



Borough of Topton Winter Newsletter

205 South Callowhill Street Topton PA, 19562 | 610-682-2541

January 2023

Important Reminders & Info

- Verify check information is correct! First water bill of **2023!** We cannot accept checks dated for 2022.
- Moving permits must be submitted for all tenants moving in and out of the Borough and cost \$5.
- Please attend council meetings to stay informed.
- New Tax Collector
Thomas A Biltcliff III
610-504-1504
PO Box 12
Topton, PA 19562
- Not paying finance charges and late fees will result in water service termination.

Dear Topton Borough Community,

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone in Topton for their support as I formally retire from my position as Mayor at the end of 2022. Although I will no longer serve in that role, you will still see me in my new capacity as the Tax Collector. I am excited about this opportunity to continue to serve our wonderful community.

For the past 17 years, it was an honor to represent Topton. Some of my favorite times were attending park events, such as anniversary days, community days, picnics, and music in the park. I especially enjoyed riding in the Halloween parade and seeing all of you. I have gotten to know many of you personally and hope to meet even more residents in my new role.

I would like to thank all past and current borough council members as well as the Topton Borough employees for the support they have shown me over the years. I will still be active in our community and look forward to seeing everyone at future events.

Regards,

Tom Biltcliff

Ways to Pay Water & Sewer Bill

Bills are due Monday, **February 20, 2023**

- Pay online at toptonborough.com (There is a \$4.75 fee to pay online with a card.)
- Pay at the office with cash, check, or with a card. (There is no fee to pay with a card in the office.)
- Pay with a check in the drop box in the office door or by mail.

List of Borough Council Meetings for 2023

Second and Fourth (if needed) Mondays of each month

All meetings begin at 7pm in Borough Hall, 205 S Callowhill St, Topton PA 19562

All meetings are recorded and uploaded to the Borough YouTube page within a week after the meeting. All agendas are available on our website and Facebook the Friday before a meeting.

All minutes are available on our website once they are approved by Council.

January 9, 23
February 13, 27
March 13, 27
April 10, 24
May 8, 22
June 12, 26

July 10, 24
August 14, 28
September 11, 25
October 9, 23 (budget presentation)
November 13, 27
December 11, 26

Brandywine Community Library

We have felt the love from patrons and community members as we waited to see if our municipality funding was going to be changed for 2023. You filled out surveys (that help us plan for the year as well as see how we are doing), emailed, made phone calls and shared your personal stories and the value you find in our library. We don't have words for the warmth and support-- it is amazing and reminds us that what we do is important and is valued in our community! Thank you residents! Thank you Topton Borough Council!

If you don't know where the library is- please call us, we'll give you directions. If you want to meet Sheldon, the 35 year old Greek tortoise swing by and say 'hi'. February is Library Lovers Month and a great time to explore all that is available to you at the Brandywine Community Library.

Snow Removal—Quality of Life Amendment

Ordinance No. 1-2023

At its meeting held on Monday, January 9, 2023, Borough Council adopted Ordinance No. 1-2023, amending the Quality of Life and Property Maintenance Code Ordinances. This ordinance still requires that all property owners clear ice and snow from their sidewalks within twenty-four (24) hours after a snow/ice event and adds the requirement that all property owners, who do not have a sidewalk but have yard adjacent to the street where the sidewalk would be located, shovel a path on the grass in that area. This ordinance was adopted to protect those walking to school, work, etc., by preventing them from being required to walk in the street and to allow for the continued safe and timely delivery of mail and other services after a snow/ice event. Copies of the ordinance are available for review at Borough Hall during its normal business hours. Thank you for your concern for the safety of our residents and for those providing essential functions in our community.

PA Dog License

All dogs three months or older must be licensed by Jan. 1 of each year. Violators can be cited with a maximum fine of \$300 per violation plus court costs.

The small license fee helps the millions of dogs in the state by funding the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement. Dog licenses are available from your local county treasurer and other licensing agents. Visit licenseyourdogpa.gov for more information!



Snow Removal

The Borough's main priority, once a snow emergency is declared, will be to clear snow emergency routes, followed by other streets, and lastly the alleys. After the streets are made passable, streets will then be cleared curb to curb. Depending on the severity of the storm, this process may take a few days.

Remember, cars **MUST** be removed from Snow Emergency Routes, or they will be towed at the owners expense.

Snow Emergency Routes

S Home Avenue
S Haas Street
Hoch Avenue

Henningsville Road
W High Street
S Callowhill Street

Weis Street
W Franklin Street
N Main Street

Quality of Life Ordinance (2-2014)

- Sidewalks must be clear of snow and ice within 24 hours of the end of storm and KEPT clear.
- It is illegal to blow or shovel snow into roadways, including sidewalks and alleys.
- PROPERTIES WITH FIRE HYDRANTS—owners are encouraged to clear the area surrounding a hydrant.
- At the accumulation of 4 inches of snow, or at the Mayor's discretion, a snow emergency will be declared. Snow emergencies will be announced on WFMZ, local radio stations , and Facebook.

House Numbering



Ordinance 231 § 150.002 HOUSE NUMBERING.

(C) The numbers shall be placed in a conspicuous place on or over each front door, on the front transom bar, on the front transom glass or front show window, over or on either side of the entrance, the said number to be of paint, metal or enamel and at least three inches in height, the color of the number to be in contrast to the immediate background, and shall be so placed as to be in full view from the opposite side of the street.

Emergency Services

AMBULANCE

Topton Ambulance has had its busiest year to date. In 2022 we were dispatched to over 1,800 911 calls for service. We continue to provide 24/7 Advanced Life Support services to the surrounding communities. Interested in volunteering? Stop on up! Volunteers are needed for all aspects of the organization and are not limited to medical personnel. Our 2023 Donation drive is still going and a big ‘thank you’ to everyone, who donated already. We couldn't continue to provide emergency care without your help. Have a safe and healthy New Year! Visit us online at www.toptonems.net.

FIRE

Topton Fire Company Year in Review—As we start off into a New Year, we want to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy 2023. 2022 was a very busy year for us as we were dispatched for 428 emergency calls. Unfortunately, this was the busiest year on record for us. We are extremely fortunate that we continue to gain new members as active firefighters, fire police and support members. We continue to have an active group of high school students taking the opportunity to help the community, while working to meet their community service project requirements for graduation.

We are excited to be back to our in-person fundraising and community events after an almost three-year hiatus. We enjoy the face-to-face interaction with our community during these events and have missed this over the past few years. We will once again be hosting our Fireman’s Breakfast Buffet, drive thru cheese steak sales, Specialty bingos and continuing with the online drawings.

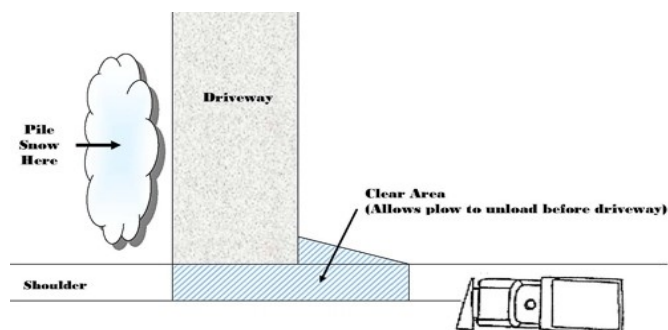
In 2022 we were able to hold our open house and bring the fire prevention programs back to the schools. There is no better feeling than being able to gather with the members of the community, who support us, show our equipment, and answer questions.

As always if there are any members of the community, 16 years of age or older, who would like to join the company, please stop by the station on a Tuesday evening. Any of the men and woman of the company will gladly show you around the station and the apparatus.

We also need volunteers to help with fundraising and the business side of the organization, so, if you do not want to be an active firefighter and run calls, there is a place for everyone. Stop by, fill out an application and join what has quickly become a second family to all our members.

Keep an eye out in future newsletters for company updates and some member profiles as we continue to help you get to know our members a little better.

We look forward to another wonderful year in 2023 and hope that everyone stays safe and healthy in all their adventures. Visit our website: toptonfire.com.



If you clear your driveway before the street is plowed, here is a tip that will minimize the amount of snow left in front of your driveway. When your driveway is cleared, clear an area to the left of the driveway entrance. When your street is plowed, the snow from the plow can be unloaded in this area instead of your driveway.