



**MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
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TOWNSHIP MANAGER

**December 16, 2021**

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Montgomery Township's 2022 budget approved with a tax increase.

**Montgomeryville, PA**— The Montgomery Township Board of Supervisors approved the budget for 2022, and for the first time in 15 years it will include a property tax increase.

The 1 mill property tax increase will generate about \$1.9 million and be used for costs related to fire services, parks, and debt service. Without this increase in revenue the Township could not transfer dollars for fire services, parks, and debt service without completely depleting its reserves and potentially cutting back on some services in 2023.

"This millage increase creates a necessary funding source for our debt service related to the CRC and planned capital improvements, and will also help fund critical fire safety services. While we gave the matter careful consideration in light of the impact it will have on taxpayers, the need for this increase was clear and I'm pleased to share that it received unanimous support from the Board of Supervisors. We are confident that this measure will set us on a sound financial trajectory and help the Township maintain its AAA bond rating," states Tanya Bamford, Chairwoman of the Board of Supervisors.

Proposed expenditures, including those related to capital projects, total \$26.7 million with \$13.9 million in the General Fund, which pays for 24/7 Police Department protection, Public Works, Code Enforcement, Planning/Zoning, and Administration. Expenditures for this budget are \$50,000 less than 2021.

Fire services will account for \$1.5 million of the total expenditures to ensure the continued level of service with paid full-time career staff during the day and a committed group of volunteers serving on nights and weekends.

In 2021 the Township refinanced the bond associated with the construction of the Community and Recreation Center (CRC), resulting in \$1 million savings to the Township's taxpayers. However, it is unrealistic for the annual debt payment to be covered by users of this community asset. This tax increase will establish a steady revenue stream until the debt is paid off.



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The approved borrowing of \$15 million earlier this year is solely for capital projects and is expected to be depleted with the completion of the Township's five-year Capital Investment Plan.

Capital projects of \$8.1 million for 2022 include:

- Road paving projects
- Installation of two bocce ball courts
- Construction of a second dog park
- Completion of a trail connector from the 202 Parkway to the CRC
- Installation of crosswalks with pedestrian activated flashing beacons at two park entrances
- Replacement of a fire truck
- Replacement of Public Works equipment
- Replacement and improvements to traffic signals

Without this borrowing, necessary infrastructure improvements could not be completed. It allows the Township to maintain money in its capital reserves for unforeseen expenditures and unexpected opportunities, such as developing more parkland or acquiring open space.

The Township is receiving \$2.7 million federal ARPA funds that it will utilize for stormwater management projects. Some of these are required due to our MS4 permit requirements and because we are part of the Wissahickon watershed. Township staff advised the Board of Supervisors that this use will be the most significant with the broadest impact particularly after witnessing the effects of Hurricane Ida.

The full 2022 Approved Budget can be viewed [here](#).

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*Questions about this announcement can be directed to Derek Muller at (215) 393-6900.*