



The Village Voice

Bremen Ohio's Monthly Newsletter

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April 2017

Council & Committee Meetings



Members of the public should feel welcome to attend and participate at the following meetings regarding Village business:

- ❖ Zoning Commission:
April 3rd at 6:30 PM
- ❖ Recreation & Facilities Committee:
April 4th at Noon
- ❖ Administrative Process Committee:
April 6th at 7:00 PM
- ❖ Village Council: April 10th at 7:00 PM
- ❖ Safety & Infrastructure Committee:
April 19th at 6:00 PM
- ❖ Financial Process Committee:
April 26th at 6:00 PM
- ❖ Tree Board: April 29th at 9:00 AM
- ❖ Zoning Commission:
May 1st at 6:30 PM

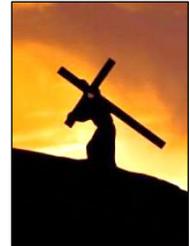
If you would like to speak at the Council meeting, please contact the office ahead of time so you can be added to the agenda.

These are the meetings scheduled as of the time this newsletter is going to press. Should the need for other Village meetings arise, they will be publicized by legal advertisement in the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette.

Meetings are held at the municipal building, 9090 Marietta Road, SE.

Village Office Hours

Just as a reminder, the Village offices will be closed on April 14th in observance of Good Friday.



Employment Opportunity

The Village is currently accepting applications for Swimming Pool Lifeguards at the community swimming pool during the 2017 swim season.

For a detailed position description and application instructions, contact the village office at 740-569-4788 or see the village website at BremenVillage.com/employment.

The application deadline is 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, April 18, 2017.

Utility Billing Office has Moved



After months of planning and delays, we've finally succeeded with moving the utility billing office to the municipal building. This will reduce operating costs and improve efficiency.

This is also the place to go for submitting applications for zoning permits and making picnic shelter reservations.

Ways to pay your utility bill

Utility customers can make payments in four ways:

- ☞ Via US Mail, to P.O. Box 127, Bremen;
- ☞ The drop-box outside the front door of the municipal building (9090 Marietta Road);
- ☞ Hand-deliver to the office during normal office hours 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM (except Noon to 12:30);
- ☞ At the Friendly Bremen Banking Center (119 West Main Street). NOTE: If you choose to pay at the bank, only the local Bremen branch participates in this service. Other branches will not accept payments.

Discolored Water

Over the past several months, there have been periodic reports of discolored water coming out of water taps at various residences and businesses in Bremen. It appears the problem is not occurring uniformly across the water distribution system nor with predictable regularity.

There are several potential causes for discolored water. For the Village water department to solve the problem, we must receive more accurate and timely reporting from the affected customers.

Therefore, if you experience discolored water, please do the following:

- ✓ Immediately call the village office at 740-569-4788 weekdays. If after hours or on weekends, you may call the mayor at 740-569-4897. We need to know the address, date and time of the occurrence, a description of the water's appearance, etc.
- ✓ Collect a sample of the water in a clean jar and then seal the container. Be sure to write down the date and time of day and from which faucet the sample was collected. Our water department personnel can then come to pick up the sample for their documentation. While they are there, they may also want to look at your indoor pipelines.

With everyone's cooperation in this regard, we intend to determine the cause of the discolored water.

Community Connections

Here are opportunities to get out and socialize with other members of the community...

Food and Entertainment

The Bremen Area Historical Society will present its annual Dinner Theatre on April 21 and 22, starting at 6:00 PM.

Enjoy the meal while watching an entertaining production suitable for all ages. This year's play entitled "Oh, Deere!" is written, directed and performed by local residents.

Whether you are a lifelong resident, or just got into town today, you're going to be caught in the middle of Bremen's greatest mystery.

Tickets sell out quickly so be sure to call 740-503-7703 today to make your reservations.

You can also find more information at their Facebook Page "*Bremen Area Historical Society Dinner Theatre.*"

Bremen Farmers Produce Auction

During the months April through October, this is an opportunity to purchase local produce from Fairfield and surrounding counties. Sale days are Tuesdays and Fridays starting at noon, on the following dates:

April..... 7, 21, 28
May..... 5, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30
June..... 2, 6, 9, 13, 16, 20, 23, 27, 30
July..... 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25, 28
August..... 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29
September... 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29
October..... 6, 13, 20, 27

You can also find more information at their Facebook Page "*Bremen Farmer's Auction.*"

Easter Church Services

Several churches are located in Bremen, and each of them wants to be sure everyone should feel welcomed to attend. Their addresses and contact information about the different places of worship can be found on the website BremenVillage.com/worship.

Spring Cleaning Reminders

Please keep the following points in mind when it comes to clearing debris from your home or garage:

- The Village contracts with Waste Management to perform uniform refuse collection service. Our regular trash pickup day is each Thursday.
- Trash may be placed at the curb no earlier than 6:00 p.m. the day before scheduled pickup, but no later than 7:00 a.m. on day of pickup. Do NOT put trash out to the curb several days ahead of time.
- Trash containers must be taken away from the curb and placed back to the home by the morning following pickup day. Containers are NOT to be stored in the street or along the curb or in the front yard.
- Upholstered furniture and mattresses/box springs are to be placed in disposal bags or wrapped in heavy plastic and securely taped. This is standard protocol among waste haulers as a measure against the spread of bed bugs.
- Carpet is to be cut into lengths no more than 48 inches and bundled less than 50 pounds.
- If you are going to put out a high volume of trash or large bulky items, the village office needs to notify Waste Management beforehand so they can plan their personnel and equipment. Therefore, contact the village office by noon the day before pickup and we will notify Waste Management accordingly.
- Trash needs to be in containers, not loose.



Village Tree Board Opportunity



The committee responsible for making decisions about managing the village's trees needs additional members who are village residents

The group typically meets about six times per year, on Saturday mornings, for about an hour.

Potentially interested village residents are encouraged to check out the next Tree Board meeting scheduled for April 29, 9:00-10:00 AM, at the municipal building.

Celebrating Arbor Day in Bremen



The Village of Bremen will be celebrating Arbor Day on Sunday, April 30th at 6:00 PM with a tree dedication ceremony at Howell Park, honoring long-time community volunteer Jean Doan. The public is encouraged to attend the event.

Remember to get zoning permits

As you plan projects such as building new structures, making additions to existing buildings, or installing fences, signs and swimming pools, remember to obtain the permits required by the Village's building and zoning ordinances. Contact the office at 740-569-4788 for more information.



Attention Dog Owners

Many laws in Ohio deal with dog ownership and treatment, including both state statutes and local ordinances. **Dogs are not allowed to run loose.** They are required to be under someone's control. Furthermore, for those of you who walk your dog along the streets, on sidewalks and in other public areas, please remember to pick up after your pet has done its business.



Why care about the Internet here?

Not everyone is oriented toward using computers and the Internet. For some, it's a personal choice to not mess with it, while for others it may be more a case of not being able to financially afford it.

Furthermore, the ease, speed and reliability of connecting to the Internet can be less than desirable in the more rural parts of the county.

Even if you don't personally use the Internet it is becoming an integral part of society, influencing local economies and people's quality of life. For example, school students who don't have Internet access are at an academic disadvantage of those do. College classes can be taken online.

Local businesses can have access to the global economy through the Internet; it's easily possible to sell goods and services to customers worldwide. Sophisticated farm machinery can be equipped with GPS-guided technology to plow and harvest fields more efficiently. Police, fire and medical responders can be more effective with good Internet connectivity. Doctors can even monitor their patients remotely.

So that's what is behind the survey currently underway about Internet usage in Fairfield County. Finding out the quality of service and levels of usage in Bremen could lead to future improvements that would benefit the community.



If you live, work, or own a business in Bremen, please take a few minutes to do the survey. Even if you don't use the Internet or don't have a computer, that is also useful information.

The survey takes about 10 minutes. You can use either the online or paper version. The paper version can be obtained at the village office. Otherwise, the online version is at www.connectmycommunity.org/fairfield-county

Choose the version of the survey that fits your situation (i.e. household, business, agriculture, institution, organization).

How to Report Suspicious Activity

Occasionally, phone calls are received at the village office from residents who want to report potential criminal activity they have observed in their neighborhood.



The Village does not have its own police department but instead contracts with the county sheriff for police services.



Therefore, any report about suspicious activity such as potential drug trafficking should be made to the Major Crimes Unit at 740-653-5224.

Citizens may call the office 24 hours a day. If no investigators are on duty, voice mail is available to leave a message or tip. Calls are handled confidentially and may be made anonymously.

Reminder: Call 811 Before You Dig



As the warmer weather arrives, more people start making plans for their outdoor home improvement projects. By state law, everyone who is going to dig or drive a post into the ground – including homeowners and contractors – must contact the Ohio Utilities Protection Service (OUPS) at least 48 hours, but not more than 10 working days (excluding weekends and legal holidays), before beginning any digging on their property. By calling OUPS at 8-1-1 or 1-800-362-2764, that agency will coordinate with local utilities to have underground lines marked at no charge to you. It's the law.

Newsletter Versions

As a cost-saving measure, *The Village Voice* newsletter is printed in black-and-white. The color version, however, is available on the website at BremenVillage.com.