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STATE OF THE TOWN

Throughout 2006, the Meridian Hills Town Council continued to responsibly manage your Town government. We



were able to achieve some great accomplishments over the last year thanks to the hard work and dedication of your elected officials, the contributions of time and talent by volunteer residents, and the continued guidance and knowledge of qualified professionals serving on the Town Administration.

Following are some of the accomplishments

during this last year in office:

- Transferred \$30,000 to the Rainy Day Fund bringing the fund total to \$89,000
- Switched banks for an estimated additional \$3,648 interest per year
- Successfully appealed to state government to recover additional \$11,076
- Received \$11,752 from Major Moves and expect an additional \$11,000
- Approved a balanced budget for 2007
- Successfully lobbied City to modify ordinance language to recognize Town setbacks prior to issuing a building permit

- Modified enforcement provisions in the Town Municipal Code
- Completed Defibrillator Protocol and Police Training
- Hosted DPW for a "Drainage 101" presentation
- Successfully lobbied to have city repair drainage culvert on Williams Creek Boulevard
- Completed 15 year Town Road Life Analysis
- Completed Town inventory of speed limit signs and street name signs
- Successfully lobbied to have city install advanced pedestrian signs on 71st near Penn
- Installed new yellow-green fluorescent "Stop Ahead" signs on Pennsylvania

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Council Considers Match Program To Achieve Town Beautification Goals

The council approved the design for new Town Entry and Street Name signs and Decorative Streetlights recommended by the Town Planning Committee. The entry sign's estimated cost is approximately \$6,000, the decorative streetlight ap-

proximately \$2,500, and the street name sign approximately \$500. From our \$264,000 disbursements in 2006, \$88,000 went to police, \$78,000 to street maintenance & snow removal, and the balance to utilities, taxes, insurance, mainte-

nance and compensation. Although we continue to explore alternative funding, the council cannot accomplish all the beautification goals as desired. We created a Town Beautification Fund to allow interested

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POLICE

Emergency 9-1-1
Non-Emergency 327-3811
Answering Mach. 253-5678

ADMINISTRATION

Town Council

Terrence O'Brien, President
979-5646

Katherine Ivceovich
251-0404

Abbe Hohmann
251-6227

Clerk Treasurer

John Taylor
459-7708

Town Attorney

Sue A. Beesley

Town Engineer

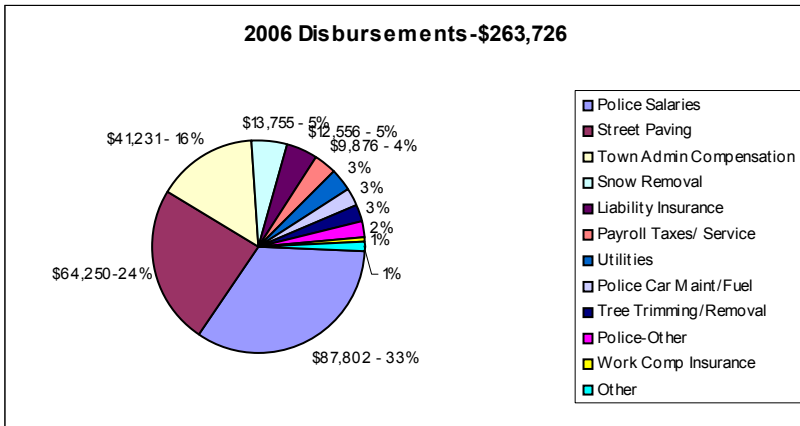
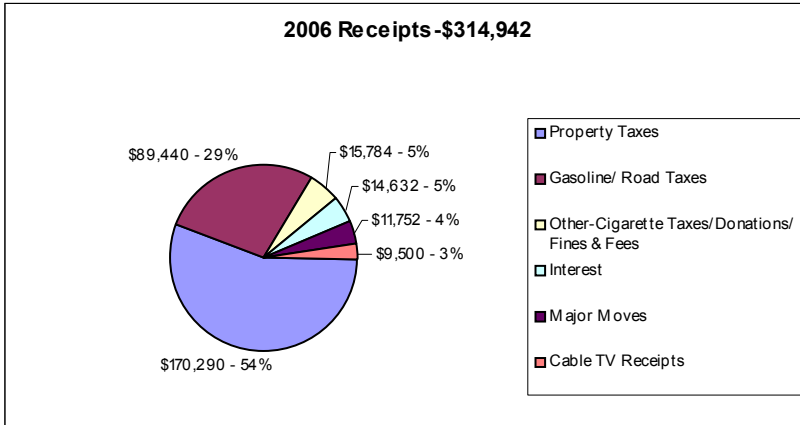
TBD

Town Marshal

Michael S. Russo

2006 Financial Summary

Below is a financial summary of 2006 showing approximately \$315,000 of receipts and \$264,000 worth of disbursements. The difference is thanks to a mild winter requiring less snow removal, and the first installment of \$11,752 the Town received from Major Moves. Our primary disbursements are for police protection and street maintenance.



Town Match Program

(Continued from page 1)

residents an opportunity to make tax-deductible donations to accomplish some of these goals. The council is now considering a proposed 80/20 Plan where residents donate 80% of the cost, and the Town matches 20% to allow installation for residents that would like to see such improvements completed in their neighborhood. This plan would not overburden the Town while allowing us to move forward with some of these beautification efforts driven by resident partici-



ation. If you'd like the new Street Name sign on your street, you and your neighbors could donate \$400 and the Town would match the rest. If you believe the new entry signs would improve and your

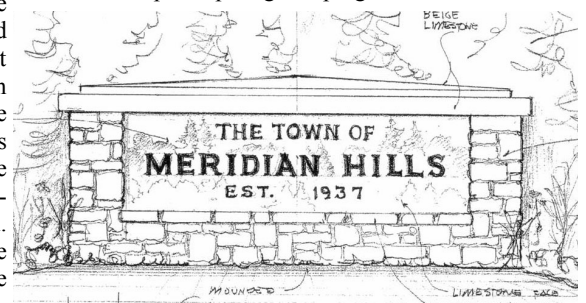
neighborhood, you and your neighbors could donate \$4,800 and the Town would match the rest and contract installation. Any match would be based on the Town's available funds, as we continue to be responsible for ongoing road maintenance and police protection. With your participation, we can begin to beautify the Town a little at a time.

10 STEPS FOR MERIDIAN HILLS RESIDENTS

- Call 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity
- Drive the speed limit (*then everyone behind you will!*)
- Trim trees and shrubs blocking traffic signs near your property
- Remove leaves & debris from stormwater drains near your property
- Remove unauthorized signs on poles or corners near your property
- Remove trash and weeds along the road near your property
- Contact the Town prior to any major remodeling or building for plan review
- Volunteer to serve on a Town Committee
- Donate to the Town Beautification Fund
- Get to know your neighbors to keep an eye on each other & visit the elderly and those living alone

Once a few of the new signs go up, more residents may donate once they see how nice they are.

Please call Terry O'Brien at 979-5646 to let us know your thoughts or concerns, or if you and your neighbors may be interested in participating in a program such as this.



STATE OF THE TOWN *(Continued from page 1)*

- Installed new “Speed Limit” and “Children Playing” signs where deficient on high-volume cut-through streets
- Reduced Town Speed Limit from 30MPH to 25MPH on local roads
- Sent letters, emails & phone calls to local churches, schools, and township bus director informing of speed limit reduction & stepped up enforcement & requested their cooperation



- Created ad hoc Town Planning Committee to study long-term issues to improve safety, property values, livability and community
- Received over 350 surveys from the first ever Town-wide Resident Survey
- Hosted Public Town Planning Meeting
- Hosted Public Meeting for Residents on 75th Street to solicit input specific to them
- Secured a volunteer architect to design new Town Entry Signs
- Approved design standard for Town Entry Signs, Street Name signs and Decorative Streetlights
- Applied for Keep Indianapolis Grant for Town beautification
- Established a Town Beautifica-

“With your support & tax deductible donations, we can work toward Town Beautification.”

tion Fund to allow residents to donate for the beautification efforts

- Secured a volunteer website developer and designed a new Town website
- Created ad hoc Council Review and Election Committee to study ideal council size and election process

During the next year the Town Council may address some of the following :

- Lobby City to issue driveway permits for the Town
- Develop Construction & Remodeling Steps and Guidelines
- 80/20 Matching Program outlined in this newsletter
- Fundraising effort to allow for Town Beautification including entry signs, street name signs, decorative streetlights & landscaping
- Continue to explore possible grant opportunities and alternative funding
- Update the Town Municipal Code
- Continue to study ways to reduce speeding and improve public safety and drainage

residents and manage your Town government with fiscal responsibility, fairness, improved communication, and opportunities to participate. We’ll continue to nurture the relationships we’ve established with the City, County and Township governments to improve our progress on ongoing issues. We’ve worked hard to build a framework for the Town. With your support and tax deductible financial donations, we can work toward accom-

We’ll continue to actively solicit input from

COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

Streets & Thoroughfares

Meridian Hills has approximately 11 miles of streets we’re responsible for maintaining, including snow removal, traffic signs, pothole repair and repaving. Although we rely on professional advice from our engineer, the Streets & Thoroughfares Committee studies many of these issues and makes recommendations to the Council. The committee is chaired by Kay Ivceвич and currently consists of Kay, Perry Jordan and Suzanne Bellamy.

They work with our engineer to develop actions necessary to maintain, construct and preserve the streets in our Town so we have a high quality system focusing on safety, efficiency, and convenience for residents. They recently recommended our 15 year roadway analysis, speed limit reduction, and methods to curtail speeding.

The committee meets on an as-needed basis throughout the year. Be sure to thank them for doing a great job and for donating their time and energy to the Town. If you’re interested in learning more, contact Kay Ivceвич at 251-0404 or ivceвич@comcast.net.

plishing many of the beautification efforts supported by residents.

The Town of Meridian Hills continues to be a great place to live. On behalf of the Town Council, thank you for your continued confidence and the opportunity to serve you.

-Terry O’Brien, President

Town of Meridian Hills
P.O. Box 40437
Indianapolis, IN 46240

www.meridianhills.org

Phone: 459-7708
Fax: 334-0955

Calendar of Events

Council Meetings - 7:00pm

February 12, March 12, April 9, May 14

January

- 21 "Family Fun Days," Holliday Park
1 - 5pm, FREE, 327-7180
- 27 St. Luke "Extravaganza", 6pm
The Fountains in Carmel, 259-4373
- 28 St. Luke Open House, 10am

February

- 4 "Judas Maccaabeus" by Handel,
performed with Hebrew Congregation
Choir at 4609 N. Capitol, FREE
- 4 "Yoga in the Park," Holliday Park
Tuesdays in Feb, noon, 327-7180
- 6 Park Tudor Founder's Day, 9:30am
- 23 - 25 "Festival of Faith"
Second Presbyterian, 253-6461
- 24 "Sap to Syrup", Holliday Park
9:30am - 12:30pm, \$4, 327-7180
- 25 "Family Fun Days," Holliday Park
1 - 5pm, FREE, 327-7180

March

- 9 - 10 Upper School Musical "Grease"
Park Tudor, 8pm, 415-2705
- 12 "General Colin L. Powell,"
Hebrew Congregation Block Series
7:30pm, \$75 - \$125, 255-6647
- 18 "New Addition Open House"
Second Presbyterian, 253-6461
- 24 Holliday Park Trail Run, Children's
Run & Tot Trot, 9:30am, 475-9482

April

- 27 - 29 "Orchard in Bloom"
Holliday Park, 713-5765
Fri 9am - 8p, Sat - Sun 9am - 5pm

FREE PAPER RECYCLING!
First Congregational Church back lot

Town Election This Year

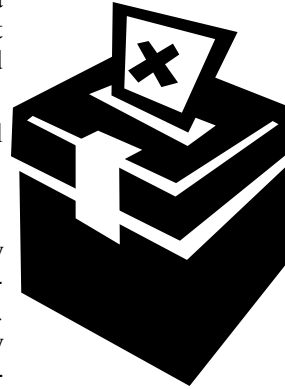
The Town of Meridian Hills has an election year in 2007. Since two current officials have decided not to run for re-election, there is a need for new people to get involved. The four elected positions include:

- (3) At-large Council Members
- (1) Clerk Treasurer

This is a great opportunity to participate in your government at a local level. Although a candidate may run with any party affiliation, if an elected official cannot fulfill their 4-year commitment for any reason, a candidate who runs as an independent allows for more local control since the replacement is appointed by the Town Council rather than the county-level chairperson of a political party. (This actually happened twice in the past three years.)

The Marion County Election Board processes our elections during the general election the first Tuesday in November. A candidate must sign a Declaration of Candidacy and Petition of Nomination with resident signatures no later than July 2nd in order to be an independent candidate in the fall election. The deadline is February 23 for those wishing to run with a party affiliation. Interested residents are encouraged to attend

the monthly council meetings and participate at a committee level to get a better understanding of the job. For more information, please call one of your elected Meridian Hills Town officials or the Marion County Election Board at 327-5100, or visit meridianhills.org.



*This newsletter is produced by the Communications Committee for the Town of Meridian Hills.
If you're interested in contributing to the newsletter,
please contact Terry O'Brien at 979-5646 or Helen Carroll at 722-4350.*

Town of Meridian Hills

P.O. Box 40437

Indianapolis, IN 46240

meridianhills.org

*Town of Meridian Hills
Established 1937*