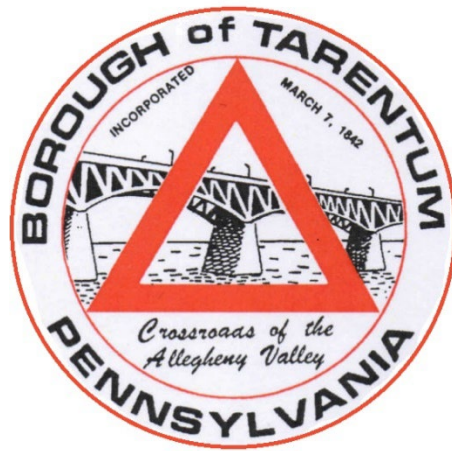


2023 Year-In-Review



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Letter to Council and Mayor

February 13, 2024,

Municipal Council and Mayor Lang:

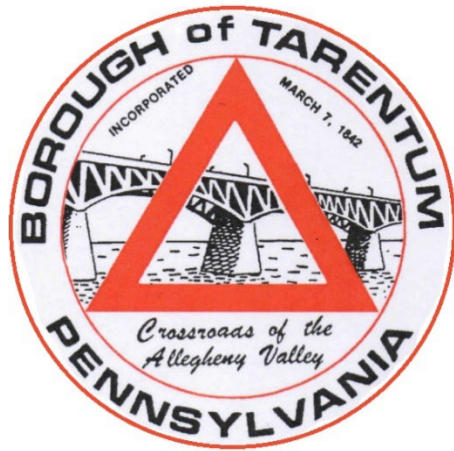
In this Year in Review report, we present the milestones and achievements of Tarentum Borough in 2023. This year has been marked by significant challenges and remarkable triumphs, reflecting our community's resilience and commitment to progress. From advancing infrastructure projects to enhancing our public services, we have strived to improve the quality of life for all residents. This report highlights our financial stewardship, the successful implementation of key initiatives, and our ongoing dedication to fostering a vibrant, safe, and prosperous community.

2023 key points:

1. **Financial Overview:** The 2023 budget maintained a millage rate of 5.48 mills, which has remained consistent for over fifteen years. The Borough closed the year with approximately \$400,000 under budget and a carryover expense of approximately \$100,000 for water plant dredging.
2. **Infrastructure and Services:** Significant emphasis was placed on maintaining and upgrading the borough's infrastructure and facilities, with specific projects including water and sewer line replacements, paving of 1st Avenue, and purchase of essential equipment.
3. **General Fund:** The general Fund's deficit was addressed through a transfer of Electric Funds as in years past and with steady real estate tax revenue. Expenses have risen due to inflation and personnel costs, among other factors.
4. **Electric Fund:** Tarentum Borough, operating its own electrical distribution system, continued to offer competitive rates without increases in 2023, subsidizing general fund operations through its power fund surpluses.
5. **Public Services:** 2023 supported various public services, including police, fire, emergency management, and recreation, ensuring the continued delivery of essential community services.
6. **Capital and Other Funds:** The Capital Fund focused on infrastructure and major equipment purchases. Other funds, like Water and Sewer Funds, addressed specific utilities management and infrastructure maintenance needs.
7. **Community Engagement and Policy Direction:** 2023 reflected the Borough's commitment to transparency and community involvement, ensuring constituents are well-informed and engaged in local governance with new communication tools like Savvy Citizen.
8. **Future Planning and Sustainability:** The report underscores the importance of strategic planning and fiscal responsibility for the borough's long-term success and sustainability.

Sincerely,

Dwight Boddorf
Borough Manager



Borough Overview

One of 130 municipalities in Allegheny County, Tarentum Borough is uniquely situated along the Allegheny River and is just south of the tri-county point of Allegheny, Armstrong, and Westmoreland Counties. The cornerstone of this thriving community starts with a beautiful riverfront park that features a stadium, a deck hockey court, a children's spray water park, and a covered amphitheater with outdoor seating, restrooms, and concessions. Furthermore, the Borough boasts riverfront parks, playgrounds, full-time police, fire and EMS services, and a thriving local business community.

Tarentum By the Numbers



Population:
4,352



Household Median
Income: \$ 37,513



Education:
14.8% Bachelor's
Degree or Higher



Employment:
50.4%



Median Age:
46.2 Years



65 or Older:
20.8%

Sources

US Census Bureau:

https://data.census.gov/profile/Tarentum_borough,_Allegheny_County,_Pennsylvania?g=060XX00US4200376104

2023 Borough Officials

| Name | Title | Seat | Status | Contact |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|------------------|--|
| Bob Lang | Mayor | Mayor | Elected Official | blang@tarentumboro.com |
| Scott Dadowski | Council President | 2nd Ward | Elected Official | sdadowski@tarentumboro.com |
| Lou Ann Homa | Council Vice-President | 1st Ward | Elected Official | lhoma@tarentumboro.com |
| Kevin Bertocki | | 2nd Ward | Elected Official | kbertocki@tarentumboro.com |
| Brian Nolan | | 3rd Ward | Elected Official | bnolanr@tarentumboro.com |
| Carrie Fox | | At-Large | Elected Official | cfox@tarentumboro.com |
| Raymond Kerr | | 1st Ward | Elected Official | rkerr@tarentumboro.com |
| Brian Snyder | | 3rd Ward | Elected Official | bsnyder@tarentumboro.com |

Duties of the Mayor:

Pursuant to the Pennsylvania Borough Code, the Mayor shall have the duty to preserve order in the Borough, enforce the ordinances and regulations of the Borough, and perform any other duties as shall be vested in the Mayor's office by law or ordinance.

The Mayor shall sign papers, contracts, obligations, and documents as may be required by law.

Lastly, the Mayor may also collect any costs and fees received and pay the money into the treasury to report to the Council from time to time on the state of the Borough and to make recommendations to the Council on matters of borough concern.

Functions of Council:

The Borough Code places the general supervision of the affairs of the Borough in the hands of the Borough Council. As such, council members must assume many roles found in separate branches or levels of state and federal governments. Specifically, council members serve in legislative, executive, and administrative capacities.

Council serves as the legislative body of the Borough, setting policy, enacting ordinances and resolutions, adopting budgets, and levying taxes. Council members also represent the Borough and its concerns before other municipal governments, the state and federal governments, and private sector entities.

Council also performs executive functions, including preparation of the annual budget, proclaiming municipal events, hiring employees, and appointing members to borough authorities, boards, and commissions. Certain executive functions, such as representing the Borough at official functions, are often performed by the President of Council.

Council members also play a role in the administrative activities of municipal governments, overseeing day-to-day borough operations. In this capacity, council members provide for enforcing local laws and regulations, managing personnel, and purchasing equipment, materials, supplies, and services. Council members, as administrators, are actively involved in the financial management of the Borough and are responsible not only for the collection of monies earned through taxes, service charges, and grants but also for seeing that municipal funds are spent in accordance with approved municipal budgets.

A number of boroughs in Pennsylvania, including Tarentum, have hired a professional borough manager to direct operations on behalf of Borough Council.

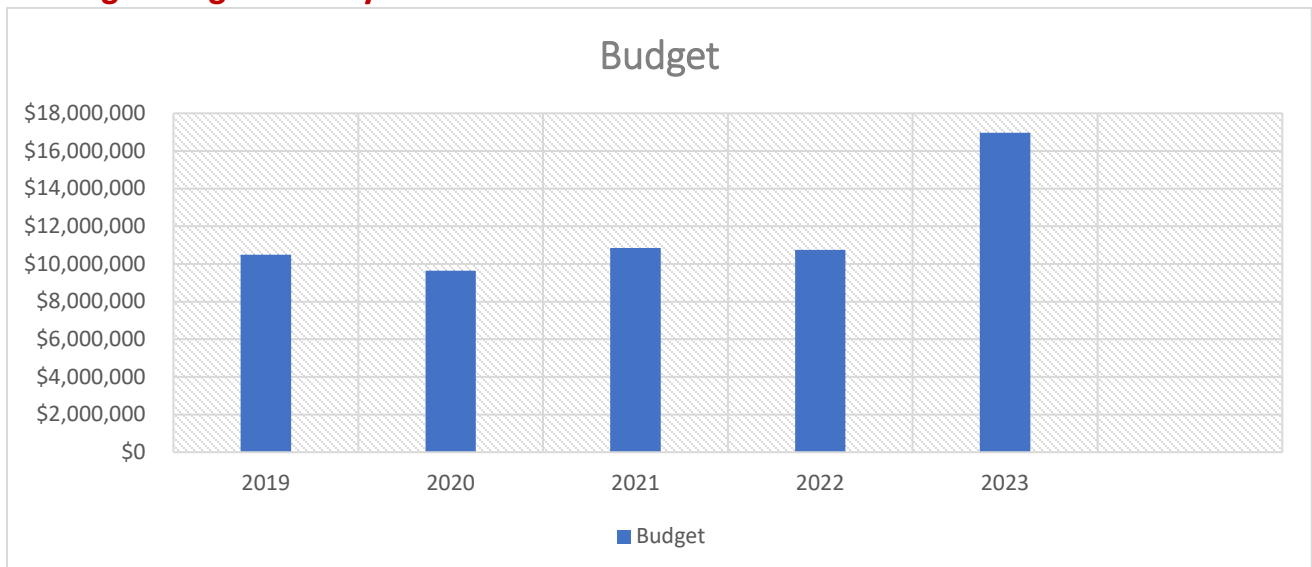
Council members also possess many other duties. Some examples are:

- Meet with residents to obtain input on borough programs and policies.
- Meet with other elected officials and borough staff on issues of general governance.
- Review technical reports from engineers, planners, and other professionals.
- Attend county and borough meetings and conferences.
- Participate in the inspection of problems or review of proposals identified by residents.
- Report on the status of local government affairs to concerned residents.

2023 Professional Services

| Name | Title | Firm |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Eric Dee | Solicitor | Avilio Law Offices |
| Dan Schmitt | Engineer | Gibson-Thomas Engineering |
| Mark Turnley | Auditor | Mark Turnley and Associates |
| Dave Gusmar | Insurance Agent | Altany Insurance |

Borough Budget History



Real Estate Tax History

The last millage increase for Tarentum Borough occurred in 2004 when the millage was set to the current rate of 5.48 mills. The millage rate of 5.48 mills equates to a tax liability of \$548 per \$100,000 of assessed real estate value.

Tax Breakdown

| | Tarentum Borough ⁱ | Allegheny County | Highlands School District ¹ | Total |
|--|-------------------------------|------------------|--|-------------|
| Millage Rate | 5.48 mills | 4.73 mills | 24.88 mills | 35.09 mills |
| Percentage of Total Taxes | 15.6% | 13.5% | 70.9% | 100.00% |
| Average Residential Tax Bill | \$ 235 | \$ 203 | \$ 1,065 | \$1,503 |
| Average Residential Assessment: \$ 42,560 ² | | | | |
| Average Commercial Tax Bill | \$ 834 | \$ 720 | \$ 3,788 | \$5,342 |
| Average Commercial Assessment: \$ 155,065 ³ | | | | |
| Average Industrial Tax Bill | \$ 1,120 | \$ 966 | \$ 5,082 | \$7,168 |
| Average Industrial Assessment: \$ 204,296 ⁴ | | | | |

Currently, for every dollar (\$100.00) of real estate taxes paid by Borough residents, the following represents the distribution of the tax payment.

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| \$16.00 | Tarentum Borough |
| \$ 13.00 | Allegheny County |
| \$ 71.00 | Highlands School District |
| \$ 100.00 | Total |

Financial Goals and Policies

The Borough of Tarentum has an important responsibility to its citizens to carefully account for public funds, to manage municipal finances wisely, and to plan the adequate funding of services. The Borough Council adopts financial management and budgetary policies to provide sound principles in planning the Borough's current and future needs.

The financial goals of the Borough of Tarentum are broad, fairly universal statements. These goals are stated as follows:

- To preserve the quality of life in the Borough through the proper financial management of its resources and to fund a sufficient level of municipal services required for the maintenance of the

Borough's infrastructure.

- To have the ability to withstand local and regional economic shocks, adjust to changes in our community's service requirements, and respond to changes in Federal, State, and County priorities and funding as they affect the Borough's residents.

The financial and budgeting policies that follow are proposed to meet these goals.

1. The Borough will maintain a balanced budget by paying for all current expenditures with current revenues and fund balance. The Borough will avoid budgetary procedures that balance current expenditures at the expense of future years, such as postponing expenditures, underestimating expenditures, overestimating revenues, or utilizing short-term borrowing as tax anticipation loans (TANs) to balance the budget.
2. The budget will provide adequate maintenance and repair of capital assets and orderly replacement.
3. The budget will provide adequate funding for all retirement plans and other employee benefits.
4. The Borough's Finance Officer will prepare monthly reports of revenues and expenditures for the Borough Council and Department Heads.
5. Enterprise funds, such as those for water and electric, must be self-supporting.
6. The Borough will seek state and federal funds that are available for operating and capital projects.
7. The Borough will encourage the delivery of services, in whole or in part, by other public and private organizations whenever and wherever greater efficiency and effectiveness can be expected.
8. The Borough will utilize technology and productivity advancements that will help reduce or avoid increasing personnel costs.
9. The Borough will seek arrangements to share services with other municipalities where cost reductions can be achieved and where the quality of service will not be endangered.

2023 Budget Review at a Glance

Major Funds

Total Revenue: **\$ 8,300,954.06**

Total Expenditures: **\$ 7,999,905.78**

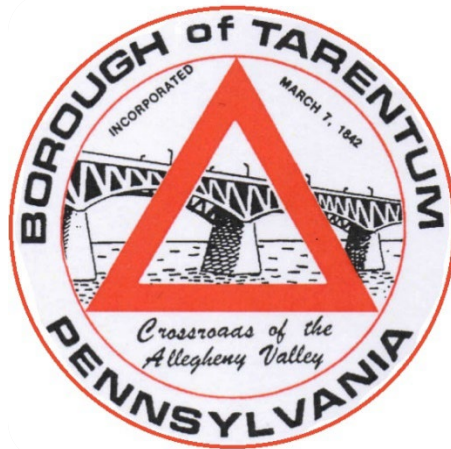
Total Carryovers: **\$401, 048.27 with \$100,000 earmarked for dredging in 2024.**

| Fund # | | Expenditures | Revenue/Savings* | Difference |
|--------------|---------------|--|------------------------|---------------------|
| 01 | General Fund | \$ 3,743,229.09 | \$ 2,694,580.62 | (\$1,048,648.47) |
| 06 | Water Fund | \$ 1,516,237.20 \$ 100,000.00 Carryover | \$ 1,536,109.15 | (\$80,128.05) |
| 07 | Electric Fund | \$ 2,640,439.49 | \$ 4,070,264.28 | \$1,429,824.79 |
| Total | | \$ 7,999,905.78 | \$ 8,300,954.05 | \$301,048.27 |

Notes:

- The electric fund subsidizes the General and Water Fund if needed. Historically, the Electric Fund transfers approximately \$800,000.00 to 1,400,000.00 per year.
- As noted above approximately \$100,000.00 from the water fund will carryover to 2024 for necessary dredging of the intake at the pumphouse.
- Electric fund revenues and expenditures are in part based on usage which fluctuates from season to season, and year to year. The Borough averages usage for the previous three years to determine estimated usage.
- The entire 2023 Revenues and Expenditures record for 2023 is attached as Appendix A to this document.

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Year in Review Statements, Services, Programs, and Operations Overview

Within any organization, several programs or operations are not well-known outside those departments. Municipal government is no different. While line items exist on the budget, they often are insufficient in explaining the major services, programs, and operations that exist within the Borough. The following information is being presented alongside the budget to help the public understand what those line items' budgets pay for.

Note: this document provides a general overview and does not include every service or program the Borough provides.

Police Department

Year in Review Statement:

As we reflect on the past year, the Tarentum Borough Police Department acknowledges both the challenges we faced and the strides we made in our unwavering commitment to serve and protect our community. The year was marked by significant events that have deeply impacted our department and the community we serve.

Tragic Loss and Injury in the Line of Duty: *This year, our neighboring Police Department endured profound sorrow and bravery in the line of duty. We mourn the loss of Chief Justin McIntire who made the ultimate sacrifice while selflessly protecting our community. Officer McIntire's heroism and dedication to duty will be forever honored and remembered as an embodiment of the values we hold dear.*

In the same incident, we also faced the serious injury of one of our officers who was hurt while on duty. We are grateful for the Officer's recovery and continued service.

Shared Police Services: *In response to these challenges and to further strengthen our capabilities, this year marked a significant transition with Tarentum Borough's Police Department integrating Brackenridge's officers into the force and providing services for two Boroughs. This strategic integration aims to enhance our operational efficiency, resource allocation, and overall ability to serve and protect our community. This contract represents a forward-looking approach to law enforcement, focusing on community engagement, advanced training, and sharing resources and expertise.*

Moving Forward: *As we move forward, our department remains dedicated to upholding the highest law enforcement standards. We are committed to building stronger community relationships, fostering an environment of trust and respect, and ensuring the safety and well-being of all citizens.*

Acknowledgments: *We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the families of our officers, the community, and our partner agencies for their unwavering support during these challenging times. Your solidarity and encouragement have been a source of strength for our officers and staff.*

Services Overview

Police Patrol Services

Program Mission: *To provide public safety, emergency response, and crime deterrence.*

Program Description: This program directs, regulates, instructs, and supports the operations of the Police Department in meeting the operational and strategic goals of the Borough in the area of Patrol Services. The program provides management accountability over all Patrol Services functions, including Traffic and Foot Details, Enforcement, and Training.

Police Community Services

Program Mission: *To provide community education, coordination, crime prevention, and youth services.*

Program Description: This program directs, regulates, instructs, and supports the operations of the Police Department in meeting the goals of the Borough in the area of Community Services. The program provides management accountability over all Community Services functions, including programs and special events, school crossing guards, parking and code enforcement, and equipment & fleet coordination.

Police Support Services

Program Mission: *To provide public safety, emergency response, and crime deterrence by providing support services such as investigations, records, and administration.*

Program Description: This program directs, regulates, instructs, and supports the operations of the Police Department in meeting the operational and strategic goals of the Borough in the area of Support Services. The program provides management accountability over all Support Services functions, including the Investigations Section, Administrative Support, and Records Support. This includes liaison with local, state, and federal investigative agencies and the County Major Crime and Drug Task Forces.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Completed shared service agreement with Brackenridge. Tarentum Borough now provides police coverage in Tarentum and Brackenridge Boroughs.
- Aligned Tarentum and Brackenridge policing ordinances to ensure consistency while policing.
- Provided over 200 instances of community services, such as changing tires, jumping batteries, and assisting with medical emergencies.
- Upgraded several pieces of technology, including cameras and servers.

Notes on Tarentum and Brackenridge Shared Policing

Borough officials from Brackenridge and Tarentum entered an intergovernmental agreement on 08/01/2023 for shared Police Services between the two communities. The contract encompasses various policing services, from patrols and investigations to training and community initiatives aligned underneath Tarentum Borough. Brackenridge will reimburse Tarentum monthly for the cost of three officers for an initial contract length of five years. By leveraging the Brackenridge officer's knowledge and resources, Tarentum and Brackenridge will reap the benefits of increased efficiencies, streamlined services, and enhanced law enforcement capabilities.

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Code Enforcement

Year in Review Statement:

As we look back on the past year, the Tarentum Borough Enforcement Office is proud to present a summary of our achievements, challenges, and ongoing efforts to maintain and improve the quality of life in our community. Our commitment to upholding municipal codes and regulations has been pivotal in ensuring a safe, orderly, and livable environment for all residents.

Key Achievements:

Enhanced Compliance and Awareness: *This year, we focused on increasing public awareness about local codes and ordinances. Through educational inserts in bills and quality of life ticket implementation, we successfully reduced common violations and fostered a culture of compliance.*

Efficient Case Handling: *Our office handled over 600 cases this year, ranging from property maintenance to zoning compliance. The introduction of a new staff member and case management system streamlined our processes, allowing us to address violations more swiftly and effectively.*

Challenges Faced:

Resource Limitations: *The increasing demand for code enforcement services posed challenges due to limited resources. However, we optimized our workflow and prioritized critical cases to maintain high service standards.*

Community Engagement and Support:

Strengthened Partnerships: *We strengthened our collaboration with community groups, local businesses, and other municipal departments. These partnerships were crucial in addressing complex cases and fostering a communal approach to code enforcement.*

Public Feedback and Improvement: *Residents' feedback has been instrumental in shaping our services. Based on community suggestions, we have implemented several improvements, such as an updated online payment and forms system.*

Looking Ahead: *As we move into the new year, our office is dedicated to continuous improvement and innovation in code enforcement. We are exploring advanced technologies to enhance our inspection and enforcement capabilities. Our ongoing commitment is to serve our community with integrity, fairness, and professionalism.*

Acknowledgments: *We extend our gratitude to the residents, local businesses, and community organizations for their cooperation and support. Your commitment to maintaining the standards of our community is greatly appreciated.*

Services Overview

Subdivision & Land Development

Program Mission: *To assure compliance with subdivision, land development, and stormwater management ordinances.*

Program Description: This program administers the Borough of Tarentum's Subdivision & Land Development Ordinance and Stormwater Management Ordinance by reviewing plans for development and redevelopment. Borough Planning Commission recommendations, Allegheny County Planning Commission recommendations, and staff recommendations are presented to the Tarentum Borough Council for appropriate actions.

Code Enforcement, Public Safety, & Permits

Program Mission: *To assure compliance with building and property maintenance codes.*

Program Description: This program provides for public health, safety, and welfare by administering Borough and State codes. This includes many ordinances, including building and property maintenance codes, zoning, stormwater, and other local ordinances. These codes regulate the use and maintenance of public and private properties and any structures thereon. Administration includes response and investigation of complaints, plan review and issuance of permits, inspections of construction in progress, issuance of certificates of occupancy, issuance of violation notices, and citations and coordination of rental inspections.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Continued with the Omnibus demolitions plan
- Continued with and promoted the Vacant Property Program
- Increased enforcement and prosecution
- Encouraged business development by building relationships with residents and business owners, encouraging them and informing them of programs to assist with business development
- Redesigned several forms for consistency and ease of use
- Façade improvement
- Improvement in fee collection

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Engineering and Public Works

Year in Review Statement:

As the year comes to a close, the Tarentum Borough Public Works Department reflects on a period marked by significant achievements, challenges, and continuous dedication to improving the infrastructure and services of our community. Our team's commitment to enhancing the quality of life for all residents through effective management of public works has been the cornerstone of our efforts.

Key Achievements:

Infrastructure Upgrades: *A major highlight of the year was the completion of several infrastructure projects, including road resurfacing, waterline replacement, and upgrades to the parks.*

Enhanced Waste Management Systems: *Our department successfully implemented new waste management protocols due to the new garbage contract, which have contributed to a cleaner and more sustainable environment.*

Water and Sewer System Improvements: *We undertook major renovations and expansions of the water and sewer systems, ensuring reliable and safe water supply and sanitation services for our residents.*

Challenges Faced:

Budget Constraints: *Navigating through limited budgets while aiming to meet the growing demands of our community was a significant challenge. We prioritized critical projects and sought innovative solutions to maximize resource efficiency.*

Weather-Related Interruptions: *Unpredictable weather conditions posed challenges to our projects and routine services. Our teams worked tirelessly to minimize disruptions and quickly restore services during such events.*

Community Engagement and Support:

Public Feedback Initiatives: *Our department actively receives residents and business owner feedback, allowing us to align our projects with the needs and expectations of the residents.*

Looking Ahead: *As we enter the new year, we are committed to continuing our efforts in improving and expanding our services. Plans are underway for further infrastructure development, including smart city initiatives and enhanced public spaces. We remain dedicated to proactive and responsive public works management that meets the evolving needs of our community.*

Acknowledgments: *We extend our sincere appreciation to the residents, local businesses, and community organizations for their ongoing support and collaboration. It is with your partnership that we can successfully achieve our goals and enhance the livability of our municipality.*

MS4 Stormwater Maintenance

Program Mission: *To comply with the Department of Environmental Protection Agency's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS) Program requirements by ensuring the stormwater system functions properly.*

Program Description: This program provides drainage systems to convey stormwater runoff from the streets of the Borough. Work activities include the replacement of storm sewer pipes and inlets and cleaning grates, collection boxes, and storm sewer pipes to ensure the proper performance of all stormwater facilities.

Engineering Services

Program Mission: *Plan and implement all capital projects and develop strategies to improve operating efficiencies and infrastructure preservation.*

Program Description: This program provides capital improvement planning, engineering, surveying, project plan and bid document preparation, inspections, document management, and project management services to all areas of the Borough. This function is contracted out to Gibson-Thomas Engineering.

Property Maintenance

Program Mission: *To maintain Borough buildings in excellent condition.*

Program Description: This program provides maintenance, repair, and custodial services to Borough buildings. In addition, this program includes the surveillance and treatment of mosquito breeding areas in Borough parks and other properties.

Street Maintenance

Program Mission: *To improve the condition of Borough streets and alleys.*

Program Description: This program provides roadway maintenance for the streets and alleys in the Borough. Maintenance includes utility cut restorations, winter damage restorations, stabilization of sinkholes, crack sealing, and pothole repairs. All activities within the program support the Community Goals of improving the image of the Borough and providing a safe community environment.

Street Signs and Markings

Program Mission: *To provide clear and appealing road signage to assist traffic flow and safety.*

Program Description: This program involves the fabrication, installation, and maintenance of traffic signs, street name signs, pavement, and temporary signs

and barricades for regulatory, warning, and traffic guide purposes. This program focuses on standardizing signs in type, size, and lettering to improve the Borough's aesthetics while meeting PennDOT's requirements.

Street Cleaning

Program Mission: *To maintain streets free of debris and litter and provide a clean Central Business District area.*

Program Description: This program focuses on community aesthetics and reducing debris load to creeks and streams by performing routine and preventative maintenance in the Central Business District and cleaning Borough streets and parking lots via a vacuum sweeper.

Snow and Ice Control

Program Mission: *To treat and plow streets and alleys and clear public sidewalks following winter precipitation events.*

Program Description: This program provides salting, plowing, and snow removal of streets and alleys as needed during the winter to provide for safe and efficient traffic movement following winter precipitation. This program also includes the clearing and de-icing of sidewalks, driveways, and parking lots on Borough-owned property and emergency services stations.

Fleet Maintenance

Program Mission: *To have Borough vehicles available and functional when needed by employees.*

Program Description: This program provides maintenance and repairs to Borough vehicles, including state inspections, preventative maintenance, and emergency repairs to the fleet. In addition, it also provides maintenance and repairs to all of the Borough's small equipment, such as pumps, saws, and more.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Observed and inspected MS4 outfalls
- Completed milling and paving of 1st Avenue
- Completed paving of six other alleys/roads.
- Continued Borough-wide cleaning and maintenance activities
- Assisted with the setup of Night Markets
- Tree trimming for business districts
- Replaced a vehicle necessary for sustaining operations

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Parks and Recreation

Parks Operations & Maintenance

Program Mission: *To provide safe and enjoyable recreational facilities and programs.*

Program Description: This program provides parks, open spaces, and recreation opportunities to enhance residents' quality of life. Maintenance services include park facility and equipment maintenance, inspecting playgrounds for safety issues, athletic field maintenance, tree maintenance, and snow removal.

Spray Park

Program Mission: *To provide a safe, operation-efficient, and enjoyable outdoor spray park.*

Program Description: This program operates an outdoor spray park that provides opportunities for friends, neighbors, and families of the Tarentum Borough to interact with one another during an enjoyable aquatic experience.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Continued Park cleaning and maintenance activities
- Renovated Hebe fountain in the park
- Painted and updated benches and snack shack
- Repaired spray park manifold

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Administration Division

Year in Review Statement:

As we close another year, the Administrative Division of Tarentum Borough takes this opportunity to reflect on our accomplishments, challenges, and the continuous efforts to ensure effective governance and financial stewardship for our community. Our department remains dedicated to maintaining transparency, efficiency, and fiscal responsibility in all our operations.

Key Achievements:

Budget Management and Optimization: *This year, we successfully managed the municipal budget, ensuring fiscal discipline while addressing the community's essential needs. We optimized resource allocation, resulting in savings for the municipality.*

Technology Integration in Financial Processes: *We embraced digital transformation by integrating advanced technology into our financial processes. This shift towards automated systems enhanced accuracy, efficiency, and accessibility in financial reporting and management.*

Grant Acquisition and Management: *Our team secured several key grants, bringing additional funding for various community projects. We efficiently managed these funds, ensuring they were utilized effectively to maximize community benefits.*

Challenges Faced:

Economic Fluctuations: *Navigating the challenges posed by economic fluctuations was a focal point of our efforts. We adapted our strategies to maintain financial stability and continue essential services without compromising on quality.*

Meeting Diverse Community Needs: *Balancing the diverse needs of our community while staying within budget constraints presented a complex challenge. We prioritized initiatives and engaged in extensive community consultations to align our services with residents' expectations.*

Community Engagement and Support:

Public Transparency Initiatives: *We increased transparency in municipal financial matters by publishing detailed financial reports and maintaining an open-door policy for residents' inquiries and suggestions.*

Staff Training and Development: *Recognizing the value of our employees, we invested in comprehensive training and development programs, enhancing the skills and knowledge of our staff to serve the community better.*

Looking Ahead: *The coming year holds new opportunities and challenges. We are committed to further enhancing our financial management practices, exploring sustainable revenue sources,*

and maintaining our dedication to serving the needs of our community efficiently and effectively.

Acknowledgments: *Our accomplishments would not have been possible without our staff's dedication and the community's ongoing support. We thank everyone for their contributions and look forward to another year of serving and advancing the interests of our municipality.*

General Management

Program Mission: *To oversee all aspects of the Borough's operations and policies and develop strategies to assure the future success of the Borough's organization.*

Program Description: The Office of the Borough Manager is the chief executive officer for all non-police programs. The Manager is responsible for transforming the guidelines established by the Borough Council into policies, procedures, and measurable action plans. The Borough Manager also serves as Secretary of the Borough. The Borough Manager communicates with the Borough Council and the citizens, other municipalities, customers, and employees.

Financial Management

Program Mission: *Assure fiscal accountability for Borough operations and meet all adopted fiscal management policies.*

Program Description: This program provides budgeting and fiscal management services to the Borough and the Tarentum Recreation Board. This program is charged with maintaining an appropriate accounting system, monitoring the cash management functions, budget preparation, and monitoring and providing all treasury services. Financial reporting to management and external agencies is performed through this activity.

Customer Service

Program Mission: *To meet the needs of our customers by providing accurate information in a timely and courteous manner.*

Program Description: This program provides customer satisfaction through trained staff to offer knowledgeable, professional, and courteous service. Support is provided to Borough operating departments through clerical assistance, preparation of service requests, telephone inquiries, mail processing, accounts payable disbursements, central storage for office supplies, and office records retention and disposition. This program also provides online payment support for online users.

Collection Service

Program Mission: *Generate and collect utility bills.*

Program Description: This program is responsible for meter reading, generating customer utility bills, and ensuring accuracy in preparing those bills. Approximately 3,000 bills are printed and mailed each month. Services billed include electricity, water, and refuse. This program is also responsible for disconnection service notices and utilizing a collection agency when needed.

Employee Relations

Program Mission: *Build and institute Human Resources policies, practices, and programs leading to the success of our co-workers, enabling the Borough to achieve its vision and mission.*

Program Description: This function aims to partner with uniformed and non-uniform employees and unions to deliver products and services, adding value to achieve the Borough's goals and objectives by maximizing its Human Resources. Human Resources leads and manages recruitment/selection, organization development, benefits, safety, policy administration, and labor relations, resulting in a high-performance work organization.

IT Technical Support

Program Mission: *To assure the reliability of computer hardware and software, providing users with the necessary information, as well as cybersecurity and safeguarding of data.*

Program Description: This program provides all Borough employees with computer hardware, software, and support. (Allegheny County provides support for software used by the Police Department.) Support includes installing and troubleshooting hardware and software, training, and ensuring high system performance and security levels. Up and Running Computer provides most of the IT Technical Support and is supplemented by Tarentum Borough administrative staff.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Updated the Borough's website and enhanced its online customer portal and social media presence.
- Several security measures include dual-factor authentication, email security, firewalls, etc.
- Created a shared administrative position between general administration and code enforcement to maximize specific functions within respective departments.
- Completed review of all accounts of electric, water, and refuse for accuracy in billing

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Electric Fund

Year in Review Statement:

As we conclude the year, Red Cat Power reflects on a period of dedicated service, operational advancements, and commitment to providing reliable and sustainable electricity to our community. Our focus has been on enhancing the efficiency of our power systems, improving customer service, and embracing smart technology.

Key Achievements:

Infrastructure Improvements: *We have successfully upgraded critical infrastructure, including transformers and transmission lines. These enhancements have significantly increased the reliability and capacity of our electric grid, reducing the frequency and duration of power outages.*

Smart Technology: *A major milestone this year was the increased utilization of smart technology. This initiative allows us to respond to outages and issues in quick and efficient manner.*

Advanced Metering Infrastructure: *The continuous use of smart meters across the municipality marks a significant step forward in modernizing our electric distribution system. These meters provide real-time usage data, enabling more efficient energy management and improved customer service.*

Challenges Faced:

Adapting to Growing Demand: *Managing the growing demand for electricity in our expanding community while maintaining system reliability has been challenging. We have addressed this through strategic planning and continuous infrastructure investments.*

Weather-Related Interruptions: *Extreme weather events posed challenges to our operations. Our department responded effectively to these incidents, restoring power swiftly and working on strategies to reinforce grid resilience against future weather-related disruptions.*

Community Engagement and Support:

Customer Service Enhancements: *We enhanced our customer service operations by better utilizing smart technology to respond to outages and issues in a quick and efficient manner. The Borough's average response and restoration time is approximately two hours.*

Looking Ahead: *In the coming year, our department is committed to continuing our journey towards a more resilient electric system. We plan to enhance grid modernization efforts further, and continue providing exceptional service to our community.*

Acknowledgments: *We extend our sincere thanks to the community for their support and understanding during our improvement projects and service upgrades. We also commend our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment to excellence in serving the needs of our municipality.*

Distribution System Operation & Maintenance

Program Mission: *To provide safe, reliable electric service to Borough customers.*

Program Description: This program operates and maintains the Electric Distribution System, serving over 2,500 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. This program aims to proactively predict and prevent system failures while delivering customers safe, reliable electric energy. This program also provides for traffic signal maintenance.

Management Support Services

Program Mission: *To provide management oversight and strategic planning services for electric operations to assure competitive rates.*

Program Description: Procurement of power and administration of power supply contracts are primary concerns of this program. In addition, this program reimburses the General Fund for the financial, accounting, billing, collections, and human resources support of the Administration. Interfund transfers and debt service area budgeted into this program.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Utilized Sensus system to predict localized outages by monitoring single and group meter outage alerts from Sensus for increased reliability
- Ordered a new bucket truck to work on electric infrastructure reliably
- Repaired several lines due to storm damage in a timely manner
- Completed several pole replacement projects
- Replaced and repaired electric meters

Water Fund

Year in Review Statement:

As we reflect on the past year, the Tarentum Borough Water Department is proud to share the achievements and challenges we have navigated in our mission to provide safe, reliable, and sustainable water services to our community. Our commitment to ensuring the highest quality of water and the efficient management of water resources has been at the forefront of our endeavors.

Key Achievements:

Water Quality and Treatment Enhancements: *This year, significant advancements were made in upgrading our water treatment facilities. These improvements have bolstered our ability to provide consistently high-quality water, meeting and exceeding health and safety standards.*

Infrastructure Modernization: *We undertook a comprehensive modernization of aging water infrastructure, including replacing and repairing critical pipelines and storage facilities. This has led to a reduction in water loss, improved system reliability, and increased service efficiency.*

Challenges Faced:

Resource Management Amidst Growing Demand: *Balancing the increasing water demands with sustainable resource management presented a significant challenge. We addressed this through improved demand forecasting, resource planning, and smart technology.*

Community Engagement and Support:

Smart Technology: *A major milestone this year was the increased utilization of smart technology. This initiative allows us to respond to leaks and issues in quick and efficient manner.*

Looking Ahead: *As we move into the next year, our department remains dedicated to the continuous improvement of water services. We are planning further infrastructure upgrades, and engaging in long-term water resource planning to ensure the sustainability of our water supply.*

Acknowledgments: *Our achievements this year would not have been possible without our community's support and our dedicated staff's hard work. We thank everyone for their contributions and look forward to another year of serving and advancing the interests of our municipality's water needs.*

Treatment System Operation & Maintenance

Program Mission: *To provide safe, reliable water service to Borough customers.*

Program Description: This program operates and maintains the water treatment system, serving over 2,500 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. The goal of this program is to treat water for potability safely.

Distribution System Operation & Maintenance

Program Mission: *To provide safe, reliable water service to Borough customers.*

Program Description: This program operates and maintains the Water Distribution System, serving over 2,500 residential, commercial, and industrial customers. This program aims to proactively predict and prevent system failures while delivering safe, reliable water to customers.

Management Support Services

Program Mission: To provide management oversight and strategic planning services for water treatment operations.

Program Description: Procurement of chemicals and chemical testing is the primary concern of this program.

2023 Program Accomplishments

- Conducted leak detection prevention
- Continued reduction in water usage per month
- Monitor contemporary trends in water distribution and treatment

List of Grants and Projects

Water Treatment Plant Project

Installation of a million-gallon tank at the Water Plant

Estimated cost: \$1,583,320.00

Borough Match: \$583,320.00

Funding Source: CFA and Capital Reserves

Status: Funded. Project to start 2024-2026

Water Treatment Equipment Replacement and Upgrade Project

Upgrade and replacement of multiple pieces of equipment necessary for water treatment

Estimated cost: \$500,000

Borough Match: \$75,000

Funding Source: H2O Grant, Small Water Grant, Water Fund, and Capital Reserves as needed

Status: Partially Funded. Project to start 2024-2026

West 11th Avenue Waterline

Estimated cost: \$232,435

Borough Match: \$46,585

Funding Source: CDBG Year 49

Status: Funded.

Collins Way Storm Sewer

Estimated cost: \$93,700

Borough Match: \$26,700

Funding Source: CDBG Year 49

Status: Funded. Project to start 2024-2026

Davidson Street Sewer Lining

Sanitary Sewer system repairs on Davidson Street

Estimated cost: \$152,054

Borough Match: \$53,219

Funding Source: CDBG and Sewer Fund

Status: Funded and Completed.

Omnibus Demolition Project

Borough's multi-year demolition project that started in 2019

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: General Fund and Act 152

Status: Funded. A total of 62 properties were demolished between 2019 and 2023.

List of Grants and Projects-Continued

Corbet Street Renovation Project

Redevelopment of 215 Corbet after building demolition

Estimated cost: \$75,000

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: General Fund and Capital Reserves as needed

Status: Postponed until 2024.

Business Façade Improvement

10 grants to businesses for façade improvement. 5 in West and 5 in East Tarentum at \$5,000 each

Estimated cost: \$50,000

Borough Match: None, but there is a \$500 match from recipients

Funding Source: Electric Fund

Status: Funded and ongoing.

1st Avenue Paving Project

Milling and paving of 1st Avenue

Estimated cost: \$450,000

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: Capital Reserves and Liquid Fuels

Status: Funded and completed.

Bull-Creek Bridge Repair

Estimated cost: \$50,000

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: Capital Reserves

Status: Postponed until 2024 and further structural analysis.

Outlet Installation Project

Installing secured outlets along Corbet and 7th Avenues for special events

Estimated cost: \$2,500

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: Electric Fund

Status: Completed.

ARLE Red Light on 10th and Corbett

Automated Red-Light Enforcement

Estimated cost: \$220,000

Borough Match: N/A project fully grant funded

Status: Funded and ongoing.

List of Grants and Projects-Continued

Vehicle Replacement

Bucket Truck for electric work and a new truck for salting and plowing

Estimated cost: \$255,000

Borough Match:

Funding Source: ARPA Funds and Capital Reserve

Status: Completed.

Park Fountain Repair

Estimated cost: \$5,000

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: Capital Reserves

Status: Completed.

Park Brick Walkway Repair

Estimated cost: \$5,000

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: Capital Reserves

Status: Removed from project list do to trail project.

Spray Park Manifold Repair

Estimated cost: \$10,000

Borough Match: N/A

Funding Source: Capital Reserves

Status: Completed.

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