



Village of Mettawa



Q3 FY 2023-2024
January 2024

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

The Buzz

Committee Chairs Share 2024 Visions and Plans

Parks and Recreation Committee
Chairman, Trustee Wendie Clark

The Village is so very pleased to have purchased the Mettawa Savanna property (see photo below) from Grainger located at 24880 N. Riverwoods Road. In the year ahead, we will continue to restore the Mettawa Savanna and beautify it for resident and community usage.

Our ongoing vision for Village properties includes removing buckthorn and cataloging trees. Last year we completed the initial phase on Oak Hill Lane by removing buckthorn, planting new evergreens and flowering crab trees, along with a complete inventory of trees.

We are about 70% complete with buckthorn removal on the Mettawa Savanna property. Despite the weather not cooperating, we have cleared the old homestead, found a lovely cherry orchard, and completed cleaning up the

The Mettawa Savanna

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Mayor's Note

Looking forward

This January, I've been reflecting on the past year. I'm really proud of the way our Village came together to make progress in 2023. We certainly have a lot to celebrate!

For example, last year Mettawa took a big step forward by making a strategic land purchase that will preserve more open space. The Village Board also approved new zoning ordinance revisions that will better support residents and pave the way for long-term municipal planning.

Of course, these accomplishments only happened due to the efforts and input of many people, including Village officials and residents.

On behalf of everyone, thank you. Looking ahead, I'm excited about what we can get done in 2024. We'll keep working to make our Village a safer, more beautiful place for all residents.

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

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site. It's our goal to complete the full cleanup in early spring, and this property will be ready for planting in the spring.

We encourage all residents to drive by and see the beautiful Mettawa Savanna as we keep making progress.

Finance Committee

Chairman, Trustee John Maier

As the 2023-2024 Fiscal year is coming to an end in April, we continue to have a balanced and conservative financial outlook.

In the upcoming 2024-2025 Fiscal year, I expect the revenue to continue in a stable manner and will continue to produce a balanced and conservative budget.

The Finance Committee has recently redone our building and engineering contract to be more transparent and we are developing a forward looking fiscal forecast to assist in budgeting our expenditures.



Public Works Committee

Chairman, Trustee Sweb Smolic

This year we will be evaluating the conditions of all Village roads and drainage with the goal to maintain and repair or replace what is needed. We will be cleaning, or if necessary replacing culverts in the Village right of ways to optimize drainage throughout Mettawa, and will also be continually removing dead trees for safety and aesthetics.

Public Safety Commission

Commissioner, Trustee Tim Towne

For 2024, we plan to ensure the village is well protected by working with all the law enforcement agencies and continuing the traffic speed reduction campaigns for resident and vehicular safety. ❁

New Zoning Ordinance Revisions Better Support Our Community

In November, the Village Board approved new zoning ordinance revisions to Chapter 15, Zoning Regulations, and Chapter 12, Animal Regulations. Both of these ordinances will better support Mettawa residents and improve municipal infrastructure planning. The new Zoning Regulation Chapter will be much easier to use and understand. It's now organized more logically and delivers more clarity in many areas.

The zoning regulation amendment was a significant effort that took place over three years. In 2019, the Village hired Camiros, Ltd., a Chicago-based zoning consultancy, to help clean up and update Mettawa's zoning ordinance.

Community input was key to this revision process. The Zoning Planning and Appeals Commission (ZPA) held numerous meetings and public hearings prior to drafting their final recommendation report. The Village Board also held two special meetings to discuss the ordinance recommendations with the public. Many residents were in attendance and submitted letters for consideration, as their feedback played an important role in shaping the final recommendations.

Camiros captured all the discussion points and compiled a final recommendation report that was presented to the Mayor and Village Board. Several additional meetings followed to further discuss the final report in public hearings and regular meetings before determining a final product.

"The goal of the ZPA was to write ordinances that would preserve our beautiful and unique village. The ZPA Commissioners, Mayor Urlacher and the Village Board members, along with the previous ZPA Chairman, Joe Krusinski, were all very dedicated to this objective," said Liz Leonard, the newly appointed ZPA Chairman.

Now that the zoning ordinance revisions have been approved, the Village can move ahead to develop a new strategic plan. The last strategic plan was passed in 2011. The Village was not able to develop a new strategic plan until the new zoning ordinances were approved.

Chairman Leonard reflects, "I'm very proud of the hard work that's resulted in an excellent contribution to the Village." ❁

Administrator's Report

By Mandi Florip, Village Administrator



It's the time of year when we work on financial planning. I'm pleased to announce that the Village has once again approved the tax levy for 2023, holding it at the same level it has been for the last twenty years. Mettawa is proud to be one of the only municipalities

in the state to keep the tax levy at a steady rate without an increase.

Budget planning has begun for the fiscal year 2024-2025. We are assessing capital improvement projects and looking at financials.

A full draft budget will be presented to the Finance Committee during its March meeting and we expect this to be quite similar to the current budget. After the meeting, a proposed budget will be posted on the Village website.

The final budget will be presented to the Village Board at a public hearing on April 16, 2024. Please do reach out to me with any questions. 🌸



Traffic Data from Village of Lincolnshire

Data compiled August through December 2023.

2023 METTAWA TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

| OFFENSE | CITATION | WARNING | TOTAL |
|--|----------|---------|-------|
| DISOBEYED A TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE | 18 | 21 | 39 |
| DISTRACTED DRIVING | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| DRIVING WHILE LICENSE SUSPENDED | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| EQUIPMENT VIOLATION | 5 | 9 | 14 |
| EXPIRED REGISTRATION | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| IMPROPER LANE USAGE | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| IMPROPER TURN | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| NO VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| NO VALID REGISTRATION | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| REVOKED DRIVER'S LICENSE | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| SEATBELT VIOLATION | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| SPEEDING | 149 | 194 | 343 |
| SPEEDING MISDEMEANOR (26+/35+) | 14 | 0 | 14 |
| SUSPENDED REGISTRATION FOR NON-INSURANCE | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| SUSPENDED/REVOKED/CANCELLED REGISTRATION | 5 | 0 | 5 |
| UNINSURED VEHICLE | 13 | 0 | 13 |
| UNLAWFUL POSSESSION CANNABIS | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| WARRANT ARREST | 0 | 0 | 2 |

Village Board Actions

Highlights of recent Village Board actions during the last quarter are listed below. The complete list of actions may be found in the meeting minutes that are always available online at mettawa.org.

1. Approval of the CK Contractor Proposal to Clear Mettawa Savana Lot in the Amount Not to Exceed \$24,750
2. Approval of the Bob Haraden Three-Year Mowing Agreement for the Village Lots 24880 N. Riverwoods Road and 24881 N. Riverwoods Road
3. Approval of the Real Estate Agreement for 0 Old School Road, Mettawa, Illinois 60045
4. Approval of the Resolution to Determine the Amount of the Tax Levy for 2023 Tax Year
5. Approval of the 2023-2024 Insurance Policy with ICMRT (Presented by MGA Insurers, Inc) in the Amount Not to Exceed \$16,477
6. Rejection of the Bids for the 2023 Temporary Gravel Road Removal and Site Restoration Project
7. Waiver of Competitive Bidding and Approval of an Agreement with Maneval Construction for the Removal of Temporary Gravel at the Village's Lot Located at 24880 N Riverwoods Road in the Amount Not to Exceed \$96,775.00
8. Approval of a Resolution Setting Forth the Regular Meetings of the President and Board of Trustees and All Subsidiary Bodies of the Village of Mettawa for 2024
9. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Village President and Village Clerk to Execute Contract with Hilton Garden Inn to Provide for Meeting Room Space for Regular Meetings of the Village Board and All Village Committees and Commissions During 2024
10. Approval of the The Aero Sport RC Club License Agreement
11. Approval of the Resolution to Purchase the Property at 0 W Old School Road
12. Approval of a Proposal from Tetra Tech Inc. in the amount of \$3,750.00 to Complete a Phase I ESA on Vacant Lot 0 W Old School Road
13. Authorization to the Village Administrator to order an ALTA Survey on Vacant Lot 0 Old School Road
14. Approval of the Ordinance Amending the Village of Mettawa Zoning Code
15. Approval of the Ordinance Amending the Village of Mettawa Code of Ordinances, Chapter 12, Animal Regulations 🌸

Village of Mettawa

26225 North Riverwoods Boulevard
Mettawa IL 60045

Casey Urlacher, Mayor

Carol Armstrong, Trustee

Wendie Clark, Trustee

John Maier, Trustee

Debra Pelech, Trustee

Swab Smolic, Trustee

Tim Towne, Trustee

Amy Weiland, Village Treasurer

Mandi Florip, Village Administrator

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk

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

MEETING CALENDAR

All meetings are being held in-person at the Hilton Garden Inn.
Please note that this list may be incomplete and some
meetings may be cancelled. For updates, check the calendar online
at Mettawa.org or contact the Village Clerk.

Wednesday, February 14

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

Tuesday, February 20

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
7:00 p.m. Village Board

Wednesday, March 13

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

Tuesday, March 19

6:00 p.m. Finance Committee
7:00 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, April 2

7:00 p.m. Zoning, Planning and Appeals
Commission (ZPA)

Wednesday, April 10

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

**NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:
February 20, 2024, 7:00 p.m.**

CONTACTS

Casey Urlacher, Mayor

Mandi Florip, Village Administrator

(224) 602-9478

Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk

(847) 573-1460

PUBLIC SAFETY:

DIAL 911 FIRST

NON-EMERGENCY:

Lake County Sheriff:

(847) 377-4000

Village Security Patrol Car:

(847) 404-6272

GARBAGE & RECYCLING

Lakeshore Recycling Systems, LLC

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

VILLAGE WEBSITE:

mettawa.org