



Village of Mettawa



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

July 2016 Q1 FY 2016-2017

FROM THE OFFICE OF CASEY URLACHER, MAYOR

the buzz



Trails & Parks

Making our Village more beautiful

Mettawa Trail Extension This project, which will extend the Mettawa trail west along 60 to St. Marys Road, reached a critical milestone when the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) approved the engineering plans. This key step allowed the Village Board to select a contractor through a bidding process. A contract with Chicagoland Paving has been approved, and the construction schedule will soon be complete. Construction will begin after IDOT issues the formal permit.

Oasis Park Trail Relocation A portion of the Mettawa trail will be relocated to run through Oasis Park. After the Village Board rejected two sets of bids (which came in too high), it approved a less expensive bid and proposal from R.A. Mancini. Before construction begins, this project and its schedule are being fine-tuned to ensure timely completion and successful results.

Whippoorwill Park This beautiful property is already showing the results of maintenance improvements underway. Recent clearing of non-native trees and brush by Perfect Cut Tree has revealed a lovely rolling landscape. This work was funded by the Village, with help from a donation by Trustee Pam Sheldon and hands-on assistance from MOLA volunteers). Watch for native plantings coming soon.

MAYOR'S NOTE

BY CASEY URLACHER

Let's Picnic!

Summer's in full swing, and that means it's time to invite you all to the Village Picnic on Saturday, August 27, 2016, 11 a.m.—2 p.m., rain or shine, at the Serbian Church at the corner of Bradley and Old School roads. Please join me, Village Trustees and your Mettawa neighbors for food, beer and conversation. This fun picnic is a great way to enjoy our community.

The Village continues to run well. I'm happy to say that plans for two Mettawa trail projects (at Oasis Park and along Route 60) have been approved and are making progress. The re-paving of Old School Road should start in October, too. It's great to drive by Whippoorwill Farm and see all of the progress that's being made with its landscape. Keep an eye on your mail for the Property Tax Rebate applications, which have been sent out. 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
(847) 573-1460 ☎

Old School Road resurfacing

Plans for resurfacing Old School road are moving along. The bidding process has been established, and will be advertised on July 29th. The sealed bids will be due on August 8th, the Public Works Committee will review these bids on August 10th, and then will present them for review to the Village Board on August 16th. ❁

Comprehensive Plan update

The Village Board approved the amendments to the comprehensive plan which were presented by the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission, and which are currently available on the Village website. Teska Associates is preparing a final approved document which will be posted soon too. ❁

2017 Elections

The next elections for Village Mayoral and Trustee positions will be held in April 2017. The four positions being voted on include those currently held by Trustees John Maier, Bill Armstrong, Mary Brennan and Mayor Casey Urlacher. Petitions may be circulated beginning on September 20th, and may be filed December 12th-19th. ❁

Oasis Park receives EPA grant

The Village is pleased to announce that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency recently selected the Oasis Park Wetland Enhancement Project for the 319 Grant funds. This grant of \$14,375 will specifically help improve wetlands, an important part of this park's overall improvement. ❁



Village Hall survey results

The Village received a good 55% return rate for the 404 survey cards mailed in order to poll residents about a potential Village Hall. Of the returned cards, 139 chose the "status quo" option, while 84 chose the "village hall" option. These results will be reviewed by the Village Board on August 16. ❁



Property Tax Rebate

Mettawa's popular property tax rebate program will continue for the current year. The Village Board recently voted to approve a surplus of \$350,000 (an increase of \$30,000 from the previous years surplus of \$320,000) which will be made available for rebate to qualified residents.

Application forms have been mailed to all Village residents, and may also be downloaded from the Village website. Applications are due back by October 3, 2016. Any applications received with postmarks later than October 3 will be returned unopened to the return address on the envelope.

New this year: Eligibility for the tax rebate will not be reset by a change of residence within the Village. If a resident has lived continuously in the Village since January 1, 2014, but has lived in more than one owned house, that resident will still qualify for the rebate. Any questions? Please contact the Village Treasurer. ❁



Administrator's Report



By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator

With the Village in good financial standing, a number of public works projects will soon be underway. The projects at Oasis Park and Whippoowill Park should cause very little inconvenience to residents. Some residents will be affected by the resurfacing of Old School Road and the Mettawa Trail extension on Route 60, but we will do our best to keep you well-informed in an effort to minimize any inconvenience.

As a reminder, Lakes Disposal offers an electronics recycling pick-up service for Mettawa residents on the first Friday of every month. To easily dispose of old TVs, computers and other electronics, simply call Lakes to arrange pick-up: (847) 366-8582.

Please don't forget to complete your application for the property tax rebate. The actual rebate amount any resident may receive will vary (based on a percentage of property taxes) but if you have lived continuously in the Village since January 1, 2014, are homesteaded in Mettawa, and all taxes are paid, you should be eligible to receive a rebate.

I look forward to seeing residents at the various upcoming meetings and at the Village Picnic on August 27th!

Please feel free to call me at any time 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) Mosquito control

The Board approved a mosquito control agreement with Clarke Environmental for \$24,450.

2) Whippoowill Park

The board approved several contracts with Perfect Cut Tree for tree removal and cleanup.

3) Oasis Park plans

The Board approved an agreement with Teska Associates to develop plans and specification for a grant proposal to benefit Oasis Park

4) Comprehensive Plan

The Board approved the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

5) Tax Rebate

The Board approved a surplus of \$350,000 to be made available for tax rebates for qualified residents.

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, August 2

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

Wednesday, August 10

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, August 16

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, September 6

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

Wednesday, September 14

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, September 20

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, October 4

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

Wednesday, October 12

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, October 18

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 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 AUGUST 16, 2015, 7:30 P.M.