

Town of Meridian Hills

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

FEBRUARY 21, 2010

STATE OF THE TOWN

Even though 2009 was an extraordinary year in both local politics and the economy, the Town of Meridian Hills was well-positioned to weather the difficult times. Following are some of the accomplishments completed over the last twelve months:

- Transferred \$30,000 to Rainy Day Fund
- Received \$102,000 from Stimulus Package for 2010 75th Street Repaving Project
- Successfully lobbied Metropolitan Emergency Communications Agency to forward Indianapolis Metropolitan Police monthly dispatch reports for Meridian Hills and Williams Creek beats
- Successfully Lobbied Indianapolis to assume costs of 6 streetlights
- Sponsored the "Great Meridian Hills Clean Up" with resident volunteers

- Installed 3 new Town Entry Signs
- Updated the Roadway Management Program and Approved \$69,870 for 2009 Road Maintenance Projects



- Raised \$3,565 in resident donations to install 10 new Decorative Street Name Signs
- Matched funds of resident donations to landscape Town Entry Sign at 64th & Meridian
- Successfully lobbied

Indianapolis to recognize Meridian Hills side and rear yard setback standards when approving permits

- Successfully lobbied Indianapolis to install new chevron signs on Meridian Hills Blvd.

- Successfully lobbied Indianapolis to repair the culvert under Sherwood Drive Bridge

- Successfully lobbied Division of Forestry to perform over \$2,500 of tree work at no cost to the Town

- Installed new timber guardrails on Sherwood Drive Bridge

- Updated the Meridian Hills Municipal Code

- Approved Balanced Budget for 2010

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Update on 75th St. Stimulus Project

With the obligation of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding by the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to the 75th Street project, the Town will resurface 75th Street from Pennsylvania Street to College Avenue. By utilizing federal funding, the project bidding procedures had to

follow the requirements and procedures of the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT). Construction is anticipated for the spring of 2010 with a final completion date prior to June 1, 2010.

The improvements along 75th Street are anticipated to include asphalt milling and resurfacing of 75th street

from Pennsylvania Street to the west side of College Avenue. New pavement markings will be installed to include yellow centerline and white stop bar markings. Some street signs will be replaced along 75th Street from Spring Mill Road to College Avenue.

- Brad Eckerle
Town Engineer

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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

Brad Eckerle, PE, SIT

Town Marshal

Michael S. Russo

meridianhills.org

STATE OF THE TOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

- Completed bank analysis and transferred to new bank
- Secured new Lawn Maintenance vendor
- Secured new Snow Removal vendor after prior vendor of 15 years retired

These accomplishments could not have been done without the hard work and dedication of your elected officials, the many contributions of time and talent from volunteer residents, and the continued guidance of our qualified professionals. We are extremely fortunate to have such knowledgeable, experienced and dedicated professionals working on behalf of the Town.

FUN FACT

What color is snow?

Believe it or not, snow is actually transparent. Snow appears white because the crystals act as prisms, breaking up the light of the sun into the entire spectrum of color. The human eye is unable to handle that kind of sensory overload. Therefore, we see the snow as white or sometimes blue. The color of snow can depend on the environment in which you live. Some snowflakes look like they are pink. If you live in a place where your soil is red, snow is pink. The red dust blows into the clouds, discoloring the snow. Remember to stay away from the yellow snow!

Following are some of the issues the council may consider in the upcoming year:

- Implementing Right-of-Way Encroachment Licenses
- Repaving 75th Street while studying improved shared access

- Update the Sign Management Program to reflect new standards
- Exploring grant opportunities & alternative funding
- Fundraising
- Installing additional Decorative Street Name signs
- Installing additional Decorative Streetlights
- Exploring changing 75th Street's name to "Meridian Hills Drive"
- Studying resident requests for street closures to improve traffic management
- Restructuring Town Committees
- Studying the future of Holliday and Marrott Parks

Continuing to lobby Indianapolis to improve bridges at 6300 N. Meridian, 7600 N. College, 7800 N. Springmill; improve the shoulders and median on Meridian between 7700 and 8000; pave 75th between Westfield and the bridge over the creek east of College and mark shoulder for pedestrian/bicycle use only; address drainage issues.

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, public safety and quality of life for residents of the Town of Meridian Hills. On behalf of the Town Council, thank you for your confidence and the opportunity to serve you.

- James A. Rush

2009 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.



Be Prepared for Seasonal Storms!

Call us today for a **FREE** visual tree assessment that will help to keep you safe from property damage and loss.

Contact the Vine & Branch experts today!

317.846.3778

vineandbranch.net info@vineandbranch.net

4721 E. 146th Street • Carmel, IN 46033

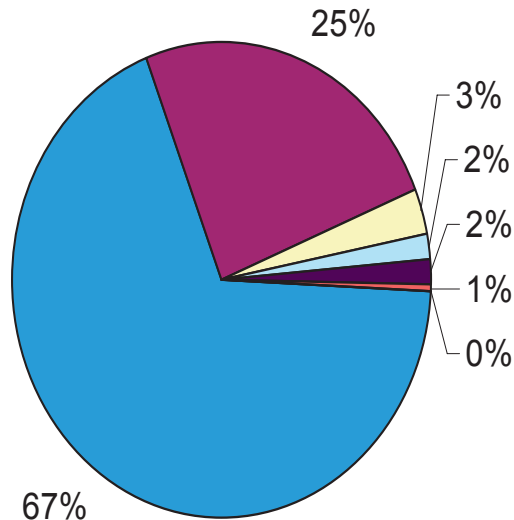
Ordinance Passed in 2009

MH 01-09 Updating the Town Municipal Code

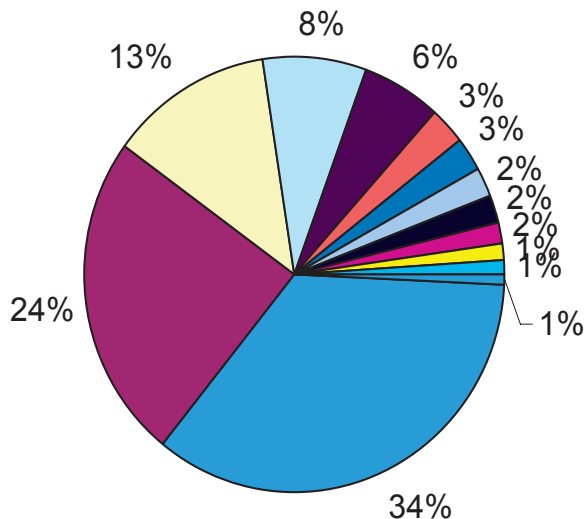
2009 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2009 Receipts- \$307,722

- Property Taxes
- Gasoline/ Road Taxes
- Cable TV Receipts
- Liquor/Gallonage/Cigarette Taxes
- Donations
- Interest
- Other-Fines & Fees



2009 Disbursements-\$405,439



- Street Repairs
- Police Salaries
- Town Admin Compensation
- Snow Removal
- Town Entry Signs/Traffic Signs
- Payroll Taxes/ Service
- Liability Insurance
- Utilities
- Police Car-Capital Outlay
- Tree Trimming/Removal
- Police-Other
- Police Car Maint/Fuel
- Work Comp/ Other

2009 Disbursements - \$405,439

Street Repairs	\$142,295
Police Salaries	\$ 97,935
Town Admin Compensation	\$ 50,738
Snow Removal	\$ 32,100
Town Entry Signs/Traffic Signs	\$ 24,837
Payroll Taxes/Services	\$ 11,095
Liability Insurance	\$ 10,850
Utilities	\$ 8,150
Police Car/Capital Outlay	\$ 8,131
Tree Trimming	\$ 6,370
Police - Other	\$ 5,360
Police Car - Maintenance/Fuel	\$ 4,412
Work Comp/Other	\$ 3,166

2009 Receipts - \$307,722

Property Taxes	\$210,273
Gasoline/Road Taxes	\$ 75,853
Cable TV Receipts	\$ 9,373
Liquor/Gallonage/Cigarette Taxes	\$ 5,104
Donations	\$ 5,065
Interest	\$ 1,668
Other - Fines/Fees	\$ 386

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 8, May 10, July 12,
September 13, November 8*

March

- 14 "Family Fun Day," Holliday Park,
1-5pm, FREE, 327-7180
- 14-15 "Indiana State Daffodil Show,"
Holliday Park, Wed. 12-5pm,
Thurs. 9am-noon, FREE, 327-7180
- 20 "Holliday Park Trail Run,"
Holliday Park, Registration at 8am,
Run at 9:30am, \$15-\$25, 327-7180
- 27 "Indiana Daffodil Society Pro-
gram," Holliday Park, 1-2pm,
FREE, 327-7180

April

- 4 EASTER SUNDAY
- 16 "Family Friday Nights," Holliday
Park, 6:30-8pm, \$3, 327-7180
- 18 "Family Fun Day," Holliday Park,
1-5pm, FREE, 327-7180
- 18 "Take Flight," Holliday Park,
2-3pm, \$3, 327-7180
- 24 "Volunteer Work Day,"
Holliday Park, 9:30am - noon,
FREE, 327-7180
- 24 "St. Luke Extravaganza,"
St. Luke Catholic Church, 6:30pm,
\$60, 259-4373
- 30-May 2 "Orchard in Bloom,"
Holliday Park, \$12 entrance fee,
14 and under - FREE, 251-9253

May

- 22 "Indiana Daylily/Iris Society:
Iris Show," Holliday Park, 1-4pm,
FREE, 327-7180

FIRE HYDRANT VISIBILITY

If a fire were to occur in your neighborhood, could the fire fighters easily locate the nearest fire hydrant to your home? Is the view and access to the hydrant obstructed?



In the event of a fire, every second is valuable. Time should not be spent by fire fighters searching or clearing to obtain access to the hydrant.

Vegetation, landscaping, and other improvements should be maintained as to not obstruct the view in all directions. As described in Chapter X of the Municipal Code for the Town of Meridian Hills, the owner is responsible to trim vegetation that obstructs the view or access to fire hydrants in the Town. Per the Uniform Fire Code Section

1001.7.2, "A 3-foot clear space shall be maintained around the circumference of fire hydrants except as otherwise required or approved."

For the safety of your family and neighbors, ensure the nearest fire hydrant can be quickly located and easily accessed. Keep the hydrants clear of vegetation, leaves, and snow to allow the fire department to perform emergency services as soon as possible. As neighbors, we can work together to protect our families.

Phone Numbers

- *Call Before You Dig - 8-1-1*
- *Mayor's Action Center - 327-4622*
- *Mosquito Control - 221-7440*
- *Permitting - 327-8700*
- *Pot Holes - 780-1555 x 116*
- *Power Outage - 261-8111*
- *Street Lights Out - 261-8111*

*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.*

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Indianapolis, IN 46240

meridianhills.org

*Town of Meridian Hills
Established 1937*