

## Port picks Oct. 26 for trick or treat

Written by KRISTYN HALBIG ZIEHM  
Wednesday, 04 September 2013 18:04

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While most people are dealing with the end of summer, the Port Washington Common Council on Tuesday looked ahead to Halloween.

Aldermen agreed to hold trick or treat from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26 — a decision that spurred a heated debate.

Although the city has traditionally held trick or treat on the weekend prior to the holiday, Ald. Kevin Rudser had a different take on the date.

“Why not hold Halloween on Halloween?” he asked. “A number of communities have gone to having Halloween on Halloween, which is the way it should be.”

This year, Oct. 31 falls on a Thursday, causing City Administrator Mark Grams to note that weekdays often result in conflicts with school events.

Safety was on the mind of Port Washington Police Capt. Mike Davel.

“The problem with weekday Halloween is that this time frame is when traffic is busiest on many of our streets,” he said. “People are coming home from work, going to school events. It’s starting to get dark.”

Davel recommended the city continue to hold trick or treat on a Saturday afternoon.

“Many of our neighborhoods participate fully,” he said, complete with parents grilling in the driveway as youngsters go from house to house. “It’s become quite the event.”

Ald. Dan Becker said he has already received a number of calls from constituents who want trick or treat on Saturday.



But none of this swayed Rudser, who said “there’s nothing worse than Saturday afternoon” when families are trying to do things together.

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“I can’t imagine the residents of Port Washington can’t adapt (to a weekday trick or treat),” he said. “It’s like we should have Christmas on Saturday this year instead of Wednesday because it’s a weekday.”

Mayor Tom Mlada said, “I’m feeling the inner alderkid coming out” as Rudser cast the only vote against the Saturday trick or treat.