



# NEWS YOU CAN USE

Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge Road

JANUARY 2025

Edited by: D.Z.

## From the Desk of the Clerk-Treasurer: Welcoming 2025 with New Goals and Opportunities

Happy New Year, Munster! As we begin 2025, I am excited to reflect on our community's accomplishments and share some important updates for the year ahead. The beginning of the year is always a great time to set new goals and make sure we're staying on track with our financial priorities. Here's a look at what's in store for the Town of Munster.

### 2024 Year in Review: Strong Foundations for the Future

2024 was a year of continued growth and progress for Munster. We've made strides in key areas such as infrastructure improvements, public safety, and community services. Our financial health remains strong, and we've successfully balanced the needs of the town with fiscal responsibility. As we look ahead to 2025, we're committed to building on this success with even more investment in our community.

### 2025 Budget and Financial Planning

The 2025 budget has been carefully crafted to ensure the continued growth and development of Munster. The focus will remain on enhancing essential services, including road repairs, public safety, and parks improvements. We are also prioritizing efforts to attract new businesses and improve the overall quality of life for residents. The full budget is available for review on our website, and I encourage you to stay informed and involved by attending upcoming Town Council meetings.



### Streamlining Services: Online Options for Residents

Did you know that the Clerk-Treasurer's office offers a variety of online services to make your life easier? You can pay your utility bills and renew licenses all from the comfort of your home. These online services are designed to save you time and provide a convenient way to manage your town-related tasks. Visit our website at [www.munster.org](http://www.munster.org) for more information.



### Upcoming Events and Important Dates

- **January 20, 2025** – Town Hall will be open and utility payments are due on this date.
- **June 17, 2025** – Tunes on Tuesday, the first Munster Civic Foundation summer concert in Centennial Park.
- **July 3<sup>rd</sup> and July 4, 2025** – Munster's Annual Independence Day Celebration.



These are just a few of the important dates you'll want to keep on your calendar. Stay tuned for more details on events and activities throughout the year.

### Thank You for Your Continued Support

It is an honor to serve as your Clerk-Treasurer, and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with you to make Munster a wonderful place to live, work, and play. As we move into 2025, I look forward to collaborating with you all to continue improving our town and ensuring a bright future for all residents.

Reach out at 219-836-6945 or [wmis@munster.in.gov](mailto:wmis@munster.in.gov)

Wishing you all the best in the new year!

*Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Munster*

### From The Town Council ~

We hope this newsletter finds you well as we begin the New Year. We have some exciting updates as a council to share with you regarding the direction and goals of the Town for 2025.



- \* **New Restructure of the Organizational Chart:** The first goal is to update the organizational chart aimed at improving efficiency and service delivery in our town.
- \* **Comprehensive Plan:** We will be developing a comprehensive plan to guide Munster's growth and development over the coming years. This plan will focus on sustainable development, community well-being, and economic vitality.

\* **Website Overhaul:** A complete overhaul of the Town's website is planned. The new website will be more user-friendly, with improved navigation, updated information, and enhanced online services to better serve our residents.

\* **Community Engagement:** To improve community engagement, we are introducing "Coffee with the Council" sessions once per quarter. These informal gatherings will provide an opportunity for residents to meet with council members, share their thoughts, and discuss any concerns in a relaxed setting.



We believe these changes will position Munster with a prosperous and sustainable future. We appreciate your support and look forward to working together to make our town an even better place to live.

Warm regards,

*George Shinkan, Town Council President*

# JANUARY

- 1/9 Cardio Drumming
- 1/12 Swim lessons (parent/tot, preschool, youth, private and semi-private)
- 1/16 Wado-Ki Karate
- 1/17 Daddy Daughter Date Night early-bird deadline
- 1/23 Sports Day BINGO (Keen-Agers)
- 1/23 Tiny Punters
- 1/27 Jumpstart Hoops
- 1/29 Rookie Rundown
- 1/30 Drama Kid's workshop
- 1/30 Mayflower Travel Show
- 1/31 Servsafe Food Manager
- Anytime Horseback riding private lessons

## CHOICE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Choice Community Council, which was founded in 1994 and is an open forum for any Munster resident who would like to help the Munster Police Department with planning programs aimed at drug, crime, gang, and violence prevention in Munster will be holding their first quarterly meeting of the year on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the Munster Town Hall (1005 Ridge Road), Conference Room A. We will be discussing program ideas for the new year and again anyone is welcome to participate.



Please note that this is NOT a Crime Watch Meeting. For more information, please contact Sergeant James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or [jghrist@munster.org](mailto:jghrist@munster.org).

The **Winter/Spring Recreation guide** is out and we're already accepting registrations, memberships and rentals.

2025

Be smart and think ahead to the summer. Need to schedule a facility for your upcoming graduation party, family reunion or wedding? Now accepting rentals for the Social Center, Wedding facilities and all park shelters.

## Swim Lessons

Beginning Sunday, January 12 at Munster High School. Parent/Tot, Preschool, Youth, Private and Semi-Private lessons to choose from. Questions as to what level to choose?

Contact Abby at (219) 836-6923.



We are now accepting **Munster Pool private parties; birthday parties and season pass memberships**. Stop into the office to claim it before you forget!



Now is the time to register for **Daddy Daughter Date Night!** This event has reached its maximum each year quickly and we don't want you to miss out. Includes: catered buffet, corsage, dancing, special favor, raffle and photobooth. Both father and daughter(s) must register.



Early-bird deadline: January 17

Don't forget to register your child for **Spring Soccer** – now is the time despite the weather! Open to youth ages: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 and 10-13. Games begin 4/12.



## Servsafe Food Manager

Class runs January 31 and will certify you specifically for the IN/IL Food Manager certification requirements.

Class is from 9AM-3PM and holds the exam at the end of class.

If you are a **food, business or arts/crafts vendor** and are interested to participate in Munster Parks upcoming events, email:

[jhiggins@munster.org](mailto:jhiggins@munster.org) or [mdicarlo@munster.org](mailto:mdicarlo@munster.org) for the vendor applications.



ENROLLMENT FOR THE 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR WILL OPEN FEBRUARY 3, 2025.

**MINI MUSTANGS PRE-K PROGRAM**



Learn more about this exciting opportunity!



Are you already thinking summer? Have a kid and need childcare?

Summer camp information will be posted mid-March on our group Facebook page: 2025 Munster Parks Summer Camp. Don't have social media?

Email: [jhiggins@munster.org](mailto:jhiggins@munster.org) to be added to the email list.







## HOLIDAY Trash & Recycling Collection

Homewood Disposal Service will not collect garbage and recycling on Wednesday, December 25, 2024 or Wednesday, January 1, 2025.

Garbage will be delayed 1 day after each holiday.

Martin Luther King Day on Monday, January 20, 2025, is REGULAR Garbage Collection there will NOT be a delay in pick up.



## CHRISTMAS TREES



Christmas trees will be picked up by the Public Works Department until Friday, January 31, 2025, **weather permitting**. Please be sure all decorations are off the tree. Thank you.



## ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Electronics Recycling is available at the Public Works Facility located at 508 Fisher Street during operating hours M-F from 7 am to 3 pm.



# RECYCLING SCHEDULE 2025 A & B WEEK



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A	28	29	30	31				

  A WEEK    
   B WEEK    
   HOLIDAY

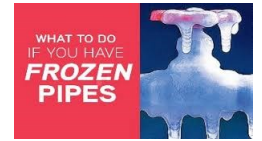
**MUNSTER CRIME WATCH MEETING**

The Munster Police Department invites all Munster residents and business representatives to the first Munster Crime Watch Meeting of the year on **Thursday, January 23rd at 6:30pm** at the Munster Town Hall (1005 Ridge Road), Main Meeting Room. This meeting will include crime statistics for the past year compared to previous years, updates on recent incidents, a chance for participants to ask questions or raise concerns, and **a presentation from a representative of the Indiana Attorney General's Office on current scams, identity theft, and how to protect yourself.** Several gift cards from local businesses will be awarded as door prizes at the conclusion of the meeting. These meetings only last around an hour, so please make plans to come out to hear this important safety information. **For more information, please contact Sergeant James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or [jghrist@munster.org](mailto:jghrist@munster.org).**



**FROZEN PIPES AFTER HOURS**

In the event of a water emergency, such as water meter freezing, immediate assistance is crucial. If the situation occurs after the water billing clerks' operating hours (Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm), please call 911 for help, as messages left after hours will only be addressed on the next business day morning.



**REMOVING SNOW AND ICE FROM SIDEWALKS**

It is especially important for residents to remember the Town of Munster's ordinance in regard to removing snow and ice from sidewalks. For everyone's safety, please follow this ordinance:

The owner and/or occupant of any dwelling, building or subdivided lot or property shall keep the sidewalks in front thereof clean at all times of the year. Within 24 hours after any fall of snow or formation of ice, such snow or ice shall be removed from the sidewalks.

It shall be unlawful for any person to throw, push or deposit in any manner snow, slush or ice onto any street or sidewalk in such a manner as to impede the safe progress and movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

**TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS JANUARY 2025**

**\*PLEASE NOTE THE MEETING TIME CHANGE FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS\***

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall (MTH) at (219)836-6900 to confirm meetings. Public meetings are also available utilizing Zoom technology. Visit the Town of Munster website: <https://www.munster.org> (Select Agendas and Meetings) or contact the appropriate department to access the meeting ID and passcode. Also, a schedule of these meetings and others are maintained on the Community Calendar at the Town of Munster website. **Tune into WJOB 1230 AM Radio and listen to Community Programming Initiative, in which members of the Munster Town Council and guests discuss issues in town. The program runs the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 am.**

Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	January 6, 2025	6:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	January 2, 2025	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	January 14, 2025	6:45 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Plan Commission Mtg.	January 14, 2025	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	January 20, 2025	6:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Safety Mtg.	January 21, 2025	7:00 am	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Mtg.	January 21, 2025	5:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	January 16, 2025	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)



George Shinkan	Ward #1	(219)718-4481	<a href="mailto:gshinkan@munster.org">gshinkan@munster.org</a>
Joseph Hofferth	Ward #2	(219)689-2225	<a href="mailto:jhofferth@munster.org">jhofferth@munster.org</a>
Chuck Gardiner	Ward #3	(708)606-7223	<a href="mailto:cgardiner@munster.org">cgardiner@munster.org</a>
David Nellans	Ward #4	(219)680-6364	<a href="mailto:dnellans@munster.org">dnellans@munster.org</a>
Jonathan Petersen	Ward #5	(219)803-4550	<a href="mailto:jpetersen@munster.org">jpetersen@munster.org</a>
Wendy Mis	Clerk-Treasurer	(219)836-6945	<a href="mailto:wmis@munster.in.gov">wmis@munster.in.gov</a>