



Town Council

Jeff Dekker, President
Joe Cinko, Vice President
Mary Tanis
Debbie Astor
Cathy Lareau

Town Manager

Tom DeGiulio

Clerk-Treasurer

Patricia A. Hawrot

Town Departments

Town Council Office

865-6108

Clerk Treasurer's Office

865-2421

Department of Public Works

865-4222

Police Department

865-1163

Fire Department

865-4226

Parks & Recreation Department

865-2505

New Utility Rates In Effect

As you have already noticed, your utility bill reflects the new rates adopted by the Town Council in December, 2016.

The members of the Town Council staff and Water, Storm, Water Management and Sanitary Boards worked for 18 months studying the needs of the utilities and the community at large. The four utilities, including Solid Waste, are integral to the operation of our community.

Solid Waste

The solid waste fee is **\$18.81** per month. Of that amount, **\$15.81** covers the contract with Republic for collection and disposal of solid waste and recycling. The balance of the fee, **\$3.00** is used to pay for leaf and brush collection activities, the ongoing cost of equipment and vehicles and the labor costs needed to carry out these activities. The solid waste fee also covers a portion of the costs for most of the trucks used in our operation and for equipment such as chippers and leaf vacuums. In my 40 plus years in local government, one of the things I find that residents are surprised at, is the cost of equipment and capital improvements.

The equipment that we purchase must survive harsh conditions, last many years and not be subject to higher ongoing maintenance costs. This is true from squad cars, fire apparatus and snow plow vehicles. Many of the prices of equipment we own and operate have single or limited operation utility. In future newsletters, I will talk about these costs.

Water Rates

The Town's water rates increased by **13.5%** effective with this billing. The last increase was in 2010. Water rates are based on many variables. It all starts with the cost of finished water delivered from Hammond through Highland. Once the water is delivered, it is stored and delivered to your property. The Towns water storage and distribution facilities are valued at tens of millions of dollars.

The water utility's largest expenses are operation and maintenance expenses. In addition to the purchase of water; are labor costs and be

Capital expenses consist of about \$1.0 million per year. The water distribution system also requires annual maintenance care. Hydrants must be flushed annually. Valves are exercised regularly to avoid incurring malfunctions during emergency shutoff. Water samples are taken regularly from specific locations. These are tested and the results reported to the State.

Next month we will discuss the anticipated improvements for streets, sanitary and storm water improvements planned for 2017.

Upcoming Recreation Events

Check out our Facebook page for our 2017 Winter/Spring Leisuregram for a list of our upcoming programs & events. If you did not receive one in the mail, please check out our Facebook page: Dyer Parks and Recreation or our website: parks.townofdier.com to view our new classes, special events and fun things to do.

Painting Classes- Our next painting class takes place Wed., 3/22 from 5:30-7pm. Participant's ages 7-adult will have fun painting a Floppy Ears Bunny on a 12x12 canvas. Fee: \$16

CPR/AED/First Aid- During this 4 hour class, you will receive a completion certificate good for two years, program materials and training/certification in infant, child and adult First Aid/CPR/AED. This class is for participants 16 & older on Sat., 4/1 from 9am-1pm. Fee: \$45

Bumper Bowling- Youngsters 3-6 years old (with parent/caregiver) will have all the fun of bowling without gutter balls. Fee includes shoe rental and games for the entire session. The next session starts Monday, 4/3- 4/24 from 4:15-5pm at Stardust. Fee: \$30

Bowling- Stay active and have some fun! The next 4 week session of bowling starts Monday, 4/3-4-24 from 4:15- 5:30pm. Fee: \$35

Basketball- Skyhawks Basketball is a fun, skill-intensive program designed with the beginner to intermediate player in mind. Each day will start with a "skill of the day" and progress into drills and games. This is for boys & girls 7-12 yrs. old. Class will be on Mondays, 4/3-5/8 from 5pm-6pm. Fee: \$80

Volleyball- Skyhawks Volleyball takes the energy and excitement of this great team sport and puts it together into one fun-filled program. This class will focus on passing, setting, hitting and serving. This class is for boys & girls 7-12 yrs. old. Class takes place on Mondays, 4/3- 5/8 from 6:30-7:30. Fee: \$80

Easter Egg Decorating- Participants ages 2-8 will have an Eggcellent time as they decorate 12" GIANT egg. This class will take place Tues., 4/4 from 6-6:45pm.

Plaster Egg Painting- Participants ages 8-13 will hand paint a 5" plaster egg. Various colors and materials will be supplied. This will take place on Tues., 4/4 from 6-7pm

Little Ninja's- Hapkido- This program is being offered to your child as an introduction to the Martial Arts. Please wear comfortable clothes. This class is for children 5 & 6 years old. Next session starts 4/4-5/9. Fees: \$45.

Youth Self Defense-Hapkido- This class will promote positive, structured support to enhance your child's safety through knowledge and skill. This is for children 7-12 years of age and starts 4/4- 5/9. Fees: \$45.

Girls Softball- This program challenges all players through fun competitive softball drills and games that will maximum player potential. This is for girls 7-12 years old. This will take place at Northgate Park 4/8-5/20 (off 4/15) from 11:30am-12:45pm. Fee: \$69

Flag Football League- This program is for Boys & Girls ages 6-8 and 9-14. This will take place at Northgate Park on 4/8-5/20 (off 4/15) form 9-10:15am and 10:15- 11:30am. Fee: \$69

Soccer Program- This program is for Boys & Girls ages 6-11. This event will take place 4/8- 5/20 (off 4/15) from 1pm-2:15p. Fee: \$69

FREE! 29th Annual Easter Egg Hunt- Please join us at Northgate Park for this Eggcellent event! All children ages 8 and under are welcome to hunt for eggs and candy. Participants will also receive a ticket for the raffle. Come early to meet the Easter Bunny and don't forget your camera. The siren will go off at exactly 2pm. Be sure to bring a basket and come early. See you in the park!

Private Guitar- Participants 10 and older will receive one-on-one lessons for either the beginner or seasoned guitarist. We have dates open starting 4/12 with 3 different time slots available. Fees: \$100. Please contact us at (219) 865-2505 for availability.

Mother-Son Fun Bowl- This mother/son event will bowl you over! Team up with your son/sons for an afternoon of fun. This will take place on Sunday, 5/7 from 1-2:30pm. This event is for boys 5-12 yrs. old and their Mom/Special Adult. Fee: \$11 per person

BLAST!- Babysitter Lessons & Safety Training

is for participants 11-15 yrs. old This 4 hour course will include a course completion certificate, program materials, training in pediatric first aid, household safety and fundamentals of childcare. This class takes place either 5/20 from 9am-1pm. Fee: \$35

Fitness classes that are available through Dyer Parks & Recreation: Yoga, Pilates & Zumba

NEW Tours- "A few Kicks on Rt. 66". Travel along the original world-famous Rt. 66 from Joliet to Pontiac. This bus trip is on Fri., 5/19. Bus will leave Dyer Town Hall at 8:30am and return at approx. 5:30pm. Fee: \$82 per person (includes a family style lunch)

Kids Garage Sale- This sale is to encourage kids to sell their unused toys, books, clothing, sports equipment, collectables, bikes and dolls to others (parental supervision is required). Bring your own table, chairs and change. This event takes place 6/17 from 10am-1pm. Fee: \$11

Chicks Fun Run/Walk- We are looking for Chicks of all ages to register for this 4th Annual GIRLS ONLY 5K walk/run. Dress as you wish, but old prom dresses, hats, fancy jewelry, jeans (with holes), pajamas, work out gear, silly socks, funky hair and tennis shoes are encouraged. This event will take place 6/22 at 6 pm at Central Park. Fee: \$10 per person

Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) Screening- Do you have pain in your legs when you walk? This could be caused by PAD, which is a disease that occurs when the arteries in your legs become narrowed or blocked by plaque. **Register for your Free Pad Screening TODAY!** Screening will take place on Sat., 7/8 from 8-4 at the Dyer Town Hall. **Call (219) 836-3477 or (866) 836-3477 to make an appointment time.**

Pullman Tour Trip- A visit to America's First Complete-Planned Industrial Town. The tour will include a stop at the Pullman Visitors Center, the Pullman Porters Museum, Greenstone Church, Hotel Florence and the on-going restoration of the factory grounds. Bus will leave at 9am on Friday, 8/25 and return at approx. 4pm. Fee: \$90 (includes catered lunch at Hotel Florence)

All Dyer Residents are invited to register for the Town Wide Garage Sale being held on Sat. 5/20 from 8 am-2 pm. Register at the Dyer Parks Office for your permit. Fee: \$15 per household. Garage sale will be held at each residents home. There will be a map provided of all the homes that are participating. The map will be available at the Town Hall and on our website.

New

TOWNWIDE GARAGE SALE
Saturday, May 20 from 8am-2pm
 Register @ Dyer Parks & Recreation Dept.
 219-865-2505
 www.parks.townofdier.com



Attention Business Owners **Business Licenses Are Due**

Business licenses are due March 31st. The license fee is \$75. After March 31st, the fee is \$300. The license application is on the Town website at www.townofdye.com, or you can pick one up from the Clerk-Treasurer's office. Office Hours are Monday-Friday 7:30 AM-4:00 PM.

Sanitary Sewer Inspections **In Your Neighborhood**

RedZone Robotics and their subcontractors will be inspecting the sanitary sewer system starting this month. Most of the work will be done in the Public Right of Way and will not impact residents or businesses. If RedZone does have to venture onto private property, the residents will be notified. RedZone will be working seven days per week. At this time, we do not have an end date for this project.

Once this project is complete, we will have accurate inspection data of the entire sanitary sewer system for the first time in twenty years. This information will guide us in our decision-making regarding repairs.



Garden Club Plant Sale

The Dyer Garden Club is sponsoring a "[Growing the Community Plant Sale](#)." Join us Saturday, May 20, 2017 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Dyer Town Hall. Available the day of the sale there will be Containers, Hanging Baskets, Nature-Inspired "Kitchen Solutions," and bake sale...something for everyone. If you are interested, in our pre plant sale (deadline, April 28, 2017) please contact Mary Hoppe at 219.322.0083 or email at mlhoppe@comcast.com. Extra plant order forms will be available at the Town Hall. Come rain or shine we are looking forward to seeing you there.

Historical Society Speaker—The Civil War

The Dyer Historical Society will be hosting speaker Marc Chase ,Editorial Page Editor of the Times of Northwest Indiana, on **Tuesday, April 11th at 7:00 pm in the main meeting room of the Dyer Town Hall**. Marc is a regular columnist, and a veteran investigative reporter and editor for The Times. He is a history and Civil War enthusiast who founded the Calumet Regional Civil War Preservation Project and the South Shore Civil War Memorial Trail in concert with the war's 2011-2015 sesquicentennial. Chase led efforts to retell the stories of Northwest Indiana men and women who sacrificed during the Civil War and spearheaded a local grave restoration effort that replaced more than 100 broken, worn, or missing Civil War veteran headstones spanning nine northwest Indiana cemeteries. This is open to the public and free of charge.

2017 Arbor Day Celebration

In celebration of Arbor Day, **the Town of Dyer Parks and Recreation Department will be giving away 100 sapling trees! The giveaway will take place on Friday April 28th, 2017 from 8am to 4pm.** Please stop by Town Hall and visit the Parks and Recreation office to get your sapling. Additional material will be provided on the importance of trees to our community and how to best plant and care for trees. The tree variety is Sugar Maple, Pin Oak and Shagbark Hickory. Please stop by to get your tree while supplies last.



Additionally this spring, tree seedlings are scheduled to be planted in our tree nursery at the water tower area near Protsman Elementary School. The trees will be re-located in a few years once established. Trees that were planted at the Sandy Ridge water tower tree nursery in 2015 are schedule to be removed and replanted in various parks this spring.

MONTHLY MEETING CALENDAR

March

March 16

6:00 pm Water Board Meeting
7:00 pm Police Commission Meeting

March 20

7:00 pm Plan Commission Meeting w/ Study Session to Follow

March 23

6:00 pm Town Council Study Session
6:30 pm Redevelopment Commission Study Session

March 27

6:00 pm Sanitary Board Meeting w/ Study Session

April

April 3

7:00 pm Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting

April 6

6:00 pm Storm Water Meeting w/ Study Session

April 10

6:00 pm Economic Development Commission Meeting

April 12

6:00 pm Park Board Meeting

April 13

6:00 pm Town Council Meeting
6:30 pm Redevelopment Commission Meeting

April 17

7:00 pm Plan Commission Meeting

April 20

6:00 pm Water Board Meeting
7:00 pm Police Commission Meeting

Spring Clean-Up Week

Beginning April 17th the Department of Public Works will be out picking up branches and leaves. Please have any leaves or branches out at the curbside before 7am on Monday. This service will continue until April 21st.



On Saturday April 22nd the public works complex located at 516 Edmond Drive will be open from 9am to 1pm to allow residents to use the town dumpster. Proper proof of residency will be required before use of the dumpster.

Any additional questions can be addressed via the Department of Public Works at 219-865-4222. **The following items are not permitted:**

Construction/Demolition/Remodeling Debris

Decks, Sheds, Siding, Windows, Fences

Household Garbage

Hazardous Waste, Paint, Oil, Gas, Etc.

Roofing Materials

Railroad Ties

Lawn Waste, Landscape Material

Bricks, Concrete, Stone, Gravel

Propane Tanks

2017 Household Hazardous Waste Schedule

The Household Hazardous Waste program is a cooperative effort between the Lake, Porter, and LaPorte County Solid Waste Districts to collect household chemicals.

The program operates a mobile collection unit which changes locations throughout the three county area. These collection sites are held on Saturdays starting in the Spring and running through Fall. This program is not available to businesses. Residents can participate at any collection held in the county where they live.

In addition to the mobile unit, the program operates a Battery Collection Program, a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) program, and is part of IDEM's Mercury Awareness Program (MAP). Call the Lake Michigan Districts to find out more on these programs at 1-800-946-4449 or 1-219-769-3820.

APRIL

Saturday, 8th - 9 am to 2 pm; Lake County Fairgrounds, 889 Court St, Crown Point

AUGUST

Saturday, 26th - 9 am to 2 pm; Highland Public Works, 8001 Kennedy Ave, Highland

MAY

Saturday, 6th 9 am to 2 pm; Hudson Campbell Center, 455 Massachusetts, Gary

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, 9th - 9 am to 2 pm; Lake County Highway Dept, 18211 Wicker Ave, Lowell

JUNE

Saturday, 3rd - 9 am to 2 pm; Hobart City Barns, 340 South Shelby, Hobart

OCTOBER

Saturday, 14th - 9 am to 2 pm; Griffith Public Works, 134 Colfax, Griffith

JULY

Saturday, 22th - 9 am to 2 pm; Whiting Public Works, 1915 Front St, Whiting

This program is for residential household hazardous waste for Lake County, Indiana residents and is NOT for businesses, schools or organizations. Businesses, schools and organizations of Lake County, Indiana can call 1-800-946-4449 for resource information. Thank you for understanding the program restrictions.**