

AKRON BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

COUNCIL RE-ORGANIZES

In accordance with Pa. Borough Code, every Borough in Pa. must re-organize in all even numbered years with Borough Council members selecting Council Leadership and appointing staff, boards and commissions. The new Council President is John Williamson who is a former Council member and was re-elected in November. John replaces, as President, long time member and President Tom Murray Sr. who still serves on Council. Another new member voted to Council in November is Phil Benigno who will serve as Chairman of the Water Committee. In addition to the two new members, Justin Gehman will serve as Vice-President with Earl Shirk, Tom Murray Sr., Perry Lorah and Dan McCormac continuing to serve on Council. An initiative of newly appointed Council President, John Williamson, is a greater involvement of Akron residents to serve our community. He requests individuals interested in serving Akron Borough to contact Faye Martin at 859-1600 or email at faye@akron-pa.com. with your name and interest in serving and contact information. Take pride in your community by serving.

PROPERTY TAXES

BOROUGH OF AKRON AND LANCASTER COUNTY REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS WILL BE MAILED BY MARCH 1, 2016.

Discount amount is payable through April 30, 2016.

Base amount is payable thru June 30, 2016.

Penalty amount is payable after June 30, 2016.

If you have any questions, please contact the Tax Office at 859-1600.

COUNCIL MEETINGS-

Akron Borough Council meets the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Municipal Building, 117 S. 7th Street.

STORM DRAIN

POLLUTION PREVENTION: BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

In Akron, as in most of Lancaster County, most storm drains flow directly to local tributaries that enter small streams. Akron's stormwater flows to the Cocalico Creek, the Conestoga River and eventually into the Chesapeake Bay. Recent studies have indicated that the "Bay" is so polluted that the Bay's natural habitat for fish, fowl, crabs and clams is in danger of extinction. Although the main pollutants in the Bay are generated from farms and sanitary treatment plants, what washes into our storm drains during rain events is another source of contaminants that all of us need to control. Some common sources of this pollution include cement and concrete washout water that flows into the street, spilled oil and fluids from leaking vehicles parked in our streets, landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers and paint products that are washed down into the storm drains.

THINGS THAT WE CAN DO TO CONTROL THESE TYPES OF POLLUTANTS: This spring the storm drain inlets in the Borough are being marked with a colorful marker with a pollution prevention message. You can help by using the following tips to prevent this pollution:

Don't change oil in the streets of Akron. Not only is it bad for our water quality it's also against the LAW in Akron and you can be fined up to \$600. 1.) Repair any leaks in your vehicles that may be causing oil spills in our street or on your driveways, and when necessary clean up the spill. (kitty litter is a great absorbent for oil spills). 2) Use fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides sparingly and follow the application instructions. 3) Keep yard waste (grass), trash, and dirt off the streets and out of the gutters. 4) Clean up after your

pets. 5) Wash your vehicle at a car wash or park your car in the grass to wash. 6) Never clean paint brushes or rinse paint containers into the street, gutters, storm drains or streams. Water based paint brushes and empty containers should be disposed of as solid waste. Oil based paints should be disposed of as hazardous waste. (contact Lancaster County Solid Waste Authority for additional guidance.)

The cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay is an EPA and DEP high priority and very costly program. We all pay a price for this project!

STREET SWEEPING

Spring Street Sweeping is tentatively scheduled to take place April 21nd and April 22nd beginning at 7:00 am both days. The East side of 272 will be swept on April 21nd and the West side on April 22nd. When possible please remove parked cars from streets on the applicable date of sweeping. In addition, a reminder regarding tree limb height. To save time and assure safety, please assure any tree limbs in front of your properties are at least 12 feet above sidewalks. This will assure that your street will get swept and emergency vehicles can travel the streets without accident or injury.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

Unlike last year when we had our share of ice and snow accumulations in Akron, the 2015/16 winter has been very good to us so far. Although we are through over a third of the winter, February and March, historically, receive the heaviest snowfalls. As a reminder sidewalks should be cleared with at least a 2 foot pathway within 24 hours **after** the snowfall stops. Avoid additional work. Public Works plow operators have been directed to plow as close to curblines as possible. Although the drivers do their best to minimize additional snow

rolling back onto sidewalks, in some cases it's unavoidable. Give the Borough time to open the streets before clearing your sidewalk. Again you have 24 hrs after the snow has completely stopped. Also snow may not be thrown onto the street. If there is an intersection located at your property, please leave a path so school children and people walking have access to the crosswalk. In the event they are calling for a heavy snow, please remove your vehicles from the street to allow our snowplows to do a better job at clearing the streets.

A GOOD HABIT TO GET INTO

As individuals we develop habits, some bad and some not so bad. A good habit to get into, as property owners, is to periodically check your water meter for potential system LEAKS. You should check, at least, on a monthly basis and we would recommend every two weeks. To check you need to locate your inside water meter. The meter will have a large dial with numbers; 10, 20, 30 etc which measures water flow in ten gallon increments. In the center will be a much smaller (either red or black) triangular dial that measure each gallon and will spin any time, any amount of water is going through the meter. In the large dial will also be a line of numbers that is an accumulative number of gallons for the meter and is measured by hundred gallon use. To check for leaks make sure that all fixtures (sinks, showers, toilets, etc) are not being used and are turned off. Once you are sure that no water is being consumed, visually for five minutes, verify that the small triangular dial does not move. If during that time that dial periodically moves you have a leak in the system. What you think are small leaks cost the property owner big bucks. Over the period of a three month billing cycle a small leak in the beginning of that cycle will cause your normal water and sewer bill to double or triple. To determine total water use for any given period subtract the previous reading of the accumulative number from the current reading and that will tell

you how many hundreds of gallons of use for that time frame. We all must conserve this most precious natural resource.

AKRON FIRE COMPANY

2/20/2016

All You Can Eat Breakfast

3/6/2016

Destination Bingo – contact Karen Leisey 215-8800

3/19/2016

Chicken BBQ

BOROUGH ADDRESS

117 South Seventh Street
PO Box 130
Akron PA 17501

POLICE DEPT. PHONE NUMBERS

For fire, ambulance calls, or police emergencies dial 911. If you would like to talk to a Police Officer concerning a non-emergency complaint or situation, please dial 859-6600. This number is answered 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. An Officer will respond or call you back as soon as he or she is able.

WATER & SEWER

BILLING NEWS

You need to use PO Box 130 when mailing items to the Borough Hall.

Also, for non-payment of a water and sewer bill, a second notice is sent 15 days after the due date giving the resident an additional 10 days to pay the bill before service is terminated. Please pay attention to your notices to avoid this happening.

BOROUGH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Office phone number is 859-1600. Lobby is open 24 hours a day with a night drop for bills, parking tickets, etc. Also a phone for police which dials directly to County Radio.

HISTORICAL MOMENT

The Ephrata Review
Friday, September 11th 1903
The fourth room of the public schools will be opened on Saturday 28 giving it a seven month term. Teachers applications are requested by the board in another column.

BOROUGH DIRECTORY

John McBeth-Mayor
859-2655

COUNCIL

John Williamson-President
859-1600
Justin Gehman-Vice-Pres./
Streets/Sewer - 859-2757
Thomas Murray, Sr -
Administration/Finance
859-3191
Perry Lorah -
Community Relations
859-4376
Daniel McCormac -
Parks/Property/Planning
859-1600
Earl Shirk -
Personnel/Public Safety
859-1600
Philip Benigo - Water
859-1600

BOROUGH MANAGER

Dan Guers 859-1600

BOROUGH SECRETARY

Susan Davidson 859-1600

CHIEF OF POLICE

Thomas Zell 859-6600

TREASURER

Robert Ober

TAX COLLECTOR

Ann S. Nolt 859-1600

SOLICITORS

Shirk & Mejia 733-7997

ENGINEERS

Arro Consultants 569-7021

EMERGENCY

MANAGEMENT

COORDINATOR

Greg Leisey 859-4163

PLANNING COMMISSION

Robert Rollman
John Williamson
Sam Baughman, II
John Taylor

Ryan Cochran

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Christine Burkholder –
Chairperson

Thomas Bender
Kay McEllhenney
Annette Swartz

BOROUGH AUTHORITY

Terry Reber

Jeff Shirk

Pam Musser

Robert Stauffer

Susan Davidson,

Secretary/Treasurer

CIVIL SERVICE

COMMISSION

Kirby Smith

Joseph Mikos

Donald Reese