

Important Stroudsburg Borough Updates

Borough of Stroudsburg Meeting Schedule

Borough Council:

First and Third Tuesday of each Month, 7:00 P.M.

Historical Architectural Review Board:

First Monday of each month, 5:30 P.M.

Planning Commission:

Second Monday of each month, 6:00 P.M.

Zoning Hearing Board:

Third Wednesday of each month, 4:30 P.M.

Shade Tree Commission:

Second Thursday of each month, 4:00 P.M.

NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all meetings of the Borough of Stroudsburg are being held via Zoom.com.

Curbside Brush Pick-Up Schedule for Spring

April 12th, 16th, 23rd, 26th & 30th

Materials collected are limited to tree branches and prunings, twigs, small bushes (without root ball), hedges and tree logs not exceeding 5-inches in diameter. Limbs must be cut to a 4-foot length and tied in bundles not exceeding 50 pounds. Other materials should be placed in containers for easy pick up. Place materials curbside prior to 8 a.m.

Spring Clean Up and Bulk Item Drop-Off

Saturday, June 5th | 8:00 am to 12:00 pm

Borough Shed | 118 Borough Street, off of North 10th Street

PROOF OF BOROUGH RESIDENCY REQUIRED

Watch the Borough Website and Facebook for additional information closer to the date.

Borough-Wide Free Yard Sale

May 28th through May 30th

NO PERMITS ARE REQUIRED!

Skate Park and Borough Pool

End of May

Dates to TBA; watch the Borough Website & Facebook Pages for additional opening information

Sewer Problems

For sewer back-ups call the non-emergency number at 570-992-9911.

As always, see the Borough webpage (stroudsburgboro.com) and Facebook Page for additional information.



Stroudsburg Borough News

Quarterly Newsletter of the Borough of Stroudsburg | Spring 2021

It Has Been A While...



Hello Stroudsburg Borough! It has been a while since our last borough newsletter. There have been many changes from our Borough Manager to the unprecedented times of Covid 19. With light at the end of the Covid tunnel, a new Borough Manager, and so much excitement is going on in our borough, it is time to start the quarterly newsletters again.

Covid 19 really devastated so many communities and

millions of people experienced loss whether it be losing the battle of life due to covid, financial and emotional. It was truly unprecedented and although Covid is not over, there is light at the end of the tunnel and the Borough never stopped working for our constituents. Since March 2020, we had to make changes like everyone else, but our commitment to YOU has never stopped. We could never have gotten through these unprecedented times without you, your dedication to the borough and your perseverance. We NEVER gave up and now... are better times ahead. Stroudsburg Borough, YOU have grit, compassion, dedication, perseverance, trust and faith. This is why Stroudsburg Borough is EVERYBODY'S downtown. We are the county seat in Monroe. We are the downtown with every store from A to Z. We are the town that can roll with the punches and come out on top and it is all because of YOU! We thank you and we appreciate you.

Some of the highlights over the last year includes our codes committee working with developers and business owners making "doing business" in the borough easier while keeping our commitment to our historical presence. Empty buildings will be filled and our zoning officer is busier than ever with growth coming to our borough. We are the town that developers are looking at and they see the same beauty and possibility we all knew was there. It is coming to fruition. We have paved roads, with more to come, we have made the residential streets safer for kids while posting stop bars, we have instituted the blight law to keep our town beautiful, we have implemented green strategies within our town such as the solar cans, we have managed to hold all of our events during covid, even if tweaked, such as Winterfest, Saturday Art Walks, Concerts, The Farmer's Market, Halloween and Halloween on Main, The Tree Lighting, Small Business Saturday and our beloved Snowmen of Stroudsburg thanks to Go Collaborative. We have extended outside dining and side walk sales through all of 2021. We have been recognized in three national magazines as a top place to visit and live in 2020. Netflix picked our town because of the beauty and charm to do a holiday light display.

This list goes on and on, but these are just a few of our accomplishments. Better days are truly ahead for all of us. We appreciate you and will never stop working for you.

Warm Regards,
Mayor Tarah Probst

A Quick Reminder

To make life better for all residents, a quick reminder of some of the important "quality of life" Ordinances in Stroudsburg Borough. Rules are not to restrict your freedoms, but to infringing on the rights of others, making life more pleasant for all residents.

Dogs. We love dogs in Stroudsburg, but our Borough Code requires that dogs be on a leash at all times, have a current license, and owners must always clean-up after their dogs. Also, a law was just passed that allows us to cite owners whose dogs are excessively barking outdoors, for a period longer than 20 minutes.

Fireworks. Pennsylvania law now allows residents to purchase more varieties of fireworks, but that doesn't mean that they can be used anywhere. Fireworks cannot be used within 150 feet of any structure, with fines ranging from \$100 to \$1,000.

Tenant Registration. Like many communities in Pennsylvania, Stroudsburg requires that owners of rental properties provide the Borough with information on occupants in each dwelling unit. The Borough's Regulated Rental Unit Occupancy Ordinance provides needed safeguards for both landlords and tenants.

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Borough of Stroudsburg
Municipal Building
700 Sarah Street
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 280
Stroudsburg, PA
18360

OCCUPANT

Upcoming Projects in the Borough

Stroudsburg Landmarks to Receive Major Upgrades

Stroudsburg Borough is fortunate to contain so many architectural and historic landmarks that make our community one that is not only exceptionally beautiful, but truly unique as well. Two of Stroudsburg's major landmarks are currently planning on extensive upgrades that will have a huge positive impact on the region over many years to come.

Monroe County Historical Association Heritage Center

As a cultural and learning center, the Monroe County Historical Association seeks to build a Heritage Center adjacent to the Stroud Mansion to inspire and serve the public as the county-wide historical organization. The Heritage Center will increase opportunities to teach lessons of history that provide direction to the future and enhance the quality of life and appreciation of community and culture. The benefits of the Heritage Center project include:

- 1) A community room for expanded educational programs, workshops, lectures, special exhibits, and community events;
- 2) Providing accessibility for all residents;
- 3) Ensuring the preservation of Monroe County's valuable archives and artifacts, and;
- 4) Maintaining the integrity of the historic 1795 Stroud Mansion.



The renderings show the proposed architectural design of the Heritage Center. In keeping with guidelines from the United States Department of the Interior's Preservation Brief 14 and the Stroudsburg Historic Preservation District, the addition uses the same materials and a simplified design that references, but does not copy, the historic building.



Monroe County Courthouse Plans Advance

The Monroe County Commissioners, in conjunction with the Judiciary, are continuing to advance plans to renovate, modernize and build an addition to the Monroe County Courthouse. The project, designed to provide a functional, safe, secure and dignified setting for the administration of justice, consists of three major components:

- A new three story addition housing an attractive entry lobby, service and secure vehicle access, and new courtrooms, chambers and support areas. The addition will be located on the east end of the block bounded by 6th, Monroe, and Sarah Streets.
- Interior renovation of the 1970's Courthouse Annex to provide additional courtrooms and more efficient use of space for court related agencies. While the Annex's exterior will remain as is, the existing sunken plaza will be redeveloped to create a new, more easily accessible and useable public plaza.
- Restoration of the interior spaces of the National Register listed Historic Courthouse including the 1893 courtroom, 1930's courtroom, library, entry lobby and public stair. New life safety and security systems will be installed along with areas of interior renovation to support court programs. Concrete sidewalks and retaining walls on the east side will be removed and replaced with lawn restoring the Courthouse's setting on Monroe Street to its original condition.



The Monroe County Courthouse has been a significant landmark in downtown Stroudsburg since the late 1800's and the new addition and entry plaza are intended to reinforce the prominent role of the courthouse in the community.

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an officer with Airborne, Air Assault and Special Operations units.

Deciding to leave the military to again work in the arts, over a number of years Larry was executive director with six arts non-profits across the country. He discovered his true passion was in community building and economic development through the arts, in building collaborative partnerships that developed programs that improved the quality of life in the community. His work with the Arts Center in Jamestown, ND, is particularly noteworthy. The Arts Center was awarded the North Dakota Governor's Award for the Arts for their work in community building efforts; an award from ND Tourism for the Center's Arts Market, a weekly, outdoor arts-based community street fair anchored in a downtown pocket park; as well as a large grant from the Bush Foundation to explore further collaborative efforts in community building.

In late 2018, Larry decided to move from North Dakota back home to Northeast Pennsylvania to be near his elderly Mother and family. In spring 2019, he began working as the Borough Manager in his hometown of Catawissa. Taking the reins of a municipality that was without a manager for over a year, Larry put in place policies and procedures that increased efficiency as well as successfully completing several large infrastructure projects that were finished on time and under budget. Financially, all major funds finished with surpluses every year of his tenure.

"Working in municipal government brings together all of the disparate threads of my professional life," stated Kopp. "Leadership and management from my time as an officer in the military; creativity from my time as a performing musician; and consensus and community building from my experiences in arts management," states Kopp. "I am looking forward to working together with the Mayor, Council, residents and staff in growing our community and making it the best it possibly can be."

A Quick Reminder

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Short-Term Rentals. Short-term rentals, more commonly known as Airbnb's, are covered by an Ordinance and are regulated by the Borough. License are required for operation.

Parking Permits. Residents of residential districts are required to obtain parking permits to allow parking for longer than the time allowed by parking restrictions. Permit applications are available at the Borough office; proof of residency is required. Short-term permits are also available for visitors.

Recycling. The Borough of Stroudsburg requires recycling. Bi-weekly, curbside recycling pick-up is mandatory for all residents. The pick-up schedule is available on the Borough website. The Borough, in conjunction with East Stroudsburg, maintains the Twin Boroughs Recycling Center off of Lincoln Avenue for the convenience of residents.

Alarm Registration. Alarm systems on private property need to be registered with the Borough. Property owners wishing to install alarm systems must apply through the Borough Manager. Permits are not transferable.

More information about these topics—and lots of other great information as well—is available online on the Borough's website, stroudsburgboro.com. And of course, any questions may be directed to Borough Hall by phone at (570) 421-5444.

Stroudsburg is a wonderful community and a great place to call home. Obeying our Ordinances improves the quality of life for all residents.

On Behalf of the Borough, a Special "Thank You" to...

Our First Responders

- Stroud Area Regional Police Department
- Stroudsburg Borough Fire Department



Stroudsburg Borough Public Works

Stroudsburg Borough Staff

Monroe County Waste Authority for our cigarette dispensers throughout town.



Pocono Mountain Visitors Bureau for your generosity on many projects.



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Councilperson Jim Evanisko

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charm and local residents. Hopefully my past experiences can be put to use creatively and constructively to insure Stroudsburg's economic growth and future.

Councilperson Victoria DeVries



Victoria DeVries is a 2012 graduate of Jim Thorpe High School. Victoria has attended ESU and Northampton Community College, and graduated with a degree in communications. She is currently the visual manager for Target. Victoria and her family live in the first ward, and she was elected to borough council in November 2019. Victoria is currently on parking, streets, recycling, and PR committees.

Personal Statement: My Vision of the community is to have it continue as a top choice for families to live and raise their children in a safe and productive environment as well as continue to provide the amenities that will attract those families to move here. I am extremely proud to live in Stroudsburg and look forward in continuing to working with Council to encourage new businesses, residential housing, and events around town.

Mayor Tarah Probst

**First Female Mayor in Borough History
First Elected in November 2015**



I was born and raised in East Stroudsburg and have lived in northeast Pennsylvania all my life. I was raised by my mother, my grandmother and my aunt, along with my 3 brothers. I earned my Law degree from Widener University School of Law in 2003 and my Bachelor's degree from King's College in 1992. While I lived in the Wyoming Valley for some time, Stroudsburg was always home. I moved back to Stroudsburg in 2010 and in 2013 my husband and I bought our home in the beautiful borough of Stroudsburg.

I have spent my career in marketing, helping business owners grow and connect. My career has had me talking with people, understanding their needs and helping them. That is what I do, and I will continue to do it in government. In 2016 I left the corporate world and my husband and I opened up a downtown restaurant to support our town and to be a part of the community I was

newly elected to serve. We sold the Charcuterie on Main St. in September 2018 to Renegade Winery and so proud of what they have done. In 2019, I took a part time job as a Regional Account Coordinator at Brookdale Premier Addiction Recovery. I love getting people the help they need and I've learned so much through the process. I am so fortunate to love what I do for Brookdale and Stroudsburg Borough.

I was elected the first female mayor in over 200 years of Stroudsburg's history in November 2015 and never looked back. Our mayor position requires few duties and could be performed essentially as a figurehead position, but I approach it as a full-time job and an obligation to serve my town. As mayor, I've been a part of REAL change and anyone will tell you that I take every call, all the time, and am a proud ambassador of the town I love. I work with our citizens and businesses every day to address their concerns and solve their issues. I have brought significant positive change and business growth to Stroudsburg, along with increased media attention. I have created social media outlets and have promoted our businesses and our many events. I have worked hard to make our town a better place to live, work, and visit.

In my work as mayor, I have also worked on many issues facing our greater region. I have worked with other municipalities, our county commissioners, and with our legislators in Harrisburg and Washington to address regional issues we all face.

It is this background, experience, drive and determination, along with my proven leadership that help me serve the borough of Stroudsburg and I love every minute of it. I am on the Stroud Area Regional Police Commission, Stroudsburg Neighborhood Watch, the Codes Committee, the I-80 Task Force Committee, the Council of Governments. I chair the Streets Department Committee as well as the Public Relations Committee. I am also on the BWA board, the 450 Project board, Monroe, Carbon and Pike Roundtable Behavioral Health Committee and HSPS Reg Task Force working with Stroud Township, Pocono Township and Hamilton Township. I work for everyone and it is my HONOR to serve you.

Borough Manager Larry Kopp



New Stroudsburg Borough Manager Larry Kopp is a native of Northeast Pennsylvania, born and raised in Catawissa in Columbia County. He studied music in undergraduate and graduate school at Temple University in Philadelphia, and upon graduation, worked for several years as a free-lance musician, performing throughout Southeastern PA, New Jersey and Delaware. Eventually the desire to serve his country inspired Larry to enlist in the U.S. Army. After a brief period as an enlisted infantryman, Larry attended Officer Candidate School and served for 11-years as

The Shanti House Project

Mixed Use Structure on Main Street Brings Benefits to the Community



The proposed Shanti House project at 621-623-625 Main Street is to construct a 65 feet tall, 5-story building containing 50 residential units and 2 commercial units with 17 off-street parking spaces.

Fourteen years ago, a fire of suspicious origin destroyed the buildings at 621-623-625 Main Street that formerly housed the Da

Vinci Cafe, Atomic Mary and Main Street Jukebox. Since that time, the lots have been empty, hidden behind a beautiful artist's mural.

The Shanti House Project has undergone close scrutiny from Stroudsburg's Borough's Historic Architectural Review Board to ensure that the new building will be a good architectural "fit" with the many historic buildings in the downtown district.

While the structure itself will be an architectural and aesthetic compliment to the downtown, there are many other benefits of this project to the community. A new, large structure will bring in increased property tax revenues to the Borough, County and School District, assisting with paying for increased services to residents. New businesses means new jobs, assisting in growing the local economy. The fifty units of housing means more business for downtown businesses and again, more tax revenues. Mixed use structures and traditional downtowns are the future of urban planning, and Stroudsburg Borough is on the "cutting edge" of urban development, working to make our community the best it possibly can be for our residents.

Around Town

Stroudsburg's many events add "spice" to your life and excitement to our community, truly making Stroudsburg unique. Join your neighbors and friends for the following upcoming events in 2021!

First Saturday Art Walks	The first Saturday of every month
Monroe County Farmers Market	Opens May 1st
Pocono Pride Festival	June 6th
Greek Festival	June 10th-13th
Thursday Night Concerts in the Park at Courthouse Square	June 17th-August 19th (8pm; Shine Only)
StroudFest	September 4th
Irish Festival	September 11th
Halloween on Main	October 30th
Stroudsburg Borough Fire Department Spaghetti Dinner	TBA
Veteran's Day Parade	November 7th
Tree Lighting in Courthouse Square	November 26th
Snowmen of Stroudsburg 2021-2022	November 26th
Small Business Saturday	November 27th
Stroudsburg Borough Fire Dept. Christmas Display	TBA
Winterfest 2022	February 19th
Visit PoconoArts.Org for art openings and festivals	

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Letter from Stroudsburg Borough Council President Anthony Lanfrank



I want to thank you for putting your faith in me and electing me to council 4 years ago. I am not seeking reelection as life has taken a different path. As president, I have enjoyed working tirelessly behind the scenes with the Mayor Tarah Probst, Council, and Borough Manager Brian Ace to move the borough forward. During the 4 years I have served, 2 as streets' chairperson and the last 2 as president, the borough has created a paving schedule for all borough owned streets, invested in the borough's infrastructure, rewrote a height ordinance to make it more appealing for development, and are currently negotiating a LERTA program with the school district and county to help develop our borough. This could not have been done without the hardworking councilmembers, especially Matt Abell and Erica McCabe, and our diligent Mayor.

This past year has been hard for all of us. The Mayor and council have done everything we can, within the law, to aid residents and businesses weather this pandemic. I want to thank all of you for continuing to show empathy and compassion for one another during this pandemic by coming together, wearing masks in public, and being considerate of each other. The residents of the borough, time and time again, prove they are tough, resilient, and a community.

Streets will continue to be paved, the budget, finally, is balanced, our fire department funded, and the borough continues to support the arts all year long. I hope I leave the borough better than it was when I was elected 4 years ago.

Thank you for allowing me this privilege to serve,
Anthony Lanfrank

Council Vice-President Matt Abell



I moved to the borough over thirty years ago, graduated from Stroudsburg High School, studied architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and graduated summa cum laude from ESU. I have worn many hats over the years, having worked as a high school and middle school teacher, a construction estimator, a radon mitigator, a property manager, and a musician. I have run my own full-service contracting business for twenty years and live on Wallace Street with my wife, five-year-old daughter, two dogs, and four cats.

As head of the Redevelopment and Codes committees, my

mission on council for the past 14 years has been to modernize zoning to attract new development without sacrificing the charm of our historic community. This made possible three significant projects in our downtown, all of which will break ground this year -- The Shanti House on Main Street, the County Courthouse expansion, and the Jacob Stroud Historical Society addition. 2021 may even see a large company take over the former Shoprite plaza, thanks to changes made by the Codes Committee.

I'm proud of all the things Council has done to make life better for our residents: allowing sidewalk dining; penalizing blighted property owners; bringing app-based parking meters, solar-compacting trash cans, and bike racks to our downtown; streamlining the historic architectural review process; and enacting a non-discrimination ordinance. 2021 will bring other exciting changes, such as new bike lanes to Glen Park, initial planning for two new Creek Walk trails, an open space impact fee for new development, and mobile radar speed signs for our residential neighborhoods.

I watched my daughter learn to pedal a bike for the first time on our town sidewalks, grateful that she will grow up having a sense of independence that kids in gated communities never get to experience. It's the reason I'm a "town-mouse," and if I'm reelected to another term in the fall, I intend to keep building on the successes that make this such a wonderful place to call home.

President Pro Tem Erica McCabe



I grew up in New York, like many Stroudsburgians. I attended Baruch College in the 1990s and later completed my degree at Kaplan (Purdue) in Legal Studies. I am currently self-employed as a Notary Signing Agent and Wedding Officiant serving Monroe County. For a portion of the year, I serve on a panel of three judges for the Reassessment Board. I was appointed by our county commissioners to hear constituent tax appeals countywide. With the Tax Assessment Office, I developed a written protocol to aid in the countywide assessment.

I am the proud mother of five children ages 10 to 21 years. All but one of my children were born in PA and all attended Pennsylvania schools. I was a stay-at-home mother until 2018 when I returned to the workforce full time. While home, I remained active in the community volunteering at the children's school, serving as PTA president, also working with several, not for profits, political campaigns, and animal rescue organizations. During these covid times, my work has been very limited due to the children being home. I have been enjoying my time with my children and my dog, Odin.

After being appointed in August of 2018 and enjoying my term on council, I ran for election in 2019. I currently serve as co-chair on the

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Public Relations Committee, chair of the Parking and SROSRC Committees while seated on the Personnel Committee and I-80 task force committee.

My goals as a council member are making Stroudsburg technologically up to speed, greener, and more walkable, maintaining the millage rate, and listening to the constituents. I can promise that I will serve the Borough of Stroudsburg with honor, integrity, and the best interest of the entirety of Stroudsburg, businesses, and residents alike.

Councilperson Boyd Weiss



I was born in Stroudsburg on May 10, 1944. Except for college, I have been a lifelong resident of Stroudsburg. I attended Penn State, Rider College, Wilkes University, Princeton and East Stroudsburg State College. I have served the community on the Stroudsburg Borough Council for 16 years and I am part of several committees, such as the shade tree commission, I-80 Committee, Parks and Recreation Committee, Sewer Committee, Recycling Committee and always donate water and treats for concerts in the park.

I resided at 715 Main St. for 73 years before I was forced to move to 401 Main St. due to a fire. I had one son who passed away at the age of 54. I believe that the widening of Interstate 80 to six lanes will have a devastating economic impact on the borough with the loss of homes and businesses. It has been an honor to serve the citizens of Stroudsburg Borough and live in the "Burg" all of my life. My family owned and operated four hotels in the Poconos (The American House, Tom X Ranch, Bushkill Falls House and The Bushkill Inn) and helped build our town. I have 4 siblings and deep roots in the borough I love. I am honored to be on borough council and thank you for your support.

Councilperson James Smith



My family and I moved to Stroud Township in January 2003 from Jefferson, NJ and then to Stroudsburg Borough in August 2012. Here is where I raised my two children. We moved to the Stroudsburg area to be closer to my ex-wife's parents, and to raise our family. Her parents were involved in Christ Episcopal Church on 7th Street behind the Borough Hall, and lived on Thomas Street. Her father was the Pastor, and her mother served the church in many different capacities.

I have served my community on many different levels, Borough Council President, Fire Department, coach, board member, volunteer, and I work for PennDOT. I was elected to Stroudsburg Borough Council in 2015 and again in 2019.

While serving on council, I suggested the creation of a Redevelopment Committee and the Interstate 80 Task Force. Acknowledging the importance of these two issues, council agreed with me to form these two committees. While serving on council, I was also successful in gaining support from council to move borough funds to higher paying interest accounts, to maximize return of tax dollars, and examine our parking ordinance and change them to make the borough more attractive to development. These changes in parking is what helped make the Rite Aid development on Lower Main Street possible. I am currently the Chair of the Finance Committee and sit on the Redevelopment and Streets Committee.

While living in NJ, I served on Milton Fire Company #1 for a number of years. I used the training I received in NJ to serve our community by joining Stroud Township Fire Department and then Stroudsburg Borough. When our community was in need of coaches for soccer, flag football and tackle football, I volunteered to coach these sports. I have served as a board member of the YMCA and I am currently a board member of the Broadhead Water Association.

I look forward to serving our community by continuing to bring a common-sense approach.

Councilperson Jim Evanisko



I was elected to Borough Council in 2019. I moved to Stroudsburg 5 years ago with my wife Mary, married for 34 years, 2 adult children with the intention to retire from city life.

I am a Vietnam Veteran, have a degree in interior / structural design (NSFIA = Newark School of Fine and Industrial Arts), a degree in lighting design (Westinghouse), teacher at NSFIA,

board of directors at NSFIA, president /owner of National Cathode Corp. for 34 years, Underwriters Laboratories ADHOC committee member 25 years, awarded eight (8) United States Patents. I opened "Gamut Art Gallery" in Stroudsburg, President and Creative Director of "Go Collaborative" a Non-Profit organization (Snowmen of Stroudsburg) and board member on The Pocono Arts Council. I currently sit on the Public Relations Committee, The Redevelopment Committee and The Codes Committee.

I chose to get involved with the community because of its history,
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