

Community Connection

ISSUE #42

APRIL 2019

The Village of Ottawa * 136 North Oak Street * Ottawa
Phone 419.523.5020 * Fax 419.523.4246 * www.ottawaohio.us

Special Points of Interest:

- Council meetings—7:30 pm the 2nd & 4th Monday of each month at Municipal Building
- Shade Tree Commission - 2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- Planning Commission - 3rd Friday of each month at 8:30 am
- Park Board meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 pm
- Arbor Day is April 26th! Plant a tree!
- Trash pick-up in Ottawa is on Tuesday with recycling the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

MAYOR'S UPDATE

Spring is in the air! Good weather should be approaching soon and I can't wait...I'm ready to get my garden in the ground, get some meat on the grill, and get those golf clubs swinging a bit more often (*well...swinging less, but golfing more!*)!

First, a recap of the past couple months... Old Man Winter kept the Public Works Department busy and they did a great job keeping the streets clean for us. Being able to navigate those snowy icy streets is something that can easily be taken for granted.

You may have noticed the Village aggregation rate for gas has expired. The winter months aren't the most economic time to look for new pricing but with the weather warming up, supplier costs will start to decrease. When our broker has found a good price, a contract will be entered into and information to opt in or opt out will be mailed to Village residents. Be on the lookout for this communication in the next couple months. The contract for the electric aggregation rate doesn't expire until December 2019, so only gas will be changing for now.

Something else that has been available in the Village for awhile, but I want to remind you about is the CRA or Community Reinvestment Area. If you are remodeling and investing over \$20,000 in a single family dwelling, or constructing a new home you may qualify for a 100% tax abatement for either five or ten years. Contact the Clerk's Office if you would like to see if your project qualifies or if you have questions about this incentive.

A "new" project that is underway is the construction of athletic fields on the west end. FEMA approval was granted for this project which is very exciting! A contractor was hired to remove some trees prior to the arrival of the Indiana bats! Donations are being accepted to move this project forward. If you are interested in contributing or want more information, contact the Clerk's Office.

And finally, don't forget all Council meetings are open to the public. If you want to be on the agenda, call the Wednesday prior to the meeting, but you are always welcome to come and observe. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Monday evening of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Council Chambers which is located in the Municipal Building at 136 N. Oak Street.

**Congrats to the Girls & Boys Titan Teams for a terrific season!
and... Go Tribe!** —Dean Meyer, Mayor

COUNCIL MEMBERS EMAIL ADDRESSES

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Arizona & Hawaii
do not observe
Daylight Savings
Time



Village of Ottawa Council

Dean Meyer—Mayor

Dave Michel, President

Jo Deskins

Troy Yant

Jeff Ducey

Tim Maag

Tom "Duffer" Rosenbauer

Planning Commission

Dean Meyer—Chair

Tim Maag

Bill Hanna

Denny Recker

Randy Verhoff

REMINDER:

All Village of Ottawa residents are required to file yearly Municipal Income Tax returns by April 15th, even if no tax is due. For filing requirements, visit www.RITAOhio.com or call 1-800-860-7482.

CHECK IT OUT

The Village of Ottawa's promotional video is ready for viewing & can be found at www.ottawaohio.us! Share this video with friends & family! Let's highlight this great town we all call home. Look for this button on the homepage



UPDATE ON TRASH CONTRACT

First a little history: The Village of Ottawa has an ordinance which requires the Village to hold a contract with an authorized agent to be the exclusive hauler inside the corporation limits. That being said, the Village does not profit from trash removal, but is responsible to pick the best option for the majority of residents, which typically limits pick-up to one or two days each week.



The Village had a contract with Republic Services to haul residential trash which began in 2013 and expired on March 31, 2019. When the contract with a vendor expires, the Clerk's Office sends out a request for new proposals and this year, three (3) different vendors proposed two (2) options giving a total of six (6) quotes to review. A spreadsheet was compiled comparing all the options and the Infrastructure Committee met to discuss the differences as well as the general direction that trash and recycling is heading. In the end, the Committee recommended Council approve a change.

Change is never easy. The overall consensus was that automation is the way of the future. Clearly, hiring employees to jump on and off a vehicle over 1,000 times a day to handle trash cans is not an easy task and runs a high risk of injury. Moving to the wheeled carts and automation will not only speed up the removal process, but save the vendor and the Village by lowering the potential for injury and insurance claims.

And now the future: Werlor/Heartland Disposal is located in Defiance and has been in business since 1969. The Village had a contract with Werlor for nine (9) years between 2004 and 2012. Werlor has invested in automated trucks that will have the capability to pick up trash throughout the entire Village in one (1) day at a reduced cost for most residents.

By now, you should have received two (2) carts from Werlor. The larger 96 gallon cart is for trash and the smaller is for the recycling. **Trash** will be picked up **every** Tuesday and **recycling** will be the **2nd** and **4th** Tuesday of each month. The cost is \$15.70 for the large cart which holds about 4 big bags of trash and the 60 gallon recycling cart. A smaller 60 gallon trash cart which holds about 2 big bags of trash and the 60 gallon recycling cart will cost \$14.90 per month. Call Werlor at 1-800-582-3433 if you would like to switch the size of your trash cart.

If you still have a recycle tub or a cart that belongs to Republic, please contact Julie at the Municipal Building at 419-523-5020. Once again... change is not easy! Please be patient and welcoming as Werlor comes back into our community to serve Village residents.

NIXLE: Be Informed & Aware

Nixle is a Community Information Service dedicated to helping residents stay connected to the information that matters most to them. Launched nationally in 2007, Nixle provides an open communication forum connecting public safety, municipalities, schools, and businesses to the communities they serve. Nixle enables real time communication through text, email, voice messages, social media and the Nixle mobile app, dependent upon user choice. Resident accounts can be customized to receive information specific to individual needs available over their mobile phone email and computer. Authenticated agencies and community organizations can use Nixle for critical situations such as severe weather events, evacuations, safety hazards, security threats, and facilities problems.

Nixle is a one-way messaging system free to law enforcement and firefighters to send messages and free for the public to receive them. Anyone can view information by going to www.nixle.com, without registering. To customize the information you receive, the locations you receive it from, and to receive the information by text message and/or email, residents must set up an account. Once registered, residents can personalize their locations and preferences, making the service fit their needs. Complete instructions for setting up a free text and/or email account are located at the above website. Additional questions are addressed and answered at www.nixle.com/resident-faqs/.

Be informed and aware...
register today!

—Jo A. Deskins, Council Member

