

STRIVING HIGHER

Town of Dyer

2018 Year in Review



Town Council

Joe Cinko, President
Eric Schultz, Vice President
Alan Brooks
Mary Tanis
Steve Kramer

Clerk-Treasurer

Patricia A. Hawrot

Town Manager

Tom DeGiulio

Town Departments

**Town Council &
Town Manager's Office**
865-6108

Clerk-Treasurer's Office
865-2421

Public Works
865-4222

Police Department
865-1163

Fire Department
865-4226

Parks & Recreation
865-2505

Social Media

Follow us for announcements!
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From the Desk of the Town Manager

On behalf of the Town Council, the members of our various Boards and Commissions, and our Town employees we are pleased to present to you the **2018 Annual Report**.

In the following pages you will read about the activities of the last 12 months of the fine employees that serve our community. We are proud of the many improvements that have been made in recent years in many departments.

- Significant progress has been made in updating equipment in several Departments including Public Works, Police, and the Fire. All vehicles and major pieces of equipment are now on a replacement schedule. This allows us to plan better for replacements and even out the budgets.

- In 2018, we began two projects one in Police and Public works that utilizes technology enhancements to increase public safety and further improve our winter snow and de-icing efforts. The first project will be the installation of license plate reading cameras at the State line on RT 30 and 81st Street. These cameras will assist PD in tracking stolen vehicles both coming and going into Dyer. In the next few years we will be adding vehicle and eventually personal body cameras. In Public Works, we began to upgrade our de-icing equipment by purchasing V-box spreaders. These units will more efficiently and effectively spread salt. In 2019 we will add to the process, a new salt storage facility and a pre-wetting system. The former will better protect our salt supply, the latter will give us a head start on de-icing, making travel safer for everyone.

- The Park Board has begun a series of upgrades to existing parks and the construction of several new ones. Plans were finalized in 2018 for a fourth ball field in Central Park and the beginning of infrastructure work. Developing such a large facility requires time and significant amounts of money.

- In 2018, we completed an extensive study and made a significant investment in an integrated data processing system that will benefit virtually every operation of the Town organization. The complete system will be phased in this year. There will be added features to many of our operations and benefits to customers and residents.

We are continuing our aggressive infrastructure improvement program. I know that if you live in an area that still needs work your thought is 'we aren't working fast enough'. Trust me when I say we are working as fast as the money will take us. We have been the recipient of several million dollars of 50/50% Community Crossing Matching Grant money from the State in the last three years. This program not only stretches our dollars to double our efforts. It also frees up other capital funds to do more projects each year. Our latest 2018 grant will allow us to improve Sheffield, Hart, and 81st streets this year.

In closing I want to express my appreciation to all the employees and our Board & Commission members that work so hard to make Dyer the great community that it is.



DYER POLICE DEPARTMENT



2018 Year in Review

The Police Department oversees many areas within the town structure. The department is responsible for the following services: Police, Records, Crossing Guards, Code Enforcement, and Animal Control. The police department is staffed by 31 sworn officers, 3 civilian full-time staff members, 1 part-time staff member and 5 crossing guards. In 2018 the PD handled over 10,000 calls for service. Below is our official crime reports as submitted and is a key element to achieving the safe town status. In 2018 we had a slight increase in Thefts and Assaults while experiencing a large decrease in Burglary and Stolen Autos. Dyer Investigators handled 1 Rape and were able to present charges to the Lake County Prosecutors office on the offender. The National Council for home safety and security website ranked Dyer as the #1 safest city/town in Indiana with a population over 10k. HomeSnacks similar survey ranked Dyer as #5 safest town with population over 5k and #4 for best place to live. Dyer has enjoyed a Top 5 ranking for safest town for many years and the PD believes the excellent relationship with the community plays a large part in keeping our community safe. Dyer officers participate in many task forces and assignments such as SWAT, Homeland Security, Major Crimes Task Force, K-9, School Resource Officer, Lake County Drug Task Force, and Traffic Enforcement.



HomeSnacks

Uniform Crime Reporting

Classification	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Homicide	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Robbery	2	3	5	6	2	6	3	6
Assault	74	37	43	43	41	45	32	38
Burglary	32	26	17	14	20	16	22	12
Theft	288	248	167	169	161	150	96	122
Stolen Auto	17	18	13	5	8	15	19	13
Total	417	334	245	237	232	232	172	192

Statistics

Category	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Calls for Service	10636	9755	9666	9758	9384	10145	10123	10481
Arrests/Offenses	789	651	525	524	763	909	637	585
Accidents	385	415	422	496	479	515	512	495
Citations	2093	2344	2709	2171	1817	2542	2850	2612
Warnings	1681	1988	2676	3712	2697	4726	4711	5431
Training Hours	1457	1393.75	1628.25	2085.75	4000.75	2033.5	3014	2696.5
Traffic Stops	-	4343	5716	5979	4885	7272	7305	8155
Homeland Security Checks	-	2206	7086	5620	8377	7767	4242	3649
Ordinance Violations	167	279	500	598	591	658	450	472

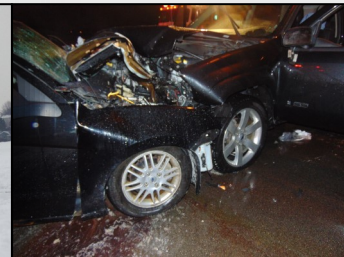
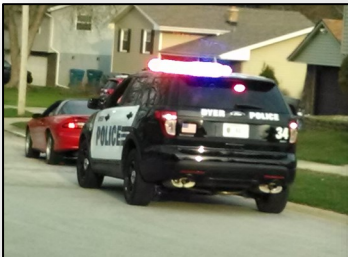
Community Policing

Community Policing Division: This division includes Code Enforcement, (2) School Resource Officers, and a Community Service Officer. During the course of the day this division will handle a wide range of calls such as animal problems, bike patrol, community events, school issues, code enforcement, and D.A.R.E. Our K-9 "Kolt", a black lab, is partnered with School Resource Officer Brian Kissinger and primarily is assigned to our Schools (Kahler, Protsman, and Bibich). Cpl. Jerry Patrick is also assigned as a School Resource Officer for the Lake Central School Corporation. This past year the Division hosted several events such as National Night Out Against Crime and Women's Self Defense classes. Weekly they conduct Senior Outreach Program calls to registered seniors living on their own. They have also assisted in many of the community functions including Summer Fest, Parks Programs, Youth Sports Groups, Chamber of Commerce Events, just to name a few. When school is out the School Resource Officers also utilize Bike Patrol to interact with the community.



Patrol Division

Patrol Division: The patrol division is staffed by 21 uniformed officers. They provide round the clock patrol coverage on three different 8 hour shifts (Days, Afternoons, Midnights). Patrol responds to emergency and non-emergency calls and is responsible for traffic enforcement, crash investigations, neighborhood patrol, criminal arrests, booking and transporting prisoners among many other daily assignments. In 2018 the Division responded to over 10,000 calls for service.



Investigations

Investigations Division: This team of 3 investigators is on call 24/7 and is responsible for evidence collection and investigations of all crimes occurring in town. These are general case detectives and investigate reports ranging from financial crimes to homicides. The division has investigated 484 cases in 2018. The investigators are also members of the Northwest Indiana Major Crimes Task Force which primarily investigates Homicides in Northwest Indiana. This Division also has 2 Tactical Officers assigned to the division that focus on crime reduction and proactive patrolling.



Park Department

During 2018, the Parks and Recreation Department completed many projects and held many successful recreation programs for residents to enjoy.

The installation of a 4-park improvement project

- Veterans Park and Elmer Miller Park each received a new playground with pour-in-place surfacing. Elmer Miller Park additionally, received new concrete flooring inside its pavilion.
- Hearthstone Park and Eberly Park each received a new playground with pour-in-place surfacing and a walking path. These were funded with a 2016 Park Bond.
- We received 100 native trees through the CommuniTree program between the Spring and Fall seasons. These trees were planted within the following parks: Lincoln Park, Northgate Park, Central Park, Veterans Park, Elmer Miller Park, Pheasant Hills Park, Hearthstone Park, Eberly Park, Cherry Hill Park, and Sandy Ridge Park.

Central Park northwest and southeast ball fields each had outfield fences installed with foul poles. Through an Eagle Scout Project, by Gustav Geyer, the northeast ball field received new outfield foul poles and a helmet rack was installed inside the dugouts. High attendance was seen at many of our recreation programs and events. For instance, a second date for our annual Daddy Daughter Dance accommodated 110 additional participants, Thornton Quarry Tour sold out and additional one day trips were added for senior activities. Additionally, we hosted new recreational opportunities, such as, Mother-Daughter Sock Hop, Fall Fest, Senior Golf League, and Movie in the Park. Our recreation sponsorship package was launched, and we were able to secure noteworthy donations for many programs/ events such as, Daddy Daughter Dance, Easter Egg Hunt and summer camp program. We are looking forward to continuing to offer these and many new family fun events, programs and trips for all participants.

During the year, the Park Board has entered in the engineering phases of these following projects: Sheffield Estates Park Improvements, Green Meadows Park Improvements, and Autumn Chase Park Improvements. Additionally, at the north end of Central Park, the Park Board has started engineering work for the construction of southwest ball field #4, multi-use paths, north parking lot and pond 3.



Park Activities

For more information, please contact Dyer Parks at (219) 865-2505.

NEW! The Senior Shuffle (60+) - This intro class will help Senior Citizens put their muscles to use. You will stand, walk or dance along with a personal trainer. Class is 4/2-4/25. Fee: \$55

Giant Egg Decorating Craft (Ages 2-12) - Decorate an 8" egg with paint, stickers, ribbon, buttons, & markers. Class is 4/8 from 5:45-6:30pm. Fee: \$13

White Fence Farm Trip- Enjoy a coach bus trip to White Fence Farms for dinner & listen to Young Elvis. This trip is 4/10 from 10am- Approx. 4pm. Fee: \$75

Easter Egg Hunt (Ages 8 and under) - To be entered into our 31st Annual Easter Egg Hunt raffle, you must pre-register at (219) 865-2505. Dyer residents are free. Those living outside the 46311 zip code can pre-register but a \$5 per child fee will be charged. Hunt is 4/13 at 2pm SHARP.

Line Dancing Classes (Adults 14 & Older) - Have you wanted to learn the simple dance steps to the latest line dances? Class is 4/16-5/21 from 6:45-7:45pm. Fee: \$40

Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt (ages 9-12 yrs. old) - Participants will need to bring a bag and a flashlight to look for candy and eggs. Pizza and a drink will be served. Event is 4/18. Fee: \$15

Senior Weekly 18 Hole Golf League (Adults 50+) - We have teamed up with Lincoln Oaks Golf Course to play golf. League format will be based on participation. League runs 5/1-9/11 at 10am. Fee: \$15 start-up fee to Dyer Parks, \$25 per week with a cart and free range balls or \$30 with breakfast or lunch

Mother-Daughter Sock Hop (Babes 13 and under with an attending Pink Lady) - Put on your 50's threads and hop on over to register for this bash. Event is 5/3. Fee: \$19 each person

Mother-Son Fun Bowl (Boys 5-12 + mom/Special Adult) - Such a fun event for Mothers & Sons! Register with family/friends for added fun. Each boy will be entered into a raffle and each one leaves with a goody bag. Event is 5/5. Fee: \$15 each person.

Midwest Training & Ice Center- We offer Parkour, gymnastics, ice skating, hockey and trampoline classes. New dance classes are being offered at the Crown Point Midwest location. Call for dates and fees.

NEW Fitness Classes: We have teamed up with Mari Fitness to offer **Zumbini, Zumba Kids Jr., Zumba Kids, Zumba, Zumba Strong, Werq & Power Barre.**

New! Second Street Dance Studio: We have teamed up with Second Street Dance Studio to offer **Zumba** and **Zumba Seniors.** Call for dates and fees.



Dyer Fire Department

2018 Year in review



Serving with Pride, Honor, and Loyalty for more than 100 years

Open House

The Annual open house was well attended despite the weather. There was a crowd all afternoon. There were several demonstrations by the firefighters, including extinguishing a stove fire with an extinguisher, fighting a vehicle fire and vehicle extrication. Lake County EMA had displays and giveaways. There were also fire truck rides, extinguisher station for the kids and a visit from Marshall from Paw Patrol. Texas Roadhouse was on hand with handouts, peanuts, and of course Andy the Armadillo.

School Meetings

The department continued to be in contact with the different schools in the district. Monthly meetings at the High School with area Fire and Police Chiefs continue. There have also been meetings with the staff at Kahler and emergency evacuation training was done with the staff.

Fires

Structures — 6
Car — 6
Dumpster — 1
Other — 30

Inspections

The department continues to inspect new business's, highlife hazard business's and firework's stores. The department also accompanies the State Fire Marshal as needed and works closely with him on different occasions. Inspections of festivals and other events requiring a permit from the state were also completed. The business's inspected had few if any violations. Violations found were either removed or corrected in a short amount of time. There were a few businesses that required several follow up visits. Inspections on complaints were also completed.

New Apparatus

The arrival of the E-One Pumper in this spring was exciting. A Typhoon Chassis with seating for 6 firefighters. The new pumper is rated to pump 1500 gallons of water a minute, carries 1000 gallons of water, 30 gallons of Class A foam, has a pre-piped deck gun, carries 800 feet of 5" hose, 4 pre-connected 2" hose lines (200' each) and 800 feet of 3" hose, and Ground ladders. It also carries other items for fighting structure fires. It has replaced a 1989 Pierce Pumper. In early summer, the department took delivery of 2 Dodge Ram 1500 4x4 pickup trucks. Each equipped with a cap over the cargo area. These vehicles are used for EMS calls and transporting extra personnel as well for the command staff use. They can be used to haul other equipment, pull trailers and other utility uses.



Responses

Total — 1,646
Man Hours — 9,420
Average personnel — 5.71
False Alarms — 158
Mutual Aid — 27
CO Alarms — 26 Gas Leaks — 15
Investigations — 24
Haz-Mat — 2 Fuel Spills — 2
Severe Weather — 4
Wash-Down — 4
Dispatch Errors — 3
Wires Down — 4 Utility — 8
Others — 6

Training

We spent a lot of time on apparatus training, hydrant hookups, pumping and driving this year. A house was obtained by the town and before demolition was used for search and rescue, hose line advancement and interior operations in smoke conditions. Roof ventilation was done with both power saws and hand tools. Incident command, firefighter rescue and salvage and overhaul were also practiced at the site. There was also the usual mandatory trainings including but not limited to SCBA, ladders, Haz-Mat, and EMS. Some other class room trainings included Fire Behavior, tactics, different levels of response, map reading and locations, and different building construction and sprinkler locations.

Medical Calls

Ambulance — 1,085 MVA—1,22
Transports — 20 Citizen Assists—109
Rescues— 3

Department of Public Works

Public Works Improvements

With newer technologies being available and older equipment continuing to age, replacements and upgrades are continually addressed at the Department of Public Works.

Listed below are the some of the major projects that were completed last year.

New Salting Delivery Systems for DPW Fleet

Instead of tailgate salt spreaders, all large and medium sized dump trucks were equipped with V-Box salt spreaders. These spreaders provide better application of salt on the streets which will reduce the amount of salt needed each year.

Total cost - \$147,587.00

Replacement Vehicles and Solid Waste Equipment

Seven trucks and three leaf vacs were purchased last year to replace older vehicles and equipment. New snow removal equipment was installed on every truck. Also, the medium-sized vehicles were equipped with chipping boxes that will be used during the majority of the year.

Cost for 2 6-yard dump trucks - \$409,904.00

Cost for 3 3-yard dump trucks - \$269,041.00

Cost for 2 pick-up trucks - \$82,832.00

Cost for 3 leaf vacs - \$125,300.00

Fuel Pumping Station + Software System Improvements

The fuel pumps and the software that collects the pumping data was replaced due to age of the equipment.

Total cost - \$26,411.00

Dewatering Building Project and Storage Building Project

The two sludge belt press and pumping systems at the wastewater treatment plant were replaced with new screw presses, pumping equipment and new control panels. This improvement will produce a drier sludge cake and will require fewer hands-on hours to operate and maintain.

The new sludge storage building will provide more area for storage of dried sludge at the wastewater plant and the new

maintenance garage will provide space to clean and store the sludge loader.

Cost for new dewatering equipment - \$973,000.00

Cost for new sludge storage building—\$1,120,646

Personnel News and Highlights

- ♦ Last year, the Public Works staff consisted of 25 full-time and one part-time employee.
- ♦ Standard hours worked for the department last year: 53,789 hours
- ♦ Overtime hours necessary for emergencies: 3,645 hours
- ♦ Primary areas of time allocation Operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment plant: 8,217 hours
- ♦ Operation and maintenance of the water booster station and Distribution system: 5,072 hours
- ♦ Operation and maintenance of the sanitary collection system: 4,318 hours
- ♦ Operation and maintenance of streets and parkways: 4,443 hours
- ♦ Operation and maintenance of the storm water collection system: 3,912 hours
- ♦ Leaf pickup, chipping, mowing, landscaping, and branch removal: 4,258 hours
- ♦ Snow plowing and salting of streets, sand parking areas: 2,855 hours

Highlights for 2018

Street Department

- ◆ Chipped and collected 350 tons of branches
- ◆ Collected 550 tons of leaves from streets
- ◆ Collected 246 tons of road debris
- ◆ Crack sealed 6.1 miles of roadways
- ◆ Continued to mow and maintain rights of ways
- ◆ Continued maintenance of detention/retention ponds
- ◆ Continued mosquito abatement
- ◆ Assisted with preparation of Town-wide events
- ◆ Coordinated all aspects of road projects
- ◆ Continued maintenance program on street lights
- ◆ Continued maintenance and repairs of sidewalks

Water Distribution

- ◆ Repaired 16 water main breaks
- ◆ Continued hydrant flushing program
- ◆ Continued valve exercising program
- ◆ Continued fire suppression and backflow preventative maintenance programs
- ◆ Installed new water main in Sandy Ridge and near Bibich Tower

Storm Water Collection System

- ◆ Continued preventative maintenance program
- ◆ Maintained site per IDEM MS4 program

Sanitary Collection System

- ◆ Continued preventative maintenance program
- ◆ Clean and televise sanitary lines that need maintenance
- ◆ Continued analyzing continual inflow and infiltration problems in specified sections of the Town

Water Treatment

- ◆ Pumped 501,397,000 gallons of water for 2018
- ◆ Conducted all required testing
- ◆ Continued monitoring of Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfections Byproducts analysis required by EPA

Wastewater Treatment

- ◆ Treated 642 million gallons of wastewater
- ◆ Removed 2014 tons of sludge for land application
- ◆ Conducted all required testing

Building Services

- ◆ Continued maintenance of all Town buildings

