



# Village of Mettawa



Q3 FY 2018-2019  
January 2019

Quarterly Newsletter

## The Buzz



### Zoning Ordinance Progress

The Village has retained Camiros, a zoning consulting firm, to help rewrite Mettawa’s zoning ordinance in an effort to introduce increased clarity and enhanced organization.

**THE BACKSTORY:** Camiros has been working with Mettawa since May 2018. The firm was initially retained to: 1) assist with the creation of potential zoning ordinance amendments, and 2) review the current code from the standpoint of improving its organization and clarity.

**INITIAL REVIEW:** The Mayor initiated a review of Mettawa’s zoning ordinance in mid-2016. The Village Board identified nine major areas in need of attention and sent these to the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission (ZPA) for review.

**WORKSHOPS & MEETINGS:** The ZPA held a series of workshops to discuss potential changes to the zoning ordinance: in December 2016, and in March, June and July, 2017. As a result, the ZPA recommended thirteen possible amendments. Three public hearings about these proposed changes were held in September, October and November 2017. The ZPA made its formal recommendation to the Board in November 2017.

In February 2018, the Village Board held a Special Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss the ZPA recommendations and obtain resident comments.

**BOARD APPROVALS:** At the February 2018 Board meeting, the Board approved some recommended amendments to the zoning ordinance (*including application fees, time limits for appeals, special*

## MAYOR'S NOTE



*By Casey Urlacher*

Hope that everyone is staying warm and safe in this cold winter weather.

I’d like to give a shout out to Scott Anderson

and the Public Works team for doing a great job keeping our roads clear this year, and we are glad to hear that many residents feel positive about the roads being clear and easy to drive.

Even though spring seems far away, mark your calendar for two dates. On April 1st, beach passes will be available for purchase (no fooling!) and municipal elections will be held on April 4th. Get out and Vote!

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



use permit time limits, section rearrangements, short term rental regulations, height of residential and accessory structures, and minimum house size).

**EXPERT INPUT:** At that time, the Board agreed that the Village might benefit from some expert input, and decided to explore retaining a consultant for assistance with the remaining proposed amendments (including limitation on the number of accessory building and lot coverage, amortization of non-conforming structures, definition of commercial, and regulation of large horse stables). The Mayor and Village Board interviewed three zoning consulting firms before Camiros was approved in May 2018.

**TECHNICAL REPORT:** Camiros developed a Technical Report following input from workshops held with the Zoning, Planning, and Appeals Commission (ZPA) and interviews with the Mayor and Board of Trustees, Camiros presented this report to the Village at a special Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting on November 12, 2018.

The Technical Report reviewed the current zoning code's organization structure. It also provided assistance with some remaining zoning amendments (including limitation on the number of accessory buildings and lot coverage, amortization of non-conforming structures, definition of commercial, and regulation of large horse stables).

At the November COW meeting, residents and Trustees provided input to the Technical Report by asking questions and making suggestions. As a result, the Board requested that the ZPA take this input into consideration while closely re-examining the report's details, and before making a second recommendation.

**ZPA REVIEW:** The ZPA carefully reviewed the report again in context of the questions and suggestions. At the December 2018 Board meeting, the ZPA presented a new recommendation which eliminated some areas and marked others for further review.

**CURRENT PROJECT:** In January 2019, the Board approved the ZPA's recommendation to retain Camiros to help rewrite and update Mettawa's zoning ordinance for increased clarity and better organization. The end result should be a more streamlined zoning ordinance that is easier to read and understand, more logically organized, and enhanced with helpful graphics (such as tables). This project will take about 10-12 months to complete. Meeting notices will be emailed to residents and posted on the Village website. ❁



Photo by Linda Gardner Phillips

# MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

April 4, 2019

Mettawa's municipal elections will be held on April 4, 2019 for the positions of three Village Trustee seats.

## CANDIDATES

Pamela P. Fantus

Timothy J. Towne

Jan Pink

Pamela J. Sheldon

## WHERE TO VOTE

To find your polling place, please visit <http://ova.elections.il.gov> and click "polling place locator" in the upper right corner.

## POLITICAL SIGNS

Residents are reminded that political signs are considered temporary signs in the Village Code and therefore may only be placed on private property. Political signs may not be placed on Village property nor Village right-of-way (typically about 10-15 feet from the edge of the Village road). Thank you for your understanding.

## Administrator's Report

By Bob Irvin, Village Administrator



Budget preparations are currently underway for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

Village committees will be reviewing budget options during February, then the budget will be presented to the Finance Committee during its March meeting.

This new budget will likely be quite similar to the current budget, and we expect no new tax increases or proposals to increase taxes.

The budget will be presented to the Village Board at a public hearing in April 2019, and is expected to be approved at that time.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions. ❁

## VILLAGE BOARD ACTIONS

*Highlights of recent Village Board actions during the last quarter are listed below. For a complete lists of actions, please refer to the meeting minutes which are always available online at [mettawa.org](http://mettawa.org).*

1. Approved the 2019 Village meeting schedule and agreements with the Hilton Garden Inn for meeting room rental
2. Approved a resolution determining the estimated tax levy for the 2018 tax year
3. Approved an amendment to the agreement with Howe Security for the Mettawa Patrol
4. Approved a settlement agreement with Always Faithful Stables regarding zoning matters
5. Approved the tax levy for the 2018 tax year at the same amount for the 20th consecutive year
6. Approved a tax abatement for the debt payment for the purchase of Oasis Park
7. Approved the revised proposal from Costco for an expansion of the gas station
8. Approved an amendment agreement with Anderson Engineering for Engineering and Building Permit services
9. Approved an agreement with Camiros for Zoning Ordinance Consulting services

## Beach Passes

Parking passes for the upper lot at the Forest Park beach in Lake Forest will be available to Mettawa residents for \$85 beginning on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Passes may be purchased at the the Lake Forest Public Services Building at 800 N. Field Drive just east of the tollway in Lake Forest. More information will be available online at the Village of Mettawa website. ❁

## Oasis Park Update

The Parks and Recreation Committee has begun to plan the landscaping to be added to Oasis Park. This effort, led by Trustee Denis Bohm, will continue through the winter with landscape development expected to begin in the spring and continue through summer. ❁

## Bradley Road Bridge Now Open

The bridge on Bradley Road crossing I-94 opened for traffic on December 20, 2018. The contractor will return in the spring to complete the landscaping and general clean-up. This work should not impact traffic. Both Oasis access roads on the east and west sides of the bridge will be also be resurfaced. ❁

## Safety Alert

Some residents have recently experienced break-ins and mail scam attempts. For example, one resident reported a garage break-in that resulted in a broken window and several stolen items.

Another local household noticed disrupted mail delivery. After reaching out to the U.S. Post Office, they discovered that a hold had been placed on their mail and it was being picked up by someone else (who could then open their mail and gather their information). This matter is currently under investigation. Also note that some of our neighbors in Forest Haven have received misleading letters that look like official bank or credit card communications, but unduly request personal information.

It's unfortunate that we need to deal with these types of matters; however, its always better to be aware. As always, if you see or experience any suspicious behavior, please call the Lake County Sheriff. ❁

# Village of Mettawa

26225 North Riverwoods Boulevard  
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**  
[www.mettawa.org](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

## MEETING CALENDAR

### Monday, February 11

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

### Wednesday, February 13

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

### Tuesday, February 19

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

### Tuesday, March 5

7:00 p.m. ZPA Commission

### Wednesday March 13

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

### Tuesday, March 19

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

### Tuesday, April 2

7:00 p.m. ZPA Commission

### Wednesday, April 10

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

### Wednesday, April 16

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.

## CONTACTS

**Casey Urlacher, Mayor**  
**Bob Irvin, Village Administrator**  
**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

**Lake's Disposal Services, Inc.**  
(847) 366-8582 or (815) 675-0400

#### VILLAGE WEBSITE:

[www.mettawa.org](http://www.mettawa.org)

**NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:**  
**February 19, 2019, 7:30 p.m.**