BRINGING BACK THE NEWSLETTER!

It has been a few years since the Borough of Bridgeport has published a community newsletter. After requests from residents and borough officials, borough administration is proud to present you with the newest edition. I hope that residents will find the information included both topical and practical. In the future, the borough intends to release these newsletters on a quarterly basis. The staff and officials of the Borough of Bridgeport would like to wish its residents a Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a healthy New Year!

BIENNIAL REORGANIZATION MEETING

In accordance with Section 1001 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code, borough councils are required to reorganize on the first Monday in January of each even-numbered year unless it is a holiday. The Borough's reorganization meeting is Scheduled for Monday, January 2, 2018 at 7pm. At this meeting, Judge James Gallagher will swear in the newly elected and reelected members of Council. The Mayor will then preside over the meeting until nominations and votes are taken for offices. First will be the office of President. Once nominations are made (no second is needed) and a majority votes, the gavel is turned over to the new President. Nominations and votes for other officers are then held. Once nominations are over and the new Council members are seated, other business may be discussed at this public meeting if the new council so chooses. We welcome everyone who is interested to attend this meeting.

CHANGES IN BOROUGH COUNCIL

2018 will see three new members on Borough Council, as well as a new Mayor. Councilmembers Mark Barbee, Jo Ann Gadzicki and Nicole Pierce will complete their terms at the end of 2017. Serving as a member of borough council requires dedication and a large investment of time and effort, and we thank these councilmembers for their service and achievements. Councilmembers Beth Jacksier, William J. Lawless, and Kyle Shenk will begin their terms in 2018. Additionally, Mark Barbee has moved from Borough Council to becoming the newly-elected Mayor. The borough welcomes them and looks forward to their involvement in the future direction of our community.

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOROUGH MANAGER

To the residents and business owners whom I have yet to meet, my name is Keith Truman, and I became the borough manager of Bridgeport in August 2016. I have always enjoyed working for boroughs over townships; boroughs seem to be more tightly-knit, and provide a "hometown" atmosphere that larger townships just cannot match. I came to Bridgeport with the hope that, with guidance from our elected officials, we can not only continue to build on an already strong sense of community pride, but also provide services that will improve our resident's lifestyles and encourage the right kind of residential and commercial growth. If you ever have a problem, no matter how large or small, please contact the borough offices. The borough staff is always willing to listen and help when possible.

2017 truly was a monumental year for Bridgeport:

1. It was a year of firsts; as residents came out in full force to support our first Bridgeport Carnival and the Inaugural Bridgeport 5K. We hope to see you at these and other community events in 2018, like the Bridgeport Farmer's Market!

2. Bridgeport was able to spend an unprecedented $396,000 on borough road repairs in 2017. Union Avenue, Fifth Street, and portions of Bush, Coates, and Hurst Streets were repaired for the first time in many years. The 2018 Budget has another $200,000 earmarked for continued road repairs, in an effort to annually improve the borough infrastructure.

3. 2017 saw the donation of a beautiful brick and granite "Welcome to Bridgeport" sign along northbound DeKalb Street from Richard Schildt, as well as decorative wayfinding signage throughout the borough, aiding in the beautification of our town and directing visitors to our local landmarks and facilities.

4. In 2017, Bridgeport secured a bond for the purchase of a new KME Pumper Truck for the Bridgeport Volunteer Fire Department. This truck will replace a thirty-year-old vehicle, and we expect delivery in early December.

Borough Council and administration look forward to providing more quality service and fun events to our residents in 2018!

BOROUGH OF BRIDGEPORT

NEWSLETTER, FALL/WINTER 2017

BOROUGH COUNCIL

PRESIDENT: John Pizza, Ward 3
VICE-PRESIDENT: Howard "Randy" Bennett, Ward 1
Mark Barbee, Ward 1
Jo Ann Gadzicki, Ward 2
Tony Heyl, Ward 3
Bill Lawless, Ward 2
Nicole Pierce, At-Large
MAYOR: Thaddeus J. Pruskowski

Council meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7:30pm, at Borough Hall, 63 West 4th Street. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

Keith S. Truman, Borough Manager
ADMINISTRATION: 610-272-1811
POLICE DEPARTMENT: 610-272-5660

MESSAGES FROM PUBLIC WORKS

Leaf Collection 2017: Street side leaf collection is performed by the public works department. Leaf collection days are Mondays and Fridays, weather permitting. Please place piles of leaves neatly along your curbside. Leaf collection will continue until the snowy season begins, so don't delay, because that's right around the corner.

Winter Driving Tips: Public Works always strives to remove snow from the streets as quickly and safely as possible after a storm, and offers the following suggestions to ensure safe winter driving:

1. Try not to drive during a storm.
2. If you must drive, leave plenty of time for your travel, and leave extra space between vehicles to maintain a safe driving distance.
3. Give plows and snow removal equipment the right of way. Do not pass plowing equipment if active.

Snow Removal and Borough Streets: Please be aware, if you begin shoveling your walks and driveways before plowing has ceased, your driveway aprons may be plowed in. The Borough has no ability to eliminate this occurrence, however we do take every effort minimize this event. We also employ efforts not to cause windrows over sidewalks.

Throwing, shoveling and plowing snow from sidewalks or driveways into the street is strictly prohibited.

A twelve-inch path must be cleared on your sidewalk twelve hours after a storm has ceased. Friendly tip: It is much easier to clear your sidewalk path as soon as possible. Waiting too long could allow ice to form and make shoveling both difficult and hazardous to your health.

If your first strenuous physical activity of the year would be shoveling snow, think about having someone to do it for you.

If you have any questions, call the Borough Garage at 610-313-3138.



NEW WAYFINDING SIGNAGE!

Earlier this fall, the Borough of Bridgeport purchased eleven wayfinding signs, like this one, at the corner of Sixth and DeKalb Streets. The purchase was made through a generous $5,000 donation by J.P. Mascaro & Sons. Wayfinding signs are a decorative way to identify landmarks and destinations, and we hope they help navigate visitors around our charming little town!

NEW FIRE TRUCK ON SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER DELIVERY

Below is a photo from KME's manufacturing facility in Nesquehoning, Pennsylvania. The photo shows the front end of the Bridgeport Fire Department's new truck, which is scheduled to be delivered near Christmas. What a wonderful gift so close to the holidays! Borough administration, elected officials, and the fire department are all very excited to take ownership of this beautiful new piece of equipment, which will ensure that Bridgeport Fire Department continues to keep local businesses and residences as safe as possible.



DONATIONS COLLECTED BY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bridgeport Police Department will once again help collect for the following campaigns. All donations may be dropped off to the Police Department during normal business hours.

U.S. Marine Corps' "Toys for Tots" Campaign: All donations of new, unwrapped toys will go to children in need in central and southeast Montgomery County.

Lt. Patty Simons Food Drive benefiting the **Salvation Army**: Any unexpired canned food will be distributed in the region by the Salvation Army.

MAYOR'S TOWN WATCH MEETING

All residents and members of the business community are welcomed to join Mayor Pruskowski for the Winter Town Watch Meeting, being held Thursday, December 14. The meeting will begin at 6pm at Borough Hall, 2nd Floor, 63 West Fourth Street.

MESSAGES FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Bridgeport Police have been experiencing a number of thefts from unlocked vehicles in the Borough. All residents are asked not to keep any items of value in plain view in their vehicles. Lock your vehicles, even if they are parked in your driveway. If residents observe any suspicious activity in your neighborhoods, please call the Bridgeport Police **immediately** at 610-272-5660 or 911.

The Police Department requests that residents obey **all parking regulations** in the Borough. We often receive complaints of vehicles parked on sidewalks and on the street too close to a driveway or corner. We request that when parking near a driveway entrance, that enough space is left for the home owner to safely enter and exit their driveway.

HOME SECURITY SYSTEM DATABASE

Bridgeport Police request anyone who has home security cameras to contact the Department at 610-272-5660 and register their names and addresses. The police would like to build a registry of who has cameras in the event an incident occurs nearby. Please help continue to make Bridgeport safe and register your cameras.