



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

From the Desk of the Town Manager

In the municipal finance and capital improvements areas, we are working on projects over several seasons and often times years before actual construction starts.

There are many factors that go into a project being built or equipment being purchased. Beginning in 2015, the Town Council and the Water, Storm, and Sanitary Utility Boards began the long and complicated process that resulted in the February 2017 increase in utility rates. As we promised, the increased rates would be used in large part to fund capital improvements.

Last month, we awarded the bid for a \$1.35 million reconstruction of Blaney, James, and Roy Streets. The decision to do the project was made 15 months ago. This project is being paid for by five different sources of revenue. It is the first project to be financed, in part, by the \$25 "Wheel Sur Tax" adopted in 2016 and being paid by vehicle owners in 2017. We anticipate this tax will generate \$450,000-500,000 per year.

The Sanitary Sewer Board of Commissioners has the responsibility of both the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) and almost 100 miles of the collection system. Earlier this year, a \$500,000 contract was let to televise the entire collection system. When this process is completed, we will have the most accurate snapshot of our collection system in several decades. It will provide our Public Works crews and consultants digital images of the entire system. We will be able to make proactive decisions that will lessen the chances of unexpected problems. This project is funded by the increased revenues from the 2017 Sanitary Sewer rate increase.

The Board of Commissioners and Town Council are going through the process of selling \$3.125 million of bonds to pay for several projects at the WWTP. The first two projects that will likely exhaust the available funds are:

1. The current solids holding building is in need of major repairs for functionality and safety reasons. In addition, the current facility does not have adequate storage capacity for the present rate of solids production. The solids are continuously produced and the building cannot be removed from service for repairs.
2. Solids Dewatering Improvement Project. The current belt presses are at the end of their usable lifecycle. Maintenance is costly (\$88,000 in parts/labor over the last two years), and are only operational 50% of the time. To reduce maintenance costs, providing drier solids, and to permit operations 95-100% of the time, an upgrade is required. Improvements will also address solids piping issues, solids handling flexibility and needed building repairs.

The Town developed a plan to reduce the term of the bond issue repayment from the planned twenty years to ten years. The shortened term will save \$735,000 in future dollars that will not be paid in interest.

Municipalities borrow money just like home owners and businesses do to do large projects. This is "pay as you use" financing. There is one big difference: Interest rates for municipal borrowing is tax-exempt and therefore much lower than private borrowers. The tax-exempt statutes help the tax or rate payers of the borrowing units to keep interest costs down. By paying the bonds off over time, the people paying for the project are getting the benefits of the investment.

Calumet Avenue

Look for news as to when the resurfacing of Calumet Avenue from Rt. 30 north to Main Street will be done. The delays will consist of rolling lane closures. The first phase will be Rt. 30 to north of 213th. After the fence project is completed, the remainder will be done.

Enjoy the nice weather!

Upcoming Recreation Events

We are currently taking registration for all of our Summer programs. Please check out our Facebook page: Dyer Parks and Recreation or our website: parks.townofdye.com or contacting 865-2505 for more info or to register.

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

Skyhawks Volleyball Camp- All aspects of the game are taught through drills and exercises that focus on passing, setting, hitting and serving. This week long camp, 6/19-23, is for 6-12 yrs. old girls & boys. This will be held at Northgate Park (grass courts) from 9am-12pm. Fee: \$119

Skyhawks Baseball Tots- Baseball Tots is a development program, for boys & girls, 2-3 yrs. old that uses a variety of fun games to engage kids while teaching the sport of baseball and developing fundamental skills. This class will take place at Northgate Park on Tues., 6/20-7/25 (off 7/4), from 10:15am-11:15am. Fee: \$58

Skyhawks Soccer Tots- Younger age groups focus on developing motor skills and self-confidence; older classes focus more on developing core soccer skills and personal focus. This class is for boys & girls 18mo-3yrs.olds. This will be held at Northgate Park on Tues., 6/20-7/25 (off 7/4) from 9:00am-10:00am. Fee: \$58

Chicks Fun Run/Walk- We are looking for Chicks of all ages to register for this 4th Annual GIRLS ONLY walk/run. Dress as you wish, but old prom dresses, hats, fancy jewelry, 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.

Painting Classes- Our next painting class takes place Fri., 6/23 from 11:00 am-12:30 pm. Participant's age's 7-adult will have fun painting a Minion on a 12x12 canvas. Fee: \$16

Skyhawks Cheerleading Camp- This entry-level cheer program ensures, 6-10yr. olds, that each individual learns cheers, proper hand and body movements and jumping techniques. This 1 week camp will be held at Pheasant Hills Park from 6/26-30 from 9am-12pm. Fee: \$119

New! Popcorn in the Park- Come on out to Green Meadows Park on 6/30 from 12pm-1:30pm for an afternoon to play at a different park, meet new friends and have some popcorn. We will meet at Sandy Ridge Park on 7/14 & Northgate Park on 8/11.

Sylvan Robotics/Summer Camp with Lego-

This is designed for boys & girls in 1st-7th grade. This program helps participants gain a love of science and technology at a young age by introducing interactive, fun and hands-on activities. Class will be held at the Town Hall on Mon. & Wed., 10:30am-12:30pm on 7/10, 12, 17, 19, 24 & 26 (3weeks). Fee: \$110

Skyhawks Soccer II- Designed for beginner and intermediate players, this camp focuses on dribbling, passing, shooting and ball control. This camp will take place at Northgate Park for boys & girls ages 6-9. Session II is 7/17-21 from 9am-12pm. Fee: \$119

Young Rembrandts Session II- The class for 4-5 yrs. old (9:30-10:30am) will expand on preschoolers' imagination and vocabulary as they draw familiar images such as fish, teddy bears, rainbows and cowboys. The 5-12 yrs. old (11-Noon) class will learn basic to advanced drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary. Classes will be held at Town Hall on Tues., 7/18-8/8. Fee: \$46

Tennis- Skyhawks will be offering 2 one week camps of tennis. Players will learn proper grips, footwork, strokes, volleys and serves during a series of drills. Sessions will take place at Northgate Park Tennis Courts on 7/10-14 from 9am-12pm and 7/24-28 from 12:30-2:30pm for boys & girls 7-12 yrs. old. Fee: \$85

Skyhawks Basketball Camp I & II- This fun, skill-intensive program is designed with the beginning to intermediate player in mind. Skyhawks staff will focus on the whole player, teaching your child the skills needed both on and off the court. Session I takes place 7/10-14 and Session II takes place 7/24-28 with both classes going from 9am-12pm. This class is geared for boys & girls 6-12 yrs. old. Fee: \$119

Skyhawks Multi-Sport Camp- Soccer, Baseball & flag Football- Our multi-sport camp is designed to introduce young athletes to a variety of different sports on one setting. Athletes will learn the rules and essentials of each sport through skill-based games and scrimmages. This camp is for boys & girls 6-12 yrs. old. Camp takes place 7/17-21 from 9am-12pm. Fee: \$119

2nd Annual Dad & Lad- During this event, participants will enjoy playing multiple games such as, checkers, bocce ball, bean bags, and mini tennis. We will also set up an obstacle course. Boys ages 5 & older with father, brother, uncle, grandfather or caregiver may participate. This fun event will take place 8/6 from 12:30pm-2:30pm. Fee: \$10 per participant

Skyhawks Beginner Golf- Skyhawks Golf focuses on building the confidence of young athletes by teaching proper technique to refine essential skills of the game. Skyhawks uses the SNAG (Starting New at Golf) system

to its curriculum. SNAG uses a set of equipment designed for the beginning golfer, including oversized plastic club heads and "mini tennis balls" to help build confidence and have fun. Class will be Mon-Fri, 8/7-11 for boys and girls 7-12 yrs. old from 9am-12pm. Fee: \$119

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).

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

Summer Concert Series- The Summer Concert Series will be at Pheasant Hills Park from 7-8:30pm. We have "The Kritters" 6/20, "The Sting Rays" 6/27, "The Beatnix" 7/11, "Breaking Dawn Band" 7/18, "Jack Whittle & Band" 7/25 and "The Associates Band" 8/1 (This concert will be held at Central Park during the National Night Out).

Free! Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD) Screening

Are you at risk for having PAD? The risk factors include: age of over 50, smoking, diabetes, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and being overweight. **Register for your FREE PAD Screening TODAY!** Screening is July 8 from 8am-4pm at the Town Hall. The test takes 20 minutes.

To register for an appointment time call: 219 836-3477 or 866-836-3477.

This screening event is sponsored by Community Healthcare System

Online Registration- Online registration is here! Dyer residents have the opportunity to register for special events and programs online. Our new registration website is: **PARKSREGISTRATION.TOWNOFDYER.COM.** If you already registered for a program or event with the Parks and Recreation Department then you already have an online account. You will just need to create a password. If you have never registered for a program or event then you will need to create an account and password. When at the webpage, please read the instructions at the bottom of the webpage.

Situational Awareness- Join us in this 2 hr. course to gain knowledge and skill in Personal Safety. Learn to enhance your levels of safety and awareness at home, work & travel. This class is for 16 yrs & older. We have 7/12, 8/16 & 9/13 open. Classes take place at Town Hall from 6-8pm. Fee: \$30.

Building Department Frequently Asked Questions

Q: When do I need a building permit?

A: Any time you are making improvements or additions to your home or property. Building a home, getting a new roof, and installing new doors are all examples of projects that require a permit. Any electrical or plumbing work also need permits and inspections by our department.

Q: How much does a permit cost?

A: In most cases, the cost of the permit depends on the cost of your project. The more expensive the project, the more the permit will cost. Our inspectors review permit applications and give you a price when it's time to pick up the permit.

Q: How long does it take to get a permit?

A: Once you complete the application and submit the required materials, your permit will be ready in three to five business days. When the weather begins to warm up, most permits will take five days to complete. You may not begin construction until you have received your permit, so please keep that in mind when making arrangements.

Q: How large can I build a garage?

A: Ordinance #96-3 governs garages. It states that garage size is predicated on lot size. An attached garage can be 7.5% of the lot size, not to exceed 1,200 square feet in an R-1 zoning district and 1,000 sq. ft. in an R-2 zoning district. A detached garage can be 7% of the lot size not to exceed 1,100 sq. ft. in an R-1 district and 900 sq. ft. in an R-2 district. Detached garages must be at least five feet off of side and rear property lines and cannot be built on an easement. They are also limited to 15 feet in height (to the peak of the roof).

Q: How large can a shed be?

A: This depends upon the size of your property. Sheds are referred to as accessory buildings and are governed by Town Ordinance #96-4. If your lot is less than 40,000 square feet in size, you are limited to one shed of up to 168 sq. ft. If you have greater than 40,000 sq. ft. of property, you are allowed up to 336 sq. ft. of shed space and more than one shed. Regardless of size, the maximum height for a shed is 12 feet.

Q: Where can I place a shed?

A: A shed must be kept at least five feet off of any side or rear property line and at least five feet away from any other structure on the property. Additionally, if it is placed on a permanent foundation, it must be kept off of any easement. We discourage placing sheds on easements at all, but they can be placed on easements if they are portable.

Q: What is an easement?

A: An easement is simply an area of a lot that is designated for the placement of public (or private) utilities including storm water mains or swales, water mains, sanitary sewers, gas, electric, cable TV, etc.

Q: Who owns an easement? Who has rights to it?

A: Typically, the property owner. Everyone should have a Plat of Survey of their property. It will show the location and size of any easement(s) on your property. It should also show the size of the easement. A neighbor does not have the right to be on your easement unless you have given them that right. Typically, NIPSCO, Cable TV, and the Town of Dyer have the right to be on the easement to maintain their services.

Q: What is a right of way?

A: A right of way is public property which is typically set aside for the construction of a road and the installation of utilities. This differs from an easement because it is public land, while an easement is private.

Q: Where does my front property line begin?

A: If you have a sidewalk in front of your house, then that is the best way to determine where your property begins. The back side of the sidewalk (the side furthest from the street) is where your property begins. You are responsible for the maintenance of the sidewalk and the greenspace between the sidewalk and street even though it is not actually your property. The Town simply could not afford the personnel to maintain all of that property. If you do not have a sidewalk, then the general rule of thumb is to measure back 13.5 feet from the street or curb and that is approximately where your front property line begins. Of course, the best way to determine this is to have the property surveyed and have the line determined definitively.

Q: What constitutes a weeds/grass violation?

A: Ordinance #92-9 governs this matter. Grass/weeds cannot exceed 12" in height.

Q: What is a junk vehicle?

A: Ordinance #92-9 governs this matter. A junk vehicle is defined as that which does not carry a current license plate, is not safely operable under its own power, or is not carried on the most recent tax records of the county assessor's office. Any such vehicle can only be parked in a garage. It cannot be parked on a street, driveway, or any portion of private or public property.

Q: Can I park my RV on the street?

A: No. Ordinance 97-1 declares that Recreation Vehicles (boats, motorhomes, trailers, jet skis, etc.) must not be parked in a street or parkway (the area between the sidewalk and street). They must be parked in a driveway or on a hard surface to the rear of the residence.

Q: Can I put a fence on my property line?

A: Yes. Fences are allowed to be up to six feet tall in a residential area, eight feet in commercial, and 10 feet in industrial districts. Fences over three feet tall in residential districts are limited to side and rear or property. Front yard fences are allowed in commercial and industrial districts. They are also allowed in residential districts, but they are limited to three feet in height and must be decorative in nature, such as split rail, wrought iron, or picket fences. It should be noted that, although you may fence in an easement, if any work needs to be done in the easement that would require the removal of the fence, you are responsible for its removal and replacement (if you choose to replace it).

If you have any further questions, give us a call at 219-865-4228.

MONTHLY MEETING CALENDAR

June

June 14

6:00 pm Park Board Meeting

June 15

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

June 19

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

June 22

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

June 26

6:00 pm Sanitary Board Meeting w/ Study Session

July

July 3

6:00 pm BZA Meeting

July 4

Town Hall Closed for Holiday

July 6

6:00 Stormwater Board Meeting

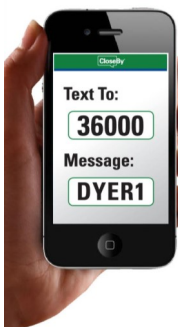
July 12

6:00 pm Park Board Meeting

July 13

6:00 pm Town Council Meeting
6:30 pm Redevelopment Comm Mtg.

Meetings subject to change, call 865-6108 for confirmation



Join our Town of Dyer Text Program To Receive Important Announcements

Door to Door Solicitation

As the warmer weather approaches, there may be an increase in door to door solicitation in our town neighborhoods. The Town of Dyer has a Sales Control Ordinances in place that regulates the sales and distribution of literature by persons, organizations, peddlers and transient merchants to protect the citizenry from unauthorized solicitation at their homes.

The Town of Dyer, under provisions of this ordinances, requires a license and registration with the Town. Certain organizations are exempt from the license fee. Any person procuring a license under this Ordinance shall wear a badge furnished by the town which reflects permission from the Town.

For more information please refer to Chapter 4 of our Code Book on our website or call the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at 865-2421 with questions.

Historical Society Speaker

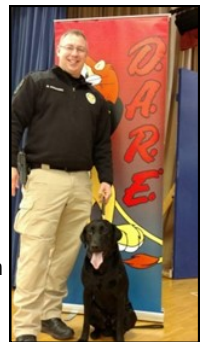
The Historical Society will be hosting Tom Kephshire as a speaker on July 11th at 7:00pm at the Town Hall. Tom is a retired firefighter and paramedic who grew up in Lowell, IN. He has done much research on the Monon Railroad and is currently the Vice President of the Monon Railroad Historical-Technical Society, Inc. He will present the Railroad and its history.

Dyer VFW Golf Outing

The Dyer VFW is hosting their 4th Annual Golf Outing on Saturday, July 29th at Lincoln Oaks Golf Course in Crete. Cost is \$85 per golfer and \$340 per foursome, which includes three beverage tickets, lunch, buffet, and prizes. Visit the Dyer VFW Post #6448 Auxiliary Facebook page or call 219-865-9730 for more information.

Dyer Police Department

Officer Brian Kissinger was recently selected as 2016 Officer of the Year for Dyer P.D. Officer Kissinger and "Kolt" were recognized at the District One Law Enforcement Awards Ceremony for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the Department's Community Policing Division. Along with general community policing duties, Officer Kissinger is also the Department's D.A.R.E. Instructor and School Resource Officer.



Also, as summer begins, please take the time to make sure your property is in compliance with our Town Code. The Town Code can be located on the Town website at townofdyer.com under the "Government" tab.

Chamber Golf Outing

The Dyer, St. John, and Schererville Chambers of Commerce are holding a golf outing on July 10th at Briar Ridge. Registration begins at 10:30 AM and is \$135 per person. Shotgun start at 12:30 PM. Call the Dyer Chamber at 865-1045 for more information.

Dyer Kickers Registration

Dyer Kickers Soccer Club registration for the fall is now open. Ages 4-18. There are two divisions: Rec Plus and In-House. Rec Plus is more competitive, with games on Sundays in nearby communities. Deadline for registration is June 30. In-House games are in Dyer with varied game days. Deadline for registration is July 15.

Visit DyerKickers.org for more info and to register.

South Shore Convention & Visitors Authority

Visit the South Shore CVA website, SouthShoreCVA.com, for fun things to do on the South Shore this summer.

On display at the Indiana Welcome Center until June 18th is the South Shore Line Poster Exhibit. Fifty of the original paintings from the Millennium series in the 1990s are on display.

The Indiana Welcome Center is located at 7770 Corinne Drive in Hammond.

Best of the Region 2017

Several Dyer businesses were voted "Best in the Region" for 2017 by the Times of Northwest Indiana. Patti's All-American Gymnastics and Midwest Training Center were voted first and second respectively in both the "Dance School" and "Gymnastics Facility" categories. Jelly Pancake House was voted the Best Place for Breakfast, and Rob's Meat Chop and Deli was voted the Best Place to Buy Meat and Poultry. Other winners include Dunkin Donuts, Centier Bank, White Rhino Bar & Grill, Doc's Smokehouse, Dairy Queen, Little Italy, Gino's Steakhouse, Walgreens, Faith Church, and Pet Supplies Plus.

Congratulations to all of our great Dyer businesses!