

Fall 2011

Hello again. Sometimes I wonder if anyone reads my Manager's Corner and I was pleasantly surprised to find out that you do. A friend of mine, who seems to like to open the website and look for my comments, has kidded me lately that I had not written in a while. Well here are a few thoughts for the fall.

- Summer has been good to us and a lot of road work, paving and storm sewer work was completed. Thanks to all for your patience.
- We are still waiting to hear if we will be receiving the state DCNR grant to add additional equipment to finish the lower area playground construction plan. Hopefully we will be able to complete the lower playground as soon as we get word.
- Plans for the construction of the Amphitheater at the upper area of the park is progressing well. We should have a final design soon and will break ground in the spring of 2012. Again, thanks to the Ayers Foundation for their generous gift of this fantastic facility.
- Our goal is to improve service to you the customers in both the water and electric utilities. We are transitioning to a new utility and financial software and expect this to be completed in January of 2012. You will be seeing a new bill format at that time which will provide you with additional information concerning your utility consumption data to better aid you in how you use both water and electric to save you money. In addition, we are working on additional options for easy bill payments and more efficient customer service. We will keep you informed as this progresses.
- Our water line project is complete and operational. The next big project is the Main Street water line replacement, which includes the addition of stormwater capacity in the Main Street area. This project should begin in the spring of 2012. We will keep you informed as to when this will begin so you can be prepared for the work to be done. We will do our best to keep any inconvenience to a minimum but any project on Main Street is always difficult and we will need your cooperation and understanding.
- Leaves are falling and we are picking them up as quickly as we can. Just a note to tell you that we do a complete sweep of town and then begin again. If you missed a sweep we will get you the next go round. Please be patient.
- Budget preparation is underway and we will do our best to continue to be as frugal as possible while maintaining services. I do not expect to have to recommend any tax increases in 2012 and hope to keep utility costs as stable as possible.

- We will begin curb repair/replacement in the spring as well. Curbs are a very expensive item to repair or replace but it is necessary. More to come on that later.
- Keep an eye on our website for new postings of events and news in the Borough. We try to keep it updated weekly or more often if possible. The Christmas parade and holiday activities will be noted so don't miss them.
- The snow season is coming faster than we think so keep in mind that the borough employees will be on the roads both day and night to keep you moving safely. Please give them any help and cooperation you can so they can get the job done. They are a great group of people who want very much to serve you well.
- We encourage you to visit and shop in town. Our businesses are run by good people who are there for you and shopping in our home town is good for all.
- We have a welcome booklet that has a lot of useful information, phone numbers etc. that is designed for people new to our town but it is available to anyone who would like it. If you want one please stop in the office and ask for a copy.
- The Borough is a busy place and we continue to try to keep it a safe and wonderful place to both live and work. If there are any questions, comments or suggestions that you may have, feel free to contact our office at (724) 452-6610 or email us at zelieborough@zoominternet.net.

As always, thank you for allowing me to serve you as Borough Manager. I can speak for all the staff that it is a pleasure to work for this wonderful community.

Have fun and be safe.

Don Pepe
Borough Manager