MAYOR’S MESSAGE

MOVING FORWARD AND STAYING POSITIVE

Greetings citizens of Nazareth Borough!

The summer is now behind us and winter is approaching very fast. Unfortunately, the weather forecast for this winter to come is similar to last year’s hard winter. I ask everyone to be prepared! Last year I called a record number of “Snow Emergencies” and I will continue to do so as the weather requires. Many citizens who live along our snow emergency routes have applauded the snow emergency call. Our Public Works Department will plow the snow emergency routes as close to the curb as possible. Please be patient while the plows do their job to move snow. Use good judgment when shoveling snow. Please do not pile it on the streets. Just a reminder, that during a snow emergency, parking is available at the Borough Park and also available at the Bill Gold Field parking lot off of South Green St.

My protocol will be the same as last year. I will monitor a couple of weather stations and if most of them are calling for accumulations of 3 inches or more inches, a Snow Emergency will be called. I will sound the Alert System two hours before the snow emergency starts. The tone will be a long single tone for three minutes. You can also visit our new Borough website at: www.nazarethboroughpa.com for more information.

Ok, enough about weather. There is a lot of happenings within the Borough. As most of you have probably been monitoring, the construction of the new pool. I can tell you the new pool project has been a very interesting and an expensive project. It looked for a while that it would be behind schedule, but I am happy to report, it is on schedule and the better news is, it will come in under budget! That rarely happens in government, so we must cherish the moment. What will not be done this year is the landscaping around the pool. This will take place in spring and will be ready for a May 30th 2015 opening date.

I want to personally thank the Nazareth Area Kiwanis Club for donating $42,000.00 towards the new water features that will be installed in the pool. Their hard work and dedication to the Borough is really what a small town is all about. People make the difference and their contribution is greatly appreciated. Thank You!

I have contacted the Nazareth/Bath Chamber of Commerce and asked them if they would take over another pool fund raising effort. They will be selling personalized bricks to be installed in an area around the pool. Your business, family or individuals will have an opportunity to purchase a brick to be displayed proudly within the park. This has never been done before in our town, so you will be part of History and a permanent display you can be proud of. To order your personalized brick, please call the Chamber at 610-759-9188. They will be available until spring of 2015. They also make a perfect “Christmas” gift for that certain someone. (wink)

There has been a lot activity within our Borough Police Department. First, I would like to welcome our new full time patrol officer, Adam Shimer to the department. Officer Shimer is a Nazareth native and is very excited about the opportunity to protect and serve his hometown. Second, I would like welcome our new Deputy Police Chief, Randall Miller to the force. Mr. Miller is the former Bethlehem City Police Commissioner and former Northampton County Sherriff. Deputy Chief Miller brings many years of professional policing to the department. His responsibilities will include, internal affairs, discipline issues, re-writing the policy and procedure guide and professionalizing the department along with other critical assignments.

The Police department has purchased eight iPads for the police cruisers and officers. By purchasing the iPads, each full time officer now has his own computer/camera with him. This is important so the officer has his information with him at all times. The iPads can also monitor the cameras installed at the Borough Park. We also implemented a “Park and Walk” program. The two officers that are scheduled for duty during the day shift take turns walking around the downtown district. One officer will patrol in the morning and the other in the afternoon. I have received a lot of positive feedback concerning the Park and Walk. This is just another step we are taking to move the department forward in a positive manner.

To date the Police Department staff includes: Police Chief, Deputy Chief, 4 Full time patrol officers (two day time and two night time), 10 part time officers, two parking enforcement officers and a full time police administrative assistant.

As we move forward, I want to thank Council for their continued support of the police department. We still have work to do within the department. By staying positive, I can assure you we are moving in the right direction. Have we had issues? Yes, is there work to be done? Yes. One thing I do not want to happen is to lose our momentum. Negativism will not be tolerated. The department has suffered enough of that the past couple of years. We must stay positive and continue to move forward.

As the Holidays approach, there are a lot of activities that will be going on around town. The Moravian Historical Society has their walking tours and the Nazareth/Bath Chamber will greet “Ole Saint Nick” in the circle December 4th at 7pm. Please watch our website and the papers for more activities around the Borough.

The 275th committee headed by Pastor Jeff Gehris, is in full swing. The committee is working very hard to put together many events for the Borough’s 275th birthday. Stay tuned as some event dates will be published. The committee will be accepting donations to help defray
the cost. How to donate will also be published very soon. Fund raising
events will also be announced.

Overall, the council has been working very hard on numerous issues
and new projects. From the time I took office in May of 2013 to date,
Council has come together and the attitudes within are very positive.
The addition of Lance Colondo (Fire committee head), Brian Regn
(Technology committee head) and the return of John Samus (Law
Committee head), have been great. These individuals have brought
many new ideas to the table and have made your council stronger in
the long run. I encourage everyone to attend a council meeting and
see what is going on and where we are headed. We always appreciate
your input, comments and concerns.

Council will be evaluating next year’s spending and take a very close
look at a possible tax increase for 2015. I hate to be the bearer of bad
news, but on-going grievances, law suits, pool costs (even though it
is under budget), rising insurance costs (22%) and additional Police
manpower are just a few of the ongoing expenses of the Borough. I
am very confident they will do their best to trim and cut the budget
where they can to keep down the spending. We will wait and see.

I would like to thank Council, The Nazareth Police department, all
the Public works department employees, the Vigilance Hose Com-
pany No. 1, the Nazareth Ambulance Corps and everyone who has
volunteered to sit on a commission or committee within the borough.
I would also like to give a shout out to our crossing guards who stand
out on the streets in all types of weather and cross the children safely.
These are just a few people or groups that make Nazareth what it is…
a great community and a great place to call your home. Again, people
make the difference.

My office is always open for any comments or concerns. My home
phone number is 610-759-7743. I look forward to speaking with you
and hearing what you have to say. I am very open and always try to
pay attention to what is going on around our town. Without your
input, we could not move forward. Without your concerns, we can-
not right a wrong.

Well, that is it for now. Please stay safe during the upcoming winter.
Check on your neighbors and be attentive while driving thru town.
As I stated in the past newsletters, I want everyone to be able to say,
“It is a great day in Nazareth, PA”. Nazareth pride, deep inside!

God Bless all of you! Have a safe and happy Holiday season!

Respectfully,
Carl Strye, Jr., Mayor
Proud to represent you and our beautiful community of Nazareth…
as your Mayor

**New Refuse & Recycling Contract Brings Lower Rates and Different Collection Day**

Borough Council recently opened bids for the 2015 -2018 Refuse
& Recycling contract and the good news is that our new hauler and
the low bidder, J. P. Mascaro & Sons, presented a bid which will
allow the Borough to lower rates for its quarterly billing…down
five dollars each quarter to seventy five ($75.00) dollars per unit per
quarter. Any reduction, even this 6% reduction from Mascaro, will
help our residents albeit in a small way. The specified day for col-
lection will change from Wednesday to Thursday, effective January
1, 2015…that first collection will occur on Friday, January 2, 2015
because of the New Year’s holiday but will then revert to Thursday
collection on January 8, 2015. Residents are reminded to not put out
their garbage until 5:00 pm on the day before collection. The new
Refuse and Recycling Newsletter is currently being formulated and
will be mailed upon completion, likely at some point in mid to late
December of 2014, and will have all the details on garbage collection
for next year.

The “New and Improved” Nazareth Pool…Our Gem Is Now Complete

For two very long summers, our Park did not seem like the
wonderful place we have all come to know and love. Without
the inviting crystal blue waters of our Pool, things certainly were
not the same. Faced with the prospect of losing two summers
for a rebuilding effort, Council decided that a publicly involved
process would be the best way to proceed and so the Pool Focus
Group was formed and its members set out to do their work.
Public surveys, tours of other local Pools and the input and guid-
ance of Pool consultants led to a design and specs for the recently
completed structure which will serve our citizens for the next
30 to 40 years and maybe beyond. With plans and financing in
hand, the Borough sought bids and awarded contracts in early
May of this year with a formal “Groundbreaking Ceremony” on
June 2, 2014. Council was confident that Clerk of the Works
Bob Reimer would oversee the work being done and would sug-
gest ways for the project to be properly completed by its October
31, 2014 deadline. Reimer did that and so much more often
engineering cost savings changes that would also add to the Pool’s
efficient operation. September and October saw almost frantic
work days as Reimer pushed for the late October completion but
ordered re-do’s on several areas that did not meet needed critical
standards. The Pool was complete and filled by October 30th, a
day ahead of the deadline and unlike our old Pool, the new ver-
sion will stay filled year-round based on engineering decisions
which have told us the benefits of not draining the Pool each Fall.
May 25, 2015 will be a historic day in our Borough and Nazareth
Borough Council is confident that years and years of safe and
enjoyable swimming will follow.
Budget 2015...What the Process Brought Us

The Borough’s 2015 Budget presented a number of challenges, primary among them was paying for our new Pool and its $2.5 million dollar price tag. Add to that, the $650,000 that the Borough committed to help with the purchase of two new fire vehicles and you have over $3 million in new debt that has to be paid for in increments each year. But there were other pressing needs that would require major budget dollars and major budget dollars always means an increase in taxes. Like everything else, operating expenses have continued to escalate and 2015 will not be an exception to that. Despite years of hearing that ObamaCare would lower costs, Council recently learned that health insurance premiums for its employees will be going up again by 22% in 2015. As an example, the yearly health insurance premium for a police officer or Public Works employee with a Family Plan will now cost the Borough over $20,500 per year for that employee, up from $17,000 in 2014. That increase to health insurance alone will cost the Borough $56,000 over its full time police employees and the eight insured employees from our Public Works Department. But the Borough was faced with even more cash demands as Workers Compensation Insurance premiums remain close to $180,000 per year following a rash of employee claims between 2008 and 2012. Legal fees for arbitrations, contract negotiations and grievances have eclipsed the $225,000 mark for the first ten months of 2014 that after years of legal bills which never exceeded $25,000 for an entire year and more of the same is anticipated for 2015. The 2015 Budget contains $100,000 for street repairs and upgrades and another $74,000 to extend Stoudt Boulevard to intersect and connect with West Prospect Street. There is also the purchase of a new $152,000 dump truck, repairs to the Refreshment Stand and a bridge in the Park plus repairs and upgrades to a number of other Borough facilities. It all adds up to enough of a price tag to require a two Mill tax increase...a ½ Mill more than the long-predicted Mill and a half increase we knew the new Pool would require.

New Fire Vehicles Still Months From Delivery

Following months of deliberations about financing, Nazareth Firemen’s Relief and the Borough of Nazareth co-sponsored the ordering and purchase of two new Fire vehicles through Pennsylvania’s “Co-Star” Cooperative Purchasing Group. A gathering of Firemen, Firemen’s Relief Officers and members of Council met on May 6, 2014 at the Firehouse to sign documents which formalized the construction/purchase agreement. KME Kovatch of nearby Nesquehoning will build the trucks to specs established in a contractual agreement with the State Fire Marshall’s Office with a ready date of May 2015. A new Pumper was ordered to replace the 1978 vehicle which has faithfully served us since its purchase in that year and a new Rescue Truck was likewise ordered as a replacement for our current 1987 vehicle. The lower than anticipated price of buying both vehicles together was incentive enough for the Borough and Firemen’s Relief to both add to their original financial commitments and go “all in” for the much needed upgrades both of these vehicles will provide. The Borough presented KME Kovatch with a check for just over $647,000 while Firemen’s Relief presented their own check for $325,000 to complete the purchase and dispatch KME to construct both vehicles.

Landlord/Tenant Ordinance Will Bring Order to Borough’s Tracking of Apartment Dwellers & Safety to Renters

Landlords will have until January 26, 2015 to register their apartment holdings with the Borough Clerk and pay the required fees for each unit. One year from now, in 2016, landlords will be required to have their apartments inspected for compliance by the Borough’s Zoning Officer who will make sure that apartment dwellers are safe. As the new ordinance demands, inspections will be conducted every five years with registrations and fees following the same timetable.

Borough Family Sadly Loses Six Term Councilman Bill Sauerzopf and Veteran Police Officer Luke Nagy

The month of September 2014 saw the passing of two beloved former members of the Borough family. William “Bill” Sauerzopf of Seip Avenue who first came to Council in 1978 and served as Councilman until 2002 passed away at the age of 85. Sauerzopf led the Borough’s Highway Department for most of those twenty four years and even served as Mayor for a period of seven months following the surprise resignation of Donald Williams in 1989. Bill continued serving as a member of the Borough’s Municipal Authority until 2008. He is survived by three sons, William Jr., Robert and Ricky and their families. Former Police Officer Luke Nagy also died in September following a long illness. Nagy began with the Department in 1966 and was well respected within the Department and the community at large. Luke always had time and a pleasant word for our citizens and was part of a Department made up of “old school” officers who all lived in the Borough. Luke proudly served as part of that group, a group whose method of policing and dedication to the job showed in their love for their hometown. He passed after a long illness. Nagy is survived by wife Loretta and daughters Annette and Phyllis and their families.

Homeowners Are Reminded To Comply With Borough’s New Snow Removal Policy

With the cold weather already upon us, residents are reminded to remove the snow from their walkways following a snowfall. Home and business owners will have twenty four hours to clean their sidewalks and remove the snow before being cited by the Borough’s Zoning Officer. A “red card” warning sticker will first put violators on notice that they have twenty four hours to clean their walks before a followup visit and a two hundred and fifty dollar fine will be given to those who do not comply.
Borough’s New Website Offers Question/Comment Option

The Borough’s new website went online in March of this year. Lots of thought and preparation went into what the site would offer and how serviceable it would be. One of the features thought to be essential was a “question and answer portal” through which residents and visitors could ask questions and seek information about our Borough, its services and even its history. The Borough Secretary/Treasurer would monitor the site at several junctures of the day and provide answers to the variety of questions inquisitive residents and potential visitors might ask. Now, seven months later, over two hundred inquiries, complaints and comments have been received pointing to the accuracy of the decision to add this important feature. Some of the e-mails required rerouting of the requests to our Zoning Officer, our Engineer or our Public Works Superintendent but all were handled in a quick and efficient manner when possible and hopefully to the satisfaction of those who chose the “Question/Comment” option on our new site.

A Message About The Nazareth Area Food Bank… Thirty Years of Helping Those In Need

The Nazareth Area Food Bank, now about 30 years old, has been operating in its new home at 529 S. Main Street in Nazareth, for the past six years. The Food Bank helps more than 300 families and individuals, a number that includes more than 200 children, who come to the facility once each month. Once there, they are provided with mostly non-perishables, including canned vegetables, fruit, tuna, chicken, soups, chili, etc., plus bread products, a package of frozen vegetables and lunch meat or hot dogs.

The recession of five years ago and the trend toward part-time work – at minimum wage, with no benefits – makes it difficult for many families and individuals to make enough to cover all their essentials, including food. People residing in the municipalities that make up the Nazareth Area School District – including individuals and those at schools, churches, businesses, service clubs, Scouting groups and other organizations – have been terrific about sustaining the Food Bank and helping them assist those in need. Area residents have been especially conscientious through their thoughtful and caring donations of food and their generous monetary contributions.

The Food Bank looks forward to this year’s Boy Scouts of America annual “Scouting for Food” collection on Saturday, November 8, which usually produces several tons of non-perishable food items given by people throughout the area with the proceeds intended for the people within the locale which it serves. Also, currently underway is their once-a-year solicitation of donations from area businesses.

The all-volunteer Nazareth Area Food Bank is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, meaning that donations to us as a public charity are tax exempt. More information about the Food Bank can be found at our website: www.nazarethareafoodbank.org. Please continue to be generous in your contributions so that others will not go hungry.

Lots of Activity at the Memorial Library of Nazareth & Vicinity… Mark Your Schedules

Here are some upcoming events at the Memorial Library of Nazareth and Vicinity, www.nazarethlibrary.org. Check our Events Calendar for more information and programs. The Library is located at 295 East Center Street, Nazareth. Our phone number is 610-759-4932.

Please mark your calendar for these “coming events”:

- 10,000 Villages Shopping Fundraiser – December 7, 2pm - 6pm
- Family Holiday Stories and Crafts – December 10, 6:30pm. All ages welcome
- 12TH Annual Write and Illustrate Your Own Book – mid-January. Children
- Messy Monday – 2nd Monday of the month, January 12 - May 11, 3pm - 3:45pm
- Ipad, Kindle, and Nook – Oh MY! Workshop from Barnes and Noble – January 16, 10:30am
- Saving Money on Home and Automobile Insurance – January 17 at 1pm - 2pm
- Antiques Appraisals Fundraiser – January 22, 11am - 7pm (tentative)
- Quilting Teas and Unique Techniques with Penn Rose Quilting Guild
- Five Below Shopping Fundraiser – February 8 – 14
- AARP Tax Preparation - Saturdays, February 7- April 11, 11am - 3pm
- TENTATIVE – Cardiac Health Heart Disease in Women and Cardiac Lifestyle Interventions
- National Library Week – April 12-18. Children’s events include PA One Book Stories and Crafts and the Young Author/Illustrator Reception
- Book discussion and signing with Crime and Forensics Author Katherine Ramsland – April 15, 6:30pm - 7:30pm
- 5K Run at Jamesburg Park Fundraiser – April 19, 8am
Fire Company News & Happenings

The Vigilance Hose Fire Company will be adding two new fire vehicles to its current fleet. The purchase of a new KME Pumper and a new KME Rescue Truck will serve to replace two older and outdated vehicles currently in use. Those two additions will usher in the retirement of our 1978 Pumper and the 1988 Rescue truck, all of which should happen in April or May of 2015.

The Fire Company appreciates the contributions of the Borough of Nazareth through the actions of Borough Council for their $648,000 contribution, Nazareth Fireman’s Relief for their portion of the purchase $325,000 and for the Vigilance Hose Fire Company for the costs they will cover to equip the vehicles and meet the startup requirements. This combined effort will keep our firefighters up to date and aid in keeping our residents safer in times of peril. Thankfully, it will meet those needs while balancing the amount of money spent within a reasonable budget that all can afford.

Fall continues to be a busy time for the Vigilance Hose Fire Company #1. The first week of October was Fire Prevention Week and our department visited with nearly 1,000 children to educate them about fire safety. The annual “Fire Company sponsored” Halloween Parade was held on Saturday, October 18th and the streets of the downtown were packed with onlookers, some in costumes of their own. The Fire Company is proud to sponsor this event each year along with the Kiwanis Club of Nazareth.

Residents are encouraged to make sure that their heating systems are clean and in good working order and that chimneys and flues are ready for the colder weather which is already upon us. On Thursday, December 4, 2014, the Fire Company will help welcome the Christmas Season with the Tree Lighting Ceremony and the arrival of Santa Claus in the Circle at 7:00 pm. It’s a great night to get you in the Holiday Spirit so we encourage you and of course your children to attend.

The Fire Company continues to look for interested volunteers to become firefighters. There are lots of ways you can help within the Department and our mission of saving lives, fighting fires and fire prevention will certainly be fulfilling if you decide to volunteer your time. Anyone who is 14 years old or older can stop by the Fire Station on South Broad Street any Monday evening at 7:00 pm and speak to our Chief or any of the Fire Officers for more information on how you can serve.

We thank everyone for their support of the Fire Department and our Firefighters. Community and business support was most appreciated during the recent fire at Pizza Joe’s and thankfully we were able to contain and control that fire and minimize its effects. We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Troy Keenhold
President, Vigilance Hose Fire Company #1

New Park Video Surveillance System Will Help Deter Crime

Borough Council designated $50,000 of its 2014 Budget for a security camera system for our Park. Stage One of the project occurred in the early summer of this year with several cameras being installed in inconspicuous locales around the parking lot and portions of the Pool area. A sophisticated router and feeding system sent continuous video to our police headquarters and kept the construction site adjacent to the new Pool free of vandalism and pilferage. Encouraged by that success, Council ordered Stage Two of the project to begin over the Fall months and is determined to add additional video coverage in 2015 with more cameras in areas around the Borough Offices.

Nazareth Native Adam Shimer Is Borough’s Newest Full-Time Police Officer

Following a thorough one year process by the Borough’s Civil Service Commission, Adam Shimer was approved and officially hired as a full time police officer by Nazareth Borough Council at the August Business Meeting. Shimer joins three other officers on the full time roster as the Police Department now approaches “hoped for” staffing levels.

In Our Spring Issue

- Nazareth on its 275th Birthday
- Nazareth Pool to reopen Memorial Day Weekend
- Police Study Will Guide Council’s Decision-Making
- Seven Council Seats Up for Election
We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season, a very Merry Christmas. We were able to contain and control that fire and minimize its effects.

We thank everyone for their support of the Fire Department and encourage your continued support. There are many ways to help the Fire Department: volunteering your time. Anyone who is 14 years old or older can stop by the firehouse and activate the fire alarm. Your donation can help save a life.

On Thursday, December 4, 2014, the Fire Company will help celebrate the 275th birthday of Nazareth. The"

In Our Spring Issue

The newsletter is sent to Borough residents. Each bi-monthly issue includes the following topics:

• Police Study Will Guide Council’s Decision on New Police Headquarters
• Nazareth on its 275th Birthday
• Borough Park and Walk

We ask that you call the Borough Office if you know anyone who is not receiving the newsletter or who is receiving duplicate copies.

Contact the Borough Office at 610-759-0202 or e-mail us at nazbor@gmail.com.

Nazareth Borough Refuse/Recycling 610-759-0202
Nazareth Borough Police Department (non-emergency) 610-759-9200
Nazareth Borough Fire Department 610-759-0202
Nazareth Borough Planning Commission 610-759-0202

President Daniel Chiavaroli
First Ward Carl A. Fischl
Second Ward Lance E. Colondo
Third Ward Charles A. Donello

Nazareth Borough Code Enforcement 610-759-8227
Nazareth Borough Tax Collector 610-744-1570
Nazareth Borough Highway Department 610-759-0401

Non-Emergency 911 Center 610-759-2200

Nazareth Borough Refuse/Recycling 610-759-0202
Nazareth Borough Police Department (non-emergency) 610-759-9200

Police Department Staff: Police Chief, Deputy Chief, Sergeant

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Chief Miller brings many years of professional policing to the department.