expenses, as well as Fellowship Trail – Weatherstone Connection Construction costs, (\$100,000)

# Public Safety, Fire, & Planning/Zoning

- ▶ Code Enforcement – Increase in reimbursable costs associated with housing developments and building activity
- ▶ Emergency Management – includes contract with Emergency Operations Coordinator
- ▶ Fire Budget – costs remain steady, includes fire company contribution
- ▶ Planning and Zoning – increased to account for comprehensive plan update with Chester County Planning Commission, as well as General Code – codification of ordinances



# Police Department

- Expenses to include supplies, updating of equipment, public safety software licenses, contracts with local agencies
- Includes a replacement police vehicle to support fleet status
- Includes contract with animal control officer
- Includes training and professional development for staff



# Road Department

- Most significant increase in expenses due to Road Improvement Program
- Draft budget does not include Roadmaster position
- Additional \$300,000 towards road work
- \$100,000 for service vehicle
- Liquid Fuels Fund: Carry over funds from 2016 + PennDOT allocation in 2017: \$460,000 towards road and bridge program
- Expenses for winter maintenance included



# Open Space Fund

- Open Space Fund includes funds for eligible open space preservation projects and efforts
- Fund also used to pay down general obligation bond debt
- Contingent on a variety of factors – ***monitoring Bryn Coed preservation project***





# Sewer Fund

- Costs have increased slightly due to contract renewals with operators – specifically for older plants, additional costs for groundwater monitoring reports and DEP requirements
- Must evaluate the progress of the sewer valuation study
- Monitoring activity of Pulte, Courts at Chester Springs & new sewer plant – a user fee will be established to account for pump & haul program prior to dedication of plant



## **Deliver Results**

- **Fiscal Responsibility** - No tax increase, balanced budget
- **Investment in Infrastructure & Public Safety** – Dedicating funds to roads, bridges, and facilities
- **Commitment to Service** – investing in our human resources through training and education



# DRAFT 2017 Budget

- General Fund: **\$4,106,471.00**
- Open Space Fund: \$1,366,945.00
- Liquid Fuels Fund: \$465,307.00
- Sewer Fund: \$659,895.00
  
- Total Township Budget: **\$6,598,618.00**



**Questions/Comments?**  
Email [ebatdorf@westvincentwp.org](mailto:ebatdorf@westvincentwp.org)

**Before next meeting**  
**November 7, 2016**

*Welcome To West Vincent Township*