

STOCKERTOWN NEWS

www.stockertown.org



A YEAR IN REVIEW

Conclusion...

District Attorney John Morganelli cleared the Stockertown Rod and Gun Club of any wrong doing related to the stray bullet issue on North Main Street, stating that the safety measures taken by the Gun Club have proven to increase safety.

Safety isn't just a slogan, it's a way of life.

Be Vigilant.



By unanimous vote, the Stockertown General and Sewer Fund Budgets were adopted for 2016. The anticipated income and expenditures are displayed on page two, and reflect our continuing effort to provide quality services to our residents as prudently as possible. The tax rate remains at 13.5 mils and the sewer rate remains at \$50 per month per EDU.

A two year contract was awarded to Fry's Four Seasons for mowing and lawn care in the Borough.

Waste Management exercised the continuation clause and extended the trash contract thru 2016.

The fee for Fire Protection remains the same as it was from the initial contract period of 2007 at \$15,000. The remaining line items in the Fire Protection budget of \$29,322, include a shared percentage of utilities, fire hydrant fees of \$9,000 and a \$5000 fire vehicle fund contribution. By comparison, the 2006 Liberty Hose Fire budget totaled \$27,166 and included none of the items in the current budget except utilities.

With Forks Fire, we have reliable fire protection less than five miles away with state of the art equipment. Stockertown has no trucks and equipment to maintain, no fuel, no vehicle insurance or workmen's compensation to pay.

The tax assessment issue with Buzzi Unisem, (Lone Star), was resolved. Buzzi agreed to wave the tax difference from 2013 and 2014, and settled for the difference in the assessment from 2015 only. We are

pleased with the cooperation displayed in the negotiations. Our piece of Rails to Trails was completed in June and all grants closed out. The end result is a picturesque tranquil mile long path complete with benches, picnic areas, trash receptacles, and doggie waste centers, just begging to be explored. The connecting leg from Bushkill Street to Tatamy remains a missing link due to the sinkhole activity between here and there. There is an effort underway by the County to add a connection from the upper end of our trail to the Jacobsburg park area. More information on that when available.

The completion of the Chrin Interchange in Tatamy has substantially reduced traffic in Stockertown.

LeFevre Road and sections of Werkheiser and Winnona Streets were resurfaced with funds from our Liquid Fuels allocation and much of the signage around town has been replaced.

Looking forward; reconstruction of Commerce Way is planned for this spring and the pavilion in Newhart Park will get a long awaited facelift with money left from the Centennial Fund and Memory Book sales.

The DEP continues to push their WWTP reconstruction agenda based on our ammonia violations. The Borough continues to appeal the order through the courts and are confident in our position as defined by the original permit and DEP's own regulatory statutes.

More to come as it unfolds.

DIRECTORY

BOROUGH MAYOR
Charles Davis

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

BOROUGH OFFICE
610 759-8393
Anita Caughy

BOROUGH SOLICITOR
Gary N. Asteak

PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.
Karl Hennings, Director
David Werkheiser
Todd Lichtenwalner
Garrett Newhartz

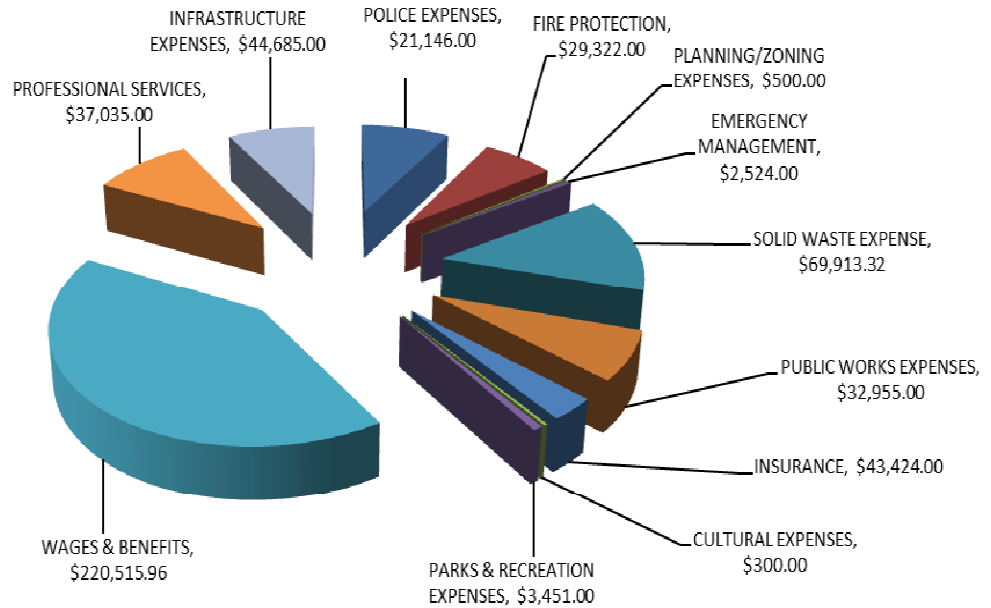
**ZONING OFFICER/
BUILDING INSPECTOR**
John Soloe

**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

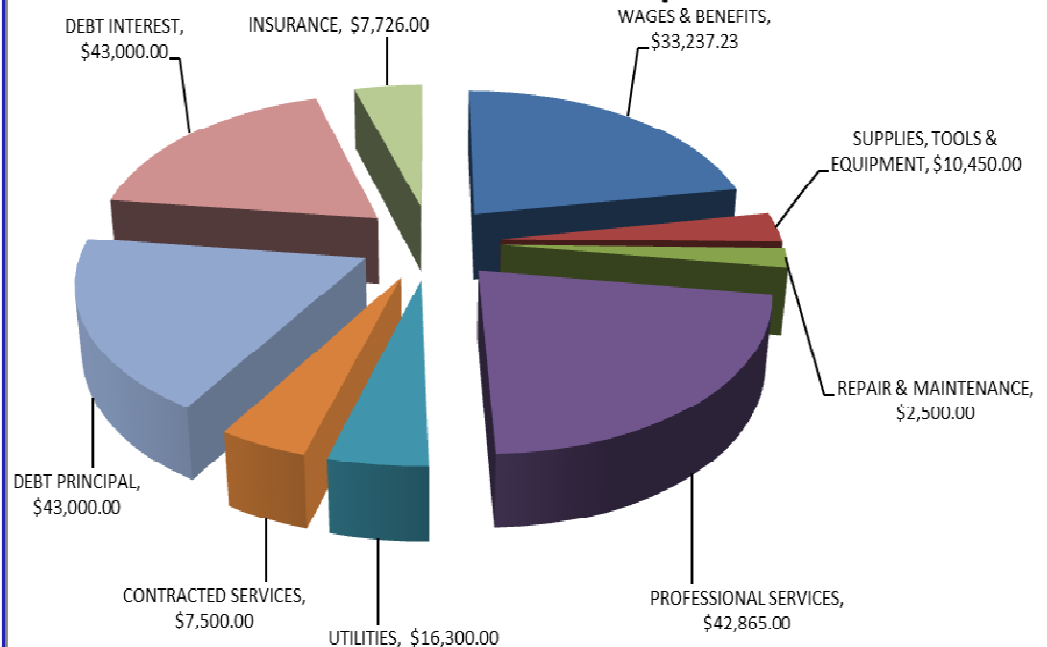
TAX COLLECTOR
Anita Caughy
610 759-8393

2016 General Fund Expenses



THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET BALANCES AT \$534,493. THE ANTICIPATED COMBINED GENERAL FUND INCOME FROM REAL ESTATE, EIT, AND LST TAXES, RENT, FINES AND FRANCHISE FEES IS APPROXIMATELY \$534,493.

2016 Sewer Fund Expenses



THE SEWER FUND BUDGET BALANCES AT \$210,150. THE ANTICIPATED INCOME FROM SEWER USAGE REVENUES AND FINES IS APPROXIMATELY \$210,150.

Footnotes from the Borough

- **During a SNOW EMERGENCY all vehicles must be removed from the street.** The snow emergency will be announced on your local radio and TV stations, WFMZ, B104, and 69 NEWS. Vehicles will be towed.
- It is unlawful to push or shovel snow from your property onto a public street in the Borough. Please refrain or you will be cited. .
- If you park your cars on public roadways, please remove them before a storm so plows can clean the entire street and avoid vehicle damage.
- Those parking on State Street, please park in the adjacent lot so plows can clean the entire street, without plowing in your vehicles.
- Residents living on Dogwood Lane, Old Easton Road, Lincoln Avenue and streets without curbs, please place reflectors along their property edge.
- Remember, you have 24 hours in which to clear your sidewalks after a snow-fall. **Adopt a fire hydrant.** If you live near a hydrant, please take five extra minutes and shovel around it. It could save precious time for firemen.
- **Landlord Notice: You are required to report new tenant information** within ten days of tenant moving activity. **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.
- For those seeking 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.
- Thank you for your ongoing care of our Waste Water Treatment Plant by monitoring what you put down your "pipes" . Help us maintain this fragile system.
- **The recycling center on LeFevre Road is for Stockertown residents only.** Please do not encourage non-resident friends and relatives to dump off their recyclables. They will be cited.
- **Borough residents with special needs,** please contact the Borough Office so we can add you to our Emergency Response List.
- Please have identification tags on your pets, (cats and dogs), and make every effort to contain them so the don't become a statistic of traffic or foul weather. Protect them from the harsh winter weather with shelter and fresh water.



EMERGENCY SERVICES

STOCKERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

NON-EMERGENCY
610 330-2200
610 759-3232, Office
John Soloe, Chief
Eric Schwab, OIC
Adam Shimer
Keith Snyder
Alex Soloe

911

FORKS VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

NON-EMERGENCY
610 330-2200
Bryan Weis
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 ROD AND GUN CLUB
Info & Memberships
610 759-9255

The IRS sends out 8 billion pages of forms and instruction each year. Laid end to end they would stretch 28 times around the earth.

EIT FILING INFORMATION

Keystone Collection Co collects the Borough's EIT (earned income tax). The filing deadline is April 18, 2016. You can get forms or file online at www.KeystoneCollects.com. Keystone's Tax Payer Helpline is 1 888 328-0565.



PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING ON TO CodeRED if you have not already done so.

CodeRED is a high speed notification system which delivers messages in seconds and is used for Amber Alerts, road closures, extreme weather, and other Boro notifications. Messages are delivered via phone, cell phone, email and text. We urge you to update your preferred method (s) of notification. Go to the Borough website, www.stockertown.org, and click on the CodeRED link to add or edit your information. If you need assistance, please call the Borough office. ANY/ALL information will be secure and used only by CodeRED and ONLY for the purpose of notification.

WINTER DANGERS There are multiple bodies of water within the Boro. Retention ponds on Old Easton Road entering Long's Development collect and retain water run-off during heavy precipitation periods then slowly discharge the water through drain pipes. When full, they can be three to five feet deep. There are ponds at the Gun Club on either side of LeFevre Road that have

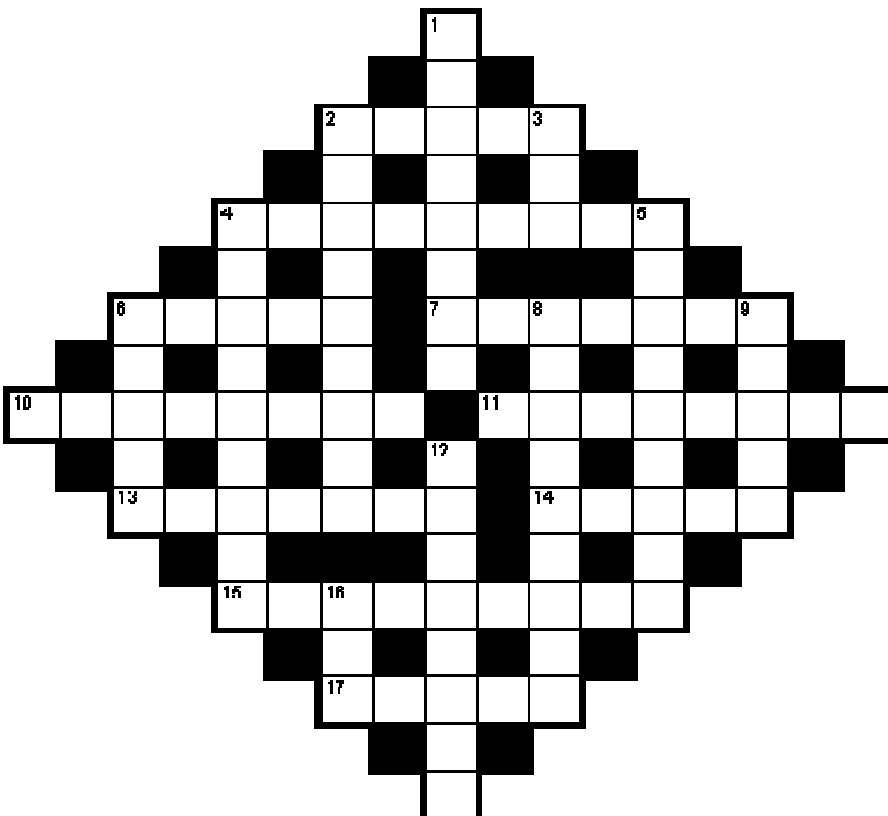
standing water year around. The floor of these ponds is decomposed vegetation and is similar to quicksand when trying to walk through or out of. The creek by Newhart Park fills with heavy rains and snow melt. **Please be mindful of children's lure to water, both running or frozen over and reinforce the dangers of weak ice and fast moving water.**

COMMUNITY POLICE PROGRAMS available: **WE CARE**, a program focusing on security for the elderly and disabled living alone. The Police Dept. maintains names and addresses of participants, their emergency contacts, and any key holders. If requested, an officer will be dispatched to the participants home to check on their well being.

PROPERTY CHECKS, a program offered to residents who will be on vacation or away from their

homes for any period of time. The Police Dept. will check on the residence periodically and inspect the physical security of the property. In the event of a questionable issue, an officer will contact the owner or designated contact.

You can obtain more information and applications for both of these programs by going to the website www.stockertown.org or calling the Police Department at **610 759-3232**.



Across

2. Avid (5)
4. Customers (9)
6. Legal excuse (5)
7. Moral (7)
10. Wizard (8)
11. Frantic (8)
13. Steering devices (7)
14. Mistake (5)
15. Numerical indicator (9)
17. Cache (5)

Down

1. Novice (8)
2. Do away with (9)
3. Regret (3)
4. Happens simultaneously (9)
5. Bizarre (9)
6. Ire (5)
8. Gathered a crop (9)
9. More recent (5)
12. Guess (8)
16. Tree (3)

