



CITY OF REMSEN

008 W 2nd SREET | 712-786-2136 | www.remseniowa.org

MAYOR: Craig Bartolozzi CITY COUNCIL: Jeff Cluck, Ann Cole-Nelson, Tom Letsche,
Kendra Rensink, Doug Ruhland

Board meets the 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers

2024 DATES TO REMEMBER

New Year's Day

Jan. 1st
City Offices Closed

Presidents Day

February 19th
City Offices Closed

Good Friday

March 29th
City Offices
Close at noon

Memorial Day

May 27th
City Offices Closed

Kids Days

June TBD

Independence Day

July 4th
City Offices Closed

National Night Out

August 6th

Labor Day

Sept. 2nd
City Offices Closed

October 26

Oktoberfest

October 31

Trick or Treating

November 28 & 29

Thanksgiving
City Offices Closed

Christmas

City Offices Closed on
December 24th & 25th

New Year's Eve

Dec. 31st
City Offices Close @
noon

USEFUL INFORMATION:

- **GET INFORMED** Check out www.remseniowa.org for News, Public Announcements, Notices, Local Events, Forms/Applications and Contact information. Like "City of Remsen, Iowa" on Facebook to see reminders and announcements. Emergency Alerts and weather-related information are relayed through Facebook and Daily Sentinel text alerts ("Closings/Delays/ Alerts - City of Remsen" & "Remsen Swimming Pool"). Minutes, Legals and Notices are published in the Remsen Bell Enterprise as required.
- **WINTER PARKING** November 1 — April 1 Parking is Prohibited on any Residential public street, alley, or City owned off-street parking area between the hours of 12am-6am. Parking is Prohibited on any Business public street, alley or City owned off-street parking area between the hours of 2am- 6am. Fines are \$25 plus towing charges. Make sure to notify out of town visitors of this Ordinance!
- **SNOW REMOVAL** Property owners are liable to pedestrians for injuries due to failure to keep sidewalks clear of snow/ice. You are required to remove both snow and ice within 24 hours of accumulation. Businesses are also reminded to clear snow around their dumpsters so they can be accessed and emptied.
- **RESPECT PROPERTY** It is unlawful for any person to throw, push, or place any ICE or SNOW from private property, sidewalks, or driveways onto the traveled way of a street or alley so as to obstruct gutters, impeded the passage of vehicles, or create a hazardous condition. It is unlawful for any person to throw or deposit on any street or alley any LITTER, LEAVES, GRASS or any other debris likely to be washed into the storm sewer. Remember this when mowing and raking!
- **GARBAGE/RECYCLING** 2024 Residential Waste Collection Magnets were included in the annual newsletter mailing. It's also available on the website under City of Remsen/ Garbage/Recycle Schedule. Remember if an observed holiday falls on a Monday or Tuesday, residential collection will be delayed one day. The collection route may change slightly so have containers curbside on the night before your designated day, lids closed, and the lid opening facing out towards the street. Only trash inside containers will be picked up, not materials put next to or on them. You may bring your paper and cardboard to the recycle building on Marion Street the first Saturday of the month, 8:00-11:00am and also on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30-9:30am. A key can be checked out from City Hall if these times are not convenient for you.
- **OXYGEN** If you or anyone in your household is dependent on full or supplemental oxygen; please contact City Hall. City Hall will try their best to contact you if there is a scheduled electrical outage in your area.
- **PERMITS REQUIRED** If you are changing the outside dimensions of any structure on your property (including decks, fences, sheds) or doing any cement work a building permit needs to be issued by the Zoning Administrator and approved by the City Council PRIOR to beginning any construction! Forms are available on the website. You must also call Iowa One Call 800-292-8989. The service is FREE and it's the LAW! You must call 48 hours prior to disturbing the earth to protect yourself and avoid damaging underground utilities. If work is completed without obtaining a permit, you are subject to a penalty.
- **ANIMAL PROTECTION/ CONTROL** It shall be the duty of every person owning an animal to clean up their deposits on public property (parks, sidewalks, streets & right-of-ways) and the property of another person. Fines can be \$10-\$100! All dog owners shall have the Remsen Veterinary Clinic verify the breed of the dog, has proper immunizations shots and if not to administer them, and have a chip placed; all at the owner's expense.
- **MAIN STREET SIGN** can be rented for up-coming events or news. Call City Hall with your information one week prior to the displaying start date. Reimbursements are available through the Remsen Chamber for their members. Rent is \$25.00/week or \$4.00/ day.

NOTICE: The information contained in this annual newsletter is subject to change at any time

Full-Time City Employees

City Administrator: Rachel Keffeler
Deputy Clerk: Alicia Hoffman

Public Works Superintendent: Mike Wurth
Streets: Phil Staab
Sewer Operator: Christopher Loutsch

Police Chief: Scott Allen
Library Director: Janeene Klein



Board meets the 3rd Monday of the month at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers

USEFUL INFORMATION:

- Bills are due the 20th of every month, your payment is considered late and will be penalized the 21st of the month and your account will enter the disconnection process when it is deemed late.
- **NEVER BE LATE...** RMU offers two dates to have your account automatically debited to pay your utility bill; the 5th or 18th of each month. Forms to sign up for this service can be found on the City of Remsen web site: www.remseniowa.org on the Utilities page under the forms link or can be picked up at City Hall.
- Debit and Credit Cards are accepted as forms of payment for your utility bill! A transaction fee of \$1.50 plus 2.35% of your total is charged in addition to your bill if you choose to pay this way.
- Remsen Municipal Utilities, partners with Missouri River Energy Services to offer rebate incentives to our electric and gas customers who purchase energy efficient appliances. These programs provide rebates that are applied directly to your utility bill. To get a list of rebate eligible appliances and applications stop at City Hall or visit www.brightenergysolutions.com.
- If you plan to build, remodel, plant a tree or begin any project that requires digging, you must call 811 to request underground utility locates **BEFORE** doing any digging. Iowa One Call will notify all necessary utilities before you dig, which helps you avoid potential injury or death. Call 811 from a landline or 800-292-8989 **at least 48 hours before you plan to dig** and utilities will be located free of charge.
- How to file a complaint pertaining to utility related issues: If your complaint is related to service disconnection, safety, or renewable energy, and Remsen Municipal Utilities does not resolve your complaint, you may request assistance from the Iowa Utilities Board by calling (515) 725-7321, or toll-free 1-877-565-4450, by writing to 1375 E. Court Ave., Room 69, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0069, or by e-mail to customer@iub.iowa.gov.
- **In the event of an after-hours emergency, you may call 712-786-2136 to obtain a phone number of the on-call employee.**

Electric Rates

As of 7/15/2023

Residential:

Customer Charge: \$16.00/month
 Energy Charge (all kWh): \$0.098/kWh (June, July, August)
 Energy Charge (all kWh): \$0.086/kWh (September-May)

Small Commercial:

Customer Charge: \$19.00/month single phase users
 Customer Charge: \$24.00/month three phase users
 Energy Charge (all kWh): \$1.107 (June, July, August)
 Energy Charge (all kWh): \$0.94/kWh (September-May)

Large Commercial:

Customer Charge: \$42.00/month
 Energy Charge (all kWh): \$0.042/kWh (all months)
 Demand Charge: (all kWh): \$13.25/kWh (June, July, August)
 Demand Charge: (all kWh): \$10.25/kWh (September-May)

Sewer Rates

As of 4/15/2020

Residential:

1-2 people: \$34.00/month
 3 or more people: \$38.00/month

Commercial:

\$36.00/month base rate
 plus 50% of water bill

Storm Sewer: \$2.00/month

Water Rates

As of 11/16/2023

Residential:

First 1,000 gallons: \$23.00
 Over 1,000 gallons: \$15.24/1,000 gal.
 Maintenance Fee: \$19.00
 Minimum Bill: \$42.00

Commercial:

First 1,000 gallons: \$25.00
 Over 1,000 gallons: \$15.24/1,000 gal.
 Maintenance Fee: \$19.00
 Minimum Bill: \$44.00

Gas Rates

As of 03/15/2021

Maintenance Fee:

Residential: \$10.00
 Commercial: \$12.00
 Large Commercial: \$15.00
 Industrial: \$20.00
 Interruptible: \$40.00

All CF's will be billed at a variable rate per MCF based upon \$3.50 plus market and transportation costs.

Garbage Rates

As of 11/16/2022

Residential:

1 person: \$10.00/month
 2 persons: \$14.00/month
 3 or more persons: \$16.50/month

Commercial:

\$34.92 per each tote per month
 \$33.35: 2 yard dumpster
 \$48.40: 3 yard dumpster

Tonnage charge for commercial will be added to the pickup charge as determined by Van's sanitation once service is established.

Full-Time

City Administrator: Rachel Keffeler
 Deputy Clerk: Alicia Hoffman

Public Works Superintendent: Mike Wurth
 Gas Operator: Terry Maass
 Lineman: Shawn Archer

Journeyman: Craig Reiter
 Water Operator: Tim Bolton

WATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT OVERVIEW REMSEN, IOWA

WHAT IS THE PROJECT?

- A new well, in the Dakota aquifer, to provide sufficient volume of water for the City's uses well into the future - and provide drought resiliency
- A new water treatment plant, with Reverse Osmosis (RO) technology, resulting in improved drinking water quality
- A new water tank, to replace the existing 50-year old concrete tank that is failing

WHY IS THE CITY DOING THIS PROJECT?

- To comply with new Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regulations
- To provide sufficient quantity of water for the future of the City, and better drought resiliency
- To fix aging infrastructure, current water plant is over 40 years old
- To provide better, safer drinking water to the community
- To be in compliance with wastewater chloride limits and avoid having to spend millions of dollars more at the wastewater treatment plant

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE PROJECT?

- Hardness of the water will be significantly reduced, from approximately 48 grains currently, down to near 7 grains. This has the following benefits:
 - Less salt usage, most customers will see \$8-15/month savings in salt cost (or more), depending on water usage
 - Extend life of in-home plumbing systems
 - Less wear and tear on appliances
 - Improved aesthetics of the water
 - Residents will need to re-program their water softeners (once the project is complete in 2025) in order to see the benefits and help the City comply with Chloride discharge limits at the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Increased capacity, more drought resiliency, less frequent "water bans"
- Better tasting water
- Environmental water quality benefits - reduced chloride discharge into the stream

WHAT ARE THE COSTS AND HOW WILL IT BE PAID FOR?

- The total project cost is estimated to be \$9.4M. This is being funded with a variety of sources, including grants:
 - \$500,000 WTFAP Grant through Iowa DNR
 - \$1,000,000 Loan Forgiveness through Iowa DNR
 - \$2,000,000 GO Bond
 - \$5,900,000 low-interest loan through Iowa DWSRF program (20 year, 2.0% interest rate)
- To pay back the loans and cover the operating costs for the utility, water rates need to be increased. Current rates are the following:
 - Base Residential Fee (regardless of usage) = \$13.00/month
 - Base Commercial Fee (regardless of usage) = \$14.00/month
 - Maintenance Fee = \$11.00/month
 - Rate per 1,000 gallons (after 1st 1,000 gallons) = \$8.71/1,000 gallons
- Fiscal Year 24 New Water Rates:
 - Base Residential Fee (regardless of usage) = \$23.00/month
 - Base Commercial Fee (regardless of usage) = \$25.00/month
 - Maintenance Fee = \$19.00/month
 - Rate per 1,000 gallons (after 1st 1,000 gallons) = \$15.24/1,000 gallons

BETTER WATER FOR REMSEN. BETTER WATER FOR EVERYONE.

BUILDING PERMITS ARE REQUIRED: If you are adding or changing the outside dimensions of any building on your property (this includes sheds, fences and decks) or doing **ANY** cement work on your property. If work is completed without obtaining a building permit, you are subject to penalty. Please see the below ordinance.

ORDINANCE No. 2023-001

An Ordinance adding Section 147.14 of Chapter 147 Building Regulation.

Be it enacted by the City Council of the City of Remsen, Iowa.

Section 1. Building Permit Requirement as per Chapter 147: The City of Remsen requires a building permit for all new building, building additions, and fences on an owners property prior to construction.

Section 2. Fines: If an owner commences construction of a buildings, building additions, or fences prior to obtaining a building permit, a fine of \$500.00 shall be assessed to the owner of said property where the building, building additions or fences are constructed.

Section 3. Repealer: All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 4. Effective Date: This Ordinance shall be effective after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed and approved by the City of Remsen on the 13th day of September, 2023.

First Reading: 07-26-2023
Second Reading: 08-16-2023
Third Reading: 09-13-2023