



Clear Lake

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2009

NEWS

TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

The third quarter for the town council continued to be busy with ordinances, and public hearings.

At our July meeting we had the 3rd reading and passage of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO). After the ordinance was published it became effective Sept 1st. The council appreciates all the hard work that our residents put into this document. We will continue to improve this document through the Plan Commission Advisory committee. The Town Council also signed a maintenance agreement with Ground Rules Inc. This agreement provides consulting services as we move forward with the new UDO.

In August George Schenkel was nominated and elected Vice President of the Town Council. This position was formerly held by Larry Armstrong.

John Gonya introduced a new emergency contact program (NIXLE) for all Clear Lake property owners which should be up and running in the near future.

The Town Council continues to talk with the Steuben County Commissioners regarding the status of the Public Beach. The council recently sent out a questionnaire to all residents. The results are available on the Town website; www.townofclearlake.org Scroll down the home page to the fourth news item and click on the link Public Beach Survey Results. The majorities of residents wish to keep the property as a public beach but do not want any public money use for the purchase of the land. The commissioners were made aware of the results of the questionnaire and the council will continue discussions in the coming months.

Annie Skinner reported to the Town Council that the Water Quality Committee has received a \$50,000 grant for a design study of our watershed, specifically the Cyrus Brouse Ditch. This will be a major step forward in our efforts to keep Clear Lake clear and clean.

The council also passed a Resolution authorizing a request of a waiver from the Indiana State Chemist to allow the enforcement of the Clear Lake Ordinance banning the use of Phosphate fertilizer within our corporate limits. The Clear Lake Town Council, along with Steuben County officials, is jointly working on this program and will meet with the state chemist in the first week of November.

September's meeting also had the 1st readings for these ordinances:

1. 2010 Salary Ordinance
2. Local Option Income Tax Ordinance
3. Golf Cart Ordinance

John Gonya has done a good job in assisting us in the Golf Cart Ordinance by reviewing other ordinances and putting together a comprehensive Golf Cart Ordinance for Clear Lake.

The Town Council has approved the Clear Lake Deer Hunt (Bow & Arrow) from October—January within our corporate Town limits. We have worked with John Deem DNR and 8 other hunters who are firefighter or police. All have had Hunter's Education. This will help cull the herds within our corporate limits. All hunting will be done on conservancy property or where property owners have given permission. John will keep track of the deer taken and then report back to the Town Council.

The deer taken will be consumed by hunters, landowners, or given to specific charities.

It is our hope that this will limit the damage to some of our properties while still keeping a healthy but smaller herd of deer within our corporate limits. The Clear Lake Town Council wants to wish you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank You,
Bob Lewis,
Town Council, President

**HAPPY AUTUMN TO ALL MEMBERS AND
SUPPORTERS OF OUR CLEAR LAKE
ASSOCIATION**

After a cool summer it appears that we will be off to a COLD winter. At the time of writing this article we had already seen some snowflakes on Oct. 15th. I'm sure all the snowbirds that travel south are looking forward to warmer days ahead.

The Clear Lake Association board members would like to thank you for your continuing support of the Association and its activities. The Association will continue to be guided by its mission statement and strive to bring benefit to ALL who enjoy Clear Lake.

At the annual meeting of the Clear Lake Association in July we elected Mary Lee Gecowets and Mary Jo Fitzenrider as new board members. Their expertise will be appreciated over the next three years. The Association board is saying Good-bye to two excellent members: Jon Fitzenrider and Greg Brown. They will be missed. If you see them in the coming months, tell them you appreciated their time and efforts.

Golf cart owners be aware: Indiana House Bill 1483 — which technically includes off-road vehicles, and golf carts — bans the operation of these vehicles that have recently become popular around Clear Lake. The bill allows town or city municipalities to make their own laws regarding golf cart usage. Our Town of Clear Lake has created an ordinance to allow the use of these vehicles. This ordinance will have its final reading at the town council meeting in November. Please visit the Town of Clear Lake website www.townofclearlake.org to view this ordinance.

Have a great fall and winter.
Rick Behnfeldt, President

MARSHAL'S REPORT

As fall sets in on the lake community and things begin to slow down, I want to remind everyone to use common sense when preparing your seasonal residence for the winter. As I have said many times, I am requesting resident's refrain from covering their mailbox in any way as it is an immediate indicator that nobody is home. I would also like to remind everyone who is coming to and from the lake to look and report any suspicious activity right away. I will continue to use the bulletin

board and eventually we will use the NIXLE service to alert you as to what to watch for. I would also like to remind everyone to lock you homes and vehicles when left unattended. It seems the newest crime to hit the area is "car hopping". The criminals are looking for unlocked vehicles that contain items of value such as GPS units and iPods' or other electronic devices. Nearly every lake in the county was hit by "car hopping" this summer and Clear Lake was no exception. I have not seen a case yet that a window was broken to gain entry so simply lock your vehicle.

Several months ago, I posted a description of a truck that I had spotted in the area and was believed to be involved in the manufacturing of narcotics. Shortly after posting the description, I received several phone calls from residents who spotted the truck or one that matched the description driving through the area. I believe that the driver of that vehicle realized he was being "watched" when he drove through and soon thereafter he quit frequenting this community. I recently encountered that vehicle and the driver at a local motel when he was being arrested for several warrants for narcotics and firearms possession through Indiana and Michigan. I believe this basic "neighborhood watch" system kept a known drug dealer out of this community.

So, as I mark two years of providing you with police services, I want to thank each and every one of you for helping me do my job. Without your help, we wouldn't have been able to accomplish what we have so far. Your community is building a reputation in the tri-state area which is a direct deterrent to the criminals who are looking for a community to prey upon.

John Gonya, Town Marshal

**PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING SEWER
PAYMENTS**

This information has been added to the front of the sewer payments coupon books. We would like those that do not receive coupon books to be aware of this procedure.

When we receive your monthly sewer payments and there is a previous balance or a late fee on your account, the system applies payments towards those first and the remainder (if there is any) will be applied to the current month.

If there is not enough to cover the entire current month, a late fee is applied towards the

account because it is considered past due if not paid **in full** by the 15th of each month.

This is not a change in the billing, it has always been done this way but we wanted to make sure all our patrons are clear on how the payments are applied.

Also keep in mind, that we do offer Auto Draw which means the payments can be taken straight out of the account on the 15th of every month and you do not have to worry about getting your payments to us on time. Those forms can be picked up at the Town Hall or you can call the office and we can email for your convenience.

CLEAR LAKE WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

The Water Quality Committee under the auspices of the Clear Lake Township Land Conservancy, Inc. is continuing the Lake and River Enhancement (LARE) grant process. The grant steering committee interviewed three consultants and made a decision. The Davey Resource Group of Fort Wayne, IN will team with Engineering Resources, Inc., also of Fort Wayne, to complete the project. The project goals are:

- Feasibility study of the Cyrus Brouse Ditch Watershed. This study will determine the best management practices (BMP's) needed to reduce sediment and nutrient loading into Clear Lake.
- Engineering Designs of the top BMP's for the Cyrus Brouse Ditch Watershed. These designs will be submitted as a construction grant for the 2010 LARE grant funding cycle.
- Survey of critical areas throughout the rest of the Clear Lake Watershed. The survey will determine the need and location for other BMP's to reduce sediment and pollution loading on Clear Lake.
- Natural Resource Assessment of Clear Lake Watershed. This assessment will determine and identify sensitive areas in the Clear Lake Watershed.

The next step for the committee will be to assist the consultants as they begin the project. We will help by:

- Contacting land owners requesting permission to access their property
- Contacting local agencies for information

- Organizing town hall meeting for landowners and residents of Clear Lake Township to keep communication high.
- Contacting the newspaper to keep communication high
- Contacting local contractors for information
- Accompanying the consultants as they tour the Clear Lake Watershed.

Aside from the grant, the water quality committee has been testing the ditch inlets, attending workshops and organizing literature and other materials gathered at various workshops.

These are exciting times for Clear Lake and the water quality committee. If anyone is interested in participating on the committee, please contact Annie Skinner at 260-495-0124.

ZONING INSPECTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Effective October 5th, the Zoning Inspector's office hours have changed from Saturdays to Mondays from 8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

"CLEAR LAKE ... A PLACE TO REMEMBER"

The perfect gift for all occasions

Gift Certificates Available

Ready for pick up by June, 2010--\$50.00

Clear Lake's Limited Edition coffee table book-"Clear Lake...A Place to Remember" will soon be going to print. It is filled with interesting stories, hundreds of pictures, humorous remembrances and the history of the lake over the past several generations. So far we have pre-sold 266 copies and received 17 Family Sponsors (Sponsor Deadline is December 31). Order your book now for Christmas (or whatever the occasion). Don't miss out!! Books will be available June 2010.

A big "Thank you" to all who have offered pictures, information and stories that have made this project possible!!!

For more information contact:

Walt Chaput 495-0361
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Janis Watson 495-3326
janiswatson@verizon.net

CLEAR LAKE IMPORTANT DATES

Check the Town of Clear Lake website-www.townofclearlake.org for updates and changes to the calendar

October	2009
5	Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
12	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
31	Halloween Trick-Or-Treat, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
November	2009
2	Plan Commission Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
3	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
9	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Town Hall
26/27	Town Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
December	2009
14	Town Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
21	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Town Hall
25	Town Offices Closed for Christmas Holiday
June	2010
12	Boater Safety Class, Town Hall
July	2010
3	CLA Fireworks Display

The members of the Clear Lake Association provide the funding for the publication and distribution of the "Clear Lake News". The purpose of this publication is to communicate Clear Lake Town government and other Clear Lake organizations activities to all property owners.



CLEAR LAKE ASSOCIATION

P. O. BOX 38

FREMONT IN 46737

Return Services Requested

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