



The Town Crier

February 2010

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Did You Know?



The Crescent Players will present Meridith Willson's "The Music Man," at New Bremen's James F. Dicke Auditorium (901 E. Monroe Street). Performances are April 8, 9 and 10, 2010 at 7 p.m.; and April 10 and 11 at 2 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased after March 15 at Western Ohio True Value Hardware in Minster, or by calling 419.628.4166. Presale tickets: \$8 for seniors, children and students, and \$10 for adults. Prices at the door: \$2 higher.

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Find future meeting dates online at <http://www.minsteroh.com/calendar/Calendar.htm>

Electric Cost of Service Study Completed

Courtney & Associates, recently completed an electric cost of service study for the Village. During this review current and projected expenditures as well as current projected electrical revenue are evaluated to determine if current rates are adequate to generate enough revenue to cover expenditures. This information is then further broken down to determine the expenditures for each customer class (Residential, Commercial, Industrial) as well as how much revenue each customer class generates.

The results of this cost of service study show that the Village must adjust current electric rates to meet future projected expenditures. An approximate across the board increase of 4.5% is needed to meet 2010 projected revenue requirements and to restore the electric fund balance. The study also concluded that the current rate structure is reasonable, but customer and demand charges do

not reflect the true cost of providing service.

So what does this mean to the average customer? The table below provides a snapshot of the

changes for Residential, Commercial and the majority of the Industrial customers. Upon passage by the Village Council these new rates will be applied to the April 2010 utility bill.

Residential - RI			Private Outdoor Lighting/Month		
	Current	Proposed		Current	Proposed
Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 2.75	\$ 4.00	100 Watt High Pressure Sodium	\$ 6.00	\$ 8.00
Energy Charges			175 Watt Mercury Vapor	\$ 6.00	\$ 8.00
First 750 kWh/month	\$ 0.0568	\$ 0.0835	250 Watt High Pressure Sodium	\$ 10.00	\$ 12.50
Over 750 kWh/month	\$ 0.0477	\$ 0.0835	400 Watt Mercury Vapor	\$ 10.00	\$ 12.50

Commercial/Industrial - Single Phase - GS1			Commercial/Industrial - Demand (Single & Three Phase) - GS1		
	Current	Proposed		Current	Proposed
Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 8.00	\$ 10.00	Demand Charges		
Energy Charges			First 3,000 kWh/month	\$ 8.75	\$ 10.00
First 2,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0477	\$ 0.0700	Over 3,000 kWh/month	\$ 8.75	\$ 8.7500
Over 2,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0285	\$ 0.0500			
			Commercial/Industrial - Three Phase - GS1		
				Current	Proposed
Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00			
Energy Charges					
First 2,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0477	\$ 0.0700			
Over 2,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0285	\$ 0.0500			

Small Commercial/Industrial - Single Phase - GS2			Small Commercial/Industrial - Three Phase - GS2		
	Current	Proposed		Current	Proposed
Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 4.00	\$ 5.00	Monthly Customer Charge	\$ 7.50	\$ 10.00
Energy Charges			Energy Charges		
First 5,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0745	\$ 0.1000	First 2,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0745	\$ 0.1000
Over 5,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0568	\$ 0.0800	Over 2,000 kWh/month	\$ 0.0568	\$ 0.0800

Organization Looking to Match Student Volunteers

Do you know an organization or individual that is in need of a little extra help? Maybe you can't get to the grocery store, mow your grass or need some help organizing and managing a fundraiser. The newly formed Minster Student Outreach Services (S.O.S.) Club may just be the answer you are looking for.

The purpose of this student-based club is to offer and encour-

age volunteerism among students (Grades 9-12) by uniting able volunteers with individuals and organizations in need of assistance. The 78 member volunteer club recently completed its first community service project and raised over \$3,000 to assist the earthquake victims in Haiti. Members are now eyeing projects that will have a direct impact locally.

To request assistance from this group, you must complete a Student Outreach Services application, available at the Minster High School Office. Committee members, parent and administrative supervisors will review the applications and determine if the application will become an approved service project. It's that easy. Contact the school today to apply!

Village of Minster

5 W. Fourth Street
P.O. Box 1
Minster, OH 45865

Administration
419.628.3497

Electric Department
419.628.2850

Parks & Recreation
419.628.3404

Police Non-Emergency
419.628.2378

Street Department
419.628.3404

Wastewater Treatment
419.628.2663

Water Department
419.628.2850

Utility Billing
419.628.2850

Traffic Signs to be Updated

Roadway safety concerns have intensified over the years because of many factors including more aging drivers on the road, altered headlamp performance and an increased number of large trucks on the road. As a result of these concerns and others, the Federal Highway Administration mandated new minimum sign retroreflectivity standards which became final in 2008. These changes are designed to help with night visibility of traffic signs, glare and other driver safety issues.



As a part of this mandate the Village will be required to :

- Assess the signs on their roads and develop a replacement plan by 2012.
- Replace non-compliant warning and regulatory signs by 2015.

- Replace guidance and street name signs by 2018.

Village employees are currently completing the assessment of all local traffic signs as a part of this mandate. While the signs placed on recent street renovation projects meet these new standards, the Village is in the process of identifying non-compliant signs. Once all signs have been inventoried a plan for replacement will be developed. In addition, the Village will be seeking grant funds to cover the costs of this unfunded mandate. *Source: <http://www.minimumreflectivity.org/>*

FOR THE LATEST NEWS

VISIT US ON THE WEB:

WWW.MINSTEROH.COM

Upcoming AOA Activities

March 4, 2010
RSVP

AOA Lunch Bunch
Youth Building—11 a.m.

March 10, 2010
AOA Movie
FJ Stallo Library—1 p.m.

April 1, 2010
RSVP
AOA Lunch Bunch
Youth Building—11 a.m.

April 7, 2010
AOA Movie
FJ Stallo Library—1 p.m.

Four Seasons Sledding Hill is Winter Hot Spot

Winter sports and activities are a lot of fun. The sledding hill at Four Seasons Park is certainly a hot spot for local winter fun. With all the excitement and giggles radiating from the park, its hard to imagine that kids and adults alike can and do get hurt every year sledding.

With this in mind, the Parks & Recreation Department would like to offer the following helpful sledding safety guidelines.

- Select age-appropriate sized hills, avoiding steep inclines for small children.
- Never sled alone. Small

children should always be accompanied by an adult.

- Insist that children wear bicycle helmets
- Use the proper equipment. Do not use sheets of metal, pieces of wood, etc., for sleds.
- Use the equipment properly. Don't stand or put more people on the sled than what it was designed for.
- If an adult rides on a sled with a child, the adult should sit with the child seated snugly in front, between the adult's legs.

- Never lay down on a sled. Always sit up on a sled. You'll have more control and be better prepared if you do lose control.
- Stay alert, keep your eyes open and use common sense.
- When going back up the hill, walk to the side of it, away from oncoming sleds.
- Dress appropriately.
- Don't forget the sunscreen and lip balm with sunscreen. It may seem strange in winter, but sunlight reflects off the bright white snow and back onto your face, so be sure to cover exposed areas.

Korean War Era Tribute Set to Begin in March

The Minster Historical Society is now in the set-up stages for their next exhibit "A Tribute to the 1950's and the Korean War Era" which starts on March 28th and runs through July 27th. There will be a special one-day only exhibit on March 28th!

They are currently looking for all those wonderful items to rekindle memories of the 1950's. They are currently accepting items to be put on loan and shared for this exhibit. Where are those school and sports items: uniforms, report

cards, class pictures, letter sweaters, etc.? They are also looking for wedding dresses and pictures, and clothing from this era. Toys, dolls and lunch boxes too.

The Korean War Veterans have brought in some wonderful items, but more is needed! The Historical Society would love to have a picture of every Minster Veteran from this time period to put on display.

The Historical Society is also starting a new fund raising project,

a Minster Heritage Cookbook "Old and New", to purchase much-needed preservation equipment at the museum. They are currently collecting recipes from all of Minster's best cooks. Don't be left out! You can visit www.minsterhistoricalsociety.com to download the submission form. This book will contain not only recipes, but will also touch on the historical aspect of Minster with many old pictures and a little history mixed in as well. The cookbook will be due out in September 2010.