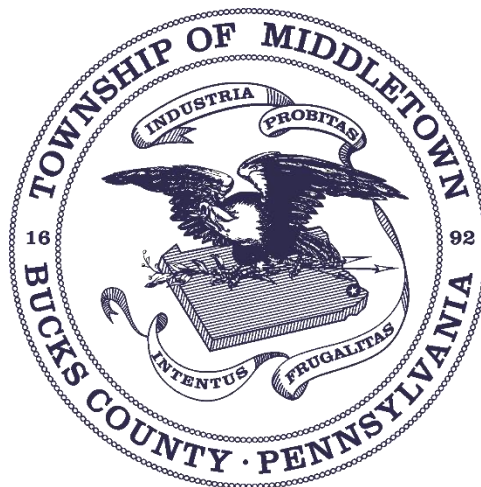


# Middletown Township Media Package

Middletown Township Proposes 2026 Budget

November 25, 2025



**Press Release:**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Subject:**

Middletown Township Proposes 2026 Budget

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*Resources can be found on the final pages of this document for this project.*

## Middletown Township Releases Proposed 2026 Budget

### Residents Encouraged to Attend December 4 Town Hall

Middletown Township, Bucks County — Middletown Township has released its proposed 2026 Budget, now available for public inspection at [MiddletownBucks.org/2026Budget](https://MiddletownBucks.org/2026Budget). Residents are strongly encouraged to review the document and attend the Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, December 4 at 7:00 PM at the Municipal Center, where Township leadership will present key highlights and answer questions from the community. The Board of Supervisors will vote on final adoption of the budget at its December 15 public meeting.

Township Manager Eden Ratliff has presented a balanced budget in accordance with the Township's Code of Ordinances. The proposed 2026 Budget reflects extensive analysis, four public workshops, and substantial feedback from Township departments, the Board of Supervisors, and residents.

### A Budget Focused on Stability and Long-Term Investment

For several years, the Township has relied on drawing down fund balance reserves to maintain services without raising taxes. With a \$2.8 million structural deficit in the 2025 Budget—typically growing by approximately \$1 million per year—and a backlog of infrastructure needs, this practice can no longer continue without significant impacts to essential services.

The proposed 2026 Budget includes a plan to restore financial stability and reinvest in core Township operations. The proposal includes:

- An Earned Income Tax (EIT) increase from 0.5% to 1.0%
  - *Note: EIT revenue generated by Township residents remains with Middletown Township; the school district cannot collect or redirect the Township's portion of this tax.*
- A Real Estate Tax increase of 6.08 mills
  - This increase allows the Township to reinvest in essential public safety services, including both volunteer and career fire operations. Funding

would support critical apparatus needs, advanced training, protective equipment, volunteer retention, and improved response capabilities. These investments directly strengthen Middletown Township's fire protection system and ensure that residents continue to receive reliable, high-quality emergency services.

- Major increases in infrastructure investment, including:
  - Paving nine miles of roadway
  - Replacing ADA curb ramps at 3.5 times the current rate
  - Tripling stormwater inlet replacements
- A commitment to ending the structural deficit and preserving the Township's Aaa bond rating

Without additional revenue, the Township would be forced to make service cuts equal to nearly 20% of staff, reducing public safety, parks, road maintenance, and key resident services.

### **Leadership Emphasizes Transparency and Community Engagement**

Board of Supervisors Chairperson Mike Ksiazek encouraged residents to participate in the budget process and attend the December 4 Town Hall.

"This budget will shape the future of our roads, parks, police services, and overall quality of life," Chairperson Ksiazek said. "We want residents to join us on December 4, ask questions, and understand the financial realities facing our community. Your input helps us make informed, responsible decisions for Middletown's long-term stability."

Township Manager Eden Ratliff emphasized the level of detail and intention behind the full budget document.

"Please read this budget book from front to back," Ratliff said. "We wrote every word in there intentionally. For anyone who wants to understand how the budget works, why costs are rising, and what solutions are being proposed, the answers are all in this document."

### **Behind the Budget: A New Educational Video Series**

To enhance transparency and provide residents with accessible information, Middletown Township launched its “Behind the Budget” video series. Over the coming weeks, residents will hear directly from department directors and members of the Board of Supervisors as they explain key components of the 2026 Proposed Budget, major cost drivers, and the importance of long-term financial planning. Each video will be featured on the social media platforms.

### **Commitment to Strong Financial Stewardship**

The 2026 budget book will once again be submitted for the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award, an honor Middletown has earned for seven consecutive years.

The proposed budget also anticipates more than \$10 million in earned and potential grant funding, supporting ADA curb ramps, stormwater projects, park upgrades, public safety equipment, and infrastructure improvements that reduce long-term costs to taxpayers.

### ***Public Participation Encouraged!***

Facebook Live with Chairperson Mike Ksiazek and Township Manager Eden Ratliff

**Monday, December 1**

**7:00 PM**

**Facebook – Middletown Township, Bucks County, PA**

Town Hall Meeting on the Proposed 2026 Budget

**Thursday, December 4**

**7:00 PM**

**Middletown Township Municipal Center, 3 Municipal Way**

Residents may review the complete proposed budget at:

**[MiddletownBucks.org/2026Budget](https://MiddletownBucks.org/2026Budget)**

The Board of Supervisors will vote on final adoption on December 15.

**Resources:**



Mike Ksiazek, Chair of the Middletown Board of Supervisors



Eden Ratliff, Township Manager