

Town of Stonewood

8052 Southern Avenue, Stonewood, WV 26301

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6

AUGUST 2019

Hello,

It's that time of year again when we like to remind you that October will be here before you know it. October is **"Fire Prevention Month."** As always, I want to remind you to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors because they can save your life! Also, if you haven't already, you should develop and practice a **"Fire Escape Plan."** Then do like we do as firefighters and <u>"TRAIN ON IT."</u>

October also is the start of **"Fire Burning Law Season."** With that in mind, I would like to let you know that the City of Stonewood now has a **"burning ordnance"** which means that before you can burn, you need to go to Stonewood City Hall and apply for a **"Burn Permit."** This burn permit does two things: It lets us know who is burning and ensures the burning location is safe and compliant with WV State Law. Secondly, it lets you check to make sure that what you're burning and how you do it is within WV State Law. Apply for your permit before you burn and let's all be safe together!

October will also bring another event to our city. The Stonewood Volunteer Fire Department is planning an "**Open House.**" This will be a time for you and your family to see what your department does and what it can do in times of emergency. You can look at our station, the equipment, and spend some time with us all getting to know each other. We are all part of the "Stonewood Family," and we will keep you posted on the date... Please watch for it!

One last thing. Stonewood Vol. Fire Department takes great pride in the fact that, through hard work and training, we can provide the vital "lifesaving" services we do. We also are proud of the fact that during the last ISO or Insurance Service Rating, we were able to better our rating from a <u>"5" to a "3"</u>. This is done through hard work, training, and the equipment we have! What does that mean to you? ISO rates departments on many factors, and the rating they assign is from 1 to 10. The rating of 10 is the worst that could be obtained. The citizens of Stonewood now see a lower "Homeowner Insurance" cost due to our new rating of a <u>"3"</u>.

Remember, please be safe, and we look forward to seeing you at the "Open House."

Ron Woods Stonewood Fire Chief









From the Mayor's Office

TERM IN REVIEW:

I'd like to thank the citizens for re-electing me along with incumbent members Danny Phares, Jim Nutter and Mike Hyman. We want to welcome newcomers- Kim Nicholson, Jackie Carrico and Patrick Marozzi. I've also enjoyed working with the Sewer Board for the last two years and look forward to future endeavors. Your town is a work in progress, and during this term we have accomplished the following:

- Compound on Elmwood Avenue is now equipped with a C-Span building that contains C-cans for storage and enables us to house the garbage truck as well as the salt and cinders.
- Purchased new mower that doubles as a street sweeper.
- Upgraded dump truck in Public Works.
- Now have four employees of Public works that are also cross-trained at the Fire Department and are available to respond to emergencies within town limits during day-time hours.
- We were able take care of 95 illegal vehicles in town.
- We have completed four raze and repair orders, and the structures have been torn down or improved to building codes.
- Thanks to the two previous administrations, we were able to finalize an updated codified ordinance book which is available at City Hall for inspection or online at <u>www.cityofstonewood.com</u>. Additionally, 19 more ordinances were also passed which was a goal of the administration.
- Additional goal of the administration was to pursue delinquent utility bills. We've enjoyed much success.
- Received funding from Mountaineer Lodge #78 Fraternal Order of Police for police equipment.
- Able to purchase a new 2018 police cruiser.
- Our Police coverage has increased by 40%.
- Renewed our St. Levy which now includes 15% for Parks and Recreation and 85% for the Street Levy.
- Recycling has increased from 8% to 22%.

Special Recognition

I'd like to acknowledge Police Chief Mike Secreto for being elected as Vice President of the Harrison County Law Enforcement Council.

I would like to congratulate current Council Member Jim Nutter for receiving the Municipal League Hall of Fame award given to those who have 20 years of service or greater. Mr. Nutter has exceeded 30 years which includes 20 years on City Council and serving as Mayor for 10 years. He was elected in 1983 and has served nearly every term since.

For those of you that pick up garbage and sweep sidewalks in your neighborhood, it does not go unnoticed. On behalf of the Town, we thank you and keep up the good work.

DO YOU RECYCLE?

As a reminder, the Town of Stonewood has mandatory recycling of paper, cardboard, aluminum, tin and plastics #1, #2 & #5. Currently only 22% of the residents are participating which means that <u>78% of the residents are not</u> <u>recycling.</u> The Public Works Department is dedicated to enforcing the requirement to recycle so when we're collecting your garbage, if you have recycling materials that are visible (such as cardboard boxes or plastic buckets), they will be left behind and picked up on recycling day every Friday. Though we use the garbage truck for recycling pickup, rest assured the Friday recycling is delivered to the recycling center and **NOT** the landfill.



Help us reduce cost and preserve the planet.

Don't be like Carl, RECYCLE!

THE CODE NOTICE

As we come into the fall, we want to thank all those who have been vigilant in cutting their grass throughout the summer. The number of violations decreased since last summer, and we hope everyone will keep up with their grass through the fall months before we settle into winter.

With the better weather during the summer months, there were many outdoor projects being done and we want to remind everyone to make sure to get a building permit for any repair, addition, installation, or alteration of the property. Any questions about what work constitutes the need for a permit can be addressed by contacting the town at (304) 623-2919.

I will continue to monitor the town for vehicles with illegal plates or lack thereof. These violations can be resolved by making sure you keep your registration for your car legal. We are also continuing to work to get the dilapidated structures within the town up to code or torn down. This is a process that takes time, but we are working to make the town look its best.

Thank you for your compliance.

-Robert Leonard, Building Inspector

Life on the Beat Chief Secreto

Thanks to Columbo Law for their continued support in providing bicycle helmets. If your child needs a helmet, please contact one of your local law enforcement officers or stop down City Hall to pick a helmet up. As per section 30-399 of the Codified Ordinances:

No person under the age of 18 years shall operate or be a passenger on any bicycle, skate board, roller blades or roller skates unless he is wearing securely fastened on his head, by either neck or chin strap, a protective helmet that is designed to deflect blows, resist penetration and spread impact forces, which protective helmets shall meet or exceed the specifications of ANSI Z90.4.

We would like to thank Bible Baptist Temple for acknowledging first responders with a service on Sunday, July 14th, 2019. It's a pleasure to have such a great partner in our community.



The Halloween/Trick-or-Treat season will be upon us soon. Please be extra cautious and careful during this time. Date and time will be announced.

As always, if you see any suspicious vehicles or persons, anything unusual, do not hesitate to contact 911 for law enforcement response.







West Virginia Municipal League 2019 Award Presentation

Jim Nutter was inducted into the West Virgina Municipal Hall of Fame. West Virginia Municipal League director Travis Blosser presented Mr. Nutter with a plaque. He said Mr. Nutter was inducted during the league's annual conference in Huntington, along with several others, and joins a long list of influential people in municipal

government. Blosser stated that, "In order to be inducted into the hall of fame, you have to have 20 plus years of service in municipal government and you have well exceeded that."



Harrison County Sheriff Robert Matheny also presented Mr. Nutter with the Sheriff's Citation, an award recognizing Mr. Nutter's dynamic and effective leadership over the years.



Nutter has been serving Stonewood in numerous capacities for 36 years. During that time there was only six years he was not in office. He has served on every council since 1983 with the exception of three and is the second-longest-serving mayor in the history of the town, serving a term of 10 years and six months from 1993 to 2003.

Calenda	ar of Events
Council Meeting	Sewer Board Meeting
August 20 th , 2019	August 20 th , 2019
7 P.M.	4:30 P.M
Council Meeting	
September 3 rd , 2019	
7 P.M.	
Council Meeting	Sewer Board Meeting
September 17 th , 2019	September 17 th , 2019
7 P.M.	4:30 P.M.
Council Meeting	
October 1 st , 2019	
7 P.M.	
Council Meeting	Sewer Board Meeting
October 15 th , 2019	October 15 th , 2019
7 P.M.	4:30 P.M.
Council Meeting	
November 5 th , 2019	
7 P.M.	
7 1 .//.	
Council Meeting	Sewer Board Meeting
November 19 th , 2019	November 19 th , 2019
7 P.M.	4:30 P.M.