



OTTERBEIN

TOWN BETWEEN TWO COUNTIES

A place for family

April 30 2022
Vol. 27.04

111 S Main St PO Box 215
765.583.4944
www.otterbein.in.gov

Important Phone Numbers

Police	911 or 884-0080
Billing Questions	583-4944
Clerk's Office	583-0089
Waste Management	866-797-9018
Streets and Water	583-3430

Councilmen

Daniel Klumpe	414-0830
Jackey Apache	491-4594
Doyle Allison	307-8505
Amy Brown	376-0366
Rick Hadley	418-5742

Calendar May 2022

- 2nd Limb Pickup Begins
 - 5th Town Council Meeting 6:00 PM
 - 19th Town Council Meeting 6:00 PM
 - 30th Town Hall Closed - Holiday
- ***Trash Every Friday*****



Pay your bill online or by text

Go to: Otterbein.in.gov and click the link
or

Invoicecloud.com/OtterbeinIN

Otterbein United Method- ist Church's

Annual Fish Fry

Friday, June 3rd from 4 :30 pm to
7:30 pm

Dine In or Carry Out

&

Vacation Bible School

June 21st, 22nd, & 23rd

from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

405 E Oxford Street, Otterbein IN

Otterbein Rotary Club's Flower & Plant Sale There will be hanging baskets, planters, vegetables, and annuals at the corner of Main and Oxford Streets **Friday, May 6th - 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm, & Saturday, May 7th - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.** Re-member, all online and pre-orders can be pickup during these sale times.



Hydrant Flushing...The Town of Otterbein Water Department will be doing hydrant flushing the month of May. . During this time you may see hydrants open and flushing and you may have a rust colored water enter the house. This is normal and the discolored water is safe to drink, though it may not be pleasant. If you happen to have rust colored water, turn on the cold water, preferably the bathtub for more flow, and flush your lines until the color is back to normal clear drinking water. Once you have flushed with cold water, run the hot water. If there is discoloration in the hot water, flush with hot water until it runs clear. After flushing is complete, you may want to remove any aerators on faucets and rinse them of any debris that they may have caught. If you have any questions pertaining to hydrant flushing or any other water treatment questions, feel free to call the Water Operator at 765-761-7594.



Mark your calendar, due to Memorial Day on Monday, May 30th, trash day that week will be a day behind on Saturday. June 4th. Still make sure you have it out the night before.

OTTERBEIN STREET FESTIVAL AUGUST 4th-7th, 2022

In Celebration of the 150 Years of Otterbein,

We have brought back a Carnival, as in years past. The Carnival Company will run the carnival
Thursday & Friday evenings 5:00 pm -11:00 pm, Saturday & Sunday 1:00 pm -11:00 pm.

We are still in the planning stage but some highlights are:

Thursday Night – Dinner by the CJ's Nite Owl & Bingo – Pre-Sale tickets will be sold closer to time

Friday Night – The Masonic Lodge Fish Fry, Beer Garden & the band The Flying Toasters

Saturday Night – Beer Garden, band Trey Hughes, & a Firework Display at 10:00 pm

Sunday – Community Church Service Downtown

There is so much more!!!! A schedule of events will be put out soon. Stay Tuned!!

Mark your Calendars for this historic event

The Otterbein 150 Project is working to preserve the town's History through the collection of artifacts and stories - and we want you to submit items for our display! Reach out to Project Manager Brooke Sauter at otterbein150@gmail.com for more information on how to be a part of our town's special celebration and stay tuned for the exhibit unveiling during this year's street festival. For up-to-the-minute updates, follow the 150 Project on Facebook at facebook.com/otterbein150.

TACO BAR & BINGO SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 2022 AT 1:00 PM AT THE CJ'S NITE OWL

This is to raise funds for the Otterbein Street Festival. Tickets will go on Sale May 12, 2022. Tickets will cost \$30. Ticket includes the meal, 10 rounds of BINGO and 1 entry into the raffle. Tickets must be purchased in advance of the event. Tickets can be purchased at the CJ's Nite Owl or the Town Hall. If you have questions contact Treeva at 765-583-0089.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 2022 6:00 PM

Council President Amy Brown called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM with all members present.

The Council held the Hearing on the creation of the Fire Territory Equipment Replacement Fund. Each unit within the territory must agree to create the fund. There were no public comments. Ordinance 2022-0407C was presented. An Ordinance Establishing Fire Protection Territory Equipment Replacement Fund. Daniel Klumpe made the motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-0407C. Jackey Apache seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The Council heard the hearing on Utility Disconnection for non-payment. No one was present to be heard. Daniel Klumpe made the motion to approve those on the shut-off list be shut off. Richard (Rick) Hadley seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Jackey Apache made the motion to approve the March 2022 Minutes as written. Rick Hadley seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Amy Brown read the summary of Claims presented for a total of \$273,014.52. Jackey Apache made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Daniel Klumpe seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Attorney Jud Barce introduced Ordinance 2022-0407A amending Chapter 10 and Chapter 91 of the Otterbein Code Regarding Regulation of Nuisances within the Town of Otterbein, Indiana. The Council discussed one section needing to be clearer. Daniel Klumpe made the motion to add the sentence "The 30-day penalty period will not include any day(s) allowed to correct a nuisance, provided in a Notice of Violation". Doyle Allison seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Rick Hadley made the motion to adopt on first reading with the change noted. Daniel Klumpe seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The Ordinance will be placed on the next agenda for second reading adoption.

BF&S Engineer Dave Buck gave updates on projects and had no action items for the Council.

Town Marshal Jason Pritchett gave a departmental report. He also informed the Council that he has scheduled 3 interviews for the open Deputy Marshal position.

Town Administrator Ron Shoup presented a Maintenance Agreement from Buckeye Power Sales to do the annual maintenance on the 2 generators. Daniel Klumpe made the motion to approve the request. Rick Hadley seconded the motion, and all were in favor. This was adding the Community Center to the existing agreement for an additional \$500. The original stays the same. He presented a quote from IDEXX for chemicals for the WWT plant for \$1019.27. Rick Hadley made the motion to approve the request. Jackey Apache seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Lately he presented a quote for stock materials for the water department from Utility Supply Company for \$1,010.04. Daniel asked if we had parts inventory limits and if we keep them replenished. Ron told him that we do. Rick Hadley added keep in mind price increases right now and that we might order more. Rick Hadley made the motion to approve the request. Daniel Klumpe seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Deputy Town Administrator Lukas Darling gave a departmental report. He requested \$811.29 plus shipping to purchase Welcome to Otterbein Signs from Smart Signs. Daniel Klumpe made the motion to approve the request. Amy Brown seconded the motion, and all were in favor. Lukas gave a proposal for town owned cell phones for employees so that town business will not be conducted on personal phones. Amy Brown made the motion to approve town cellphones for employees that need to conduct town business on a cell phone. Rick Hadley seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer Treeva Sarles presented Ordinance 2022-0407B creating the Street Festival Donation Fund to receive and spend donations for the street festival. Amy Brown made the motion to adopt 2022-0407B. Jackey Apache seconded the motion, and all were in favor. She updated the Council on the new ARPA Funds requirements. The town council does wish to utilize it for general services. She will prepare or have the attorney prepare the Ordinance. Treeva presented the Redevelopment Commission annual report to the Redevelopment Commission mem-

bers, which happens to be the town council. They accepted the report. Lastly, she brought up an annexation issue that she has discovered. Jud will work on getting this issue resolved.

With nothing else to come before the Council, Rick Hadley made the motion to adjourn. Doyle Allison seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2022 AT 6:00 PM

Council President Amy Brown called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM with members Richard (Rick) Hadley, Jackey Apache and Doyle Allison present. Member Daniel Klumpe was absent.

Amy Brown read the summary of claims presented for a total of \$55,931.95. Jackey Apache made the motion to approve the claims as presented. Amy Brown seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Ordinance 2022-0407A Amending Chapter 10 and Chapter 91 regarding Regulation of Nuisances within the Town of Otterbein, Indiana. Jackey Apache made the motion to adopt 2022-0407A on second reading. Rick Hadley seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

BF&S Engineer Dave Buck gave updates on projects which included that the town was successful in receiving a grant from the Community Crossing Program for \$262,500; and a Next Level Trails grant for about \$718,000. So those projects will now be getting underway. Treeva discussed with Dave Buck and the Council the concern over the engineering fees for the water project, getting paid. The funds are to come from a bond the town will not obtain until after the project is bid. We can borrow from the utility and the other utilities and then pay them back with the bond; however, that would make the funds very low. The alternative is to get a bond anticipation loan which then cost money to do that. The Council agreed it would be best to pay from borrowing local funds internally than to have the added expense of a bond anticipation loan. Treeva will have the paperwork drawn up for that.

Town Marshal Jason Pritchett gave the departmental report.

Deputy Town Administrator Lukas Darling gave the departmental report. He presented Resolution 2022-0421A – A Smoke-Free Policy. Rick Hadley made the motion to adopt Resolution 2022-0421A. Jackey Apache seconded the motion, and all were in favor. He presented Resolution 2022-0421B – Cell Phone Policy. Rick Hadley made the motion to adopt Resolution 2022-0421B. Amy Brown seconded the motion, and all were in favor. He presented Resolution 2022-0421C Policy of Public Advertising on Town Gateway Signage. Jackey Apache made the motion to adopt Resolution 2022-0421C. Rick Hadley seconded the motion, and all were in favor. He presented quotes for roofs and guttering on the WWT Plant Lab building and the blower room building. The lowest quote was from TW Construction for \$10,921.80 plus any wood decking that needs replaced. Rick Hadley made the motion to approve the request. Doyle Allison seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The other quotes were Thayer’s Roofing \$12,575.63 plus decking if needed; and Sheriff Goslin Roofing \$20,989. He presented a quote for water meter smart points to have in stock. The cost is \$2,199. Rick Hadley made the motion to approve the request. Jackey Apache seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Clerk-Treasurer Treeva Sarles ask the council if she could write a grant for a stage for all the communities to share and was successful, what local match could the town give? Rick Hadley made the motion to pledge \$1,000. Amy Brown seconded the motion, and all were in favor. She stated it was time renew the annual contract with our IT firm, Roeing. It is the same agreement with the same rates. Amy Brown made the motion to enter into the agreement for another year. Jackey Apache seconded the motion, and all were in favor. She presented Resolution 2022-0421D updating the Purchasing Policy. Amy Brown made the motion to adopt Resolution 2022-0421D. Doyle Allison seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

With nothing else to come before the Council, Rick Hadley made the motion to adjourn. Doyle Allison seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Otterbein –from the Originating Years-John Edgerly...By the 1920's, more changes came to Otterbein and Benton County in general the total county's inhabitant numbers were still over 12,000. But began to decrease for the first time, since the turn of the 20th century's, 13,123 population pinnacle in the 1920 census reflecting lesser families and kids per family. As mechanization overtook horsepower on both the streets and roads, as well as on the farms, oats as an essential crop also declined in grown bushel amounts against upward increases for corn and soybeans and importance; lesser bushels of this grain would be needed to feed correspondingly farm toiling animals-which were still required up through World War II era, but soybeans were taking over as a combined crop and animal feed. The formerly vital blacksmith industry mirrored this early 20th century transition from horses to motorized vehicles, and the Robinette, Templin, and David Briar businesses; acknowledged as the last blacksmithing venture existing in Otterbein was Owen Boothroyd's forge and anvil enterprise on the south side of town. Those other smithies and harness suppliers all either faded, by the 1930's from Otterbein's commercial scene or changed, metamorphosed into loosely connected hardware stores (i.e., Metcalf's, later John Opp's Hardware, Hudson's Town Hardware at 1st and South Main Street) or feed and grain suppliers. After celebratory parades through downtown that honored the end of the Great War (World War I) in 1918, Main Street and other thoroughfares (i.e., Oxford Street/the U.S. 52 route through town) became blacktopped; this latter passageway would endure a major alteration within 2-3 decades.

A two-story guest house, set back from the street at 412 South Main Street, 412-the original "Otterbein Brown House," operated for some duration by John Robert and Elizabeth/Bessie (Moore) Switzer as it welcomed and accommodated train passengers, in tandem with the old Otterbein Commercial Hotel, which had existed at the northwest corner of North Brown and East 2nd Streets--west of Hats Off Barber Shop and adjacent to the new Otterbein Town Hall/Community Center, where presently is a private home. The new, brick composed P. W. A.-built, Otterbein Public Library in 1934, initially organized by Henry Bolt's public subscription drive, after 1919, was accompanied by a smaller, branch library set up just after 1919 in nearby Templeton and functioned, until closing in 1967.

Oscar Mann's IGA grocery, northeast corner, of the Oxford and Main Streets junction, was in business until the 1950's when William Butler took over this IGA location and continued until the Fellure family assumed this site. This same location had the telephone exchange on the second floor, plus the meeting hall for the local Otterbein #561 Masonic Lodge; the ground floor had not only the grocery itself, but a food locker plant. Adjacent to the east was a poultry hatchery and adjoining plumbing-supply shop.

Just south of Mann's is where the Quonset-hut-designed, brick-molded Bryant Auto service and repair shop/dealers came into existence around the early 1920's, occupying where stood the former Otterbein Sun Newspaper headquarters. The expanding public library location was now taking over the old Robinette blacksmithing and boarding-house property, at the South Main and 1st Streets northeast corner.

Burns Drugs, partnered at times by a Mr. Davis, which also contained Lawrence Burns' across-the street, shifted town post office ran by Barbara Atha moved possibly, the late 1940's from the 1895 built, 1st and South Main structure to the northwest corner of where Main and Oxford Streets meet where Ward Brothers originally stood. Thompson Drugs, eventually Denny's Pharmacy, would take over this site. From what evidence is available, the Burns Drugs and the Thompson Drugs sites may have become rival, class destinations for Otterbein High School's dismissed, soda fountain, seeking crowds.

The growing traffic along U.S. 52/Oxford Street, and through Otterbein saw several service stations pop up along this route. Reportedly the first one in 1927, by Mark Briar at East Oxford and Meadow Streets, also having a restaurant and tourist cabins, and Pete DeBruicker's at the corner of West Oxford and South Main, next to what later became Vida Shoup's Town Cafe, 1948? -1969, and others along the old 52 route on the west side of town at the Maddox Road "T", where later stood the Grand Prairie Cafe, and just beyond the long, relocated, Strasburger operated westside grain elevator. Train rides and local taxis (i.e., Sellers and Sellers in 1919) connected Otterbein to the "big town" of Lafayette.

For in town entertainment, movies were popular, usually on Saturdays, where they were projector shown in the streets up on a screen and paid for by local merchants. Plus, summertime Wednesday band concerts, these gave those farm families an extra lift when they made trips into town to do their business and weekly shopping. The Great Depression of 1929, onward to the late 1930's/early 1940's, saw an end to these much appreciated and attended concerts, although movies continued to grow, and were even more packed in by sound and color enhanced features. Otterbein's 1934 built brick public library was now in operation and well patronized. Residents who have graciously shared memories wish that there was as much helping others and community solidarity as what existed in earlier times and made it possible for some to get through those difficult financial times.

The closing of both the Otterbein State Bank and the Farmers and Merchants Bank in the early 1930's led to more of a self-contained economy centered on the farms, as an insulation against the hard times. Vegetable gardens were maintained, not just as morale boosting "victory gardens" for the war effort but for basic survival. Many farms additionally kept chickens, hogs, and cattle for a "backlog" of available meat and eggs. Horse and mules were still needed and numbered over 10,000 from the 1920's but fell drastically by 1940 less than 4,600 as more machines meant fewer working livestock, on Benton County's 1,100 farms at this juncture. But this "subsistence farming," necessary to survive the depression was virtually erased after the war; more specialization in either livestock or crops, primarily corn and soybeans, which was mainly for sale and local feed, was the mood of the farm economy with farmers now enjoying high corn yields through hybrid seeds.

When motor buses ran through the busy 52 route on Oxford Street, they stopped here in town for lunch and passengers at Vida Shoup's Town Café, but more changes were on the horizon.

Aside from the massive changes that mechanization had made to the greater Otterbein region of the community and Bolivar Township throughout the first two decades of the 20th century, two more created further colossal transformations, the post-World War II drive for rural electrification by forming regional REMCS, Rural Electrification Management Cooperatives, as well as the late 1940's-early 1950's re-routing of U.S. 52 to the north of town and along a new, divided highway bypass. This same development erased at least three gasoline service stations that had long functioned in neighboring, east-oriented Montmorenci. There was no going back from these more hectic and far more mobile times to come.