

# STOCKERTOWN NEWS

[www.stockertown.org](http://www.stockertown.org)



## ITEMS OF INTEREST

2024 Tax \$ will provide fire protection, roads, parks, and infrastructure maintenance, trash removal, administrative assistance, free library access, and eventually a Borough Police Department for **\$722,508.00**

2024 sewer fees will fund sewer service with EAJSA for **\$265,296.00**

As of December 30, 2023, the Borough's total liquid assets were **\$1,087,382.00**

**CHECK ON ELDERLY NEIGHBORS AND PETS DURING WINTER WEATHER.**



## 2023 IN REVIEW

### General Administrative News

- Stockertown's General and Sewer Fund Budgets for 2024 totaling \$958,927 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 has been fixed at 18 mills again for 2024. Despite the increases in insurances, utilities and wages, there were no enormous legal fees like those incurred in 2022-2023 from the Police Department issues.
- The sewer usage rate for 2024 will remain at \$50 per month per EDU. Tapping Fees are set at \$4,006 per EDU for each new connection.
- The annual fee for Fire Protection provided by Forks Township, 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 lawn care agreement has been renewed for 2024.
- The Borough has hired Suzanne Borzak of KeyCodes to provide zoning and inspection services. She is in house once a week to address prior and current zoning violations, permits, and general information. She is a welcome asset.

### Police Department Update

- While efforts continue to restructure the Police Department, the scarcity of experienced and reputable law enforcement candidates remains a problem. Be assured that every effort is focused on creating a creditable Police Department that the residents expect and deserve.
- During this interim period, the PA State Police will continue to provide coverage. They have assured us that they have their eye on our community, which is evident by their increased visibility and prompt responses to vehicular and domestic issues. Most recently, a potentially dangerous situation occurred within the Borough that was swiftly handled by PSP, its patrol unit, and their special emergency response team, (SERT) and was resolved within a short time. This incident provided an example of the coordinated efforts of PSP, Forks Fire, Emergency Management and Public Works to secure the area so PSP could engage and safely resolve the situation,

### Public Works Department

- The PW Department provided snow removal, road and trail maintenance, leaf and branch pickup among their many jobs. This past fall, the borough contracted to have dead trees topped along the Rails to Trails to avoid potential injury from falling limbs. PW will continue branch removal as time permits.
- PW continually monitors portions of the sewer lines that are suspect to backup issues. The Borough will always be responsible for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the sewer lines within the Borough, but we need your help to prevent unnecessary blockages. Please remember, like our former WWTP (waste water treatment plant), Easton's Sewer System does not permit the disposal of flushable wipes, feminine products, grease, etc. The sewer system is NOT a garbage disposal. Blockages can also occur in our lines



**DIRECTORY**

**BOROUGH MAYOR**  
 Rosemarie Wenzelberger

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

**BOROUGH OFFICE**  
 610 759-8393  
 Candy Keller Garrity, Secretary/Tax Collector

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR**  
 Gary N. Asteak

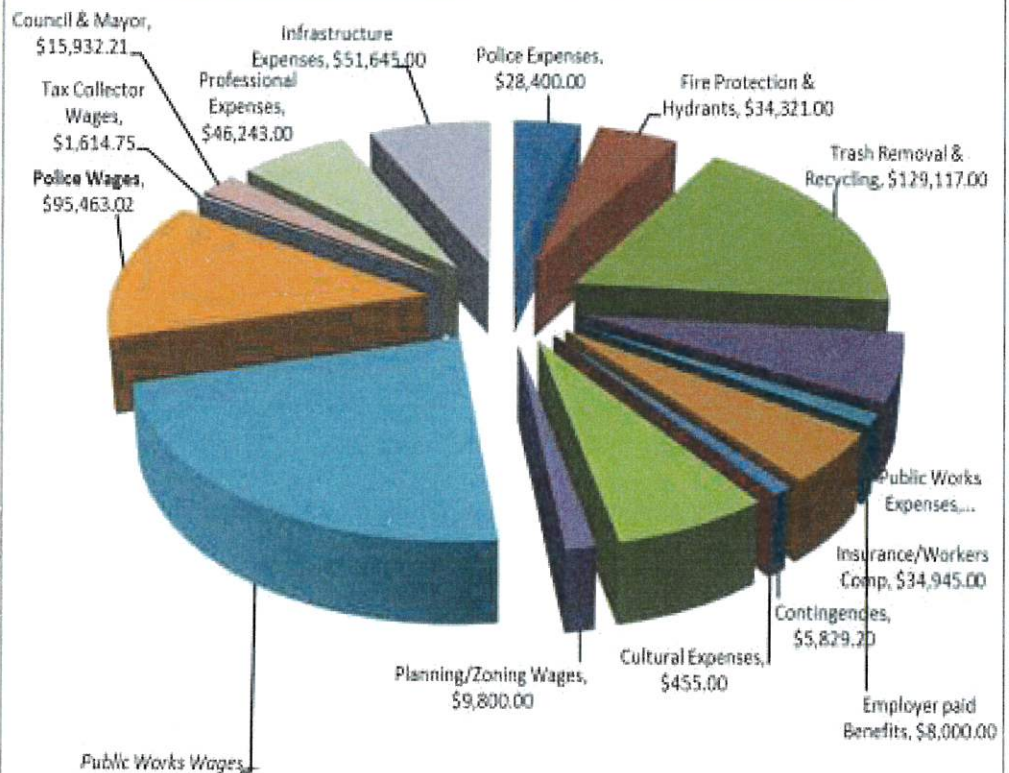
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.**  
 Kenneth Zemencsik, Director  
 Zachary Zemencsik  
 Kamron Zemencsik

**ZONING OFFICER/  
 BUILDING INSPECTOR**  
 Suzanne Borzak

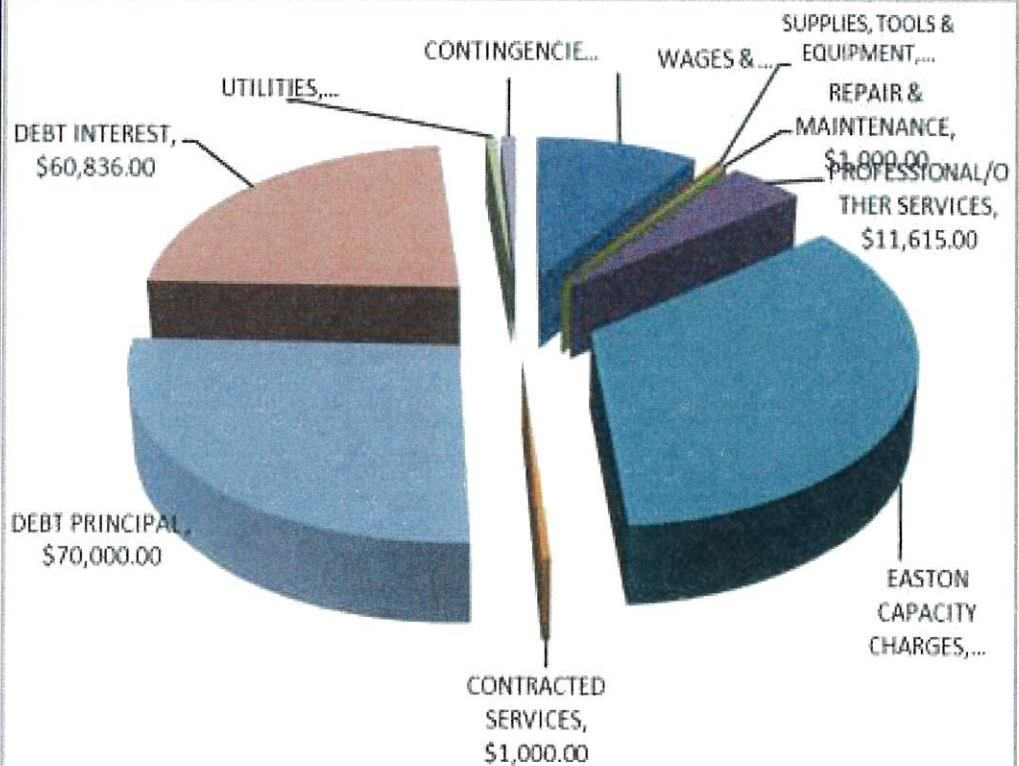
**PLANNING COMMISSION**  
 meets as Needed  
 4th Tuesday 7:00 PM  
 Sean Dooley, Chairman  
 Bryce Good, Secretary  
 Kathleen Zdonowski  
 A. Joseph Gosnell

**ZONING HEARING BOARD**  
 Meets as Needed  
 Kim Malavolta  
 Lucienne Dooley  
 Morgan Schafer

**2024 BUDGETED GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES**



**2024 BUDGETED SEWER FUND EXPENDITURES**



## FOOTNOTES FROM THE BOROUGH

- **During heavy rain and flooding events** 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 into 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. The parking lots on State Street, and the Center Street Trail head will be plowed for off street parking during snow events to enable plows to clean the whole street and avoid possible damage to vehicles.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Please** have identification tags on your pets, (cats and dogs), and make every effort to contain and protect them from traffic and harsh weather.
- **Bulk Pickup:** Anyone with large items to be disposed of may put out 1 large item per week on Wednesdays. No TVs, refrigerators or tires.

➔ with the potential of causing raw sewage overflow or residential backup.

- The Borough was awarded several grants during 2023. They include \$150,000 toward Lincoln Street reconstruction, \$72,210 for a 2022 Ford 550 crew cab truck with snow plow and salt spreader, and \$69,497 for a 2023 track loader with snow thrower attachment. In addition, our PW men won a \$5,500+ line striper while attending a Seal Master seminar. A replacement zero turn mower was also purchased for use on the Trail, We are awaiting a decision, expected this spring, on a second grant application needed to complete the Lincoln Street project.

### Planning Commission

- Planning members continue to review the Borough's current zoning regulations comparing them to the comprehensive plan.

**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

*Think about this.....* "As we watch the sun go down, evening after evening, through the smog across the poisoned waters of our native earth, we must ask ourselves seriously whether we really wish some future universal historian on another planet to say this about us: *"With all their genius and with all their skill, they ran out of foresight and air and food and water and ideas," "They went on playing politics until their world collapsed around them."* Speech of 1970 47 years ago.

*U Thant, Secretary General of United Nations. 1961 -1971*



## EMERGENCY SERVICES

**COUNTY  
NON-EMERGENCY  
610 759-2200**

Pennsylvania State Police, Belfast is providing protection for the Borough.

# 911

**FORKS VOLUNTEER  
FIRE COMPANY  
Fire Chief  
Jevin Russo**

**State Representative  
Ann Flood  
610 746-2100**

**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**

**D.E.P. 610 861-2070  
Dept of Environmental  
Protection**

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



## 2024 STOCKERTOWN BOROUGH SCHEDULE

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

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

March						
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24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

April						
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28	29	30				

May						
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June						
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23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

July						
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August						
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September						
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29	30					

October						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

November						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## SOMETHING FOR YOU

We have a suggestion box in the vestibule by the Secretary’s window. Please feel free to offer your comments and suggestions, criticisms and praise as you see fit. You do not need to sign your name, although it would allow us to respond to your concerns. No profanities please. You will also find newsletters, current notices and information of interest on the table.