

Southport Signal

City Municipal Center — 137 Worman St. — Southport, IN 46227

January 2024

www.Southport.IN.gov



Elected Officials

Mayor

Jim Cooney
mayor@southport.in.gov

Clerk Treasurer

Alissa Newhouse
clerktreasurer@southport.in.gov

City Council

Council President
Carol Bowling
district2@southport.in.gov

District 1—Jeff Vogt
district1@southport.in.gov

District 2—Carol Bowling
district2@southport.in.gov

District 3—Joe Haley
district3@southport.in.gov

District 4—Larry Tunget
district4@southport.in.gov

At-Large—Jennifer Haley
atlarge@southport.in.gov

Tox Drop/Heavy Trash Day

Our local ToxDrop is located at the Perry Township Government Center at 4925 Shelby Street the *2nd Saturday* of each month from 9 -2. For details visit www.indy.gov/activity/hazardous-waste-dropoff-sites

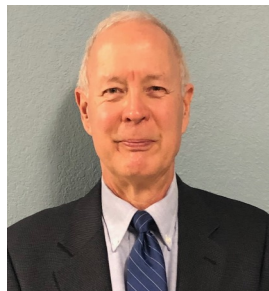
Heavy trash day for Southport is the *3rd Wednesday* of the month. For details visit www.indy.gov/activity/trash-pickup

If your heavy trash is NOT-PICKED UP, you have only 48 hrs to contact the Mayor's Action Center of Indianapolis to report it or they will not pick up until the following month. 317.327.4622

Trash—Slide Schedule will be in affect for the following holidays:

New Year's Day, MLK Jr Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Any holiday that falls on a weekend will NOT be observed: therefore, trash will be on a normal schedule.



A Message From Mayor Jim Cooney

The significant improvements planned for South St from West St to Walnut are almost finalized. The project is scheduled to begin in Spring of 2024.

Our Clerk Treasurer, Alissa Newhouse, and Jane Vaughn, Deputy Clerk Treasurer, have finalized the city's budget for 2024.

Chief Vaughn and his officers completed Christmas with the Kids on Saturday, December 16 at Southport Elementary School. The police officers spent time playing games with the kids while the kids were waiting to speak with Santa about their wish list. The kids' parents were given gift cards in the amount of \$250 to buy gifts.

Santa and Mrs. Claus drove through the city and visited the children in Southport on Saturday, December 2 to hear everyone's wish list for Christmas. There were many activities for the kids to participate in while waiting to visit with Santa.

Hoping your New Year is full of good health and prosperity



Clerk Treasurer's Update

Happy New Year! We hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and you were able to spend lots of time with family and friends!

The Clerk-Treasurer's office is looking forward to 2024 and all the new projects that are in the works! We're proud of our financial standing for 2023 and the Annual Financial Report will be available in a couple of months to view.

The Community Room and the Park's Shelter House are booking up quickly for the year so if you have a graduation, birthday party or shower, email us soon to check the availability.

Don't forget if you have a home project in 2024, you can find our applications for permits and licenses on the city's new website. The email for more info is clerk-treasurer@southport.in.gov.
Be safe and have a great 2024!



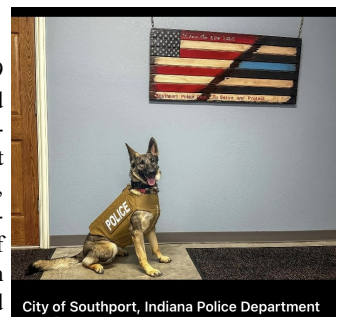
Chief's Corner

Chief Vaughn and the Southport Police Department would like to give a big thank you to all of the officers, volunteers, children, social workers, teachers, and families for participating in our **Christmas with the Kids** event at Southport Elementary School on December 16, 2023. The event was a great success! We did it a little differently this year by giving all the families gift cards and wrapping supplies so that the parents could shop, and the children would have presents under their tree for Christmas. We helped approximately 75 children this year and hopefully helped them realize that Christmas, no matter the circumstances, can still be a joyous holiday to be celebrated, and that there are still people and agencies who truly care, and have kind, generous, and giving hearts!

Chief's Corner continued

We also hope that the residents young and old alike, enjoyed our **Santa through the City** event which was held on December 2, 2023. Thank you to all for your continued help in supporting the Southport Police Department throughout this last year, it is greatly appreciated!

Southport Police Department's K9 Khaleesi has received a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from the non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. K9 Khaleesi's vest was sponsored by Don and Misty Fike of Galesburg, IL, and embroidered with the sentiment "Born to Love-Trained to Serve—Loyal Always."



City of Southport, Indiana Police Department

Package Theft:

- § Install a video doorbell
- § Purchase a porch lockbox for packages
- § Require a Signature
- § Post signs that state you are monitoring the area with a camera system
- § Track your package
- § Arrange for delivery when you are home
- § Team up with a neighbor to watch out for package deliveries during times you're away
- § Consider having your packages delivered to your place of employment

Redevelopment Commission

The Redevelopment Commission announces that the old bridge on Second St. (behind the Antique Mall) over Buck Creek has been removed. The removal will improve stream flow and help prevent upstream flooding during heavy rain events. The Commission also announces that we should be closing on the property for the new apartment building on January 15th 2024. The developer is in the process of securing permits for the work and also expects to break ground shortly after the closing date.

As always, we hope you will come to the RDC meetings to stay aware of what your city is doing. Meetings are the second Monday of every month, here at the city Municipal Center, 137 Worman Street.

City Council Update

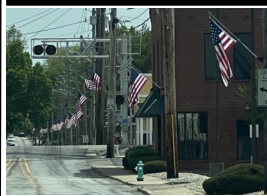
2024-2027 Southport City Councilors

Please welcome your 2024 City Council Members. For the next four years: L-R Mayor Cooney, Joe Haley, Dist. 3, Jennifer Haley, Councilor At Large, Larry Tunget,, Dist. 4 and Carol Bowling, Dist. 2. Not in photo, Jeff Vogt, Dist. 1.



The city council meetings occur monthly on the third Monday of the month at 7PM at city hall. City hall is located at 137 Worman St. This is a public meeting; all are welcome to attend.

Going out of town? Alert the Southport Police Department that you will be away and they will keep an extra eye on your home. Call the SPD's **non-emergency** number **317.787.7595** to speak with an officer or leave a call-back message.



SOUTHPORT FLAG PROJECT

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a Very Merry Christmas!

At this time, we are repairing our flag poles and sorting through flags for the faded & torn to retire. We are still flying our **2 test flags** and wondering if anyone has seen both.

All of the flags go back up in April, giving all of us great pride in who we are and where we live.

The Southport Flag Project Members

Volunteer Opportunities: Hanging flags in the spring, flag retirement ceremony on Flag Day, June 14th, taking flags down in the fall and Fall Festival booth.

To support the Flag Project Donations can be sent to:

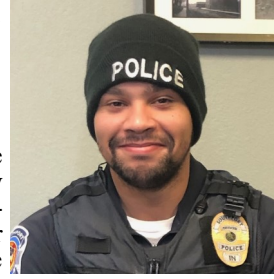
(Make checks payable to *Southport Flag Project*)
Southport Flag Project,
43 Church Street
Southport, IN 46227 317.780.6827

Citizen Spotlight

Citizen Spotlight would like to introduce and recognize

OFFICER JUSTIN DAVIS,

our newest fulltime officer. Justin actually began as a SOPD reserve officer in October of 2021 and Fulltime last January, 2023.



Officer (and former U.S. Marine,) Davis and his significant other, Holly, share a cat named Binx. Binx thinks he's a dog and likes to play 'fetch' with both Justin and Holly.

Justin is an only child and says he likes all types of music, but today he's listening to Rock. He also disclosed that he likes following football and his favorite team is the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Officer Davis is pretty well travelled, visiting 10 U.S. States and 1 foreign country. Some of his hobbies are working out and hanging out with friends.

Justin's favorite thing about Southport is **The People**. He says "Everyone is supportive of the police as well as friendly and most seem to know and care about each other."

Thank you, Officer Davis for watching out for the residents of Southport. You are appreciated.

STORM SEWER and AUTUMN

Here are some storm water tips from your Storm Water Board President, Joe Haley:

Insulated pipes: Prevent freezing by insulating exposed pipes. Cover outdoor faucets with insulating foam covers to protect from freezing.

Clear away snow from exterior vents to maintain proper ventilation for appliances like water heaters and furnaces.

Collect and reuse melted snow. If safe, collect melted snow for non-potable uses like watering plants. **Snow Melt System:** Consider installing snow Melt Systems for driveways and sidewalks to reduce reliance on salt and minimize runoff.

Snow Piles Away from Drains: When shoveling or piling snow, pile it away from storm drains to prevent them from becoming blocked.

Public Works & Safety

Your Board of Public Works and Safety has been working on planning for further improvements to streets and buildings within Southport.

* Project planning has been completed to add a sidewalk and additional storm sewer drains to South St from and West St to Walnut St. The project is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2024.

* The Community Crossings grant for improvements to Southfield Dr has been completed. Elements of the project include repaving Southfield from Marywood Dr south to Crossgate Ln, and adding additional storm drains to improve the flow of storm water along Southfield Dr. The new paving is a great improvement for a heavily travelled street.

* Sections of the sidewalk along the south side of Eddington have been replaced. The sidewalk was breaking up at various locations along the street.

* Southport plans to clean out sections of the storm water pipes that carry storm water from the Crossgate addition over to Madison Ave to improve the outflow of storm water. Additional projects completed are:

* New security cameras were installed around the perimeter of the Community Center on Derbyshire Rd. The new cameras offer improved visibility around the building.

The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the Board of Public Works and Safety meetings.

The **HARVEST TABLE** will return next season. Anticipated first date - Mother's Day 2024



Board of Public Works & Safety

Jim Cooney - President
mayor@southport.in.gov

Dale Price
Dale.price@southportbws.org

Rod Newhouse
Rod.newhouse@southportbws.org

Tony Cooper
Tony.cooper@southportbws.org

Dorothy Suding
Dorothy.suding@southportbws.org

Redevelopment Commission

Russell McClure - President
Russell.mcclure@southportrdc.org

Heather Newport
Heather.newport@southportrdc.org

Marylynn Winslow
Marylynn.winslow@southportrdc.org

Judy Pollard
Judy.pollard@southportrdc.org

Parks Board

Dana Hipsher—interim president
Dana.hipsher@southportparks.org

Kelly Carter
Kelly.carter@southportparks.org

Chris Sampson
Chris.sampson@southportparks.org

McKenzie Witherell
mckenzie.witherell@southportparks.org

Happening In Southport

Upcoming Events

2024 A year at a glance -

*Dine to Dontate—Feb. 6 all day at CHUY'S

*Easter Egg Hunt—March 30 10am *Rain date April 6*

TBD *Southport Clean Up—April 20 10am

TBD *Community Sale—May 11 9a-2p followed by

TBD*Community Meet & Greet—May 11 4-8p

Flag Retirement Ceremony—June 14 7:00 p

*Independence Day—June 29 Parade 10a

Rain date July 4

TBD *Music in the Park—July 20 6p *Rain date*

July 27

TBD *Music in the Park—Aug 17 6p *Rain date*

Aug 24

*Fall Festival—September 21 10a—5:30p

*Trunk or Treat—October 26 4-7p *Rain date Nov 1*

*Santa in the City/Christmas in the Park—Dec 14 City 3p, Park 4p

Public Meeting Dates

January 2024

Redevelopment Commission

1/8/24 7:00pm

Board of Public Works & Safety

1/10/24 7:00pm

Parks Board

1/11/24 7:00pm

Storm Water Utility

1/16/24 6:30pm (TUESDAY)

Common Council

1/16/24 7:00pm (TUESDAY)

February 2024

Redevelopment Commission

2/12/24 7:00pm

Board of Public Works & Safety

2/14/24 7:00pm

Parks Board

2/8/24 7:00pm

Storm Water Utility

2/20/24 6:30pm (TUESDAY)

Common Council

2/20/24 7:00pm (TUESDAY)

March 2024

Redevelopment Commission

3/11/24 7:00pm

Board of Public Works & Safety

3/13/24 7:00pm

Parks Board

3/14/24 7:00pm

Storm Water Utility

3/18/24 6:30pm

Common Council

3/18/24 7:00pm



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City of Southport Municipal Center

137 Worman St., Southport, IN 46227

Clerk Treasurer: (317)786-3585

Mayor: (317)786-5489

Police: (317)787-7595

Southport Parks

Southport Park is located at 6901 Derbyshire Road. The park is approximately 3.75 acres and is just south of Little Buck Creek. Southport Park was established in the 1960's and at the time was one of the few parks in Perry Township.

The park includes: a community room, shelter house, picnic tables, grills, play equipment, basketball, baseball/softball diamond, benches, drinking fountain, restrooms, and open space.

The community room and shelter house can be rented for your event. Please visit this link for rental pricing and availability. <https://southport.in.gov/clerk-treasurer/>

The Parks Board would like to thank Helen Harris and Tricia McDonald for their service on the board this past year. Their time, energy, and enthusiasm were greatly appreciated by the board and the community. While goodbyes are hard, on the other hand we would also like to welcome Kelly Carter to the board and we look forward to working with Kelly.

With the conclusion of 2023 we saw the last 3 events of the year go off without a hitch! We had great attendance at the fall festival with a variety of vendors and great live music, our trunk or treat saw record numbers of children and families, to the point that the candy was running low, and finally our Santa Through the City and In the Park event, in partnership with the amazing Southport Police Department, saw a community of happy families and only on Grinch. Thank you all for the support throughout the past year!

We trust that 2024 will bring just as many smiling faces! We start the year off with a Dine to Donate at Chuy's Southport on February 6th, to participate in this event all you have to do is go out to eat at CHUY'S and let your server know you are there to support Southport Parks! We will post more information in the coming weeks, so make sure you follow our Facebook and Instagram accounts. We also have our annual Easter Egg hunt at the end of March, again, more information will follow in the upcoming months. We look forward to a great year and are excited to get out in the community once again.

The Parks Department always welcomes **volunteers**. If you are interested in volunteering (or earning service hours for school or clubs) please reach out to Parks Board secretary, **McKenzie Witherell** at :

mckenzie.witherell@southportparks.org

Follow us on Social Media for all of the information and updates you need —

Facebook—City of Southport Events

Instagram—@city.of.southport.events.

Tag us! #southportindyevents