

2016



Council President Allen Coffman &
Mayor Darren Brown at the Water Wheel
by Downtown's Falling Spring Creek

ANNUAL REPORT

+ 2017 FORECAST

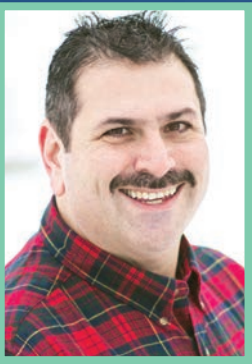
The Only Town in Pennsylvania with All Services & Utilities:

ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION • ELECTRIC GENERATION • WATER • SEWER • TRASH • STORMWATER
NATURAL GAS • POLICE • EMERGENCY SERVICES • LAND USE • RECREATION • PUBLIC WORKS

Published April 2017

2017 - A YEAR OF MAJOR CONSTRUCTION

By Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager & Director of Utilities



Once in a lifetime, the elected officials of a municipality make decisions, that will impact future generations by laying out construction projects to reshape the look of the town. In 2016, Town Council took steps to make two very large municipal construction decisions, which will be evident in 2017: the

construction of a large complex municipal swimming and aquatic center at Memorial Park, and the construction of the first addition to City Hall in 47 years. In addition, a private developer, in this case Summit Health, continues to change the face of the Norland Avenue neighborhood.

The Borough of Chambersburg has undergone significant changes in the last generation. Some of it is gradual and therefore unnoticed. To those who recall what Chambersburg once was, the community has evolved. We are tracking trends which have had a significant impact on the transformation of our community. Chambersburg has undergone a lot of development. Despite the economic downturn of the years 2009-2014, Chambersburg over the last quarter century has seen development growth well above the average for Pennsylvania.

We have new neighborhoods filled with residential development and more than one hundred residential units are already approved for future construction. We have new neighborhoods filled with retail development. The Norland Avenue neighborhood has the highest per acre land value in Franklin County. We have new families and seniors moving to Chambersburg to enjoy our low cost of living. While our population has only grown by single digit percentage points, in and of itself that is remarkable given the demographics of our town. The new transplants, unburdened by tradition or bias are driving the demand for new services, new utilities and new opportunities for our community. Whether it is the new eateries of downtown, the new parks and recreation services, or our extensive programs to address parking and traffic, Chambersburg's local government is involved in the major initiatives and major projects that will change the face of our community. 2017 will be a remarkable year with major municipal construction projects and the completion of the largest municipal construction project in Chambersburg history, our upgraded sanitary sewer processing facility off Hollywell Avenue.

2017 will be another year of major municipal construction.

The Memorial Park Pool

Chambersburg Memorial Park is a 37 acre park providing several amenities. Far from the Borough's only park, Chambersburg has preserved open space throughout the community. All the community parks are listed on the Borough's website. In addition to Memorial Park, the Borough had to remind citizens that 6 acres of open space was preserved right off Norland Avenue at Parkwood Drive. The John Redding Memorial Park is an example of a new park set in our most heavily developing part of town.

The Chambersburg Pool, located at 1 Memorial Drive off of Stouffer Avenue, is inside the Chambersburg Memorial Park grounds.

A 2009 pool consultant evaluation was done by Wade & Associates. At the conclusion of that evaluation, Town Council elected to do only minor additional fixes to the facility to extend its useful life. The general feeling was that despite excellent preventative maintenance, the facility is both reaching the end of its useful life as well as no longer meeting the desired market for municipal facilities. Unfortunately, the fiscal realities of operating a municipal pool facility impacted the final decision of Town Council with respect to how to proceed.

In 2015, Town Council authorized the Recreation Department to hire an aquatic engineering and design firm with sufficient knowledge and experience to assist our staff with evaluation of our existing municipal pool complex. The consultant selected, the team of MKSD architects and Councilman-Hunsaker aquatics, identified issues of technical, health, safety, and mechanical in nature, proposed conceptual solutions including a variety of choices and alternatives and worked with the Town Council in preparing for a public debate on the cost-benefit of the various alternatives, which would extend the useful life of this important community asset for generations.

The old Chambersburg Memorial Pool is no normal pool. Unlike a backyard pool, the old pool is a vast system of concrete and pipe as large as any big-city pool in Philadelphia or New York.

On January 25, 2016, MKSD and Councilman-Hunsaker presented a new Aquatics Feasibility Study and 3 alternate action plans for the renovation or replacement of the Pool in 2017 or 2018. The Study presented project goals, a feasibility process, an audit of existing conditions and options for consideration. The consultants discussed both physical obsolescence (i.e. aging facility - codes and standards) as well as functional obsolescence (i.e. definition of aquatics - user expectations of a modern pool facility).

The consultants gave Council three choices: repair the existing pool facility for \$2.89 million, renovate and improve the existing pool facility for \$6.3 million or replace the entire facility with a modern family aquatic facility



1996



2016

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for \$6.9 million. The consultants reviewed the three options and on February 22, 2016, Council selected a complete replacement of the entire pool facility.

On March 14, 2016, Town Council dismissed any talk of a pool bond referendum vote and instead decided to move ahead with borrowing enough money through a dedicated recreation bond issue to pay for the upgrade of the pool, as well as a dozen other recreation related infrastructure projects. It was decided that the Borough would borrow \$9.75 million and that Council would levy a dedicated recreation tax, beginning in 2018, to retire that debt. It was understood that this would be the source of the \$6.9 million to \$7.25 million needed to build a new aquatic facility and get it operational. Please note that any project that costs \$6.9 million to build has many other "soft" or related expenses, such as permitting, on-site construction management, legal costs, and contingencies. This is how the construction of large projects progress. Council understands that this would be a very expensive undertaking.

On September 19, 2016, Town Council approved the recreation bond sale for \$9.75 million. It is estimated that beginning in 2018, a Borough-wide assessment of 3 mil of property tax will be needed to retire this debt. The proceeds of this sale are sitting in a dedicated account and the 2017 Budget includes the use of this money to build this new swimming facility as well as the first of the other construction projects, the completion of the Nicholson Square Park Build Out (a match to existing State grant applications) of \$266,242.

The new Memorial Park swimming pool/aquatic center will take almost a year to build. At the same time, the Borough is committed to beginning the first phase of the second project to be paid for by Council's Recreation Bond, the Nicholson Square Park improvements in the First Ward.

The bids for the pool project arrived at MKSD on Thursday, January 19, 2017. The total construction cost of the project is estimated to be around \$7.125 million, but we are still fine tuning the details. The construction is anticipated to begin by April 2017 and last throughout 2017. It is our hope to have the new aquatic facility open in 2018; the spray pad section might open sooner.

This is not an ordinary municipal swimming pool and its construction will not be an ordinary municipal project.

I appreciate that Council held a half dozen public meetings before undertaking this project and it is the pledge of staff to attempt to meet their expectations for this project over the next year.



SPRAYGROUND <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1,215 SF (bather load – 48-60)• Interactive play equipment	ACTIVITY POOL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5497 SF (bather load – 458)• Zero depth entry• Interactive play feature• Lazy river
TOT POOL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 715 SF (bather load – 59)• ADA ramp entry• Interactive play equipment• Tot slide	LAP POOL <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7065 SF (bather load – 515)• Six (6) 7'-0" wide lap lanes• Three (3) waterslides• Waterwalk crossing activity
Total bather load = 1080-1092	



In July and September 2013, the Borough of Chambersburg Water Department took ownership of the properties adjacent to City Hall, 220 E Queen Street and 216 E Queen Street respectively. The acquisitions were for the purposes of planning for a potential Utility Departments' addition to City Hall.

In 2014, SGS Architects Engineers, Inc. of Carlisle Pennsylvania performed a Needs Analysis where they evaluated City Hall and the Police Annex for future office space needs of the Borough. That Needs Analysis was presented in December 2014. The conclusion of the Needs Analysis was that the Borough utility departments, and more importantly the utility support departments, were clearly out of space in City Hall.

The first part of City Hall, the clock tower, was built in 1830 and survived the Burning of Chambersburg. A series of additions expanded the clock tower by adding pieces onto the building. In modern times, a major renovation was done in 1957, when much of the north part of City Hall was constructed or reconstructed. Then, in 1971, the Police Department and Council Chambers addition was added to the 1957 structure. That addition was 46 years ago. Since then, other than regular maintenance and updating the windows, the building has remained unchanged. Since 1970, the population of the Borough has increased 19% and technology including surveillance cameras, high speed data lines, servers, and many more employees has been stuffed in every nook and cranny of the facility. In addition, the building is definitely not up to modern standards of building codes or light, ventilation or safety standards. Especially wrong is that our employees of the Chambersburg Police Department are crammed into the basement of City Hall's 1971 addition near the boiler room.

In 2015, a Building Committee of Town Council was formed who met and talked about City Hall and other potential sites or concepts for utility department office space needs. At the conclusion of that discussion, it was recommended by staff that Town Council proceed with the design of a Utility Departments Addition to City Hall for the Queen Street side of this building. Any talk of renovating the existing old building would be placed on the back burner while a modern addition was placed on the east side of the existing building and interconnected. That modern addition would take pressure off renovating the existing complex old building.

In the summer of 2015, the lot on the east of City Hall was cleared of the homes and their foundations. SGS Architects Engineers, Inc. of Carlisle presented a project scope to develop a design for the efficient usage of this adjacent property. On June 8, 2015, Town Council approved undertaking the design stage to evaluate the utility departments of the Borough in terms of public access, safety, office needs, technology, parking, etc. The SGS team met and worked with the Building Committee of Town Council to insure that their vision for the addition is being met. Every detail was discussed at these meetings.

On November 23, 2015, the SGS team presented their recommended vision for a Utility Departments Addition for City Hall. Deliverables for the project included the full design of the addition, layout and construction cost estimate of \$9.25 million. The new addition doubles the size of City Hall.

On February 8, 2016 Council authorized staff to enter into phase 2 of the existing Professional Services Agreement with SGS Architects Engineers for the purpose of developing engineering, blueprints, and bid specifications for the Utility Departments' Addition to City Hall.

The bids for the project were opened by SGS on Wednesday, November 2, 2016. There were five bidders and the bids were evaluated for compliance and construction was awarded in early 2017 to ECI Construction of Dillsburg, Pennsylvania. It is anticipated that total construction cost of the project will be \$9.725 million, including furnishings and a security system, which were not included in the construction bids.

Expanding City Hall... Continued from Page 3

It is anticipated that construction will begin in April 2017. The disruption to the City Hall property will be unprecedented. We hope that Council and the public cooperate to allow us to continue to use the City Hall property even during construction. There is a plan. The drive through window may not operate well during construction. The Police Department will have serious parking problems. The public will not be allowed to park behind City Hall. The dust, dirt, traffic, noise, and crowds will be disruptive to employees and patrons of City Hall. City Hall will remain open but folks must understand that the area will function differently during construction over the next two years.

The Borough has entered into a lease agreement with Kerrstown Square in order to relocate about 25% of the City Hall employees away from City Hall during construction. Kerrstown Square is a half a block away, from City Hall, has nearby Borough owned parking, is reasonably priced and ready for use. While moving 25% of our staff into a temporary facility is also disruptive, there is no way that this project could move forward without this temporary arrangement. The 2017 Budget includes sufficient resources for this temporary relocation. Most employees who move will be of a "back-office" type and not have public visits to their offices.

There is no doubt that building a Utility Departments' Addition for City Hall is expensive. However, if managed properly, this project, which focuses on utility uses, should cause no increase in taxes at all. Further, while it is never a guarantee, financing a building project at today's low interest rates should provide a new facility that will last the Borough at least 50 years (think back to the 1971 decision to build the Police Department and Council Chambers addition) and will be paid back by the utility departments through a mortgage on the building over a twenty-five year time frame.

This is a very significant construction project for the Borough; the first such decision in half a century. However, by living with and working in this building, and seeing the explosive growth of the utility departments and their support departments (i.e. finance, information systems, and personnel), it has become clear that this is both the most cost effective strategy and the least cost option for the Borough.

These two construction projects, the Memorial Park Pool and the Utility Departments Addition to City Hall, will occupy much time and effort in 2017. However, they are far from our only projects.

North Chambersburg Transportation Improvements Project

Chambersburg Health Services (Summit Health) has engaged in a collaborative partnership with the Borough of Chambersburg and Greene Township, Franklin County, to advance a multifaceted transportation improvements project known as the North Chambersburg Improvements Project.

The North Chambersburg Improvements Project is comprised of the following four phases:

1. Extension of St. Paul Drive to connect with Parkwood Drive in the Borough of Chambersburg
2. Extension of Parkwood Drive in the Borough of Chambersburg to connect to the intersection of Kohler and Grand Point Roads in Greene Township
3. Improvements to the Norland Avenue & Fifth Avenue Intersection
4. Extension of Fifth Avenue northward to meet Parkwood Drive (NEW PHASE ADDED)



Goal of Building Municipal Projects

In April 2014, Moody's downgraded Chambersburg's General Obligation credit rating from Aa2 to Aa3. They stated that our financial outlook remains stable. "Chambersburg's financial position has stabilized after four years of decline, with positive operations in fiscal 2012..." They added "Significantly increased General Fund balance and growth in available reserve levels" would improve our credit rating. They added that they are looking for "Substantial growth in the borough's tax base and socioeconomic profile."

How does a community improve its "socioeconomic profile"? We have new neighborhoods filled with residential development and more than one hundred residential units are already approved for future construction. We have new neighborhoods filled with retail development. These major infrastructure improvements are a part of a trend. The Borough is positioning itself for the next century of infrastructure needs. We are not allowing lackluster leadership on the State and Federal level to derail our goals of restoring and expanding infrastructure needs (water, sewer, electric, gas, stormwater, traffic signals, municipal facilities, and recreation amenities) necessary for our community to be a regional leader for generations to come.

2017 will be another year of major municipal construction.

This multi-municipal, multi-faceted project will directly unleash the economic potential and improve the safety and functionality of this growing commercial corridor. The total cost of the North Chambersburg Improvements Project, in excess of \$4 million, couldn't be supported by the Chambersburg Health Services or its municipal partners alone. As a result, a grant application was submitted to PennDOT's Multimodal Transportation Fund, which resulted in an award of \$2,869,907 in financial assistance. On June 23, 2014, Town Council approved the project plan.

Summit Health will manage this construction project, which began in 2016. Three engineering firms, Dennis E Black Engineering, Traffic Planning & Design, and KPI Engineering, have teamed up to work with Summit Health to design improvements, which will eventually be dedicated to the Borough of Chambersburg and Greene Township. On November 9, 2015, Town Council approved the conceptual design of the improvements. A second approval will be needed shortly to add the fourth phase to the original three phases scope of the project.

The Borough Engineering Department will have to work very closely with the selected contractors to insure that work is of a quality and specification to meet, not only PennDOT specifications, but the Borough standards of construction. This is a major infrastructure project on the Borough's northern corporate boundary, which will significantly impact current and future traffic patterns in the Borough.

2017 - A YEAR OF STEADY GROWTH

By Jeffrey Stonehill, Borough Manager & Director of Utilities

Every two years, the Borough of Chambersburg holds a municipal election. In that election, the seats of half of the ten voting members of Town Council come due. There are ten members because Chambersburg Borough is separated into five geographic wards and each ward has two representatives on Town Council. There is a ward map on the Borough website. There was no municipal election in 2016. In November 2017, the seats of half of Town Council will come due. Chambersburg is organized under a State Law called the Pennsylvania Borough Code. According to this law, the Mayor is elected once every four years by all five wards. The Mayor has several roles: they are a non-voting member of Town Council, the Mayor approves or disapproves new local laws (or the Annual Budget) that were approved by Town Council, the Mayor breaks tie votes of Town Council if one should happen, and they manage the Borough's Police Department operations. Unlike big cities, in a Borough, the Mayor is not the head of government. The President of Town Council, one of the ward representatives selected by the other members of Town Council, is the Chief Executive Officer of the municipality. The Borough Manager, a non-partisan certified government professional is hired by the Town Council to be the Chief Administrative Officer of the municipality. Not every Borough has a Borough Manager, however, Chambersburg has had the position for decades, and the Borough Manager also serves as the manager of the Borough's extensive utility operations; holding the position Director of Utilities.

In November 2017, seats held by Allen B. Coffman, representing the First Ward, John "Sean" A. Scott III, representing the Second Ward, Louisa "Lou" C. Cowles, representing the Third Ward, Jeremy D. Cate, representing the Fourth Ward, Heath E. Talhelm, representing the Fifth Ward will be up for election.

In addition, the seat held by Darren Brown as Mayor (Elected At Large), Brenda Hill as Tax Collector (Elected At Large), and Glenn K. Manns, Magisterial District Judge 39-2-01 (Elected At Large), will be up for election.

The winner of these contests will take their seats in the beginning of January 2018. At the very first meeting in January 2018, Town Council will select one of their own as Council President, Council Vice President, and other appointed Council positions of their choice.

The Borough of Chambersburg municipal government only serves and represents the residents and businesses of the five wards of Chambersburg. This is an often confusing fact for citizens. The surrounding townships of Greene, Guilford, and Hamilton have their own municipal governments. The Chambersburg Area School District is completely independent and has their own elected officials. Finally, zip codes are for mail and do not tell you where you live or who represents you in local government.

Many years ago this all made much more sense. It could take time to bring your goods from your farm in St. Thomas to the market in Chambersburg. It might take all day to ride the train to Harrisburg. Finally, the issues that impacted one town seemed far remote from another town. Technology and media have closed the gap on time and distance. We are all interconnected in our economy, our issues of importance, our public sector challenges, but not our local government. Sometimes one only needs to stand on the Borough boundary, known as the corporate line, and look across from one side of the imaginary line to the other to figure how little these boxes or silos make sense.

The 2017 Budget, adopted by Town Council in December 2016, has intergovernmental cooperation as a theme. Chambersburg is the urbanized core of a suburban/rural county. Inside the Borough, residents are not sharing in the wealth created to the same extent that wealth is being seen in our neighboring townships. However, we are one economy, one set of economic policies, and one community by identity. How many folks say they live in Chambersburg when they live outside of the Borough? These issues can only be ignored at our mutual peril. Intergovernmental cooperation is an imperative to regional success.

Recent fiscal history has been challenging. It is an honor for staff to prepare the Annual Budget as a strategic plan for our municipality. Our fiscal year, our budget year, is the same as the calendar year. Therefore, each fall, the Borough needs to make important decisions to set in motion for the following year. A budget is a plan - it is not an accounting of money but rather a forecast of how much revenue the Borough anticipates it will collect and how many expenses it plans on incurring. One might call it a spending plan. The accounting or record of past transactions is called the audit. In Chambersburg, our annual audit or Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) is published each spring. For many years the Borough's audit has been award-winning. However, the budget is adopted each December by Town Council. Therefore, each fall the Borough makes important decisions for the upcoming year based on forecasts, trends, analysis of revenues, and the expenses that are anticipated for the upcoming year.

Chambersburg Borough has the most complex budget in Pennsylvania. Unlike every other town, including big cities, Chambersburg has over a dozen separate funds (accounts) because all the utilities are kept segregated from the other operations of the Borough. Chambersburg's fiscal size is the eleventh largest in the State of Pennsylvania and the largest Borough; because of the utilities. We use cost based accounting. Like a law firm or doctor, many employees bill their time and equipment to the various functions upon which they are working. So, many transactions are money being spent between the separate funds, to cover expenses; back and forth, thousands of internal transactions. This makes Chambersburg a unique government organization.

Chambersburg is one of 35 boroughs in Pennsylvania to own and operate an electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is one of two municipalities in Pennsylvania to own and operate a gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Chambersburg is one of around 2,000 communities to own an electric system and one of 800 communities to own a gas system; but one of only about 50 to own both. Chambersburg operates a regional water system and a regional sanitary sewer system; not through an independent Authority or an intermunicipal board, but under Council control directly. Chambersburg operates a trash utility, a parking utility, and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater.

Almost all the employees of the Borough and most of the equipment of the Borough is owned and operated by our utility departments (Electric, Gas, Water, Sewer and Sanitation Departments) and our utility support departments (engineering, motor equipment, and administrative services). Your taxes do not support any utility operations, personnel or equipment. Further, as the budget document reveals, the Borough's utility rates are very reasonable.

Most of the Borough's utilities are on sound fiscal footing. The Electric Department has seen significant growth through the aggressive management of our wholesale electric costs. The Sewer Department is working diligently on controlling costs to maximize the existing revenue from our customers. The Water Department has had no water rate increase since 2001 despite growing operational costs. The Gas Department has the lowest residential heat rate in the State of Pennsylvania, and successfully manages its finances.

So why can't we just take utility money and pay for police officers and firefighters? Because the Borough cannot wholesale move funds from utilities, which are kept in separate accounts, to the General Fund to pay for fire, police or parks. Nor would this be fair to utility customers. Also, the Electric Department and the Gas Department already make a Payment in Lieu of Gross Receipts Taxes (PILOTs) to the General Fund. If these two departments were private corporations, they would pay taxes to the Commonwealth, as such, they are tax exempt. So instead, they pay their taxes to support your General Fund (police, fire, ambulance, highway, and recreation) activities. State law does not allow the Sewer Department to make similar payments. We could ask the Water Department to pay taxes but we have not done so in years.

So while most of the budget deals with the complex issues of running utilities, the issue that gets the most attention is the real estate tax; which is only a Police Tax and a Fire Tax.

2017 - A YEAR OF STEADY GROWTH... CONTINUED

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Until 2014, 100% of the real estate taxes collected by the Borough of Chambersburg were used exclusively to support the Chambersburg Police Department. In 2014, a small share was added to support apparatus operated by the Chambersburg Emergency Services Department. All the real estate taxes collected within the Borough are used exclusively for the Police Department and to support the apparatus operated by the Chambersburg Emergency Services Department; none of this revenue is used to support any other department or operation. As of today, we do not use any real estate taxes to support parks or recreation, highways or streets, any other employees such as the Borough Manager, or any other function or utility.

This will all change in 2018. In 2016, Council decided that the Borough will establish a first-ever Recreation Tax beginning not in this fiscal year, but the next. No matter what, 2018 will see this new tax increase. However, that tax will not go into the General Fund. It will be earmarked to retire the debt associated with the 2016 Recreation Bond, which was sold earlier this year for the new Memorial Park Pool and other recreation improvement projects all over town.

The Borough of Chambersburg did not raise real estate taxes between 2007 and 2013; then there was an increase in 2014 and a second increase in 2016. Therefore, there have been only 2 real estate tax increases in the last 11 years. Taxes were raised by others such as Franklin County or the Chambersburg Area School District. In 2014 and 2016, the Borough raised taxes but only to fund police and fire services. As you can see, beginning a decade ago, and through 2017, there is a constant theme in our finances: real estate tax increases were rare and only dedicated to fund police and fire services.

In 2017, the Borough will continue to use real estate taxes only to fund police and fire services and nothing else done by the Borough. Finally, in 2017, there is once again no tax increase.

Of course, there are other types of taxes other than real estate taxes. However, they are set by the State, cannot be adjusted, and are currently at the maximum allowed by State law. We use the other taxes of the Borough (such as Earned Income Tax and Deed Transfer Tax) to pay for the Highway Department and the Recreation Department. The Sanitation Department is a separate utility (not unlike the Electric, Gas, Water, or Sewer Departments) and they keep the streets clean, free of leaves, and well swept. Highway construction projects are done with Highway Aid grant money (a grant from the State created by the sale of Liquid Fuels) and whatever money is left over from the previous fiscal year. Our Highway Aid grant only pays for street construction made to Borough owned streets and not much of that at all. Keeping up with all highway maintenance on Borough streets without a dedicated funding source has always been very challenging. Street repair is extremely expensive and Highway Aid is very small.

In 2017, the Borough will use accumulated balances from 2016 to have a street maintenance program, but once again not enough money to either keep up with the growing needs or to address any of the Borough-owned alleys. Alleys are not getting addressed at all and Council has been urged to take action.

The Borough of Chambersburg receives no sales taxes, liquor taxes, business taxes, or other local taxes and they are not an option under State law. In 2015, the State proposed an increase in the hotel taxes across the State; for tourism, with a prohibition on using them by any local town for anything else. The truth is we have very little revenue, very few opportunities to increase revenue and a lot of responsibilities.

It is often said that Town Council has a toolbox with one tool inside (real estate taxes) and it is a dull and poorly honed tool; but that is the only tool given to them by the laws of Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Meanwhile, utility rates will rise in the future, but most not in 2017.

The only exception is the Borough of Chambersburg Storm Sewer utility, which has reached the next milestone in its State/Federal mandated formation. The Storm Sewer Utility began operation in 2015 and is dedicated to improving health, safety and welfare in the Borough of Chambersburg by providing for the safe and efficient capture and conveyance of stormwater runoff resulting from development by enforcing the Borough's Stormwater Management Ordinance, by maintaining compliance with the Borough's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit and through construction and maintenance of the Borough's storm sewer system. These separate pipes run all over town.

For 2017, the biggest news for the Storm Sewer Utility is that the Storm Sewer Pollution Control Fee has been approved to increase from \$3 to \$4 per month per sanitary sewer connection (\$36 to \$48 per year per connection), collecting approximately \$393,792 to provide additional revenue for engineering consultant services and storm sewer system maintenance. There is so much storm sewer work to be done.

The 2017 budget does NOT include utility rate increases for water, sanitary sewer, electric, natural gas, or sanitation. However, the budget does call for an increase in the Storm Sewer Pollution Control Fee from \$3 to \$4 per month per sanitary sewer connection.

2017 will clearly be the last year without major utility increases or any tax increases.

We already know, by action of Town Council, that a new recreation tax of 3 mil will be established in 2018. We might as well recognize that additional Police and Fire taxes of some unknown amount are likely because we know that the 2017 made no provision to pay for either the cost of living increases for our police officers or paid firefighters or the natural increase in police and fire costs that come from operating top-notch 24/7 paid professional public safety units. Public safety has always been a priority.

The 2017 Budget contains no tax increase for the ninth time in the last 11 years.

POLICE TAX RATE

TAX RATE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
MIL	17	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	23	23

The average single family house inside the Borough has an assessed value of \$16,896.89; for illustration purposes, the average home owned by a member of Town Council has an assessed value of \$20,970 or slightly over the Borough average. Assessed values are set by Franklin County and have only a statistical relationship to actual fair market value of your property.

In 2016, with a 23 mil Police Tax and a 2.5 mil Fire Tax, the average single family home paid \$388.63 in Police Tax and \$42.24 in Fire Tax; for a total annual tax bill of \$430.87 or \$1.18 per day.

The 2017 budget maintains a 23 mil Police Tax, and a 2.5 mil Fire Tax, whereby the average single family home will pay \$390.18 in Police Tax and \$42.41 in Fire Tax; for a total annual tax bill of \$432.59 (\$1.19 per day) or \$1.72 more real estate taxes (or effectively 0.4% more in total taxes), due to a slight fluctuation in the total valuation of real estate in the Borough.

100% of the Fire Tax goes to support the apparatus of the Chambersburg Fire Department and not for any other department or function or employee or use. The 2017 budget has no increase in the Fire Tax; which would remain at 2.5 mil for 2017 for the fourth year of its existence.

FIRE TAX RATE

TAX RATE	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
MIL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5

AVERAGE SINGLE FAMILY HOUSE INSIDE THE BOROUGH

	2016		2017	
POLICE TAX (to the General Fund)	\$388.63	\$1.06	\$390.18	\$1.07
FIRE TAX (to the Motor Equipment Fund)	\$42.24	\$0.12	\$42.41	\$0.12
TOTAL (Per Year)	\$430.87	\$1.18	\$432.59	\$1.19

No government buildings, schools, charities or township property owners pay any Police or Fire Tax on their property - commercial property owners may pay more. Also, for many folks, 100% of this cost is deductible on your Federal Income Taxes, returned to you in your tax refund every year. Also, the Electric Department and the Gas Department make a Payment in Lieu of Gross Receipts

Taxes (PILOTS) to the General Fund. If these two departments were private corporations, they would pay taxes to the Commonwealth; as such they are tax exempt. So instead, they pay their taxes to support your General Fund (police, fire, ambulance, highway, and recreation) activities. The Borough's finances are sound but require action for the future.

UTILITY	AVG. RATE (Single Family Home)	
ELECTRIC	\$100.90 per month	No Change
WATER	\$15 per month	No Change
SEWER	\$29.50 per month	No Change
GAS	\$631 per year	No Change
SANITATION	\$18.75 per month	No Change
STORM SEWER	\$3 to \$4 per month	Increase
POLICE TAX	23 Mil	No Change
FIRE TAX	2.5 Mil	No Change
DEED TRANSFER TAX (Property)	1/2 of 1%	No Change Allowed
EARNED INCOME TAX (Residents)	1/2 of 1%	No Change Allowed
LOCAL SERVICES TAX (Workers)	\$52 per year per worker in the Borough	No Change Allowed
MERCANTILE/PRIVILEGE TAX	0	No Change Allowed

Total assessed value of taxable real estate inside the Borough for 2017 is estimated to be \$200,967,140. Therefore, the cash value of 1 mil would equal \$200,967. However, when factoring in our average collection rate for any year, we should expect that same mil to yield \$186,899. This difference is a result of the average amount of taxes remitted on time, annually, versus the total that is levied.

So for budget purposes, 1 mil is equal to approximately \$201,000 in cash. As explained, if you assume the standard percentage of tax payers will fail to pay their taxes, 1 mil would equal \$187,000 in cash. If you assume some old outstanding tax liens from previous years may pay their debts in 2017, 1 mil might equal \$200,725 in cash. In 2016, due to old tax liens from previous years, the Borough anticipates earning \$204,712 in cash per 1 mil. The value of a mil is therefore not precise and estimated.

TOTAL TAX BURDEN (Average Single Family Home)

FRANKLIN COUNTY	27.60 mil	\$468.22	17.75%
LIBRARY	1.05 mil	\$17.81	0.67%
CHAMBERSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT	101.378 mil	\$1,719.83	65.18%
POLICE TAX	23 mil	\$390.18	14.79%
FIRE TAX	2.5 mil	\$42.41	1.61%
TOTAL	155.528 mil	\$2,638.45	100%

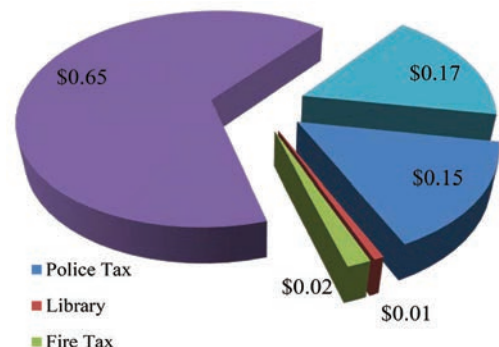
REAL EXAMPLE OF AVERAGE BOROUGH HOME:

0.15 acre lot single family home

Estimated Value: \$154,500 • Assessed Value: \$16,850



	2016	2017
POLICE TAX	\$387.55	\$387.55
FIRE TAX	\$42.13	\$42.13
TOTAL	\$429.68	\$429.68



Only 17¢ of every \$1 paid in real estate taxes will go to the Borough of Chambersburg. The balance, 83¢ will go to support the school district, the county, and the library. In fact 65¢ of every dollar goes to the Chambersburg Area School District.

2017 BUDGET GOALS AND PROJECTS

A full copy of the 2017 budget is available on the Borough website at: www.chambersburgpa.gov
Click on Transparency

GOAL A : Expanding Municipal Services for the Mutual Benefit of the Townships

- Encourage Townships to Provide Expanded Borough Sewer and Water Services
- Encourage Townships to Provide Post-Construction Stormwater Management Services
- Encourage Townships to Provide Borough Recreation Services for Their Residents
- Encourage Townships to Provide Borough Commercial Fire Code Inspection Services
- Encourage Townships to Provide Borough Police Patrols in Their Commercial Areas

GOAL B : A Safe, Clean, Green and Healthy Community

- Borough-Wide Camera and Security Project Completes Phase 2
- Rhodes Drive Reconstruction and Stormwater BMP Implementation Project
- New Central Avenue Parking Lot, Downtown Sharrows, and Pedestrian Safety Initiatives
- Wilson College Illumination Project
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Plan & Healthy Communities Design Initiative
- Elm Street Neighborhood Master Plan
- Sustainable PA Community Certification Project

GOAL C : Major Municipal Construction Projects

- Expanding City Hall
- Memorial Park Pool
- A Need to Fund Alley Improvements
- North Chambersburg Transportation Improvements Project
- Traffic Signal Interconnection Project



MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

By Councilman Allen Coffman, First Ward and Council President

Recently our town held the **15th Annual Ice Fest**, which is example of the incredible community support we have for events in our downtown and the visitors and commerce that these events can generate. This event is now one of the largest ice events in our region and a tribute to dozens of hard working volunteers and our very talented

staffs at the Borough, Downtown Chambersburg, Inc., the Downtown Business Council, and the Chambersburg Council for the Arts. I am so proud to see a packed Memorial Square and to have been a part of this event and all our annual events that open up our downtown to private investment and continued revitalization. This winter, the weather has cooperated for the most part giving us mild temperatures but we must keep watch for the lack of rainfall and the growing drought that impacts our region. Luckily, with Long Pine Run Reservoir, Chambersburg is in a much more secure position to provide water than many of our neighbors.

In 2016, we survived snowstorm Jonas and the iconic fountain was removed for a scheduled repair. Many good things have been happening in our town other than street festivals. I would like to address some of those major projects which are now in full swing:

One of the new projects being built now by PIRHL from Cleveland Ohio is Washington Square Townhomes consisting of 54 units and located close to the South Gate Mall. Some of this housing will occupy land where the old County Market was located. These town homes will be a welcome addition to the area and hopefully will be a good reason to start new businesses at South Gate or downtown, both within easy walking distance. This is private development that reestablishes a once thriving neighborhood.

The Central High School project is being done by Vern McKissick of Harrisburg is closer to the demolition and separation of the property into two distinct buildings. As with many projects of this magnitude, it is behind the original schedule by approximately one year. Many pieces are involved in making this into reality. As far as I know, this should be underway in February or March of this year. Mr. McKissick has many years

MESSAGE FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT... CONTINUED

...Continued from Page 8

of study and design invested in this building. It will provide not only a wonderful place to live in the 1909 school portion but will offer business amenities in the portion built in the 1930's. Good things are worth waiting for and this will certainly be one of them. I would like to thank Mike Ross and FCADC for facilitating this great project for our downtown area.

The Coyle Free Library project is well underway with the steelwork in place. This expansion and rebuilding of the original 1909 post office building will provide a library facility and services second to none in our area for all to use and admire. To finish the Northern boundary of the Coyle Library parking area, the Borough's Rhodes Drive will be getting a major face lift. It will be rebuilt to include storm water enhancements and paid for by a multi modal grant received from the state. The Borough and Council helped obtain a tax free bond in the amount of \$5,000,000 for the library project. We are community partners working on making Chambersburg downtown better.

The Shook Home rehabilitation center expansion project being built now by Brechbill and Helman Construction is rapidly taking shape and is yet another project moving toward completion. It wasn't that long ago when the ground breaking was taking place. This project was made possible by actions taken by the Borough and Council with regards to real estate and action for a tax free bond pass through of \$5,000,000. Jeff Truhan, and the Board of Directors of the Shook Home, are investing in the future of our community and I want to personally thank them all.

Midyear should bring us to the completion of the largest project expenditure so far in the history of Chambersburg. That necessary project is the new Waste Water Treatment Plant off Hollywell Avenue. It will serve surrounding townships as well as our Borough. This is the largest public works project in Borough history and will make development possible (as one needs good sewers for good development) for Chambersburg and the surrounding municipalities for generations.

January of 2016 marked the beginning of curb side single stream recycling throughout the Borough. Although it is somewhat more expensive than the minimal recycling we used to have, everyone I have discussed this with is very happy with the results. No more separating of recyclable materials. The simple rule concerning what to recycle is "when in doubt, let it out" and place it in the trash.

The fountain was returned to its usual place in center square in April 2016. The refinishing work is hoped to last for possibly 10 to 15 years. It's great to have it back in its rightful place. This is the symbol of Chambersburg.

Much to everyone's chagrin over traffic slowness, the Norland Avenue, Gateway Drive, and Walker Road neighborhood continues to be developed with the highest per acre land values in Chambersburg and the region. There is much more development on its way. While some complain about increased traffic, this development has helped the economy and provided needed employment. And it is inside the Borough limits.

As you know, Norland Avenue was not planned to be an expressway to I-81. It was always about commerce and safely moving cars from traffic signal to traffic signal. As development has boomed faster than anyone anticipated, the need to mitigate the traffic has accelerated. This includes the Norland and Fifth Avenue intersection widening project, the extension of Parkwood Drive, and our encouragement to have the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation help move traffic through the Walker Road and Exit 17 area more efficiently as they own that part of the bottleneck.

Two major Borough construction projects will be starting this year. The Utility Departments' Addition to Borough Hall will be the first expansion to this building since 1972. We are still using the original building constructed in 1830. This addition will also allow more room for our very cramped police department in the 1972 building. There is no need to construct a separate building for the Chambersburg Police Department because once we vacate some room in the old building, the Police Department can expand. Council Chambers will be on the first floor for easier public access. This construction will not raise taxes. The second project to start later this year will be the Water Park Complex at Memorial park. This project will be paid for by a special recreation tax to be used only for the project. That tax will begin in January 2018.

I was especially happy to serve with several other Council members and staff on the selection committee to find a new leader for the Chambersburg Police Department. This was necessitated by the retirement of Chief Dave Arnold. We found an exceptional candidate and in June appointed Mr. Ron Camacho as the new Chief of the department. He brings with him a wealth of experience at all levels of policing. He is a big proponent of community policing. I look forward to working with the next Mayor of Chambersburg who supervises the Chief and the Police Department.

Once again there was no tax increase for 2017. We did have an increase in the Storm Water Pollution Control Fee of one dollar per month for each sanitary sewer connection. This money will be used to improve the municipally owned separate storm sewer system that runs all over town and to plan for the future. We have entered into a partnership with a new engineering company to examine this important infrastructure and work to meet State and Federal mandates on stormwater protection.

Finally, remember we are one of about 50 communities in the United States that operates both an electric and gas utility. Our utilities are vitally important to us. Our rates are among the lowest in the state. Giving you inexpensive utilities fuels the economy of Chambersburg.

It has been an honor to represent the Borough's First Ward for all these years and to have been selected by the balance of Council as your Council President. I value my close working relationship with the outgoing Mayor and our community's Borough Manager. As a retiree, my ability to focus on our community, and provide value to our local government, is one of the greatest gifts of my career.



CONCLUSION OF FIRST TERM AS MAYOR

By Hon. Darren Brown, Mayor

Earlier this year I announced that I would not seek re-election for a second term as Mayor of Chambersburg. The primary reason

is because of different plans my wife and I have for our future. It has been my pleasure to serve as Chambersburg's youngest mayor, meet so many great

people, and to learn firsthand how government works on the local level.

One of my campaign promises was for even greater governmental transparency for citizens. The main tools at my disposal were social media, radio, and news media. Through social media outlets of Facebook

and Twitter, I was able to expand upon my predecessor's experiment with blogging. The most effective change with social media was the Chambersburg Police Department's adoption of CrimeWatch for its new website (www.chambersburgpolice.com) layout in order to keep the public better informed about police activities as it shares posts to the department's new Facebook and Twitter accounts. For a year and a half, I was a regular morning talk show host on News Talk 103.7 FM making myself available to the public. This enabled me to more easily tell the listening public what was going on in the community and about what was happening in their local government. Finally, I made myself available to the local news media reporters by email, phone calls, and text message. I know that on the national level that most 24-hour news networks have

CONCLUSION OF FIRST TERM AS MAYOR... CONTINUED

...Continued from Page 9

gone partisan either to the right or to the left, but local journalists usually just want to let the public know what's going on in their world. I was glad to make myself available for reports and I greatly appreciate their fairness.

I would be remiss if I did not note three individuals who gave tremendous help to me during my time as Mayor of Chambersburg with their knowledge and expertise. They are Borough Council President Allen Coffman, Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill, and Police Chief Ron Camacho. The fact that these three men do their respective jobs so well, worked well with one another, worked well with others, and worked well with me is a huge contributing factor to success that I had. They not only helped make the past three years successful for me but also enjoyable. They were not the only ones that aided me in victory but they lead the pack.

The next Mayor of Chambersburg will be chosen by citizens at the ballot box. It is my hope that the next person bestowed with this honor will reach out to the people with servant leadership. Thank you for your support.

What is the role of the Mayor in a Borough like Chambersburg?

Under the State Law known as the Borough Code, the role of the Mayor of a Borough in Pennsylvania possess less legislative, administrative and judicial powers than ever before, but they still exercise important powers and duties and are also in a unique position to **exercise leadership**

for their community because of the prestige of the office and its elected status. The Borough Code gives the mayor the right to attend all regular and special meetings of council. This right extends to executive sessions held under the Sunshine Act, except where the executive session relates to a legal dispute between the council and the mayor. The mayor is permitted to take part in discussions of the council, subject to the same rules of procedure applicable to council members. The mayor has not had a vote in the council since 1893. The only exception is the power given to the mayor in the Borough Code to **break tie votes** to enable the council to take action. Every ordinance (local law and the annual budget) must be presented to the mayor for consideration after passage by council. The mayor has at least a ten-day period to consider the measure. **The mayor may veto any new local law** and return it to council with a statement of objections at council's next regular meeting of council occurring after the ten-day period. Borough mayors retain only very limited administrative powers, chiefly centered on **supervising the daily operations of the police department**. This situation is in direct contrast to large cities where mayors are actually the chief executives, responsible for operation of the city government. In boroughs where the office of manager has been created, administrative responsibility may have been delegated by council to the borough manager.

In fact, daily supervision or **management of the deployment of the Police Department** is the only administrative role for a mayor under State Law.



CHAMBERSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Police Chief Ron Camacho

In 2016 Leadership Change Drove the Organization of the Police

2016 brought an incredible amount of changes to the Chambersburg Police Department.

Many of these changes were positive and created more efficient processes in responding to calls for service and overall management of the department.

In late 2016, the Chambersburg Crime Scene Tech Unit was started. These patrol officers have had some in-house training, and attended a certification course in November. This program will improve the customer service given to the citizens of the Borough. The Crime Scene Techs will be able to quickly and efficiently process crime scenes: Burglaries, Thefts, Criminal Mischief's, Robberies, Aggravated Assaults, Heroin Overdoses, and Homicides. Their quick response takes a burden off the Detectives and will allow for evidence to be collected in a timely manner, preserving its value. The people of Chambersburg will enjoy a high quality of service when our officers respond to process their crime scenes. The more scenes the techs process, the more of a chance that evidence will be collected that will lead to the solving of crimes committed in the Borough. The police department will not fully be able to evaluate the unit's success until 2017.

The Chambersburg Police Department started coordinating and formalizing police training in 2016. Training is funneled through one coordinator, ensuring that all officers have a bare minimum of classes. Each officers "Training Plan" is updated with regularity and is evaluated twice a year. Well trained officers reduce police department liability, improves morale by making sure officers have the necessary training to properly handle the calls they respond to, and it gives the citizens of Chambersburg a higher quality of service. The program coordinator will continue to evaluate the level of the department's training and look to identify gaps, or areas that need improvement/refreshing.

Community policing efforts have been a positive mark for the police department. It is my intention to continue to grow in this area and support any request for our officer's involvement. The feedback from the community has been good. It is my goal to make it great in 2017. This can be accomplished with more community engagement and getting information out to the public with regard to the excellent police work done by Chambersburg's officers and detectives. As a service to the community, the department offers Active Shooter Mitigation training to schools, businesses, and governmental agencies. This program, which can be tailored to the organization, has been positively viewed by those who have taken the training. The department plans to host a Citizens Police Academy in 2017.

The evidence room had to be moved due to space limitations. The department used this opportunity to upgrade our evidence tracking capabilities by purchasing scanning technology and software. The new evidence room was complete and all evidence was accounted for and moved with no issues. The officer's locker room was also moved from the basement, home of the new evidence room, to the police annex room.

In December of 2016 the Borough Council supported and voted for the creation of a police Lieutenant position. This position will be administrative, taking some excessive duties away from the Patrol Sergeants. This will allow the Sergeants to have more time on the street supervising their officers. The Lieutenant will be below the Chief in the department's chain of command. Testing for this position will occur sometime in May, 2017.

We would like to thank Sergeant Rick Morrisette for his leadership while in the position interim Police Chief. Sergeant Morrisette was in charge for over six months, he helped to guide the selection of the new chief. He also made sure that the transition of command was accomplished with minimal issues. He is a true professional and his efforts to bring me up to speed in those early months are greatly appreciated.

...Continued from Page 10

The department saw two retirements in 2016: Cpl Daren Helsel and Officer Douglas Strickland. The department hired three officers: Ryan Shockey, Cody Morris, and Matthew Henesy. All three will attend HACC's police academy starting in January with a graduation date in late June.

July 6th, 2016, was my first day as the new Chambersburg Police Chief. A lot was accomplished in the last six months, and I look for more continued growth and challenges in 2017.

I would like to thank the community for its warm reception of me and my family. Chambersburg has a special, positive relationship with its police department. This is a relationship that I wish to cultivate and grow in 2017.

In November 2017, a new Mayor will be selected by the community as Mayor Darren Brown has announced that he will not seek re-election. As you know, the main role of a Mayor in a Borough is as the day-to-day manager of the Police Department. I look forward to working hand in glove with whoever is selected by the electorate as well as the continued relationship with our Borough Manager and Town Council.

We have much to accomplish in 2017. I have a new found appreciation for the enforcement of parking, traffic and truck regulations since coming to Chambersburg. Further, we are looking to our ever expanding role of being active members of the community.



CHAMBERSBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT

By Chief Butch Leonhard, Chambersburg ES Department Chief

Chambersburg Fire Department (CFD) Station 1

Emergency medical responses are still on the rise with an annual average of 4,150 responses, and EMS staffing issues persist. A second ambulance to serve fire and EMS protection to area residents on the south end is necessary to significantly reduce the number of missed responses which totaled approximately 1,700 this year. In 2016, Fire responses rose 7.2% to 1,039 incidents.

CFD offers many services that enhance fire safety in the Borough of Chambersburg, e.g. a triennial inspection/permit program; annual fire inspections to day care centers, health care businesses, and institutional or industrial facilities for State or Department of Health compliance; staff fire safety training and evacuation drills.



Anthony Chen

One new Firefighter/EMT, Anthony Chen joined CFD "A" Shift in August 2016 and graduated October 2016 from HACC Fire Academy.

The Borough Gas and Water Departments aided in the continuation of CFD's aggressive community risk reduction efforts by providing free carbon monoxide detectors for gas customers and hydrant markers that assist in locating fire hydrants at night or during snowfalls. Participating with community partners, CFD was able to conduct many educational programs and interact with 17,000 people in identified target groups.

CFD continues to train, implement new programs, and drive to bolster volunteer ranks. This year the Department's apparatus was equipped with Naloxone (Narcan, a drug used to reverse the life threatening effects of opiate overdoses) and Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) units to aid patients in respiratory distress.



In 2016, Council approved the replacement of Truck 1, a 1998 E-One 95' Aerial Platform, with a new Pierce 95' Mid-Mount Platform at a cost of \$1,100,000. Also, CFD reduced its fleet when Reserve Engine 1-1 was sold at auction in December.

2016 brought four state grants totaling \$48,512.71 that provided Thermal Imaging Cameras, command organizers, Rapid Intervention Air Paks and turnout gear. Also in 2016, CFD received AFG funds totaling \$122,664 for the installation of diesel exhaust systems at Headquarters and McKinley Street Stations to provide a safe and healthy work environment.

Overall, 2016 was a very productive year, and CFD remains resourceful in pursuit of other avenues of funding to achieve the Department's goals. The Chambersburg Fire Department will strive to meet the fiscal and operational challenges in 2017 and work with local fire departments, municipalities, and Franklin County to welcome regionalization of Fire/EMS services and fire code inspections in hopes of providing the best possible community service to area residents.

In 2017, I am pleased to announce the Chambersburg Fire Department has entered into an agreement with Glick and Pierce Manufacturing for the purchase of a new fire engine. This process was started with the approval from Council to look into the options of purchasing a new truck and after many hours of reviews of specifications from multiple manufactures, Pierce Manufacturing stood out above the rest with what they could offer. After consent of the specs from the committee, the plan was taken to Assistant Manager Dave Finch and Motor Equipment Supervisor Chad Ebersole for a presentation and review in which they approved the suggestions brought forward.

This purchase once again brings two things to the community, safety of the apparatus and those who ride in it, and a unit that is designed with efficiency and maneuverability throughout the Borough of Chambersburg. These two things allow life and property to be protected to the highest levels.



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

By Guy Shaul, Superintendent of Recreation

Our Future Infrastructure Needs

In 2016 the Recreation Department was busy preparing for the construction of a new Memorial Park pool. This aquatic facility proposed will transform the old swimming pool concept into a water lover's dream. All ages of our community will be served by this facility. A Tot pool for the little ones. A spray pad for our older children. An activity pool for our youth. A flow channel to just relax in or walk against the current. A lap pool and a diving well top off the aquatic features. There will be something for everyone at the new facility, hopefully opening May 2018. We ask for your patience while we are closed for the 2017 season.

Also, in 2016 the Borough Council passed the first ever bond for future recreation projects since 1969 when Memorial Park was constructed. This bond will pay for the new aquatic facility, as well as, updating the Borough's playground equipment throughout the park system. There is a long wish list of projects that we would like to get done over the next 5 years and this bond will make much happen.

- Replace the Memorial Park Pool with a Modern Family Aquatics Center
- Nicholson Square Park Build Out (Two Phases)
- Fourth Street Park Playground Equipment (Ward 2)
- Henninger Field Playground Equipment (Ward 1)
- Memorial Park Playground Equipment (Youth & Tot lots) (Ward 5)
- Mike Waters Memorial Park Playground Equipment (Ward 3)
- Reservoir Hill Park Playground Equipment (Ward 4)
- Chambers Park (Orchard/Byers) Playground Equipment (Ward 5)
- Eugene Clarke Recreation Center Gym 2 - HVAC & Weatherization (Ward 3)
- Memorial Park Main Tennis Court Facility Replacement (Ward 5)
- John Redding Memorial Park Build Out (Ward 2)*
- Henninger Field Artificial Turf Installation (Ward 1)*
- Mill Creek Acres Park Build Out (Ward 3)*

* It is unlikely that the 2016 Recreation Bond will provide enough resources to undertake these projects.

Our second priority project for 2017 is the construction of the Nicholson Square Park at the north end of town. This park was conceptualized way back in 2007. During the summer of 2017, we are very pleased that it is finally going to begin construction. This park will include a 1/4 mile, 8' pathway around the entire park. There will also be a tot playground and a youth playground installed. A green space/open field will remain for play. Benches and shade amenities, landscaping and many trees will be planted around the pathway. Future phase includes 2 half court basketball courts.

This neighborhood has grown steady over time and with the generous assistance of the Nicholson Square Homeowners Association and the State of Pennsylvania, we will make this new neighborhood facility a destination for local families.

So while 2016 was a year of preparation, 2017 will be very busy with construction. We are very excited. We look forward to continue to provide the community a wide variety of programs one can participate in, as well as, maintaining a large park system for our residents to enjoy.



A BOROUGH-WIDE SIDEWALK PLAN

By Phil Wolgemuth, Assistant to the Borough Manager

The Borough's long-awaited Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Plan should be unveiled sometime in 2017 or 2018. As a result, Town Council approved a staff proposal to draft a Borough-wide "holistic" sidewalk implementation strategy. This is a new strategy to determine where in the community sidewalks are needed and where they are not.

The proposal, which received Council's support, will eventually change the sidewalk system. Instead of deciding on a case by case (block by block) basis, the Borough will decide where to build sidewalks by a Borough-wide adopted sidewalk plan. The plan would depict each street frontage for each tax parcel (each lot) on an official sidewalk plan map, where either

the sidewalk network already exists or is recommended by Council to be extended; based upon when certain events or conditions occur.

The key change is that sidewalk plan/map could exempt areas where Council feels there is no public interest in compelling citizens to install sidewalks. The current policy, adopted in 2003-2004, does not allow exceptions to the installation of sidewalks. A number of triggers, most commonly the paving of streets, automatically begin the process of compelling the installation or repair of sidewalks.

There is no Borough-wide plan or map identifying areas where Council has determined the preservation or extension of the sidewalk network is in the best interest of the community. Now, sidewalks are implemented almost everywhere. Planning is the best way to make these determinations.

A BOROUGH-WIDE SIDEWALK PLAN... *CONTINUED*

...Continued from Page 12

The plan and map, which might take over a year to develop, would depict each and every tax parcel in the Borough and identify whether sidewalks are required (whether currently installed or otherwise) on a particular tax parcel, parcels with sidewalks would be required to maintain them (per the plan), or parcels without sidewalks would be identified for future sidewalk installation or not (per the plan). The map would be a part of the tax parcel map system in the Borough's computerized mapping software. The plan and map would be established by local law, similar to the Official Map, with future Subdivision and Land Development Plans automatically acting as an amendment to the map. As is required for any adjudication (such as zoning or building codes) an independent appeals board appointed by Council, preferably the Curb and Sidewalk Policy Compliance Committee, would be needed to consider appeals from property owners who believe their parcel should not be required to install sidewalks (i.e. the map should be changed) once the map is established by Council.

According to Attorney Samuel Wiser, "the borough-wide plan/map resolves some of the controversial questions now, once and for all by taking

a holistic or community-wide pedestrian network approach to sidewalk planning; not that the sidewalks are required everywhere approach was wrong."

In a related note, the Borough was recently successful before Judge Todd M. Sponseller reaffirming that state law gives authority to Town Council to require any property owner install sidewalks in front of their property. When, in their opinion, it is in the best interest of the health and safety of the community, sidewalks can be a required public amenity.

While the Borough looks forward to the Borough-wide Sidewalk Plan, this new system of deciding where and when sidewalks will be ordered does not diminish the authority of any future Town Council to order the installation of sidewalks; and make the adjacent property owner's pay the cost, as long as the installation is seen as in the best interest of the entire community; as that is state law.

Please stay involved and look for public meetings where components of the new Borough-wide Sidewalk Plan will be discussed with different neighborhoods.

If you have questions, please contact Phil Wolgemuth, Assistant to the Borough Manager, at 717-261-3232 or pwolgemuth@chambersburgpa.gov.

2017 BOROUGH STREET CONSTRUCTION

By Engineering Department

The Borough of Chambersburg owns and maintains 67.86 miles of public streets, with Orchard Drive, from Rosewood Street to Meriweather Drive, being the longest at 10,161.74 linear feet and Roosevelt Arms Court being the shortest at 76 linear feet. Borough-owned streets should not be confused with State-owned streets, such as Main Street (Rte. 11) and Lincoln Way (Rte. 30) that are maintained by PennDOT. The Borough has spent millions of dollars in the last few years fixing the Borough owned side streets all over town.

One street that gets a lot of attention recently was Walker Road. The Borough owns the Walker Road and Norland Avenue intersection, which was recently upgraded, and Walker Road south to Lincoln Highway. However, the Borough does not own Walker Road north of Norland Avenue. That stretch including the Walker Road and Kohler Road intersection, the Interstate 81 ramps, and the intersection of Walker Road and Franklin Farms Lane, is all owned by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Each year Town Council approves a list of Borough streets for future reconstruction. We do not fix township roads, state owned streets, or private streets. While actual construction may not occur for a year or two afterward, Borough utility departments, including gas, sanitary sewer, storm sewer and water, start excavating the streets to repair or replace their distribution and collection pipes and other facilities before street reconstruction starts. They do that work to avoid excavating the newly constructed streets to repair or replace pipes and facilities, unless there is an emergency that necessitates cutting the newly constructed street. Until the street is reconstructed, temporary and permanent asphalt patches are placed to cover the ditches that were dug to fix the utility pipes and facilities. All of the work associated with this process can lead one to believe Borough streets are always under construction or rough to drive on, but rest assured, the work is absolutely necessary before street reconstruction begins.

When reconstructing streets, the Borough typically employs two innovative and environmentally-sound construction methods, Cold In-Place Recycling or Full Depth Reclamation. Cold In-Place Recycling removes and reuses the existing asphalt by grinding off the surface, mixing the crushed asphalt with an emulsion agent and then placing it back down with a paver. Full Depth Reclamation pulverizes the existing asphalt and base materials with a specialized machine called a reclaimer, mixing in water and a variety of materials, such as Portland cement, lime or fly ash, to produce a strong, durable base course. Both methods are finished with a standard asphalt wearing course that is installed with a paver.

Sometimes a street doesn't require reconstruction but instead simply needs maintenance to extend its useful lifespan. In those instances a different kind of construction method is used, known as Ultra-Thin Friction Course, which is applied with a specialized machine that places hot mix wearing course over an emulsion agent to create a new street surface.

Pavement markings, including centerlines and pedestrian crosswalks, are reapplied after the Cold In-Place Recycling, Full Depth Reclamation or Ultra-Thin Friction Course processes are finished.

In the fall of 2016 Town Council approved the 21 streets listed on the following page for reconstruction in 2017 or 2018. Construction methods, aside from Ultra-Thin Friction Course, have yet to be determined but all residents and businesses with access to these streets will be notified before construction activity begins, typically sometime between July and October of the year when the work will be done.

In the meantime, if you have questions please contact Brian Fogal, Engineering Supervisor at 717-263-7741 or bfogal@chambersburgpa.gov.

**Sometimes digging in a street begins a year or two before paving.
We have a lot of old streets with old pipes underneath.**

Streets Scheduled for Reconstruction in 2017 & 2018

2017 PROJECTS

- 1 Catherine St. (Railroad Highline to Water St.)
- 2 Liberty St. (Railroad Highline to Water St.)
- 3 Montgomery Ave. (Fifth Ave. to Seventh St.)
- 4 Sixth St. (Lincoln Way East to Montgomery Ave.)
- 5 McKinley St. (S. Second St. to S. Main St.)
- 6 Fifth Ave. (Lincoln Way East to Terminus)
- 7 Norland Ave. (Fifth Ave. to Scotland Ave.)
- 8 Memorial Square Parking Area

2018 PROJECTS

- 1 Alexander Ave. (Roland Ave. to Norland Ave.)
- 2 Park Ave. (Scotland Ave. to Edgar Ave.)
- 3 Blanchard Ave. (Cumberland Ave. to Garfield St.)
- 4 Kraiss Ave. (S. Fourth St. to Coldbrook Ave.)
- 5 Garfield St. (S. Fourth St. to Cleveland Ave.)
- 6 Paul Ave. (S. Fourth St. to Fifth St.)
- 7 Mill Rd. (Hollywell Ave. to S. Main St.)
- 8 Bedington Boulevard
- 9 Burkhart Ave. (Harrison Ave. to Central Ave.)
- 10 Central Ave. (Lincoln Way East to Queen St.)
- 11 Elm Ave. (Sixth St. to Seventh St.)
- 12 Elder St. (Hood St. to Terminus)

In the end, Council always decides on which streets get done in which years by the cost of the street resurfacing process, after competitive bids are received, and available resources in the Borough budget.

Unfortunately, as there are many streets that need to be done and it is very expensive to pave or fix streets to the specifications required by the State of Pennsylvania, the Borough has once again set aside no money to pave any Borough owned alleys. Alleys are not always owned by the Borough but many have been deeded to the Borough. Since there is no dedicated funding source to fix alleys, all the Borough does is patch potholes in alleys. It has been discussed with Council that perhaps alleys should be passed back to the ownership of the property owners who face the alley. That decision has not yet been made. Other than pothole fixing, there is no money in 2017 to reconstruct any Borough alleys.



Cold In-Place Recycling on Eighth Street (2016)



Full Depth Reclamation on Pennsylvania Ave (2015)



Ultra-Thin Friction Course on Walker Road (2016)

ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT

By Ron Pezon, PE, CEM, CSDP, CDSM

Our Future Infrastructure Needs

The Borough's municipal electric utility has been diligently serving the power needs of our community for over 123 years. It's hard to believe but Chambersburg has used its own electric generation systems ever since a generator and some street lighting were approved by its early council and installed in the early 1890's.

In 1904, however, there was a dispute over the new system's financial viability and it was almost sold and taken over by the private sector. Thanks to some heroic and visionary individuals of the day the electric system was kept as a Borough asset. The "Park of the Valiant" bronze plaque on the entrance pillar and fountain on Second Street, near Fire Headquarters commemorates that day in history.



Since then, many of the little local electric systems were gobbled up into the larger investor-owned electric companies of today. There are still 35 of these smaller municipally owned electric systems operating in Pennsylvania and over 2,000 in the country.

We are the only municipal electric utility in Pennsylvania to own generation that sells the output of its assets (producing revenues) to the Pennsylvania Jersey Maryland Interconnection (PJM), which helps maintain lower overall power supply costs to its customers.

Unlike the investor-owned electric utilities of today, Chambersburg, using its Council Manager form of government, locally owned and operated system, is able to keep most of the benefits of local operation in the Borough. In addition, the Borough is able to bring back home some of the outside or "market" derived financial benefits to its customers in the form of more stable rates and improved reliability.

Since about 2002 municipal electrics have had the opportunity to shop the markets for wholesale power. Chambersburg since that time has purchased wholesale power and resells the electricity to its now over 11,300 retail customers. Chambersburg formed in recent years a power supply purchasing team to acquire various sized and priced power supply contracts to meet the consumption needs of our customers while spreading the price volatility risk over many future years and sources of power. We buy power for you, retail or customer "choice" to select a retail power provider is not an option for individual residents in the Borough; however with the Borough shopping your total load in the wholesale markets, coupled with owning generation assets, we are likely much better off.

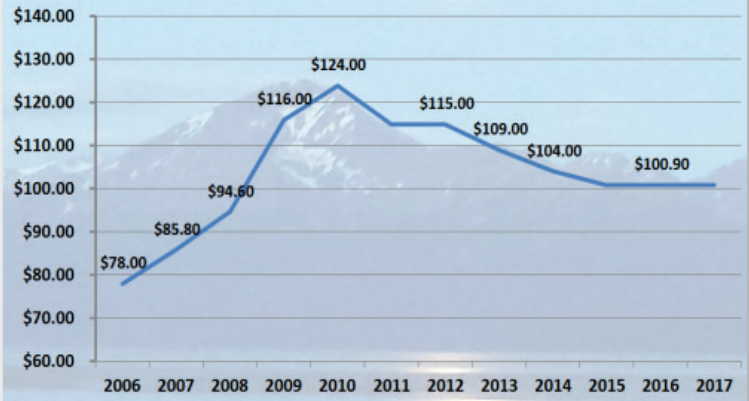
Electric rates in the Borough have risen as they have in the outside world but Chambersburg's rates have come down to what is below that of our surrounding utilities and is well below that of the State average.

The new multiple source and block portfolio approach approved by Council was responsible for significantly lowering and stabilizing power supply costs over the past three years.

While we enjoy shopping around for the low cost traditional wholesale power supplies available, we are also investigating and someday perhaps developing some of our own traditional, renewable power supply ideas, and sustainable community projects.

#WeShop4U

Average Residential Monthly Electric Bill



Average Monthly Bill Using 1,000 kWh/Month

Expanding the Power Supply Portfolio:

Presently, the Borough has entered into about 15 power supply contracts for 2017 and beyond, owns about 30 MW of dual-fueled reciprocating engine generation capability at two power plant locations that is sold to the electric grid, and is considering numerous options to stabilize power prices well into the future.

The future-view options in various stages of consideration are:

- Landfill Methane Gas Engine Additions
- Community Solar
- Bio-Mass to Power
- Green Waste Facility - Wood Pellets to Power
- Multi-County Manure/Industrial Organics -Methane to Power
- Waste Water Treatment Plant - Methane to Power
- Combined Cooling Heat and Power
- Expand Orchard Park
- Small Hydro-Power Projects

Continuing the Borough's renewable, sustainable energy objectives, in 2016 the power purchase team again began evaluating a "community" large scale solar electric generation project along with combined cooling, heat, and power projects. The Borough's power purchasing team will evaluate these and other technologies as they come along, however none will be implemented without first performing rigorous financial evaluations with positive results and bringing the proposals to Council for discussion and possible approval based on merits and long term viability.

Right now, about 15%-16% of all power used in Chambersburg is "green energy"

GAS DEPARTMENT

By John Leary, Gas Superintendent

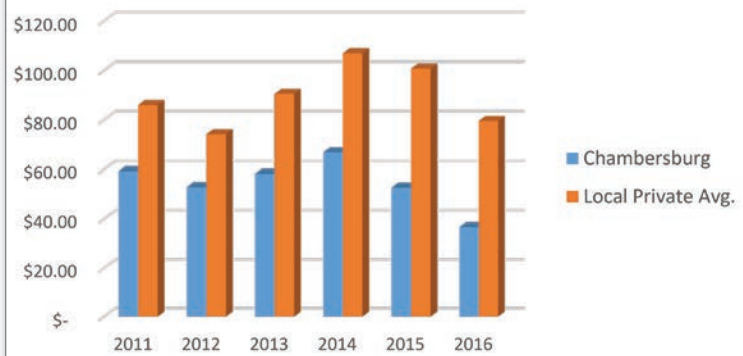
Chambersburg's Natural Gas Utility Keeps System Safe & Rates Low



2016 was a very successful year for the Borough Gas Department.

Our customers continue to have the lowest priced gas in Pennsylvania, and are now paying less for gas than they have at any time since 1995. We continue to improve the safety of an already safe system, and we keep expanding our customer base.

Avg. Monthly Residential Gas Bill



Historically, our residents paid 20%-30% less for gas than private gas company customers. This difference this year is now 54%. Over the past 12 months, the average Borough resident using 61 hundred cubic feet of gas (CCF) paid \$440 for gas, compared to \$954 for the average local gas company customer using the same amount of gas.

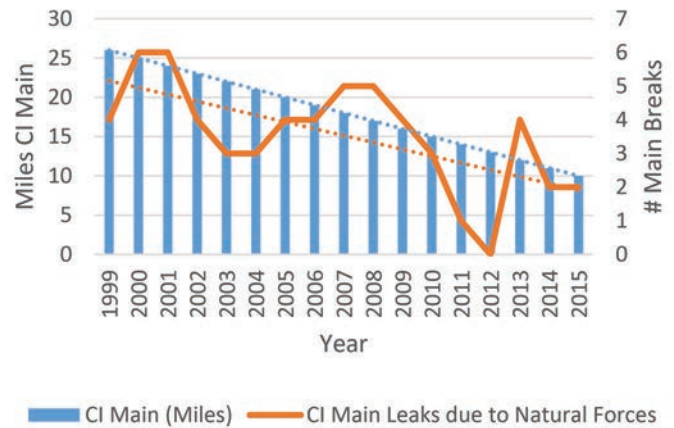
The low gas prices in the Borough reflect a net savings to our customers of over \$7,000,000 per year! Additionally, through our Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) and payments for essential shared services, the Gas Department contributed \$1.37 million to the operation of the Borough in 2016. These contributions help to keep residents' taxes low. Municipalities served by private gas companies do not see these benefits.

The Borough gas system is already considered among the safest systems in the US, with no reportable gas safety incidents in the past 34 years. But we aren't content to stand where we are, and continue to work on further improvements to safety.

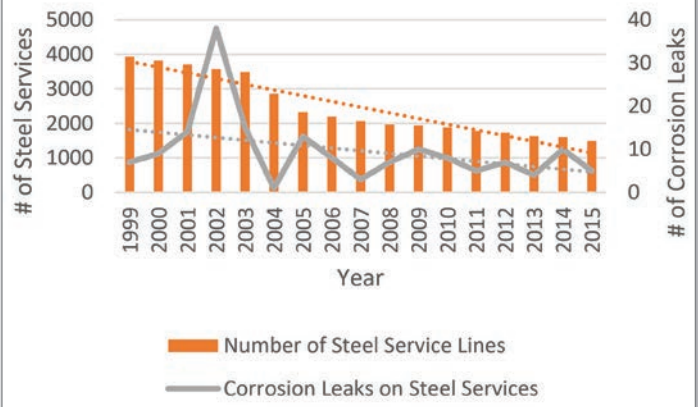
In 2016, the Borough replaced about of a mile of aging Cast Iron (CI) gas mains, and plans in 2017 to replace another mile of CI mains. Since 2000, we have replaced over 16 miles of CI gas mains, bringing our total from 25 miles of CI mains in 2000 to nine miles at the end of 2016. CI mains are capable of lasting in excess of 100 years, but can be prone to cracking during freeze/thaw cycles. Replacing these mains, as well as simultaneously replacing all connected old steel service lines, has significantly reduced our leak rates and further improved the safety of the system. The charts below demonstrate the success of our replacement program in leaks trending lower from the two main areas of risk; CI main breaks and steel service corrosion.

Unfortunately, natural gas service is not available on every street inside the Borough. However, in 2016, the Borough expanded gas lines on several blocks around Stanley Avenue. We are always seeking extensions where we can get the majority of a block to commit to installing gas service.

Chambersburg Cast Iron Main Breaks Trend



Chambersburg Steel Service Corrosion Leaks



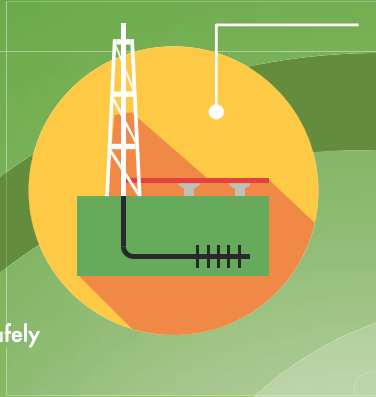
To further demonstrate our system safety, the PA PUC conducted two inspections of our system in 2016, with 0 violations found. Additionally, in 2016 the Borough was awarded the APGA Safety Award for the third straight year in "Recognition of the Successful Efforts your System has made to Ensure the Safety of your Employees and Customers and the Integrity of your Gas System".



The Gas Department continued our partnership with the Fire Department to purchase Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors for Borough homeowners. CO is a silent but deadly killer which can and has affected Borough residents. Over 1,000 CO detectors have already been provided by the Gas Department.

Why Natural Gas?

NATURAL GAS IS CLEAN, DOMESTIC, ABUNDANT, EFFICIENT AND AFFORDABLE, making it the ideal energy source to strengthen our economy, meet environmental challenges, create jobs, reduce the cost of energy for consumers, and increase overall security by reducing our dependence on foreign energy sources.



ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND PRODUCTION OF NATURAL GAS

- Horizontal drilling technology means much smaller well footprint and surface disturbance
- Single well with multiple laterals as opposed to multiple wells scattered over a large geographical area
- Less roads and pipelines
- Natural gas production does not contaminate ground water
- Natural gas production does not trigger earthquakes

Animation of Hydraulic Fracturing: <https://vimeo.com/177586135>

Hydraulic Fracturing: Just the Facts: <http://energyindepth.org/just-the-facts/>

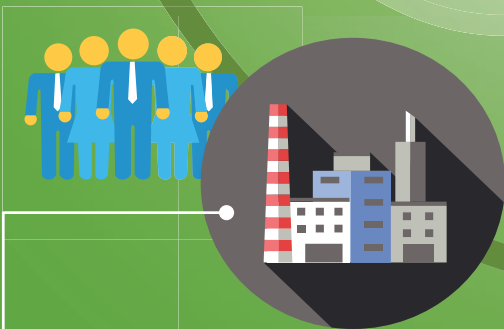
IMPECCABLE SAFETY RECORD

- The natural gas industry has a longstanding record of operating safely
- Spends more than \$22 billion annually to maintain more than 2.5 million miles of transmission and distribution lines
- Collaborates with federal and state regulators, public officials, emergency responders, excavators, consumers and general public from wellhead to the burner tip



EFFICIENTLY YIELDING GENEROUS NATURAL GAS SUPPLIES

- Horizontal drilling combined with hydraulic fracturing reaches large natural gas stores in shale formations
- U.S. leads the world in production
- Job creation directly tied to energy extraction and delivery up 40%
- In U.S. more than one hundred year supply



INDUSTRY RENAISSANCE AND JOB CREATION

- Domestically produced and abundant energy means lower energy costs
- Lower cost energy keeps manufacturing costs down
- Low cost natural gas is helping bring manufacturers back to the U.S.
- Natural Gas-dependent industries to date have created more than one million manufacturing jobs



RESULTING IN LOWER PRICING

- Access to more gas is keeping prices low
- Lower prices passed on to consumers provide significant energy savings
- Residential consumers spend less than those using other energy
- Commercial and industrial businesses also benefit from lower prices

GAS DEPARTMENT... CONTINUED

...Continued from Page 16

The Borough Warehouse, under supervision of the Gas Department, is working to eliminate holding excess inventory in stock. Having too much inventory on hand is a drain on finances, and leads to waste from inventory becoming obsolete or damaged prior to use. We are also working to modernize our inventory system.

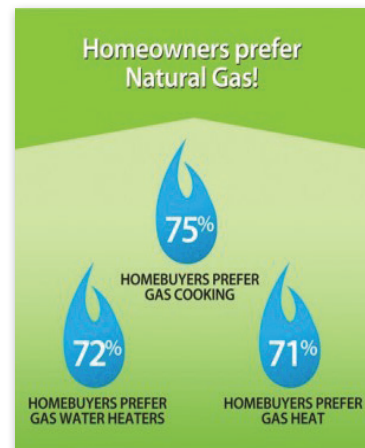


A continuing success story has been the Main Street Energy Efficiency Financing Program. Financially backed by our gas supplier, the Municipal Gas Authority of Georgia, this program offers interest free loans of up to \$5,000 for Borough residents to convert their furnaces and water heaters to natural gas. To date, 370 homes have participated in the program, with \$1.6 million in loans paid out. Converting to gas heat saves many customers several thousand dollars per year in heating costs.

Looking forward to 2017, the Gas Department anticipates our customers' will see gas prices similar to those in 2016. We anticipate adding 100 more gas customers in 2017, with half being through the loan program.

We also anticipate another busy year of CI gas main replacement. This will include the replacement of CI mains on Elder Street, Hollywell Avenue and E. Catherine Street. Additionally, we anticipate continuing to expand our system to more areas of the Borough, potentially including Brandon Drive.

The Customer Service Center has taken on several functions to aid the Administrative Services Department. We will continue to work in 2017 to expand our benefits to the Borough. We recognize that our mission is to serve Borough residents and Borough operations, and this fact governs all that we do.



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

By David Finch, Assistant Borough Manager / Director of Public Works

Public Works 2016 Review & 2017 Preview

Public Works consists of three functions: the Highway Department, the Sanitation Department, and the Central Garage/Motor Equipment Fund.

2016 was an exciting year of innovation for the Sanitation and Highway Departments. Over the last few years, new technologies and approaches have been applied in an effort to better serve the citizens of Chambersburg; for instance, many people have noticed the new leaf vacuum trucks which suck up the fall leaves from the curbsides every autumn. In 2015, the Borough added a Green Yard Waste Center on Commerce Street in Hamilton Township, giving our residents an inexpensive new way to dispose of green waste generated from maintaining their household property. 2016, however, saw the largest change in recent memory, as residents were provided with a new and greatly expanded curbside single-stream recycling program. Instead of residents having to travel to dispose of plastic bottles or newspapers in a central dumpster, all recycling material can now be disposed of curbside by using the new 35 gallon recycling containers provided to every resident. This greatly expands the amount of recycling material the Borough can dispose of in an ecologically friendly way, and simultaneously reduces the volume and cost of taking trash to the local landfill- a win-win solution for everyone.

The quantity of material recycled in the Borough increased greatly in 2016, yet recycling remains a very expensive service as we must pay vendors to process and dispose of recycling material in excess of what it costs the Borough to merely bring it to the landfill.

Another recycling win for the Borough was the Electronic Waste Recycling program. For many years, it has been illegal to dispose of electronic waste by throwing it out in the regular trash. This left our citizens in a difficult position, as there were fewer and fewer methods available for our citizens to legally dispose of old televisions, VCR's, etc. Even worse, state officials were interpreting Pennsylvania law to the effect that municipalities were prohibited from sponsoring electronic waste recycling programs, despite the real risk that desperate citizens would resort to illegal dumping as a solution. Borough staff, elected officials, and our attorneys all combined efforts to successfully lobby DEP to allow legal recycling program to happen. During the week of September 26th through October 1st, our citizens were invited to come to the Borough to dispose of their electronic waste; over 79,000 items were therefore legally and responsibly disposed.

In 2017, Town Council has decided to have two (2) separate bulky trash drop off days and a separate electronic waste recycling drop off days event. While the cost to the Borough of disposing of electronic waste rises every year, in 2017, Town Council has decided to allow every Sanitation customer to dispose of two items at no additional cost. Please watch your mail for more details and dates.

Recycling operations in many ways are a joint effort between the Highway and Sanitation Departments. Another example of the way that these two departments cooperate, and all of our other utility departments for that matter, is snow removal. We saw this in action in January 2016, when Chambersburg had to deal with the largest recorded snow fall in our history. Although snow removal is primarily the responsibility of the Highway Department, during heavy snow storms when 24 hour operations are required, the whole Borough staff pulls together to provide plow drivers when needed. However, during the January 22nd "snowpocalypse", as some people were calling it, even this proved to be insufficient. Under the leadership of the Borough Manager, who realized the terrible consequences that could befall our citizens who would be denied the ability to travel to jobs, doctors appointments, or other life-critical tasks, the Department was instructed to do whatever it took to free our citizens from the clutches of the storm. Contractors were summoned from all over the county, and given the instruction to work through the day and the night to clear the streets of Chambersburg. In a short period of time, this was accomplished, so that a major disaster was converted into, for most, a minor inconvenience; the worst complaint that we received at City Hall was a resident who was upset that our workers made too much noise as they labored in the cold night to provide safe streets for our citizens.

The lack of snow in the current winter is troubling to the Water Department, who seeks additional precipitation on South Mountain for the Borough's water supply. However, not plowing snow saves a lot of money for the Borough's Highway Department.

...Continued from Page 18

The task for 2017 remains the same as in 2016- provide safe streets and a clean environment for the citizens of the community. We will continue to explore new and innovative technology, such as a plan to provide electronic monitoring of our snow plows and trash trucks, allowing us to provide real time information and guidance to our citizens. We look forward to providing even better levels of service to our citizens in 2017 and for many years beyond.

In 2016, the Sanitation Department Fleet was upgraded to a newer collection trucks



Chambersburg Borough as with all public water systems in Franklin County remains on Drought Watch. If things do not improve, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection will upgrade the Watch to a Drought Warning. If that happens, as it has several times in the past few decades, the Borough, and all surrounding systems, will implement mandatory behavioral changes.

Public water systems in affected counties continue to implement Voluntary and mandatory water reductions in response to reduced supplies. DEP suggests several steps citizens can take to voluntarily reduce their water use.

- **Run water only when necessary. Don't let the faucet run while brushing your teeth or shaving. Shorten the amount of time you let the water run to warm up before you shower. Use a bucket to catch the water and then reuse it to water your plants.**
- **Run the dishwasher and washing machine only with full loads.**
- **Check for household leaks. A leaking toilet can waste up to 200 gallons of water each day.**
- **Replace older appliances with high-efficiency, front-loading models that use about 30 percent less water and 40 to 50 percent less energy.**
- **Install low-flow plumbing fixtures and aerators on faucets.**

SEWER & WATER DEPARTMENT



Conserving Water, One Drop At A Time By Lance Anderson, Sewer/Water Department Superintendent

Did you know that as a Chambersburg Resident you likely use between 80 to 100 gallons of water each day? Every single day. Yes, that's more than 29,000 gallons each year. And the mind-boggling part? The largest household use of water is flushing the toilet. We are literally flushing one of the earth's most precious resources down the toilet. That's the bad news. The good news is there is much you can do to conserve water.

First let's figure out your toilet's water use. It should say somewhere on it how many gallons it uses per flush. If it uses 1.6 gallons per flush, it is meeting the federal standard. Bonus points if it says 1.28 gallons per flush and meets the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) WaterSense standards. It'll save 20% over the 1.6-gallon model. If your toilet is an older, much less efficient model it is likely using 6 gallons of water per flush. If all of the inefficient toilets in the Borough of Chambersburg were replaced with WaterSense models, it would likely equal tens of million gallons of water savings per year.

More importantly than whether you already have a low-flow toilet or not, is to ensure a toilet is functioning properly and not leaking. To do this, open the back of the toilet and drop in a few drops of food coloring. If that color appears in the toilet bowl within the next 15 minutes or so, you have a leak that needs to be fixed as soon as possible. (Tip: Do this test right before you are going to flush it anyway to avoid staining.)

Even though toilets are the biggest household user of water, they aren't the only way you are wasting water in the bathroom. If you turn off the water while brushing your teeth, you can save up to eight gallons of water per day—that's nearly 3,000 gallons per year

The shower is another place with the potential to save a lot of water. Federal regulations mandate that showerheads can't exceed 2.5 gallons of flow per minute, but the very best use 2 gallons per minute or less. Not only can you conserve water by installing a low-flow showerhead, but you can also save energy (and money) on water heating.

Some people also have their washer and dryer in their bathrooms, leaving yet another way to conserve water in this room of the house. When is it time to do laundry, be sure you are only washing full loads. If you do have to wash a small load, be sure to use the appropriate water level setting. Also, look for ENERGY STAR clothes washers, which clean clothes using 35% less water and 20% less energy than standard appliances.

If you follow all of these tips for water conservation, you are bound to make your bathroom the most water-conscious room in your house. You can then move on to finding ways to conserve in the kitchen and yard!

Every drop of water counts—especially when public water suppliers are under a drought declaration, as was the Borough of Chambersburg beginning November 3, 2016. The drought declaration was announced on behalf of the state Governor, with both Franklin and Adams (the county in which the Borough's reservoir is within) county being added to the list under a "Watch" status. Under Watch status a Public Water Supplier asks its customers to voluntarily reduce water consumption by 5%. The drought declaration itself was not based on the operating level of the reservoir, which is still within normal operational level based on time of year, and the status of Watch is the least severe status, other than "Normal" status.

The Borough's 1.78 billion gallon reservoir can best be thought of as a fuel tank within an automobile: conserving fuel will make the car drive farther, but without refueling, the car will eventually run out of fuel. Long Pine Run reservoir is directly fed by two streams, Birch Run and Long Pine. Indirectly, the reservoir receives water from precipitation events and groundwater recharge.

With no control over precipitation events, conservation of water is the single tool the Borough is left with in control of its reservoir. The less water one uses in daily practices or wastes to inefficient or leaking fixtures, the longer the water supply will last. Conservation measures may seem little or insignificant compared to amount of water used daily in a town such as Chambersburg, but every drop saved counts towards one less drop that has to be replenished in the reservoir.

2016 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Dear Customer:

The annual report on the quality of water delivered by the Borough of Chambersburg is currently available on the Borough Website at www.chambersburgpa.gov/pdf/2016waterqualityreport.pdf. It meets the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirement for "Consumer Confidence Reports" and contains information on the source of our water, its treatment, and how it compares to (EPA) and state standards. Safe water is vital to our community. Please read the report carefully, and if you have any questions or would like hard copies of the report, contact the Borough Water Department at (717) 352-7450. We are proud to report that your water met or exceeded all of the standards for safe drinking water.

Respectfully submitted,

Borough of Chambersburg

Jeffrey Stonehill
Borough Manager, Director of Utilities

Lance Anderson, P.E.
Water/Sewer Superintendent

Scott Melego
Water Plant Supervisor

What Not To Flush

By Travis Amsley, Assistant Sewer/Water Superintendent

What Not To Flush

When you use your toilet, shower, washing machine or dishwasher, wastewater leaves your home through pipes that connect to the Borough sewer system. Many materials frequently flushed or poured down the drain can damage the sewer system, can cause sewer backups in your home, can cause overflows into the environment, and can cause damage to equipment at the treatment facility. Every property owner connected to the Borough sewer system can be a potential contributor to sewer problems, and a potential victim of those problems.

Don't Flush This

Basically, the only thing you should ever flush down a toilet is human waste and toilet paper. Here is a list of some of things to keep out of the toilet.

- disposable diapers
- personal care wipes (even those marketed as "flushable")
- feminine products
- cotton balls and swabs
- unused medications (medications can be disposed of at Borough Hall)
- condoms
- cleaning wipes of any kind (even those marketed as "flushable")
- facial tissue, napkins, and paper towels
- bandages and bandage wrappings
- and many more items

Unfortunately, many of these materials are found in our system. Removal at the treatment plant is essential for the protection of downstream processes and equipment. Each week, a bar screen at the beginning of the wastewater treatment process removes 5,000 to 6,000 lbs (2.5 to 3 tons) of material from incoming raw sewage.



Treatment Plant Bar Screen

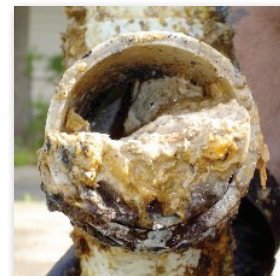
Fats, Oils And Grease (FOG)

Additionally, grease in sewer pipes causes sewer maintenance problems for property owners and the Borough as well. Never pour grease in your sink drain and try to use your garbage disposal less.

Grease is a byproduct of cooking. It comes from meat, lard, oil, shortening, butter and margarine, food scraps, baking goods, sauces and dairy products. When grease washes down the sink, it sticks to the insides of the pipes that connect your home or business to the Borough's sewer. It also coats the insides of the Borough's sewer pipes.

Eventually, the grease can build up until it completely blocks sewer pipes. That can create difficult and expensive maintenance problems for both the Borough and private property owners. Blocked sewer pipes can cause raw sewage to back up into your home or business, or overflow into streets and the environment. To combat grease buildup, Borough personnel routinely (and in some cases weekly) flush sewer mains in order to prevent blockages.

Remember, anyone who uses the Borough sewer system should be responsible for what they flush or pour down drains.



Grease clog in a residential sewer pipe

CHAMBERSBURG LOCAL LAW ON TEMPORARY SIGNS

GOOD



GOOD



NOT GOOD



NOT GOOD



WHERE ARE SIGNS GENERALLY PROHIBITED?

Essentially, the space between the building-side edge of the sidewalk and the curb OR about four to six feet from the street surface is considered the Right of Way. While the Right of Way may not be the same from street to street, it is generally the area near the street. This ban includes (but is not necessarily limited to) real estate signs, yard sale signs, political signs, lost animal signs, etc.

No signs on medians, traffic islands, street lights, traffic sign poles, telephone poles, and garbage cans (all of which are almost always inside the right of way).

SIGNS ARE PROHIBITED IN THE "RIGHT OF WAY"

CHAMBERSBURG BOROUGH GREEN YARD WASTE CARDS NOW AVAILABLE FOR 2017

The Borough now has a new and improved system for the recycling of green yard waste and other items, in keeping with State and Federal laws. These rules are strictly enforced.

The Borough's green yard waste recycling center will reopen W Commerce Street, just off N Franklin Street, in Hamilton Township on April 1, 2017. The old site, at the Borough Farm, off Hollywell Avenue, is no longer available to the public. The site will be open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and residents must buy a pre-paid Green Yard Waste Card at City Hall before using the site. Contractors, landscapers, and landlords will be invoiced for their waste and they should open an account at City Hall during regular business hours.



GREEN YARD WASTE DROP OFF RULES:

ELIGIBLE GREEN YARD WASTE: Acorns, Bark, Branches, Brush, Bushes, Flowers, Foliage, Kindling, Knots, Leaves, Fall Tree Leaves, Limbs, Plants, Roots/Rootballs, Sawdust, Shrubs, Twigs, Wood chips

**NO TREE TRUNKS - NO LOGS
DO NOT DUMP LARGE PIECES OF WOOD**

The Borough will not receive tree trunks that exceed the size and weight limits below:

No individual item may weigh more than 30 lbs

No individual item may be longer in length than 6 feet

No individual item may have a diameter in excess of 6 inches

Organic material may need to be chopped or chipped prior to delivery to the site to meet these requirements

In general, logs and trunks must be cut down in order to meet size/weight limits

NO GRASS CLIPPINGS

The Borough will not accept grass at our facility. Grass may be considered trash or composted. Per Pennsylvania DEP, grass can be recycled on your property. Grass can be mulched and left on your lawn to help it grow or deposited in a backyard compost heap. Grass overwhelms our yard waste program.

Grass might be placed in trash bags or cans and left out with your municipal solid waste for collection and disposal.

FALL LEAVES COLLECTED CURBSIDE

The Borough will continue to collect fall leaves at both our Green Waste Facility and when we collect fall leaves curbside at your house. We encourage you to let the Borough collect and recycle fall leaves through our separate collection program.

Property owners should sweep and rake fall leaves loose to the curb line/wind row for on street collection by the Borough. Leaves do not need to be placed in bags; they should be left loose for collection. If you want to bag leaves, please use Kraft style paper bags, which are available through home improvement retailers.

NO PLASTIC BAGS DO NOT DUMP PLASTIC BAGS

The Borough cannot receive any plastic bags as the plastic is not recycled by our program. Eligible waste should be dropped at the facility either loose or in Kraft style paper bags, which are available through home improvement retailers. Waste in plastic bags will be rejected.

NO TRASH OR CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS DO NOT DUMP CONSTRUCTION WOOD

Beams, block, brick, concrete, construction wood, decking, dirt, dowels, grime, gypsum, metal, nails/tacks/fasteners, pallets, paneling, plastic, plywood, shale, shingles, siding, soil and stone are all ineligible waste.

PLEASE KEEP GRASS CLIPPINGS OUT OF STORM DRAINS

The Borough of Chambersburg asks that residents and business owners keep grass clippings on your property and off of the sidewalk, curb and street. Local law (Chapter 109) prohibits any grass clippings to be placed into a public street or alley along the curb line in such a manner that the clippings cover, or could cover, a storm drain or enter the storm sewer system. Dumping or hosing of grass clippings into a storm drain or the storm sewer system is also prohibited. Grass clippings can clog storm drains and the storm sewer system, which may result in street flooding. Grass clippings can also harm the Conococheague Creek and Falling Spring Creek, where the Borough storm sewer system empties.



WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Keep all grass clippings on your property; off of the curb and sidewalk and out of the street.
- Compost grass clippings on your property away from storm drains, wetlands and streams.
- Grass clippings can be bagged and placed at the curbside or other designated area for collection by the Borough Sanitation Department on your regularly scheduled weekly trash collection day. Please note, the number of trash receptacles or bags - including those with grass clippings - collected from any one household unit per week is limited to three unless accompanied by a tag purchased from the Borough for each receptacle or bag over three.
- If you see a storm drain that is clogged and can clear it without placing yourself in danger, please remove the grass clippings or other debris. If you cannot, or do not want to, clear the storm drain, please contact the Borough Customer Service Center at: **717-263-4111** or servicecenter@chambersburgpa.gov.

Borough of Chambersburg

If you would like to learn more about the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4), please visit the Borough website at: www.chambersburgpa.org, click on the Documents link and then scroll down to the Storm Sewer section. Or contact Andrew Stottlemeyer, Storm Sewer System Manager at: **717-709-2289** or astottlemeyer@chambersburgpa.gov





**RECYCLE OFTEN.
RECYCLE RIGHT.™**



Borough of Chambersburg

Single stream recycling:



**Plastic Bottles
& Containers**



**Food & Beverage
Cans**



Paper



**Flattened Cardboard
& Paperboard**



**Food & Beverage
Cartons**



**Clear, Green &
Brown Glass**

Do NOT include in your mixed recycling bin:



NO Food Waste
(Compost instead!)



**NO Plastic
Supermarket
Bags & Film**



**NO Foam Cups,
Packing Peanuts
& Containers**



NO Needles
(Keep medical waste out of recycling. Place in safe disposal
medical trash containers)

**To Learn More Visit:
RecycleOftenRecycleRight.com**

#RORR

**Please place recycling all in one bin to be picked up by
Waste Management on behalf of Chambersburg every week
on the same day and in the same place as your Borough
trash pick up.**

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

By Jason Cohen, MPA, Director of Finance/Treasurer

Chambersburg Has the Most Complex Municipal Budget in Pennsylvania

In 2016, the Borough's Finance Department was involved in facilitating numerous Department-specific and Borough-wide projects, including planning for and the issuance of General Obligation Bond debt for the construction of the new Chambersburg Aquatic Facility in 2017, and planning for the issuance of General Obligation debt in 2017, for the construction of the Utility Addition to Town Hall, also planned for construction in 2017-2018. Additionally, the Finance Department, working closely with the IT Department and the Borough Manager's office, has continued to lay the groundwork for the implementation of a new enterprise resource planning software package, by conducting day-long, on-site demonstrations with the top candidates, as a part of an extensive discovery process, intended to identify the software package and provider that best addresses the Borough's increasingly-complex needs. The intent of such implementation is to increase communication and productivity amongst the Borough's multiple departments, thereby leading to a more efficient use of taxpayer dollars. Implementation is planned to begin in 2017, and last through late 2018.

Since 2015, the Finance Department continues to work directly with the Borough's investment advisors - Sterling Advisors, with \$40 million under management, in order to realize an average yield of 1.25%, with an average maturity of only 3.3 years, and an estimated annual income of \$487,000. These increased returns should further lessen the burden on the Borough's tax and operating revenues for the funding of operations.

No taxes are used to supplement utility operations. In fact, just the opposite, our Electric and Gas utilities pay taxes (similar to private companies) to the General Fund. The Water Department paid through 2013, but in anticipation of a possible change in State law that would prohibit water utilities from making payments for general government operations, we ceased this practice. These payments are called Payments in Lieu of Gross Receipts Taxes or PILOTs.

The Borough is very careful to keep our utilities and our General Fund separate. Those functions that are multi-department functions (such as the Finance Department or the Motor Equipment Fund) are also kept out of the General Fund because they are shared departments; known as internal services. Therefore, the only functions that remain in the General Fund are the functions that are required to be there by rule.

There are a number of different types of taxes collected by the Borough for use in the General Fund. However, most of these taxes are set by State law, cannot be adjusted year-to-year, and therefore not subject to any annual review. State law only allows the Borough one tax that it can adjust year-to-year: the real estate tax.

Real estate or property taxes are regressive, non-elastic, and are generally an unfair way to raise revenue as they are based on a property's inherent value rather than the resources of the property owner. In Chambersburg we have historically used property taxes for one purpose only: to fund the Chambersburg Police Department.

Beginning in 2014, Town Council decided to begin the levy of a separate fire tax. This decision was unavoidable given the Town Council's failure to convince an arbitrator to reduce benefits, increase employee contributions to benefits, or prevent annual wage increases awarded these employees. The budget now includes both a police tax and a fire tax.

To be clear, the real estate tax is split: first, a general levy, which is used exclusively for the Police Department; and second, a fire levy, which will be used exclusively to provide fire and EMS equipment and vehicles for the Emergency Services Department. Police and Fire will be the only use of real estate taxes in the budget. No real estate taxes are used for any other function but police and fire.

This will all change in 2018. In 2016, Council decided that the Borough will establish a first-ever Recreation Tax beginning not in the 2017 budget, but the next. No matter what, 2018 will see this new tax increase. However, that tax will not go into the General Fund. It will be earmarked to retire the debt associated with the 2016 Recreation Bond, which was sold at the end of last year.

For the second consecutive year, the Finance Department also administered the Borough's Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) solicitation campaign, in which tax exempt agencies that pay no property tax, yet still receive the benefit of municipal police and fire services, were requested to contribute towards those services, in lieu of taxes. The campaign raised \$30,923 to be used towards those services, which the Borough would not have otherwise received. This represents an increase of 15% over PILOT's received in 2015, as a result of this initiative.

In addition to accounting and bookkeeping, the Finance Department also administers meter reading, billing, city hall maintenance and parking enforcement.

In 2016, the Live-In Residence Downtown Custodian & Maintenance Worker position was created for the purpose of providing custodial and maintenance coverage to the public and quasi-public spaces of core downtown area. Jeffrey Zeigler, an experienced landscaper, was hired to fill the position, which has been very positively received by downtown residents, merchants, and patrons.

The Finance Department also continued to administer the collections process, instituted in 2015, which resulted in the collection of 36% of delinquent debt identified as collectible by January 2016, and YTD collections of delinquent debt exceeding \$370,000. This process has significantly mitigated the number of outstanding invoices being placed into third-party collections.

Finally, the Finance Department, again, proudly received recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association, via the award of the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2015.

One of the largest and most complex operations of the Borough, the Finance Department is looking forward to moving in the Utility Departments Addition to City Hall in a year or so. We have clearly outgrown our current office suite.

The Borough's Annual Audit (Called CAFR) is available at: www.chambersburgpa.gov
Click on Transparency

CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2016 ACTUAL

REVENUES;	AMOUNT:
Taxes: Property, Wage, Deed Transfer, Emergency & Municipal & PILOT	\$10,467,647
Police Fines & Costs	\$171,065
Recreation Department - Pool & Park Receipts	\$377,567
Federal, State & Other Reimbursements	\$1,360,590
Licenses, Permits, Ambulance, & Other Receipts	\$3,758,729
Enterprise Funds	\$66,099,606
Internal Service Funds	\$9,043,629
Payroll, Employees' Pensions & Other Trust Funds	\$16,932,385
Surplus Operating Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$32,260,149
Surplus Special and Reserve Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$20,556,075

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$161,027,442
Inter-Fund Transfers	\$10,444,260

TOTAL RECEIPTS AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$171,471,702
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APPROPRIATIONS:	
Fire, Ambulance, & Police	\$8,283,880
Highway, Traffic & Lighting	\$2,781,284
Public Recreation	\$1,590,075
General Administration	\$1,082,985
Community Development	\$2,083,750
Enterprise Funds	\$57,481,967
Internal Service Funds	\$9,982,272
Payroll, Employee Pensions & Other Trust Funds	\$16,220,665
Surplus Operating Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$40,488,481
Surplus Special and Reserve Funds from preceding Fiscal Year	\$21,032,859

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$161,028,219
Inter-Fund Transfers	\$10,444,260

TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND INTERFUND TRANSFERS	\$171,472,479
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PROPERTY TAX RATES - DIRECT AND OVERLAPPING GOVERNMENTS

TAX YEAR	BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG	CHAMBERSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT	FRANKLIN COUNTY	FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY
2016	25.5 mils	101.378 mils	27.60 mils	1.05 mils
2015	23.5 mils	98.426 mils	25.65 mils	1.05 mils
2014	23.5 mils	96.12 mils	25.65 mils	1.05 mils
2013	20.0 mils	93.685 mils	25.65 mils	1.05 mils
2012	20.0 mils	92.76 mils	25.65 mils	1.05 mils

1. Chambersburg Town Council adopts only the Borough rate; not the other rates.
2. Chambersburg Town Council did not raise taxes for six years prior to 2014.
3. Your Borough Property Tax represents only 16¢ of every \$1 paid in property taxes in 2016.
4. The Borough also collects Earned Income Tax, Deed Transfer Tax, and Local Services Tax.

2017 COUNCIL ROSTER

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF TOWN COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

COUNCILMEN

Alice C. Elia

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840 Brandon Drive
Fifth Ward - 2014-2017
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MAYOR

Darren Brown

916 South Fifth Street
Chambersburg, PA 17201
2014 - 2017
Mayors Office 261-3243
Cell Phone 331-0129
mayor@chambersburgpa.gov

OFFICE ADDRESS:

100 SOUTH SECOND STREET,
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201

OFFICE PHONE:

(717) 264-5151 EXT. 3201 OR 3254

COUNCIL MEETINGS

7:00 PM

Regular Public: 2nd and 4th
Mondays - Council Chambers
Check website for calendar

BOROUGH STAFF

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Borough Manager
Director of Utilities
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Assistant Borough Manager
Public Works Director
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Manager / Land Use and
Development Director
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Assistant Borough Solicitor
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Superintendent
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Gas Superintendent
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Jon Mason

Assistant Gas Superintendent
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Lance Anderson

Water and Sewer
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Emergency Services Chief
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Dustin Ulrich

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Services Chief
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Brenda Hill

Borough Tax Collector
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BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG

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BOROUGH OF CHAMBERSBURG
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CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17201-0909

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