



# Village of Mettawa



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

**January 2016 Q3 FY 2015-2016**

FROM THE OFFICE OF CASEY URLACHER, MAYOR

## the buzz



### MOLA volunteer workdays

**Old oaks reveal new beauty on Bradley Road**

Two volunteer workdays this past fall resulted in some beautiful new views along the west side of Bradley Road north of Indian Ridge Road. Members of Mettawa Open Lands Association worked alongside MOLA board members, Village Trustees and residents, and helping hands from Conserve Lake County to clear overgrowth. With chainsaws, hand-tools and lots of elbow grease, this hard-working team made quick work of the buckthorn thickets, opening up new views of previously choked woodlands. Two old oak trees which had been obscured by invasive buckthorn may now be enjoyed in their full glory on the west side of Bradley Road. MOLA will be planning more workdays in 2016 to help increase the natural beauty of our Village. MOLA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. For more information, visit: <http://www.mettawaopenlands.org> 🌿



## MAYOR'S NOTE

BY CASEY URLACHER

### Welcome to 2016

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoy a great year ahead in 2016.

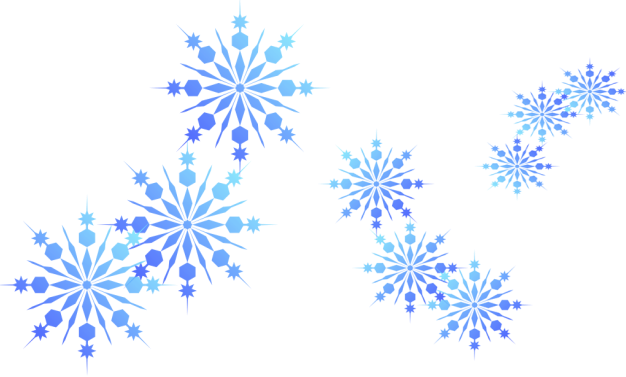
Please mark your calendar for Saturday, January 23, 2016, at 9:00 a.m. A special meeting will be held specifically to focus on the topic of a potential Village Hall. The Board expects to reach a decision at that time on whether or not to move forward with completing plans and specifications in order to solicit bids.

I am looking forward to another wine and cheese resident get-together this spring (date and time to be announced). If you are interested in hosting, please get in touch with me or the Village Clerk.

In other news, I'm pleased to report that the Village continues to run smoothly. An audit was recently completed and we remain in good financial position.

As always, I am here for you. Don't hesitate to contact me at any time with your questions, comments or ideas.

[curlacher@mettawa.org](mailto:curlacher@mettawa.org)  
(847) 573-1460 📞



### **Special Village Board Meeting: Jan. 23**

For many years, the Mayor and Board of Trustees has considered various options for Village offices, meeting space and document storage. The Public Works Committee recently recommended that the Village Board reach a decision on whether or not to build a Village Hall.

The Mayor and Board of Trustees will hold a Special Village Board Meeting on Saturday, January 23, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the Savanna Room at the Hilton Garden Inn. The sole purpose of the meeting is to review updated plans and cost estimates for a potential Village Hall.

The Village Board is expected to reach a decision on whether or not to move forward with completing the plans and specifications in order to solicit bids for a Village Hall.

It is important to note that if the decision is made to solicit bids, the final decision on moving forward with the Village Hall would not be made until the bidding process is completed and a contract is awarded by the Board to a general contractor to construct the building. ❁

### **SSA #15: water main project**

The Village Board recently approved the creation of Special Service Area (SSA) #15 for the construction of a water main extension to bring water to fifteen properties in the general area near Old School, St. Marys and Little St. Marys roads. Lake County will retain ownership of the utilities, and the water will be provided by the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency (CLCJAWA).

The cost of this one-time utility construction project will be borne not by the Village, but rather by the residents set to benefit from it. The SSA #15 tax allows the estimated cost of \$700,000, plus interest expenses, to be amortized (each resident will pay 1/15th of the cost spread out over a period of twenty years).

We expect the water main project to proceed at a constructive pace. Bids will open on February 1st, and will be reviewed at the February 10th meeting of the Public Works Committee. If a bid is approved at the February Village Board meeting, and if weather permits, construction may begin in March.

From time to time, the Village receives inquiries from residents whose properties fall outside of the water main area. In 2011, the Village reviewed these areas and created price estimates, taking into consideration factors such as distance and the number of people potentially affected. The actual costs from the SSA #15 extension project will help us adjust the 2011 estimates to develop a more accurate cost estimate for other potential projects. If you are interested in the possibility of a water main extension project in your area, please contact Bill Armstrong: [barmstrong@mettawa.org](mailto:barmstrong@mettawa.org). For more info about CLCJAWA, please visit <http://>

## Administrator's Report



By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator

Helping to prepare the Village Budget for 2016-2017 is currently one of my top priorities. The budget review schedule follows the various committee meeting schedules. The Public Works and Parks and Recreation Committees discussed items for inclusion in the budget at their January meetings, and will continue the discussions at their meetings on February 10th. The Finance Committee and Village Board will review the draft budget at their March 15 meetings. Interested residents are welcome to attend any committee meetings, which precede the public hearing on the budget on April 19th, at which time it will be up for approval by the Village Board. I look forward to seeing residents at the various upcoming meetings. Please feel free to call me anytime with your questions. ❁

### Village appoints new members

Two new appointees to a Village office and a commission were made at the November Village Board Meeting. Denis Bohm was appointed as a member of the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission, and Pam Fantus was appointed as Deputy Treasurer. We thank them both for volunteering for these valuable services to the Village. The Village website provides member lists and descriptions of Village Officials, Committees and Commissions, along with contact information: <http://www.mettawa.org/government>. ❁

## RECENT VILLAGE BOARD ACTIONS

*“Recent Village Board Actions” presents highlights of recent actions by the Village board during the last quarter. Some of the topics below are explored in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter. Please note this section does not include a complete list of all Village Board actions; meeting minutes are always available on the Village website.*

- 1) **New SSA #15 created**  
The Board approved the creation of Special Service Area #15 for the construction of the water main extension in the general area near Old School, St. Marys and Little St. Marys. This SSA will apply to fifteen properties (see page 2).
- 2) **Amendment to zoning map**  
The Board approved a comprehensive amendment to the Village zoning map. Several Village-owned properties and Forest Preserve District properties were re-zoned to the new Open Space District. The revised map may be viewed on the Village website.
- 3) **Culvert replacement**  
The Board approved the replacement of two culverts on Old School Road.
- 4) **2015 tax levy**  
The board approved the 2015 tax levy for \$135,000. This amount has remained the same for seventeen years.
- 5) **Howe Security agreement**  
The board approved an amendment to the Howe Security agreement which will result in reduced costs and the leasing of a new truck.

## Village of Mettawa

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

Casey Urlacher, Mayor  
Bill Armstrong, Trustee  
Mary Brennan, Trustee  
John Maier, Trustee  
Jan Pink, Trustee  
Pam Sheldon, Trustee  
Tim Towne, Trustee  
Pam Fantus, Deputy Treasurer  
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 19

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee  
7:30 p.m. Village Board

### Saturday, January 23

**9:00 a.m. Special Village Board Meeting**

### Tuesday, February 2

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

### Wednesday, February 10

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee  
7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

### Tuesday, February 16

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee  
7:30 p.m. Village Board



### Tuesday, March 1

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

### Wednesday, March 9

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee  
7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

### Tuesday, March 15

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee  
7:30 p.m. Village Board

**Please note: This list may be incomplete and some meetings may be cancelled.**

**For updates, check the calendar online at [mettawa.org](http://mettawa.org) or contact the Village Clerk.**

**The 2016 meetings of the Public Works and Parks & Recreation Committees will begin at 6:00 p.m./7:00 p.m. respectively (30 minutes later than the 2015 schedule).**

## CONTACT US

### Casey Urlacher, Mayor

(847) 573-1460

### Bob Irvin, Deputy 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: TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2015, 7:30 P.M.**