



The Village Voice

Bremen Ohio's Monthly Newsletter

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September 2017



Council & Committee Meetings

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

- Planning & Zoning Commission: September 6th at 6:30 PM
- Village Council: September 11th at 7:00 PM
- Financial Process Committee: September 27th at 6:00 PM
- Planning & Zoning Commission: October 2nd at 6:30 PM
- Recreation & Facilities Committee: October 3rd at 6:00 PM
- Administrative Process Committee: October 5th at 7:00 PM

If you would like to speak at the Council meeting, please contact the office by noon of the previous day 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



Village offices will be closed on Monday, September 4th in observance of Labor Day.

Village offices will be delayed opening on Tuesday, September 12, until 9:30 AM, so employees can attend an off-site safety training.



Trash Collection, Labor Day Week

Waste Management's trash collection will be delayed one day during Labor Day week. For Bremen, that means trash collection will be on Friday, September 8th.



Traffic and Parking Changes Coming

Two ordinances recently enacted by village council are intended to improve public safety conditions at the following two locations:



A three-way stop will be created at the intersection of Carter Street and Mulberry Street. Stop signs will be installed during September.



Marietta Street – between Strayer Avenue and School Street only – will be designated to have on-street parking on the north side and prohibit parking on the south side. Signage and pavement markings will be changed during September.

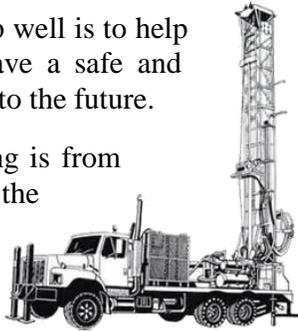
New Water Well Project Starting Soon

After more than a year of planning and working through the project development process, construction of the Village's new water supply well is scheduled to begin on September 5.

This will cause temporary disruptions in Howell Park. Most of the project is anticipated to be completed within 60 days, with overall project completion by the end of December.

The purpose of this backup well is to help assure the Village will have a safe and reliable water supply far into the future.

Most of the project funding is from an Ohio EPA grant, with the remainder being borrowed from the Ohio Water Development Authority.



Community Swimming Pool Update

Bremen's swimming pool has been a popular amenity of the community for generations. The Village's inability to open the pool this summer due to lack of lifeguards stimulated citizen interest about the pool's future.

A special ad hoc committee was formed to channel the energies of concerned citizens into coming up with solutions to the operational and financial challenges of the pool. The citizen members represent a wide range of expertise, viewpoints and ideas.

The special committee was divided into three subcommittees looking at the following topics:

- Formulate a plan for gaining the needed personnel and a budget to open the pool safely for the 2018 season.
- Develop a plan and budget for bringing the facilities back into optimal condition for the long-range future.
- Formulate a long-range plan for funding pool operations independent of current village finances.

The results of these three subcommittees will report back to the main committee where all the ideas will be compiled into a comprehensive list for further consideration by the village council.

Hydrant Flushing Scheduled

Village crews will be performing an aggressive hydrant flushing operation throughout Bremen which will take several days to complete.

Hydrant flushing is scheduled to occur during the week of September 18 – 22.

All 85 of the Village's hydrants will be flushed to clear the water lines of sediments that have built up over time. Crews also check the hydrants and valves for any operational issues which need to be addressed in order to keep the hydrants in good working order.

This will be perhaps the most intensive and extensive system-wide flushing operation ever performed in the village. **The process will most certainly result in temporary discolored water** as iron sediments become dislodged and stirred up in the water distribution system.

Residents will notice a brown and/or yellow tint to their water at various times throughout the week. This is due primarily to iron and manganese, which is safe to drink but **can easily stain fabrics during laundering**. For that reason, **check your water before doing laundry** throughout the week.

Whenever discolored water appears, run a cold-water tap ONLY, for a few minutes and it should clear up. Residents may also want to run their clothes washer through a rinse cycle before doing laundry.

Questions about the hydrant flushing program or water quality may be directed to the village's water system operator, Ron Stephens, by calling the municipal building at 740-569-4788.



Pothole Patching

Assuming that grass growth slows as it usually does this time of year, thus requiring less mowing, village crews should be able to work on repairing potholes and rough pavements during the coming month. The problems are widespread throughout the village, so the target locations will be prioritized based on severity and traffic volume.



Lighting Damage at the WWTP

Early in the afternoon of August 2, a quick-moving thunderstorm blew through the south edge of Bremen. The storm was so localized that the north end of town saw no rain.

Unfortunately, a lightning strike and electrical surge caused significant damage at the village's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) which will be costly to repair. The storm also caused a temporary electrical outage to the plant and many residents in the area.

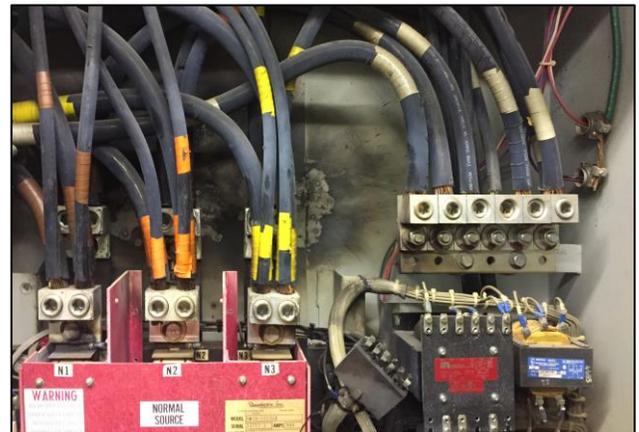
As such, the wastewater plant was suddenly without power. This is a problem because sewage flowing from the town continues to accumulate at the plant without being treated. If that continues too long, then raw sewage could flow directly into Rush Creek which could result in costly environmental and regulatory problems.

Going into an electrical outage, nobody knows how long it will be until electricity is restored by AEP. Fortunately, power was restored by early evening and the plant was back in operation before dark.

We are now evaluating alternatives for replacing and/or repairing the damaged plant equipment. It is expected to run into the tens of thousands of dollars.



Diesel generator and electrical panel damaged by the storm.



One of multiple parts of the electrical panel that were burned out by the electrical surge.

Safe Routes to School Project Update

Construction of the sidewalks improvement project in the vicinity of Bremen Elementary School has now been mostly completed.

Remaining tasks for the contractor include finishing the sign installations, pavement markings and grass seeding.

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.

Portable Basketball Hoops Must Go



Portable basketball hoops are not allowed within the rights-of-way along the village streets.

If you own one of these portable units, please remove it from the right-of-way. Any such units existing in the right-of-way are considered encroachments and are subject to removal and disposal by Village personnel at any time.

A Pleasant Place for Gatherings

Howell Park's picnic shelter house and concession stand can be reserved for group functions like birthday parties, family reunions and wedding receptions, to name a few examples.

A reservation fee is required, part of which will be refunded if the facilities are left in acceptable condition.

For details and reservation form, please contact Crystal at the Village office, phone: 740-569-4788.



Reminder: Update Your Contact Info

Please make sure the village utilities office has your current phone number(s) and other contact information.

It is important for the office to know how to reach you in the event of a problem with your water or sewer service, a billing concern, or other time-sensitive matters.



Community Connections

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

Pancake Breakfast at the Park

Boy Scout Troop 95 will host this event on Sunday, September 10th, 7:30-10:30 AM, at the Howell Park picnic shelter.



The Scouts are hoping for a large turnout by the community. Proceeds will be used for helping them go to summer camp next year at Muskingum Valley Scout Reservation.

At just \$5 per person, the breakfast includes all-you-can-eat pancakes, two sausage links and coffee or milk. Milk refills are 25¢ and coffee is unlimited.

Bremen Farmers Produce Auction

Sale days are Tuesdays and Fridays starting at noon, on the following dates:

❖ September: 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29

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

Weekly Horseshoe Pitching and Cornhole Toss at Howell Park

Singles and doubles every Monday and Thursday starting at 7:00 PM.

\$5.00 entry fee. Proceeds go to the Bremen Horseshoe Club and Howell Park.

Everyone should feel welcomed to watch or participate!

