

The Borough of Wilson

Newsletter



wilsonborough.org



WINTER 2023-24

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 **Call us:**
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LETTER FROM THE MAYOR - *Donald R. Barrett, Jr.*

As the vibrant colors of autumn begin to subside and winter approaches, I am excited and cautiously optimistic to share updates on the state of Wilson Borough. From the resounding success of our Fall Festival to the rising challenges we face as a community, there's much to discuss. But the heartbeat of our community remains strong, fueled by dedicated volunteers, young advocates, and a shared commitment to overcoming obstacles.



The Wilson Borough Fall Festival brought warmth and joy to our community, and we couldn't be prouder of the results. This event showcased the spirit of unity and togetherness that makes our borough special. From delicious food vendors to live entertainment and engaging activities for all ages, it was a 2-day event to remember (the rain spoiled the third day but not our spirits). We owe a huge thanks to all the volunteers who put in countless hours to make this event a success as well as public works, police and fire department, and our office staff and council.

Speaking of volunteers, we cannot emphasize enough how much we appreciate their dedication. From our Fall Festival to various community initiatives, their tireless efforts are the backbone of our vibrant community. Our events, programs, and services thrive thanks to their hard work and commitment. We encourage everyone to take a moment to thank a volunteer for their contributions, no matter how big or small. Our last newsletter I put out a challenge and was thankful and blessed to have many people step up and help.

The times are changing, and with that change comes new challenges. In recent years, the cost of providing essential services has risen significantly. For the first time in a decade, we found it necessary to adjust the trash collection fees to meet these growing expenses. This decision wasn't taken lightly, and we understand the impact it may have on households. We want to assure you that we will continue to explore cost-effective solutions to provide essential services to our residents. The reason behind this was that our long-standing trash hauler was unwilling to renew their contract with the borough. I read many angry comments about this, but groceries cost more, gas costs more - heck everything costs more these days - so it is only predictable that the cost of trash collection rises too. All of these discussions were held in public forum and I am surprised that nobody seemed to know this. But that would require residents to attend our meetings. Which, I hope one day will happen because it means we will have more community involvement, something that is desperately needed. This election, we had nobody running for important positions in our community. We had Council seats open and, yet, nobody wanted to take part.

continued on page 3

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LETTER FROM THE MAYOR *Continued from cover*

In the midst of these challenges, we received a heartwarming letter from a young girl in our community. She expressed her love for the local pool that has been closed due severe issues and needs to be replaced. She kindly collected money and wants to see it open and thrive. She wants to raise funds to support the pool's reopening and improvement. This is a testament to the enduring spirit of our community and the determination of our younger generation to make a difference. We have been working on ideas to make this space work for the borough and, perhaps, the pool will one day open and once again regain the title of a cherished community space like it once was.

As we face the changing landscape and growing challenges, we call upon our community to come together like never before. We need more volunteers to help in various capacities, whether it's supporting community events, assisting with local initiatives, or contributing your expertise to help us navigate these transitions. The strength of Wilson Borough lies in the unity and commitment of its residents, and we believe that together, we can overcome any obstacle.

In conclusion, while we acknowledge the evolving landscape, we're confident that the spirit and resilience of Wilson Borough will carry us through. Our volunteers and young advocates remind us that our community's potential is boundless, and our dedication and enthusiasm is what will make it grow. Let's embrace the changes, celebrate our successes, and continue working together to make Wilson Borough an even better place to call home.

When there is **SNOW** in the forecast . . .

Just a reminder about inclement weather; When the forecast calls for heavy snow or ice the mayor can declare a snow emergency:

ORDINANCE § 162-18 DECLARATION OF SNOW AND ICE EMERGENCY:

In order to facilitate the movement of traffic and to combat the hazards of snow and ice on the snow emergency routes named in § 162-20, the Mayor in his discretion may declare a snow and ice emergency, designated in this article as a "snow emergency." The Mayor may declare any snow emergency route or any part of a snow emergency route to be free from restrictions herein imposed when, in his opinion, the weather or street conditions warrant such an exclusion. Information on the existence of a snow emergency may be given by the Borough through radio, newspaper or other available media, and information on the termination or modification of the emergency may be given by use of the same media.



ORDINANCE § 162-19 PARKING AND DRIVING RESTRICTIONS ON SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES:

After any snow emergency is declared, it shall be unlawful at any time during the continuance of the emergency for any person:

- A. To park or leave unattended a motor vehicle or to allow that vehicle to remain parked or unattended anywhere on any snow emergency route designated in § 162-20.
- B. To drive any motor vehicle on any such snow emergency route, unless that vehicle is equipped with snow tires, chains, all weather tires or studded tires that are approved by the commonwealth.

ORDINANCE § 162-21 EMERGENCY TOWING

Any vehicle parked, stalled, incapable of moving under its own power or left unattended upon any street designated as a snow emergency route may be removed or towed to any other location by the Police Department at the owner's expense.

If you plan on going out of town during the winter months, please make arrangements with somebody who can move your car if it is parked on a snow emergency route. We do not like towing cars and it is very expensive!

E-Bike and E-Scooter Safety

The popularity of electric bikes and electric scooters (e-bikes and e-scooters) has taken off over the past few years. Lithium-ion batteries are usually the source of power for both, and if not used correctly, or if damaged, those batteries can catch on fire or explode. Whether you use e-bikes or e-scooters as your main way of getting around, or just for fun, there are important safety tips to keep in mind when charging or storing these devices.

The Problem

- Damaged or defective batteries can over-heat, catch fire, or explode.
- Lithium-ion battery fires give off toxic gases and they burn extremely hot.

Safety Tips

- Only purchase and use devices, batteries, and charging equipment that are listed by a nationally recognized testing lab and labeled accordingly.
- Always follow the instructions from the manufacturer.
- Only use the battery and the charger that were designed for, and came with, the device.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Only charge one device or device battery at a time to prevent overloading the circuit.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Do not store batteries in direct sunlight or inside hot vehicles, and keep them away from children and liquids.

- Store e-bikes, e-scooters, and batteries away from exit doors and anything that can get hot or catch fire.
- Only have device repairs performed by a qualified professional.
- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash. Recycling is always the best option. Take the batteries to a battery recycling location or contact your local waste department for disposal instructions.

Signs of a Problem

Stop using the e-bike or e-scooter if you notice any of these problems with the battery: unusual odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, smoking, or not keeping a charge.



If you see a fire ...



Leave the building immediately.



Don't try to fight the fire.



Call 911.

**LEARN
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Visit nfpa.org/ebikes



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AEP (Annual Election Period) for Medicare
is October 15th - December 7th and OEP
(Open Enrollment Period) for Under 65 is
November 1st - January 15th.

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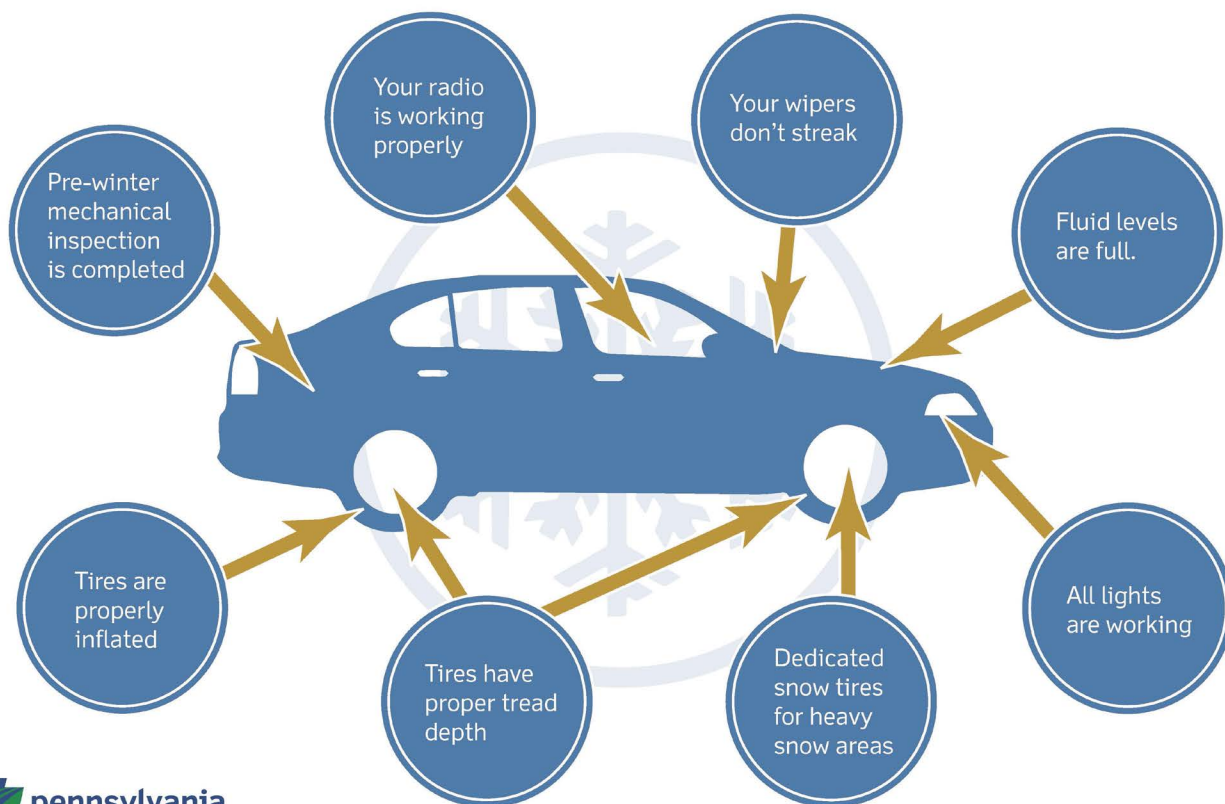


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FROM THE POLICE CHIEF - *Christian Meehan*

CURFEW ORDINANCE

Just a reminder about the Borough's Curfew Ordinance: Borough Ordinance No. 655 states that those under 18 years of age are not allowed out in public between the hours of 11:00 pm and 6:00 am unless that child is accompanied by a parent or guardian, going to or from work, on lawful business for their parent, returning from school or going to school, or on an emergency errand authorized by their parents.

Any child who violates this ordinance can be detained until a parent or guardian can be notified. Parents will receive a warning for the first offense. Subsequent offenses will result in a citation with up to a \$300.00 fine.



Wilson Borough Police Department
Immediate Openings For Part Time Police Officers
Starting Rate: \$29.54
For More Information Visit:
<https://www.wilsonborough.org/home/employment-opportunities/>



PARKING ISSUES

The Wilson Police respond to hundreds of parking complaints each year. The most common complaints are: Vehicles parked without moving for over 72 hours, unregistered/uninspected vehicles, and residents with off street parking who park on the street. Please remember that vehicles cannot be parked in the same spot for over 72 hours and all vehicles must have current inspection, registration, emissions, and insurance. If you have off street parking, please be considerate of your neighbors. Please call the non-emergency number 610-759-2200 to file a complaint.

Please Note

BOROUGH MEETINGS

- **COUNCIL MEETINGS** are held the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.
- **ZONING BOARD** is held the 4th Tuesday of every month as needed.
- **PLANNING COMMISSION** is held the 1st Tuesday of every month as needed.

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PAVILION - PARK RENTALS

Meuser Park Rental

- The rental of Meuser Park does not include the use of the pavilions or band shell area. Those are charged separately.
- Park only for **Residents \$150 rental fee and \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable cleanup deposit.
- Park only for Non-Residents **\$300 rental fee and \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable cleanup deposit.
- Public events held at Meuser Park will require evidence of liability insurance. Event liability insurance must be in the amount of \$1,000,000 naming Wilson Borough, Wilson Borough Council and Wilson Borough Employees as additional insureds.

Pavilions

The Pavilions are available for rental all year however, for the months from October through April the water will be turned off depending on the weather.

SMALL PAVILION

- **Resident - \$100 plus a \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable deposit.
- **Non-Resident - \$150 plus a \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable deposit.

LARGE PAVILION

- **Resident - \$150 plus a \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable deposit.
- **Non-Resident - \$200 plus a \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable deposit.

Band Shell

The rental of the Band Shell does not include the use of the park or pavilions, those are charged separately.

- Band shell only for **Residents \$125 rental fee and \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable cleanup deposit.
- Band shell only for **Non-Residents \$175 rental fee and \$150 CASH ONLY** refundable cleanup deposit.

Public events held at Meuser Park will require evidence of liability insurance. Event liability insurance must be in the amount of \$1,000,000 naming Wilson Borough, Wilson Borough Council and Wilson Borough Employees as additional insureds.

THE FEES HAVE CHANGED AS THE NOVEMBER 27, 2023, COUNCIL MEETING

Community Center is for **Residents** of the Wilson Area School District **ONLY!** (must show current drivers license as proof of residence)

RESIDENTS ONLY: \$150 CASH DEPOSIT | \$350 RENTAL FEE

***If you are making a reservation within 30 days of the date you must pay in all CASH! ***

Cancellations or Changes within 14 days of your reservation will result in forfeiture of your \$150 deposit.

BUSINESS PRIVILEGE

\$60 license fee

RETURNED CHECK FEE

\$35

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL REGISTRATION

Paid by January 1\$100 per unit
After January 1 before February 1....\$125 per unit
After February 1 before March 1.....\$150 per unit
After March 1.....\$200/unit

PLEASE NOTE:

NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE FOR CANCELLATIONS WITHIN 14 DAYS

PROVISIONS

1. The kitchen is available. However, the use of the kitchen equipment, i.e. stove, fryer, etc. is restricted to qualified people only, i.e. caterer, professional chef, etc.
2. The community center holds a maximum of 200 people and has table and seating for 160 persons. There are 140 chairs and 15 (8ft) tables.
3. Police protection must be paid for by the Applicant.
4. No smoking inside the building.
5. **NO ALCOHOL OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED.**
6. All areas must be cleaned, refuse cans must be emptied and refuse must be put in the dumpster located in the parking lot.
7. Person applying for the rental **MUST** be a Wilson School District resident and will be asked to provide a current driver's license when renting. The renter is also responsible for any loss or damage that may occur to the building or its contents.
8. Decorating will not be permitted on the walls or on the ceiling.



PAVILION/PARK RULES

- No alcohol
- No DJ's
- You may use grills but you must take hot coals with you. No dumping.
- Pavilions must be cleaned and all refuse cans must be empty and refuse must be placed in the dumpster. The dumpster is located in the south west corner of the parking lot.
- No parking on the grass.
- Use of band shell and park are charged separately.

YOU MUST APPLY AND PAY FOR USAGE OF THE PAVILIONS. NO EXCEPTIONS.



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BOROUGH OF WILSON

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www.wilsonborough.org

Mayor

Donald R. Barrett Jr
610-253-0363
mayor@wilsonborough.org

Borough Manager/Secretary

Jill A Garcia
610-258-6142
boroughsecretary@wilsonborough.org

Borough Treasurer/Clerk

Steph Jones
610-258-6142
boroughclerk@wilsonborough.org

Foreman of Public Works

Eric Flowers
610-258-6143
publicworks@wilsonborough.org

Police Chief

Christian Meehan
610-258-8746
cmeehan@wilsonpd.org

Fire Chief

Joseph Sipel
610-253-2035
firechief@wilsonborough.org

Residential Rental Administrator

Richard Wamsley
610-258-4525
rwamsley@wilsonborough.org

Health Officer
Theodore Veresink
610-573-3055
tveresink@gmail.com

Tax Collector
Dorothy Klass
610-252-5983
Dot511@rcn.com

Borough Garage
1415 Iron St
Easton PA 18042
610-258-6413

Police
2035 Butler St
610-258-8746
Non-emergency 610-759-2200

Fire Dept
2041 Butler St
610-253-2035

Mary Meuser Library
1803 Northampton St
610-258-3040
www.meuderlib.org

**Magisterial District
Judge Court**
03-2-12, 3rd District
Northampton County
Richard Yetter
1901 Hay Terrace
610-258-4640

**Easton Suburban
Water Authority**
3700 Hartley Ave
P O Box 3819
Easton, PA 18043-3819
info@eswater.net
610-258-7181
Fax 610-258-7780

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**Easton Suburban
Water Authority**
610-258-7181
Eswater.net

Wilson Area School District
484-373-6000
Wilsonareasd.org

**Easton Area Joint
Sewer Authority**
610-250-6707
Eajsa.com

Northampton County
610-829-6500
Northamptoncounty.org

Suburban EMS
610-923-7500
Suburbanems.com

Lanta Bus Service
888-253-8333
Lantabus.com

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610-691-1030
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**Lehigh Valley
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610-264-4544
Lvpc.org

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