

Village of Mettawa



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

December 2014 Q3 FY 2014-2015

FROM THE OFFICE OF CASEY URLACHER, MAYOR

the buzz

Corporate neighbor:

Impact Networking: new headquarters

Impact Networking will soon expand its presence in Mettawa by moving its corporate headquarter here from Waukegan. Construction on the new offices have begun at the firm's current Mettawa location (east of I-94 on Boulton Boulevard), which now houses its warehouses and creative services division. Point of sale operations are still in Waukegan, but may move to Mettawa in the future.

In 2014, Impact was ranked ninth on the Chicago Tribune Top 100 Workplaces list in the small business category, a prestigious ranking based solely on employee feedback. The firm is the Chicago region's largest independent provider of office equipment and document technology, and also offers a wide variety of services including print and web. Impact has additional offices in downtown Chicago, Wisconsin, and Indiana.

<http://www.impactnetworking.com>

MAYOR'S NOTE

BY CASEY URLACHER

Happy New Year!

As we begin 2015, we can take pride in our municipal accomplishments of the past year. I'm happy to report that the Bradley Road repaving project is complete and went well. We also removed over 300 trees (mostly dead Ash) from Village roadways, and cut back brush to avoid potential hazards. Thank you to Maria and Arturo Rojas for hosting the recent Village get-together at their lovely home which included a performance of traditional Mexican dance. These well-received gatherings are a great way to meet neighbors and new residents, and to ask questions of Village officials. The next such event will be in January or February. Please let me know if you'd like to host one in the future. Don't hesitate to contact me at any time with your questions, comments or ideas.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**curlacher@mettawa.org
(847) 573-1460**

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

APRIL 3, 2015

Candidates for three available Trustees positions will be included on the ballot.

For more information, contact clerk@mettawa.org or Cathy at 847-573-1460

Public Works

Bradley Road Residents have been driving on a newly paved Bradley Road. The project proceeded smoothly and was completed on time and in budget. One resident described the road's improved condition as "luxury accommodations" compared to its previous state. Please enjoy our rejuvenated thoroughfare.



Ash tree and brush removal The clearing of dead trees and brush along Village right-of-ways is nearly complete. Over 300 trees—mostly dead ash—have been removed, and the brush has been cut back to remove hazards. We expect both visibility and safety to be improved as a result.

Mettawa Trail along Bradley Road After the completion of the Oasis berm, the portion of the Mettawa Trail currently running north-south along Bradley Road order will be re-routed to pass through the Oasis Park. Design work is underway and should be completed soon with construction beginning in the spring.

Mettawa Trail along Route 60 In Spring 2015 we expect to break ground to extend the Mettawa Trail west along Route 60 from the western boundary of Deerpath Farm to St Marys Road. There were some delays in receiving approvals from the Illinois Department of Transportation, but we remain optimistic that this trail extension project will move forward soon.



Village Hall The Public Works Committee continues to study the options for a potential Village Hall. Building sites now under consideration include the corner of Riverwoods Boulevard and Route 60 just north of Costco, the Riverwoods road property north of Whippoorwill Park, and the southwest corner of St. Mary's and Route 60, all of which are Village-owned properties. A Committee of the Whole meeting on this topic will likely be scheduled for early 2015.



Open Space Plan



During the past couple of months, the Village's open space consultant, WRD Environmental, has been working to develop and complete a professional open space plan for the Village. The firm has conducted in-depth research, including multiple interviews with Village Board members, residents and other relevant groups. Their plan will be submitted for approval during the first quarter of 2015. We can look forward to a comprehensive plan which creates specific goals and guidelines for Village-owned properties within the context of our rural community's setting and vision.

New Trustee Appointment

Resident Jan Pink was appointed by Mayor Urlacher to fill the open Village Trustee position created by the resignation of Trustee Roger Lane. Trustee Jeff Clark will temporarily sit on the Parks & Recreation and Public Works committees (as in 2013, the December meetings of these committees were cancelled).

Tax Levy

At the December Village Board Meeting, the Board reviewed the 2014 tax levy and approved keeping it the same for 2015.

Mailboxes

The Village performs snow and ice removal operations with great care. However, efforts to remove snow and ice may result in damage to mailboxes. If it is determined that a Village-contracted snowplow caused damage to a properly placed and secure mailbox, our contractor will:

- Place a temporary mailbox on site as soon as practical after the damage, if necessary
- Repair the damage
- Replace the box with a standard-issue Federal regulation black box and wood post, if necessary
- Reimburse the resident up to \$50 towards the purchase and installation of a replacement if a receipt is submitted.

Please report any such damages direct to Forrest Builders by calling 847-482-1553.

Village Code and Firearms

From time to time, questions arise about the Village Code and by resident request the topic of firearms was discussed at the November Village Board meeting. The residents in attendance expressed the opinion that no change to the code is needed at this time. To help address questions, the relevant section of the Village code is included below.

METTAWA VILLAGE CODE SECTION 7.102. DISCHARGE.

A. It shall be unlawful to discharge any firearms within the Village limits of Mettawa except as hereinafter provided.

B. Shotguns, when loaded with shot shells only, and rifles or pistols of 22 caliber or less, may be discharged subject to the following restrictions and conditions:

1. Any resident or landowner over the age of fifteen (15) years may discharge a shotgun, rifle or pistol of 22 caliber or less while on his own property; and a child under the age of fifteen (15) years may discharge a shotgun, rifle or pistol of 22 caliber or less when accompanied by a person twenty-one (21) years of age or older.

2. Any other person may discharge a shotgun, rifle or pistol of 22 caliber or less on the land of a resident or landowner, but only when accompanied by an adult over the age of 21 years and only when given express written consent to do so signed by the landowner over the age of 21 years. Said written consent shall contain:

- a. The date said consent is given;
- b. The date for which said consent is effective;
- c. A precise description of the area in which said activity may take place;
- d. The names, ages and addresses of the persons to whom consent has been given; and
- e. The express prohibition of the discharge of any gun in a manner which would endanger a horseback rider or frighten a mounted horse.

3. No gun shall be discharged within three hundred (300) feet of any residence, public road, or on or within three hundred (300) feet of a railroad right-of-way.

4. No gun shall be discharged within three hundred (300) feet of a mounted horse.

C. This Section shall not be construed to prohibit any officer of the law from discharging a firearm in the performance of his duty, nor any person from discharging a firearm when lawfully defending his person or property.



Administrator's report

By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator

During the past three months, its been great to see tangible evidence of improvements within our Village, including the repaving of Bradley Road, the progress on the Oasis Berm and Park, and the removal of dead trees and brush along our roadways. The patrol cars Lake County Sheriff have become a more familiar sight in Mettawa, and Sgt. Drummond gave a brief presentation at the Village Board meeting in December. This year there's also been an increase in construction activity, both residential and commercial.

It has been satisfying to work on many of the less visible projects, such as my ongoing review of the Village Code. Whenever possible, we are updating the code to reflect current conditions and benefit the Village. I've also been auditing our ComEd bills and comparing them to our street light inventory to ensure that we are not being overcharged.

My review of the 2011 Village of Mettawa Strategic Plan has shown that it still seems to be in good shape and on target. The Mayor sent the plan to the Village Board for their review, and there was general consensus that we are on track with the plan.

Once again the BWM Golf Tournament will take place at Conway Farms on September 14-20, 2015. This year the event's Operations Committee includes the Village, and will begin meeting in December to discuss increasing the efficiency of event-related traffic and parking, as well as other topics.

Please do contact me with your ideas or questions. I look forward to seeing you all at the next Village get-together in 2015.



Village of Mettawa

26225 N. Riverwoods Blvd.
Box M
Mettawa, IL 60045

Casey Urlacher, Mayor
Bill Armstrong, Trustee
Mary Brennan, Trustee
Jeff Clark, Trustee
John Maier, Trustee
Jan Pink, Trustee
Tim Towne, Trustee
Lisa Dieter, Treasurer
Cathy Nelson, Village Clerk
Bob Irvin, Village Administrator

<http://www.mettawa.org>



The Village of Mettawa strives to preserve and nurture our authentic rural and horse-friendly environment and to ensure the highest quality of family life for our residents

Mailing Address Line 1

Mailing Address Line 2

Mailing Address Line 3

Mailing Address Line 4

Mailing Address Line 5

MEETING CALENDAR

Tuesday, January 6

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning & Appeals Committee

Tuesday, January 12

6:00 p.m. Open Lands Planning Ad Hoc Panel

Wednesday, January 14

5:30 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

6:30 p.m. Public Works Committee

Tuesday, January 20

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, January 27

7:00 p.m. Open Lands Planning Ad Hoc Panel

Tuesday, February 3

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning & Appeals Committee

Wednesday, February 11

5:30 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

6:30 p.m. Public Works Committee

Tuesday, February 17

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board meeting

Tuesday, February 24

7:00 p.m. Open Lands Planning Ad Hoc Panel

Tuesday, March 3

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning & Appeals Committee

Wednesday, March 11

5:30 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

6:30 p.m. Public Works Committee

Tuesday, March 17

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

Please note that this list may be incomplete.

Check the Calendar at mettawa.org or contact the Village Clerk for updates.

CONTACT US

Casey Urlacher, Mayor

(847) 573-1460

Cathy Nelson, Village Clerk

(847) 573-1460

Office hours: M-F 9-11 a.m. & 3-5 p.m.

Public safety

DIAL 911 FIRST

Non-emergency numbers:

Lake County Sheriff: (847) 377-4000

Village Security Patrol Car: (847) 404-6272

Garbage & Recycling

Lake's Disposal Services, Inc.

(847) 366-8582 or (815) 675-0400

Village of Mettawa website

<http://www.mettawa.org>

NEXT BOARD MEETING: 7:30 P.M., TUESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2014