

## **E-News 26 April 2011**

### **Dick Stern Elected President Upon Bob Hanson's Resignation as President of Council**

At the end of the April 13, 2011 Council meeting, Council accepted Bob Hanson's resignation as Council President and I was elected to take his place. I will endeavor to keep up the communications channel that Bob has established in this newsletter, but as you can see I am already behind in getting this information out to you.

We all need to recognize the countless hours of effort that Bob put in, while President of Council, not only in communications like this one but in completing important required documentation like our EOP (Emergency Operations Plan) and EAP (Emergency Action Plan) in addition to his time on the Planning Commission. Thank you, Bob, for those efforts.

### **Annual Town Meeting Saturday, May 14, 2011 after the Service Corporation Annual Meeting**

The Indian Lake Service Corporation has set their annual meeting for 10:00 AM Saturday, May 14, 2011 at the Shanksville Stonycreek School Cafetorium as is customary. Also, as usual, we will have a Town Meeting immediately following the Service Corp. meeting to update you and answer any questions that you may have about things in the borough. Please plan to attend.

### **Harry Huszek Retires; Frank Moldovan new Borough Superintendent**

We all know Harry, a fixture in the community for more than 25 years. Just prior to retiring Harry sustained an injury and was out on Workman's Comp for more than a year. In February Harry settled with the insurance carrier and retired from Borough Service. Council announced that Frank Moldovan, a fixture in his own right with 24 years of service, would be our new Superintendent, providing direction to our roads and maintenance staff. Unfortunately, Frank was also out on disability for a time, but returned to work in early April and has assumed his new role.

Please join us in congratulating Frank on this promotion and wishing him luck in this new role. Frank can be reached at [Frank@indianlakepa.us](mailto:Frank@indianlakepa.us) , or by phone at the Borough Office.

### **Dam Phase III Update**

Discussions with DEP on the lower cost, simpler alternatives to an elaborate secondary spillway continue. We are getting closer to an agreement but it is not final yet. Look for more information shortly.

### **Upstream Valve Re-installation**

We expect to have the upstream valve, the one on the lake side of the dam, re-installed the week of May 9. Hopefully we will be able to report at the town meeting on May 14 that this project has been completed. Keep your fingers crossed that everything goes well!

## **Boater Safety Course**

The boater safety course will again be offered this year on May 28 and 29 at the Lodge. Please remember that the certificate of completion of this course is necessary for anyone operating a personal water craft and is necessary for younger boat operators. Attendees are required to register for the class by sending an e-mail with the name of each attendee to [police@indianlakepa.us](mailto:police@indianlakepa.us).

## **Ski Slalom Course Location Settled and Approved**

The location for the ski slalom course was discussed at this month's meeting and after that discussion approval was given to locate the course at the position closest to the dam along the west shore. This decision continues the approach used in the last several years of rotating the position of the course through the list of three locations believed available to accommodate the skiing activity on our lake.

## **Get your boat license registrations in before the start of the boating season**

Theresa has informed me that boat license applications are coming in a little slowly this year. Please don't wait until the last minute, right before the Memorial Day weekend. Get your request in the mail, as prescribed in the information that came with your license application. We want everyone to be served in a timely manner but that cannot be done if too many wait till the last minute. Thank you!

## **Outdoor Furnace Prohibition Affirmed**

One of our residents came up with an idea to use an Outdoor Furnace as a heat source to melt snow and ice on his driveway to keep it clear in the winter. Our zoning ordinance (144) was revised in 2007 prohibiting Outdoor Furnaces in the Borough. In a recent appeal the owner requested reconsideration, proposing that the furnace be enclosed in a building/structure so as to be out of sight and no longer 'outdoors'. The Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) affirmed the prohibition in Ordinance 144 and denied the homeowner's request.

Outdoor Furnaces have become popular in rural areas as an economical means of burning a variety of fuels, including wood, coal, used motor oil and grease, and assorted high-energy rubbish such as rubber and plastics. Unfortunately Outdoor Furnaces have also found disfavor and created feuds among neighbors as they create noxious smoke, fumes and odors. Obnoxious examples in nearby communities is what led to including the prohibition in Ordinance 144. It wasn't so much their unsightly appearance as it was the smoke and odor nuisance factors and the attendant risks to health, safety and welfare. Enclosing the Outdoor Furnace cannot mitigate those disadvantages.

In a very thoughtful opinion, the ZHB provides their rationale in detail. [Click Here](#) for a copy which has been posted on the web-site for reference. It's an interesting read.

Thank you,

Dick Stern

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