

# The Duncannon Dispatch

News and Information from the Borough of Duncannon

## EIP report examines Borough's future

### State-funded study offers options to deal with serious financial issues

In many ways, the Borough of Duncannon has been buffeted for years by a financial equivalent of a perfect storm. Now it faces extreme challenges as it looks to repair the damages. That is the conclusion of the state-funded Early Intervention Report prepared by Susquehanna Accounting and Consulting Solutions.

The report, the result of an eight-month study and analysis of the Borough's finances and operations, shows the Borough's financial situation has been in decline for several years, and without taking significant steps to address the issues causing that decline, the trend will continue to the point where things simply become unsustainable.

"Budgets adopted from 2013 through 2015, particularly as it related to the General Fund, contained structural deficits," the report states. "In addition, the 2016 budget contained not only a structural deficit in the General Fund, but also contained a structural deficit in most of the utility funds."

A structural deficit exists when the sources of revenue are insufficient to pay for budgeted expenses. Those structural deficits were masked by using reserves and money borrowed, or transferred, from other funds.

"Prior Borough Councils appear to have operated under a policy to keep taxes and



user rates as low as possible and still provide the services mandated by Borough residents. However, if all prior services being provided are still being provided at the same level, and inflation has caused expenses to rise while user rates have not been increased to keep up with expense increases, the first thing to suffer is either the quality of the service or the condition of systems and equipment," the report points out.

In fact, due to financial conditions beyond the Borough's control, tax revenues have actually been on a decline in Duncannon. Real estate taxes, which brought in \$203,000 in 2007, generated only \$182,000 in 2015. Earned income tax revenue was down almost 25 percent in the same time frame. Not

only did past Councils fail to raise taxes or rates to keep up with inflation, they actually lowered sewer rates by \$10, reducing revenue by almost \$100,000 a year at a time when the Borough's aging sewer plant is in need of millions of dollars in upgrades and repairs.

Deferred maintenance, in an effort to hold down rates and taxes in prior years, has caused deficiencies in the Borough's sewer and water systems, resulting in multiple unsatisfactory inspection reports from the state Department of Environmental Protection. A proposed consent agreement to settle a number of sewer violations includes a fine of \$5,000 in addition to requiring millions of dollars in upgrades to make the wastewater treatment plant compliant with

regulatory standards. The Borough's water system faces in excess of \$17 million in needed improvements over the next several years.

According to the report, just the cost of paying for the projected \$20 million in needed water and sewer system improvements would require rate increases totaling more than \$2,200 per household.

Prospects for solving the Borough's financial challenges are not exactly promising. The median value of housing units in Duncannon is 30 percent below the state average. Borough residents have a median household income almost 15 percent below the state average. The Borough's small size, limited developable property, and floodplain restrictions make it unlikely that there will be the kind of economic growth that will help solve the problem.

"Given the demographic and economic makeup of the Borough population and households . . . it is not feasible to assume residents of the Borough could afford to finance the necessary capital improvements to the water and sewer systems," the report states.

Few, if any, significant cost cutting options are available. The report makes clear that the operating costs of the Borough's utilities are at, or

— please see EIP, page 7

## Borough Briefs

# New Finance Director brings wealth of experience to job

Bob Kroboth joined the Borough's staff in November as Duncannon's new Finance Director. Kroboth's hiring filled a void in the Borough's operations that had been identified in the state-funded Early Intervention Report.

Kroboth brought the Borough office much-needed expertise in municipal finance, including experience in helping deal with complex financial challenges. From shortly after his 1982 graduation from Bloomsburg University, where he majored in Business Administration and Accounting, Kroboth worked for the City of Harrisburg, starting there as its accounting manager.

Included in his time with the City was a stint as Harrisburg's Finance Director, a position he retired from in 2013. While in Harrisburg, Kroboth helped stabilize City government during a challenging transition between may-

oral administrations, holding down several roles following the exodus of several key staffers appointed by the previous mayor.

Kroboth stayed on as the City's chief financial officer following that transition and was credited by General William B. Lynch, who served as Harrisburg's court-appointed Act 47 receiver, as having played a key role in the development and implementation of the City's financial recovery plan.

Following his retirement from the City, Kroboth served as a municipal finance consultant to the City of Scranton and as a Senior Vice President with Clark Resources in Harrisburg.



Duncannon Finance Director Robert "Bob" Kroboth has more than 30 years of municipal finance experience.

A native of Whitehall, near Allentown, and a 31-year transplanted resident of Harrisburg, Kroboth and his wife, Tonia, have four children and are proud grandparents of Hayden, age 8, and Emma, 5.

## Newly installed overhead light helps illuminate the Duncannon's square

"What the heck is that thing in the square?" That is a question Borough staff has heard a lot since just after the start of the new year, when this mysterious object first appeared.

Some thought it was a flying saucer, at least until they noticed it was suspended from a wire. Others speculated it was a high tech security camera. One person even guessed that it was some sort of new science sensor to detect air pollution.

The answer is not nearly that exotic.



The new device, seen close up to the right, is a 200 watt LED high bay lamp. That is a fancy name for a suspended street-light. The high tech fixture draws just 100 watts of power, but its brightness is equivalent to a 1,000 watt old fashioned bulb. That makes it bright enough, as seen in the above picture during the recent storm, to illuminate the entire square.



## Senator's staff to hold office office hours in Borough

Need help dealing with state government? Or just want to let your state senator know how you stand on an issue? Beginning Wednesday, April 19, you won't have to travel all the way to Harrisburg to connect with Senator John DiSanto's office. Once a month the senator's office staff will come to you.

Senator DiSanto, who represents the 15th District, which includes all of Perry County and parts of Dauphin County, will have staff members from his office on hand at Duncannon Borough Hall from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month.

Staff members will be able to pass on

to the Senator your support or opposition to any state legislation, help you fill out property tax and rent rebate forms, and to act as a liaison for state agency related matters.

A variety of publications will also be available during those "mobile office" hours.



State Senator John DiSanto



### BOROUGH COUNCIL

*Kraig Nace, Council President*

*Darryl Croutharmel • Christie Young • Frank Eppley  
Roger Williams • Jeffrey Kirkhoff • Chris Adams  
John Cappawana, Mayor*

### BOROUGH STAFF

*Chris A. Courogen, Manager*

*Robert F. Kroboth, Finance Director-Treasurer*

*Kathy Bauer, Secretary*

*Michael Criley, Public Works Foreman*

## —The Duncannon Dispatch—

The Duncannon Dispatch is the official newsletter of the Borough of Duncannon. Published quarterly, The Duncannon Dispatch is distributed to every residence and business in the Borough. For information on advertising in The Duncannon Dispatch, please call 717.834-4311.

# Borough continues to address lead issue

## *Residents' tests give reason for cautious optimism problem not widespread but additional testing will determine what remedial action is necessary*

When routine tests on the Borough's drinking water last fall came back showing two of the 10 sites tested exceeded the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) allowable limits for lead, it triggered a public education program about the dangers of lead in the water.

That public education plan is ongoing, and will continue until the Borough's water passes more

extensive testing protocols in two consecutive six-month periods. The results of those tests will also determine if the Borough has to take other steps in addressing the issue.

Those additional steps could prove very costly. Because of a lack of accurate records about the Borough's system, DEP could conceivably require the Borough to dig up pipes all over town to search for potential sources of lead.

There is, though, reason for cautious optimism that the issue may be resolved in a much less expensive, and intrusive, manner.

As part of the public education campaign by the Borough, DEP requires providing residents with a list of accredited labs where they can have their water tested. Since the nearest of those labs was about an hour away, the Borough negotiated a deal with the lab that does testing for its water system to make the tests available to residents at a reduced cost, with a courier from the lab picking up the samples.

A total of 75 residents and organizations submitted samples for testing.

Only two of the 75 resulted in the detection of lead in levels that exceed DEP guidelines. One was a church constructed in the late 1800s. The other was a home that dates to around 1900. Both had at least some copper piping, which was connected using lead solder.

That is significant for two reasons. First, copper piping with lead solder, extensively used until recent years

likelihood of more lead having leached into it while it sat in those pipes would increase.

Also significant is the fact that two of 75 samples being above the allowable limit equates to 2.6 percent of the tests coming in above those limits. DEP's threshold for requiring action be taken is 10 percent.

This does not mean there is no problem. Lead in drinking water is a significant health risk, especially to infants and children. The Borough still needs to do a lot more testing before it can be considered in the clear.

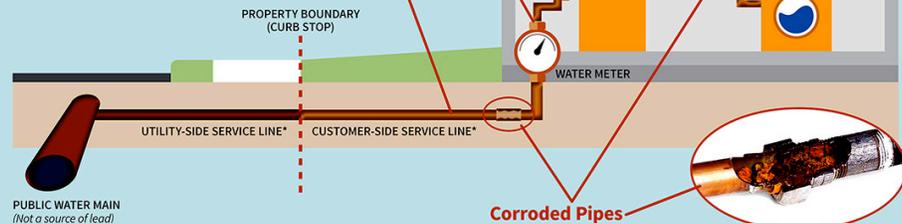
These test results, along with re-tests done at the two sites where high readings triggered the initial issues, are encouraging. Back in September, the readings at those sites were astronomically high. Not only were they higher than the Borough's water system operators had ever encountered at any of the many systems they run, they were also so high that even DEP's spokesperson told reporters they were "definitely outliers."

When those two sites were retested in January, no lead whatsoever was detected in the water.

While the results of the additional testing is encouraging, the Borough will continue its efforts to help educate its residents about the dangers of lead in water and what they can do to reduce the chances of exposure. In a town with as many older buildings with copper pipes and old faucets and fixtures that likely contain lead, it will always be prudent to take steps to minimize the possibility of lead exposure. For more information about lead, see Page 4 or visit the Borough's web site.

## How Lead Gets Into Drinking Water

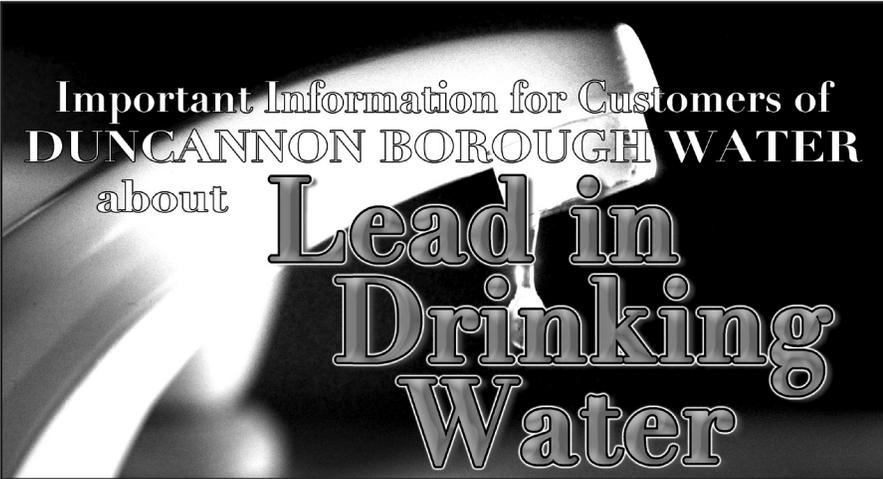
There are a number of ways that lead can enter drinking water. Older homes and pipes are more likely to contain lead, as lead has been phased out over time for most uses in drinking water distribution. Lead leaches out of pipes and other components if the water is corrosive. Water systems add "corrosion control" chemicals that coat the pipes and prevent leaching. Unlike many other drinking water contaminants that result from pollution of a water source, water does not generally contain lead before it enters the system.



\* Lead pipes, copper pipes with lead solder, and fixtures and fittings are possible sources of lead

when PVC piping became the norm, is a known source of high lead and/or copper readings in water. The metals are able to leech into the water flowing through the pipes.

The Borough hopes to do additional testing at both sites to determine what caused the high readings there. In the case of the church, in particular, it is suspected the high levels were due to low water usage during the week. The testing protocol requires samples be taken after no water has been drawn for at least the past six hours. If the water sat in the pipes for even longer, the



**Important Information for Customers of  
DUNCANNON BOROUGH WATER**

about

# Lead in Drinking Water

The Borough of Duncannon found elevated levels of lead in drinking water in some homes/buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and children 6 years and younger. Please read this notice closely to see what you can do to reduce lead in your drinking water.

**ESTE INFORME CONTIENE INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE.  
HAGA QUE ALGUIEN LO TRADUZCA PARA USTED, O HABLE CON ALGUIEN QUE LO ENTIENDA.**

### ***Health Effects of Lead***

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys, and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of your body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children, and pregnant women. Scientists have linked the effects of lead on the brain with lowered IQ in children. Adults with kidney problems and high blood pressure can be affected by low levels of lead more than healthy adults. Lead is stored in the bones and it can be released later in life. During pregnancy, the child receives lead from the mother's bones, which may affect brain development.

### ***Sources of Lead***

Lead is a common metal found in the environment. Drinking water is one possible source of lead exposure. The main sources of lead exposure are lead-based paint and lead-contaminated dust or soil, and some plumbing materials. In addition, lead can be found in certain types of pottery, pewter, brass fixtures, food, and cosmetics. Other sources include exposure in the work place and exposure from certain hobbies (lead can be carried on clothing or shoes). Lead is found in some toys, some playground equipment, and some children's metal jewelry. Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8 percent lead to be labeled as "lead free."

The Borough of Duncannon does not have any lead in its source water or water mains in the street. When water is in contact with pipes [or service lines] or plumbing that contains lead for several hours, the lead may enter drinking water. Homes built before 1988 are more likely to have lead pipes or lead solder. EPA estimates that 10 to 20 percent of a person's potential exposure to lead may come from drinking water. Infants who consume mostly formula mixed with lead-containing water can receive 40 to 60 percent of their exposure to lead from drinking water. Don't forget about other sources of lead such as lead paint, lead dust, and lead in soil. Wash your children's hands and toys often as they can come into contact with dirt and dust containing lead.

### ***Steps You Can Take To Reduce Your Exposure To Lead In Your Water***

Run your water to flush out lead. Run water for 15-30 seconds to flush lead from interior plumbing or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before using it for drinking or cooking, if it hasn't been used for several hours.

- Use cold water for cooking and preparing baby formula. • Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap; lead dissolves more easily into hot water.
- Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula. • Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling water will not reduce lead.
- Look for alternative sources or treatment of water. You may want to consider purchasing bottled water or a water filter. Read the package to be sure the filter is approved to reduce lead or contact NSF International at 800-NSF-8010 or [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) for information on performance standards for water filters. Be sure to maintain and replace a filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality. • Test your water for lead. You can find a list of labs accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection on the Borough's web site at [www.DuncannonBoro.org/lead](http://www.DuncannonBoro.org/lead). That list is also available at Borough Hall, 428 N. High Street, Duncannon, or call us at 717-834-4311 to have a copy of the list mailed to you.
- Get your child's blood tested. Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead if you are concerned about exposure. • Identify and replace plumbing fixtures containing lead. Brass faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. The law currently allows end-use brass fixtures, such as faucets, with up to 8% lead to be labeled as "lead free." Visit the Web site at [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.

### ***What Happened? What is being done?***

The Borough of Duncannon routinely tests water at several points in the Borough as part of its routine monitoring and quality control efforts. During a recent test, high levels of lead and copper were discovered in two of the 10 locations tested. The state Department of Environmental Protection has been notified and is requiring more extensive testing protocol to insure the steps being taken to address the issue. The Borough is, and has been, modifying the pH levels of the water in its system to reduce corrosion. In years past lead and copper results have been within standards.

The Borough will also be taking steps to help identify potential sources of lead, including a planned survey of its customers to help identify plumbing of the type and age that are more likely to have lead pipes or lead solder. The Borough also plans to continue replacing any old pipes or fittings found in its system which might be a potential source of lead.

### ***For More Information***

Call us at 717.834.4311 or visit our Web site at [www.DuncannonBorough.org](http://www.DuncannonBorough.org). For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead) or contact your health care provider.

# Major infrastructure projects on tap

## *Borough plans much-needed improvements to water, sewer*

Expect the Borough of Duncannon to be a beehive of activity in coming months as a plethora of overdue, badly needed infrastructure projects get underway. Spurred by the need to catch up on long deferred maintenance projects, along with regulatory actions by the state that are the result of that lack of maintenance, the Borough is undertaking several million dollars worth of repairs to its sewer and water systems.

Topping the list will be an estimated \$3 million in needed upgrades to the Borough's wastewater treatment plant and the system of pipes that carries sewerage to the plant. That project will include new

equipment to replace the plant's failed "belt press," a device used to remove water from the sludge prior to it being disposed of, new pumps, and work to raise much of the plant's operations above the floodplain.

This major overhaul is, in part, in response to a consent order handed down by the state Department of Environmental Protection that requires the Borough to address a number of longstanding deficiencies. The upgrades are in addition to a number of ongoing maintenance projects that had long been put off.

The Borough recently replaced a number of control devices that are essential to proper operation of the plant. The comminutor, a

"grinder" that reduces the size of sewer solids to facilitate processing, recently underwent a \$19,000 rebuild after continued efforts at piecemeal repairs proved fruitless.

Chemical feed pumps which had been out of operation for years have been repaired or replaced, and a number of inoperable lighting



**Char Martier, a compliance specialist with the Susquehanna River Basin Commission, inspects one of the Borough's wells.**

fixtures have been fixed.

Plans are also underway for repairs to the Borough's network of sewer pipes. Closed circuit televising of the inside of many key sections of those mains has revealed a number of areas in need of repairs or replacement to reduce the amount of ground and surface water inflow and infiltration (I&I). I&I allows clean water to flow into the system, impacting the treatment plant's capacity and increasing expenses by forcing the Borough to treat the clean water the same way as it treats sewerage.

The same televising also revealed a number of manholes in need of repair or replacement. Some of the manholes that need attention are in such bad shape, bricks and stones are falling into the waste stream, causing damage to equipment when it reaches the treatment plant.

On the water side, an

almost \$1 million project, funded primarily by a Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is in the final planning stages. That project, which will include a new well in the Borough's watershed area and building a new booster pump station in the watershed to get the current booster pump out of the floodplain, was delayed while the Borough and Penn Township considered a joint water project. That delay means the project now must be fast-tracked in order for it to be completed by the May 2018 deadline contained in the grant contract.

In addition to the improvements in the watershed area, the CDBG-funded project will also include a new water main from the storage standpipe by Cooper Field to High Street. That new main will help address low water pressure issues in parts of the northern end of town.



**Blue paint on Chestnut Street marks the location of current pipes to assist the engineers planning the replacement of that key water main.**

# Community Calendar

Your guide to what is happening in and around Duncannon!

## April

- 11 **Revitalization & Development Committee, 6:30 p.m.**
- 13 **Utilities, Streets & Infrastructure Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 17 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 18 **Personnel Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 18 **Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m.**
- 19 Senator DiSanto mobile office 9 to 11:30 a.m. (Borough Hall)
- 20 **Fleet & Facilities Committee, 5:30 p.m.**
- 22 Spring Cleanup, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 23 Duncannon EMS Sunday Dinner — BBQ Ribs
- 24 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 25 **Parks & Rec Committee, 7 p.m.**
- 29 Duncannon Fire Company Chicken BBQ, 10 a.m. til sold out
- 29 Duncannon Sled Fest, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Old Sledworks

## MAY

- 1 **Public Safety Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 1 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 4 **Finance, Admin. & Communications Committee, 6:30 p.m.**
- 6 Otterbein UMC Chicken and Ham Pot Pie Dinner, 4 to 6 p.m.
- 8 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 9 **Revitalization & Development Committee, 6:30 p.m.**
- 11 **Utilities, Streets & Infrastructure Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 13 "Fun"-draiser Art Party, Cornerstone Christian Church, 6 to 8 p.m.
- 15 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 16 **Personnel Committee, 6 p.m.**

All items in **BOLD** text are Borough government meetings held at Borough Hall

- 16 **Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m.**
- 17 Senator DiSanto mobile office 9 to 11:30 a.m. (Borough Hall)
- 18 Fleet & Facilities Committee, 5:30 p.m.
- 22 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 23 **Parks & Rec Committee, 7 p.m.**

## JUNE

- 1 **Finance, Admin. & Communications Committee, 6:30 p.m.**
- 3 Duncannon Community Yard Sale Day, 7 a.m. to ?
- 3 Otterbein UMC Yard Sale, 7 a.m. to noon - info call 834-5970
- 4 Summertime Shine Car Show. 7 a.m. to 2 p.m, Cooper Field  
for more info call (717) 649-8092
- 5 **Public Safety Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 5 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 8 **Utilities, Streets & Infrastructure Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 12 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 13 **Revitalization & Development Committee, 6:30 p.m.**
- 15 **Fleet & Facilities Committee, 5:30 p.m.**
- 17 Duncannon Appalachian Trail Festival, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Info: DuncannonATC.org/Blast
- 19 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 20 **Personnel Committee, 6 p.m.**
- 20 **Borough Council meeting, 7 p.m.**
- 21 Senator DiSanto mobile office 9 to 11:30 a.m. (Borough Hall)
- 25 Duncannon EMS Sunday Dinner - Steak
- 26 Duncannon EMS/Perry County Rec. Assoc. BINGO - 6:45 p.m.
- 27 **Parks & Rec Committee, 7 p.m.**

## HELP WANTED

We're looking for someone to join our team as a part-time Billing Clerk. This position involves basic customer service, data input and processing, and other general office duties as may be assigned.

Qualified applicants should have solid math and basic computer (Microsoft Office) skills, as well as strong communications skills and a commitment to providing superior customer service.

This is a part-time position (approximately 25-30 hours per week). Ability to occasionally work extra hours is a plus. Applicants should submit an application form (available at the Borough office) or resume in person or by mail to Hiring Manager, Borough of Duncannon, 428 N. High Street, Duncannon, PA, 17020 or by e-mail to [hiringmanager@duncannonboro.org](mailto:hiringmanager@duncannonboro.org).

**NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.**

The Borough of Duncannon is an equal opportunity employer.

## KEEP OLD GLORY FLYING IN DUNCANNON



Show your support for the Stars and Stripes by helping sponsor the Duncannon American Flag Campaign.

You, or your organization or business, can sponsor one of the flags that fly along Market Street.

Your 3-year sponsorship is just \$95 and includes a silver aluminum spinning flag pole and a new 3' x 5' American Flag each year.

Applications are available at Borough Hall  
or contact the Duncannon Patriot Committee at 717-395-3002

## EIP, from page 1

below, what other municipalities expend. And while rates are, in general, below market levels, the Borough's demographic challenges limit the amount of increases residents can afford.

The top recommendation of the report is for the Borough to consider a merger with neighboring Penn Township. Given the close relationship that already exists between the Borough and the township, this would "allow for economies of scale" and would spread the needed capital improvement costs over a larger tax and rate payer base.

Such a move would require action by the governing bodies of both municipalities, as well as approval by the voters in both the Borough and the township. Should that not happen, the next recommendation is to consider monetizing some, or all, of the Borough's utility operations by selling, or leasing them to a private company or another public entity. A large private utility company would be able to spread the costs of needed upgrades over its much larger customer base.

Until some action is taken, the Borough will need to make inflationary increases in tax and utility rates. The report anticipates the need to increase sewer rates by 18 percent in 2018. The report also recommends other interim measures, some of which have already been implemented and others that the Borough is in the process of doing.

Borough Council took action at the

## State awards Duncannon \$100,000 for IT project

In an emergency, such as a flood or a major snowstorm, it is the Borough's job to respond. So it may come as a surprise to learn that if power goes out in Duncannon, Duncannon is pretty much powerless.

That is about to change, thanks to a \$100,000 Early Intervention Program Phase 2 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

### Report of plan's demise greatly exaggerated

Despite a misleading headline in a recent edition of the Duncannon Record, Borough Council has not "abandoned" the Early Intervention Report prepared by its state-funded consultants.

While that headline was inaccurate, the story below it did correctly report that Council failed to pass a measure at its March 21 meeting to pursue funding for a feasibility study to look at the possibility of pursuing a consolidation with Penn Township.

Considering such a consolidation is the number one recommendation in the EIP report, which Council formally accepted at its February meeting. But it is just one of the many recommendations the report suggests the Borough consider as it looks to stabilize its shaky financial situation.

The vote taken at the March 21 meeting does not mean Council has "abandoned" the report. That vote pertained only to applying for a grant to fund a feasibility study to examine the impacts of any potential consolidation.

While the vote means such a feasibility study will not be undertaken in the immediate future, Council is free to consider the idea again at future meetings. In the meantime, Council has already implemented more than a half-dozen other recommendations contained in the 104-page report and its various committees will be tasked with studying the more than 30 other suggestions the report makes.

The full report is available on the Borough's web site. Copies may also be examined at the Borough's offices.

end of last year to pass a budget that eliminated the structural deficit for the time being. The user fee schedule was reviewed and updated in 2016 and the Borough has been aggressive in seeking grant funding.

A \$100,000 state grant was recently approved to help implement recommendations in the report for urgently needed upgrades to the Borough's computer network, including much-needed data backup and emergency power systems.

The Borough also adopted other

changes recommended in the report, hiring a Finance Director to improve the technical capabilities of the finance and billing office, reducing hours the billing window is open, and making needed adjustments to the property tax, sewer, and trash rates.

Various Borough Council committees will be studying other items in the report and making recommendations for action by the full Council as it continues to work toward meeting the challenges of Duncannon's future.

The grant will be used to solve problems identified in the Borough's EIP report, which includes the lack of an adequate backup for the Borough's digital records, replacement of aging computers, updated software, enhanced data security, and enhancements to the Borough's IT network.

Plans call for connecting the Borough's public works garage to the

network to improve communications and efficiencies. The sewer plant will also be connected to allow for future upgrades to the technology there.

And perhaps the most crucial part of the project will be installing a backup generator at Borough Hall, which will insure that the Borough's IT and phone systems will function during emergency conditions when they are perhaps most needed.

A stylized green tree logo with a red bird perched on a branch. The word "DUNCANNON" is written in red above "SPRING" in large green letters, and "CLEANUP" is written in red below. Small green birds are scattered around the text.

# DUNCANNON SPRING CLEANUP

We will have free dumpsters on hand to help you dispose of those oversized and hard to dispose of household items like furniture, tires\*, scrap metal, and appliances\*\*.

NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE OR YARD/WOODY WASTE PLEASE - DUNCANNON RESIDENTS ONLY

## FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING



We will accept almost anything with a plug or a battery - computers, monitors, televisions, laptops, tablets, ipods, radios, cell phones, and other electronics items

Electronics items will be accepted from residents of Duncannon and Penn Township

\* tires limited to 2 tires per household \*\*sorry, but we cannot accept refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, or other items with coolants



Saturday, April 22 8a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Municipal Parking Lot, Water & Cumberland streets