

**March Village Council Meeting Dates:**

March 11th & March 25th

Meetings begin at 7:00PM in the Versailles Emergency Services Facility Conference Room, 320 Baker Road, Versailles, Ohio. All interested parties are welcome to attend.



**Customers Likely To See Increased January-February Electric Usage**

Village of Versailles electric customers will begin to be reminded of the cold temperatures that we have all experienced from January and February with their most recent utility invoice for electricity usage. The January-February utility invoice period saw below-record temperatures for an extended period of time.

With prolonged colder temperatures, customers typically see an increase in power consumption from space heaters, additional furnace/boiler cycles for heating, and additional time inside of their homes and/or buildings that all typically equate to more kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity being used. For customers who may only look at the total cost on their utility invoices, please be sure to look at the total kWh's usage compared to the same month from last year or the last several months with the electric usage graph at the bottom of your utility bill. This information is very helpful to see historical usage trends that cause your utility invoice to go up and down with your usage at your home, business, or farm.

Helpful tips to customers to help keep electricity usage down during the cold winter months include adjusting your thermostat to a lower temperature if possible. Customers who lower their thermostat setting from 72 degrees to 70 degrees could potentially see a 1-3% savings in energy costs depending on the heating system type. Other tips include opening curtains/blinds on south-facing windows during the day to allow sunlight to naturally heat the home, and close them at night to reduce the chill from cold windows. Sealing air leaks around utility cut-throughs for pipes, around windows and doorways, gaps around chimneys and recessed lights in insulated ceilings, and unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets are also ways to cut down on home heating costs. If you have a forced air furnace, please be sure to routinely replace or clean your furnace filter. A dirty furnace filter can result in additional furnace run-time to heat your home which equates to additional electricity for the blower fan, even if you have a natural gas or propane fired furnace.

The Village wishes to remind Versailles Electric customers that there has been no rate or customer charge changes since January 2024. As a proud public power utility, the Village Administration, Village Council, AMP, and our consultants work tirelessly to provide the best possible electricity pricing, reliability, and customer service as possible for each and every customer.

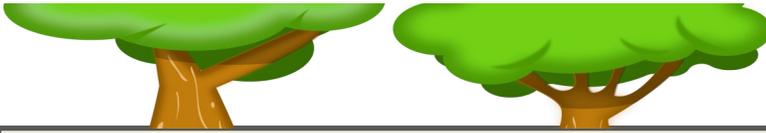
**PUBLICATION OF VILLAGE COUNCIL**

**ORDINANCES , RESOLUTIONS, AND NOTICES**

The State of Ohio through the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) outlines regulations in regards to publication of ordinances and resolutions. These regulations are outlined in ORC Section 731.21. Effective October 3, 2023 the State legislature updated ORC Section 731.21 to modernize how municipalities, such as the Village, publish ordinances and resolutions. This update primarily dealt with allowing municipalities to publish notice of publication for ordinances and resolutions on their website and social media account(s). It has been long standing practice of posting meeting minutes, public notices, notice of publication for ordinances, resolutions, and meeting notices in the Versailles Policy. However, with the publisher of Versailles Policy announcing that he intends to stop publication of the newspaper at the end of July 2026, the Village must now prepare for how it provides these notices as required by the State of Ohio.

During the January 29<sup>th</sup> regular Village Council meeting, it was voted on and unanimously passed to amend the Village of Versailles Rules of Council by adding Rule Number 32 regarding the Publication of Council Ordinances, Resolutions, and Notices. With the addition of this rule, the Village has formally declared that it will adhere to ORC Section 731.21 with regards to publication of council ordinances, resolutions, and notices by utilizing the Village of Versailles website and social media account of the municipal corporation. This rule update will also apply to the council meeting minutes and notices that are already on the Village's website, but will no longer be required to be published in the Versailles Policy or any other local newspaper.

The Versailles Village Council, administrative personnel, and myself remain committed to providing as much information as possible and to remain transparent to the citizens of Versailles with this change of publication practice.



## Versailles Tree Commission Announces Annual Tree Lottery Program

The Versailles Shade Tree Commission has announced the Village will be accepting application request forms from eligible property owners for a chance at being randomly selected to receive one of the ten trees that will be given away by the Shade Tree Commission as part of its annual Tree Lottery program. Property owners who received a tree through the 2025 Tree Lottery will not be eligible for the 2026 Tree Lottery.

The tree lottery trees are not limited to being planted within the public right-of-way. A property owner may opt to have the lottery tree planted upon their property outside the public right-of-way. All tree planting locations must be approved by the Village Shade Tree Commission.

Eligibility to participate in the lottery process is subject to certain criteria. Only owners of property located within the corporation limits will be eligible to participate in the lottery program. Tenants are ineligible to participate. If you own property within the Village and reside outside the Village, you are eligible to participate. Property owners with nonexistent or deteriorated sidewalks (as defined in the Sidewalk Installation/Replacement Ordinance) will be eligible to participate in the lottery program, but only will be permitted to have a lottery tree planted upon their property outside the street right-of-way.

Additional criteria includes property owners who fail to properly maintain either a replacement tree or lottery tree will not be eligible to participate in future lotteries; property owners will not be eligible to receive a tree through the lottery process in two consecutive years; property owners along a street that has been outlined in the Village's Five Year Capital Improvements Plan for reconstruction will be eligible to receive a tree through the lottery process, but will only be permitted to have the lottery tree planted upon their property outside the street right-of-way; all lottery trees are subject to the Village's tree planting restrictions and will require a planting permit (there is no charge for the permit); and all decisions made by the Tree Commission are final.

Individuals interested in participating in the Tree Lottery program may obtain a form by stopping by the Administrative Office Building where they will be made available. Forms can also be accessed online and printed from the Village's website [www.versaillesoh.com](http://www.versaillesoh.com) under the Forms/Other Info/Trees section. All forms for the year's upcoming lottery are to be returned to the Village Offices by Friday, April 17th. If anyone has questions regarding the Tree Lottery program, please contact the Village Offices at 937-526-3294, ext. 206.

## Street & Utility Seasonal Positions

The Village of Versailles will be accepting applications for the purpose of seeking candidates to fill temporary seasonal employment positions within the Street and Utility Departments. The candidate will be responsible for lawn mowing, painting, various sanitation duties, and other assigned general labor tasks. Candidates must be at a minimum 16 years old with a valid driver's license. These positions start at \$12.23-15.72 hour and are 40 hours per week. Pay will be commensurate on experience and qualifications.

## Lifeguard Positions

The Village of Versailles is accepting applications for the purpose of seeking qualified candidates to fill seasonal summer lifeguard positions at the Versailles Ward Park Swimming Pool. Candidates must possess lifeguard certification, first aid training, and CPR certification. The starting pay is \$11.41 -14.90 per hour. Pay will be commensurate on experience and qualifications. Lifeguard certification, first aid training, and CPR certification reimbursement is available to those candidates selected for employment by the Village.

Applications may be obtained from the Village Administrative Building, 177 N. Center St., or from the Village website at [www.versaillesoh.com](http://www.versaillesoh.com) under the Job Openings section. Due by March 13th.

