



CITY OF NORTH RIDGEVILLE

Community Connection, April 2014

7307 Avon Belden Road, North Ridgeville, OH 44039 Phone: (440) 353-0819 Visit us at www.nridgeville.org

Mayor's Message...

Issue 19: Road Improvements, Center Ridge Road and Lear Nagle Road

On Election Day, May 6, 2014, North Ridgeville voters will have the opportunity to vote on improvements to Center Ridge Road and Lear Nagle Road. Both of these improvements have long been on the city's wish list. They are now at the point where they can actually become a reality.

Issue 19 allows the city to borrow up to \$8,000,000 to finance the city's portion of the cost of improvements. This includes approximately \$4,500,000 for Center Ridge Road street construction and an additional \$400,000 for a water line replacement, \$1,800,000 for Lear Nagle improvements and \$1,300,000 for contingencies.

The total cost of the two projects is estimated to be \$67,000,000. North Ridgeville's portion is approximately 10% of the total. This is tremendous leveraging of our dollars plus it is very inexpensive to our homeowners.



Mayor G. David Gillock

Issue 19 is a .86-mill levy which will cost each homeowner about **\$30.10/year per \$100,000** of fair market value. For a home valued at \$200,000 the real estate tax increase would be approximately \$60.20 per year.

Issue 19 funds can only be used for the construction and related items on the two streets. Both projects are currently slated to go out for bids in late 2016 and are expected to take two construction seasons to complete.

With the improvements already approved by the school district including demolition of the Middle School, these projects combined will change the entire landscape of North Ridgeville. Together they total over \$120,000,000 in construction in the next few years including hundreds of new construction jobs.

If you were unable to attend the most recent public meeting regarding the Center Ridge Road widening project, the exhibits and handouts provided by the Ohio Department of Transportation can be found on our city's website at www.nridgeville.org by clicking the "Center Ridge Road Widening Project" icon. You can also stop by the Engineering Department at City Hall to view the exhibits.

Issue 20: Ambulance and Emergency Medical Care Levy Renewal

North Ridgeville Paramedic Levy will also be on the May 6, 2014 ballot for voter approval. Issue 20, which was originally passed in 1995, provides funding for the city's paramedic service. The **levy renewal is not a new tax** and provides one-third of the Fire Department's operating budget. The Fire Department provides three advanced life support ambulances 24 hours a day staffed with state certified paramedics. In 2013, the Fire Department responded to 2,371 emergency medical calls. Since its inception in 1995, the North Ridgeville Fire Department's paramedic service has greatly improved the outcome of thousands of patients that have utilized this important service.

Issue 21: North Ridgeville Library Levy Renewal

North Ridgeville Branch Library will also have a levy renewal on the May 6, 2014 ballot. **This levy is not a new tax** and guarantees that the library will continue to receive 85% of its operating revenue for the next five years. In 2013, the library had 207,897 visitors that borrowed more than 458,000 items while 409 community groups met at the library with a total attendance of nearly 7,000 people.

If you have further questions regarding Issue 19 please contact either the Mayor's Office at (440) 353-0811 or Engineering Department at (440) 353-0842; Issue 20 contact either the Mayor's Office at (440) 353-0811 or the Fire Department at (440) 327-5311; and, Issue 21 contact the North Ridgeville Library Levy Committee at (440) 327-8326 or visit their website at www.nrlibrarylevy.com.



Water Line Projects

The city has appropriated funds for three water line projects for the 2014 construction season. The existing eight-inch water line on Root Road between Center Ridge Road and Bainbridge Road and the eight-inch water line on Manchester Circle will be replaced with new eight-inch water lines. A new eight-inch water line will be installed on Bainbridge Road between Root Road and Avon Belden Road. The new Bainbridge Road water line will reinforce the city's water distribution system grid and improve flow through the grid. The design of these projects will begin in early spring. The projects will be advertised for bidding to contractors in late spring or early summer. Construction will begin in late summer or fall. The estimated cost of design and construction is \$420,000 for the Root Road water line, \$336,000 for the Bainbridge Road water line, and \$238,000 for the Manchester Circle water line. Tree lawns, drives and any other property disturbed by construction will be restored by the contractor at their cost.

Protecting Water Quality in the Spring

Storm water runoff is conveyed to Lake Erie through sewers and ditches. To protect our Lake Erie drinking water quality and the environment, here are a few tips for the spring.

Reduce the use of chemical lawn fertilizers and herbicides. They seep downstream into ditches and eventually Lake Erie. Chemical pesticides also pose hazards to humans, pets, fish and the environment. Excessive amounts of fertilizers harm aquatic life and can cause rapid algae growth that threatens the safety of boaters, anglers and swimmers. Excessive fertilizers rob the water of oxygen, which results in fish kills.

Pick up after your pet. Animal waste is a major contributor to bacterial pollution in storm water runoff to ditches, streams and Lake Erie. Scoop your pet's feces and properly dispose of it by sealing the waste in a plastic bag and throwing it in the garbage so that the bacteria is not carried downstream by storm water runoff.

Don't blow your grass clippings into the street. Grass clippings contain nitrogen which will be conveyed to ditches and Lake Erie by storm water runoff. Nitrogen promotes algae growth. Grass clippings will also obstruct storm sewer flow. Many basement sump pumps and yard drains are tied into storm sewers and flow from these could then become obstructed.

Town Center Trail Project

What started several years ago as a Girl Scout Gold Award project for then two high school girls, Morgan Rogers and Caitlyn Tipple, is now becoming a reality. The Town Center Trail construction will begin the week of May 12th with an expected completion date of no later than June 30, 2014. When completed, the 1.2-mile multi-purpose trail will connect community assets in North Ridgeville's Town Center including South Central Park, Senior Center, City Hall, North Ridgeville Branch Library, and North Ridgeville Middle School. The 10-foot wide asphalt trail will provide residents with a dedicated recreational pedestrian and bicycle facility.

The trail is being funded by a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, coupled with the fundraising efforts and donation of \$10,000 from Morgan and Caitlyn, and a \$5,000 donation from the Friends of the Park; this left the city's portion at approximately \$125,000. Chagrin Valley Paving, Inc. was awarded the project based on the lowest and best bid. Once completed, the trail will be a wonderful asset to the city and our parks.

South Central Park Restroom Renovation

When the Splash Pad at South Central Park reopens on May 24th, the restrooms will have an entirely new look. The restrooms were completely renovated using Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and North Ridgeville Parks & Recreation funds. The renovations include additional fixtures – six toilets in the women's restroom and three toilets and three urinals in the men's restroom. Additional upgrades include automatic flush controls, new lavatories with automatic motion sensor water controls, all new partitions, new wall finish material, a new janitor's closet with mop sink and new entrances from the north (Splash Pad) side which now allows access from both north and south sides. We hope residents appreciate the changes which were designed by Architect Teila Lovell to better assist parents with children at the Splash Pad as well as creating a cleaner environment for park users.

Women's Restroom - Before



Women's Restroom - After



Men's Restroom - After



New and Improved City Website

If you haven't visited the city's website recently, please take the time to check it out at www.nridgeville.org. The new website contains up-to-date information and added content. You'll find the site easier to navigate to find what you are looking for. To name just a few new features, you can visit the Service Department's webpage to report a damaged mailbox caused by a snow plow, removal of a dead animal from the roadway or a location of a pothole that needs to be repaired; you can visit the Building Department's webpage to easily access building permit information, applications and fees associated with each, and you now have the ability to complete a complaint/investigation form online that will be sent to an inspector for follow up.



While visiting the website, sign up to receive eNews via e-mail and/or text message. When the need arises that the city needs to quickly communicate information to residents, e.g., unexpected road closure or outages, an e-mail and/or text message will be sent out to subscribers. You have the ability to update your account when your e-mail address and/or cell phone number/provider changes. This feature **does not** replace the news that you'll find on our website. Again, eNews will only be used when it is time-sensitive news or alerts. Please note: Messages will arrive to you from the following address: cityofnorthridgeville@esvcommunications.com. You may want to consider adding this address to your safe sender list.

Snow Removal and Salt Usage

The winter months with extreme cold temperatures and snowfall, took a big hit on the streets and the city's budget. In 2013-14, 4,145 tons of salt and 700 tons of ClearLane® were used at a total cost of \$178,756 compared to 1,665 tons of salt and 500 tons of ClearLane® used in 2012-13 at a total cost of \$87,288. The Service Department crew was patching potholes at an alarming rate, too. Ninety-five tons of cold mix asphalt was used this past winter at \$9,025 compared to 50 tons at a cost of \$4,663 in 2012-13. In addition to the cost of materials, there was an increase in manpower hours. From October 1, 2013 thru March 31, 2014, the city incurred \$173,165 in overtime costs compared to \$124,614 from October 1, 2012 thru March 31, 2013. Taking all of these figures into consideration, the city expended an additional \$144,381 in 2013-2014 to keep the residents safe during their travels. Looking ahead to next winter, the city has already contracted with the Ohio Department of Transportation to purchase up to 5,500 tons of rock salt.

Concrete Pavement Repairs

As hot asphalt repairs to potholes and crack sealing continue, work is planned to repair deteriorated concrete pavement on the following streets in 2014: Rosebelle Avenue, North Barton Road, Woodbridge Court, Sweetbriar Court, Northwood Court, Oakhurst Road, Jade Circle, Topaz Court, Lee Avenue, Albert Avenue, Pleasant Avenue, and other streets to be named later if funds are available. Work also includes replacement of curb ramps with ADA compliant ones, and reconstruction of storm sewer catch basins where needed.

Safetyville 2014

North Ridgeville Police Department is sponsoring its annual Safetyville program. The program provides an educational setting in which children are exposed to various safety topics with regard to traffic, school bus, bicycle and pedestrian safety, stranger danger, 911, and drug, gun and fire safety.

Safetyville is designed for children entering kindergarten in the fall, but it is not a prerequisite for kindergarten. During the weeks of June 9th and June 16th, classes are set up as one week sessions, three sessions per day, for one and a half hours each day. Cost is \$25 per child which covers all classroom material, instruction, and a Safetyville t-shirt. Payment is due upon registration.



To register, visit the North Ridgeville Police Department at 7307 Avon Belden Road. All registrations are on a first come, first served basis. For more information call Sergeant Adam Freas at (440) 327-2191.

Are You Planning a Garage Sale or to Sell a Vehicle?

If you answered yes, please stop by City Hall between the hours of 8 AM and 4:30 PM to obtain a permit. The cost is \$2 per permit and limited to two each per calendar year. Garage/moving sales are to be no more than four consecutive days. Vehicle sale permits are for a period not to exceed thirty days. More information will be provided to you when obtaining your permit.

North Ridgeville Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau will be sponsoring their annual citywide Garage Sale Days from June 18-21. Registration begins June 2 and will continue through June 13 at their office located at 34845 Lorain Road. The cost to participate is \$5. Please note: For this event only, it is not necessary to obtain a garage sale permit from City Hall. For more information, please call the Chamber of Commerce at (440) 327-3737.

Community Calendar

- April 25 **Spaghetti Dinner** at the Senior Center from 5-7 PM. Cost: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and \$4 children 10 and under. Take-out available.
- May 5 **City Council** meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- May 5, 6 **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- May 6 **Election Day** – Exercise your right to vote. Polls open at 6:30 AM and close at 7:30 PM.
- May 10 **Fishing Derby** at South Central Park from 8 AM-12 PM. Open to youth ages 3-18. The derby is free with donations of \$5 accepted at the event to be donated to Aluminum Cans for Burned Children. Deadline to register is May 9 by visiting the Parks & Recreation Department website at www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec.
- May 11 **Mother's Day**
- May 17 **Pride Day** – Citywide clean up. Residents are encouraged to clean up, fix up, paint and spruce up our community. Interested organizations and individuals that would like to volunteer to spruce up our community and parks, please contact Frank Vacha at (440) 353-0880.
- Discover the Ridge** – A family-friendly scavenger hunt throughout the city. Visit over 26 locations from 9 AM-5 PM, exploring the businesses, historical sites, parks and special places in the city. Pick up your clues and a map at the Aut-O-Rama Drive In, 33395 Lorain Road, and visit as many locations as you can to be entered in a drawing for cash prizes. For more information, contact the Visitors Bureau at (440) 327-3737.
- May 19 **City Council** meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- May 24 **Splash Pad** at South Central Park opens daily from 10 AM-8 PM thru Labor Day.
- May 26 **Memorial Day** – City Hall closed in observance of the holiday; trash pick-up delayed one day.
- Memorial Day Parade** at 9:45 AM from Marc's parking lot to the Middle School. Memorial Day Ceremony at the Ranger Stadium immediately following the parade.
- June 2 **City Council** meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- June 2, 3 **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- June 3 **Motor City Casino Express-Detroit**, 8 AM-6 PM, North Ridge Tours. Cost \$30 (casino bonus \$25). Call the Senior Center at (440) 353-0835 to reserve your seat.
- June 7 **Touch-A-Truck** from 10 AM-12 PM at the North Ridgeville High School parking lot. Get up close and personal with all kinds of big trucks. Free event, ages 2-10 years old. Deadline to register is May 31 by visiting the Parks & Recreation Department website at www.nridgeville.org/parksandrec.
- June 15 **Father's Day**
- June 16 **City Council** meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- June 18-21 **Citywide Garage Sale Days** – To register, visit the Chamber of Commerce/Visitors Bureau between June 2-13 at 34845 Lorain Road or call (440) 327-3737 for more information.
- June 19 **Home Independent Sales Event** from 5:30-7 PM at the Senior Center. Contact Shelly at (440) 353-0835 for more information. This event is a fundraiser to benefit the Senior Center.
- July 3 **Independence Day Celebration** – Party in the Park at South Central Park from 7-9:30 PM. Fireworks at dusk. Rain date is July 5 with fireworks only.
- July 4 **Independence Day** – City Hall closed in observance of the holiday.
- July 7 **City Council** meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.
- July 7, 8 **Bulk/Extra Trash Collection Days**
- July 21 **City Council** meeting at 7:30 PM in Council Chambers at City Hall, 7307 Avon Belden Road.

Parks & Recreation Department

For a detailed listing of events, see the Spring-Summer 2014 issue of the Rec Gazette enclosed in this month's utility bill.

Senior Center

Reservations are required for the following events. Call (440) 353-0828 to make reservations or to obtain a complete listing of activities.

- May 29 "Young at Heart" Breakfast at 9:30 AM at the Senior Center, Theme "America the Beautiful." Cost \$3.
- July 31 "Young at Heart" Breakfast at 9:30 AM at the Senior Center, Theme "A Day at the Beach." Cost \$3.
- Ongoing: Social, Lunch & Bingo meets every Wednesday at the Senior Center from 10 AM-2 PM. Cost \$4.
Men's Breakfast, first and third Thursday each month at the Senior Center from 9-10 AM. Cost \$3.
Women's Brunch, fourth Thursday each month at the Senior Center from 10:30-11:30 AM. Cost \$3.
Super Thursday Lunch, second Thursday each month at the Senior Center at noon. Cost \$5.