



# Village of Mettawa



**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

**April 2016 Q4 FY 2015-2016**

FROM THE OFFICE OF CASEY URLACHER, MAYOR

## the buzz



### Village running smoothly

#### New capital projects planned for coming year

At the Village Board meeting on April 19th, a new budget was approved for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. This budget may seem familiar, as it remains primarily the same as in previous years. It includes no new taxes or fees, and for the eighteenth year in a row, the tax levy remains unchanged. The Village anticipates that service levels will also remain the same as in the past.

Some capital projects were part of the new budget. These include the resurfacing of Old School Road between Bradley and St. Marys Roads and two Mettawa trail projects: the relocation of the trail to run through Oasis Park (currently it runs along Bradley Road), and the extension of the trail to run further west along Route 60. The Board also allocated \$60,000 for anticipated capital improvements at Oasis Park and Whippoorwill Park (i.e., \$30,000 per park). The actual improvements and costs will be determined after the schematic plans, now in development by WRD Environmental, are complete.

The board also approved a budget and contract for maintenance of Village properties and right-of-ways. This land will now be mowed by On Call Properties of Elk Grove on a monthly basis.

For more information, visit: [www.mettawa.org](http://www.mettawa.org) . 🌻

## MAYOR'S NOTE

BY CASEY URLACHER

### Spring greetings

Welcome to spring! As the weather gets warmer, it's time to start thinking about beaches and get-togethers.

This year Mettawa residents again have the opportunity to buy beach passes at the Lake Forest resident rate of \$85. 29 passes are still available. See you at the beach!

Wine and cheese get-togethers are always popular in Mettawa. Right now we are looking for hosts for the Village's springtime event (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 efficiently. The water main extension project has begun, and the budget for the upcoming year was approved at the April 19th Village Board meeting.

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)

## VILLAGE HALL SURVEY

At the Special Village Board Meeting on Saturday, January 23, the Public Works Committee was charged with creating a survey about a potential Village Hall. This survey should soon be finalized and approved for distribution to residents. All residents are encourage to participate in this important upcoming survey by completing and returning it to the Village. Survey results will be considered by the Board as it reaches a decision about whether or not to move forward with completing the plans and specifications for a Village Hall, a step which would precede cost estimates and bidding. Any final decision on moving forward with the Village Hall would not happen until after the bidding process, at which time a contract could be awarded by the Board to a general contractor for building construction. ❁

## ComEd installing smart meters

ComEd has begun installing smart meters throughout its service area, and plans to install them across half of our Village beginning the second or third week of September. The remainder will be installed in early 2017. Smart meters replace analog meters and meter readers, transmit usage information wirelessly, and enable access to online energy management tools. For more information, contact ComEd: Call 1-866-368-8326 or visit: [www.comed.com/technology](http://www.comed.com/technology). ❁

## Comprehensive plan amendment

The Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission has been working to improve the Village of Mettawa Comprehensive Plan, and will be presenting the proposed amendments at a public hearing on May 3, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. A thirty page document containing the proposed changes is available on the Village website. ❁

## Water main extension project

Orange-vested workers and many large vehicles parked along the road were the first clue that construction has begun on the long awaited water main extension project. This project will bring water to fifteen properties near Old School, St. Marys and Little St. Marys roads, and should be complete by the end of May. ❁

## MOLA Wine & Cheese May 21

Mettawa Open Lands Association will host a Wine and Cheese Spring Social on Saturday, May 21 (4-6 p.m.) at Always Faithful Stables on Bradley Road. All Mettawa-area residents and friends are invited to attend. Matt Ueltzen of the Lake County Forest Preserve District will give a special presentation about the LCFPD's new initiative to eradicate buckthorn in Lake County, and its pilot program area which will include Middlefork Savanna and some portions of Mettawa. ❁



**MOLA WORKDAY  
SPRING CLEANUP  
APRIL 23, 8:30—11 a.m.  
WHIPPOORWILL FARM**

RSVP: [larryfalbe@aol.com](mailto:larryfalbe@aol.com)

## Administrator's Report



By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator

I'm pleased to announce that the Village budget for 2016-2017 has been approved by the Village Board, and that most line items are the same as in previous years.

We do have some good news about cost savings. The past two winters presented us with less snow than usual, and left us with a surplus of road salt. That means that the Village won't need to buy any salt for the coming year. Typically the Village purchases about 150 tons of salt per year, and right now we have about 143 tons on hand. In the coming year, salt will cost \$70 per ton. This surplus represents savings to the Village of over \$10,000.

The Village occasionally gets phone calls from residents and real estate agents inquiring about Mettawa's popular tax rebate program. The Village board reconsiders the tax rebate program on an annual basis, and also determines the amount of potential rebates (based upon the declared surplus). Eligibility under the current rules requires a minimum permanent residency at the same address in Mettawa. For example, in order to have qualified for the 2015 program, a resident must have lived at the same address at least since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. The actual rebate amount any resident may receive does vary (based on a percentage of property taxes).

I look forward to seeing residents at the various upcoming meetings.

Please feel free to call me at anytime with your questions. 🌸



### 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) **2016-2017 budget**

The Board approved the Village budget for 2016-2107.

#### 2) **Schematic plans for parks**

The Board approved an agreement with WRD Environmental to assist the Village in the creation of two schematic plans (for Oasis Park and Whippoorwill Park).

#### 3) **Water main project**

The Board approved an agreement with R.A. Mancini for the construction of the water main extension project for fifteen properties in the general area near Old School, St. Marys and Little St. Marys.

#### 4) **Right of way maintenance**

The Board approved an agreement with On Call Properties to maintain and mow Village properties and right of ways on a monthly basis.

## 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, 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, May 3

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

### Wednesday, May 11

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

### Tuesday, May 17

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

### Tuesday, June 7

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

### Wednesday, June 8

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

### Tuesday, June 21

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

### Tuesday, July 5

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

### Wednesday, July 13

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

### Tuesday, July 19

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 begin at 6:00 p.m./7:00 p.m. respectively (thirty minutes later than the 2015 schedule).**

## CONTACT US

### Casey Urlacher, Mayor

(847) 573-1460

### Bob Irvin, Deputy Village Clerk

(847) 573-1460

### 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, MAY 17, 2015, 7:30 P.M.