

STOCKERTOWN NEWS

www.stockertown.org



ITEMS OF INTEREST

LEFEVRE ROAD BRIDGE IS OPEN!

In 2018 your part time Police Department made 72 criminal arrests 45 of which were drug related, 947 traffic citations and other incident reports for a total of 2437 calls.

2019 tax \$ will provide Police and Fire protection, roads, parks, and infrastructure maintenance, administrative assistance, and free library access for \$569,297.00
2019 sewer fees will operate the WWTP on \$210,175.00

On December 31, 2018 The Borough's total liquid assets... \$1,360,178.00

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



2018 IN REVIEW

General Administrative News

- Stockertown's General and Sewer Fund Budgets for 2019 totaling \$779,472 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 2019 has increased 1/4 mil to 14 mils in anticipation of another commercial property re-assessment appeal like we experienced in 2015 with Buzzi Unisem, albeit not as large. The tax rate in 2006 was 11.5 mils and remained so until 2015 when it was raised to 13.5 mils. Two years later in 2017 it increased to 13.75 mils and now, two years after in 2019 to 14 mils. No one's happy, but in 13 years, the Boro tax rate has only increased three times totaling 2.5 mils,
- 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 of \$29,322 include a shared percentage of utilities, fire hydrant fees of \$9,000 and a \$5000 fire fund contribution. Fry's Four Seasons continues his contract for mowing and lawn care. County Waste continues to be our trash hauler thru December of 2021.
- The Secretary's window has been replaced with bullet proof glass and speaker, (\$1,867), as well as door and lock upgrades.
- The Borough received \$66,000 from the State for assuming ownership of Bushkill Street from Center Street to the end. The Borough also received a gaming grant in the amount of \$31,529. Both sums of money have specific restrictions outlining how they can be spent.
- In November, Mayor Paul Zaboy Sr. passed away after a long illness. He previously served on Council for many years and spearheaded the Rails to Trails project. His enthusiasm and dedication will be missed. Ken Zemencsik was appointed to fill the Mayoral Vacancy through December 2019.

Police Department

- The Police Department continues to focus on your safety by their active pursuit of drug activity and traffic violations within the Borough.
- Goodie bags and glow lights were given to 136 little goblins on Halloween.
- In December, we said good bye to Officer Samira Sabbagh as she moved on to further her career, and we say HELLO and WELCOME to Officer Gilbert Dias, our newest member of the Police Department.
- Reminder: "If you see anything suspicious or uncomfortable, call the Department **610 759-3232** or email police@stockertown.org"
Follow the department on Facebook at Stockertown Borough Police.

Public Works

- A bid to erect the new Public Works building was awarded to Dutchman Contracting in the amount of \$124,414. Construction will begin in early spring. The project will be paid for in part by money the Borough received from the Bushkill Street Turn Back in the amount of \$66,000. 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

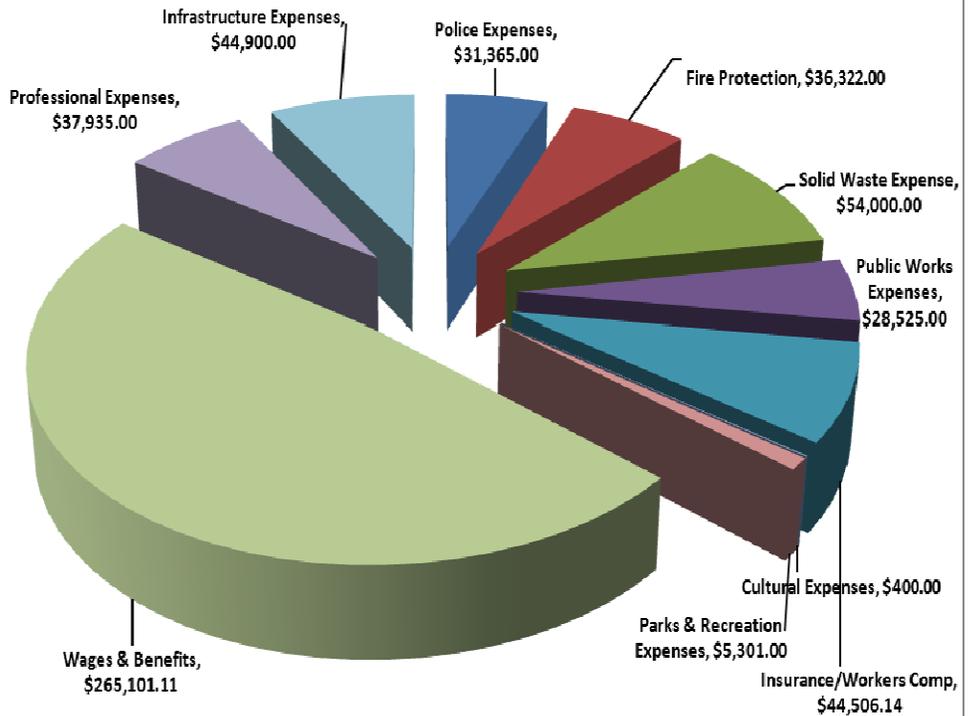
**ZONING OFFICER/
BUILDING INSPECTOR**
John Soloe

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

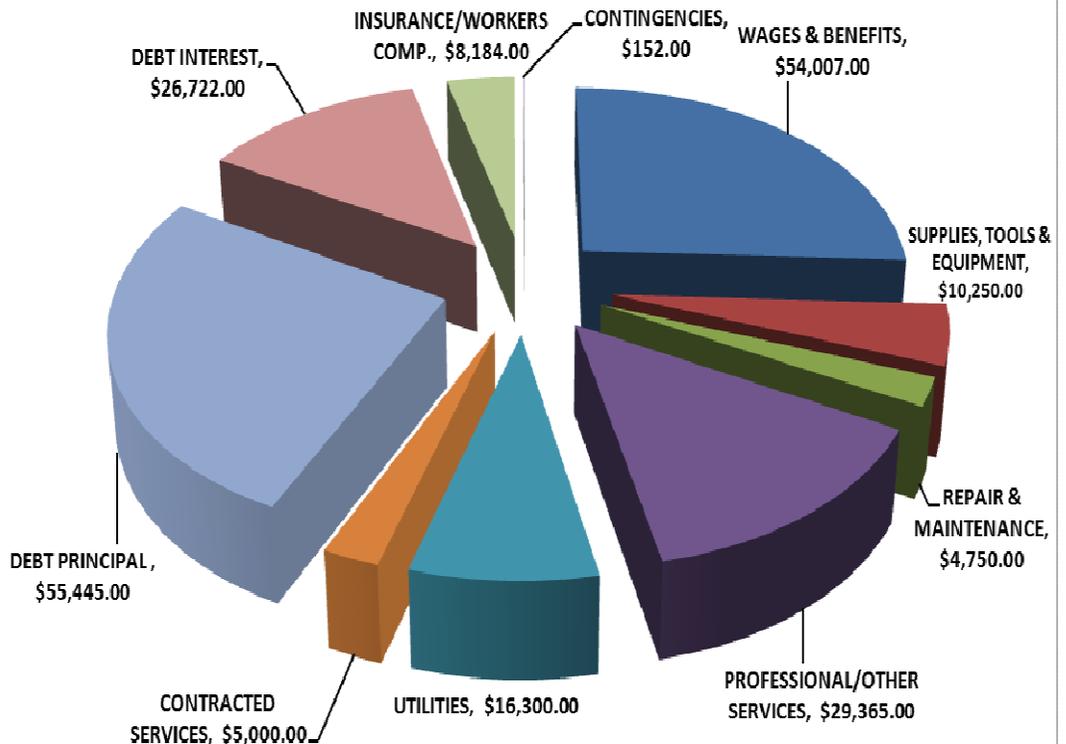
ZONING HEARING
BOARD As Needed
Kim Malavolta
Lucienne Dooley
Morgan Schafer

TAX COLLECTOR
Anita Caughy
610 759-8393

2019 BUDGETED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



2019 BUDGETED SEWER FUND EXPENDITURES



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.
- If you park your cars 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 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.
- Tenants and residents who move out of the Borough, **do not take the trash or recycling containers with you.** They belong to County Waste who will prosecute.
- **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. 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 the harsh weather.

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

- The Borough purchased a 2018 Ford F550 dump truck equipped with snow plow and salt spreader. The sticker price of \$79,470 was reduced by the 2009 dump truck trade-in valued at \$21,000 and the COSTARS discount of \$9,353 bringing the final purchase price to \$49,117 which will be paid for in large part by a Gaming Grant the Borough received in the amount of \$31,529.
- In January of 2018, Public Works employee David Werkheiser lost his battle with health issues. Rest in Peace

Going Forward

The Easton sewer connection project is moving forward with very few issues. The ACT 537 was approved by PA DEP clearing the way for the planning and design phase which is in progress. We were exempted from the "archeological survey", saving \$21,000 and the bog turtle survey found no turtle habitat in the construction pathway. The more probable cause of delay will be securing permits from Norfolk Southern and various other entities surrounding the construction arena. The median household income survey is a major factor in financing of the project and more information and instructions will be sent to all residents when we are closer to that phase. Meanwhile, funding from outside grants is being explored.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

**STOCKERTOWN
POLICE DEPARTMENT
NON-EMERGENCY**
610 759-2200
610 759-3232, Office
John Soloe, Chief
Eric Schwab,
Assistant Chief
Adam Shimer
Gilbert Dias

911

**FORKS VOLUNTEER
FIRE COMPANY
NON-EMERGENCY**
610 759-2200
Charles Gallagher,
Fire Chief
Timothy Weis,
Fire Marshall

**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 animal-center.org**

Pibbles Paws Safe Haven

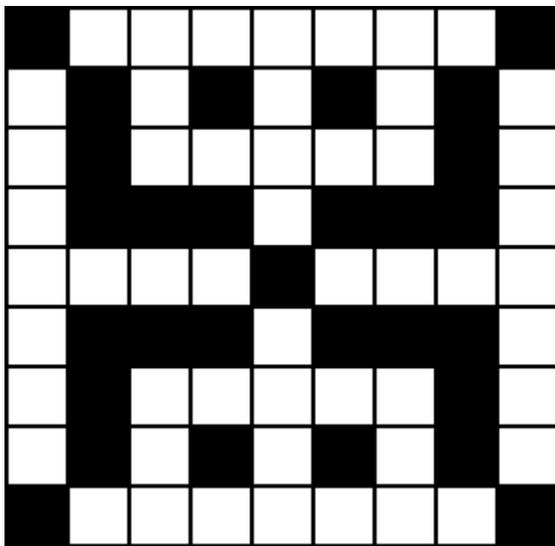
The Borough is pleased to announce our participation in the Nazareth Area Council of Governments Animal Control Program. Beginning January 1, 2019, Pibbles Paws Safe Haven will serve as our Animal Control Officer. The animal control program will only cover dogs at this time. **Pibbles Paws Safe Haven** is located in Moore Township and is a state-licensed facility that currently works to rescue puppies and adult dogs

in need of a forever family The Facebook page for the animal control officer is Pibbles Paws Safe Haven ACO Stray Intakes. Pictures of lost or stray dogs will be posted on this page as well as other important information. If you see a lost or stray dog, Please contact Northampton County NON-EMERGENCY number 610 759-2200. Do not dial 911.



What's the difference between a tax auditor and a Rottweiler? The Rottweiler eventually lets you go.....

There are no clue numbers in the grid so use your powers of deduction to solve the puzzle and place the right words in the correct positions.



- 1, One of the two horizontal 7- letter words is a month of the year and the other is easily broken.
- 2, One of the two vertical 7- letter words is a top prize and the other is a record of past events.
- 3, One of the 5- letter words is a detection instrument and the other is a large marine mammal.
- 4, The 4- letter words are betting ratio, female relative, snake tooth, monarch male.
- 5, The two 3- letter words on the left are automobile and armed conflict.
- 6, The two 3- letter words on the right are organ of hearing and snakelike fish

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

CHOKING FIRST AID

DETERMINE IF THE VICTIM CAN CRY, SPEAK OR COUGH. IF NOT, SHOUT FOR SOMEONE TO CALL 911. IF YOU'RE THE ONLY RESCUER, PERFORM CHOKING FIRST AID BEFORE CALLING 911

ADULT & CHILD - OVER 1 YEAR OLD

1 GIVE 5 BACK BLOWS

Bend victim forward to perform 5 quick upward blows between the victims shoulder blades with the heel of your hand.

2 GIVE 5 ABDOMINAL THRUSTS

Stand behind the victim and wrap your arms around the waist. Place fist with thumb against person's abdomen just above the navel. Grab your fist with the other hand. Quickly pull inward and upward. Take the object out of his mouth only if you can see it. Never do a finger sweep unless you can see the object in the persons mouth.

FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Apply chest thrusts instead of abdominal thrusts. Continue until the foreign object is expelled or they become unconscious.

INFANT - UNDER 1 YEAR OLD

1 GIVE 5 BACK BLOWS

Lay infant face down, along your forearm. Use your thigh or lap for support. Hold chest in your hand and jaw with your fingers. Point head downward, lower than body. Use the heel of your hand to give 5 quick, forceful back blows.

2 5 CHEST THRUSTS

Turn infant face up. Use your thigh or lap for support. Support the head. Place 2 fingers on the middle of breastbone just below the nipples. Give up to 5 quick thrusts down, compressing the chest 1/3 to 1/2 the depth of the chest. Repeat the back blows and chest thrusts if breathing doesn't resume. Call for emergency medical help. Begin infant CPR if one of these techniques opens the airway but the infant doesn't resume breathing.

CLEARING THE AIRWAY OF AN UNCONCIOUS PERSON

1 Lower the person on his or her back onto the floor.

2 Clear the airway. If a blockage is visible at the back of the throat or high in the throat, reach a finger into the mouth and sweep out the cause of the blockage.

3 Begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if the object remains lodged and the person doesn't respond after you follow the procedure.