Summer 2020 Newsletter

Village of Park Ridge

Village Hall (Fire Dept. & Meeting Room): 24 Crestwood Drive

Village Clerk/Treasurer's Office: 24 Crestwood Drive, 715-343-1590

Village Clerk Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Village Clerk Contact Info: kbemowski@park-ridge.us

ESTABLISHED 1938

www.park-ridge.us

A LETTER FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

Dear Park Ridge Residents:

It is with deep regret that I inform you of our Village Clerk's resignation accepted by the Board on 6/15/2020. Kathy Bemowski has been an exceptional employee from the time she assumed the position. Her dedication to managing the clerk/treasurer business of the Village brought us back from the abyss the Village was at 3 years ago. During her tenure she has continuously improved her municipal government management skill set. She has brought back organization to the Village archives.

The primary reason cited in making her decision was the volume of work and the time the combined position required. She was hired as half time or 20 hours per week. As a Board we should have recognized this was an unrealistic expectation. In working with her on a daily basis, I can attest to the fact 20 hours does not permit completion of the multiple tasks the combined position requires. To her credit she has worked above and beyond what was expected.

Going forward the Board has decided to decouple the position and appropriate action will be taken to accomplish this. Kathy has graciously offered to remain in her current role until a new clerk can be vetted and hired. The search process is underway.

As a Village we owe Kathy a debt of gratitude for all she has accomplished during her tenure as clerk/treasurer!

Steve Bergin Village President

THE VILLAGE BOARD WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR <u>VOLUNTEER</u> FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR <u>VOLUNTEERING</u> TO PUT UP THE US FLAGS IN THE VILLAGE. THE FLAGS WILL REMAIN IN PLACE UNTIL AFTER LABOR DAY.



DATES TO REMEMBER

August 11

Partisan Primary Election

November 3

Presidential Election

See page 3 for Election Information.

RECONSTRUCTION OF LINWOOD AVENUE

(from Park Ridge Dr to Hillcrest Ave) will take place between July 6th and July 27th, 2020.

If possible, please avoid the area.

Please do not block the alleys from your back yard or either ends of the block.
All alleys in the Village should be accessible from both sides, at all times.
WPS must be able to get their trucks through.

'LARGE ITEM PICK-UP'
DATE WILL BE
ANNOUNCED LATER THIS
SUMMER.

REMINDER

Park Ridge Burning Regulations:

AUTHORITY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT: Per Village Ordinance, the Fire Chief, Fire Inspector, any appointed Fire Officer, or Law Enforcement Officer may order and/or cause to be extinguished any fire that may, in their singular opinion, be threatening the safety of persons or property in the Village. Noncompliance with regulations or orders of Fire Department Official may result in a citation.

BURNING HOURS: 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

SIZE OF PILES: Piles larger than 4'x4'x3' are prohibited.

FIRE LOCATION: No burning shall take place in any street right-of-way. Approved burning shall take place 30' or more from any structure, flammable liquid, or other material which constitutes a potential fire hazard.

WIND REGULATIONS: No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 9 M.P.H. as indicated by a credible source or during periods when either the Village Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.

FIRE PREVENTION: ALL fires must be attended at all times, by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. ALL FIRES MUST BE extinguished before such a person leaves the site. Fully extinguished means no heat can be felt emitting from the remains of the fire.

Fire Pit / Camp Fire Regulations

MATERIALS FOR BURNING: Only clean wood (i.e. sawn wood) may be burned. Yard waste and construction materials are not part of this section.

BURNING HOURS: NOON to MIDNIGHT

SIZE & LOCATION: Fire pits (i.e. camp fires) not more than thirty-six (36") in diameter, shall be located a minimum of twenty (20') feet from any structure and/or fifteen (15') feet from any lot line (i.e. distance from edge of fire pit to either lot line and/or structure).

WIND REGULATIONS: No burning shall take place when the wind velocity exceeds 9 M.P.H. as indicated by a credible source or during periods when either the Village Fire Chief or the Department of Natural Resources has issued a burning ban.

FIRE PREVENTION: All firepits (i.e. campfires) shall be encircled with non-flammable material (i.e. bricks, stone, metal, etc.). All fires must be attended at all times, by a responsible person equipped with either an operable garden hose or fire extinguisher. All fires must be extinguished by MIDNIGHT or when left unattended. This means no heat can be felt emitting from the fire area.

Displaying House Numbers –

Per Village Ordinance 11.14, house numbers not less than three inches high should be placed on the front of your home – so responding units will be able to find your home in the event of a 911 emergency.

THE VILLAGE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Please contribute to your community by joining one of the many Village committees:

Comprehensive Planning
Committee
Disaster Committee

A huge thank you to our current committee members

Zoning Committee

Steve Menzel, Chairperson
Christine Neidlein
Tom McCarten
Judy Cable Anderson
Jim Sachs
Non-voting Members
Steve Bergin
Bill Dunham

Zoning Board of Appeals

Steve Menzel, Chairperson
Christine Neidlein
Tom McCarten
Judy Cable Anderson
Jim Sachs
Doug Myers, Alternate #1
George Berger, Alternate #2

Comprehensive Planning Committee

Lee Bendtsen, Chairperson
Dan Holloway
Gordon Renfert
Thom Patton
Heidi Chitwood
Non-voting Members
Brian Kozlowski
Bill Dunham
Gert Neuendorf

Partisan Primary Election: August 11, 2020 Polling Place: Village Hall 7:00 am – 8:00 pm

Please remember to bring a photo ID to the Polling Place

On August 11th, the State of Wisconsin will hold the Partisan Primary. The ballot packet will include 4 pages: instructions, Republican Party ballot, Democratic Party ballot and Constitution Party ballot. Please vote on one page only. If you vote across party lines, your vote will not be counted.

The 7th Circuit Court recently voted to change several election laws and procedures. On June 29, 2020, Wisconsin Clerks were informed the new laws would go into effect immediately, but on July 2, 2020 we were informed that the new laws and procedures would not be effective until (approximately) July 21, 2020. Here are the new laws and procedures:

- 1.) Voter registration residency requirement will be 28 days (was 10 days)
- 2.) In-person early voting for the August 11th election will cease on July 21, 2020 In-person absentee voting will start again July 28, 2020 and will continue until August 7, 2020.
- 3.) Only military and overseas voters may receive ballots by fax or email Regular absentee voters may NOT receive a ballot by faxing or email.

This year there have been and will be a number of changes to election laws and procedures. We recommend you stay educated on the ever-changing election laws and procedures.

Absentee voting is scheduled for June 25 – August 7, 2020. The last day to request an absentee ballot via mail, online or email is August 6. You may request an absentee ballot in person on August 7 (by appointment only). If you have access to a computer please use http://myvote.wi.gov/ to request an absentee ballot. A copy of your photo ID must be provided with your request for an absentee ballot, if the Village does not have a copy of your ID on file. If you use the "myvote" website, the system will tell you if we have a copy of your ID on file. Absentee voting is no different than voting in person, we must see your photo ID. All absentee ballots must be returned to the Village Hall by Election Day at 8:00 pm to be included in the count. Any votes received after election day will not be counted.

If you plan to vote by absentee ballot, you must have a witness that will sign the return absentee envelope. If your vote is not witnessed and your witness does not provide their signature and address on the return absentee envelope, your vote will not be counted.

PLEASE DO NOT REMOVE THE STAPLE FROM THE BALLOTS – YOU MUST RETURN ALL BALLOTS.

In-person early voting is scheduled for June 25 – July 21 and July 28 – August 7, 2020. Please make an appointment if you want to early vote on August 7th. During these difficult times, we highly recommend voting early or by absentee ballot.

The deadline to register to vote via mail or online is 20 days before an election (July 22, 2020). After that, you may register (in-person) at the Village Hall until the Friday before the election at 5:00 pm. You may also register to vote on election day. If registering to vote on Election Day, you must have lived in Park Ridge for at least 28 days. You will be required to show acceptable proof of residence and provide your WI driver's license number or last 4 digits of social security number. Please email the clerk for an appointment to register in person. kbemowski@park-ridge.com

PLEASE VISIT http://myvote.wi.gov/ for voter information, to register online, to request absentee ballots, to view ballots, etc.

The Village Hall will be open on Election Day, August 11 from 7:00 am – 8:00 pm to vote in-person. We will practice social distancing by allowing 2 voters in the Village Hall at one time. We will ask the additional voters to wait outside. Please enter the Village Hall via the back door (off of the alley). Please exit the Village Hall via the front door (on Crestwood Dr.) All voters will be required to wear a mask. A mask will be available if you don't have one. Hand sanitizer and gloves will also be available. You may bring your own pen but a new sanitized pen will be available for each voter at the Village Hall. The Village Hall will receive a thorough cleaning prior to Election Day.

Village of Park Ridge

Kathy Bemowski, Clerk/Treasurer 24 Crestwood Dr. Stevens Point, WI 54481

Board and Staff

President: Steve Bergin

Trustees: Charm Fournier

Bill Dunham Gert Neuendorf Brian Kozlowski

Clerk/Treasurer: Kathy Bemowski Fire Chief: Brian Lepper

Building

Inspector: Jim Zepp

Zonina

Administrator: J.D. Manville

Maintenance: John Kraft

Diggers Hotline: John Kraft

Crossing Guard: Lois Miller

Village Hall 715-343-1590

kbemowski@park-ridge.us

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR COMMUNITY ALERT at https://portagecountycommunityalert.bbcportal.com OR email the Village Clerk.

Community Alert is a means for the Village Board or Clerk to contact the Village residents regarding announcements, emergencies, etc.

As a Village Resident, would you be interested in contributing to the Holiday cheer in the Village? Donations to purchase new Holiday Decorations for Park Ridge Drive would be appreciated.

Please send your donation to the Village Hall at 24 Crestwood Dr or use the secure drop box at the Village Hall's front door.