



April 24, 2019 photo

## Town Council Members

- Wilda Fisher, Mayor
- Steve Feathers, President
- Roland Fagan, Vice Pres.
- Rex Goss
- Keith Gruber
- Jacob Harper
- John Stiver
- Mark Zong

## Water & Sewer Authority

- Pete Sunderland, Chair
- Russ Halfpenny
- Steve Coleman
- Galen Yoder
- Doug Zong

## Borough Office 717-899-6323

10 N. Queen St.

Jodie Barger, Sec./Treas.

Mon. thru Fri. 8 am-3 pm

Other times by appt.

[mcveytown@verizon.net](mailto:mcveytown@verizon.net)

## Borough Maintenance and Treatment Plant 717-899-7436

28 S. Water St.

Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 7-3

Matt Stringer, Randy Stoner

[boroman1@verizon.net](mailto:boroman1@verizon.net)

## Bldg./Assessment Code Officer

Matt Stringer 717-899-7436

## Rothrock Community Library

717-899-6846

[rothrocklib@gmail.com](mailto:rothrocklib@gmail.com)

*Mailing address:*

McVeytown Borough

PO Box 321

McVeytown PA 17051

Authority meetings are held on the 1st Wed. each month.

Council meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday each month.

Meetings begin at 6:30 p.m., at the Borough Office, 10 N. Queen St.

Meetings are open to the public.

## From the Borough Office

by Jodie Barger, Borough Secretary

The moment has finally come and Spring is finally here.... Like a breath of fresh air... and with that new beginning are happening all around the Borough.... More people getting involved... we might live in a small town but it's a beautiful one! Let's continue to work together to promote McVeytown Pride! As part of that we have our big annual event coming up —Country Memories Day! Let's all do our part in tidying up our properties... As an extra benefit to our residents, if you need assistance getting rid of leaves and yard debris, Borough staff picks up leaves and other yard debris curbside on Wednesdays or by appointment, if you need a pickup on another day!

As a friendly reminder, please don't litter! We all work hard to keep McVeytown looking so beautiful! When you litter, it causes our staff extra work that could be better spent doing other things. It is littering to throw your trash or cigarettes butts out onto the street.

Soon the children will be out of school. Please remember the curfew is 10 pm in the Borough.

May 21, 2019 is Election Day! Please remember to vote! Every Vote Counts! You matter to us!

From the Water and Sewer Authority: we apologize, but can no longer accept PayPal payments for your water and sewer bill. Several other payment options are available. You can pay your quarterly bill at the Municipal Building at 10 N. Queen Street. The secretary will accept payments Monday thru Friday 8

am to 3 pm as a free service to you.

Borough Council, the Authority and Staff are always seeking ways to better assist our residents! As part of that, one of our newest members, Jacob Harper assisted us in building a new web page. Please visit [www.mcveytownboro.com](http://www.mcveytownboro.com) regularly to keep informed of updates.

As you all are aware, the McVeytown Borough Authority completed their sewer rehabilitation project. We are pleased with the improvements but the Authority is always looking for ways to better the services provided to our residents/business owners, while doing preventive maintenance and repairs to minimize future major increases. As part of that, we need your help. We ask every resident/business owner to check the connections in your home/business, if you have a floor drain or sump pump. McVeytown had two oil spills in the past few years, and THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER. The two events were accidents, but should not have happened at all. This has been a very serious concern that has been addressed to residents/business owners for several years. Borough Council and the Authority can't risk this happening again, and must take action.

We can't stress it enough—If you *have any floor drains and/or sump pump connections connected to the sewer system, you must have them checked and any problems corrected.* Most people don't realize the impact heating oil can have on a public sewer system and



*It's Spring! Take a walk around town and enjoy the pretty sights!*

**Reminder to town residents:**

Time to spruce up the town for Country Memories Day!

*May 25: McVeytown's 33rd Annual Country Memories Day!*

*May 27: Memorial Day Parade.* Please attend to honor our Veterans and those who currently serve.

*June 1: Justin Henry Scholarship Trust 5K Run/Fun Walk.* Registration opens at 7 am; event begins at 8:30 am. For more information, call Jennifer 717-248-3878.

*Sept. 12, 13, 14: Rothrock Fair!* The last fair was held in 2006, and now it's back! Be sure to spread the word and make this year's fair the best one yet! (Be sure to thank Nick Sunderland for starting the ball rolling to bring back the fair!)

*Sept. 14, 3 p.m. Save the date!*

**Rothrock Grand Reunion** at Mifflin County Youth Park in Reedsville (for all former students, teachers, workers of McVeytown schools.) For more information, go to Rothrock Grand Reunion on facebook or call Mary Lou Miller 717-994-5333.

**Rothrock Community Library Hours**

Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Weekly Church Services**

*McVeytown United Methodist*  
Pat Bollinger, Pastor 899-7866  
Worship - 9:20 a.m. Sun. School - 10:45 a.m.  
Contemporary Worship - Sat. 6:30 p.m.

*McVeytown Presbyterian*

Scott Andrews, Pastor 899-6861  
Sunday School - 9 a.m. Worship - 10 a.m.

If you have an event that you would like listed, contact Jodie 717- 899-6323.

**The McVeytown Journal**

This quarterly newsletter is put together by borough staff and volunteers, and we invite you to be part of it! Share your comments, photos, stories, events listings, etc. in the Journal. Email Jodie at mcveytown@verizon.net.

costs associated for removal and repairs let alone the impact on the resident's home/business. Average cost can range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 or more. Some homeowner's insurance policies won't even provide this coverage. Would you be able to pay this expense? Please do your part and check your connections.

If you need assistance or guidance in checking your connections, please contact the Borough Secretary (717) 899-6323 or the Maintenance Office (717) 899-7436 to schedule an appointment.

At this time, you won't receive any fine if you are connected to the sewer system

but you must take action now to avoid future problems.

Another issue the Authority will be working on is grease traps. If you are a business owner, please be advised, this is another area we will be investigating as a preventative measure to maintain our sewer system.

We are here to assist you in anyway we can. Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters.

\*\*\*

*Email Jodie at mcveytown@verizon.net for a pdf copy of the McVeytown Journal that you can email to family and friends.*

**Let's Go Green and Plant Some Trees!**



Many of you will recognize the house on the left, now the home of Mike's O.I.P. This photo was taken before 1924, the year that the Joseph T. Rothrock Memorial was placed in the Square. Note the number of trees that were in town at that time.

**The Street Tree Project Explained**

by Tom Kerstetter

Spring has sprung in McVeytown and numerous residents can be seen daily taking advantage of our peaceful and friendly streets out walking, biking, and socializing. As a McVeytown resident of almost 3 years, I've grown to love our little town for many reasons, however I have noticed that it is missing one thing—street trees!

As the birthplace of Joseph Rothrock, "Conservationist and father of the state forest idea" I feel our town could improve upon his legacy while also beautifying our streets for the residents who proudly call it home. At the March borough council meeting I purposed moving forward with a plan to renew our once tree-lined streets.

Over the next few months, the Community Improvements Committee will be assessing locations across town for

possible tree planting sites and developing formal plans and guidelines. To avoid any potential impacts, the project will utilize the slogan "Plant the right tree in the right location." Community involvement will be key to make this project successful, so anyone interested in potentially having a tree planted along their property frontage is encouraged to reach out.

Local and state grant funding, as well as donations and volunteers will be used to implement the project at no cost to borough residents. Planning for the project will go on throughout 2019, and when funding is secured, planting will hopefully begin in spring of 2020.

If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to me by email at tek77799@gmail.com or contact the borough office.

## Borough Council Report

The Borough completed the 2019 budget with **NO** tax increase; therefore, our real estate tax millage will stay at 9.5 mills. Our general operating budget will be around \$105,000.

Council does not take lightly its responsibility to appropriate and spend **Your** tax dollars wisely. A preliminary budget was passed at our November meeting and was available for public review and public comment, at the Borough Office. It received final approval at the December meeting and went into effect on January 1, 2019.

The Borough continues to face budgetary challenges as costs continue to escalate. Some of the line items are as follows: employee payroll; snow removal and cinderling, street maintenance, heating costs, street lights and other electrical costs, building and property maintenance, legal services and the ever increasing insurances (workers comp-liability-property). In addition, we financially support the Fire Company, Playground and Library.

Residents are welcome to stop at the Borough Office and review the budget at any time and offer comments. We encourage all residents to become familiar with how your tax dollars are spent.

Respectfully,  
Roland Fagan,

Council Vice President  
Budget Committee Member



**McVeytown Borough Council Resolution 1—2019** recognizes Barbara B. Stiver for faithfully serving on the McVeytown Water and Sewer Authority for 19 years. She was recognized for her outstanding contributions to her community, and services to local government. This is one of the many ways that Barbara served her community.

Now that Barb is retired, she enjoys times shared with her grandson, Leo Kerstetter, born November 19, 2018. His parents are Tom and Sarah Kerstetter of McVeytown. *Another generation in the making....!*

### News from Our Library

**W**atch for the Grand Opening of our Children's Library, located on the second floor of the Borough Building. We are in need of a large area rug, tables and chairs suitable for kids.

We have a volunteer to do story time for one hour a month. The start of the program will be announced. We are in need of library volunteers.

Mike Lupica sports books have been added to the juvenile section, as well as Christian fiction books.

Check out the new non-fiction books added to the adult section. We are seeking new biographies. Suggestions of books to add to our collection, are welcome.

### McVeytown Borough

#### Council Resolution 2—2019

appoints Douglas Zong, long-time McVeytown resident, to serve on the Borough Water and Sewer Authority, as a volunteer. He is a 3rd generation of the Zong family to live in the borough. His grandfather Walter (Bud) was the first of his family to settle here. Doug resides with his fiancé Kim Bachman and they have eight children between them. In his free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing and golfing. He describes McVeytown as the little town where he grew up in, with great pride. Doug decided to pursue the position, hoping that he can join forces with other Authority members to



continue to make McVeytown a more desirable place to live. If you see Doug, please thank him for his decision to serve his Community.

Council and Authority members need and want more Community involvement.

The public is welcome to attend their meetings. Please see sidebar on page one of the newsletter for information on times and location.

### Safety Committee Report

**B**orough Council, McVeytown Ambulance and McVeytown Fire Company have formed a Safety Committee to oversee their daily operations. The purpose of this committee is to identify possible hazards or activities that could cause a Workers Compensation claim. The actions of this committee will help make a safer place to work, as well as to keep Workers Compensation claims at a minimum. This in turn will lower the rates, thus saving monies which can be used for other purposes.

Should any resident see an issue that may cause a hazard to any of these groups, please inform us at the following numbers:

Borough Office: 717-899-6323  
Maintenance Plant: 717-899-7436  
Ambulance Co.: 717-899-7473  
Fire Co.: 717-899-7311

*Thank you and have a safe day.*



**Congratulations Steve!**  
In Recognition of Your Retirement...

Borough Council President Steve Feathers announced, as of December 31, 2018, that he is retired from Over Head Door Corp., where he served as a buyer for 46 years.

Currently, Steve serves on Borough Council, and has 28 years of service as a councilman. He is very dedicated to our Community and the residents of the Borough of McVeytown.

When you see Steve out and about, congratulate him on his retirement, and thank him for his ongoing service to McVeytown Borough.

### In Fond Memory of

Joyce Sunderland • Loren "Cannonball" Kauffman  
Aura Kay Miller • Gladys Bedelyon

*kindest Sympathies to their families.*

*Get to know McVeytown's Newest Residents*  
The Lewis Family @ 1 W. Furnace Road  
The Gamzyukov Family @ 24 S. Market Street

# A 'Fire Tax' will help Volunteers Serve Our Community

Submitted by Members of the McVeytown Volunteer Fire Company

The Fire Company has approached the McVeytown Borough Council, as well as Oliver and Bratton Townships, asking to impose a fire tax. Fire protection is by law mandatory for municipalities to provide for its citizens. Currently all three municipalities provide fire company monies from their annual budgets. These funds are a line item budget, meaning that they can be rescinded or reallocated at any time. If the monies are designated as a fire tax, then the monies would have to be used for fire protection by law. A fire tax would insure funding for the Fire Company.

Below are a few questions that have been asked about a fire tax:

**• Why a tax now? Isn't the fire company doing OK without a tax?**

Currently the fire company is financially ok but costs are going up every year and required standards for training and equipment are new sizable costs. Looking forward a short fall of funding with our current fundraising methods can be foreseen.

**• Why do we need a tax for fire funding?**

Many individuals and businesses contribute to the fire company, but most do not. A tax would ensure a fair assessment for all. A tax can only be used for fire protection, so there would be no questions about where the money goes.

**• Where does the fire company's monies come from now?**

Currently funding comes from fundraising events (Bingo, Cash Nights, Gun Raffles), Fund Drives, Grants and the Municipalities line item contributions and Fireman's Relief monies.

**• How much should the Fire Company annual budget be?**

An annual budget of about \$105,000 is projected for the increasing costs related to firefighting, to budget for timely replacement and updated of capital equipment.

**• Doesn't the Fire Company have too much equipment?**

Equipment needs are an important topic of discussion between the Fire Company and the Municipalities. It is essential that the protection of life, property and the



Photo from McVeytown Vol. Fire Co. Facebook page.

safety of the volunteers are in an integral part of that discussion.

**• How will the Fire Department use the monies?**

The Fire Company will be permitted to spend fire tax monies on operational expenses and capital equipment purchases. The Fire Company has invited representatives for each municipality to audit the financial books every year.

In conclusion we ask for you to support the Fire Company with a Fire Tax. We are transparent to the public with all our operations. If anyone has any question or concerns, please contact us at the firehouse.

*The McVeytown Vounteer Fire Company thanks you for your consideration.*

## Don't forget! Country Memories Day is May 25!



Music by Ryan Carter Trio  
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Music by FlipSide  
1 - 3 p.m.



**2019 Mementos**  
**Purchase in time for Mother's Day!**  
This year's basket and wooden replica will be available at Borough Hall on May 9, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

6 a.m. to 10 a.m. Breakfast served near Town Square.  
9 a.m. Opening ceremony



Landscaping compliments of Stone House Nursery.  
Gazebo at Square provided by Mountain Road Structures.

**Come and make Happy Memories!**

Too tired to walk?  
Ask Chad to give you a lift!  
Compliments of Jake's Carts.



Need more information?  
Pick up a brochure at local businesses.



## Meet George Washington!

You're invited to McVeytown's Masonic Lodge on Country Memories Day, where you can meet George Washington (as portrayed by Samuel Davis). He will be at 25 N. Market Street from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Stop by during those hours and try one of George and Martha Washington's favorite desserts "Orange Fool", an orange-flavored custard. The recipe is from Martha Washington's own cookbook.

From 12:30 to 1 p.m., George Washington will speak about Freemasonry and the American Revolution.

Davis lives in Chesterfield with his wife and daughter. He spent the last 36 years teaching science.

His father taught him to ride horses at age five, and has had a lifelong love for the American Revolution and for America.

Davis has been a Freemason for 35 years, and is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. He enjoys bringing George Washington to life for all those who are willing to listen.

