



# Village of Mettawa



Q3 FY 2022-2023  
January 2023

**QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**

## The Buzz

### In Honor of Trustee Denis Bohm

We are deeply saddened by the untimely loss of longtime resident Denis Bohm. He brought amazing energy to Mettawa, accomplished so much and was appreciated by his community. We will miss him greatly.

Denis was a kind, compassionate, and giving human being who truly loved nature and his neighbors. His personality and actions embodied Mettawa's mission to protect our rural environment, build community, and support thriving parks and open lands. His motto was, "What do the residents want?"

Our Village reaped the positive impacts of Denis's dedicated volunteer efforts at so many levels. He joined Mettawa Open Lands Association (MOLA), helped drive thoughtful action, and participated in key initiatives that improved our open spaces and native species. In March 2016, he was appointed to

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*Trustee Denis Bohm*



## Mayor's Note

### A New Year

As we enter 2023, I've been thinking about transitions.

Looking back, Trustee Denis Bohm's presence on the Village Board and his smile will be missed. He always provided a wonderful example of selflessly giving back to his community. He was dedicated to making the world a better place, and took positive action without expectation of getting anything in return. Through kindness, thoughtfulness and persistence, he accomplished so much. I feel humbled and motivated by his way of being in the world, and am so grateful to have known and worked with him.

This month, please join me in welcoming two newly appointed Village officials. Deb Pelech has joined the Village Board as a Trustee, and Karen Carruthers has joined the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission. Thank you, Deb and Karen.

Looking forward, on April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, please remember to vote in the Consolidated Elections.

Our Village Board continues to change and evolve when new Board members are elected and/or appointed. Each new Trustee arrives with fresh eyes and introduces different perspectives and ideas. These contributions help our Village continue its ongoing development.

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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the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission and served in that role for a short period before moving onto the Village Board. In December of 2016, he was appointed as a Trustee and was re-elected in 2017.

Preserving trees and protecting nature were two of Denis's passions and he worked tirelessly to raise awareness and inspire positive action in the community. He was proud that Mettawa was ranked high in Illinois for having 50% canopy cover from trees. Denis always considered nature's needs and was a strong advocate for creating safe environments for nesting birds and other plants and animals.

We send our sincere condolences to Denis's family and friends. Denis, thank you for everything. 🌸

### Remembrances

I met Denis through volunteering with MOLA. After becoming a Trustee, he took responsibility for my "neighborhood" (south of Rt 60) and was always available and helpful with questions or concerns. He remained a much appreciated and steadfast presence on MOLA's Board, acting as its Treasurer, as well as ensuring MOLA's priorities and activities were coordinated with Village efforts regarding its open lands. — *Karen Carruthers*

Denis and I got to know each other cutting buck-thorn for the village. What a good person, plus his tools and attitude were way better than mine. We owe him a lot for his knowledge but more important his help in directing our village in its growth. I feel really good that I got to know him! — *Ron Pink*

We've enjoyed working with Denis over the past several years on a variety of park projects throughout the Village of Mettawa, in particular with the design and implementation of enhancements at Oasis and Whippoorwill Parks and especially the pollinator gardens. All of us felt inspired by his knowledge of and enthusiasm for the natural environment, as well as his devotion to his community. — *James Anderson Company*

Mettawa has lost another outstanding citizen who was very conscientious and dedicated. His personality, knowledge, honesty and reliability made a good steward of our open space. — *Pamela Sheldon*

As a Board colleague, Denis was exceptional in his leadership of the Parks and Recreation Committee. He was knowledgeable, dedicated and took great joy in his work. As wonderful as he was on

the Board, he was an even better friend. He was kind and caring and had the best sense of humor. — *Jan Pink*

The Village Board will miss Denis's contributions and humor during our monthly meetings. A dedication and tribute to Denis will be held on a future date. 🌸

## Consolidated Elections April 4, 2023

4 Trustee positions are up for election.

### Candidates:

2-year term: **Deb Pelech**  
4-year term: **Wendie Clark** (incumbent)  
**Tim Towne** (incumbent)  
**Swab Smolic**

### How to vote

The voting location will be emailed to residents by the Village Clerk after Lake County confirms the voting site. This information will also be posted on the Village website

### Political Signs

Remember that political signs are considered temporary signs in the Village code. This means that political signs can only be placed on private property. Political signs can't be placed on Village property or right-of-ways (typically about 10-15 feet from the edge of a Village road. Thank you for your understanding. 🌸

## New Village Officials

### Deb Pelech, Trustee

Deb was recently appointed as a Trustee and attended her first Village Board meeting on January 17th. Until this transition, she served on the Zoning, Planning and Appeals Commission (ZPA) since 2020.

### Karen Carruthers, Commissioner

Karen was appointed to the ZPA Commission. She's an active, long-time volunteer in the Village and also serves as the President of the Mettawa Open Lands Association (MOLA). 🌸



# 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 2022, 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 2023-2024. 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. On April 18, 2023, the final budget will be presented to the Village Board at a public hearing.

Please do reach out to me with any questions. ❁

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## 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](http://mettawa.org).

1. Approval of the Stormwater Management Commission Grant Application for the MacLean Preserve at Oasis Park Drainage Project
2. Approval of the Lot Consolidation by Impact Networking LLC to Consolidate Lots 3 and 4 in Oasis Business Center Subdivision into one lot with One Proposed Building
3. Approval of the Minor Subdivision by Joseph Massarelli to Lot 14 (Vacant), 15 (Existing Residence and 16 (Vacant) in Deerpath Subdivision into one Lot with Existing Residence and Other Future Accessory Structures
4. Approval of Filing an Application for a Minimum Access Permit with Lake County Department of Transportation for Lot 2 in the Grainger Subdivision
5. Approval of Advantage Consulting Engineers for Design Work for the Minimum Access Plan for Lot 2 in the Grainger Subdivision

### *Village Board Actions, continued*

6. Approval of the Resolution to Determine the Amount of Tax Levy for 2022 Tax Year
7. Approval of the 2022-2023 Insurance Policy with ICMRT (presented by MGA Insurers, Inc) in an Amount Not to Exceed \$14,924
8. Approval of Howe Security Contract Rate Increase
9. Approval of the Amendment to the Agreement with Sandy Gallo LLC for Administrative and Village Clerk Services
10. Approval of the Amendment to the Agreement with Mandi Florip for Village Administrator Services
11. Approval of Dunlap Tree Experts Two Proposal for the Right-of-Way Trees in the Amount of \$12,575.00 and Park Trees in the Amount of \$6,250
12. Approval of Dunlap Tree Experts to Remove the Brush Adjacent to Property 15130 Little St. Marys Road for Ditch Work in the Amount of \$1,475
13. Approval of Pav-Tech Corporation Proposal for the Driveway at 15185 St. Marys Road Driveway in the Amount of \$2,600
14. Approval of Pav-Tech Corporation Proposal to Repair Damaged Area to Mettawa Woods Drive in the Amount Not to Exceed \$4,200
15. 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 2023
16. 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 2023
17. Approval of an Ordinance Revising the Village of Mettawa Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Annual Budget to Correct a Scrivener's Error
18. Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing the Levy and Collection of Taxes for the Corporate and Municipal Purposes of the Village of Mettawa for the Year 2022
19. Approval for Forest Builders Additional Maintenance Work on the Ditch Located on Little St. Marys Road in the Amount Not to Exceed \$4,558.03
20. Approval of a Resolution Approving the Release of Certain Executive Session Minutes of the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Mettawa
21. Approval of an Ordinance Amending the Mettawa Code of Ordinances, Chapter 9, Building Code, Article X, Fences
22. Approval of the Davey Tree Proposal to Complete Tree Inventory on the Village Lot Located at 27570 Oak Hill Lane in the Amount Not to Exceed \$1,250
23. Approval of an Ordinance Denying an Application for a Fence Modification for Property Commonly Known as 27823-27835 St. Marys Road, Mettawa



# Village of Mettawa

26225 North Riverwoods Boulevard  
Mettawa IL 60045

**Casey Urlacher, Mayor**

**Carol Armstrong, Trustee**

**Wendie Clark, Trustee**

**John Maier, Trustee**

**Deb Pelech, Trustee**

**Jan Pink, Trustee**

**Tim Towne, Trustee**

**Amy Weiland, Village Treasurer**

**Mandi Florip, 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

The Committee meetings are being held via Zoom. The Finance Committee and Village Board 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](http://Mettawa.org) or contact the Village Clerk.

### **Tuesday, February 7**

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

### **Wednesday, February 8**

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

### **Tuesday, February 21**

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

### **Tuesday, March 7**

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

### **Wednesday, March 8**

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

### **Tuesday, March 21**

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

**NEXT VILLAGE BOARD MEETING:  
February 21, 2023, 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](http://mettawa.org)