



Village of Burton Newsletter

Mayor Jim Koster 1950-2018

A PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF JAMES F. KOSTER

Whereas James F Koster was born Oct 12, 1950 and raised in Geauga County in and around Burton Ohio, and lived in the area most of his adult life with his wife of 40 years Janice, and

Whereas Jim dedicated his entire adult life to public service, and

Whereas we recognize his roles as a teacher and Administrator in the West Geauga School District, Director of Transportation in Garfield Heights Public Schools, past and present member of the Board of Governors of the Geauga County Board of Educational Services and Member and President of the Berkshire Board of Education, and

Whereas he held throughout most of his life a Police Officers commission in the State of Ohio serving with the Middlefield Police Department, Geauga County Sheriff, Chester Township Police Department and with Thompson Township Police Department as Chief of Police, and

Whereas he was the youngest person ever elected in the State of Ohio when first elected to public service as a Burton Township Trustee and went on to serve many roles with the Village of Burton including Committee member, Zoning Inspector, Council member and finally Mayor, and

Whereas he ever sought to improve his community and the lives of those around him through action and service and

Whereas Jim's vast wealth of knowledge in the area of policy and history of Burton was essential in mentoring new Council members and employees in the Village and

Whereas Jim will continue to be an inspiration to those who follow and participate in self-government,

Now therefore let it be proclaimed that James F Koster will be remembered for his selflessness and dedication to the principles of good government, the importance of education as well as his dedication and commitment to the residents of Burton and the Berkshire community at large.

Signed this 29th day of May 2018.



Joe M. Hernandez
Mayor

Tree Talk

Burton Village Tree Commission

Tree City, USA

As you enter the Village of Burton, you will notice new signage proclaiming that Burton Village has been a “Tree City” for 24 years. If you're wondering exactly what that means, you're probably not alone!

Tree City USA is a designation that communities earn annually by providing documentation of adherence to the Four Standards of Tree City USA:

- 1. A tree board or department
- 2. A tree care ordinance
- 3. A community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita
- 4. An Arbor Day observance and proclamation

The Burton Village Tree Commission meets on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 pm, on the main floor of Burton Public Library. Currently, the Tree Commission is seeking interested candidates to fill a vacant Board seat. Please contact the Village Office at 440-834-4474, or by email at 1villageofburton@sbcglobal, if you are interested in serving your community in this way.

Thank you!

The Village would like to say 'thank you', as we bid a fond farewell to the following Committee Members: **Judy Beaumier**, Zoning Board of Appeals; **Sharon Moster**, Zoning Board of Appeals; and **Tom Erickson**, Tree Commission. Each of these individuals has given tirelessly of their time and of themselves to serve Burton Village. We cannot thank them enough!



You may have noticed some new faces around town, recently. Please join us in welcoming them to the Burton Village family!

Jake Neill recently joined the Village and will oversee operations at the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plants. With over 12 years of experience in this field, and as a former member of the Board of Public Affairs, Jake brings a wealth of knowledge to his new role.

Robby Griffin recently joined the Street Department, and will be working alongside Marty Motil and Nick Soltis.

The Board of Public Affairs welcomes Adam Miller and Nick Rundo as new Board members, serving with Board President Curt Johnson.

Alison Weeks was recently chosen as President of the Burton Village Historic District Architectural Review Board. Alison has been a member of the Board since 2016.

Utility News

Burton Village Board of Public Affairs

Burton Village has recently signed a contract with the Cold Harbor Building Co. for \$11,668,000.00 to upgrade our sewage processing plant.

The current plant is over 40 years' old which we know because we just recently paid off the 40-year loan.

The new sewer plant upgrade will be much more efficient as well as environmentally friendly. It will effectively separate solids (rocks, toys, etc.) from the sewage which will limit damage to the equipment downstream. It will be able to contain over 1,000,000 gallons of sewage in a separate Equalization Basin structure (large tank) to be processed in a systematic manner over time. There will also be more effective aeration and filtration systems to ensure effective biological breakdown and to clarify treated water leaving the plant. Finally, the water leaving the plant will be subjected to ultraviolet light for a period of time to ensure that any residual bacteria is killed. This final arrangement is far better and far safer than our current use of concentrated chlorine.

Our capacity to process sewage will increase from 270,00 gallons per day to 400,000 gallons per day which will allow the new plant able to handle high flow amounts that surge through the system after a rain storm.

The sewer plant upgrade is going to be funded by a low interest loan for 30 years funded by the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF).

The sewer plant project is entirely funded and paid for by sewer utility user payments. Utility payments cover the operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater plants, the water tower, and the service lines associated with those plants. Those funds are separate from the General funds (property taxes, police and fire levy and Income taxes) that are used to pay for street paving and improvement, the police department, fire services, cemetery, tree commission and routine street maintenance like mowing, snow removal and storm sewers.

In other news, Burton Village residents can expect to see the annual Consumer Confidence Report in the coming weeks. This report is sent out yearly to all Burton Village residents, and provides an overview of water quality in the Village.



With the onset of warm weather, property owners may be considering improvements or changes to their real estate. Please keep in mind the following if changes are in your plans.

Mayor's Permit

Work necessitating the involvement of a portion of the sidewalk, roadway, water system and/or sewer system within the Village will require a Mayor's Permit through the Village Office. The application includes detailing the nature and method of work, remedial work planned, start and anticipated completion dates.

Utilities Locations

Before doing excavation or work such as digging, ditching, drilling or leveling, please call the Ohio Utilities Protection Services at 1-800-362-2764 and the Village Utilities Dept. at 440-834-1408 to locate utility lines by the property. This will help prevent potentially costly repairs to the infrastructure.

Garage Sale / Yard Sale SIGNS

Thinking of a sale this summer? Ordinance 2172-08, passed on 2-23-09, outlines the use of such signs in the Village.

The owner of residential property may use temporary banners, signs or posters constructed of paper, fabric, plastic, nylon or similar flexible material advertising a garage sale, yard sale, barn sale, or the like for a maximum of four days at a time up to four times per calendar year.

Such signs shall only be placed on the property where the sale is taking place or on other property where permission has been granted by the owner of such property.

Signs are not to be placed on telephone poles, street sign posts or between the sidewalk and the street.

The Village of Burton requires a permit for Garage Sales. The permit is FREE and can be obtained at Village Offices or online at www.villageofburton.org.

**VILLAGE OF BURTON
PO BOX 408
BURTON, OH 44021**

Enjoy your summer....!



GOING ON VACATION?

The Police Department will perform vacation checks during your time away. Forms are available at the Police Station. Notifying the Police of your absence also helps them know how to contact you in case of an emergency.

Kindergarten Safety Town 2018

Safety Town will be coming in August for Kindergarten students! Information will be mailed to families shortly. Also, watch the Village website www.villageofburton.org and Facebook page for more information!



BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

The Village of Burton is seeking interested Village residents to fill vacant seats on the following Boards and Committees: Tree Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and Planning Commission. If you are interested in any of these volunteer positions, please contact the Village Office at 440-834-4474, or email 1villageofburton@sbcglobal.net.