

VILLAGE OF RAPIDS CITY

2020 SPRING QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

GREETINGS TO OUR RESIDENTS & BUSINESSES!!

Please see backside of this page for a message from our Village President Harold Mire Jr.

Regular Board Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7pm. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic the Village Board has been using a teleconferencing option to conduct our meetings. Effective July 14th meetings will be held in the Community Center until social distancing restrictions have been lifted. Agendas are posted to our website the Friday before each meeting. If you would like to stay engaged on all matters of village business you can review all meeting minutes posted on our website once approved.

Your Annual Water Quality Report is now available at www.ilrwa.org/CCR/RapCity.pdf. To speak with someone about this report or to have a copy of it mailed to you, please call 309-496-2321.

A hard copy of the Annual Water Quality Report will be available in pamphlet form and displayed at the Village Office for review.



Was one of your purchases during quarantine a new pool? Want to let your kiddos play in the sprinkler?



Do you want to water your grass?

Consider purchasing a separate water meter to keep your bill lower each month. By installing a second meter for outdoor water usage you can avoid paying for sewer charges. For more information please contact the Village Office during normal business hours.

If you did purchase a pool during quarantine here is something every pool owner should know, according to Village Ordinance: Every person who owns or is in possession of any premises on which there is situated a swimming pool which has a water depth of twenty-four inches (24") or more in any portion, shall maintain on the lot or premises upon which such swimming pool is situated, a fence, wall or other adequate structure completely surrounding the pool to make it inaccessible to small children. The fence, wall or other structure must be not less than six feet (6') in height, with no openings large enough to admit a child or other person except through doors or gates.



We want to ensure the safety of all residents and visitors in Rapids City. Please use caution when discharging water and yard debris into the streets as the act could cause a safety hazard.

- Sump pump discharge is allowed on certain village streets, as long as the curb and gutter on the street can disperse the discharged water safely. For clarification if you can discharge your sump pump into the street call to the Village Office, 309-496-2321.
- Please help with keeping our streets and culverts clean by not raking leaves or dispersing mower debris into the streets. These types of debris can plug the storm drains, which causes flooding in yards & streets.

The Village Code of Ordinances covers all of the above mentioned matters. All Village Ordinances can be found online at <http://rapidscity.us/docs/RC-Ordinances-03-20.pdf>

With warmer weather residents, including young children, are enjoying bike rides and walks please use caution when driving our neighborhood streets. We want everyone to have a happy and safe summer!



Hampton/ Rapids City Police Department are please to introduce our new Chief of Police Ryan Tone. Chief Tone has many years of law enforcement training and history. If you see one of our finest Hampton/ Rapids City Police Officers around town give them a wave and a smile.

Per Village Ordinance please leash all pets. It is unlawful for animals to leave the premises of its owner when not under control by leash or other recognized control methods. We want to ensure the safety of all residents, even if they are four legged.



Notice: Your August 1st, 2019 billing statement will reflect an increase in garbage and recycle rates to **\$13.25** per month.

Yardwaste disposal pickup is now available. Yardwaste stickers are available for purchase at the Village Office. All yardwaste is to be placed in craft bags or if you have limbs, please bundle with twine for easy pick up. If you plan to have yardwaste for pickup please contact the Village Office at least one day prior to arrange for a special pickup.

Large item pickup day has changed to the first Thursday of the first full week of the month. Reminder this is a single item pick-up service collected once a month. I have listed all large item pick up dates for the remainder of the year. May 7th - June 11th - July 9th - August 6th - September 10th - October 8th - November 5th - December 10th

As always, be sure all waste is placed out for pick up by **6a.m.** to ensure pick up.



The Rapids City Fire Protection District is in need of Volunteers. The district provides fire, rescue and EMS services to the residents of Rapids City, Port Byron, and the surrounding area. All skill levels are welcome. If interested please stop by Station 1, at 120 South Main Street in Port Byron or call 309-523-2511.



It is important to call for utility locates before starting any project that may require digging. Please see the enclosed flyer from Julie, Inc. for more information.



The Rapids City Community Center is available for rental once again for gathering of 50 people or less in accordance to Governor JB Pritzker's Restore Illinois Plan. If you have question about renting the Community Center please call the Village Office.

Government, community, utility and ordinance information is available on our website.

Village of Rapids City

www.rapidscity.us

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Facebook: Village of Rapids City

**A Message from the Our Village President (Mayor)
HAROLD J. MIRE, JR.**

Dear Resident(s);

We are in unprecedented times in our country. We have a pandemic we're dealing with as well as serious social issues facing our country. No matter what side of the spectrum you may be on let's remember that we are AMERICANS FIRST. Violence and destruction of property by any side will not solve anything and will just enflame tensions on both sides. We will either SOAR as one and leave a better country for our kids as every generation before us has done or we will leave a legacy of desperation and despair for our children. Let's respect everyone's opinion even when we disagree but let's remember as Lincoln said, "UNITED WE STAND, DIVIDED WE FALL". That my fellow citizens sums it all up. In Rapids City our community pulls together to help one another; we join to advance our community to make it a better place for our children and I can't tell you how much of an honor it is for the Board and I to represent this wonderful Village. We have made a great sacrifice to BEND the curve on COVID-19, let's not waste it like many other states by not following CDC guidelines. I'm asking every resident to protect your fellow citizens by wearing masks, if you're able to, social distance when possible, wash and sanitize your hands and other precautions. We have come too far, made great sacrifices just to become careless at this point. Remember, we are still in the First Wave of this Pandemic. We have too many Beautiful Lives in Rapids City at risk, so let's do everything we can to protect each and every one of them. Unfortunately due to COVID we had to cancel our Military and First Responders Dinner and we will reschedule as soon as we can do it safely. We also had to close the Community Center but as we move into Phase 4, we will open it back up beginning July 1 with the caveat that we follow the Phase 4 guidelines.

Some items of interest for the Village:

1. We have purchased a mini excavator which will allow us to address many more issues on our own in a timelier manner.
2. The 14th Street culvert project is 99% complete. We are awaiting the catch grating for the culvert.
3. The bicycle repair station near Schuler's Shady Grove should be completed by the end of July.
4. Permitting for the Continuous Water Loop is almost complete. We submitted revised plans to Canadian Pacific Railroad and we anticipate permit approval soon. Once that's secured the Village will seek bids.

On another note, we entered the new fiscal calendar year on May 1. This year will be a tough fiscal year for most municipalities as revenues may be adversely impacted by COVID-19. As usual we will do our due diligence to manage the Village Finances accordingly. Finally I'm always happy to report that your Village Tax Rates have remained the same for the last 4 years and the Village has no debt. I thank the Board of Trustees for their unwavering support, fiscal responsibility and their dedication to the citizens of Rapids City.

STAY SAFE!!!

Sincerely,

Harold J. Mire, Jr.
Village President (Mayor)
Village of Rapids City