

BROWNIES SING TO MEADOWS RESIDENTS



Members of Brownie Troop #32647 from Dallas visited the Meadows Nursing Home on Dec. 12 to sing Christmas carols to the residents. From left, kneeling, are Maggie Ropietski, Jessica Allen, Morgan Williams, Cara Pocono, Ryan Costello. Standing, Alyssa Pritchard, Jordan Banks, Emma Brown, Nadia Evanosky, Chloe Zondlo, Madison Carlsson, Marigrace Humtington and Hannah Blazure.

DALLAS BOROUGH

No tax increase in 2013 budget

By CAMILLE FIOTI
Dallas Post Correspondent

There are no increases in taxes in next year's \$1.14 million budget that borough council adopted on Dec. 19.

The property tax rate will remain at 1.28 mills. A mill is a \$1 tax on every \$1,000 of assessed property value.

Council also announced that a conditional-use hearing for an application submitted by Verizon Wireless to construct a cell tower behind the Twin Stacks Complex will be held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 16 at Misericordia University. Council's regular meeting will follow the hearing at 7:30

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Council's January work session will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14 at the borough building.

Borough Solicitor Jeffrey Malak said council decided to hold the hearing regarding the cell

tower and council meeting at Misericordia because the borough building isn't large enough to accommodate the expected numbers that might attend.

In other business, council announced the road department would begin curbside collection of Christmas trees the week of Jan. 7 and continue through Jan. 25.

HARVEYS LAKE BOROUGH

Council votes to keep police station at its current location

By SUSAN BETTINGER
Dallas Post Correspondent

After several months of debating whether or not the Harveys Lake Police Department should be relocated, Council voted on Dec. 18 to keep the station at its present Route 415 location.

A special meeting was held by the Harveys Lake Protective Association to hear both sides of the issue. Council President Larry Radel gave the position to move the department to a former recreation center on Little League Road. Councilwoman Michelle Boice took the opposing position, saying the police department should remain at the borough's main entrance.

A straw poll of residents who attended the special meeting was taken. The unanimous decision was to keep the department at its present site. Boice stated that the police department needs to be "highly visible and easily accessible."

The borough received a \$78,000 LSA grant from the gaming commission, money that was to be used for renovations if the department was moved to a new location.

Council will now have to resubmit paperwork to the Department of Community and Economic Development in order to use the grant for renovations to the existing building.

Boice said that renovations to the bathroom and new siding on the building are among the potential uses for the grant, if it is approved. "We will have to see

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what we can do with the \$78,000 grant," she said.

Council approved the revised edition of the 2013 budget. The revisions include an increase of \$39,000 for real estate taxes, a \$4,000 increase for zoning and a \$16,250 increase for permits and licenses.

The 2013 budget's total income is \$1,099,925. Total expenses are \$1,100,555, leaving a \$630 deficit. The real estate tax will be increased by one-tenth of a mill, from .604 mills in 2012 to .704 mills in 2013.

A mill is a \$1 tax on every \$1,000 of assessed property value.

One resident expressed great concern over the safety of Harveys Lake school students in the aftermath of the recent Newtown, CT tragedy. Mayor Clarence Hogan stated the Lake-Lehman School District has to keep a log of any

emergencies. Hogan reassured residents that the fire and police departments provide "mutual aid" and "work together in event of an emergency."

The borough hosted two Christmas parties for children on Dec. 15. The Homecoming Committee held its party at Lakeside Skillet on Outlet Road. There were 104 children in attendance and two bikes were given away. Also, the Harveys Lake American Legion treated children to pizza, hotdogs, gifts and a visit from Santa at the Legion Hall.

Councilwoman Amy Williams reminded residents to display new 911 address numbers on their homes. Anyone needing assistance on this matter can contact Borough Secretary Susan Sutton at 639-2113 for information on where to obtain the signs, as well as how to display them properly.

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