

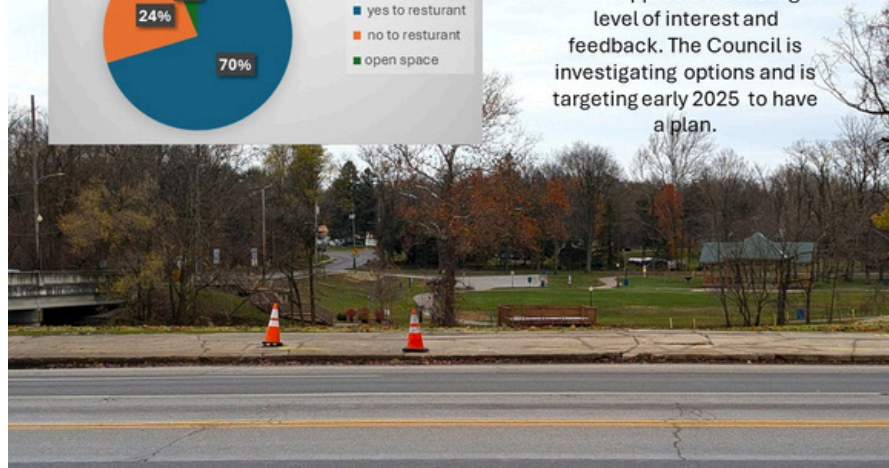


## TOWN MANAGER UPDATES

We received close to 100 responses from residents on ideas for a new use for the vacant land next to the Division Street bridge. The overwhelming majority like the idea of a new restaurant. The Town Council is studying options and considering what the best next step is for the land. I expect the January work session will focus substantial time on the question.



A new restaurant is a favorite choice, but there were also many additional creative suggestions submitted. The Town appreciates the high level of interest and feedback. The Council is investigating options and is targeting early 2025 to have a plan.



**INDOT 2025 reconstruction of Main Street.** We recently learned the construction phase of the project will not start until April 2026. Next year NIPSCO will be relocating gas lines and utilities poles to prepare for the 2026 reconstruction. This project, while not as extensive as INDOT's, will still result in traffic detours and congestion in the downtown area. We have not received a project schedule yet, but we are aware there could be hard closures at both stoplights and of Division Street bridge during portions of the project.

**Data Center update.** The proposed data center project remains stalled as the developer awaits responses from NIPSCO and AEP on supplying power to the new facility. We have not been provided any additional information on how long the utility companies will take to evaluate their infrastructure capacity and determine a source of power. Data Centers are typically powered via cross country transmission lines. Each campus constructs their own substations.

**A Forest of Poles.** The construction of a new 300-megawatt substation for the NISPCO service area has started on the east side of Town. It is located directly east of Bloomingdale Drive. This is part of a larger infrastructure improvement project NIPSCO has been working on in Elkhart County. The Bristol project includes construction of two transmission lines that will connect to the new substation, travel south to CR 10, then travel west to connect to the AEP substation located on the west edge of town.

**Business route progress.** The next sections of the business route are dependent upon new businesses development on the south side of town. If the Data Center moves forward, Stonemont Ct. will be extended south to cross the Menges Ditch and begin a path toward SR 15. The farmland on the east side of SR 15 may see new development in 2025. That will begin the section of the business route that will eventually connect to Ponderosa Drive. The Town is working to obtain right of way to relocate a section of Ponderosa to align with the new street that will eventually be constructed to connected to SR 15 and CR 10

**Residential Development.** The Manager's office is receiving an increased number of inquiries regarding new residential growth in Bristol. I expect construction to begin on one new development next spring and perhaps a second new development as well.

**Water and Sewer Plant Projects.** Both of these projects are on schedule. The new treatment tanks will soon start appearing and the deep foundations for the new 1-million-gallon water tank will be constructed starting in January.

## Town Council & Park Board Meetings Schedule

Town Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Town Hall.

Park Board meetings take place on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 6 PM, also at the Town Hall.

Visit our website to stay informed about the latest happenings!



## Winter Is Coming: Essential Tips to Protect Your Pipes from the Cold

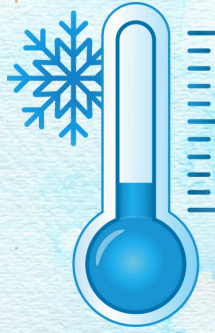
Things to consider with the colder temps around the corner. Residents should take precautions to protect their pipes from freezing.

\*Keep garage doors closed if there are water supply lines in the garage.

\*Open kitchen and bathroom cabinet doors to allow warmer air to circulate around the plumbing.

*Be sure to move any harmful cleaners and household chemicals out of the reach of children.*

\*We recommend residential water users consider leaving a faucet running. A stream of water the size of a pencil lead is all that is required. This is especially important if your home has a history of water lines freezing.



\*If you will be going away during cold weather, leave the heat on in your home, and set it to a temperature no lower than 55° F

\*Keep the thermostat set to the same temperature both during the day and at night. By temporarily suspending the use of lower nighttime temperatures, you may incur a higher heating bill, but you can prevent a much more costly repair job if pipes freeze and burst.

If you experience frozen pipes please contact the Town Hall (574) 848-7007.

Real Christmas trees will be collected by the Street Department until Monday, January 27, 2025! So, don't let your festive friend linger too long—get them out for their grand departure! Place the tree near the curb and not in the road.



## **BUSINESS SHOUT OUT!**

New retail business located on South Division Street



New service station located on SR 15 N.

## **Park Board**



The Bristol Park Board extends its gratitude to everyone who completed the park survey. The survey results will be shared on the Town's website soon, giving you a glimpse of what the 5-year park plan has in store.

You may have noticed some improvements at Congdon and Cummins Parks. The park board has upgraded the old lights at the pickleball courts to energy-efficient LED lights and is working on improvements at the Congdon Park kayak launch, including adjustments to the launch slope.

The Park Board meets every second Tuesday of the month at 6 PM at Town Hall, and the public is welcome to attend. If you can't make it in person, the meetings are also streamed live on YouTube.

We're looking forward to an exciting new year, with lots of events in the works. Stay tuned for more updates, and thank you for your continued support of the community!

### Park Board Members:

Scott Dreamer, President  
Mikel Ropp, Vice President  
Linda Powell, Member  
Andrew Medford, Member  
Rosemary McDaniel, Secretary

## **Bristol approves the use of ORV inside the Town limits**

At the 12.19.2024 Town Council meeting the Council approve an ordinance 12-19-2024-27 authorizing off road vehicles inside the Town limits. For those who are not aware Bristol has been a golf cart friendly community for several years. There are rules and regulations for those who are interested in driving their ORV or golf cart within the Town limits. For more information or a copy of the said ordinance please contact the Bristol Police Department (574) 848-4464.

# MARSHAL STEVE PRIEM

As we wrap up the 2024 year, the Bristol Police Department would like to thank the citizens and businesses of Bristol. The continuing support we receive from this community does not go unnoticed.

We have hired 4 additional full-time officers to our department recently. Vincent Ambrose, Gary Smith and K-9 Raider, Cody Simon, and Joshua Dibley. Vincent comes from a long line of family law enforcement. Gary Smith and K-9 Raider come to us from Middlebury Community Schools. Cody Simon came to us from the Dekalb County Sheriff's Office. Joshua Dibley is a lifelong Bristol resident and new to the law enforcement profession. If you see these officers around town, please welcome them to Bristol. We are glad to have them join our team.

On December 10th, 2024 our Department coordinated with Bristol Community Church, Bristol Fire Department, Mancino's, Cardinal Bus, and Meijer hosted the annual Bristol Shop with a Hero event. We were able to take 14 children, by Cardinal Bus, to Meijer for Christmas shopping followed by a pizza party back at the Bristol Community Church. This event is a great way for children to bond with an officer and interact with them. This event would not be successful without each of the individuals and businesses that support this program and many others that we have throughout the year.



If there are any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at our non-emergency business number (574) 848-4464. Or you can email us at [bristolpd@bristolpolice.org](mailto:bristolpd@bristolpolice.org). You may also stop in and see us at 303 E. Vistula Street in Bristol. If Emergency Services are needed, please dial 911. If non-emergency Police services are required, you may call the Public Safety Emergency Center's nonemergency number at (574) 533-4151



Shop with a Hero event  
 Dec 10, 2024

# FIRE CHIEF NIK KANTZ

The Bristol Fire Department would like to sincerely thank our gracious citizens and local businesses who have donated money to help us purchase over 2,000-feet of brand-new Christmas lights that are now brightly illuminating the Christmas Tree in the front yard of the Bristol Fire Department.

Our 2024 Toys for Tots fundraiser was another huge success this year, thanks in part to the raffle sales during the Tackle Shack's "Fall Brawl" bass fishing tournament, the ongoing assistance from JaRisa's Fun Zone on SR-120 out east of town, the generous monetary donations from both Medix Ambulance and Grand Design RVs, as well as the donations of money and toys from many of our selfless community members. Because of this, we were able to raise over \$4,000 and help to provide a magical Christmas for some of our local Elkhart County families.

We would also like to extend a thank you to everyone who has chosen to participate and donate to our 2024 picture fundraiser. Since this is an ongoing project, we appreciate everyone's patience and cooperation with scheduling your photo shoot.



2024

As previously mentioned, all money raised from this fundraiser will be used to purchase a new battery-powered extrication tools, commonly known as "The Jaws of Life." These battery-powered extrication tools have proven themselves to be more powerful and efficient than our current hydraulic extrication tools and will help to greatly improve our current rescue capabilities.

In closing, the Bristol Fire Department would like to invite everyone to ensure that their home and/or business addresses are clearly marked on both sides of their mailboxes. During times of critical emergencies, it is paramount that we can quickly and accurately identify your correct address and location. Please understand that the routes we take to arrive at your location will not always have us approaching from the same direction as your mail carrier. Therefore, it would greatly help us to find you if we're able to clearly read and identify your address on both sides of your mailbox. Should you like to acquire a two-sided, reflective address sign, in either a horizontal or vertical orientation, we can certainly help provide you with one for \$20 per sign.

Should anyone have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the Bristol Fire Department by phone at: (574) 848-4155, or visit the station at: 405 E. Elkhart St., Bristol, IN, 46507. Business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. However, our station is always manned 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.



Take a peek at our new website!  
[www.bristolindiana.org](http://www.bristolindiana.org)



The Bristol Municipal Complex will be closed on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day - January 1
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day - January 20
- President's Day - February 17

Happy New Year Bristol! We hope everyone is as excited as we are for what 2025 has in store. Creating a fun and simple bucket list is a great way to kick off the new year. Whether you're planning family activities or solo adventures, here are a few ideas to get you started:

- **Read One Book a Month** – Set aside time to dive into a new story or learn something new.
- **Learn a New Skill** – Whether it's cooking, knitting, or a new language, challenge yourself to grow.
- **Prioritize Your Mental Health** – Take time for yourself to relax, reflect, and recharge.
- **Explore Your Own City** – Discover new spots in Bristol you've never visited before.
- **Volunteer for a Cause You Care About** – Give back to your community in meaningful ways.
- **Have a Picnic in the Park** – Grab a blanket, some snacks, and enjoy the outdoors.
- **Do Something Spontaneous** – Step out of your comfort zone and embrace the unexpected.

Keep it simple, keep it fun, and make 2025 your best year yet! Happy New Year Bristol!

*Town meetings are available for live viewing on YouTube.  
You can find the link on our website.*

### Town Council

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