

# Big Beaver Borough Newsletter 2026

WWW.BIGBEAVERBOROUGH.ORG

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm

## Council Meetings

1st Tuesday (Workshop) &  
3rd Tuesday (Business)  
6:00 PM at the  
Big Beaver Borough Municipal Building  
114 Forest Drive, Darlington, PA 16115

### Elected Officials

- Mayor: Michelle Joy
- Council President: Kimberly Wagner
- Vice President: Erin Walter
- Council Members: Jeff Magee, Jessica Chaney, Karla Myers, Deborah Eutsler, Eli McCormick

### All Council meetings are open to the public

### Office Staff

- Secretary/Treasurer: Jennifer Gasser
- Office Assistant: Annie Mako

### Public Works

- Foreman: Rick Arnold
- Operator: Dakota Clingensmith
- On Call Snow Plow Driver: Roy Durr

### Professional Services

- Solicitor: Santicola, Steele & Fedeles, PC  
-Shannon Steele
- Engineer / Zoning Officer: Martone  
Engineering – Dan Martone
- Zoning Compliance / Code Enforcement:  
NV Services – William (Bill) Payne

### Resident Members of the Planning Committee (meets as needed)

- Rosalind Miller and Doug Kost

### Resident Members of the Zoning Hearing Board (meets as needed)

- Terri Corcoran, Robert Adams, Cindy  
Evans, and Alternate: Garrett Schriver

*Meet your new*

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Big Beaver Borough is pleased to announce that Deborah Eutsler and Eli McCormick have officially begun their service on Borough Council as of January 2026.

Both were elected to serve the 2026–2029 term and are now actively participating in Borough governance.

Deborah and Eli join Council in overseeing Borough operations, supporting community initiatives, and helping guide the long-term direction of Big Beaver.

Their commitment to public service is appreciated, and the Borough looks forward to the contributions they will make throughout their term.

*Thank you to all residents who participated in the election and continue to stay engaged in local government.*



If you have a high school senior graduating this year, please contact the borough office and provide their name and address so we can add them to our list of Big Beaver graduates that we'll surprise with a special gift near graduation day.





Stay Connected With Your Borough – Follow Us on Facebook!

Big Beaver Borough is always working to keep residents informed, prepared, and connected. One of the easiest ways to stay up to date is by following the Borough’s official Facebook page.

We share important information, including:

- Road closures and construction updates
- Council meeting agendas
- Community events and announcements
- Emergency or time-sensitive alerts



If you haven’t already, take a moment to like and follow Big Beaver Borough on Facebook. It’s a quick way to make sure you never miss an update that affects your home, your neighborhood, or your community.

Search “Big Beaver Borough” on Facebook and click Follow. Staying informed has never been easier.

# BRIDGE UPDATES

## Sherwood

## Foxwood

The Borough remains fully committed to completing the Sherwood Drive Bridge replacement.

We are pleased to share that the Borough received a \$250,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED) to assist with the bridge replacement.

The project has moved steadily through engineering, design, and bid-preparation phases, with bidding expected in early 2026 and construction anticipated to begin in late spring or summer. Construction could extend into fall 2026 if unforeseen issues arise.

We appreciate the community’s patience as we work through the final stages of preparation. Reopening the Sherwood Drive Bridge remains a top priority.

Foxwood Bridge remains closed after being damaged when it was struck by a tractor trailer. For the safety of all motorists, the Borough closed the bridge immediately following the incident. The engineering review is now complete, and the Borough is working with a contractor to move forward with the repairs needed to safely reopen the bridge.

To help prevent similar incidents, the Borough has installed additional signage along Foxwood Road stating that it is not a GPS tractor trailer route. This is in addition to the existing No Tractor Trailer, 10-ton weight-limit, and No Commercial Vehicles signs already in place.

Together, these improvements are designed to better alert commercial drivers before they enter the area and reduce the risk of future damage.



Spring into Action

Disasters are becoming more frequent and more intense, and the need for blood products remains constant. Every day, people just like you help ensure the Red Cross can respond when communities need us most. This spring, consider joining your neighbors in Beaver County as a trained Red Cross volunteer supporting families affected by severe weather and local emergencies.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

- Disaster Action Team Members: Support families after home fires.
- Blood Donor Ambassadors: Assist donors at blood drives.
- Blood Transportation Specialists: Deliver lifesaving blood products.
- VA Hospital Volunteers: Support veterans through visits and activities.
- Volunteers & Recruiters: Office support and community outreach.

**Home Administrative Fires: Fast Facts**

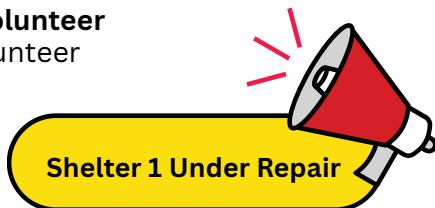
- You can protect yourself from home fires by taking two simple steps: Test your smoke alarms monthly and practice your fire escape plan.
- Working smoke alarms can cut the risk of dying in a home fire by half.
- Every second counts during a home fire as you have just two minutes to escape safely.
- The Red Cross responds to about 65,000 disasters a year – and the majority are home fires.

**Preparedness Tips**

- To create your home fire escape plan, include at least two ways to exit every room in your home. Select a meeting spot at a safe distance away from your home, such as your neighbor’s home or landmark like a specific tree in your front yard, where everyone knows to meet.
- Take time to discuss the plan with everyone in your household and practice it twice a year.
- While practicing your escape plan, teach children what a smoke alarm sounds like. Talk about fire safety and what to do in an emergency.
- Place smoke alarms on each level of your home, including inside and outside bedrooms and sleeping areas. Test your smoke alarms once a month.
- More info: [redcross.org/homefire](http://redcross.org/homefire)

**Learn More or Volunteer**

[redcross.org/volunteer](http://redcross.org/volunteer)  
(412) 263-3100



Shelter 1 at the park is currently closed due to significant damage from a recent windstorm. We are working through our insurance provider to have it replaced/repaired; however, it is not yet clear whether the shelter will be available for rental during the 2026 season.



Big Beaver Borough is pleased to share that our partnership with Job Training of Beaver County (JTBC) was a great success during the summer of 2025, providing one Beaver Falls High School student seasonal employment, supporting our Public Works Department.

JTBC offers work-readiness and career-exploration opportunities for youth ages 14–24 throughout Beaver County, helping them build strong work habits and practical skills.

Because of the positive experience last summer, Council will be working with JTBC again for the 2026 season to bring additional youth workers to the Borough.

Please follow our Facebook page and website for updates, or contact the Borough Office at 724-827-8962 or [jenniferg@bigbeaverborough.org](mailto:jenniferg@bigbeaverborough.org) for additional details.

**Borough Evaluates Potential Sewer System Sale**

Big Beaver Borough Council has begun the process of evaluating a potential sale of the Borough’s sanitary sewer system. This review is part of a broader effort to assess long-term infrastructure needs, future regulatory requirements, and the financial impacts associated with managing and maintaining the system.

To assist with this process, the Borough has hired PFM Financial Advisors LLC (PFM), a nationally recognized municipal advisory firm.

**BIG BEAVER RESIDENTIAL  
SPRING CLEAN UP DAY  
MAY 16, 2026**

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE\*\***

**\*\*300 lb. WEIGHT LIMIT PER HOUSEHOLD\*\***

\*All loose items must be bundled, bagged, or boxed or they will not be picked up. Please no garbage cans unless it is being thrown away.

Please keep any items of value away from your clean up pile so they are not taken in the trash truck. They will not be returned.

\*All material must be able to be handled easily by two people.

\*No household garbage of any kind will be taken.

\*No construction materials will be taken.

**\*ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED FOR CLEAN-UP:**

Leaves, yard waste, air conditioners, refrigerators, freezers, TV's, tires, batteries, paints or liquids of any kind, construction materials, bricks, blocks, dirt, concrete, shingles, railroad ties, plaster, or drywall.

**\*\*ABSOLUTELY NO ELECTRONICS** (Computers monitors, televisions) will be accepted\*\*

**Items must be placed out by the curb the night before or no later than 4:00 a.m., the day of the scheduled clean-up date.**

If you have scrap metal, please take it to the curb as well, it will be picked up separately.

AIKEN REFUSE INC. • 724-758-9400 [WWW.AIKENREFUSE.COM](http://WWW.AIKENREFUSE.COM)

**State Route 168 Road Work**

Road work started March 16, 2026 on SR 168 (B27) in Beaver County and will last through November 2, 2026.

The project includes milling, resurfacing, shoulder and base repairs, drainage work, guide rail installation, and new pavement markings.

It will affect SR 168 and SR 551 through South Beaver Township, Darlington Township, Darlington Borough, Big Beaver Borough, and New Galilee Borough.

The total project length is about 8 miles. Drivers should expect lane closures Monday–Friday from 7 AM to 5 PM, with occasional Saturday closures possible.

The work is being done under PennDOT traffic restrictions, and they'll try to keep traffic disruptions as minimal as possible

PennDOT District 11 handles all concerns on state-owned roads in Beaver County, including potholes, tree issues, and signage. Residents can report problems through the PennDOT Customer Care Center at 1-800-FIX-ROAD (1-800-349-7623) or online at [www.penndot.pa.gov](http://www.penndot.pa.gov).



**Update on Development Rumors in the Borough**

The Borough is aware of the rumors circulating about potential large developments in Big Beaver and wants to clarify how the land development process works so residents understand how projects move forward and how the public is involved.

A developer must submit formal land development plans to the Borough, where they are reviewed by the Planning Committee—made up of the Engineer, Zoning Officer, Solicitor, Borough residents, and staff—to ensure they meet the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance and the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Both ordinances can be viewed online at <https://bigbeaverborough.org/ordinances/>.

After the Planning Committee makes a recommendation, the plan moves to Borough Council for consideration in a public meeting. Residents may offer public comment, and Council must vote to approve, deny, or table the plan.

A development is not approved until Borough Council votes on it in a public meeting. Reviews and approvals must also be received from Beaver County and possibly state agencies/departments.

# TAX COLLECTOR Note

Beginning April 7, 2026 the tax office will be open to take payments on **MOST** Tuesdays from 3:30PM to 7:30PM. The office will **no** longer be open on the last Saturday of the month. Please be aware that there will be weeks that the office will be closed on Tuesday and/or opened a different day. Any changes to the regular schedule will be posted on the doors at the borough building and on the Facebook page.

You can also mail your tax payment or put it in the drop box on the front of the borough building, check or money order only. Cash payments can only be taken in person. I can also make arrangements to meet you at the office on a different day or time if necessary.

If you do not pay in person but would like a receipt, please include both copies of your bill along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope or stop in the office during open hours.

Each year there are three (3) tax bills for each property:

JANUARY – County tax – collected by the County Treasurer

APRIL – Big Beaver Borough real estate tax – collected by the Borough Tax Collector

JULY – Big Beaver Falls Area School real estate tax – collected by the Borough Tax Collector

Each of these bills give you two (2) months to pay at discount, two (2) months to pay at face value, and until 12-31-25 to pay at the penalty rate.

Unpaid taxes will be filed after January 1, 2027. Tax payments must be postmarked by 12-31-26 or I will be unable to accept them.

If you are paying borough and school taxes at the same time, make sure you write a separate check for each tax as they are deposited into different bank accounts.

The check for the borough taxes should be made out to Big Beaver Tax Collector. The check for the school is to be made out to the Big Beaver Falls Area School District.

Please review your check carefully to assure that the amount due is correctly noted on both lines or the check will be returned to you.

The best way to reach me is by email at [taxcollector@bigbeaverborough.org](mailto:taxcollector@bigbeaverborough.org). You can also leave a message at 724-827-5142 and I will return the call as soon as possible.

I have enjoyed meeting many of the residents and appreciate your trust in me to serve as your Tax Collector.

*Cheryl Magee*

## Public Works Department Update:

### New Hire and Promotion



Big Beaver Borough is pleased to share three important updates within our Public Works Department.

#### *Welcome to Our New Public Works Operator and On Call Snow Plow Driver*

The Borough has hired Dakota Clingensmith as our new Public Works Operator. Dakota brings strong hands-on experience and a commitment to serving the community. His role includes road maintenance, equipment operation, seasonal work, and supporting daily Public Works operations throughout the Borough.

Big Beaver resident Roy Durr has joined the team as an on-call snow plow driver, helping support winter road maintenance during storms.

#### *Rick Arnold Promoted to Road Foreman*

We are also proud to announce that Rick Arnold, a long-time and dedicated Borough employee, has been promoted to Road Foreman. Rick has been an invaluable part of the Public Works team for many years, and his leadership, knowledge of Borough infrastructure, and commitment to residents make him an excellent fit for this role.

These changes strengthen our Public Works Department and support the Borough's ongoing efforts to maintain safe, reliable, and well-managed infrastructure.

*Please join us in welcoming Dakota and Roy, and in congratulating Rick on his well-deserved promotion.*

# Park Update

In November 2025, Big Beaver Borough completed a series of upgrades to the Community Park on Park Road, bringing new amenities and improved accessibility for residents and visitors.

The project included the construction of new restroom facilities and handicap-accessible walking trails designed to make the park more welcoming and easier to navigate for everyone.

These improvements were made possible through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), along with a generous contribution from Lindy Paving.

Lindy Paving's donation played a major role in the project. The company constructed the handicap-accessible walking trails that now connect the parking area to the restrooms, playgrounds, and picnic shelters. In addition to building the trails, Lindy also completed the final grading and planted new grass throughout the project area.

Their work was completed professionally and with great care, enhancing the park for the enjoyment of all who visit.

***Big Beaver Borough extends its appreciation to DCNR and Lindy Paving for helping make these improvements possible.***



### **Warmer Weather Means More Building – Don't Forget Your Permits!**

Whether you're putting up a shed, adding a deck, or starting another project, checking permit requirements is an important first step. Permits help ensure projects meet safety standards and comply with Borough ordinances.

Building permits and other applications are available:  
Online: <https://bigbeaverborough.org/forms-and-applications/>

By contacting the Borough Office: Staff can answer questions, help determine what type of permit you need, and guide you through the process.

Starting your project with the proper permits keeps our community safe and avoids delays or violations later on.

