Volume 15, Issue 1 January 2020

STOCKERTOWN NEWS

www.stockertown.org



ITEMS OF INTEREST

In 2019 your part time
Police Department
made 114 criminal
arrests 51 of which
were drug related, 391
traffic citations and
other incident reports
for a total of 1627
calls.

2020 tax \$ will provide Police and Fire protection, roads, parks, and infrastructure maintenance, trash removal, administrative assistance, and free library access for \$569,272.00 2020 sewer fees will fund the WWTP on \$210,170.00

On December 31, 2019
The Borough's total
liquid assets...
\$1,183,846.00
Debt Service for existing WWTP...
\$726,799.00

Please remember your elderly neighbors and pets during our frigid winter weather.



2019 IN REVIEW

General Administrative News

- Stockertown's General and Sewer Fund Budgets for 2020 totaling \$779,442 are displayed on the next page. The anticipated income and expenditures reflect our continuing effort to provide quality services to our residents. The tax rate for 2020 remains at 14 mills.
- The sewer usage rate remains at \$50 per month per EDU.
- The annual fee for Fire Protection remains at \$15,000, (since 2006). Other line items in the Fire Protection budget include a shared percentage of utilities, fire hydrant fees, and a fire fund contribution.
- Fry's Four Seasons continues his contract for mowing and lawn care, keeping the Borough's properties meticulously groomed.
- County Waste's contract continues thru December of 2021 and they remind residents who have large items to dispose of, to please hold them until the first Wednesday of the month as they require a special truck for removal.

Police Department

- The Police Department continues to focus on your safety by their active pursuit of drug activity and traffic violations within the Borough.
- The Department was awarded a grant for \$17,500 which provided an ENRADD System, Electronic Citations, and other items.
- In October we said goodbye to Officer Dias and we said hello and welcome to Officer Ross and, our newest member Officer Ramos
- Reminder: "If you see anything suspicious or uncomfortable, call the Department **610 759-3232** or email **police@stockertown.org**" or **911** Follow the department on Facebook at Stockertown Borough Police.

Public Works Department

- The Public Works building on LeFevre Road was completed in late fall. It will
 house the Borough's vehicles and equipment, leaving only seasonal items
 such as the leaf box, extra garbage cans etc remaining in the building on the
 WWTP property.
- The Department provided snow removal, road and trail maintenance, and WWTP operation. There were several sewer line blockages in 2019 resulting from grease and fabric items (flushable wipes, disposable towels etc.), which required a Jetter/Vacume truck to clear the blockages. As these blockages become more frequent, the cost of an emergency Jetter call may soon out weigh the option of obtaining our own vehicle.

Going Forward

 We look toward July and an award from the H2O Water Grant to help finance the Sewer Connection Project, while we work on securing a Bond Issue for the balance. Construction is anticipated to begin in late fall.
 Public Works is seeking estimates continued on page 3......

DIRECTORY

BOROUGH MAYOR Ken Zemencsik

BOROUGH COUNCIL
Meets 1st & 3rd
Mondays at 7:30 PM
209 Main Street
Amy Richard, President
Kathleen Zdonowski,
Vice President
Cindy Hower
RosemarieWenzelberger
A. Joseph Gosnell
Pamela Davis
Carl Zito

BOROUGH OFFICE 610 759-8393 Anita Caughy, Secretary

BOROUGH SOLICITOR Gary N. Asteak

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. Karl Hennings, Director Todd Lichtenwalner Ken Zemencsik

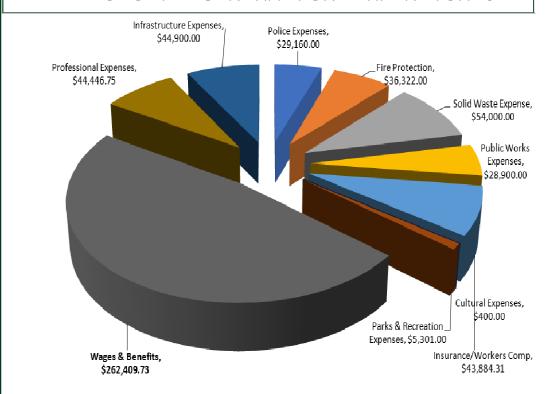
ZONING OFFICER/
BUILDING INSPECTOR
John Soloe

PLANNING
COMMISSION
Meets as Needed
2nd Monday 7:30 PM
Sean Dooley, Chairman
Kathleen Zdonowski
A. Joseph Gosnell
Joel Zingone

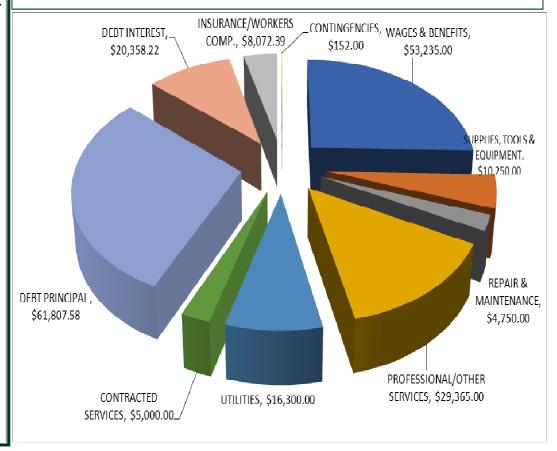
ZONING HEARING BOARD As Needed Kim Malavolta Luccienne Dooley Morgan Schafer

TAX COLLECTOR Anita Caughy 610 759-8393

2020 BUDGETED GENERAL FUND EXPENDTURES



2020 BUDGETED SEWER FUND EXPENDITURES



BE SELECTIVE IN YOUR BATTLES, SOMETIMES PEACE IS BETTER THAN BEING RIGHT.



Police Chief John Soloe submitted a letter of resignation effective December 31, 2019. Chief Soloe has been with the Borough since 2001 and will be missed by all. His letter stated that "the many years spent with Stockertown have been wonderful and rewarding but it was time to start a new chapter in life." Thank you Sir for your integrity, discretion, foresight, and approachability. Thank you for your years of service and dedication to improving the Department. We wish you the very best. Godspeed!

FOOTNOTES FROM THE BOROUGH

- During a SNOW EMERGENCY all vehicles must be removed from the street. The snow emergency will be announced on WFMZ, B104, and 69 NEWS. Vehicles left on streets will be towed.
- You have 24 hours to clear your sidewalks after a snowfall. If you live near a hydrant, please take a few extra minutes and shovel around it.
- It is unlawful to push or shovel snow from your property onto a public street in the Borough. Violators will be cited.
- Please remove your cars from public roadways during a snow storm so the plows can clean the whole street and avoid damage to vehicles.
- For those who would like library access, Easton Public Library and Mary Meuser Library will provide library cards to the residents of Stockertown. The Borough will reimburse residents when a receipt is provided to the Secretary.
- The Borough Hall remains a "warming shelter and safe place" in the event of power outages or other emergencies. It is powered by a back-up generator with bathroom facilities, refrigeration and microwave. If you or someone you know may need help in a power outage or other type of emergency, please allow the secretary to add you to the special needs emergency contact list.
- Landlord Notice: You are required to report new tenant information. Tenants are required to obtain a permit to move into, and out of the Borough. The fee is \$5.00 per household per move. This provides the Borough with an accurate listing of all residents for 911 and emergency purposes as well as sewer and water related issues. Both landlords and tenants must comply.
- Please have identification tags on your pets, (cats and dogs), and make every effort to contain and protect them from traffic and harsh weather.
- Anyone with large items to be disposed of, please put them out for collection on the first Wednesday pick-up of the month, as large items require a special truck.

Local Food Banks are in need of canned and boxed foods from those able to donate, and is available to those less fortunate.

Nazareth Area Food Bank 529 South Main Street Nazareth, PA 610 365-8869 Animal Food Bank of LV 860 Broad Street #115 Emmaus, PA 610 421 8014

Going Forward continued....to video portions of the sewer lines that are suspected to have issues. The **Borough will always be responsible for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the sewer lines within the Borough, even after connecting to Easton's Sewer System.**

They will also seek estimates to determine the feasibility of resurfacing the roads in Long's Development as they are now 15 + years "used".

EMERGENCY SERVICES

STOCKERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

NON-EMERGENCY 610 759-2200 610 759-3232, Office Eric Schwab, Assistant Chief Adam Shimer Nicholas Ross Ismael Ramos Jr.

911

FORKS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

NON-EMERGENCY 610 759-2200 Charles Gallagher, Fire Chief

State Representative Joseph Emrick 610 759-5090

State Senator Lisa Boscola 610 868-8667

Easton Public Library 610 258-2917

POST OFFICE Postmaster 610 759-6278

STOCKERTOWN ROD AND GUN CLUB Info & Memberships 610 759-9255

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY SPCA 610 252-7722 www.healthy animalcenter.org

Common sense is a flower that doesn't grow in everyone's garden.

2020 STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH SCHEDULE

INDICATES DAY / DATE OF MEETING - BUDGET MEETINGS

INDICATES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS MEETINGS (COG)
INDICATES PAID HOLIDAY

INDICATES NON WEDNESDAY GARBAGE DAY

INDICATES LOCAL ELECTION DAY

January								
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This is the amount of Fentanyl needed to kill the average adult.

Let that sink in the next time you hear that a 1000 lbs was

intercepted crossing into our borders.

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