

## **E-NEWS JULY 2012 INDIAN LAKE BOROUGH**

Here is the link to Indian Lake Borough web site as requested: [www.indianlakepa.us](http://www.indianlakepa.us)

July started with a bang on June 30th as we enjoyed a great display of fireworks on the dam. We all thank the Service Corporation (its president, and its board). Here is the feedback by our many residents and also their guests – in their own words - "unbelievable", "astonishing", "fantastic", "patriotic", "captivating", "superb", "so American" and "a wonderful Indian Lake tradition".

E-News is simply a brief report on current Indian Lake Borough issues. E-News is posted on the Indian Lake Borough Web site as well as distributed by email. E-News will be repetitive at times but repetition is a method used in the learning process.

### **LONG TERM FINANCE - Patti Dewar**

The new loan payment schedule has already begun. Council has received a bound copy of the final loan documentation and a CD-ROM. This has been reviewed by our solicitor, Dan Rullo, and is on file at the borough office. It can be viewed at the borough office upon request.

### **LAKE/ENVIRONMENT - Lynn Shimer**

1. Our lake will be treated for Vallisneria in July. This does not require closing our lake to activities.
2. Do not feed the fowl life... The amount they defecate into our lake and lake side properties is unbelievable; an adult goose defecates 1 ½ lbs of waste per day.
3. We have received approval for the lake draw down. Rather than do two consecutive lake drawn downs, council will work with the dam engineers and DEP schedule for Phase III. The drawn down will be either this fall or next fall. We will immediately let our residents know the status when our engineers and DEP inform us.

Again thank you to the residents who patrolled the lake during the weed treatment for elodea and pond weed in June: Jim and Patti Dewar, Paul and Natalie Cornez, Roger Haynes, Weldon and Dawn Lovely, Bob and Patty Marhefka, Nelson Migdal, Don and Gay Reed, Forrest and Gloria Schucker, Don and Suzann Williams and our Police Dept.

### **DAM UPDATE - Paul Cornez**

(a reminder and repeat)

There are three required permits for the actual work on the dam. One from the Division of Dam Safety, Department of Environmental Protection, for the work itself. One for the relocation of the water line from well number 99-1 from the Division of Water Quality, Department of Environmental Protection. The third required permit is for the Erosion and Soil (NPDES) plan. The Bid Documents for the work are essentially complete and will probably be issued at the end of July, pending the above mentioned permitting.

We have obtained the permit to lower our Lake this year, which will we do only IF the above mentioned permits are obtained and the remaining Flowage Easements are obtained/taken in time to perform this work this year. Any delays will result in NOT lowering the Lake this year but lowering it and doing the work in 2013.

On June 25, 2012 Dean, Dave and I (Paul) performed the quarterly valve exercise that was delayed because our manpower was working on the 4-log rule project.

We are currently in discussions with Al and Rosemary Lichtenfels to obtain the necessary easements needed since the heightened top of the dam will terminate on their property.

## **FLOWAGE EASEMENTS/EMINENT DOMAIN - Bob Hanson**

Last-minute personal appeals have yielded a few more signed easements, bringing the number that must be taken via eminent domain to down in the 60's. We are now officially proceeding on those remaining.

Some hold-outs were not aware that the Borough had adopted an over-arching waiver of ANY building or use restrictions in the area taken by the new easements. This waiver is unilateral by the Borough and does not require owner signatures. It will be filed on top of every signed easement and in conjunction with all easements taken by eminent domain, emphasizing lack of impact short of the maximum storm.

Residents were also largely not aware that the work to increase the dam height also involves widening the channel around the dam to the spillway as well, and adding a roadway on top for access. Details are still being tamped down, but widening the channel should help keep lake levels lower for 200-year, 500-year and 1000-year storms, too, not just the PMF.

The Borough has retained the services of an expert appraiser, Robert Hagerich from Johnstown, who will defend our eminent domain actions on a case basis at \$140 per hour. Hopefully we won't need too many hours...

Please send comments or questions regarding easements or eminent domain to [Easements@indianlakepa.us](mailto:Easements@indianlakepa.us)

## **ROADS AND MAINTENANCE - Terry St. Clair**

The 2012 paving projects are now complete. I would like to thank all the residents for being very patient and understanding during the paving process. The main road coming in from the Christian Center turned out extra nice. You will notice that we added two feet extra pavement to all inside curves, this makes a big difference and should help the berm shale from being thrown back onto the roadway. It will make it a lot safer for motorcycles and bicycles. We are fortunate to have some of the nicest roads in Somerset County.

Since the major water project is now complete on West Shore Trail, our maintenance crew is now able to get back to cleaning out the culverts and ditches which clogged during the major Memorial Day storms. Again I would like to thank the residents for being patient. Our maintenance crew is to be commended on the completion of the major water line project on West Shore Trail. They did a fantastic job and saved the Borough a lot of money by not having outside contractors do the job.

You will notice that our ditches which are prone to wash out during very heavy rain storms, that we are in the process of replacing the #3 rocks with larger R4 stone. These will have a better chance of staying in place and not being washed downhill.

Thanks,

Terry St.Clair

Chairman, Roads & Maintenance

\*\*\*\*\* A council thank you to Terry who supervised the project and to our road/maintenance crew who gave the residents, who were affected, personal attention and notification through out this process.

## **BOAT LICENSES**

Theresa and council thank you for your patience this year.

There are 9 general licenses left for sale.

Included with your licenses were the boating rules for Indian Lake. These were also listed in our mayor's news letter. Please review these, and also post the rules in your home so that your family and relatives and friends and guests are familiar with these regulations. Our goal is for our boaters to have a safe experience on the lake within the context of enjoyment.

## **GARBAGE/TRASH**

(repeat and current )

Remember - no trash pickup on Monday September 3 which is Labor Day. It will be picked up on September 4th.

Residents have two options – either contract for garbage service or take your garbage “home” with you.

Reminder – do not use private dumpsters or your neighbor’s garbage cans, or vacant property, or borough’s property to dump your garbage. It is a theft of service and you will receive a citation.

## **WATER/SEWER - Bob Hanson**

Well #2/Buckstown Tank - Thank you from council to Dean (our zoning officer) and to our road/maintenance crew again for seeing this project through and going beyond the “Call Of Duty”. As a result of their efforts DEP inspected the work and lifted the boil-water notice on July 3rd.

## **PLANNING/ZONING - Dean Snyder and Bob Hanson**

Public hearing - Dennis Perigo and Brenda Shaffer Subdivisions/Planned Residential Developments (PRD) -

IL Planning Commission reviewed both Plans on May 14, 2012 and sent letters with comments to IL Borough Council on May 15, 2012. Somerset Planning Commission also received the subdivision plans and either approved or provided comments to them. Council advertised both plans in the Daily American and in addition the properties were posted.

On June 13th and on July 11th, council had public hearings, recorded the comments (both oral and written), and forwarded these to council. Council voted to approve these two Plans/PRDs by motion at council’s meeting on July 11th 2012.

## **Floodplain Management and Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) - Bob Hanson**

With Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) endorsement, Floodplain Management Ordinance 160, and the new Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) were adopted on June 13, 2012, and will go into effect on September 19, 2012. This new Ordinance and the new maps are expected to make new, lower-cost flood insurance available for the vast majority of Indian Lake homes. This concludes an effort begun in late 2009.

## **POLICE - Mike Miscoe**

We now have two new part time police officers, Mark Custer and Richard Brant on duty and a new “used” vehicle.

REMINDER: Obey the law and, for the safety of others and for your safety, abide by the legal speed limits posted in our borough. The police will enforce the speed limit restrictions.

\*\*\*Repeat reminder - study the boating regulations that were sent out in the mayor's newsletter. These are also posted on our web site and were included with you boat license information.

## **SKI SLALOM COURSE**

Refer comments to Theresa at the Borough office or Robert Oates, President of the Ski Club.

## **NEW COMPUTER**

Our office is now up and running with a new computer system. Council is happy and Theresa is more than happy.

A Thank You to Bob Hanson, Mike Miscoe and some knowledgeable sources for researching our needs. Bob came up with a bargain and did the installations.

**BOROUGH OFFICE TELECOMMUNICATION UPGRADE**

We received an offer from Comcast for High-Speed Internet, Cable and Telephone that will save us more than \$3000 per year and give us greatly expanded features, capability and bandwidth. A portion of the savings (around \$900) was spent upgrading the Office computers and Wi-Fi network, precluding the need to budget for that over the next few years. The existing infrastructure (less phone service) will remain intact and be used as a backup for the short term. All this, and at a cost savings of \$2000 on our budget.

In your service,

Patricia Dewar

[CouncilPresident@indianlakepa.us](mailto:CouncilPresident@indianlakepa.us)