

STOCKERTOWN NEWS



THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The year 2012 was consumed by the Olympics, the Presidential Election, Super-storm Sandy and the end of the Mayan Calendar. In contrast, it was a rather uneventful year in Stockertown.

We are pleased to provide the 7-0 approved General Fund and Sewer Fund Budgets for 2013 displayed on page 2. These budgets represent Council's continuing effort to provide quality essential services while maintaining a fiscally prudent approach to Borough management.

The Borough continues to have its usual overload of traffic, but traffic lights are now installed on Industrial Blvd. The interchange in Tatamy that is supposed to bring us relief, is set to begin construction in spring of 2013.

In April, Charles Davis and Royce Getz retired from Public Works. Jack Fatzinger retired from Council in August. We thank them for their service.

The thirty year old bleachers in the ball field on Lafevre Road, were replaced using the balance of the Recreation Fund money. Total cost \$11,955. This included concrete slab foundations and a handicap accessible walkway.

The Rails to Trails project finally got off the design desk and on to reality. The trail has been surveyed, marked and is approaching construction pending some boundary issues and Penn Dot approvals. Many thanks to the project head Paul Zaboy and Mayor Metzger for the countless hours of their time. During the design phase, it was discovered that there were manholes and cleanouts marked on sewer maps but they were never installed in the trail bed. Council voted to replace and install new manholes as needed in the trail bed prior to construction of the trail surface.

Total cost of manhole project \$23,398.

The Super storm in October pro-

duced rain, severe winds, and heavy tree damage which resulted in lengthy power outages testing everyone's patience and ingenuity. In an effort to help clean up the debris, Public Works collected branches and tree parts through the month of November along with the normal leaf pick-up.

Council passed a Brake Retardation Ordinance which effectively prohibits the use of "jake brakes" and other brake retarders in the Borough. Signage will be posted in early 2013.

The Waste Water Treatment Plant continued to service the Borough, though not without its typical ammonia violations. The sludge removal project was completed in the spring at substantially less than the projected cost due to the company's miscalculation of sludge accumulation. Total cost \$78,990. With the implementation of new procedures, and a tiller attachment costing \$4,224, the sand filter replacement project has been put off indefinitely. Despite constant pleas from Council, select residents continue to use their sewer system as a garbage disposal. The only remaining alternative to this issue is handing you, the taxpayer, the bill every time a grinder pump burns out, and ponds need to be dredged. PLEASE stop.

Waste Management was again awarded a three year garbage contract from 2013 through 2015 for a total cost of \$69,915. This figure is less than any of the prior three contract periods. "Free markets at work!"

The Borough's retired fire truck was sold to Big Otter Fire Company of Clay, West Virginia for \$30,000 in December. We wish them well.

The Lease Agreement with the United States Postal Service was renewed for five years

God Bless America!

**Government of the
people, by the
people, for the
people, shall not
perish from this
earth.**

Lincoln

**For the seventh
year in a row, the
tax rate will re-
main at 11.5
mills. There will
be no tax in-
crease and no in-
crease in sewer
usage fees for
the year 2013.**

**It is incumbent
upon each genera-
tion to pay its own
debts as it goes. A
principal which if
followed would
save half the
wars of the world.**

Jefferson



DIRECTORY

BOROUGH MAYOR
Sherman Metzgar

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

BOROUGH OFFICE
610 759-8393
Rosalie Mondello
Chris Burmood

BOROUGH SOLICITOR
Gary N. Asteak

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.
Paul Zaboy Jr.
Jeff Forrer
Richard Wagner
Scott Deribin

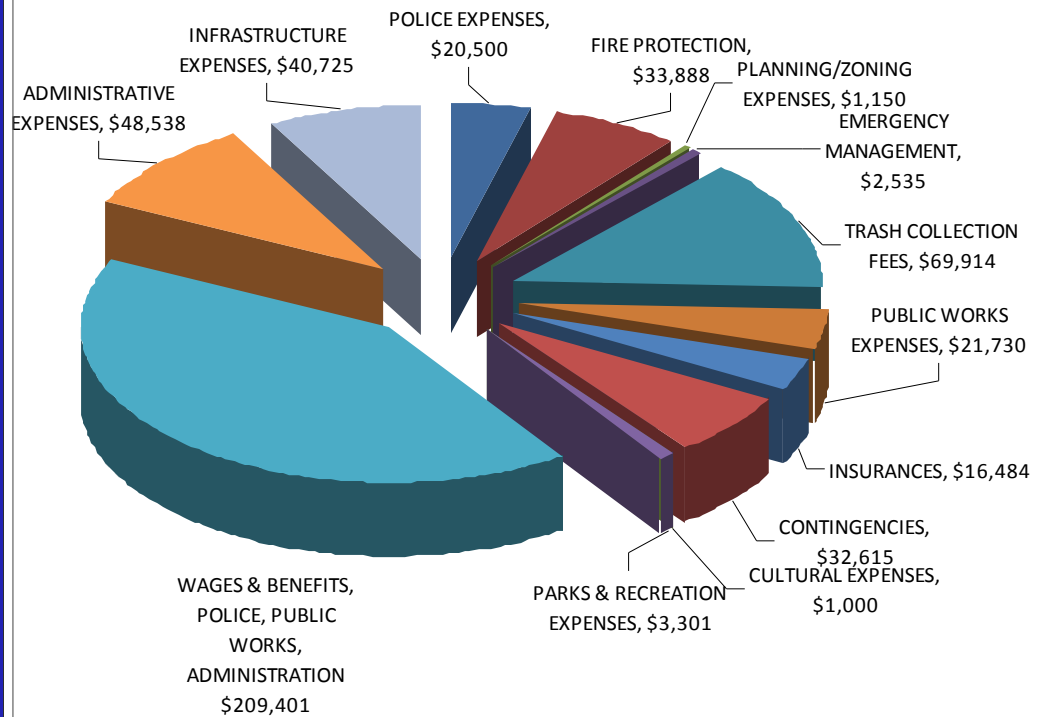
**ZONING OFFICER/
BUILDING INSPECTOR**
John Soloe

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**
Meets Monthly
2nd Monday 7:30 PM
Sean Dooley, Chairman
A. Joseph Gosnell
Dave Danner
Joel Zingone
Kathleen Zdonowski

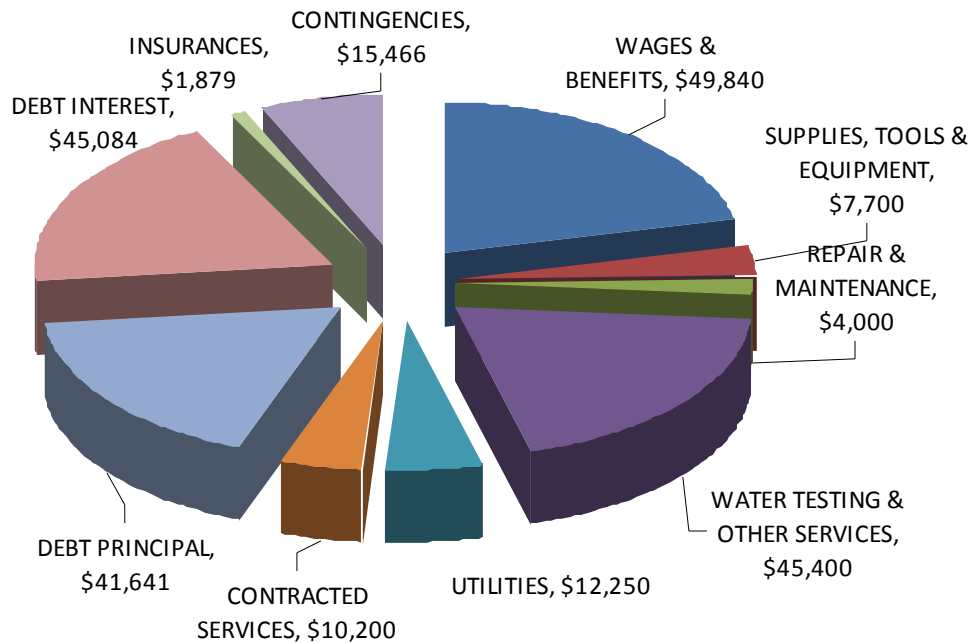
**ZONING HEARING
BOARD As Needed**
Morgan Schafer
Kim Malavolta
Luccienne Dooley

TAX COLLECTOR
Connie Marakovits
610 759-3015

2013 General Budget



2013 Sewer Budget



Footnotes from the Borough

- **During a SNOW EMERGENCY all vehicles must be removed from the street.** Vehicles will be towed. The snow emergency will be announced on your local radio and TV stations, WFMZ, B104, and 69 NEWS.
- **You have 24 hours in which to clear your sidewalks after a snowfall. It is unlawful to push or shovel snow from your property onto a public street in the Borough.** If you live near a hydrant, please take a few extra minutes and shovel around it.
- If you park on any public roadways, **please remove your cars from the roadway 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 recycling center on LaFevre Road is for Stockertown residents only.** Please **flatten all boxes and cardboard** and tie paper bundles before putting them into the containers.
- There are still **Stockertown Memory Books** for sale in the Borough Office for \$20.
- **Nazareth Ambulance Corp is our Emergency Service provider.** When you receive and respond to their membership request, you are helping them defer training and operational costs as well as lowering your cost for service.
- **Forks Fire is our Fire Protection provider** and has included Stockertown in their yearly campaign. Your donation helps fund training and purchase equipment which helps protect you.
- Thank you for your ongoing care of our Wastewater Treatment System. Remember **the WWTP is not a chemical sewage disposal,** but a fragile ecosystem. It need only be subjected to waste water and sewage.
- This Newsletter and previous issues will be available on the website, stockertown.org along with meeting minutes, PC minutes, Ordinances and Resolutions, notices, a calendar, and more. Future newsletters will only contain current issues before Council, and seasonal Footnotes. Other information, links, contacts, and archived documents will be available on the website. **Newsletters can be e-mailed along with your sewer billing by notifying the office with your e-mail address.**
- With extreme weather conditions and national security concerns it is wise to be prepared. Go to www.ready.gov/document/family-supply-list for information.
- All trash needs to be on the curb for pick up on Sunday night by midnight.

I have a dream that my children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

Martin Luther King Jr. 1963

A note to parents ~

There are multiple bodies of water within the Borough including retention ponds, fishing ponds, and creeks. Please be mindful of the lure of water both running or frozen over and reinforce the potential dangers to children.

FEBRUARY IS HEART MONTH

KNOW YOUR NUMBERS

Total Cholesterol < 200mg/
LDL ("bad") < 100mg/dL
HDL ("good") > 50mg/dL
Triglycerides < 150mg/dL
Blood Pressure < 120/80

EMERGENCY SERVICES

STOCKERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

NON-EMERGENCY
 610 330-2200
 610 759-3232, Office
 John Soloe, Chief
 Joseph Straka
 Joseph Vrable
 Molly Brown
 Alex Soloe

911

FORKS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

NON-EMERGENCY
 610 330-2200
 Charles Chapman,
 Fire Chief
 Timothy Weis,
 Fire Marshall

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT Alex Soloe

D.E.P. 610 861-2070
 Department of Environmental Protection

POST OFFICE
 Postmaster
 610 759-6278

STOCKERTOWN YOUTH ASSOCIATION
 Info 610 759-4067

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

Below are totals by department with yearly comparison and wage and benefit totals by department.

Have A Safe & Healthy New Year !

DEPARTMENTS	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007
DEPARTMENT/ACCOUNT	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 234,259	\$ 204,599	\$ 186,193	\$ 184,715	\$ 182,083	\$ 207,072	\$ 213,274
POLICE	\$ 97,346	\$ 102,174	\$ 109,334	\$ 92,735	\$ 93,065	\$ 85,983	\$ 82,000
FIRE	\$ 33,888	\$ 34,111	\$ 18,907	\$ 30,841	\$ 41,660	\$ 41,115	\$ 30,000
PUBLIC FACILITIES	\$ 59,538	\$ 133,419	\$ 120,315	\$ 159,892	\$ 161,942	\$ 183,290	\$ 158,590
SANITATION	\$ 69,914	\$ 77,159	\$ 74,159	\$ 74,159	\$ 73,000	\$ 73,000	\$ 74,000
CULTURE	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 950	\$ 899	\$ 2,025	\$ 4,700	\$ 4,750
RECREATION	\$ 3,301	\$ 5,129	\$ 1,250	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,600	\$ 600	\$ 500
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	\$ 2,535	\$ 3,135	\$ 2,163	\$ 5,950	\$ 4,700	\$ 9,123	\$ 2,000
TOTAL	\$ 501,781	\$ 560,726	\$ 530,287	\$ 550,291	\$ 560,075	\$ 604,883	\$ 565,114
SEWER	\$ 233,550	\$ 231,202	\$ 233,696	\$ 241,925	\$ 251,850	\$ 254,592	\$ 242,807
COMBINED TOTAL	\$ 735,331	\$ 791,928	\$ 763,983	\$ 792,216	\$ 811,925	\$ 859,475	\$ 807,921

WAGE AND BENEFIT SUMMARY	2013 DOLLARS
General Budget Portion	
Secretary/Treasurer	\$ 34,429
Tax Collector	\$ 14,787
Council & Mayor	\$ 18,670
Zoning	\$ 3,825
Public Works	\$ 37,808
Police	\$ 76,846
UC/WC/Aflac	\$ 23,036
Sewer Budget Portion	
Secretary/Treasurer	\$ 13,221
Council & Mayor	\$ 3,700
Public Works	\$ 22,620
UC/WC/Aflac	\$ 10,389

The fund drive for the Borough Marque sign continues. Thanks to those that have contributed and those that have promised a contribution. The sign will be placed in front lawn of Borough Hall. Call for information.

“All men are created equal, then a few become firemen.”

Godspeed to Big Otter Volunteer Fire Company of Clay West Virginia as Chief Dana Holcum and his men take possession of former Engine 2514. May it serve you long and well. Be safe in your life and your service.

↪ with an option to extend by another five years. This is a good indication that we will retain the local PO for some time. This is a recap of the major Events of 2012 with their associated incomes and/or expenses.

We welcome your participation at regular Council sessions, as we believe the residents have a right to know the issues before Council and to participate in the discussion and solutions to those issues. Council has adopted an easy meeting format designed to make everyone comfortable in their participation.

Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays at Borough Hall at 7:30 PM.

Amy Richard, Council President



**Chinese New Year
February 10, 2013**



Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man.

Ben Franklin