

December 1, 2008

It is hard to believe that 2008 is drawing to an end. This monthly news article has been an attempt to reach out to you the residents of Boyertown in order to illuminate some of the things your borough government is working on. We realize that we cannot communicate every detail of every issue, but our hope is that by letting you know some of the issues you may better understand, ask questions, or volunteer to help make Boyertown even better. We welcome your feedback at www.boyertownborough.org or by calling the borough staff at 610-369-3028.

Some of the topics covered in the monthly news article this year are items that require no further action by Borough Council. The 2008 Boyertown Recreation Board's schedule of events, Earth Day, Fun Days, pool dances, Movies under the Stars, and the Fall Festival were great successes. We hope you were able to enjoy some or all of these events. The Popodickon Dam Spillway widening project is near completion. The reconstruction of North Washington Street from Sixth Street to Philadelphia Avenue and Madison Street from the Senior High School to Fourth Street was completed under budget. The addition of Officers' Hoppes, Koch, and Myers has brought our police force up to full strength. Mr. Mest our newest member of Borough is Council is Chairman of the House Committee and is contributing in many areas.

Some of the topics covered in this year's news articles are items where things have been accomplished but ongoing effort and action is required to bring these items to the ultimate conclusion. In this area the purchase of the railroad yard is a prime example. The proposal to purchase the railroad yard was brought to Borough Council by Charles Haddad, President of Building a Better Boyertown, and after negotiations and environmental investigations the Borough executed an agreement of sale and made settlement on the property on November 21st, 2008. Our primary goal in purchase of the property is to alleviate parking concerns in the downtown area. The Borough and Building a Better Boyertown will work together to develop plans for the future of the two plus acre parcel.

Another area that requires ongoing effort has been the appointment of a new zoning officer and building code official. Mr. Scott Reeser, of Bursich Associates, was appointed in August, 2008. Mr. Reeser's duties and responsibilities are vitally important to the Borough to maintain the quality of life in Boyertown.

Some of the topics we touched on in the monthly news article are things we will be working on in 2009. The Boyertown/Colebrookdale/Pike Joint Zoning Ordinance is near completion and will be presented for public inspection early in 2009. The investigation of a regionalized police force with Colebrookdale Township is ongoing and will continue into 2009. The Emergency Services Task Force is awaiting a contract from the Department of Community and Economic Development. The DCED will provide a peer consultant to assist the Task Force in investigation of the operation of emergency fire service in our community.

As we look forward into 2009 we recognize the economic challenges before us make the work of the borough more difficult to accomplish. We promise our best effort and devotion to you the residents of the Borough of Boyertown. We look forward to communicating with you through the monthly news article and welcome your comments. We thank you for the opportunity to serve you on Boyertown Borough Council in 2008 and look forward to the work ahead of us in 2009.

Boyertown Borough Council
Borough of Boyertown, Berks County, Pennsylvania