

STOCKERTOWN NEWS

www.stockertown.org

Volume 16, Issue 1
January 2021



ITEMS OF INTEREST

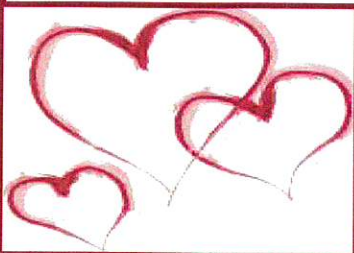
In 2020 your part time Police Department made 30 criminal arrests 14 of which were drug related, 585 traffic citations and other incident reports for a total of 1380 calls.

2021 tax \$ will provide Police and Fire protection, roads, parks, and infrastructure maintenance, trash removal, administrative assistance, and free library access for \$557,485.00

2021 sewer fees will fund the WWTP on \$231,970.00

On December 31, 2020 The Borough's total liquid assets were \$1,317,238.52

Please consider signing onto CodeRED at Stockertown.org so you can receive emergency notices.



2020 IN REVIEW

General Administrative News

- Stockertown's General and Sewer Fund Budgets for 2021 totaling \$789,455 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 2021 will remain at 14 mills for the third year.
- The sewer usage rate for 2021 will remain at \$50 per month per EDU as we transition into the sewer connection with Easton.
- The Borough secured a 30 year general obligation bond in the amount of \$2.89 Million to fund the Sewer Interceptor Project of \$3.7 Million. The Borough received an A+ S&P Rating which translated into an interest rate of 2.2%
- The Borough was awarded a PA H2O Sewer & Storm Water Grant in the amount of \$900,000 to offset the Interceptor Project expenses.
- Tapping Fees were re-evaluated and set at \$4006.00 for new connections.
- Updates were made to the Zoning Ordinance and SALDO, (Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance) dealing with lot sizes, set backs, steep slope development and other regulations, (see minutes of May 2020).
- 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 renews his contract for mowing and lawn care for 2021.
- County Waste's contract continues thru December of 2021 and we remind residents with large items to dispose of, to please hold them until the first Wednesday of the month as they require a special truck for removal. We are one of the last remaining communities to have unlimited trash and the availability to dispose of larger items with no extra charge. As the new contract is negotiated, we can expect changes to those features as well as increased fees.

Police Department

- The Covid issue has made it more difficult to interact safely with the public, but the Department continues to focus on safety by their active pursuit of drug activity and traffic violations within the Borough.
- In June, the Department was awarded a grant in the amount of \$38,769.00 towards the purchase of a 2020 Ford AWD Utility Interceptor. The Borough's grant match will be \$6,000 which will come from the Police Reserve Fund.
- Officer "Sam" is back, as well as Officer Christopher Ritter and our newest hire Officer Fatima Zimmer. We welcome them, we back the Department, and we pray for their continued safety.
- 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 Department installed post and rail fencing along the roadway and areas of the Pond at the Rod and Gun Club.

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BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU TOLERATE. YOU'RE TEACHING PEOPLE HOW TO TREAT YOU.

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
Rosemarie Wenzelberger
A. Joseph Gosnell
Pamela Davis
Renee Cantwell

BOROUGH OFFICE
610 759-8393
Anita Caughy,
Secretary

BOROUGH SOLICITOR
Gary N. Asteak

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

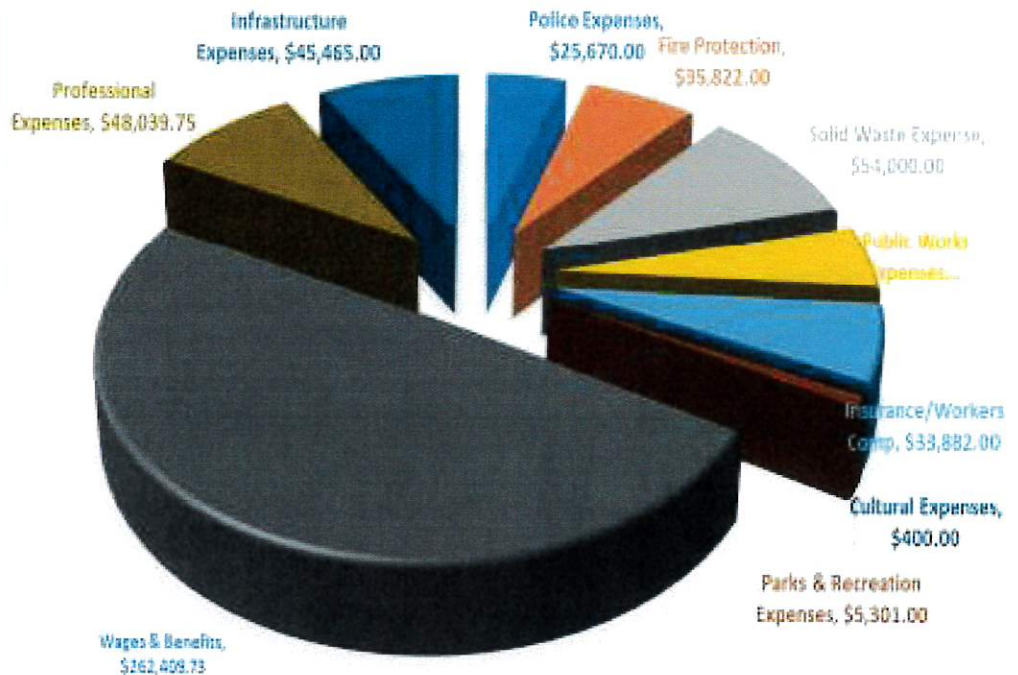
**ZONING OFFICER/
BUILDING INSPECTOR**
John Soloe

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**
Meets as Needed
3rd Tuesday 7:30 PM
Sean Dooley, Chairman
Kathleen Zdonowski
A. Joseph Gosnell
Joel Zingone
Bryce Good

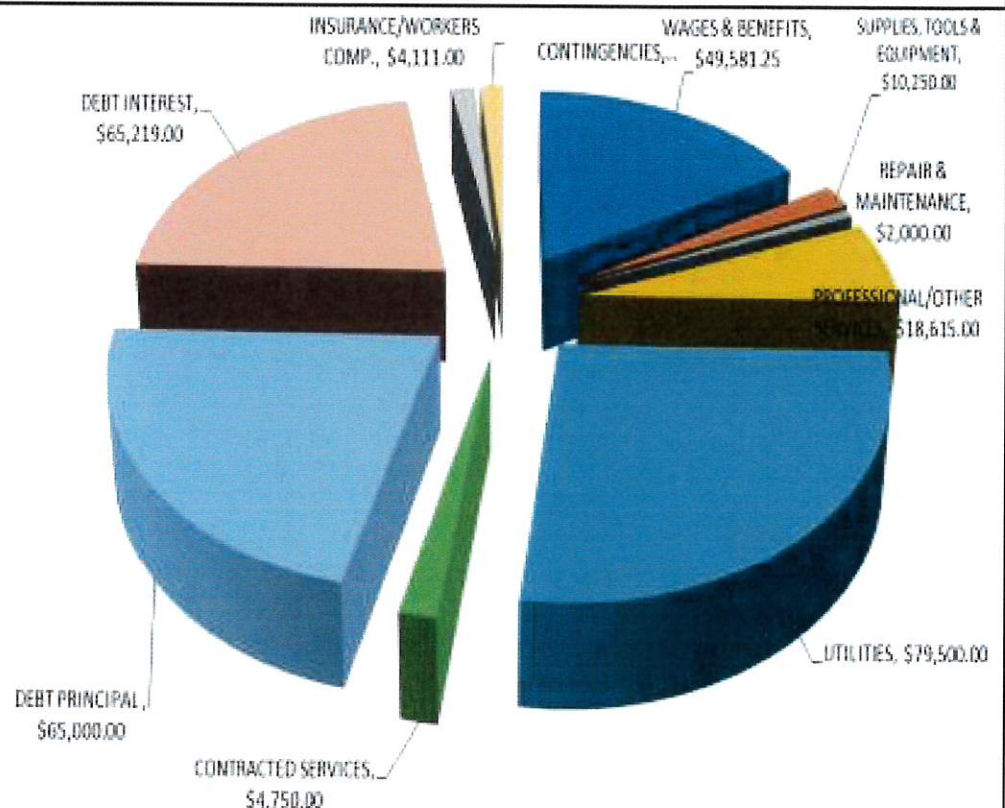
**ZONING HEARING
BOARD** As Needed
Kim Malavolta
Luccienne Dooley
Morgan Schafer

TAX COLLECTOR
610 759-8393

2021 BUDGETED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES



2021 BUDGETED SEWER FUND EXPENDITURES



FOOTNOTES FROM THE BOROUGH

EMERGENCY SERVICES

**STOCKERTOWN
POLICE DEPARTMENT
NON-EMERGENCY**
610 759-2200
610 759-3232, Office
Eric Schwab, Chief
Adam Shimer, OIC
Nicholas Ross
Christopher Ritter
Samira Sabbagh
Fatima Zimmer

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-animal-center.org

- **During heavy rain and flooding events** such as Hurricane Isaias, please **do not** route your sump pump or other flood waters to your sewer connection. It is unlawful and punishable by law to route stormwater of any type to the sewer system.
- **During a SNOW EMERGENCY all vehicles must be removed from the streets.** 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

Continued from page one...

- The PW Department provided snow removal, road and trail maintenance, and WWTP operation. There were several sewer line blockages again in 2020 resulting from grease and fabric items (flushable wipes, disposable towels etc.), which required a Jetter/Vacuum truck to clear the blockages. As these blockages become more frequent, the cost of an emergency Jetter call may soon outweigh the option of obtaining our own Jetter vehicle.
- The Department continues 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.
- The Department will seek estimates to resurface the roads in Long's Development and Birch Street as they are now 15 + years "used".

**"I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction.
The world will have a generation of idiots"** Albert Einstein

2021 STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH SCHEDULE



INDICATES DAY / DATE OF MEETING - BOROUGH COUNCIL
 INDICATES DAY / DATE OF MEETING - BUDGET MEETINGS
 INDICATES DAY / DATE OF MEETING - PLANNING COMMISSION
 INDICATES NON-WEDNESDAY GARBAGE PICK UP
 INDICATES PAID HOLIDAY
 INDICATES ELECTION DAY

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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31						

February						
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28						

March						
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May						
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June						
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July						
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August						
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September						
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October						
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November						
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December						
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