



ADAMSTOWN BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

2ND QUARTER 2020

Sam Toffy – Secretary
Lisa Crouse – Treasurer/Bookkeeper
Mike Palm – Public Works Superintendent
John Schmidt – Mayor

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Office Hours M-Th 9:00AM – 1:00PM or by appointment

Council Members:

Randy Good, Pres. Dave Matz, V. Pres.
Alex McManimen Mark Bansner
deLyn Alumbaugh Randell Weaver
Jerry Thomason

Upcoming Council Meetings: May 5, Jun 2 & Jul 7. All meetings are held in the Borough municipal building unless otherwise advertised beginning at 7:00PM. The public is encouraged to attend.

Rental Property Owners – Please see that your tenants receive a copy of the quarterly newsletter. Extra copies are available at the borough office. Newsletters can also be viewed on the borough website.

Adamstown Borough Municipal Office

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, borough walk-in service will be closed to the public until further notice. Permit applications and forms can be downloaded from our website and can be mailed or scanned then emailed to our office for processing. We are taking phone calls during regular office hours and are responding to emails regularly. Office access is currently available by appointment only for necessary business only.



2020 Real Estate Tax Bill Payments

Please be aware that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, open office hours with the Borough Tax Collector to pay 2020 real estate tax bills April 25th through the 30th **WILL NOT** be offered this year. Please mail all payments to: Rosemary Johnston, Adamstown Borough Tax Collector, P.O. Box 955, Adamstown, PA 19501. There will also be a lock box available outside her office to drop payments off. If you require a receipt of payment, be sure to include a self-addressed stamped envelope along with your payment. If you have any questions, the Tax Collector can be reached at 717-484-4423.

Street Sweeping

Due the mild winter we had which resulted in minimal use of salt and cinders as well as the current health concerns, street sweeping which was scheduled for May 5th and 6th has been indefinitely postponed.

2019 Annual Water Quality Report

Our constant goal is to provide you with a dependable supply of drinking water. We make every effort to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. The 2019 Annual Water Quality Report is now available for review! Detailed information can be found on our hallway bulletin board or on our borough website at the following link:

<http://www.adamstownborough.org/DocumentCenter/View/278/Annual-CCR-2019-Adamstown>

Spring Cleanup

Due to the uncertainty of the garbage disposal company's scheduling resulting from the COVID-19 situation, we will not be offering spring leaf pickup dates. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Dog Leash Ordinance

At its meeting on April 7th, Council adopted Ordinance 404, an amendment to Chapter 85 (Animals) to add a new Article III, Control of Animals. The Ordinance states that it shall be unlawful for the owner, custodian or keeper of any dog to allow such dog to run at large at any time, either upon any of the streets, alleys or public grounds in the Borough or upon the property of anyone other than the owner, custodian or keeper of such dog. Please comply to avoid enforcement action and penalties.

Protect our Watershed

A watershed is the area of land that drains to a specific body of water. Everyone lives in a watershed. In Lancaster County there are over 1,400 miles of streams and creeks. Of this total, nearly 50% of these streams are impaired or polluted according to the PADEP. You as a property owner have a responsibility to do your part to help protect our watershed. For more interesting information, please visit <http://lancasterwatersheds.org/>

A Message from Our Mayor

I've spent most of my professional career in emergency services as a firefighter, EMT, and a supervisor with the American Red Cross in Philadelphia. In December, when I learned that the mayor's position was open I was curious. When I found out the mayor's responsibilities includes emergency management and acting as the borough's liaison between the police, fire, and EMS departments, I was very interested. On January 1st, I assumed the duties of mayor. One of my first actions was to take the FEMA courses necessary for certification to become an Emergency Management Coordinator. I remember thinking that, while taking these courses is necessary, I could never, ever imagine our borough let alone the rest of the country facing the challenges we are now experiencing. Today, I feel honored to be in this position and work with so many talented individuals.

Our borough council members consist of 7 very dedicated elected officials. While I have only had a few instances of needing their vote or input on an issue, they are always supportive and act for the good of the Adamstown community. Our borough administrative staff and public works personnel are conscientious, dedicated, and some of the best people I've ever had the pleasure of working with.

The Ephrata Police Department is comprised of professional officers and quality leadership. I receive phone calls from their chief once or twice a week. If he isn't calling to relay information, it's to stay abreast of any issues or concerns that council or myself may have.

Adamstown Fire Company and our three EMS providers are professional in their duties and actions. Now, more than ever before, we should all salute these individuals. These same people who run into burning buildings are now providing aid to our sick and injured while potentially exposing themselves to this life threatening virus.

Lastly, I want to talk about FEMA/PEMA/LEMA (Lancaster Emergency Management Agency) and their professional leadership during this crisis. I receive daily or twice daily situation reports that are always clear, in depth charts, graphs, statistics, and itemized reports that give a daily overview of how Lancaster County is fairing. I've had occasional conversation with them regarding issues or concerns and again, they are always responsive to my needs.

One final note from FEMA and our police department: The county emergency 911 center is getting overwhelmed with non-emergent calls. If you feel you need to call to report an issue involving our community and COVID-19, PLEASE call the police department's non-emergency number at 717-738-9200. You may have to wait for an answer but someone will answer.

Stay safe, stay home!
Mayor John

May Council Meeting

The May Council meeting will be held on May 5th at 7PM at the Adamstown Borough Wastewater Treatment Plant located at 235 E. Swartzville Road, Denver. As with the April meeting, the agenda will be limited to only those items necessary for discussion. Those who attend will be required to practice social distancing.

Adamstown Borough Business Owners

Mayor Schmidt has been reaching out to business owners in the borough via email to share information pertaining to the government's Paycheck Protection Program. If you have not been contacted by the Mayor via email, and would like to receive this important information, please provide us with your email contact information so it can be passed along to the Mayor. Please feel free to contact our office by phone (717-484-2280) or by email (office@adamstownborough.org) to be added to his contact list. Thank you!

Community Days 2020

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, we regretfully announce that Community Days which was scheduled for May 22nd through May 24th has been cancelled this year. Bingo, which was scheduled for April 26th from 2PM to 5PM, has also been cancelled. To date, fall Appleumpkin Fest is still scheduled to be held in October.

Grove Rental

With social distancing being a requirement right now, those of you who have reserved the grove this spring to enjoy a fun family picnic or special event are able to choose another available date in 2020. To change the date of your reservation, please feel free to contact the borough office at 717-484-2280 or email office@adamstownborough.org.

