

From the Desk of the Mayor

BALTIC VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

VILLAGE EVENTS

-Village Council Meeting:

Every 3rd Tuesday @ 7:00 PM
(at the Village Hall)

-Arbor Day:

April 26th

-Village Garage Sales:

May 1st - 4th

There will be a large dumpster in town for public use, through May 5th. It will be located at the new Village Garage (The green building by the water plant on Buena Vista)



Easter Egg Hunt at the Park

Water & Sewer Transfer Update!

The transfer of our water and sewer system to Tuscarawas County is nearly complete.

Technically, the system, along with all lands, buildings, and equipment pertaining to the water and sewer system will be transferred to a water and sewer district. That district will be governed by a board of three people. The Baltic Village Council will appoint one member, and Tuscarawas County will appoint two.

This district was successfully formed on April 18th following approval by a panel of judges from all three counties in which Baltic is located; Tuscarawas, Holmes, and Coshocton.

This district will then contract with the Tuscarawas County Metropolitan Sewer District to do all of the maintenance, upgrades, and operation of the system, along with the water billing.

With the district formed, the next steps are for the Village Council to appoint our representative to the district board, then to approve the transfer agreement. This should all be done within the next month or two.

The County operators are already doing most of the work at the plants, and have begun familiarizing themselves with our meter reading and billing systems.

Once the County takes over all operations, some bumps are to be expected. Some billing confusion may occur in the first couple of cycles, but should smooth out pretty quickly and be better than ever before going forward.

Please be patient with us as we work to improve your water and sewer service! It will be over before we know it.

Over please,

Another critical step for this transfer is a thorough audit of some of the water billing issues that have been a problem for the last several years. I began a serious investigation into the problems immediately upon taking office as mayor, and have invested several dozen hours into the matter in the three months since.

I recently presented some preliminary findings to our village council.

There are many factors that I believe have contributed to the issues that have generated so many complaints. For the time being, I will continue to investigate thoroughly until we can provide conclusive answers. All the findings will be made public later this year when our regular state audit concludes (Likely late summer or fall). This has been necessary to give the county a fresh slate to work with and provide village residents with answers for the concerns expressed regarding their bills..

The county has more resources in experienced and highly trained staff, better equipment, etc. which I believe will begin to noticeably improve our water service and billing by the end of this year. I will try to keep you all as informed as possible moving forward.

Thank you all,

-Doug

Thank you to all who supported our Fire Department through the Hog Roast this year! Well over \$60,000 was raised! You all really came through for our emergency services!

For Village Updates and Information

Village Website: villageofbaltic.com

Mayor's Facebook Page:
[scan QR code with smart phone]



NOTICES

From the Mayor:

*Zach Fanning and Chris Miller resigned from the village council on April 15th. I will be interviewing some candidates to fill their seats soon.

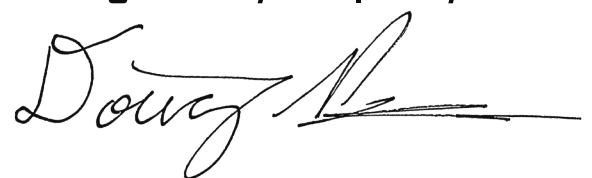
*Rose Baxter resigned from her position as village administrator on April 16th. I will be conducting interviews for this position as well in the coming weeks.

From the Water Department:

*Until the County Takes over our system, the water department has no one to read meters, and those with manual reads may continue to receive estimated bills. We apologize for any inconvenience.

*Due to the transfer of the Water and Sewer plants to Tuscarawas County, no hunting our trapping permits will be issued by the village for those lands any longer. The County will now be responsible for that land. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Douglas Plyler | Mayor



APRIL 2024