



Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge Road

NEWS YOU CAN USE

May 2024

Edited by J.S.

News from the Clerk-Treasurer

Let's go Paperless



The Town of Munster offers a paperless billing option, if you like it in the mail, we are not requiring you to change. We can email your Town of Munster utility bill, a link to the current News You Can Use and other relevant information to you. The first email often arrives days before the paper invoice would hit your mailbox, a second reminder of emails is sent out about 10 days before the bill is due and rarely, a third email may be sent if the due date timing and the autopay dates are over a weekend or holiday. If you are interested in signing up, contact our Water Billing Department at 219-836-6948 and we will get you signed up!

Munster Parks, Public Art, and Methane Gas



The Park Director, Mark Heintz, and I recently gave a presentation to the Munster Garden Club about our parks and public art. The meeting has been featured on the GreatNews.Life website and Facebook page.

The Centennial Park property has a rich history. It is a 200 acre park that was originally the site of the National Brick Company. The property eventually became the town landfill, with plans for ball diamonds and picnic areas once it closed. However, the flat land required for those plans was inconsistent with the needs of a closed landfill site. As a result, the hills evolved into the beautiful golf course we now enjoy.

Closed landfills produce methane gas, which many landfills burn off, resulting in an unpleasant smell. To address this issue, we installed a generator on the southern edge of the park to capture methane gas naturally produced from decomposing organic material in the landfill. This helps Munster reduce our carbon footprint and provides an opportunity to turn waste into a resource. Instead of allowing the methane to escape into the atmosphere, the generator captures and converts the gas into energy. We sell the generated energy, using the revenue to offset the power needs of Centennial Park. The original generator is reaching the end of its useful life. In 2025, we plan to install a newer and more efficient generator. We believe this new generator will continue to generate energy and revenue for many years to come.

Questions



Should you have any questions or require further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at 219-836-6945 or wmis@munster.in.gov. I may not personally respond to you because I forwarded your questions to someone better able respond.

Wendy Mis

Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Munster



Munster Town Hall will be closed on Memorial Day, **Monday, May 27, 2024**. Homewood Disposal will also be closed on Memorial Day. Please note that all residential service will be delayed one day for this week only.



The Lake County Solid Waste Management District is ending their battery collection program. **Battery drop-off is no longer permitted at Munster Town Hall.** Batteries can be taken to one of the Household Hazardous Waste Collection days. Contact Lake County Solid Waste Management District for more information at www.lcswmd.com or (219)853-2420.



Next collection site:
May 18, 2024 (9am-2pm)
Hobart Public Works
340 S. Shelby St. in Hobart



Early Voting for the Primary election ends May 6, 2024, at Noon. Voting will take place in your precinct on Primary election day, May 7, 2024, from 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Days and times for early voting are listed below. For precinct location information visit indianavoters.in.gov.

Munster Town Hall Early Voting Hours

- 9:00am - 3:00pm Wednesday and Friday
- 9:00am - 7:00pm Thursday
- 9:00am - 3pm the Saturday prior to Election Day (May 4th)
- 9am - Noon the Monday before Election Day (May 6th)



Memorial Day Ceremony
May 27 at 11:30 AM
Community Veterans Memorial Park
9710 Calumet Avenue
Munster, IN 46321

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Munster Post 2697, will host a Memorial Day Observance at the Community Veterans Memorial Park. American Legion Munster Allied Post 16 Honor Guard will perform traditional Military Honors. Munster High School Choir, conducted by Luke McGinnis, will perform during the ceremony. A 21-Gun Salute (cannon) will honor Munster Citizens who have sacrificed their lives for our nation.

MUNSTER POLICE SEEKING NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT DONATIONS



The Munster Police Department is now seeking monetary donations through June 14th towards Munster's 29th Annual National Night Out Against Crime Celebration which will be held on the evening of August 6th. This fun and exciting annual event is consistently ranked as one of the top National Night Out events in the United States each year and includes activities such as a Community Parade, games, prizes, free swimming for residents, over 100 booth participants, K-9 demonstrations, food, music, an awesome closing fireworks show sponsored by Krazy Kaplan's, and more. The event is held to promote positive police and community partnerships.

If you would like to provide a donation, please make your check payable to the **Town of Munster (memo: NNO)** and either mail or drop it off at the **Munster Police Department, c/o Officer James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, IN 46321**. Thank you in advance for your support this year and please mark your calendars for August 6th!



MUNSTER CRIME WATCH MEETING FEATURING SWAT TEAM

The Munster Police Department invites and encourages all residents and business representatives to attend the next Munster Crime Watch Meeting on Thursday, May 16th at 6:30PM at the Munster Town Hall, located at 1005 Ridge Road. The meeting will include crime statistics, updates on recent incidents, a presentation from a member of the Northwest Regional SWAT Team about their duties, and several door prizes will be included. **For more information, please contact Officer James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org.** We hope to see you there!

2024 NATIONAL NIGHT
OUT BLOCK PARTY
CONTEST
REGISTRATION IS NOW
OPEN!



Registration for Munster's 2024 National Night Out Block Party Contest is **NOW OPEN!** On Saturday, August 3rd, the Munster Police & Fire Departments will be visiting pre-registered block parties all throughout town as part of our National Night Out Week pre-events. The purpose of this contest is to encourage neighbors to get to know and look out for each other in a fun way. The Munster Town Council recently waived all deposits and fees for that day alone as a way of encouraging participation from as many neighborhoods as possible. 15 areas participated in 2022 and 21 areas held block parties last year.

While visiting the parties, the officers and firefighters will be visiting with residents, hearing their concerns, and also scoring the parties based on participation, planned activities, creativity, positive spirit, and neighborhood unity. **Several blocks and/or subdivisions will be chosen as the winners of this year's Block Unity Awards and will be presented with commemorative signage that will be posted in their respective neighborhoods.**

Participants must pre-register by no later than July 1st by contacting Officer James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org. We look forward to hearing from you!



- 5/3 CPR Certification **DEADLINE**
- 5/4 Babysitting Lessons and Safety Training
- 5/4 26th Annual Car Show
- 5/4 Ladies Empowerment Walk – Refresh, Renew, Regenerate
- 5/6 Office open later for Pool Season Pass Pictures/Purchases
- 5/6 Skateboarding: Leveling Up
- 5/6 Youth Tennis
- 5/6 Adult Drill and Play
- 5/6 Park Office open later for Pool Pass Purchases
- 5/7 Youth Tennis
- 5/7 Adult Beginner Tennis
- 5/8 Pool Pride Day
- 5/9 Cinco De Mayo BINGO
- 5/10 EARLY BIRD DEADLINE for Munster Pool Season Passes
- 5/11 Benefits of Funeral Pre-Planning
- 5/11 Cash for Clutter
- 5/13 Milkshakes with Mom
- 5/13 CPR Certification
- 5/16 Wado-Ki Karate
- 5/17 Servsafe Food Manager
- 5/22 Guys & Dolls Lunch/Show at Drury Lane
- 5/25 Munster Community Pool opens
- 5/29 Halfway to Halloween Party
- 5/31 CPR Certification Deadline

Centennial Park Parking



Town of Munster residents can register up to 2 vehicles per household to park for free at Centennial Park for the 2024 parking season. 2024 registration began on March 1, 2024 at www.centennialparkvehiclereg.com. **Previous registration will not carry over to 2024.** Registration can also be done at the Parks and Recreation office at Munster Town Hall during regular business hours (Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm). For more information, please visit the Town's website at www.munster.org.



Munster Car Show is back for the 26th year! On Saturday, May 4th from 9AM-3PM, stop by the pool parking lot to roam the amazing display of cars and trucks. Enjoy DJ music, sponsor tables, vendor booths and food vendors.



Help us get the pool ready! If you can provide the manual labor – we will provide the dinner! We can use help to power wash and lay out lounge chairs and tables and weed around the pool. Please pre-register by calling us at (219) 836-7275 so we can have enough food.



Pool opens Saturday, **May 25.**

Munster Community Pool Season Pass early-bird deadline is Friday, May 10.

Munster Parks will be open Monday, 5/6 from 5-8PM for Season Pass pictures and purchases for those that cannot make it during regular office hours of 8:30AM-4:30PM.



Make it a point to stop by Cash for Clutter on Saturday, May 11 from 8AM-2PM at the pool parking lot. Lots of vendors participating – you never know someone's trash may become your treasure!




PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL RECREATIONAL BURNING

Burning shall be in a non-combustible container that is sufficiently vented and has enclosed sides and bottom. Only clean wood can be burned (no painted wood, trash etc.). The fire shall be extinguished if it creates a nuisance, fire hazard or pollution problem. No burning shall be conducted during unfavorable meteorological conditions such as high winds, temperature inversions, air stagnation, when there is a pollution alert, ozone action days or during a Red Flag warning. Burning should be at least 10 feet away from any structure.

MUNSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT (219) 836-6960

Munster Public Works
Hours: 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Monday - Friday
(219) 836-6971/6970



- **Spring Leaf Collection ended in April.** 
- Garbage and Recycling **will be delayed one day, Monday - May 27, 2024**, in observance of Memorial Day.
- Public Works offers free wood chips on the first Saturday of the month, 8 am – Noon, May through October. Bring your own shovel and something to put the wood chips in.
- Branch Collection: Branches should be no longer than 7' long and 5" in diameter. Twigs and yard waste should be put into your garbage cans or bagged. Small branches should be bundled and tied; these will be picked up with your garbage. If you have any questions, you can contact the Public Works Department at 836-6971.



Household Hazardous Waste Collection:

All Collections from 9 am – 2 pm. Loads are limited to 100 pounds and Latex Paint is no longer accepted at these collections.

- Saturday, May 18, 2024, Hobart Public Works, 340 S. Shelby St., Hobart
- Saturday, June 1, 2024, Hudson Campbell Center, 455 Massachusetts St., Gary

When to call Lake County

Non-Emergency

(219) 660-0001

- ⇒ **Trees down or in the street**
- ⇒ **Water main break**
- ⇒ **Water leaking from fire hydrant**
- ⇒ **Sewer backup or sewer blockage**



TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS MAY 2024

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall (MTH) at (219)836-6900 to confirm meetings. Public meetings are also available utilizing Zoom technology. Visit the Town of Munster website: <https://www.munster.org> (Select Agendas and Meetings) or contact the appropriate department to access the meeting ID and passcode. Also, a schedule of these meetings and others are maintained on the Community Calendar at the Town of Munster website. **Tune into WJOB 1230 AM Radio and listen to Community Programming Initiative, in which members of the Munster Town Council and guests discuss issues in town. The program runs the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 am.**

Site Plan Review Mtg.	May 2, 2024	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	May 9, 2024	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	May 14, 2024	6:45 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Plan Commission Mtg.	May 14, 2024	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	May 16, 2024	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	May 20, 2024	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Safety Mtg.	May 21, 2024	7:00 am	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Mtg.	May 21, 2024	5:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)



George Shinkan



Joseph Hofferth



Chuck Gardiner



David Nellans



Jonathan Petersen



Wendy Mis

Ward #1

Ward #2

Ward #3

Ward #4

Ward #5

Clerk-Treasurer

(219)718-4481

(219)689-2225

(708)606-7223

(219)680-6364

(219)803-4550

(219)836-6945

gshinkan@munster.org

jhofferth@munster.org

cgardiner@munster.org

dnellans@munster.org

jpetersen@munster.org

wmis@munster.in.gov