

OTTER LAKE VILLAGE NEWS

April 2021



Village President

David Dorr

Village Trustees

Terry Gill

Michelle Valley

Ana Lerma

Jennifer Ritch

Village Clerk

Joan Skias

Village Treasurer

Ray Benson

Village Council Meetings:

First Monday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm at the Village Hall, 5902 Genesee Street

(Minutes of each council meeting are posted on the Village's website.)

Village Website:

Villageofotterlake.com

www.facebook.com/villageofotterlake

Contact Information:

Office: 810-793-2665
DPW: 810-793-2245

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am until 12:00 noon (Closed all holidays)

Due to the many disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic we did not publish any newsletters during this last year. Now that there appears to be light at the end of this long, long tunnel, we will again be sending out quarterly newsletters. Reminder: Meeting minutes, notices, etc are published on the village's website.

Council Meetings Overview:

January 2021:

- Bills totaling \$22,740.25 paid.
- Appointed Jennifer Ritch to fill vacant Trustee seat
- Discussed expired MAFA contract between the three municipalities
- Approved financial reports

February 2021:

- Bills totaling \$19,111.00 paid
- Held Public Hearing on proposed 2021/2022 budget
- Approved millage rate allowed under Head-Lee roll-back act
- Approved signing of warrants
- Approved spread of Special Assessments onto tax roll
- Approved repair of museum deck
- Approved one year extension to current MAFA contract
- Approved three year firework contract with Ace Pyro LLC
- Approved financial reports

March 2021:

- Bills totaling \$13,649.99 paid
- Approved 2021/2022 budget
- Approved Southern Links budget
- Approved sewer rate increase
- Approved USDA grant for new DPW truck
- Approved financial reports

(For complete meeting minutes, visit the Village's website.)

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

Upcoming Village Council Meetings:

Monday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, May 3, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, July 12, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, August 2, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, November 1, at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meetings:

2021 Dates:

Wednesday, May 5, at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 4, at 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, November 3, at 7:00 p.m.

Other meetings may be called as business arises. These will be posted on the Village's website.

Upcoming Summer Events:

Car Show – Memorial Day Weekend

Rhythm Rodders will be holding a car show in downtown Otter Lake on Saturday, May 29, with Sunday, May 30 as a rain backup date. It's always a GREAT show!

Motorcycle Rally

Cardinal Wishes has tentatively set Saturday, June 5, for this year's poker run rally.

July 4th Fireworks

We are anticipating having the fireworks this year with the show being on Saturday, July 3, 2021, beginning at dusk (approximately 10 p.m.).

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Sewer Rate Increase:

Due to the increased cost of operating the sewer treatment plant, the Village Council has had to raise the billing rate \$5.00 per unit, effective with your current bill. Our operating costs increased \$3,000.00 in 2020 – caused by higher electrical charges, increase cost of chemicals, and replacement of equipment. The Village is exploring the possibility of partnering with another municipality to combine treatment plant operations, seeing if this can result in reduced operating costs for both municipalities.

Properties with **ginder pumps**, please note. If a pump needs replacement and/or repair due to normal operating use, the cost will be borne by the Village, however if it is due to user neglect and/or misuse (flushing inappropriate materials) the cost is the responsibility of the property owner. Currently a ginder pump costs approximately \$4,000.00 to replace.

Veterans Memorial Bricks:

This summer worn and damaged bricks at the Veterans Memorial, outside the museum, are being replaced with new bricks. Any veteran, living or deceased, within the Otter Lake zip code, is eligible to have a brick placed in the memorial. Those that are interested can call the village office at 810-793-2665 with the veteran's name and their branch of service to obtain one.

July 4th Fireworks Fund:

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their donations to the Village's fireworks fund:

Brian and Susan Woodworth

Universal Tube Inc.

Ron Kefgen and Pattie Steele

Otter Lake Fire Department

Gerald and Evelyn Jones

Rhythm Rodders Car Club

Rick Schelter

Choice One Bank

Harold and Jeanne Bachman

Downtown Development Association

Ray and Linda Benson

And too all those that made donations through Facebook and the Donation Jars at our local businesses.

THANK YOU ALL!

If anyone would like to donate for the 2022 fireworks display, donation checks may be made out to the Otter Lake Fireworks Fund and mailed to Village of Otter Lake, PO Box 193, Otter Lake, Michigan 48464