

# ANNUAL REPORT

## of the President and Committees

of the Board of Commissioners  
of the  
TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON



For Year Ending January 5th, 1920

**COMMISSIONERS**  
of the  
**TOWNSHIP OF ABINGTON**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**



*Commissioners*

**CHARLES F. MEBUS, President**  
**HORACE BOWMAN, Vice-President**  
**DAVID F. BENNINGHOFF**  
**THEODORE EDWARDS**  
**PENROSE HALLOWELL**  
**IRWIN S. NIBLOCK**  
**JACOB ROEHM**

*Secretary*

**E. RAYMOND AMBLER**

*Ass't to Secretary*

**NICHOLAS BAGGS**

*Solicitor*

**HARRY S. AMBLER, JR.**

*Supervisor of Highways*

**PHILIP ROUSE**

*Chief of Police*

**H. S. LEVER**

*Treasurer*

**W. HOWARD WILSON**



**Finance Committee**

**BOWMAN, NIBLOCK, EDWARDS**

**Highway Committee**

**BENNINGHOFF, NIBLOCK, ROEHM, MEBUS**

**Police Committee**

**EDWARDS, BOWMAN, ROEHM**

**Fire Department**

**BENNINGHOFF, ROEHM, HALLOWELL**

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The Commissioners meet on the second Monday of each month  
at 8 P. M.

Meetings are open to the Public



### **FOR GENERAL TOWNSHIP BUSINESS**

**Call the Secretary, Bell, Ogontz 704**

Office Hours 9 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Saturdays, 9 a. m. to 12 noon.

Holidays Excepted



### **FOR POLICE ASSISTANCE**

**Call Police Department** Bell, Ogontz 729  
Keystone, Jenkintown 137

**Office Always Open**



### **FOR ASSISTANCE IN CASE OF FIRE**

**Call Police Department**

Which will direct the nearest Fire Company  
to proceed immediately to the fire.

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## President's Report

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January 5, 1920.

Commissioners of Abington Township,  
Gentlemen:

The following reports of the Chairmen of the committees give a summary of the year's business,

To make a new start in permanent road construction, your Board authorized a Bond issue of \$40,000. For Highway construction, it is desirable that the life of the bond issue is at least approximately the life of the road. The bonds will be paid off as follows, \$6,000 in 5 years; \$10,000 in 10 years; \$14,000 in 15 years, and \$10,000 in 20 years. The rate of the bonds was 4½% and sold at a premium of \$848. Detail of highways to be improved from these funds are given in the report of the Highway Committee.

The bill for Fire Protection April 1, 1918 to April 1, 1919, rendered by the Springfield Consolidated Water Company in amount of \$12,388.51 has not been paid pending a decision by the Superior Court.

On September 15th, 1919, the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company discontinued the lighting of Old York Road and the Glenside Car (No. 49) Line. This action by the Company necessitated the installation of 38 additional street lights.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. MEBUS, *President.*

## Report of Highway Committee

Charles F. Mebus, President,  
Commissioners of Abington Township,

Dear Sir:—

As Chairman of Your Highway Committee for the year 1919, I desire to present the following report.

Your committee decided that owing to the very bad condition of the roads from pot holes, that it would be getting better and quicker results by devoting our attention to patching these holes. We found by experiment, that the Tarvia K. P. Cold Patch was by far superior to anything we had used before and by keeping right at the work, we soon had the majority of the roads in a very good condition.

We completed the resurfacing of Welsh Road, west of the Germantown & Willow Grove Turnpike which had been stopped the previous year on account of the bad weather, and oiled the entire new stretch from the Old York Road to the entrance of the Park, making this one of the best roads in the locality.

We reconstructed that portion of Welsh Road from the Old York Road east to the Huntingdon Road, which was almost impassable prior to the repairing.

Wyncote Road from Washington Lane to Old York Road was resurfaced.

Meetinghouse Road from Jenkintown Road to the Second Street Pike was surface treated with Asphalt and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch stone and put in excellent condition.

This work is costly and with the amount of money the Committee had at its disposal, it was impossible to lay permanent roads, i. e. concrete roads which are the only kind that will stand the Automobile traffic.

Your Board decided to issue bonds for \$40,000 to lay pieces of concrete roads where most needed. After receiving bids for same, the contract was awarded to the Sutton Contracting Company, as follows:

Approximately 5,000 sq. yards on Washington Lane.

750 " " Meetinghouse Road

and 3,100 " " Edge Hill Road at \$3.75 per sq. yd.

A contract was awarded to Mr. M. J. McCrudden, to macadamize Noble Road from Rydal Road to Grove avenue, approximately 2400 square yards @ \$2.18 per sq. yd.

We also laid a concrete sidewalk from Washington Lane to the Friends' Meeting along the northerly side of Jenkintown Road. One-half of this expense was borne by the Friends' Meeting. This made a very necessary improvement, greatly benefitting residents of that section, making walking in the roadway unnecessary.

While your committee did not have the actual doing of this work, we gave it our superintendence and feel that we have some pieces of roadway now laid that will last for a long time with very little cost of maintenance and upkeep.

The amount of money available for roads and ash removal is never enough to make any permanent improvement of any size and the only thing that can be done is to try and keep the holes filled and make travel as safe as we can. The time of collecting ashes, from two to four days a week, depending on the time of the year, takes away from the road work, the Truck and the Driver, and in this way prevents a continuous work on the roads, and we would recommend that another truck be purchased to work on ashes entirely and when not required, it could be used to help on the road work, as this would help the Supervisor in keeping his gangs on the road work.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Members of the Board for their co-operation and Mr. Philip Rouse for the manner in which he has carried out all suggestions made by this committee.

Settlement of expenditures will be found in report of Finance Committee on pages 14, 15, and 16.

Respectfully submitted,

H. P. ROBINSON, *Chairman.*

## Report of Police Committee

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Charles F. Mebus, President,  
Commissioners of Abington Township,

Dear Sir:—

Your Police Committee beg to submit the annual report for the year 1919, as follows:

### REPORTS TO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Persons killed and reported to Coroner:			
From burns .....	1		
Overcome by gas .....	1		
Accidental drowning .....	2		
	—	4	
Attempted suicides .....			1
Persons hurt in accidents reported to this department:			
By automobiles .....	42		
By Trolley cars .....	3		
By steam road .....	3		
Accidental shooting .....	1		
Overcome by gas from auto .....	2		
	—	51	
Dangerous wires reported to companies .....	9		
Dangerous holes in highways and bridges reported to Road Engineer .....	6		
Fires reported .....	13		
Telephone poles blown down and reported to companies .....	7		
Trees blown down and reported to Road Engineer .....	10		
Dogs killed by officers .....	97		
Stolen automobiles recovered .....	10		
Stolen teams recovered .....	2		
Leaking mains reported to Water Companies .....	3		
Street lights reported out .....	746		
Prisoners photographed, measured and finger-prints taken .....	21		
Value of stolen property recovered .....	\$9,125.00		
During the year 299 arrests were made and classified as follows:			
Automobiles .....	58		
Assault and Battery .....	15		
Assault and battery and concealed weapons .....	1		
Assault and battery and attempt Highway Robbery .....	1		
Assault and battery and threats .....	3		
Aggravated assault and battery .....	9		
Burglary .....	1		
Concealed deadly weapons .....	4		
Cruelty to animals .....	1		
Drunk and disorderly .....	41		
Disorderly conduct .....	6		
Desertion .....	1		
Deserters from U. S. Army .....	3		
Drunk .....	25		
Felonious entry and larceny .....	4		

*REPORT OF POLICE COMMITTEE—Continued*

False Pretense .....	3
Forgery .....	1
Highway Robbery .....	2
Insane .....	3
Incorrigible .....	3
Larceny of Auto .....	6
Larceny of horse .....	4
Larceny .....	22
Lost boys .....	2
Malicious mischief .....	22
Non-support .....	2
Pickpockets .....	2
Runaway boys .....	5
Reckless driving .....	2
Shooting Craps .....	5
Suspicious .....	22
Trespass and Malicious Mischief .....	19
Threats .....	1
Lodgers accomodated .....	7
Meals served to prisoners .....	455

Statement of expenditures will be found in the report of the Finance Committee on page 11.

The Officers of the Department have faithfully performed their duty during the year in all its branches.

We desire to express our thanks and appreciation to you, the President, and all members of the Board, for the courtesy extended us during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

THEO. EDWARDS, *Chairman.*

**Report of Board of Health**

Charles F. Mebus, President,  
Commissioners of Abington Township,

Dear Sir:—

Your Health Board report that physicians reported the following diseases during the year 1919:

Chicken Pox .....	46
Diphtheria .....	4
German Measles .....	3
Influenza .....	12
Measles .....	21
Mumps .....	13
Pneumonia .....	8
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	3
Scarlet Fever .....	3
Typhoid Fever .....	6
Whooping Cough .....	2

We received through Burial Permits \$872.10.

Statement of expenditures will be found in report of Finance Committee on page 11.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK E. CHESTERMAN, *President.*

# Auditor's Report

## OF THE ACCOUNTS OF W. HOWARD WILSON, TREASURER AND THE COMMISSIONERS OF ABEINGTON TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNA.

From the First Monday of January 1919, to the First Monday of January, 1920.

### DEBITS

Balance .....	\$	9,158.19
Tax Duplicate 1919 .....	\$108,561.11	
Discounts .....	\$4,241.32	
Allowances .....	3,890.63	
Unseated Lands .....	1,339.34	9,471.29
Net Tax Duplicate 1919 .....		99,089.82
Penalty 5 per cent. on uncollected taxes \$3,214.35 .....		169.72
Interest on Bank Balances, General Account .....		159.88
Hotel License, None collected .....		
Amount received from Secretary .....		37,813.61
Amount received from County on Un-seated Lands, None .....		

### PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

Bond Issue, 1919 .....	\$ 40,000.00	
Premium on Bonds .....	898.09	
Interest on Bank Balance .....	291.65	41,189.65
		\$187,571.87

### CREDITS

Vouchers issued, General Account ..... \$136,202.80

#### TREASURER'S COMPENSATION

3 per cent. on \$99,089.82 .....	\$2,972.69
3 per cent. on 169.72 .....	4.82
1 per cent. on 37,813.61 .....	378.14
1 per cent. on 159.88 .....	1.60
1 per cent. on 41,189.65 .....	411.90
Expenses allowed \$237.01 .....	
Expenses paid 237.01 .....	

	\$3,769.15	
Paid on account of Compensation .....	3,625.73	143.42
		\$136,346.22

### PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT

Vouchers issued .....	19,798.16	\$156,144.38
Balance due Township { General Account .....	9,975.14	
{ Permanent Improvement Account..	21,452.35	
		\$ 31,427.49

#### GENERAL ACCOUNT BALANCE

To be applied to Sinking Fund, Loan 1911 .....	\$1,025.35
To be applied to Sinking Fund, Loan 1912 .....	3,232.95
To be applied to Sinking Fund, Loan 1913 .....	448.82
To be applied to Sinking Fund, Loan 1915 .....	309.53
	5,016.65
Net Balance .....	4,958.49
	\$9,975.14

### UNPAID BILLS

Springfield Consolidated Water Company, 1918 .....	\$1,320.00
Springfield Consolidated Water Company, 1919 .....	330.00
	\$ 1,650.00

## Report of Fire Committee

The Commissioners of Abington Township,  
Mr. Charles F. Mebus, President,

Dear Sir:—

Your Fire Committee begs to submit the following report for the year 1919.

The four Fire Companies of the Township Fire Department reported 70 fires and 4 false alarms during the year, 55 of these fires were buildings, 12 were brush fires and 3 automobiles.

Of these fires the Abington Fire Co., No. 1, attended 14, the McKinley Fire Co., No. 1 attended 29, the Weldon Fire Co., No. 1, attended 8 and the Edge Hill Fire Co., No. 1, attended 19 fires.

We are unable to make any comparison of values and losses due to the fact that very few of the reports contained this information, the Chiefs, in the majority of the fires being unable to ascertain the same.

In the future we ask the cooperation of the people of the Township in this matter and in case of fire to give the Chief of the District in which it occurs whatever information he desires, as it will not only be of value to the Fire Department but to the Township as a whole.

Trusting that with this cooperation we will be able to make a much better report next year, we remain,

Yours respectfully,

The Fire Committee,  
DAVID H. BENNINGHOFF, *Chairman.*

## Report of Finance Committee

Charles F. Mebus, President,  
Commissioners of Abington Township,

Dear Sir:—

Your Finance Committee beg to submit the following report, which gives in detail, the expenditures on the various appropriations for the year 1919.

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE BOWMAN, *Chairman.*

### OFFICE

Appropriation .....	\$3,000.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Salaries .....	\$1,980.00
Auditing .....	25.00
Advertising .....	342.40
Printing .....	217.01
Postage .....	34.26
Telephone .....	126.42
Supplies .....	111.11
Stenography .....	15.00
Legal and Recording Deed .....	8.78
Furniture .....	72.00
Total expenditures .....	\$2,932.02
Balance unexpended .....	\$ 67.98

**REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued**

**POLICE**

Appropriation .....	\$19,200.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Salaries .....	\$13,380.00
Association Dues .....	15.00
Auto Equipment .....	2,659.70
Gasoline and Oils .....	1,536.90
Food for Prisoners .....	56.94
Printing .....	52.60
Uniforms .....	228.10
Coal .....	61.28
Auto Insurance .....	135.12
Telephones .....	1,009.90
	<hr/>
Total expenditures .....	\$19,135.54
Balance unexpended .....	\$ 64.46

**COMPENSATION INSURANCE**

Appropriation .....	\$325.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Workmen's Insurance .....	\$ 317.94
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Balance unexpended .....	\$ 7.06

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Appropriation .....	\$1,400.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Salaries .....	\$1,200.00
Postage .....	4.00
Printing .....	58.74
Chemists Analysis .....	17.00
Chemicals .....	35.10
Expense Dairy Inspection .....	22.10
	<hr/>
Total expenditures .....	\$1,336.95
Balance unexpended .....	\$ 63.05

**CONTINGENT**

Appropriation .....	\$1,000.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Legal	
Springfield Water .....	\$ 60.61
Filing of Liens .....	42.00
Signs for Police Department .....	89.83
Fire Proof, Police Department .....	32.50
Two Ford Autos Polies Department .....	667.46
Widening of Woodland Road .....	100.00
	<hr/>
Total expenditures .....	992.40
Balance unexpended .....	\$ 7.60

**INTEREST ON TEMPORARY LOANS**

Appropriation .....	\$950.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Interest on Temporary Loans .....	\$883.86
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Balance unexpended .....	\$ 66.14

*REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued*

TEMPORARY LOAN of 1918

Appropriation .....	\$5,500.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Note Glenside National Bank .....	\$5,500.00

BUILDING

Appropriation .....	\$2,500.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
Salary .....	\$1,200.00
Equipment .....	359.05
Light .....	319.80
Coal .....	272.56
Repairs .....	134.79
Water .....	68.74
Ice .....	13.77

Total expenditures .....	\$2,368.71
Balance unexpended .....	\$ 131.29

FIRE HYDRANTS

Appropriation .....	\$1,800.00
Expenditures	
Moreland Spring Water Co. ....	\$ 187.50
Springfield Consolidated Water Company .....	990.00

Total expenditures .....	\$1,175.50
Balance Unexpended .....	\$ 622.50

FIXED CHARGES

Appropriation .....	\$22,857.00
Expenditures	
Coupon Interest on Loan 1906 .....	\$1,280.00
1907 .....	2,400.00
1911 .....	1,400.00
1912 .....	6,000.00
1913 .....	1,250.00
1915 .....	500.00
STATE TAXES .....	1,262.67
Sinking Fund of Loan 1906 .....	1,890.50
1907 .....	1,857.18

Total expenditures .....	\$17,840.35
Balance due and unexpended (see Auditor's Report) \$	5,016.65

ROAD LIGHTS

Appropriation .....	\$8,800.00
Expenditures (all paid) .....	\$8,715.59
Balance unexpended .....	\$ 84.41

SIDEWALKS

Appropriation .....	\$1,180.00
Expenditures (all paid)	
50% expense sidewalk on Jenkintown road from Washington to Friends' Meeting .....	\$1,134.55

Balance unexpended .....	\$ 45.45
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*REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued*

**TREASURER'S COMPENSATION**

Appropriation .....		\$3,500.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
1% commission .....	\$ 786.61	
3% commission taxes .....	2,839.12	
	<u>          </u>	
Total expenditures .....		\$3,625.73
Overdrawn .....		\$ 125.73

**TREASURER'S EXPENSE**

Appropriation .....		\$300.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Postage .....	\$100.00	
Printing .....	137.01	
	<u>          </u>	
Total expenditures .....		\$237.01
Balance unexpended .....		\$ 62.99

**COMMISSIONERS' SALARIES**

Appropriation .....		\$420.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Salaries .....	\$390.00	
	<u>          </u>	
Balance unexpended .....		\$ 30.00

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Appropriation .....		\$2,100.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Salary of Fire Secretary .....	\$ 60.00	
Postage .....	.42	
Appropriations to Fire Companies .....	2,000.00	
	<u>          </u>	
Total expenditures .....		\$2,060.42
Balance unexpended .....		\$ 39.58

**GARBAGE**

Appropriation .....		\$1,850.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Contract for 1919 .....	\$1,659.72	
Refund of Deposit .....	150.00	
	<u>          </u>	
Total expenditures .....		\$1,809.72
Balance unexpended .....		\$ 40.28

**SOLICITOR'S SALARY**

Appropriation .....		\$600.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Salary .....		\$600.00

**UNPAID BILLS**

Appropriation .....		\$1,320.00
Balance unexpended .....		\$1,320.00

**REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued**

**Highway and Ashes**

Appropriation .....		\$31,806.00
Expenditures (all paid)		
Salaris .....	\$3,000.00	
Labor removing ashes .....	1,816.80	
Auto Insurance .....	42.90	
Auto Licenses .....	37.00	
Auto maintenance .....	966.79	
Gasoline and Oils .....	1,330.14	
Auto storage .....	85.89	
Printing .....	20.75	
Association Dues and expenses .....	6.62	
Tools and Equipment .....	311.80	
New Ford Auto .....	421.23	
1918 STATE AID .....	69.62	
Demurrage charge .....	2.06	
DISTRICT No. 1 .....	3,808.93	
"    No. 2. ....	4,702.82	
"    No. 3. ....	2,831.00	
"    No. 4. ....	2,615.96	
"    No. 5. ....	4,912.53	
"    No. 6. ....	2,329.11	
"    No. 7. ....	832.56	
Total expenditures .....		\$30,144.51
Balance unexpended .....		\$ 1,661.49
Labor removing ashes throughout Township .....	\$1,816.80	
Allowance for use of truck at \$1.00 for 1370 hours .....	1,370.00	
Total cost of ash removal .....		\$3,186.80
DISTRICT No. 1.		
Cloverly Lane .....	\$ 520.84	
Edge Hill road .....	62.40	
Heston street .....	50.20	
Huntingdon road .....	241.34	
Susquehanna road .....	90.69	
Washington Lane .....	128.48	
Woodland road .....	126.56	
Welsh road .....	1,483.68	
Hampton road .....	87.73	
York road .....	208.00	
PATCHING .....	809.01	
		\$3,808.93
DISTRICT No. 2.		
Cedar road .....	\$ 50.00	
Fox Chase road .....	17.80	
Greenwood avenue .....	33.60	
Meadowbrook road .....	40.20	
Meetinghouse road .....	2,926.60	
Mill road .....	65.60	
Shady lane .....	17.91	
Washington lane .....	155.80	
PATCHING .....	1,395.31	
		\$4,702.82

*REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE—Continued*

DISTRICT No. 3.

Bradfield road .....	\$ 49.60	
Cliveden avenue .....	28.80	
Edge Hill road .....	32.51	
Fairhill avenue .....	67.89	
Highland road .....	86.35	
Jenkintown road .....	161.30	
Keswick avenue .....	979.05	
Menlo avenue .....	5.50	
Mt. Carmel avenue .....	60.10	
Oakdale avenue .....	435.64	
Roberts avenue .....	12.70	
Rosemore avenue .....	98.09	
Sylvania avenue .....	31.80	
Stewart avenue .....	18.24	
Woodlyn avenue .....	5.50	
PATCHING .....	757.93	
		<u>\$2,831.00</u>

DISTRICT No. 4.

Cedar road .....	\$ 46.20	
Church road .....	67.92	
Cypress avenue .....	27.60	
Forest avenue .....	64.25	
Fox Chase road .....	28.60	
Greenwood avenue .....	32.90	
Jenkintown road .....	849.61	
Meetinghouse road .....	522.17	
Ogontz avenue .....	62.70	
Osceola avenue .....	20.40	
Tulpehocken avenue .....	77.80	
Washington lane .....	99.00	
Wyncote road .....	101.85	
PATCHING .....	614.96	
		<u>\$2,615.96</u>

DISTRICT No. 5.

Davisville road .....	\$ 14.40	
Fitzwatertown road .....	108.41	
Hamilton avenue .....	5.40	
Prospect avenue .....	318.97	
Rubicam avenue .....	176.00	
Welsh road .....	4,159.95	
Township line .....	104.40	
PATCHING .....	25.00	
		<u>\$4,912.53</u>

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE (Continued)

DISTRICT No. 6.

Central avenue .....	\$ 7.00	
Cricket avenue .....	13.66	
Edge Hill road .....	7.20	
Hamel avenue .....	33.00	
Jenkintown road .....	649.66	
Maple avenue .....	45.00	
Mt. Carmel avenue .....	917.87	
Spruce avenue .....	7.00	
Susquehanna street .....	39.40	
PATCHING .....	609.32	
		\$2,329.11

DISTRICT No. 7.

Grove avenue .....	2.65	
Noble avenue .....	2.65	
Runnymede avenue .....	3.60	
Rydal road .....	105.00	
Spring avenue .....	2.65	
Upland avenue .....	30.15	
Washington lane .....	12.92	
PATCHING .....	672.94	
		\$ 832.56

PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT ACCOUNT.

Balance December 31, 1918 .....	\$ 60.86	
Revenue of BOND ISSUE of 1919 .....	41,189.65	
		\$41,250.51
EXPENDED by VOUCHERS .....	\$19,798.16	
Balance in Bank December 31, 1919 .....		\$12,452.35

EXPENDITURES

BOND EXPENSE .....	\$ 437.25	
Engineer's Salary, Surveying, etc. ....	1,474.03	
Washington Lane, Districts No. 2 and 7 .....	1,443.60	
Meetinghouse road, Districts No. 2 and 4 .....	844.35	
Edge Hill Road District No. 1 .....	9,820.35	
Noble Road, District No. 7 .....	5,778.58	
		\$19,798.16



THE ROBINSON PRESS  
HATBORO, PA.