



Borough of Chambersburg

*A full service municipality in Franklin County
celebrating over 65 years of consumer owned natural gas service
over 120 years of community electric and a
regional wastewater, water, and municipal solid waste utility*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHAMBERSBURG JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON SEARCH

Chambersburg – The Borough of Chambersburg is looking for a young ambitious student to serve as a junior council person during the 2016-2017 school year. This is open to both high school and college students. The Junior Council Person serves as an advisory member of Chambersburg Borough Council. This position provides an opportunity for the voice of our youth to be heard and Borough Council greatly values the insight offered by the young men and women who have served in this capacity.

Although they are prohibited from voting on issues, they are encouraged to join in the council discussions. It is an experience that can give these young people real life experience in executive, and legislative decision making. It can be especially helpful for, but not limited to, students who aspire to obtain political office. Even if they desire another route, employers may be impressed to see this on a resume. No prior experience is necessary. Junior council persons are expected to attend every meeting, which are typically held the second and fourth Mondays of each month. They begin at 7:00 PM and have sometimes ended as late as 11:00 PM.

The Borough of Chambersburg first adopted this program from the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) in 2013. Since that time we have had three participants. They were Mikayla Pellerin (2013-2014), Robin Shillock (2014-2015), and Haley Frey (2015-2016). All three of whom were from the Chambersburg Area Senior High School. However this program is not limited to just one school but all high school and college students who reside within the Borough of Chambersburg. This includes home school, cyber school, Montessori Academy, Cumberland Valley Christian School, Shalom Christian Academy, Career Magnet School, and Wilson College.

Applicants need to fill out the PSAB Junior Council Person Application and return it to Chambersburg Borough Hall (100 South Second Street). Applications will be considered soon. Call (717) 264-5151 for more information.

Along with myself, here are two other contacts for members of the press.

Allen Coffman
Chambersburg Borough Council President
acoffman@chambersburgpa.gov

Jeffrey Stonehill
Chambersburg Borough Manager
jstonehill@chambersburgpa.gov

Attached is a PDF version of this email and the PSAB Junior Council Person Application also in PDF format.

Darren Brown
Mayor of Chambersburg, PA

Cell Phone: (717) 331-0129
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mayor@chambersburgpa.gov

Chambersburg is a unique community. Chambersburg supplies more services than any other municipality in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In addition to typical town functions, Chambersburg is Pennsylvania's only municipality supplying electric & gas. Chambersburg is 1 of 35 Boroughs to operate a municipal non-profit electric utility. Chambersburg is the largest municipal electric utility in the State, twice as large as the second largest, Ephrata, Lancaster County; and, the only one to operate generation stations. Chambersburg is 1 of 2 municipalities in PA to operate a natural gas utility. The other is Philadelphia, which does not operate an electric utility. Nationally, Chambersburg is 1 of 2,000 communities to have its own electric system and 1 of 800 communities to have a natural gas system but 1 of only about 50 to operate both. Chambersburg manages a regional water system, a regional sanitary sewer system (not through an independent Authority), and a new storm sewer utility; one of the first storm sewer utilities to form under the new Federal mandate to regulate stormwater. Chambersburg currently has 20,360 residents (2012). www.chambersburgpa.gov

Borough Name: _____ County: _____

Student's Name: _____ School Name: _____

Student's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Student's Phone Number: (_____) _____

High School Student College Student Graduation Year: _____

List up to four school activities and positions held: _____

List up to three extracurricular, volunteer, or Community Activities: _____

List up to three honors or awards: _____

Graduation Plans (if known): _____

Why did you become a Junior Council Person? _____



The Junior Council Person Program

THE JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON PROGRAM

The Junior Council Person (JCP) Program provides youth in your community with an opportunity to get engaged in borough government and develop leadership skills. It also allows borough officials to serve as mentors to students who will be future leaders in their communities.

Wesleyville Borough in Erie County established the first JCP Program in 1999. The model has been widely adopted by boroughs throughout the Commonwealth. The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB) is committed to the success of this program and encourages participation from each of the 957 boroughs.

A JCP Program allows high school and college students the opportunity to learn critical skills including team building and collaboration, public speaking, public engagement, budgeting, and running effective meetings. The JCP Program also allows the student to deliberate on issues that are affecting his or her community.

Your borough administrators or officials should consider visiting local high schools and colleges to promote the program. You may want to consider speaking at the school's career day, meeting with members of student council, or conducting an interview for a student newspaper.

Additionally, you can discuss community service, class, or internship credit with the school or university. PSAB has resources available to provide support for your visit.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

Visit PSAB's website, www.boroughs.org, and select "Programs" and then click "Junior Council Person Program". On this page you can find a sample resolution, JCP Pledge, enrollment brochure, Guide to Borough Government, and other resources.

PA State Association of Boroughs Junior Council Person Program

2941 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Toll Free: 1-800-232-7722 Phone: 717-236-9526
Fax: 717-972-0690



Christopher Cap
Executive Director

Linda Costa, JCP Program Director, ext. 1028
lcosta@boroughs.org

Stephanie Drake, JCP Outreach Project Coordinator, ext 1017
sdrake@boroughs.org



SUGGESTED JCP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Here are some things to consider when implementing a JCP Program in your borough. Your borough can adopt the guidelines to fit the needs of your program.

- JCP should be a borough resident
- Boroughs can have more than one JCP serving at a time
- High school and college students are encouraged to apply
- Students should write a letter of interest to borough council outlining why they want to be a JCP
- An interview process with council members may occur if there are several applicants
- Your borough needs to pass a resolution to participate in the program.
- Once selected, the JCP should take the "Junior Council Person Pledge"
- JCP may be appointed to one or two year terms
- Attendance should be required at monthly meetings
- JCP should be seated with council, participate in borough business, and observe all council rules
- Student cannot vote or participate in executive session
- Attendance at budget sessions, public hearings, and community events should be encouraged
- JCP can attend PSAB annual or fall conferences
- To earn the Distinguished JCP Award, a JCP should serve for a minimum of six months, having attended a majority of council meetings

DISTINGUISHED JCP AWARD

PSAB also recognizes Outstanding Junior Council Persons who have met certain criteria with a Distinguished Junior Council Person Award. A board or staff member will attend your council meeting and present a plaque in recognition of his or her commitment to your borough. Photos will be published in the Borough News Magazine and on PSAB's website.

To learn more about scheduling an award presentation, visit www.boroughs.org and select "Programs" and click "Junior Council Person Program" or contact Stephanie Drake, JCP Outreach Project Coordinator, at sdrake@boroughs.org.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON UPDATE

When your borough selects a Junior Council Person, please have the JCP fill out this form and return it to PSAB. We encourage you to email a picture, preferably a headshot, as a jpg attachment or mail a hard copy for publication in the Borough News Magazine. Submissions are subject to edit due to space constraints.