

Community Connection

ISSUE #8

AUGUST 2013

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



EAST WATER TOWER

The East Water Tower has changed from beige to slate with navy blue lettering! Utility Services Company, Inc. from Georgia, has finished both the interior and exterior of the 750,000 gallon tank. Work began on the aeration system with the installation of two big silver domes on top of the tower that are part of the venting for the TTHM removal system. A third one will be added at a later date.

The 1,000,000 gallon clearwell at the Water Treatment Plant has also had two additional vents added for the same reason. The water tower on the west side of town will be refurbished later this summer.

Work should begin on the Miller City Water Tower by the first week in August. The inside of this tower will be coated and the venting system will be installed with the exterior renovation scheduled for a later date.

"Summer's lease hath all too short a date."
— William Shakespeare

Special Points of Interest:

- Interested in purchasing a Village flag? Call the Village at 419-523-5020 for details.
- Information on the Adopt-a-Tree program available in Clerk's Office
- Last day to swim at Memorial Pool for the 2013 season is Sunday, August 11th
- The Charter Review Advisory Commission has recommended several changes to the Village Charter. Council has passed the necessary legislation to place the proposed changes on the November ballot. More information is available on the Village website at www.ottawaohio.us.

MAYOR'S UPDATE



If you've been downtown lately, you've seen the curbs and gutters being worked on. We are getting the concrete work done before the State comes in and begins paving. Main Street will be paved from the west end of town to the CSX railroad on the east side of town. This will hopefully be completed in August.

We will be redoing Court Street this year also. This will include the East / West alley between Oak Street and the Court House. This should be completed by the middle of September. 70% of this job (approximately \$29,000) will be paid for through Community Development Block Grant monies. Again, thanks for your patience and while we still see the Tigers in our sights... GO TRIBE!!!
—Dean Meyer, Mayor

VILLAGE CHARTER REVISIONS TO BE VOTED ON BY OTTAWA RESIDENTS

As various Village committees were being formed and members appointed by Mayor Meyer in January of this year, a Charter Review Advisory Commission was established and village residents were appointed to serve, including Chairman Urban Lauf, Thomas Doepker, Eugene Hovest, Chris Pfahler and Ethel Walker. The task before this committee was to review each article of the present Village Charter to determine its continued relevancy and to make recommendations for revision, as deemed necessary to fit the needs of the municipality.

The Commission presented several recommendations to Council with the main changes related to the filling of a vacancy for Mayor and Council within term. The Commission recommended a vacancy in the Mayor's position be filled only until the next general election rather than for a four year term. It is also being recommended that Council vacancies that occur in-term, be filled only until the next general election, as well.

The second major change being

recommended relates to salaries of elected officials and compensation with proposed changes making all compensation subject to in-term pay laws.

The Charter Review Advisory Commission's recommendations have since been reviewed by Ottawa's Village Council in three separate readings and an ordinance passed on July 8th, to facilitate submission of the following question to the electorate of the Village at the general election on November 5th, 2013; "Shall the proposed Charter revisions framed by the Charter Review Advisory Commission and approved by Council of the Village of Ottawa, Ohio, be adopted?"

Residents may review the membership of the Charter Review Advisory Commission, the present Village Charter and recommended Charter revisions online, by visiting <http://www.ottawaohio.us>. Specific questions regarding recommended Charter revisions may be directed to any member of the Charter Review Advisory Commission or Village Council for clarification prior to November's general election.

—Jo Deskins, Council Member



Ottawa Area
Chamber of Commerce
presents:

All About Bikes!

During "Ottawa First Friday"
August 2, 2013
4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Visit the Ottawa Farmers Market
Bike Rodeo ~ Safety City ~ Food Vendors ~ Live Music
Sidewalk Sales at Your Favorite Local Merchants!
At Main & Oak Streets in Downtown Ottawa

Free ice pops & kids' bicycle music display giveaway at 4:00 p.m.

Ride your bike downtown, or there will be a fine on hand for children's bicycles.

Join the Fun! First Friday—August 2nd!



September 17, 2013

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION DAY!

The next First Friday event is sure to feature lots of summertime fun for the whole family. All are invited to participate on Friday, August 2, 2013 in the municipal parking lot at Main & Oak Streets in downtown Ottawa.



First Friday will feature the Ottawa Farmers Market with 15 vendors participating in August! Among some of the items vendors will have are: baked goods, homemade jams, jellies, sauces and honey, gluten-free bread and other items, plants, herbs, flowers, clothing, hats, homemade bath products, doll clothing and accessories, garden art, wood crafts and the list goes on! Anyone interested in being a vendor at the Farmers Market can access the vendor registration form online at

www.ottawachamber.org, email the Chamber office at ottawachamber@earthlink.net or call 419-523-3141.

Along with the Farmers Market will be live music, food vendors, a kid's bounce house, free ice pops, and ALL ABOUT BIKES featuring a Bike Rodeo, Putnam County Safety City, the Putnam County Sheriff's Office bike patrol and bicycle giveaways. Ride your bikes downtown or there will be a handful of bikes available for children's activities.

Several downtown businesses are planning sidewalk sales and other special coupons and promotions on First Friday. The Schroeder Center For the Arts/Cavern Club Winery will have live musical entertainment in the evening along with appetizers. The Putnam County Community Thrift Store is planning a First Friday Furniture Sale August 2. The Thrift Store will be accepting clean, used furniture in good condition that day from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at their store, 101 W. Main Street in Ottawa. Furniture may be dropped off behind the store. All of the furniture that is donated on this day will be available for sale from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

—Amy Sealts, Executive Director

We the people of the United States, ★ in order to form a more perfect Union, ★ establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the ★ common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this constitution ★ for the United States of America. ★

WALNUT STREET PUMP STATION.....THE SAGA CONTINUES

As you may recall from the last *Community Connection*, the Walnut Street pump station, damaged in the August, 2007 flood, is being repaired with FEMA reimbursement for damaged infrastructure. In January of 2013, one of the two comminutors (pulverizers) was damaged when the contractor was using a hoist to lift it into place. The damaged comminutor had been custom

made to fit and function in this particular pump station. In May, Village Council received information that delivery of the custom-made comminutor was expected on June 10th. In June, Council learned that the delivery was to be delayed until July 1st. The comminutor was delivered on July 8th from the Yeoman Corp., but the mechanical part was left behind in Chicago!

When the FEMA reimbursement process was initiated, FEMA required the Village to replace "like with like," meaning that we needed to try to duplicate the previous comminutors. The replacement comminutors were/are being fabricated by the same company that made the original comminutors in 1990.

This has been a very frustrating experience

for all involved, but we are hopeful that by the time you read this article, the comminutor has been assembled, delivered, and installed, and the Walnut Street pump station is finally back in service.

—Deb Bauer, Council Member



Swimming Pool to Remain Open Until August 11th

Village of Ottawa Officials:

- Dean Meyer—Mayor
- Council Members
- Tim Macke, President
- Gene Hovest
- Deb Bauer
- Dave Beckett
- Jo Deskins
- Troy Yant

Pool Rates

Daily Rate = \$3.00
 Children under 8 must be accompanied by adult, parent or guardian
 Children under 2 will get in FREE every day

Pool Hours

Mon through Sat 1 to 6 p.m.
 Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.
 The pool will remain open as noted above weather and attendance permitting.

Swimming Lessons & Pool Rental

Call the YMCA at 419-523-5233 for information.

Shelterhouses

Shelterhouses in Memorial Park and the gazebo in the Waterworks Park are available for a rental fee of \$20.00. Call the Municipal Building at 419-523-5020 for information.

Park Board Members Meetings—4th Monday of Month

- Troy Yant—Council Liaison
- Dave Niese—President
- Scott Hershberger
- Brad Leis
- Carol Siebeneck

