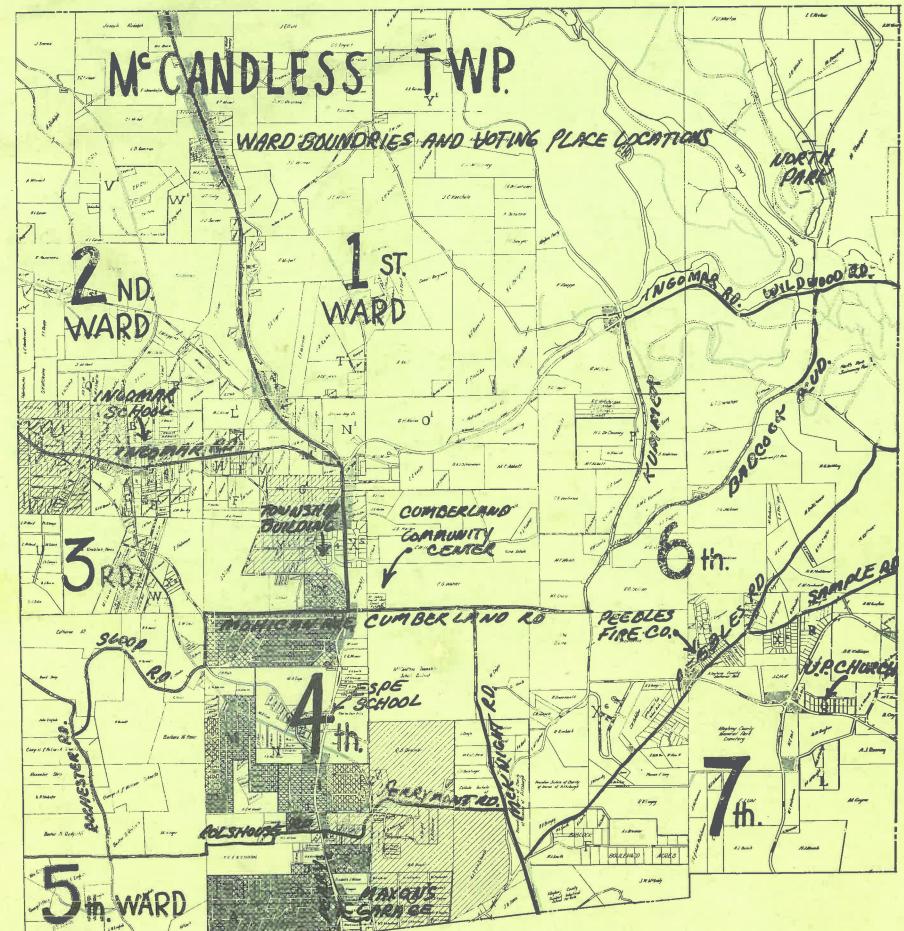


MUNICIPAL REPORT



A TOWNSHIP OF THE FIRST CLASS

ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

TOWNSHIP OFFICE and POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Jackson Building,
8220 Perry Highway,
Pittsburgh 37
Perrysville 4-6440

POPULATION

1950 U. S. Census 6,488
1954 School Census 9,974

ASSESSED VALUATION 1954

\$18,054,000
AREA 17.2 Square Miles

OCTOBER, 1954

TOWNSHIP OF McCANDLESS

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

1954

FIRST WARD

Walter A. Lauterbach
243 Crestmont Rd., Pittsburgh 37

SECOND WARD

J. Harold Pomeroy
East Road, Ingomar

THIRD WARD

Mrs. M. Carroll Sweeney
635 Ingomar Road, Ingomar

FOURTH WARD

John W. Soars
130 West Sandle Ave., Pittsburgh 37

FIFTH WARD

David H. Sullivan
395 Lochinvar Drive, Pittsburgh 37

SIXTH WARD

Harry W. Soul
104 Remington Dr., Allison Park

SEVENTH WARD

H. Harper Huston
Ferguson Road, Allison Park

MONTHLY MEETING

First Friday of Every Month, 8 p.m.

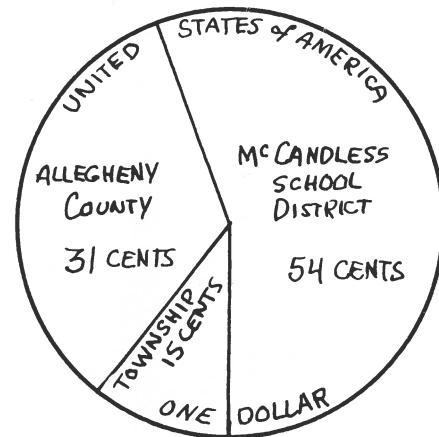
ESPE SCHOOL

**WELCOME
TO
McCANDLESS
TOWNSHIP**

FOREWORD

This is the first time in history that a municipal report has been distributed to the residents of McCandless Township. If you like getting it and say so, it may become an annual institution. The present Board of Commissioners, all of whom took office for the first time as elected officials on January 1, 1954, feel that a brief account of their stewardship to date is in order. Due to the tremendous influx of newcomers during the past few years, and due also to the change from Second Class to First Class Township form of government which took place on January 1, 1953, it would appear that a brief setting forth of the mechanics of our local municipal government might be doubly desirable at this time. It must of necessity be condensed but if you are stimulated to further interest in municipal affairs, feel welcome to attend any of the monthly meetings of the Board on the first Friday of each month at Espe School. Meetings are open to the public either on matters of specific business or as interested listeners.

HERE'S HOW YOUR McCANDLESS REAL ESTATE TAX DOLLAR IS DISTRIBUTED!



On a McCandless Home Assessed at \$5,000, Owner Pays:

McCandless School District

Allegheny County

McCANDLESS TOWNSHIP

18 mills or \$90.00

10-3/8 mills or 51.88

5 mills or 25.00

TOTAL

116.88

ADMINISTRATION

The governing body of McCandless Township consists of seven commissioners, all of whom were elected in November, 1953. By order of Court, those from even numbered wards were elected for four years and those from odd numbered wards for two years. Wards One, Three, Five and Seven will again elect commissioners in November, 1955 and thereafter each will serve the four year term prescribed by law. The Board of Commissioners operates under authority of the State Code for First Class Townships and is responsible for all township policies in matters of: finance and taxation; road maintenance and other public works such as water supply, sewers and parks; public health and safety which includes not only policing and traffic control but building regulations and sanitary installations as well.

This year for the first time, the township has a FULL TIME secretary who is on duty during business hours in office quarters rented last March. A major administrative expenditure this year has been for office furniture and equipment. Plot plans and other important records are being assembled and filed in a manner to permit of ready reference. Mrs. Julia Stacy, Judyann Place, is Township Secretary.

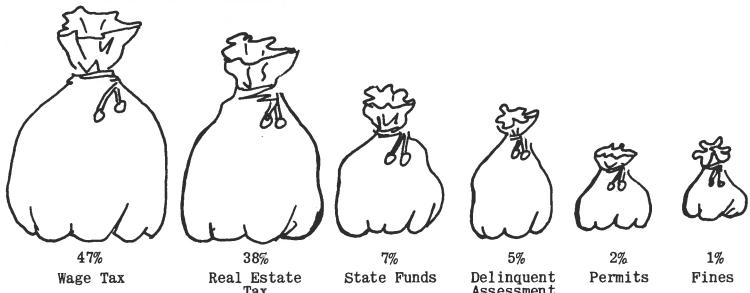
Every municipal Board is required by law to appoint an attorney as Solicitor, who acts as legal advisor to the Board, prepares ordinances, resolutions and contracts as authorized, and attends to all of the numerous legal technicalities attendant upon operating the business of the township. Thomas P. Geer, Ingomar, is Township Solicitor.

In July 1954 after careful study, the Board adopted an ordinance creating the office of Township Manager and defining his duties. The manager is a full time administrative officer and will supervise the carrying out of the road program, take care of all complaints, handle purchasing and keep a constant check on expenditures and assume responsibility for the proper execution of all policy decisions of the Board. In September, Mr. S. Vincent Erdelyi, recently manager of North Bay Village, Florida, was appointed to serve as the township's first manager and assumed those duties on October 1.

Another major administrative undertaking this year has been the survey of the Ross-McCandless boundary line, established only by description when Ross was erected as a township in the year 1809. The field survey by Township Engineer William Herbert now indicates that the disputed McKnight Shopping Center property is located in McCandless Township.

FINANCE AND TAXATION

WHERE TOWNSHIP INCOME COMES FROM IN 1954



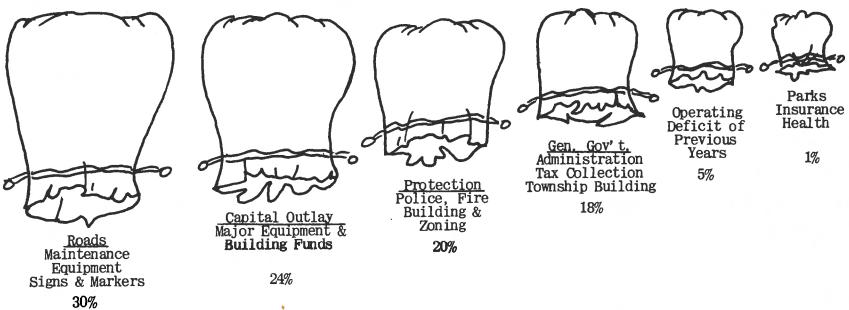
The Township Budget for 1954 provides for expenditures of approximately \$150,000 for Operating Expenses, \$50,000 for Capital Outlay for new major equipment and building fund, and \$10,000 for liquidating an operating deficit of previous years.

At the beginning of 1953, the new first class township government was faced with an operating deficit of approximately \$40,000 from previous years. By January 1, 1954, the deficit had been reduced to \$10,000 and since August, 1954 no deficit exists and the township is entirely free of indebtedness insofar as its general tax funds are concerned. A bond issue of \$150,000 was floated in May 1953 for the purpose of financing installation of badly needed new Water Districts in areas of the township where an outside supply of water is available from the West View Water Authority. The principal, interest and costs of this bond issue, which represents the township's ONLY indebtedness is being paid by those property owners benefiting from water installations and does not affect the general taxpayer.

McCandless Township, in keeping with most of the suburbs of Pittsburgh, levied a one percent Wage Tax effective for 10 months of 1954. The additional income thus provided was carefully distributed throughout the 1954 Budget, with an anticipated \$32,000 being allocated to a fund for township building. The real estate tax rate was reduced one mill and the old Occupation Tax discontinued. Effective January 1, 1955, the McCandless School Board has indicated its intention of collecting one half of the available one percent of Wage Tax permitted by law. Wage Tax Collection headquarters are in the Township Office, Jackson Building.

The Township Treasurer collects all property taxes of the township and school district, banks all miscellaneous township income as well and issues checks for all township expenditures after they are approved by the Board. He is an elected official. H. L. Stokey, Jr. was re-elected to this office for a four year term in 1953 after having served for six previous years. Mr. Stokey's office is in his residence at 8500 Perry Highway, Pittsburgh 37.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES!



ROADS AND DRAINAGE

McCandless Township had 40.59 miles of road to maintain at the beginning of 1954. To date this year, none have been added and Perrymont Road and Arcadia Drive have been taken over by the State Highway Department as connecting links between McKnight Road and Perry Highway.

Early this year, the Board approved the recommendation of the Road Committee to give priority to seal coating approximately eight miles of township roads which had never received any previous surface treatment. Due largely to serious drainage problems on many of these roads and to some other factors, it does not appear that this program will be completed this year. The following roads have been sealcoated for the first time this year to date: Fairfield Road, Sandalwood Lane, Glen Manor Road, Willoughby Road, South Irwin and Chesapeake Avenues, Harold Place, Washington Avenue, Fox Ridge Road, Iroquois Avenue, Old Kummer Road.

Several much travelled roads which had been treated several years ago were given a second coating and include: Harmony Parkway, Sunset Drive, Center Oak Drive, Winchester Drive, a section of Remington Drive, Judyann Place and Avon Court.

An air compressor with mechanical tampers and a light weight truck have been added recently to road equipment which in addition includes two heavy trucks, hi-lift, large grader, roller and tar wagon. The three man road crew has been increased to eight since June. They work a six day week.

The township engineer is preparing a large scale topographical map of the southwest section of the township to be used for a number of purposes including immediate information for use in locating catch basins, storm sewers and other street improvements in a manner consistent with a comprehensive surface drainage plan.

Road specifications as prescribed by Resolution 10-1951 are presently being adhered to in the matter of taking over roads as township roads. The possibility of taking over and improving certain old existing public roads and of installing permanent paved roads where the percentage of improved properties warrant it and of levying a paving assessment against abutting property owners is being given careful consideration as a solution to high maintenance costs which do not guarantee satisfactory results and which will eventually force the tax rate sharply upward if continued.

At the recommendation of the Planning Commission, the present Board of Commissioners adopted a Resolution providing for continuance of the ban on Commercial building on McKnight Road through McCandless Township. In the interest of safe driving, as well as rapid access to Pittsburgh from this area, it is felt that this four-lane highway should be preserved as a limited access parkway which will serve as an attractive and useful "front door" in the center of the McCandless community.

PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY

The McCandless Police Force consists of a police chief and five patrolmen on duty in eight hour shifts around the clock. Two men are on duty from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m., with one car patrolling west of McKnight Road and one east. All of these police officers are under civil service regulations and have attended and are attending Police Training Schools covering all phases of police duty. In joint action with the McCandless School Board seven adult school police were engaged, equipped and trained in their duties at the beginning of the current school year and are on duty morning and afternoon at dangerous school crossings.

After many discouraging experiences with township owned police cars it was decided this year to experiment with rented equipment. The police now have available a patrol car and station wagon, the latter fully equipped with inhalator, stretcher and blankets and all first aid materials likely to be needed at the scene of a traffic accident or other emergency situation. Both cars are equipped with two way radios so that an officer is on call at any hour of the day or night and he in turn can communicate instantly with other police officers over a wide area of North Allegheny County. TO SUMMON POLICE, CALL COURT 1-0327. Rental of the two police cars from Dixon Motor is \$210 a month and includes repairs and maintenance. Radio hook-up costs \$200 per year.

The Municipal Animal Control Company enforces the township Stray Dog Ordinance under direction of the police. Local police headquarters are located in the Jackson Building, 8220 Perry Highway, and messages for the police may be left there during business hours.

From funds acquired by the State through a tax on out-of-state insurance companies doing business in Pennsylvania, McCandless receives an allotment proportionate to the number of full time police officers on the pay roll. This money must be utilized, if at all, for pension or disability benefits for the police. By careful study, Agent Ray Strothman worked out a plan to expend these funds in a manner that provides each officer with a \$10,000 life insurance policy with disability and paid-up provisions plus full hospitalization coverage for families. All full time township employees, including the police are under Social Security effective this year and made retroactive to date of employment.

POLICE STATISTICS OF GENERAL INTEREST, JANUARY THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 1954

Radio calls answered	1,179
Dog complaints	150
Traffic violations apprehended	525
Traffic accidents	63
Overweight truck arrests	72
Emergency trips to the hospital	18
Miles patrolled	81,625
Gasoline consumed, gallons	5,702

ZONING AND PUBLIC WORKS

Approximately 11,339 lineal feet of water lines have been installed in new Water Districts during 1954. These districts include portions of Sample, Ferguson and Wallace Roads and Duncan Avenue; all of Eastview Drive, Ringeisen Road, Coyne and Allison Avenues, Hillcrest and Chickasaw Avenues, East Fairview Avenue and Perryvista Avenue. Contracts have been signed for a further extension of lines in the Perrysville Manor Plan No. 1, first section of which was completed in 1953, and for a portion of Perrymont Road and Eleanor Street. Peebles-Park Meadows, Stierheim Plan, and Mohican Avenue were also completed in 1953 and have been assessed and largely paid for. Other water lines have been installed by developers and individuals or groups who were authorized to deal direct with West View Authority.

Fire hydrants are installed along all water lines, spaced to give reduced insurance rates to a maximum of property owners as well as to give the township improved fire protection. There are at present 108 hydrants in the township for which an annual rental of \$35 each is paid to the West View Authority from general funds.

New porcelain enamel street name signs are presently being installed on all street and road intersections in the township, not previously marked. 290 new name signs and pipe for poles were purchased at a cost of \$1,544. Locations were staked by the township engineer and the township road crew assembled and installed the poles and signs. Attractive "WELCOME TO McCANDLESS TOWNSHIP" signs are being placed at fifteen points of entry to the township on all main roads.

Last year, the township accepted a gift of a little over an acre of land at the intersection of Ingomar and Highland Roads to be used for road improvement and for dedication as a small natural park in memory of David E. Councill, an Ingomar boy who lost his life in World War II. The clearing, draining and filling operations of the plot have been completed this year and the Ingomar Garden Club has assumed responsibility for planting and continued maintenance of the park as a beauty spot. McCandless also owns and maintains the small park along Perry Highway where the memorial to service men of World War II is situated. About ninety percent of the area of the county's North Park is located within McCandless Township and provides residents with convenient facilities for swimming, golf, boating, fishing, tennis and other recreational activities.

Assigning of street numbers in certain areas of the township started in 1953 by order of the U. S. Post Office Department. New areas have since been added and the Post Office Department recently recommended that numbers be assigned on ALL streets and roads in the township in preparation for the anticipated change over in manner of delivery which will eventually include this entire area. Duplicate street names MUST be eliminated in this process by order of the Post Office authorities and this has required the renaming of a number of familiar roads and streets.

The only street lights in the township are on a portion of Ingomar Road and are paid for by annual assessment against abutting property owners.

After due notice by posting and advertising, the Zoning Committee conducts Public Hearings on all requests for changes of zoning classifications before final action by the full Board.

HEALTH AND SANITATION

Recognizing that sewage disposal is fast becoming the number one problem in this fast growing community, the Board of Commissioners has recently taken an important step by signing to include the Lowries Run watershed area of the township in the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority program with the option of further coverage later. This includes the thickly populated section west of Perry Highway and south of Ingomar Road. It paves the way for possible joining with other municipalities in laying of trunk sewer lines to the proposed treatment plant to be built by the Authority.

The Commissioners also feel fortunate in obtaining the services of Maurice A. Shapiro, Ingomar Road, sanitary engineering authority of Pitt's Graduate School of Public Health, to act as temporary Health Officer of the township. Through the efforts of Mr. Shapiro and others, the State has undertaken a comprehensive sanitary survey of the entire township, at no cost to the township, which should provide a great deal of valuable information in formulating future plans. It should also materially assist in solving immediate problems incident to the present system of on-site sewage disposal now in general use.

Longue Vue Disposal Corporation owns and operates three sewage treatment plants in McCandless. They serve all of the Longue Vue Acres Plans and a number of adjacent properties.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

This three member Board, set up by the Township Zoning Ordinance, meets on the fourth Friday of every month at the Township Office to hear appeals from the decisions of the building and plumbing inspector and to grant or refuse such requested variances and exceptions to the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance as their judgment and the authority vested in them by law, permit them to do. Members of this Board are appointed by the Commissioners and serve three year terms.

BUILDING AND PLUMBING

Building and Plumbing Codes adopted in 1946 and the Zoning Ordinance adopted in 1947, with a few amendments, still regulate building and zoning provisions in McCandless Township. Enforcement officer is the Building and Plumbing Inspector, who issues permits and conducts inspections as provided by law. Freed Shaffer, Perrysville 4-6556, holds this office.

From January through September 1954, building permits were issued as follows:

For new houses	226
For Commercial and Public Buildings.....	6
For accessory buildings and alterations	50

FIRE PROTECTION

Three volunteer fire companies, HIGHLAND, INGOMAR and PEEBLES are located at strategic points in the township. The township carries insurance on the firemen and their equipment but aside from that contributes no other financial support, all of which comes from voluntary contributions from the public. All three companies have excellent, up-to-date equipment and trained men and are prepared to answer fire calls and fight fires in locations that have no fire hydrants as well as those where hydrants now exist. No fireman receives any pay. LEARN THE PHONE NUMBER OF YOUR NEAREST FIRE COMPANY.

TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Since their appointment late in 1953, the five man Planning Commission has amassed maps and data of great value in helping to develop a Master Plan for the township. After conferring with the Allegheny County Conference for Community Development and other planning authorities, the Commission recommended engaging Pittsburgh landscape architect and professional planner, Jennings F. Stright, to start work this year on a complete Master Plan for the township. It will include existing conditions data, long range generalized guiding plans and criteria, and recommendations regarding the effectuations of said plans. The Board of Commissioners approved this proposal and the contract with Mr. Stright has been signed.

This comprehensive work will require approximately two years to complete and will cost the township a total of \$14,400, to be distributed throughout three fiscal years. This represents an average cost of less than five dollars per McCandless family, or the total cost of just one medium priced home in the township. Yet it will place McCandless among the select group of forward looking municipalities who have found that an investment in sound community planning for future development pays off big dividends by protecting property values and by preventing the need for millions to be spent later on "Redevelopment".

Study of sub-division control legislation was one of the important items referred to the Planning Commission early this year. In June, the Commission submitted its recommendations to the Board in the form of a detailed ordinance covering the mechanics of approval of sub-division plats, supporting data required, specifications for road and other improvements and provisions for inspection and enforcement. After a public hearing and a discussion session with builders and developers, the ordinance was enacted by the Board on September 23, 1954. Its provisions are NOT retroactive and effect only proposed plans submitted after June, 1954.

The Planning Commission has also been authorized to give high priority to study of desirable locations for a township municipal building to provide headquarters for all departments of municipal government and to provide suitable quarters for meetings. It is hoped that the land will be acquired before the end of this year and possibly an architect engaged to proceed with plans and specifications.

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IN CLOSING

We believe, and we hope that you do, that we are living in a township that is fast becoming one of the finest communities of homeowners in Allegheny County. Please bear in mind that in a community growing as fast as ours, there are problems that cannot be resolved overnight nor in one year. Understanding, cooperation, and patience on your part will help a great deal in working out solutions and acting on them, and will be very sincerely appreciated by

THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DIRECTORY FOR 1954

BOARD OF TOWNSHIP COMMISSIONERS

Harry W. Soul	President
John W. Soars	Vice President and Road Chairman
H. Harper Huston	Zoning and Public Works Chairman
Walter A. Lauterbach	Finance and Property Chairman
J. Harold Pomeroy	Health and Public Safety Chairman
David H. Sullivan	Manager Study Chairman
Margaret L. Sweeney	Reports and Special Studies

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS AND APPOINTEES

Manager	S. Vincent Erdelyi
Secretary	Mrs. Julia C. Stacy
Treasurer	Herschel L. Stokey, Jr.
Solicitor	Thomas P. Geer
Engineer	William J. Herbert
Health Officer	Maurice A. Shapiro
Chief of Police	Harry E. Wylie
Building - Plumbing Inspector	J. Freed Shaffer
Road Foreman	Rody S. Stevens
Civil Defense Chairman	Edward Myers
Wage Tax Collector	Don Wilkinson Agency
Justices of the Peace	H. L. Stokey, Sr.
	Raymond C. Thomas

PLANNING COMMISSION

John P. Knight, Chairman
Harry A. Falls Eugene J. Coyne
Henry T. Blake Paul L. Geer

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Carl W. Huch, Chairman
Charles K. Gumbert Harry W. Soul

SURPLUS FOOD BOARD

Mrs. Bernard Sarver, Chairman
Henry A. Dodge, Secretary

VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES

HIGHLAND FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION

Jerome L. Harting, President Ray Wittmer, Chief

INGOMAR VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

William E. Jones, President George A. Willets, Chief

PEEBLES VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

C. E. Windgassen, President L. D. Larson, Chief