



Village of Mettawa



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

April 2017 Q4 FY 2016-2017

FROM THE OFFICE OF CASEY URLACHER, MAYOR

the buzz



Oasis Park improvements

After a long planning process, the transformation of Oasis Park is now underway. Residents can expect to see improvements, restoration and trail relocation efforts taking place very soon.

Until this time, Oasis Park has not benefitted from concentrated restoration efforts, despite some mowing by the Village and helpful teasel removal by MOLA volunteers.

The Village recently received a \$14,375 grant from Lake County Stormwater Management Commission to improve a specific drainage area at the very north of the park. This wetland area (actually part of the headwaters of the Chicago River), will be cleaned up before being seeded with native grasses and other native plants. As these plants grow and mature (which could take a couple of years), they will bring added beauty to this area and also contribute to a healthier and more robust drainage system by helping to filter the water.

The recently approved Tallgrass Restoration Services proposals will deliver a prescribed burn and an herbicide application to fight invasive plants. New native plants will be introduced via seed broadcasting and the plug planting. In addition, the western area along the current Mettawa trail, will be cleaned up by removing stumps and dead trees.

Eventually the relocated trail will run through the park. Our contractor, R.A. Mancini, has been awaiting final approval from the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Village anticipates this to arrive soon. We have already received a critical letter from the Illinois Historical Commission which stated that this construction project poses no issues of concern from a historical perspective.

These efforts should help the Oasis Park come into its own as a newly beautiful and more usable open space. 🌸

MAYOR'S NOTE

BY CASEY URLACHER



Mayor Urlacher with former Mayor MacLean

First of all, I'd like to extend congratulations to Mary Brennan, John Maier and Denis Bohm on their re-election as Village Board Trustees. As always, all residents are welcome and invited to the monthly meetings of our Village Board and Committees. This spring and summer we can expect a lot to happen at Oasis Park, including the trail relocation project, a prescribed burn (weather permitting), and some plantings. Work will resume on Mettawa Trail extension along Route 60 in the next few weeks. Please remember that Beach Passes are still available to Mettawa residents for \$85 (see the Village website for more info). As always, I am here for you. Don't hesitate to contact me at any time with your questions, comments or ideas. Enjoy the spring!

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

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS OFFICIAL RESULTS

Mettawa's municipal elections were held on April 4, 2017 for the position of Mayor and three Village Trustee seats.

KMG = Keeping Mettawa Green party

CMT = Conserving Mettawa Traditions party

Votes: **Mayor**

193	Casey Urlacher (KMG)
62	Tom Lys (CMT)

Votes: **Trustees**

178	Denis M. Bohm (KMG)
183	Mary E. Brennan (KMG)
186	John H. Maier (KMG)
68	Cathy Nelson (CMT)
59	Bob Price (CMT)
61	Terre Cohen Tripoli (CMT)

Official results provided online by the Office of the County Clerk Office, Lake County, IL:

<http://www.lakecountyil.gov>

Forest Preserve trail construction

The Lake County Forest Preserve District is completing work on a new trail which runs along Everett Road. This trail will connect Riverwoods Road to the Daniel Wright Forest Preserve. Planning for this project began twenty-five years ago when Grainger dedicated a strip of land for a future trail. 🌱



MOLA seed-spreading volunteers, March 11, 2017, Whippoorwill Farm Preserve.

MOLA volunteers in action

Volunteers for Mettawa Open Lands Association joined forces to spread native seeds on March 11th at the Village-owned Whippoorwill Farm Preserve at the corner of Riverwoods and Route 60. Adults and children gathered to spread seed mixes specific to three different ecosystems. On March 18th, MOLA volunteers continued a project along Bradley Road which was begun in 2016. With the help of a Fecon forestry mower and its operator (donated by ILM), MOLA was able to rapidly clear and shred large quantities of buckthorn to reveal new views into a meadow owned by Equestrian Connection. MOLA membership, socials, and volunteer days are open to all. For more information visit <http://mettawaopenlands.org> 🌱

Zoning workshops

May 9th will mark the fourth workshop held by the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission (ZPA) to continue an in-depth review of the zoning code. These workshops were planned after the Mayor requested a review of the current code to address various discrepancies and questions, and to discuss ways in which the code might be improved. Any potential changes will be formally considered at a public hearing before being submitted to the Village Board. All interested residents are invited to participate in these zoning code workshops. 🌱

Administrator's report

By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator



The Village Board recently approved the budget for the new fiscal year (2017-2018) which begins on May 1, 2017. Residents will be pleased to note that this year's budget includes no tax increases, and that the amount set aside for the tax rebate program has increased to \$500,000 (from \$325,000). The property tax levy amount will remain the same for the 19th consecutive year, and revenues are expected to be the same as in the current year. New revenue includes the \$14,375 grant from Lake County Stormwater Management Commission to improve drainage at Oasis Park (see article, page 1) The new budget sets aside money from the general fund for capital improvement expenditures, including the Oasis Park trail relocation project, and \$25,000 which has been carried over from the previous year to cover the completion of the trail extension project along Route 60. Please feel free to contact me at anytime with your questions. ❁

Street lighting

The Public Works committee is examining the possibility of a need for street lighting at various intersections throughout the Village. More information will be available as the committee completes its study. ❁

LAKE FOREST BEACH PASSES AVAILABLE

\$85 resident rate

Upper lot parking passes for Forest Park Beach: application and more information available online at mettawa.org, or visit: Lake Forest Public Services Building 800 N. Field Drive, Lake Forest, IL 60045

VILLAGE BOARD ACTIONS

This list presents highlights of recent actions by the Village Board during the last quarter. For a complete list of all Village Board actions, please refer to the meeting minutes which are always available online at mettawa.org.

The Board recently approved:

- 1) **Budget for fiscal year 2017-2018**
(more info in Administrator's Report*)
- 2) **Right-of-way maintenance contract** with TGF Enterprises of Libertyville
- 3) **Oasis Park maintenance and improvement agreement** with Tallgrass for Oasis Park grant project*
- 4) **Oasis Park proposals for maintenance and improvements** with Tallgrass for projects including prescribed burn and herbicides*

**See newsletter article*

SAVE THE DATE

VILLAGE PICNIC AUGUST 26, 2017

Village Office Location & Hours

700 East Park Avenue, Suite 113
(Life Storage), Libertyville, IL 60048

Office Hours: weekdays, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
For entry, call (847) 573-1460.

Official Village Mailing Address

Please continue to mail all correspondence to:
**The Village of Mettawa,
26225 N. Riverwoods Blvd., Box M,
Mettawa, IL 60045**

Village of Mettawa

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

Casey Urlacher, Mayor
Denis Bohm, Trustee
Mary Brennan, Trustee
John Maier, Trustee
Jan Pink, Trustee
Pam Sheldon, Trustee
Tim Towne, Trustee
Pam Fantus, Treasurer
Bob Irvin, Village Administrator
Sandy Gallo, Village Clerk
<http://www.mettawa.org>

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



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

Tuesday, May 9

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

Wednesday, May 10

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, May 16

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, June 6

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

Wednesday, June 14

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, June 20

6:30 p.m. Finance Committee

7:30 p.m. Village Board

Tuesday, July 11

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

Wednesday, July 12

6:00 p.m. Public Works Committee

7:00 p.m. Parks & Recreation Committee

Tuesday, June 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.

CONTACT US

Casey Urlacher, Mayor
Bob Irvin, Village Administrator
Sandy Gallo, 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 16, 2017, 7:30 P.M.