



TOWNSHIP OF READINGTON  
MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

APRIL 2015

**Greetings.** At the Township Committee's January reorganization meeting, I promised to reactivate – though on a smaller and less costly scale – the Township newsletter. In this newsletter, I hope to share information with you about what is going on in Readington, especially in Township government, and cover topics which are not covered in the local press. I'll ask my fellow Committee members to write articles about Boards or Commissions to which they are a liaison. In this issue, I have asked John Broten to write about what happens in the Public Works Department when the forecast says SNOW. And, I'll try to answer questions you might have, so feel free to email me at [mayor@readingtontwp-nj.org](mailto:mayor@readingtontwp-nj.org). We are very fortunate in Readington to have an efficient and effective government staffed by hard-working employees and volunteers, and I'd like you to know more about them.

Betty Ann Fort  
Mayor

Transcontinental Pipeline Company will be adding a third natural gas pipeline to two already in the ground in Readington. This project will begin this spring with tree cutting and clearing, and will hopefully be completed by August. The pipeline is coming in from Clinton Township and following a route just south of Pleasant Run Road, exiting Readington into Branchburg. We are not expecting any major disruptions to traffic in the Township. Committeemen John Broten and Sam Tropello are acting as liaisons between the affected property owners and the Township.

LEIDY  
SOUTHEAST  
PIPELINE

WHITEHOUSE MECHANICSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT  
PLACED ON STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

In December 2014 the Township received word from the State Historic Preservation Office that the Whitehouse Mechanicsville Historic District has been placed on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places. This district encompasses all of Old Highway 28. The nomination has now been forwarded to Washington D.C. to be considered for the National Register. The Readington Historic Preservation Commission, chaired by Pat Fisher Olsen, with the support of the Township, has worked for six years preparing this nomination. Congratulations!



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**WHY ARE THE TENNIS COURT LIGHTS ON WHEN NO ONE IS PLAYING OR WHEN IT IS RAINING?**

I asked both Scott Jesseman, Director of Public Works and Gabrielle Bolarakis, Recreation Director, to help me answer this. The lights are on from April to November, when people would actually be playing tennis. The lights are quite old and are coming to the end of their useful life, but for now, they are on a timer located in the public works building. The lights take about ten minutes to warm up. So, if they were turned on by people wanting to play, those folks would have to wait for about ten minutes before the lights would be at full strength. When we replace these lights, we will look into some kind of card or key system, but it would be very expensive to try to retrofit these lights.

Township of Readington  
509 Route 523  
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

Bulk Rate  
Permit #504

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS: KEEPING ROADS CLEAR & SAFE  
BY COMMITTEEMAN JOHN BROTEN

As Readington is experiencing some of the coldest wintry weather in several years, we all need to keep our busy lives going in spite of snow, sleet, ice and cold. We all generally assume and expect that our Township roads will be clear and safe for travel regardless of the severity of the weather. Readington Township is fortunate to have a very dedicated, experienced and hardworking Department of Public Works team that takes its responsibility for keeping our roads safe very seriously.



Keeping our Township roads clear and safe during the winter months is more than just plowing the snow or spreading salt. There are many steps and behind the scenes efforts that may go unnoticed. It all starts with ensuring that our trucks and equipment are properly maintained and ready to go. As adverse weather events approach our area, the DPW closely follows reports from several weather reporting sources and monitors our local conditions in real time. Many factors impact road conditions and influence the type, timing and frequency of treatments. For example, rain and drizzle preceding a cold spell may require repeated applications of salt and grit to prevent icy buildup. During a winter weather event, your Department of Public Works team is available 24/7 and, depending on severity, work extended shifts to ensure our roads are clear and safe. When the weather passes, the work is not yet done. All of the equipment must be washed clean, repaired and maintained to help prolong useful life and be ready for the next storm.

The Department of Public Works strives to do the best job possible for the entire Township. Unfortunately, one issue the DPW can't completely avoid is the mounding of snow at driveway entrances when plowing streets. While an inconvenience, except in the most severe snow storms, most cars can get through to the street with only a modest amount of shoveling.

Next time you see a Readington DPW plow truck clearing your street, give them a friendly wave to let them know you appreciate their hard work.