

THE VILLAGE VOICE

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Message from the Mayor:

TOWN MEETING

There will be a town meeting at the Beech Bottom Volunteer Fire Department on Wednesday, October 8th at 6:00 PM. Topics for discussion will include:

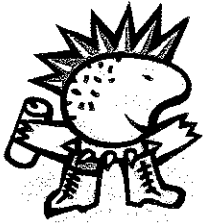
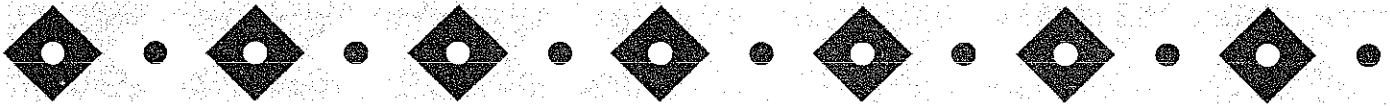
1. **New Water System**
2. **New Playground**
3. **Village Christmas Party**
4. **Citizen of the Year Program**

Refreshments will be served. Please join us for this important meeting. I am looking forward to a big turnout.



Veterans Day

We are planning to have a Veteran's Day Celebration for the new monument placed in the front of the city building on November 11, 2008. The Armistice was signed after WWII on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. Therefore, we would like to have our celebration on Tuesday, November 11th at 11:00 am. This is still in the planning stages. We hope you can attend.



RECYCLING PROGRAM

Save your aluminum cans for our youth!

Some adults are getting with the youth of the village to start a recycling program. The monies from the recycling of aluminum cans will be kept in a savings account at the bank and the proceeds will go toward the purchase of an item or items for our new playground. The cans will be collected on Saturday mornings by the youth and taken to the recyclers. You will be hearing more about this program in the near future.

CLENDENNIN CEMETERY

We are in the process of designing a monument for the Clendennin Cemetery where the Village of Power stood. Jeremy and Bill Sadler, block layers, are designing a monument that will display a granite memorial to the men and women from Power that served in the armed services. This plaque is being donated by the family of Gwen Hubbard. Another person is willing to underwrite the cost of placing a fence surrounding the cemetery.

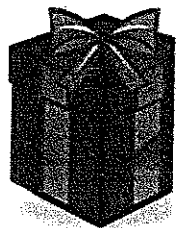


CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our annual Christmas Party will be held on Saturday December 13th from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. Any customer of the village water department, their children, grandchildren, parents or grandparents are eligible to attend. An invitation will be mailed to the water customers at a later date. RSVP's will be accepted until December 6th.

This party is made possible by donations from local business and individuals. If you wish to help with this project, either

by donation or volunteering, please contact Judy Lewis, Chairman.



Police Department Report

As I have mentioned before if there are any concerns within our Community, or if you have any problems that you need to bring to my attention, please feel free to call my office (394-4771). Your calls are important to me. I will handle each one of them in the strictest confidence, and will work hard to resolve each issue. We can't be everywhere; you are our eyes and ears to our Community. Without your assistance our job sometimes is difficult to impossible.

There have been some violations in our Community concerning our ATV Ordinance. I can understand the confusion because many laws and ordinances are written by attorneys, and they sometimes speak in a language foreign to us. Our Ordinance simply stated is: There are no ATVs allowed on Village Streets, Alleyways, or on Property owned by the Village of Beech Bottom.

Halloween will be here before you know it. Our Department will be on duty in the Village. We live in a safe Community, but during "Trick of Treat: time we get a lot of people who don't live in our Community. Please watch out for the safety of our children. If you see any suspicious activity, please call the Brooke County Sheriff Department dispatch at 737-3660, or if it is an emergency dial 911. If we are working the Brooke County Dispatchers will contact us, and advise us of the call, if we are not on duty a Brooke County Deputy Sheriff will respond.

Our goal is to make our Community Safe and to serve our Community to the best of our ability.

It is an honor to serve all of you.

Matthew "BULL" Rogerson

Chief of Police



SPECIAL THANKS

After serving as Village Recorder, Tara Sheperd has resigned to further her education. Thank you, Tara, for serving the Village and we wish you good luck for the future.

New Council Recorder

The Village Council welcomed Linda Dowell as the new Village Recorder.

Linda has been a village resident for many years. I am sure you will recognize her from her work at the bank or out for a walk with her granddaughter.

Beech Bottom Water Department

The Water Board would like to thank everyone for their patience during the construction of the Village's new water system which , we are glad to report is 95% complete as of September 30, 2008.

The construction crews are currently replacing the blacktop on our streets and repairing damaged sidewalks, they will also be tar and chipping several alleys. If you see something that the contractor may have missed please contact the Village Water Department at 394-5545 between the hours of 11:00 am thru 4:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

Some items that are yet to be completed are a final flush of our new water system and a water flow study (ISO Rating) which should help lower our Home Owners Fire Insurance Cost.

Finally if you are experiencing problems with your hot water heater, like the pressure relief valve blowing water onto your basement floor you may have to replace the pressure valve and install an expansion tank to prevent this from happening. Remember this is caused by the back flow preventer in the water meters which prevents contamination to our water system. Also this is the perfect time to inspect your water system for leaks. Remember a small leak can cause your future water bills to increase above the 4000 gallon rate of \$26.56

Your Water Board

Chairman: John Niven
Vice Chair: Robert Sadler
Mayor: George Lewis
Member: Terry Stewart
Member: Carol Sue Roeder



Citizen of the Year

We are looking for nominations for citizen of the year for the Village. Nominees can be but do not have to be residents of the village. They may work inside our village or could have an affiliation with the village. They should be an example of leadership by doing good deeds for their neighbor and the village on a regular basis.

Last years Citizen of the Year was Ethel Haddon. Her unselfishness has an immense impact on the citizens and the village as a whole.

Applications to nominate someone are available at the city building during regular business hours. Anyone can be nominated with the exceptions of elected officials of the village. The village council will receive applications until November 1, 2008. The presentation will take place on November 18th at the regular council meeting.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are the first and Third Tuesday of each month.

Trick or Treat

Trick or treat will be held Friday, Oct. 31, from 5:30 to 7:30



WATER BOARD MEETINGS

The Water Board Meetings are on the First Thursday after the First Tuesday of each month. All are welcome.



HOME ADDRESS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!



The officials of Brooke County have asked me to pass the word on to our residents that it is a requirement for all of Brooke County residents to display their house numbers on their residence. If your residence is not facing the street, you should place the house number at the end of your driveway. This will enable emergency services such as the emergency squad, police or utility companies to find your residence.

PLAYGROUND PROJECT UPDATE

The 3rd Street playground renewal has been a project long in coming. Council first considered the idea of revitalizing the park in January of 2004. Over the next two years, council attempted to get dollars from StreetScape grants to fund the rejuvenation of the park. Ultimately, it was decided that the Village needed to make an initial investment to demonstrate commitment to the project and help secure grant monies. Thus, in May 2006, an engineering firm was commissioned to create a concept booklet for the playground upgrade. The result of that work has been on display in the municipal office since it's completion in June of 2006. Although there were many new faces on council at the start of the 2006-2010 term, the project never lost momentum. State representatives were contacted to assist with the funding search, and council determined that creating a presentation to use for soliciting foundations and donors would also be an appropriate course of action. Based on the concept design, the presentation focused on long term health benefits for the community. After review, council determined that the presentation needed further revision and was modified to address the emphasis that had recently been placed on combating diabetes and heart disease through daily activity.

Several months after this final revision, council received its first donation in the amount of \$1,000 in May of 2007 from Wheeling Island Gaming Center towards the project. That success further motivated council to increase the search for funding through grant sources. In June of that year, council learned of a Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant that was a 50/50 match for public recreation projects. With November 2007 approaching and no further donations received, council decided to request a clearance from the West Virginia Division of Culture and History – the first step needed to apply for the LWCF grant. Once clearance was received in mid December, council continued to work on the grant proposal, which was due at the end of January 2008. During that month of intense work, over 100 hours of research and revision went into the 50-page proposal. Council set aside the remaining \$59,000 match required for the \$120,000 project and waited for an announcement of the grantees.

Official word of \$60,000 being awarded to the council for the purpose of updating the 3rd Street program was received on September 22, 2008. The project will be put up for bids this fall, and it is likely that construction will begin during the Spring of 2009. The project will hopefully be completed before summer break begins for students. Some of the more notable improvements include enlarging and resurfacing the basketball court, new play structures for 5-12 year olds, a tot lot, and various landscaping and trail work that will open up the park to regular use by people of all ages.

We look forward to involving the youth of the village as well as any other interested residents in the completion of this project.