

Town of Meridian Hills

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 21, 2009

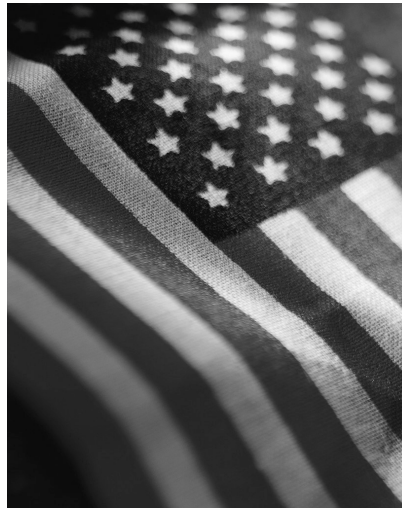
STATE OF THE TOWN

2008 was a successful year for the Town. Although the council operated in a state of limbo due to the uncertainty of the property tax resolution, following are some of the many accomplishments completed over the last twelve months:

- Transitioned to New Council
- Transferred \$30,000 to Rainy Day Fund
- Maintained more than \$360K in deposited funds - more than one year of operating capital
- Successfully lobbied State to remove language in Senate Bill 280 that eliminated Included Towns
- Streamlined council agendas
- Developed "Town Partner" program
- Added vacation checks, weather forecasts, Amber alerts, neighborhood crime watch & sex offender watch

to town website

- Installed new stopbars at major intersections



- Restriped major streets
- Implemented "Keep Indianapolis Beautiful" grant at 73rd Street at no cost to the town
- Successfully lobbied City to install new decorative streetlight on 73rd at no cost to the town

- Purchased new computer for town police
- Applied for & received \$13,410 from FEMA for storm damage
- Hosted 2nd Town Drainage Seminar - "Drainage 2.0"
- Approved budget for 2009
- Successfully lobbied & worked with City to repave College Ave
- Installed new timber guardrails on Sherwood Dr.
- Installed 4 new Town Entry signs
- Installed 4 new Decorative Street Name signs
- Successfully lobbied Division of Forestry to perform \$4,000 tree work at no cost to the town
- Successfully lobbied city to replace 2 culverts on Morningside at no cost to the town

(Continued on page 2)

Dealing with Potholes

Winter weather conditions create seasonal freeze-thaw cycles that can be harmful to the Town's roads. A negative result can be the formation of potholes.

If you notice potholes that have formed on a street in the Town maintained by the City of Indianapolis - College, Meridian, Spring

Mill, 71st, 73rd - contact the Mayor's Action Center at 327-4622 or online at: www.indy.gov.org/eGov/Mayor/mac.htm.

To notify the Town Engineer of potholes on streets maintained by the Town, please email beckerle@crossroadengineers.com or fax 780-6525 with the de-

scription and location of the pothole, including a street address.

Your prompt notification will help us maintain the high quality of our Town roads, and protect motorists from possible damage to their vehicle. Thank you for your assistance!

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POLICE

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

ADMINISTRATION

Town Council

Jim Rush, President
257-1886

Terry O'Brien
979-5646

Walter Freihofer
253-5556

Clerk Treasurer

John Taylor
459-7708

Town Attorney

Sue A. Beesley

Town Engineer

Jay Vorisek, P.E.

Town Marshal

Michael S. Russo

meridianhills.org

STATE OF THE TOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

- Maintained the critical path for road maintenance planning & budgeting
- Performed crack seal on 65% of town streets - 6.3 of 11.55 miles
- Developed Pothole Maintenance Plan
- Purchased 3 ANSI safety vests for Town Police
- Purchased 6 large traffic cones for town police
- Completed bank analysis & transferred to new bank
- Dealt with construction projects & variance issues

- Lobbying city to issue driveway permits in the Town
- Repaving 75th Street while studying improved shared access & safety
- Exploring grant opportunities & alternative funding
- Fundraising
- Installing 3 additional Town Entry signs
- Installing additional decorative Street Name signs
- Lobbying city to install decorative streetlights at no cost to the town
- Studying the future of Holliday & Marrott Parks with the city
- Studying ways to reduce speed & improve public safety
- Lobbying state to keep town as a separate entity
- Work with Town Police to discourage crime wherever possible
- Organizing "Community Cleanup Days"
- Further develop "Town Partners Program"

FUN FACT

In the 1700s, before mechanized digging machines, potters dug for clay by hand. During the winter, the ground froze, making it impossible to dig in the fields, so they had to dig along the lanes where carriages and horses broke down the soil, thus creating...POT HOLES!

These accomplishments, along with the day-to-day management of your town, were possible due to the hard work and dedication of your elected officials, the many contributions of time and talent by volunteer residents, and the continued guidance and knowledge of qualified professionals. We're very fortunate to have such a wealth of experience and passion working for the Town.

During 2009, the council may consider the following issues:

- Updating Town Municipal Code
- Implementing encroachment licenses
- Codification of street usage for heavy traffic
- Lobbying city to recognize side & rear setbacks

The Town Administration will continue to manage your government with fiscal responsibility, fairness, improved communication, and opportunities to participate. We'll work to improve the livability and quality of life for residents of the Town of Meridian Hills. I'd like to personally thank Walter Freihofer & Terry O'Brien, John Taylor & Bernie Bruno, Jay Vorisek & Brad Eckerle, Sue Beesley, Mike Russo & his police staff, and Jud Scott & John Bedwell. On behalf of the Town Council, thank you for your confidence and the opportunity to serve you.

*- James A. Rush
2008 Council President*



Vine & Branch has helped the Town of Meridian Hills maintain safe roadways for several years with expert tree inspection, analysis, and proper pruning.

Now we want to ensure the safety of the trees on your property as well.



Warm weather means outdoor playtime and family gatherings.

Call us today for a **FREE** visual tree assessment to help keep your property safe for you and your kids!

Contact the Vine & Branch experts today!

317.846.3778

www.vineandbranch.net info@vineandbranch.net

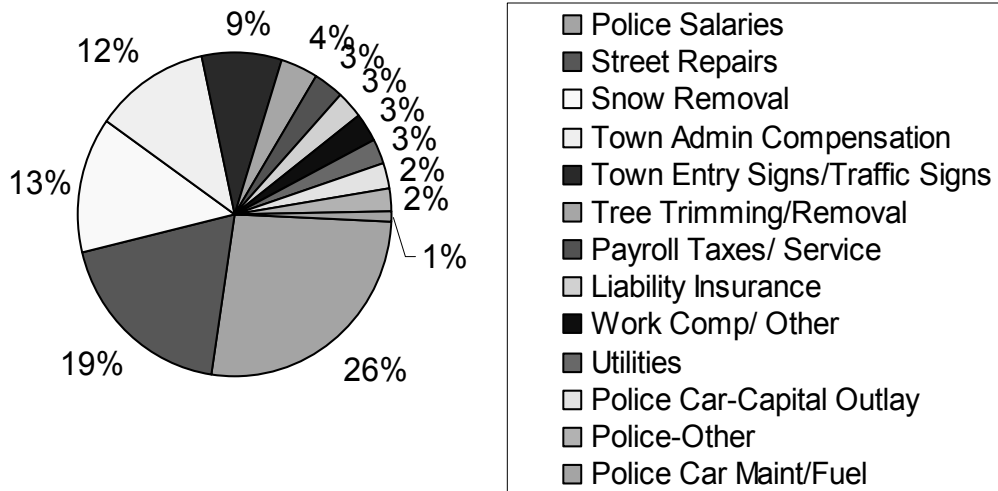
4721 E. 146th Street · Carmel, IN 46033

Ordinance Passed in 2008

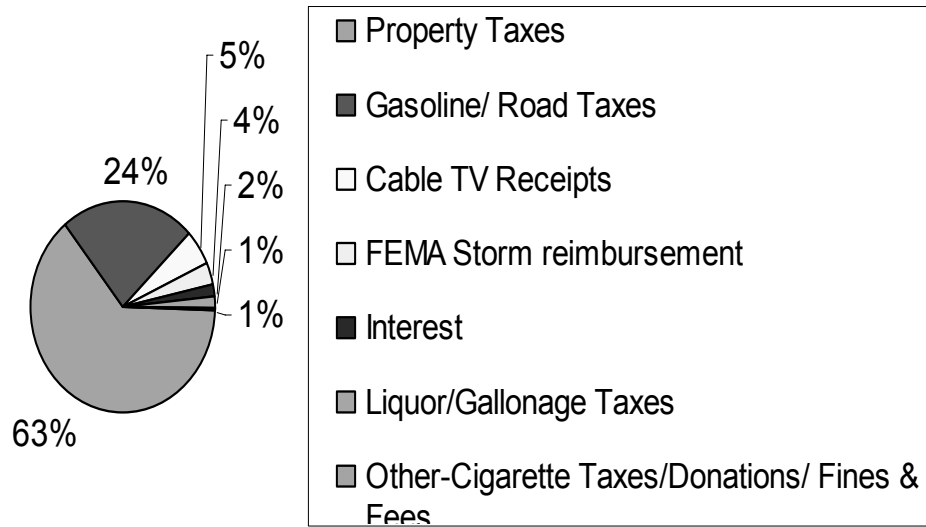
MH 01-08 Revising Regular Council Meeting Agenda

2008 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2008 Disbursements-\$348,812



2008 Receipts-\$348,525



| | | |
|--------------------------------|-------|---|
| Police Salaries | 92375 | |
| Street Repairs | 65971 | Property Taxes |
| Snow Removal | 46750 | Gasoline/ Road Taxes |
| Town Admin Compensation | 41683 | Cable TV Receipts |
| Town Entry Signs/Traffic Signs | 29757 | FEMA Storm reimbursement |
| Tree Trimming/Removal | 13547 | Interest |
| Payroll Taxes/ Service | 10034 | Liquor/Gallonage Taxes |
| Liability Insurance | 9917 | Other-Cigarette Taxes/Donations/ Fines & Fees |
| Work Comp/ Other | 8779 | |
| Utilities | 8563 | |
| Police Car-Capital Outlay | 7277 | |
| Police-Other | 4164 | |
| Police Car Maint/Fuel | | |
| | | 221568 |
| | | 82307 |
| | | 18735 |
| | | 12313 |
| | | 6334 |
| | | 4985 |
| | | 2283 |



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

www.meridianhills.org

Phone: 459-7708
Fax: 334-0955

Calendar of Events

Regular Council Meetings - 7:00pm

March 9, May 11, July 13,
September 14, November 9

February

- 21 "Sap to Syrup," Holliday Park, \$5
9:30am - 12:30pm, 327-7180
- 14 "Sweetheart Banquet," Second
Presbyterian Church, \$24
5:30pm - 8:30pm, 253-6461
- 22 "Family Fun Day - Scavenger
Hunt," Holliday Park, 1pm - 5pm,
327-7180, FREE
- 27 "Family Friday Night - Winter
Night Hike," Holliday Park, \$3,
7pm - 8pm, 327-7180
- 28 "Maximizing Backyard Habitats,"
Holliday Park, \$35, 9:30am - 4pm

March

- 1 "New Century String Quartet,"
Second Presbyterian Church, 3pm,
253-6461
- 13 - 15 "Anything Goes," Park Tudor
Ayres Auditorium, 7:30pm on 13th,
4pm on 14th, 3pm on 15th,
\$12, 415-2705
- 21 "Holliday Park Trail Run," 9:30am
registration fee, 327-7180

April

- 12 EASTER SUNDAY
- 19 "Wayne Foster Organ Series Con
cert," Second Presbyterian Church,
3pm, 253-6461

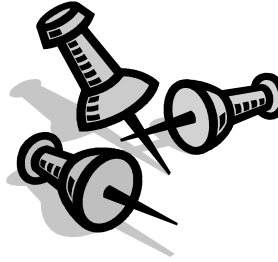
May

- 2 "Extravaganza," St. Luke Catholic
Church, gymnasium, 6:30pm,
259-4373
- 17 "Handel's Messiah," Second Pres
byterian Church, 4pm, 253-6461

BULLETIN BOARD

The newest features on the Town website include a Drainage Fact Sheet from DPW, Instructions for Reporting Potholes, and a link to the City's Permit & Compliance website. The website is a great resource for all kinds of Town information!

The Arden Homeowner's Association is hosting a seminar on Neighborhood Safety & Crime Prevention at 7pm, Tuesday, March 3rd in the Park Tudor Upper School and have invited residents of Meridian Hills to attend. Don't miss this helpful safety seminar!



Special thanks to our Town Police and John Bedwell and his crew for doing an *outstanding* job removing snow and keeping our town streets safe. Please continue to slow down when driving in these winter conditions. Most slide-offs are due to excessive speed for the conditions of the roads. Not even the heaviest four-wheel drive can maintain control when it comes to ice!

The 5-Mile Holliday Park Trail Run takes place Saturday, March 21, 9:30am. The 1-Mile Children's Run starts at 10:40am & the Tot Trot at 10:50am. Call 327-7180 for additional information or register at tuxbro.com.

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*