

September 16, 2014

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Village Council members are considering an ordinance to prohibit commercial truck traffic on Fort Site Street. For those unfamiliar with Ft Site Street - it is located from St Rt 119 to St Rt 49 and passes in front of the museum and fort area. This street has been utilized for some truck traffic over the years but here recently was used as the bypass during the Sewer Separation Project. Council has been discussing this action over the past three or four years but decided to wait to take any official action until after the sewer project was completed. If the change is made it will require these commercial trucks to utilize the two highways when traveling through town. A couple notes as to the reasoning and also as to the implementation of this change:

- For those familiar with this street it actually only has 22.5' of right-of-way width through most of it and is very narrow in front of the fort and museum areas;
- This street like many in Fort Recovery is not built to handle the weight that is hauled by the many commercial trucks traveling through our village and is hard to keep a decent asphalt surface in place;
- The intersection with St Rt 119 is not wide enough to allow truck turns without going in the neighboring curb lawn area or scraping the utility pole as has been done very often. It is also a fairly blind turn for those coming off of St Rt 119 to oncoming traffic and requires traffic on the highway to slow or stop to allow the truck turn to be made.

These changes will again only apply to commercial trucks as identified by law and will not prohibit the use of this for pickup trucks or those vehicles not defined as a commercial truck by revised code. This will also not apply to delivery trucks that are delivering to or stopping at one of the businesses that border this stretch of street as by law they are permitted to make deliveries as necessary. As in the past these types of changes are made to provide better safety for everyone utilizing this area, allow us to better maintain our smaller streets and hopefully avoid future problems or accidents. The Village Council will have the third and final reading of this ordinance at our next council meeting on October 6th and as always are willing to listen to any concerns our citizens or businesses may have with this change.

If the weather allows, the seeding work will be done in the next couple weeks to complete the Combined Sewer Separation Project. Once this work is done the project will be completed and we will be following up with those few homes that are not into the separated lines correctly to finalize our separated sewer system and eliminate the overflows as required by the Ohio EPA.

We do have a few more events still planned here in Fort Recovery this fall as the second of the annual Cruise-Ins will be held on Saturday, October 11th from 4:00 – 8:00 pm. There will also be a band playing on the street from 8:00-10:00 pm right at the conclusion of the Cruise-In on the block south of the traffic light. This additional entertainment is being sponsored by Trusty Woods Restaurant. Also the Athletic Boosters will be holding their annual "Buckeye Bash" on the brick street on Saturday, October 25th with various activities going on including a meal, drinks and other entertainment prior to the OSU Buckeye game being shown on a big screen. Please plan to support both these events and the many others that take place here in Fort Recovery.