



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge Road

MARCH 2023

Edited by E. Payne



Street Improvements in Town This Year

Even though the weather is still frightful, the Town is gearing up for paving season. We were recently awarded \$625,000 in State funds that we will match dollar-for-dollar to completely reconstruct Beverly Place from the State Line to Hohman, Camelia Avenue from Fran Lin to Hawthorne, and White Oak Avenue from Fairway to River Drive. The Town has received over \$5 million over the last six years through the Community Crossing Grant Program.

We anticipate receiving another grant later this spring for an additional \$375,000 that we again will match for more neighborhood paving.

Further, we plan on repaving 45th Avenue from the State Line to Calumet Avenue this summer.

Residents can see the most up-to-date information on our street resurfacing program at our website under the "Current Projects" section.

From the Clerk-Treasurer



The Clerk-Treasurer's office processes your monthly utility bill and we do get several questions asked over and over. This month we thought we would address a couple of those. Special thanks to Robin our Utility Billing Clerk for her help with this!

A frequently asked question is: Why is my usage so high? The water you used a month ago is what you are paying for now. This bill due on March 20th is for water you used roughly between January 20th to February 20th. Did your usage change because you had more people than usual in your house? My kids were home for a weekend during that window so I expect my March bill may be a tad higher. Our advice is to look at your bill each month and check for big, unexplained differences in usage.

The follow up question? Why is my usage higher, we didn't do anything different? Unexplained high usage is almost always a toilet problem. If you have to jiggle the handle on a toilet at your house occasionally, that could be an issue.

A running toilet can use more than 4,000 gallons per day or 120,000 gallons if left running for a month and you won't necessarily see or hear the toilet issue. A toilet with a flapper that doesn't seal entirely can use around 250 gallons a day or up to 8,000 gallons per month. All without ever being noticed! Our answer is to call us and we can talk you through how to check if your toilet is the reason for your high usage.

Sometimes we get asked about a bill that has the amount owed in parentheses. If your AMOUNT DUE shows in parenthesis (\$1.00) on your bill, it is a credit balance. You do not have a payment due.

We do get asked about trying to pay your bill online after the due date. You may be trying to pay a previous balance online by clicking on last month's emailed invoice after the due date and there will be a brief time it will not work. Once an invoice is 'closed' the balance transfers to the next month's invoice. If you are trying to pay during the time before you receive the new invoice, you will have to enter through the Town of Munster website www.munster.org/utilitybill. During the calculation of the new invoice you may not see the correct balance (it will show zero). You still owe the previous balance because that prior invoice is 'closed'. A new invoice has not been uploaded yet but usually will be in only a day or so. Once you receive the new invoice, you will once again be able to click on the link to pay online and the total balance will show correctly.

Hopefully, these little articles each month help you understand a bit more about Munster. If you do have questions, the Clerk-Treasurer's Office always welcomes them. We are happy to get you the answers you need. I do not always have the answer but will direct you to someone who should. I can be reached at (219)836-6945 or wmis@munster.org. Have a great March, spring is just around the corner!

Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer



Primary Election Information

- **April 3, 2023** - Voter Registration Ends (Deadline at voter registration office's close of business for a voter to apply to register or transfer registration or at midnight for a voter to complete and submit a voter registration application online.
- **April 4, 2023** - First day a voter may early vote in the office of the circuit court clerk or satellite offices.
- For your complete election information visit websites: www.indianavoters.in.gov or www.lakecounty.in.gov, or call Lake County Board of Elections (219)755-3795.



Flooding is one of the most common natural disasters in the United States. In 2022, Indiana experienced 103 flooding or heavy rain events. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), \$282.46 million of FEMA flood insurance claims have been paid in Indiana since 1978. Despite the severe financial harm flooding hazards present, only 1 percent of the state's households are covered.

To reduce the number of homes financially devastated by flooding, the Town of Munster, state of Indiana, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency encourage all Hoosier homeowners and renters to purchase flood insurance protection. While purchasing flood insurance might seem costly, the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is available to help provide citizens affordable flood insurance coverage based on the area they live in. Visit www.floodsmart.gov or www.in.gov/floodinsurance to learn more about the National Flood Insurance Program.

The Indiana Department of Natural Resources Floodplain Information Portal is a useful tool to see if your property is in a special flood hazard area: secure.in.gov/dnr/water/surface-water/Indiana-floodplain-mapping/Indiana-floodplain-information-portal/



LAKE COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Join the Journey

Household Hazardous Waste Collections

Saturday, March 25, 2023
Lake County Fairgrounds
889 Court Street, Crown Point, Indiana
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
www.lcswmd.com
(219)853-2420



***April 22, 2023 Collection Site
Munster Public Works Garage
508 Fisher St., Munster, Indiana**

OFFICE HOURS

Munster Public Works Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7:00 am - 3:00 pm
(219)836-6971/836-6970



The Town of Munster Public Works Department Street Sweepers do not operate in the winter months due to freezing risks that can damage the machines. Street sweeping resumes in the spring. The town is swept typically four times a year depending on the weather, crew availability and competing priorities. The route moves from north to south and there is not a set schedule. Once the Town has been completely swept, Public Works cease operation for about one month until the cycle begins again. Public Works has two street sweepers in its fleet.



Homewood Disposal Holiday Schedule www.mydisposal.com



Closed on these holidays listed below:

Memorial Day - Monday, May 29th
(All service will be delayed one day for this week only)

Independence Day - Tuesday, July 4th
(Tuesday-Friday service will be delayed one day for this week only)

Labor Day - Monday, September 4th
(All service will be delayed one day for this week only)

Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 23rd
(Monday-Wednesday service will be on schedule. Thursday and Friday service will be delayed one day for this week only)

Christmas Day - Monday, December 25th
(All service will be delayed one day for this week only)

Open on these holidays listed below:

Juneteenth - Monday, June 19th
Columbus Day - Monday, October 9th
Veterans Day - Friday, November 10th



If your garbage or recycling container is in need of repair, contact HDS at (219)931-9000 to make a repair request.

TUESDAY

Board of Zoning Appeals: The BZA hears requests for variances and conditional use permits and meets at the Town Hall on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:45 p.m.

Plan Commission: The Plan Commission maintains the Town's Comprehensive Plan and hears requests to subdivide property and amend the zoning codes and maps. Meetings are at the Town Hall on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Park Board: The Park Board oversees the various operations and activities of the Parks & Recreation Department and meets every third Tuesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

March




- 3/1 Intro to Violin w/ Heidi
- 3/3 CPR DEADLINE
- 3/4 Babysitting Lessons and Safety Training
- 3/4 Home Improvement Fair**
- 3/5 Learn to Skate Clinic**
- 3/5 Cuban Salsa Dance
- 3/6 Tai Chi Gong
- 3/6 Medicare & Scamming – Medicare 101
- 3/7 Skateboarding: Leveling Up
- 3/7 Super Strikers
- 3/9 ZUMBA
- 3/10 Mayflower Travel Show
- 3/10 Spring Soccer FINAL DEADLINE**
- 3/13 Medicare & Scamming – HMO Plan
- 3/13 Leprechaun Flashlight Hunt
- 3/13 Sporties for Shorties
- 3/13 Tomfoolery Comedian Lunch/Show**
- 3/13 CPR
- 3/14 Koolaid and Kanvas
- 3/15 A Chorus Line Lunch/Show at Drury Lane
- 3/15 CSRI Open Gym
- 3/16 St. Patty's Day BINGO
- 3/20 Medicare & Scamming – HMO Chronic Plan
- 3/20 Cupcakes & Competition**
- 3/23 Cardio Drumming
- 3/23 Wado-Ki Karate (Little Dragons, Beginner/Advanced)
- 3/26 Underwater Egg Hunt
- 3/27 - 3/29 Spring Break Camp**
- 3/27 Medicare & Scamming – PPO Plan
- 3/27 Craft in a Box DEADLINE (Carrot Easter Candy Holder)
- 3/28 Drawing Basics w/ South Shore Arts
- 3/29 Manga and Anime Club w/ South Shore Arts
- 3/29 Skateboarding: Advanced Clinic
- 3/29 Intro to Violin w/ Heidi
- 3/31 Beginner Ceramics w/ South Shore Arts
- 3/31 Flashlight Egg Hunt**



Home Improvement Fair
March 4, 2023
Wilbur Wright Middle School
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Did you recently purchase a home or been a long-time homeowner and looking to spruce up your home? Stop by our Home Improvement Fair to find the best companies for both indoor and outdoor home improvement. This event will take place in the Wilbur Wright Middle School Cafeteria.

 Interested in Summer Camp? Registration for Summer Camp (June 5th– July 28th) will begin early April. Stay tuned for more information.



Learn to Skate
Community Park
Sunday, March 5, 2023
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Skate Clinic is perfect for the introductory skateboarder, where you'll learn the fundamentals. Class is open to ages 6-16 and instructed by Driftwood Skate.



Tomfoolery
Comedian Lunch/Show
Social Center
Monday, March 13, 2023
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
 Join us for laughs and lunch.



Cupcakes & Competition
Social Center
Monday, March 20, 2023
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Kids will bake and decorate cupcakes while competing at board games.



Flashlight Egg Hunt
Community Park (Softball Field A)
Friday, March 31, 2023
8:30 pm (ages 9-13)

Bring your flashlight to search for treasures including coupons, candy, and other prizes. Pre-register at the office/\$3 or register on-site/\$5.



Spring Break Camp
Social Center
March 27, 2023 - March 29, 2023

Staying local and need care for Spring Break? Campers will have the opportunity to play games, make crafts, compete and more. Lunch will be provided on Wednesday. Open to ages 5-12.



Spring Soccer **FINAL DEADLINE** is Friday, March 10, 2023 - NO late registrations will be taken. This league is open to ages 4-13. Soccer games take place April 8th– May 13th.



Tennis Classes
 Interested in more information on May tennis classes? Email jhiggins@munster.org to be placed on the email list.





2023-2024 Kindergarten Registration Information



Beginning Monday, March 20th, you may access Kindergarten enrollment information at **www.munster.us**. **Please Note:** Only a parent or legal guardian may enroll a student. You must have a legal residence in Munster to apply for enrollment. Families will need to complete the following:

1. Kindergarten Enrollment Form
2. Registration Gateway
3. After completing Registration Gateway, please contact your child's school for instructions on how to complete the registration process.

Eads Elementary School	8000 Jackson Avenue	(219)836-8635
Elliott Elementary School	8718 White Oak Avenue	(219)836-5250
Frank Hammond Elementary School	1301 Fran-Lin Parkway	(219)838-2060

In order to be eligible to register for kindergarten, a child must be five years old on or before August 1, 2023. At the time of the scheduled enrollment with the child's school, parents must provide **ALL** of the following:

Enrollment Documents

- Certified/original birth certificate of the child (baptismal and hospital records are not acceptable as proof of birth)
- Updated Immunization records
- A valid driver's license with current Munster address

Residency Documents

- If homeowner, a mortgage statement, settlement statement or property tax receipt containing the names of the homeowners **OR** if renter, a lease (**MUST be current**) indicating the term of the lease, address of the property, name and phone number of the lessor, name of the lessee and listing of tenants.
- Two additional items listed: Town of Munster water bill, NIPSCO bill, auto insurance bill, bank statements, telephone bill, and pay stub with current address.



TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS FOR MARCH 2023

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall 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.	March 2, 2023	1:30 pm	Munster Town Hall
Town Council & Redevelopment Mtg.	March 6, 2023	7:00 pm	Munster Town Hall
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	March 14, 2023	6:45 pm	Munster Town Hall
Plan Commission Mtg.	March 14, 2023	7:30 pm	Munster Town Hall
Board of Safety Mtg.	March 16, 2023	7:00 am	Munster Town Hall
Site Plan Review Mtg.	March 16, 2023	1:30 pm	Munster Town Hall
Town Council & Redevelopment Mtg.	March 20, 2023	7:00 pm	Munster Town Hall
Park Board Mtg.	March 21, 2023	5:00 pm	Munster Town Hall

ALL MEETINGS LISTED WILL BE HELD IN THE MAIN MEETING ROOM



Dr. Ken Schoon
Lee Ann Mellon
Chuck Gardiner
Steve Tulowitzki
Dr. Andy Koulourides
Wendy Mis

Ward #1
Ward #2
Ward #3
Ward #4
Ward #5
Clerk-Treasurer

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