Hello Neighbors and Friends,

It’s been a long cold winter but as I write this letter it appears spring weather may soon be with us.

I want to publicly thank our Public Works Department and Police Department in keeping our streets in safe driving condition during snow events and our residents that kept fire hydrants accessible and streets void of parked vehicles.

I also want to recognize the Water/Wastewater employees, Director Joel Summerhill and Jeff Lemke for their professionalism and expertise which recently caused the Illinois Association of Water Pollution Control Operators to proclaim our Wastewater Facility to be awarded to be the Plant of the Year. Our facility was nominated by the Environmental Protection Agency.

With the onset of spring and summer our staff has been busy planning road and sidewalk improvements throughout our community and meeting with businesses that are interested in expanding their Cortland businesses and those looking to annex properties and call Cortland home.

The Cortland Mobile Home Park has recently gone to auction. At the time of this letter I do not know who was awarded the bid. Our staff and I have met with several interested parties regarding their thoughts and proposed plans for the Park. The Park is not within the corporate limits of the Town of Cortland and the Town by ordinance does not allow mobile homes within its corporate limits. The property would have to have commercial zoning if the property was to be annexed.

New construction is underway in the Robinson Farm Neighborhood. The developer has been working closely with our Zoning Administrator, Planning Commission and staff to complete residential development in that area.

Griner’s Auto Repair on Somonauk Road has been demolished to make way for the new Casey’s General Store.

The Cortland Grain Elevator property has recently been purchased. The new owners have wasted no time in demolishing the old office building. I’ve been told that there are plans for additional improvements to the property.

Please see the articles in this newsletter regarding the upcoming Town Wide Garage Sales, Annual Spring Clean-up and other events planned for this summer.

Continued on page 4
DATES TO REMEMBER

May
3  Planning Commission Meeting
4-5  Garage Sale Weekend
4-13  Spring Clean-up
13  Mother’s Day
14  Town Board Meeting
28  Memorial Day (Town Hall Closed)

June
7  Planning Commission Meeting
11  Town Board Meeting
17  Father’s Day
25  Town Board Meeting

Please check Town’s website for up to date information and meeting cancellations.

TOWN WIDE GARAGE SALES
FRIDAY MAY 4 AND SATURDAY MAY 5
Contact Information:
Cherie Kavanagh 815-756-1234

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND MOWING
PART-TIME

To perform seasonal duties related to maintenance. This is a seasonal position during the summer months. See Town’s website www.cortlandill.org for employment application or pick up an application at Town Hall during normal business hours.

When you read your water bill, please call the office if you see that it is an estimated read. We are in the process of changing out meters and adding new readers to older meters. If you have any questions, please call the Water Department at 756-9684.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDER
NUISANCE VIOLATIONS

With the arrival of the much anticipated spring weather, the Cortland Police Department would like to remind the community of some of the “nuisance” ordinances that are often brought to our attention. Everyone wants to keep their neighborhood looking sharp, and will contact us to address their concerns. Here are some samples of typical concerns;

- Storage of Junk – this is concerning the storage of garbage or refuse on your property that is visible to others, this can include most any trash. Some examples include cans, cardboard, old construction materials, broken appliances, etc.

- Open Burning – the burning of lawn clippings, waste, construction materials, etc. is prohibited within town limits.

- Motor Vehicle Noise – operating a vehicle, for an extended period of time, in a residential area without a properly functioning exhaust, or an exhaust altered to increase its noise is prohibited.

- Unlicensed & Inoperable Vehicles – Abandoned, inoperable, and unlicensed vehicles are not permitted on a public way or in any area that is exposed to the general public. These vehicles located in structure or garages are not in violation.

- Grass & Weeds – the growth of noxious weeds or grass, exceeding 8 inches, is prohibited. Failure to maintain your property could result in the town bringing the property into compliance and billing the property owner for this service.

The police department is willing to work with property owners to keep these “quality of life” issues under control. Regrettably, those who fail to comply will risk being cited and fined.

Please contact the police department with any questions at 815-756-2558.
SPRING CLEAN UP
The Town of Cortland Public Works Department is providing large waste containers for a week of spring clean-up activities. We would like to encourage Cortland residents to take advantage of this opportunity to dispose of household trash and accumulated “junk”. These containers will be placed at Cortland Community Park near the skate park parking area and will be available from **Friday, May 4 until Sunday, May 13**. These dumpsters may NOT be used for the disposal of yard waste, large appliances, tires, paint or household hazardous materials, banned electronic waste, construction or demolition debris. Cameras may be placed in dumpster areas for Public Work review.

UPCOMING EVENTS
(Visit the Town’s website for details)

**Garage Sales - May 4 and 5** Registration forms may be found on the Town’s website at www.cortlandil.org or contact Cherie Kavanaugh at 815-756-1234 or dckavanagh@yahoo.com.

**Spring Clean-Up - May 4 through May 13** (see above article for details.)

**Cortland Summer Fest - August 10 and 11** The 2018 Cortland Summer Fest will be held August 10, 6:00 p.m. until midnight, and August 11, 12:00 p.m. until midnight. Local bands, food vendors, and more surprises all weekend!

**Parade and Festival - October 10** The 37th Annual Parade and Festival will be held on October 10 at 1:00 p.m. This is a wonderful event that is fun and affordable for the whole family.

CONGRATULATIONS WATER/WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT
Cortland’s Water/Wastewater Department Director Joel Summerhill and Operator Jeff Lemke won first place for Outstanding Wastewater Treatment Plant of the Year from the Illinois Association of Water Pollution Control Operators. The award is based on a nomination from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, an on-site inspection of plant operations, treatment effectiveness, meeting IEPA reporting requirements, safety programs, disaster recovery programs, and leadership in the profession.

THE PARADE AND FESTIVAL COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH SUMMER FEST AND THE PARADE AND FESTIVAL. IF YOU ARE ABLE TO VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME DURING THESE COMMUNITY EVENTS PLEASE CALL OR TEXT DOUG CORSON AT 630-452-6775.

Please call 815-756-9041 to determine if your project requires a permit.

All checks that are received post-dated or unsigned will be returned to sender.

WATER BILLS ARE DUE
MAY 25
AUGUST 25
NOVEMBER 25
FEBRUARY 25
In closing, I would like to give recognition and thanks to Brad Stone and Judy Butler for their dedication and selfless voluntary service to the Town. Brad and Judy co-chaired the Parade & Festival Committee for 15 years.

That torch has been passed to volunteers Travys and Samantha Lanning. I encourage all of our residents to volunteer some time in keeping Cortland a safe, clean, and desirable place to call home.

I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable season. Please be kind and courteous to your neighbors.

As always, it is a pleasure to serve our community.

Russ Stokes, Mayor