

Arona Borough Newsletter

January 31, 2019

Elections

Please consider placing your name on the 2019 ballot for the open positions on Arona Borough. Open positions exist for mayor, five council members and one auditor. Any borough resident wishing to run for office please pick up an election petition on or after February 20 at the Arona Post Office. You will be required to collect at least 10 signatures of Arona residents registered to your party and return the signed petition to the Westmoreland County Elections Bureau before March 12, 2019 at 4:00PM.

Arona Borough Budget

Arona Borough Council approved the 2019 budget on Monday, January 7 with no change in the tax millage. The approved budget is attached.

Arona Borough Town Hall Meeting

On Monday, March 11, 2019, at 6:00 PM, Arona Borough will conduct a town Hall meeting at St. Marks Lutheran Church. Issues to be discussed include:

1. Police Report
2. Tax Update
3. Advanced Disposal Contract
4. 2019 plan for repair of the streets and catch basins
5. New veteran and war memorial
6. Open discussion.

All residents are welcome to attend this meeting. Anyone wishing to speak, please call the Arona Borough number **724-552-6739** and leave a message or send a text to add your question or issue to the meeting agenda.

Waste Disposal

Borough Council approved a three year contract with Advanced Disposal. The borough is preparing a list of all property owners' names and addresses. This list will be sent to Advanced Disposal, Advanced will use that information for billing under the new contract. Under the new contract each residential property owner will be required to use Advanced Disposal and each home owner will be billed \$15 per month for 2019. Increased rates for 2020 and 2021 are \$15.47 and \$15.95 respectively. Commercial property owners will need to select their own disposal companies.

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Snow and Ice Removal

In the event of snow and ice, please keep cars off the roadway. Borough roads are narrow, snow removal trucks cannot maneuver around cars, trucks or other equipment so roads that are completely or partially blocked will not be cleaned.

Street Storm Drains Cleaning

Clogged storm drains along Main Street have been cleaned. Excavating of the drain at the intersection of Main Street and Railroad Street to allow runoff from Main Street into the Sewickley Creek is planned for early 2019.

Dog Catcher Services

Hoffman's Boarding Kennels is under contract with Arona. Please contact for dog catcher at 724-468-5505 to report dogs running at large.

Penn Borough Police

Penn Borough Police collected money for needy children and in 2018 they gave Christmas gifts to 11 children from 7 families in Arona. Thank you for your kindness and your generosity.

Penn Borough Police were very busy during the months of September, October and November, and December, they issued the following traffic citations: 64 speeding, 12 emissions/inspections, 19 operating with 1 revoked/suspended license, 9 stop sign 13 no insurance, 15 no registration 2 careless driving, 1 reckless driving, 9 miscellaneous. Seven unsafe vehicles with equipment violations not fit for roadway travel were towed.

Criminal events: 7 DUI's. 14 drug arrests, 6 arrest warrants served, 2 fraud arrest/access device fraud, 1 vandalism, and 1 street racing.

Calls for service: 8 family domestics, 4 suspicious persons/auto calls, burglar alarms 6 medical assist calls, 3 fire department assists, 1 rabid/sick raccoon call in resident house, 1 check for welfare request.

Thank you for your hard work.

Veterans/War Memorial

Council is planning to replace the Veterans/War Memorial, move it to a more convenient location and provide lighting for the flags. More information will be available at the Town Hall Meeting.

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Council Changes

Jackie Beven has moved out of Arona. Her move required that she resign her position as Mayor. Thank you for you many years of service to the people of Arona.

Five Year Plan for Street and Catch Basin Repair/replacement

Council is working with the borough engineer to develop a five year plan for street, sewer and catch basin repairs and replacement. The plan for 2019 will be announced and discussed at the Town Hall meeting on March 11, 2019 at St. Marks Lutheran Church.

Savings

All street lighting in Arona has been replaced with high efficiency led lighting at no cost to Arona thanks to West Penn Power. Electric bills using the new lighting have come in and Arona is experiencing approximately a 33% savings in street lighting costs. Thank you West Penn Power.

Park Repairs and Changes

Arona Borough Council is investigating cost of replacing the park restrooms with porta-potties in 2019.

Monthly Council Meetings

Residents are welcome to attend all council meetings. If you would like to speak at a meeting, please call **724-552-6739** two business days prior to the meeting to be added to the agenda. Council meetings will be held at St. Marks Lutheran Church at 7:30 PM on the following Mondays in 2019: January 7, February 4, March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1, August 5, September 9, October 7, November 4 and December 2.

Arona Phone Number and Website

Arona Borough has a new phone number. Please call the Arona Borough number **724-552-6739** and leave a message or send a text when you have questions or you would like to express your opinion on an issue or would like to be added to the council meeting agenda. Your message (voice or text) will be forwarded to the appropriate person who will contact you within forty-eight hours. Check the Arona Borough website for the latest in Arona news <http://www.aronaborough.com>.

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PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

Mayor	100.00
Council	600.00
Secretary	3,600.00
Auditors	300.00
Legal	5,000.00
Engineering	1,500.00
Liability Insurance	5,000.00
Tax Commissions	200.00
Postage	150.00
St Mark's	195.00
Miscellaneous	500.00
Subtotal	17,145.00

PUBLIC SAFETY

Police	12,000.00
Fire Hydrants	750.00
Signage	200.00
Subtotal	12,950.00

MOTOR LICENSE FUND

Street Repair	95,000.00
Subtotal	95,000.00

SANITARY/SEWAGE

PennVest	14,400.00
Subtotal	14,400.00

STREETS

Snow/Ice Removal	6,500.00
Miscellaneous	16,500.00
Subtotal	23,000.00

COMMUNITY/PARKS

Maintenance	6,500.00
Supplies	500.00
Electric	6,600.00
Water	600.00
Events	2,000.00
Track Sealing	1,500.00
Monument Repair	12,000.00
Pavilion Repair	1,500.00
Subtotal	31,200.00

BEGINNING BALANCE

General Account	240,567.70
Liquid Fuels	42,393.58
Subtotal	282,961.28

EXPENDITURES TOTALS

General Government	17,145.00
Public Safety	12,950.00
Motor License Fund	95,000.00
Sanitary/Sewage	14,400.00
Streets	23,000.00
Community/Parks	31,200.00
Subtotal	193,695.00

EXPECTED INCOME	74,000.00
EXPECTED EXPENDITURES	193,695.00

2019 ENDING BALANCE	163,266.28
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