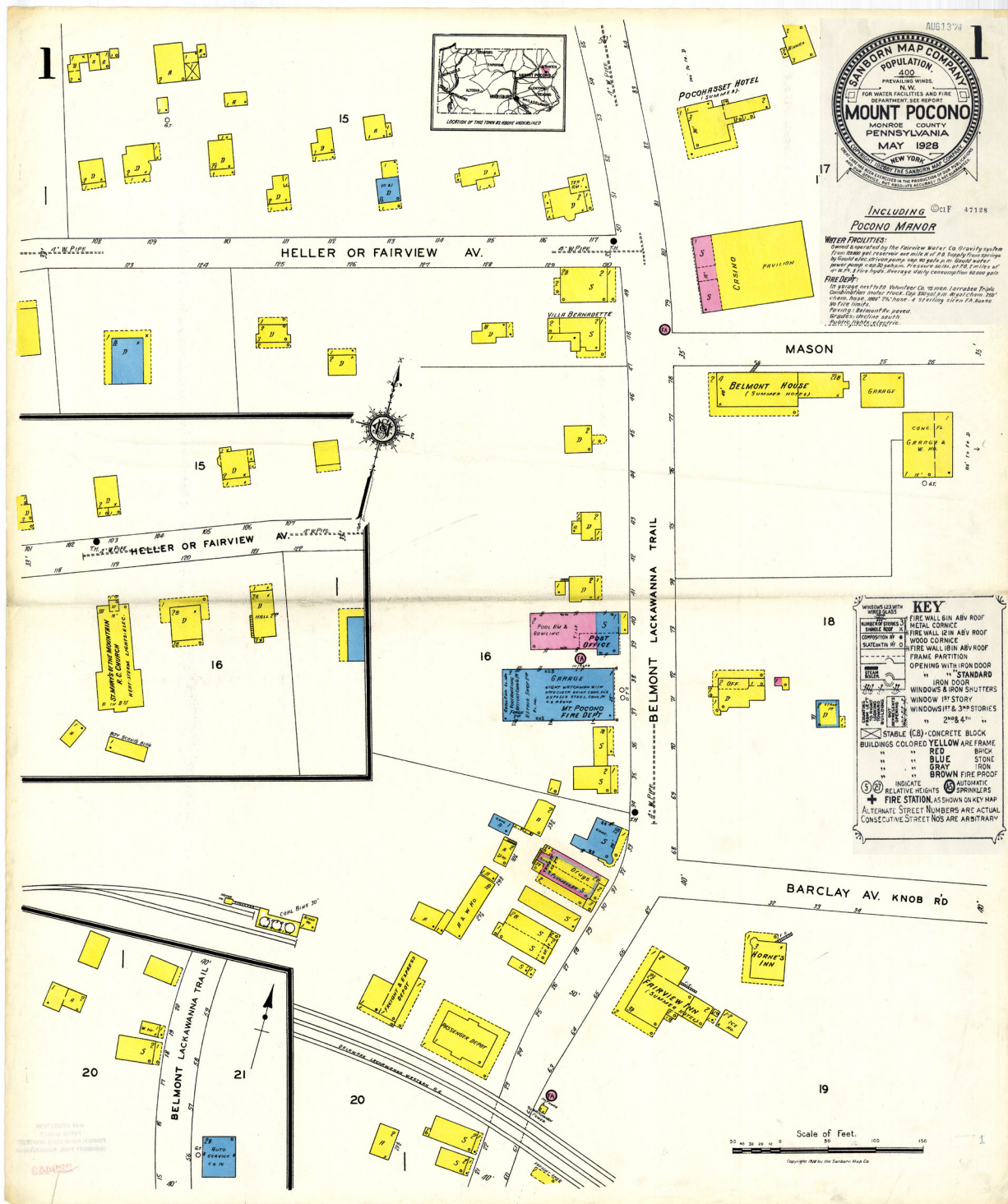


The Forks Post

~Official Newsletter of The Borough of Mount Pocono~

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Mount Pocono, 1928
(Sanborn Map Co.)

In May, 1928, not quite one year after the incorporation of the Borough on July 12, 1927, Mount Pocono was home to 400 citizens. The blue-shaded building near the center (next to the Post Office) was the Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company, which numbered 75 volunteers and boasted a Larrabee Triple Combination Pumper truck capable of putting out 350 gallons per minute.

Keep in touch with us



mountpocono-pa.gov



(570) 839-8436



(570) 839-0981



office@mountpocono-pa.gov

Visit us

Monday-Friday: 8:30am - 4:30pm

Saturday-Sunday: Closed

Write us

1361 Pocono Blvd.

Suite 100

Mount Pocono, PA 18344

Stay updated

mountpocono-pa.gov/subscribe

Be Savvy

savvycitizenapp.com

The Mayor's Corner

with MAYOR RANDY ALTEMOSE

Welcome to the first edition of "The Forks Post" the Borough of Mount Pocono's Official Newsletter, we hope that you like it, get the information you need, and, just maybe, some information that you didn't know you needed.



Mount Pocono has been my home for over 60 years and boy have there been changes. But changes are inevitable and ideally most are for the better. When the Borough Council decided to change the newsletter to our new format and deliver it to all borough residents, it wasn't an easy decision. We think that a more reader-friendly newsletter, with relevant content, would be a good thing for residents and businesses.

Participation from the community is critical to the future of Mount Pocono, we need everyone to get involved and take part in our small town. There is a lot of work that needs to be done and there are far too few people willing to put the time and energy into all the things that need to be done. We hope that, by giving you the background of the borough, introducing you to the people, organizations and services that we have in our little town, you'll get the urge to roll up your sleeves and pitch in to make Mount Pocono the place that everyone wants to live and work in.

The Forks Post will be published quarterly, primarily put together by myself, the Borough Council, and the borough employees. This will entail a whole lot of work from us. But if it meets your needs, and turns out to be as successful as we hope it will, it will be well-worth the effort.

We hope you enjoy *The Forks Post* and find it to be a source of information, entertainment, and just good old fashion 'what's happening' in your town.

'The Forks Post' - What's in a Name?

Our newsletter's name hearkens back the to the 1830s when this area was known as "The Forks" - a reference to the intersection of several major roadways.

The railroad stop & post office here were also known as "Forks, Pa."

But by about 1880, local merchants adopted "Mount Pocono." That was thought to be a more attractive moniker to the growing New York & Philadelphia tourist trade.

So, that was the name selected for the new borough when it was officially incorporated in July, 1927

The Forks Post - Volume I, No. 1, Spring 2023 - ©2023 All Rights Reserved

Mailed by the USPS to every address in Mount Pocono

Content: Mount Pocono Borough Newsletter Committee, Mayor Randy Altmosse; Council Members Norman DeLano, Ann Marie Harris, and Claudette Williams.

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For Advertising Information or Delivery Problems: tom@ourtownpublications.com, 570-589-0803

For Content Suggestions or any other matters: office@mountpocono-pa.gov

MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH

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dstruckle@mountpocono-pa.gov

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Councilmember Ella Santiago

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Mayor Randy Altemose

raltemose@mountpocono-pa.gov



Borough Manager Joshua Walker

office@mountpocono-pa.gov

Admin Asst Diana Jackowski

diana@mountpocono-pa.gov

Borough Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30pm in the council meeting room on the second floor of the borough building, 1361 Pocono Blvd, Mount Pocono 18344. The first meeting of the month is a business meeting; the second is a work session. The public is invited to attend and participate. The meeting schedule, agenda, and minutes are posted on the borough website, mountpocono-pa.gov.



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www.ustcnj.com

Mount Pocono Borough Ordinances

RECENTLY-PASSED ORDINANCES

QUALITY OF LIFE ORDINANCE

A ticketing ordinance which permits certain borough employees to issue citations for violations of certain ordinances, such as noxious weed control ordinances, trash accumulation, fireworks, and more. The Quality of Life ticketing ordinance helps make enforcement of nuisance violations more expedient and impactful.

KEEPING OF CHICKENS

Allows residents to maintain small backyard chicken flocks for personal egg production, subject to size and placement restrictions, inspections, and fees.

SHOPPING CARTS ORDINANCE

Encourages retail stores to adopt measures to reduce or eliminate the proliferation of abandoned shopping carts on the streets of the borough.

PROHIBITING PARKING ON SR 196

This traffic and pedestrian safety measure expressly prohibits parking anywhere on State Route 196/Sterling Road within the borough.

SNOW REMOVAL

ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS

This amendment to our snow removal regulations clarifies and expands the obligations of residents and businesses to clear snow and ice from sidewalks, hydrants, and catch basins abutting their property.

ELIMINATING COMPENSATION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

This ordinance eliminates compensation for council members and the mayor. Under state law, it will be effective only for future council terms.

All Mount Pocono ordinances are available on our website. Last year, the council retained a service to consolidate and electronically publish all of the borough Ordinances. Ordinances through June, 2020, are available in our online E-Code, found at ecode360.com/MO2008

The E-Code is updated periodically. All newly-passed ordinances can be reviewed and downloaded from the Document library on our municipal website at mountpocono-pa.gov/documents

I'm here to help you bundle your home & auto



Beth Moloughney Ins Agcy Inc
Beth Moloughney, Agent
1434 Pocono Blvd Ste 102
Mount Pocono, PA 18344-1685

Bus: 570-839-3000
beth@bethinsurance.com

Hablamos Español.

I can save you time and money when you bundle your home and auto insurance. Call, click or stop by for a quote today.

Availability and amount of discounts and savings vary by state.
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company
Bloomington, IL
State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas
State Farm Lloyds
Richardson, TX
State Farm Florida Insurance Company
Winter Haven, FL

STATE/FEDERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

US Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.: (202) 224-6324, casey.senate.gov/contact
US Senator John Fetterman: (202) 224-4254, fetterman.senate.gov/contact
US Representative Matt Cartwright (PA 8th): (570) 355-1818, cartwright.house.gov/contact
PA State Senator Rosemary M. Brown (40th PA Sen Dist): (570) 620-4326, rbrown@pasen.gov
PA State Representative Maureen E. Madden (115th Dist): (570) 894-7905, pahouse.com/115/Contact

EMERGENCY NUMBERS - Police, Fire, Rescue, Ambulance: 9-1-1

NON-EMERGENCY & AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Pocono Mountain Regional Police Department:

(570) 895-2400, pmrpd.com

Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company:

pmvfc@ptd.net, pmvfc.com

Pocono Mountain Regional EMS:

(570) 839-8485, pmrems.org

Mount Pocono Municipal Authority (Sewer):

(570) 839-8963, mpma.authoritypay.com

Pennsylvania American Water:

800-565-7292, amwater.com/paaw

MONROE COUNTY

monroecountypa.gov/departments

Commissioners: (570) 517-3102

Area Agency on Aging: (570) 420-3735, monroeaging@monroecountypa.gov

Children and Youth: (570) 420-3590

District Attorney: (570) 517-3052

Prothonotary: (570) 517-3370

Recorder of Deeds: (570) 517-3969

Register of Wills: (570) 517-3359

Sheriff: (570) 517-3312

Veterans Affairs: (570) 517-3187

Kasa's Pizza
6172 Paradise Valley Rd, Cresco, PA 18326
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Get real time updates of what's happening in Mount Pocono by simply downloading the free SavvyCitizen app today. It's available wherever you get apps for your electronic devices.

Not ready for the app? You can sign up for notifications via text and email instead. Learn more at savvycitizenapp.com.

- Find out about local events
- Get important alerts and notices
- Get event reminders and change alerts
- Stay in sync with your local government
- 100% Free

MOUNT POCONO PARKS AND RECREATION PRESENTS Classic Cars and Jazz



bring your classic/custom cars and enjoy some FREE food and good music!

ALL ARE WELCOME!
FRIDAY MAY 5th

Join us for some FREE FOOD, music, fun and community, bring a dish or beverage to share if you like

This month Featuring
Pocono Mountain East Jr High School Greenwood Jazz Ensemble

Mount Pocono Borough 1361 Pocono Blvd, Mount Pocono
570-839-8436



Proactive beats reactive.

- Collective Bargaining & Interest Arbitration
 - Personnel Counseling & Training
 - Grievance Arbitration
 - Labor Contract Administration
 - Retirement Benefits
 - EEO, PHRC & Civil Rights Litigation
 - Civil Service, Police Tenure Act
 - Local Agency Law Proceedings
 - Appellate Representation
- cdblaw.com

Taking steps to prevent labor and employment issues is a far better strategy than trying to mitigate them after the fact. We partner with municipalities in every corner of the Commonwealth, helping them address potential risks and create work environments where people and public service can thrive. We'd like to do the same for you.



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535 Smithfield Street
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Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412) 395-1280

Philadelphia
One Belmont Avenue
Suite 300
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004
(610) 227-2591



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MOUNT POCONO'S ABC'S

Borough Government Authorities, Boards, Commissions, & Committees

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Parks and Recreation Committee is tasked with overseeing the improvements and maintenance of the Borough parks. The Parks and Recreation Committee consists of five (5) members of the public who must be residents of the Borough for at least one (1) year. The members are appointed to staggering terms as listed below. Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the Month at 7pm at the Borough building. The public is encouraged to attend.

- **Chair:** Debra Fulton* (term expires 12/31/25)
- **Vice Chair:** Stacey Turrell (12/31/24)
- **Secretary:** Erin Melbert (12/31/23)
- **Member:** Peter Reichert (12/31/24)
- **Member:** Joe Simeone (12/31/23)

SAFETY COMMISSION

The Safety Commission was established by ordinance in 2021 in response to numerous traffic accidents and pedestrian safety concerns. The Safety Commission consists of five (5) members of the public who must be taxpayers of the Borough for at least one (1) year. The members are appointed to staggering terms as listed below. Meetings are held on the 4th Monday of the Month at 7pm, as needed, at the Borough building. The public is encouraged to attend.

- **Chair:** Kyong Kim (12/31/24)
- **Vice Chair:** Jodi Bohdal (12/31/23)
- **Secretary:** Lori Noonan* (12/31/23)
- **Member:** Debra Fulton* (12/31/23)
- **Member:** Vacant (12/31/24)

BOROUGH COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEES

(first listed is chair)

- Budget and Finance:** Lori Noonan, Donald Struckle, Debra Fulton
- Economic Devel:** Ann Marie Harris, Norman DeLano, Claudette Williams
- COG:** Don Struckle, Joshua Walker
- EMS:** Norman DeLano, Ella Santiago
- Grants:** Joshua Walker, Don Struckle, Lori Noonan
- Newsletter:** Norman DeLano, Claudette Williams, Ann Marie Harris, Randy Altemose
- Parks and Recreation:** Debra Fulton, Norman DeLano
- Personnel:** Claudette Williams, Ann Marie Harris, Don Struckle
- Public Infrastructure & Utilities:** Randy Altemose, Don Struckle, Lori Noonan
- Regional Police:** Randy Altemose, Don Struckle
- Safety Commission:** Ella Santiago, Debra Fulton
- Sanitation:** Lori Noonan, Claudette Williams, Ann Marie Harris

PLANNING COMMISSION

The planning commission is governed by the Municipalities Planning Code and reviews land development projects and other matters before they are brought to the Council for final decision. The planning commission exists of five (5) members of the public who must be residents of the Borough for at least one (1) year. The members are appointed to staggering terms as listed below. Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month at 7pm

- **Chair:** Michael Penn (term expires 12/31/24)
- **Member:** Ann Marie Harris* (12/31/26)
- **Member:** Erin Melbert (12/31/23)
- **Member:** Rich Dorkoski (12/31/23)
- **Member:** Steve Speno (12/31/24)
- **Alternate:** Vacant

ZONING HEARING BOARD

The Zoning Hearing Board is governed by the Municipalities Planning code. The Zoning Hearing Board hears and renders adjudications pertaining to land use ordinance and other zoning matters. The zoning hearing board consists of five (5) members of the public who must be residents of the Borough for at least one (1) year. The members are appointed to staggering terms as listed below. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of the Month at 7pm, as needed.

- **Chair:** Raissa Simchak (12/31/25)
- **Vice Chair:** Shirley Lansdowne (12/31/26)
- **Member:** Robert McMahon (12/31/24)
- **Member:** Leanon Trawick (12/31/24)
- **Member:** Francis O'Boyle (12/31/23)
- **Alternate:** John Repetti (12/31/25)
- **Alternate:** Vacant

MOUNT POCONO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

The Mount Pocono Municipal Authority is a quasi-independent agency responsible for the operations of the borough sewer and wastewater systems. The MPMA operates autonomously and has it's own budget. It sets sewer rates and rules independent of the borough government. The Borough Council appoints members of the MPMA. The agency meets at 6:30pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month at the borough building. The public is invited to attend and participate.

- **Chair:** Matt Hensel (12/31/26)
- **Vice Chair:** Jeff Woehrl (12/31/25)
- **Member:** Karl Davis (12/31/24)
- **Member:** Christine Ferrugia(12/31/23)
- **Member:** Vacant (12/31/27)

*-INDICATES BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBER

All Meetings are at the Borough Building, 1361 Pocono Blvd., Mount Pocono 18344

**We Want
YOU
To Volunteer!**



MOUNT POCONO IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD PEOPLE!

We seek volunteers to fill open seats on the Safety Commission, Municipal Authority, Planning Commission, and the Zoning Hearing Board. Please consider helping your town by applying for one of these positions. To do so, send a letter of interest to the Borough Manager at office@mountpocono-pa.gov.



Check Out **Happy!**



GRADE A SEAFOOD Delivered Daily

Our Fresh Seafood is delivered directly to our stores 7 days a week.



PICKED AT THEIR PEAK Fresh Produce

Produce is delivered 7 days a week ensuring our commitment to quality.



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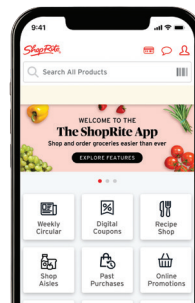
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Trash Talking

Borough Trash Contractor: **GFL Environmental**, (570) 382-3304, gflenv.com

Trash Collection Days: **Wednesdays** (subject to delay due to holiday or weather)

Monthly Cost per Residence: **\$32.93 for standard residential service** (starting March 2023) (one 96-gal trash and one 64-gal recycle per week; excess cans may be returned without charge)

Remittance Address: GFL Environmental, PO Box 555193, Detroit, MI 48255-5193

Bulk items permitted: **2 per week** placed out with the trash. (bulk items may not include tires, electronic, refrigerators with freon or hazardous materials)

*For disposal of household electronics, contact the borough for pick-up: (570) 839-8436, extension 302
Place trash & recycling cans at curb
by 6am on collection days.*

Keep Recycling Successful - Single Stream Recycling Acceptable Items:

Magazines & Catalogs
Chipboard/ Box Board
Newspaper
Paper Egg Cartons
Telephone & Paperback Books
Aluminum Cans
Tin & Bi-Metallic Containers
(including Aerosol Cans)
Aluminum Foil
(pie plates, eg.)
Plastic Containers

Unacceptable Items:

NO Trash, NO Diapers, NO Clothing, NO Styrofoam,
NO Caps or Lids, NO Food, NO Compost, NO Yard Waste
NO BAGS

Please Place Items in Cart Loose
All Cardboard Must be Flattened
NO Shredded Paper (Place in Trash)
NO Bags of Shredded Paper (Place in Trash)

**PROMOTING
CLEAN RECYCLING**

MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, MAY 16

Polls are open from 7am until 8pm

All Mount Pocono residents vote at the Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Company, 20 Murray St, Mount Pocono, PA 18344 (Murray Street is across from Rita's Italian Ice).

Last day to register to vote: May 1, 2023

Last day to request a mail-in or absentee ballot: May 9, 2023

Last day for County to RECEIVE your mail-in ballot: May 16, 2023 (**postmarks DO NOT COUNT**)

Closest Mail-in Ballot Drop Box: Pocono Mountain Public Library, 5500 Municipal Dr, Tobyhanna, PA 18466

For more information, to register online, or to change your registration: vote.pa.gov

Monroe County Election Office: One Quaker Plaza, Room 105, Stroudsburg PA 18360,
(570) 517-3165, monroecountypa.gov/departments/elections



Recycling Sites • Electronic Drop-Off
Deer Removal • Tires, Bulbs, & Batteries Disposal
Household Hazardous Waste Events • Litter Control

www.thewasteauthority.com | 570-643-6100 | 183 Commercial Blvd. Blakeslee, PA 18610



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Pediatrics



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Care Now



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Walk-in Lab

174 Harvest Lane • Pocono Summit, PA 18346

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March 2023 Mount Pocono Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Trash/Recycle 6am PMSD Board 7pm	2	3	4
5	6	7 Boro Council 6:30 Regular Meeting	8 Trash/Recycle 6am	9 MPMA 6:30pm	10	11
12	13	14 Zoning Hearing Bd 7pm (if nec)	15 Trash/Recycle 6am Planning Com 7pm PMSD Board 7pm	16 Parks & Rec 7 pm	17	18
19 44th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade Stroudsburg 1pm	20	21 Boro Council 6:30 Work Session	22 Trash/Recycle 6am	23	24 PMEHS Mama Mia 7pm	19 PMEHS Mama Mia 7pm
26 PMEHS Mama Mia 2pm	27 Safety Com 7pm	28 MtPoc Assn 10am (Pocono Rocks)	29 Trash/Recycle 6am	30	31 SIS Music Man 6:30pm	

April 2023 Mount Pocono Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Annual Joseph Battisto Clean-Up Day Meet at the pavilion behind the Mount Pocono Borough Building @ 8:00 AM to pick-up your gloves, safety vests, and trash bags. Saturday, April 22 8:00 am - Noon For more information and to sign-up, contact the Borough Offices: (570) 839-8436 or office@mountpocono-pa.gov						1 SIS Music Man 2pm
2	3	4 Boro Council 6:30 Regular Meeting	5 Trash/Recycle 6am	6 PMSD Spring Break	7 PMSD Spring Break	8
9	10 PMSD Spring Break	11 Zoning Hearing Bd 7pm (if nec)	12 Trash/Recycle 6am Planning Com 7pm PMSD Board 7pm	13 MPMA 6:30pm	14	15
16	17 Street Sweeping	18 Street Sweeping Boro Council 6:30 Work Session	19 Trash/Recycle 6am Street Sweeping PMSD Board 7pm	20 Street Sweeping Parks & Rec 7 pm	21	22 Joe Battisto Cleanup Day
23	24 Safety Com 7pm	25 MtPoc Assn 10am (Pocono Rocks)	26 Trash/Recycle 6am	27	28 PMWHS Little Shop of Horrors 7pm	29 PMWHS Little Shop of Horrors 7pm
30 PMWHS Little Shop of Horrors 2pm	PMSD-Pocono Mountain School District PMEHS- Pocono Mountain East High School PMWHS-Pocono Mountain West High School SIS-Switwater Intermediate School		Mount Pocono Borough events are in burgundy Trash collection days are green Other events are dark blue			

May 2023 Mount Pocono Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Boro Council 6:30 Regular Meeting	3 Trash/Recycle 6am PMSD Board 7pm	4	5 FIRST FRIDAYS 6-8pm, Boro Building	6
7	8	9 Zoning Hearing Bd 7pm (if nec)	10 Trash/Recycle 6am Planning Com 7pm	11 MPMA 6:30pm	12	13
14	15	16 ELECTION DAY día de las elecciones 7 A.M. - 8 P.M Council May Work Session TBA	17 Trash/Recycle 6am	18 Parks&Rec 7pm	19	20 Spring into Happiness Festival Downtown Mount Pocono - Noon
21	22 Safety Com 7pm	23	24 Trash/Recycle 6am	25	26	27
28 Mt Poc Rotary Fly- in/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast-Airport	29 MEMORIAL DAY	30 MtPoc Assn 10am (Pocono Rocks)	31 Trash pick up Thursday, June 1 due to Memorial Day Holiday			

A Caring Community Makes Us Better

Pocono Mountain Regional Emergency Medical Services (PMREMS) would like to first thank all the community members for this year's Subscription Program support. Your membership and donations make a difference.

While no one expects to call 911 for a medical emergency—accidents happen. PMREMS is there 24/7, 365 days a year committed to serving our community. Your donations make it possible to have the highest qualified personnel and life saving equipment. Transportation as part of this Subscription covers Emergency Ambulance Services. Emergency Services are generated through the 911 system.

Subscribe and protect your family:
pmrems.org/subscription



PMREMS SUBSCRIPTION DRIVE
June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023
MEMBERSHIP MAKES A DIFFERENCE
Help us during our Annual Drive going on now thru May 31, 2022
*Signups accepted year round

Spring into Happiness!

A Community Event

sponsored by the merchants of

The Mount Pocono Association

May 20, Noon - 4pm

(rain date Sunday, May 21)

Downtown Mount Pocono

featuring musical performances by

Pocono Mountain School District students,

and others!

Art Show & Sale

Vendors

Food Trucks

Face Painting

and a

COSTUMED PET PARADE

(with prizes donated by local merchants)

check facebook.com/mountpoconoassociation for more information

Borough Council Statement on the 2023 Property Tax Rate

The Budget Committee had over 7 budget work sessions totaling 30 hours. As a result we found some glaring numbers that had to be addressed for the 2023 budget.

Our findings include:

- Our commitment to the PMRPD increased by 12.7%. Equaling about half of all real estate taxes collected by the borough.
- Walmart had a reassessment appeal awarded to them. Due to this reassessment the borough had to budget a refund to Walmart for roughly \$25,000 this coming budget year.
- We feel that based on the trends from last year and what economists are predicting, there is going to be an increase of at least 10% in heating oil and electricity costs.
- In the past council reallocated funds from the five points intersection in order to balance the budget in the amount of \$140,000.00. In order for us to be fiscally responsible this needed to be corrected. Due to the large amount, these funds will need to be repaid over the course of 4 years.
- Most of our maintenance equipment is old and wearing quickly. We have 10 pieces of equipment ranging from 1997 to 2015. The maintenance costs to keep these vehicles on the road is excessive but necessary.
- The prior council budgeted to collect \$100,000.00 in interim taxes, these are taxes owed in 2021 to be paid in 2022. That amount was signifi-

cantly reduced and in reality the amount was closer to \$10,000.00 causing a budget short fall of approximately \$90,000.00.

- Union Negotiations are still on-going in order to finalize a contract both parties can agree on. As a result we had to budget for the “worse case scenario”.
- Real estate tax revenues decreased by 2% after the last property reassessment giving the borough yet another budget shortfall totaling close to \$100,000.00.

We (the council) feel the borough should be run as a business and that is what we intend to do moving forward. In the name of fiscal responsibility we eliminated compensation for all elected officials as well as having several council-members attend seminars that were solely based on running a borough effectively and financially. Previous councils worked on the issues at hand but failed to forecast for what may be needed in the future, we intend to change this practice. Every seminar that was attended stressed the importance of having an emergency fund set aside to cover the borough’s expenses for at least six months. We all agreed that to be financially responsible this needed to happen. If we start putting money aside each year, we will have a fund established to handle capital expenditures in the future. Raising taxes was not something that this council took lightly. We are all homeowners and this decision affects our taxes as well. We feel the residents deserve the best and our mission is to give the residents of the Borough of Mount Pocono the Quality of Life we all deserve.

Borough Property Tax Millage Rate

Real Estate: 5.15	Fire: .155
Roads: .965	EMS: .078
Library: .155	Total: 6.503

One mill is one dollar per \$1,000 dollars of assessed value

REAL ESTATE TAX COLLECTOR

Karen Struckle, 550 Devils Hole Road, Cresco, PA 18326,
570.895.4144, mtpoconotaxcollector@gmail.com

Hours of Operation: Tues 1 to 4pm, Weds 4 to 7pm
Appointments by Request

DELCOM Graphics **TEL: 570-972-8419**
ndelano@delcomgraphics.com

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Council President's Letter

from Council President DON STRUCKLE

We on council are proud of our newsletter and hope you appreciate it too! It is one of the many accomplishments our new borough council has achieved over the first year in office for most of us. Please thank the advertisers who make it possible to bring it to you at no cost whatsoever!

Among our other achievements is a new, robust, informative website (www.mountpocono-pa.gov), which reflects this council's goals of increased transparency and wide distribution of government documents. On the website you'll have access to meeting agenda, meeting packets, and minutes, as well as a searchable online collection of our ordinances and an interactive zoning map.

Behind the scenes, we have overhauled our borough building security with a new camera system to maximize coverage, a modern state of the art alarm system, and integrated our surveillance, fire, burglar, and security technology for easier access. We've installed much needed new carpeting downstairs and restored the historic original hardwood flooring upstairs. New energy efficient window coverings were installed in 2022 and the borough entered into a comprehensive HVAC contract with a local provider. Our new landscaping was partially paid for with grant monies.

We also improved our zoning and code enforcement by contracting with a professional, experienced local zoning and code enforcement company to handle those duties. This will make for more efficient enforcement of our new shopping cart ordinance, quality of life regulations, short-term rental changes, and our improved snow-removal rules, as well as all of other other borough ordinances.

Financially, we are dedicated to putting the borough back on the right path. We are instituting a capital reserve so that future emergency expenditures don't disrupt our budget. We also applied for \$3 million in grants in 2022, seeking to upgrade our park, for road work, and for safety and beautification.

In 2023, we are looking forward to a new maintenance garage which will be mostly paid for with a \$491,000 LSA grant received in 2022, another \$200,000 of street paving, and strengthening our improving relations with PennDot, which controls the major roadways in our town.

All of this and more were accomplished by the entire borough council finally rowing in the same direction and putting aside differences to focus on what is best for the borough. Borough Manager Joshua Walker worked tirelessly with us last year to initiate and help bring to fruition many of these accomplishments.

The entire council is justifiably proud of our accomplishments and are very hopeful about the future of Mount Pocono Borough as we head towards our centennial celebration in 2027.

Please join our meetings - every 1st and 3rd Tuesday, at 6:30pm, on the newly-refurbished second floor of the borough building!

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