



TOWN OF CORTLAND

59 S. Somonauk Rd., P.O. Box 519
Cortland, IL 60112

THIRD LARGEST TOWN IN ILLINOIS

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Website
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Hello Neighbors and Friends,

Summer is finally here! I encourage everyone to enjoy it while it is here. Take advantage of the nice weather to enjoy outside activities with family, friends, and neighbors. It is encouraging to see so many of our residents using this time to also do clean-ups and make improvements to their properties.

Town staff are also taking advantage of this season by making repairs and improvements to our town facilities, parks, and roads. Road work will be commencing on much needed improvements to Cortland Center Road between Somonauk Road and our east municipal boundary. Elm Avenue, which received much needed storm sewer work last year and cursory road improvements, will receive its final paving this season and a crosswalk will be established at Somonauk Road and Benson Avenue to enhance the safety of those frequenting businesses in the area.

Recently our planning commission approved the rezoning of town-owned property at the Southwest corner of Somonauk Road and Chestnut Avenue. Construction will begin this summer to create an off-street parking lot. It will be nicely landscaped and will have an electric signboard that will be clearly visible to all that travel northbound and southbound on Somonauk Road. The additional parking is needed to provide space for those frequenting the Library and Town Hall. It will also help to promote the establishment of small commercial business in that area that would require off-street parking.

The Cortland Lions Club owns and maintains a tremendous shelter facility at Cortland Community Park. The shelter is a destination point for many visitors to our community. The front grounds of the shelter is currently undergoing much needed improvements to improve the appearance and the identity of the facility and establish necessary handicapped parking availability.

Our Zoning Administrator and Code Enforcement Officials have been busy providing the necessary guidance and inspection of a number of new homes being built in the Nature's Crossing area. I anticipate residential development will also be seen soon in what was originally called the Robinson Farm subdivision. They have also been working very closely with the representatives of Casey's General Store as plans are being prepared to replace the current store and expanding on the property which was home to Griner's Auto Repair.

I appreciate everyone's patience in dealing with the recent railroad crossing closures, and subsequent traffic detours, as Union Pacific made much needed repairs and improvements to all three crossings. I ask the same patience be extended to road crews that will be working on Somonauk Road this summer through fall.

The DeKalb County Highway Department is making improvements to Somonauk Road from North Avenue in Cortland, all the way to Bethany Road in Sycamore. In Cortland, this will include new culvert pipes at residential driveways and intersecting roadways where needed, between North Avenue and Cortland Center Road. It will also include storm water drainage work and expansion of existing road shoulders, before the road receives new pavement. When the roadway is complete, a concrete sidewalk is planned to be constructed along the east side of Somonauk Road that will connect the original town with the NeuCort Lakes and Richland Trails neighborhoods. When this work is satisfactorily completed, the Town of Cortland will

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DATES TO REMEMBER

August

- 11 Summer Fest 6:00-11:30 p.m.
- 12 Summer Fest 12:30-11:30 p.m.
- 14 Town Board Meeting
- 28 Town Board Meeting
Fire Department Pork Chop BBQ

September

- 4 Labor Day (Town Hall closed)
- 11 Town Board Meeting
- 25 Town Board Meeting

October

- 9 Columbus Day (Town Hall Closed)
- 10 Town Board Meeting (Tuesday)
- 23 Town Board Meeting

All Town meetings start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Please check our website for cancellations or changes to meeting schedule. Planning Commission Meetings, when scheduled, are held the first Thursday of every month. Check the Town's website for meeting agendas.

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION UPDATE

ICC approved rates for ComEd are less than the current rate with Direct Energy. If you choose to remove your account from the Electric Aggregation program and return to ComEd rates you may call Direct Energy at 866-760-6040, have your account number, address, and phone number readily available. If you choose to un-enroll in this program you will need to be firm in your intent.

Beware of solicitors. Please ask to see their solicitors permit if you are contacted. If they do not have a permit please call the police non-emergency (815-756-2558) number and report the solicitation.

REMINDERS

Please keep grass clippings and yard waste clear of storm sewers. Please report street light outages by calling Town Hall at 815-756-9041.



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

We have had some violent and unusual weather in the last several weeks, including tornado activity. We feel it is important to review some tips for tornado safety. Our sirens are tested the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. On duty Cortland Police Officers activate the siren when the National Weather Service issues a tornado warning for DeKalb County area or there has been a confirmed report of rotating clouds in the area. The Town does not have a community shelter so pre-planning with your family is imperative in the event of a tornado warning. You can also go to the National Weather Service website at www.nes.noaa.gov for information.

Tornado safety tips include: Develop a plan for home, work and when outdoors; have family drills; know your surroundings; listen to local radio or television updates; move to a basement, or if no basement, an interior room or hallway and get under furniture or mattress; stay away from windows; do not use your car for shelter, nor should you try to outrun a tornado in your car.

Stay focused. Stay vigilant. Stay safe.

NEED INFORMATION?

The Town website at cortlandil.org is updated regularly. Staff is always available to answer questions. The Cortland Police Department has a Facebook page to keep you up to date on police happenings. You can check it out at Cortland IL Police Department.

WELCOME DARCY

NEW POST OFFICE CLERK

As many of you know, Ann retired this year and we have a new Postal Clerk in Cortland. Darcy came to the Cortland Post Office May 15, 2017, stop by and see Darcy for all your postal needs.

UPCOMING EVENTS

(Visit the Town's website for details)

Cortland Summer Fest - August 11 and 12. The 2017 Cortland Summer Fest will be held August 11, 6:00 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. and August 12, noon until 11:30 p.m. Local bands, food vendors, Cruzin Wheels Car Show, fireworks and more surprises all weekend! A \$5 donation is required for entry.

Sewer/Water - bills will be out the first week of August, and due **August 25**.

Fire Department BBQ Fundraiser Drive Thru - Monday, August 28, 4:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Hydrant Flushing - All week **September 25 - 29**. The Water Department will continue to paint hydrants throughout the summer.

Parade and Festival - October 8. The 36th Annual Parade and Festival will be held on October 8 at 1:00 p.m. This is a wonderful event that is fun and affordable for the whole family.

We have Cortland History books available at Town Hall for \$25.00.

Cortland Water/Wastewater Tips**Water Conservation**

The Town of Cortland Water/Wastewater Department recommends these simple activities that could alert you to a potential problem.

Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons per day increasing your water bill substantially.

Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch for a few minutes to see if the color appears in the bowl. It's not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from a leaking toilet.

Use your water meter to detect a leak. Turn off all taps and water using appliances. The small dial on your meter is a leak indicator. If you have all taps and water using appliances off, the small leak indicator dial should NOT be moving. See Town Website for examples of water meter indicator dials.

Click on Departments - Water/Wastewater Department.

Wastewater

Reliable wastewater service starts at home. Every time you use a faucet or flush a toilet you are creating wastewater; an average family will send approximately 200 gallons down the drain every day. Clogged pumps increase operation costs, which can directly affect sewer rates and lead to an increased risk of sewer backups.

Never put cooking grease down the drain

Never flush any of the following: Cloth rags, paper towels, dental floss, Q-tips, latex gloves, gauze, baby wipes, cleaning wipes, diapers.

All of these items have been found in clogged pumps.

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

Permit Applications are available at the Town Hall.

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will accept maintenance jurisdiction of Somonauk Road, up to and including the intersection of Cortland Center Road. This roadwork, and especially the sidewalk, has been needed for many years. However, neither side of Somonauk Road are within the municipal boundary of our community and are out of our respective jurisdiction.

On a similar note, I thank our County Board Member, Chairman Mark Pietrowski, for his efforts in making a much needed bicycle trail along Barber Greene Road between Loves Road and Peace Road a soon to be reality. He has accomplished what your elected officials and the town's long standing relationship with DSAT's (DeKalb Sycamore Area Transportation) was not able to do. This has been a long standing public safety concern. Thanks Mark!

I encourage everyone to please make time to attend the Cortland Summer Fest! Our volunteers do a great job putting this event together. I thank them for their dedication and their personal and group efforts in making this annual event possible. It is important that everyone knows that money raised by this event goes directly to pay for our well attended Fall Festival and Parade. Please support our Community.

I thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your Mayor. Things are moving forward!

Russ Stokes,
Mayor

Resident of
Cortland, IL 60112

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60112
Permit No. 1

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