

Village of Lakewood— Quality Living in a Natural Setting

The Lakewood Newsletter

From the President

Summer, 2014

Dear Neighbors:

Given the cold and rain that we are experiencing, it is difficult to believe that I am writing my letter for the Summer Edition of the Newsletter. Regardless of the weather, I can't remember a time when I was so excited to provide you with an update about all of the projects and activities within our community.

Personnel

As reported in the Spring Newsletter, Chief Howell announced his retirement after thirty-nine years of exemplary law enforcement service. A statewide recruitment was initiated immediately, and more than seventy applications were received from highly qualified candidates. Twelve individuals were selected for initial interviews, and this field of candidates was narrowed to a group of four finalists. I am pleased to announce that our next Chief of Police will be Leigh M. Rawson. He has been a member of the Elgin Police Department for twenty years and currently serves as a Lieutenant. Mr. Rawson has previously been assigned to the Patrol Division, Traffic Investigations Unit, Major Investigations Division, and the Tactical Response Team. He is a graduate of Loyola University (Criminal Justice) and has a law degree from John Marshall. Mr. Rawson will be sworn in at the June 24, 2014 meeting of the Board of Trustees. He will officially begin his new duties on June 25, 2014. I am confident that Mr. Rawson will be an excellent addition to our organization and our community.

Another new addition to our organization is Gary Zickuhr, who began his duties as our Water/Wastewater Operator on April 28, 2014. Mr. Zickuhr comes to the Village of Lakewood with twenty seven years of experience within Public Works. For the past nine years, he has focused on water and wastewater operations. Most recently, he held the position of Superintendent of the Water and Sewer Division in the Village of Pingree Grove. Mr. Zickuhr brings with him excellent technical knowledge, as he holds a Class 1 Wastewater Certification and a Class B Water Certificate. In addition, he has a strong background in the general operations of a Public Works Department. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Zickuhr to the Village of Lakewood.

Finances

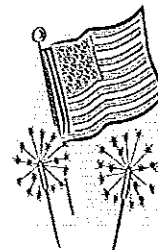
On April 22, 2014, the Board of Trustees unanimously approved the annual budget for Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015. There are three important statements that can be made about the budget:

Architectural Review

With the increased level of building activity throughout our community, the Board of Trustees has determined this is an opportune time to explore enhancements to our architectural review process. A task force is being created to conduct an analysis of the Village's process and regulations. The purpose of this review is to ensure that the Village of Lakewood maintains the integrity of its architectural and building standards, yet allows for creativity and the use of state-of-the-art building materials. Ultimately, improvements in the Village's process will encourage new projects and positively impact building within our community.

**VEHICLE STICKERS
REMINDER !
DUE MAY 1ST**
Please come into the Village
Hall and purchase your
2014/15 Vehicle Stickers

**FIREWORKS
WILL TAKE
PLACE AT
DUSK OVER
THE LAKE
ON SUNDAY,
JULY 6, 2014**



- From an operational perspective, it is balanced. As planned, reserves that have been set aside during the past few years for the roadway program will be utilized.
- The budget includes an ongoing investment in infrastructure (as explained below).
- It reflects a cautious optimism about an overall improvement in the economy.

Please contact the staff at Village Hall if you have any specific questions about the Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 budget.

Infrastructure

As noted above, investment in infrastructure is one of the most critical functions of a municipality. Even during the economic downturn, the Village of Lakewood was able to continue to move forward on a number of important projects. Specifically:

Broadway Outfall Storm Sewer – During the past few years, the Village of Lakewood has devoted resources to cleaning and televising the Broadway Outfall Storm Sewer. The cleaning has helped to increase capacity in the storm sewer pipe, and the purpose of the televising was to determine areas of needed repair. Once identified, the Village of Lakewood engaged the services of Copenhaver Construction to make the repairs. Copenhaver Construction provided excellent unit prices for the work, which allowed us to expand the program to address all of the needed repairs at a total cost of approximately \$250,000. While Copenhaver Construction encountered some unexpected challenges, they persevered and will complete the project according to schedule. We extend our appreciation for their diligence and extraordinary efforts.

2014 Roadway Program - As planned, the 2014 roadway program is significant in scope. The contract was awarded to Geske Construction, and work is expected to begin in mid – June. As a reminder, the following roadways are included: Inverway Drive from Turnberry Trail to Stuart Lane; Stuart Lane from Inverway Drive to its terminus; South Shore Drive from Sunset Drive to Richmond Lane; Sunset Drive from Lake Avenue to South Shore Drive; Richmond Lane from Broadway Avenue to South Shore Drive. In addition, the final lift of pavement will be completed in the Autumn Ridge Subdivision. We will also begin a multi year program to repave the parking lot at RedTail Golf Club.

East Sewer – Strand Associates continues to design the new sanitary sewer main that will be built along Broadway Avenue from Essex Lane to Warwick; south on Warwick to Pencil Park (Country Club Road extended); along Pencil Park across Huntley Road and along Chicago Avenue to its terminus. Once the initial design is completed, it will be sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for review. At that time, the detailed plans will be made available for public inspection. Our goal remains to complete this project by November of 2015.

Dial a Ride

Since I've been an official of the Village of Lakewood, one of the most frequently asked questions is why we don't provide a Dial a Ride Service. There are a number of residents in our community who are unable to drive and have limited access to transportation resources. Unfortunately, as a stand alone service, providing a Dial a Ride service is simply cost prohibitive. However, staff has been working with the McHenry County Department of Transportation, and it appears likely the Village may be able to participate in a regional Dial a Ride program at a significantly lower cost of approximately \$2/capita annually. Details are being finalized, and we will provide further information as it becomes available.

Special Service Area #1 (SSA #1)

A special service area is a statutorily authorized procedure allowing municipalities to finance the purchase or maintenance of an amenity or special service available to only a portion of residents within a limited geographic area. SSA #1 was created in 1990 as an initiative of the Turnberry Property Owners Association (TPA), which asked the Village of Lakewood to assist in establishing a special taxing district for the purpose of maintaining the lakes within the Turnberry Subdivision. SSA #1 is scheduled to expire on August 20, 2015. The Board of Trustees is willing to re-establish a new special service area to care for the lakes if there is clear

and strong consensus from the residents about its nature and parameters. Much like the process in 1990, it will have to be a resident led initiative. In order to ensure that all SSA #1 residents have access to consistent information, the staff has created a "white paper" that was mailed to residents within the TPA. We are planning to schedule a meeting devoted wholly to this topic on May 27. Further notice will be forthcoming.

Electrical Aggregation

Two years ago, our residents overwhelmingly approved a referendum to allow the Village of Lakewood to contract with an energy supplier in order to reduce electricity costs for residents and small businesses. In order to secure the best prices possible, the Village of Lakewood helped to create a consortium of neighboring communities. Known as the Northern Illinois Governmental Electric Aggregation Consortium (NIGEAC), the group was able to secure some of the lowest electrical supply rates in the state of Illinois, thereby saving our residents a significant amount of money during the past two years.

With the pending expiration of this agreement, NIGEAC initiated a new bid process and learned that the marketplace is vastly different than two years ago. Specifically, the same level of savings over the ComEd rate will not be realized. This is also the experience of other municipal aggregation programs throughout the region. However, I am pleased to report that NIGEAC has secured a one (1) year rate of 7.2 cents from our current supplier, Direct Energy. This compares to the approximate rate of 8.0 cents from ComEd during the coming year. Every resident will receive a letter from NIGEAC/Direct Energy about the program. If you currently participate in the municipal aggregation program with Direct Energy as your supplier and wish to continue to do so, you do not have to take any action. You will automatically be re-enrolled. You will also be given an opportunity to "opt out" and revert to ComEd or choose another supplier. If you do not currently participate in the municipal aggregation program, you will be given an opportunity to do so, but are not obligated. Please watch your mail and the Village's website for more detailed information.

RedTail Golf Club

The Winter Edition of the Newsletter included an update about the creation of a business plan for RedTail Golf Club. The business plan has now been completed, and it is available on our website under *Village News*. Thank you to all of the residents who participated in the creation of this guiding document, which has three primary components: strategies for increasing average revenue per round; strategies for decreasing costs; and an emphasis on capital investment. Toward this end, a number of capital projects will be undertaken at RedTail Golf Club this season. These include a multi year program for bunker renovations; the irrigation system; and the parking lot. In addition, I encourage you to read the enclosed flyer from our General Manager of Clubhouse Operations, Chris Neuhart, about the exciting new golf programs being offered this season. As the Village of Lakewood has committed to long term ownership of RedTail Golf Club, it is incumbent upon all of us to help support this valuable community asset.

Architectural Review and Development

I am pleased to report that a number of developments have taken steps to actively move forward during this construction season. The original developer at Cambria, George Caravelli of Worthington Homes, has been re-engaged in the project and has recently started construction of a new model home that is expected to be open to the public by September 1. While the original units in the subdivision were townhomes, the new units will be detached, single family homes on zero lot lines. The architecture and commitment to quality workmanship and materials will remain constant, and I encourage you to learn more about this beautiful and unique development by calling (815) 477-7900.

Orleans Homes has recently purchased fifty two lots at the Woodland Hills development and plans to begin construction in its first model within the next month or so. Both the builders and the Village of Lakewood are hopeful that our municipality becomes the "community of choice" for the employees of Centegra Hospital which is currently under construction just ten minutes south of these developments.

Three new custom homes are currently being built in The Reserve (just west of Huntley Road) and two new

multi family units are expected to break ground shortly at The Highlands of RedTail.

This increase in residential activity leaves us cautiously optimistic about the economy as we move forward and hopeful that retail/commercial activity will also increase in the coming months. That said, it is an opportune time for us to explore enhancements to our architectural review process. A task force will be created to conduct this analysis and provide recommendations for changes.

As we (hopefully) begin to experience the warmth and sunshine of the summer months, I hope you have an opportunity to take advantage of the amazing natural resources that surround us – whether golf courses, lakes, or biking and nature trails. And please be certain to read the enclosed flyer about our Third Annual Celebrate Lakewood event. The planning committee has been hard at work to make this our most successful event ever.

Sincerely,

Erin

Village President

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Stormwater Protection

The streams and lakes in our community provide beauty and recreation for everyone. What we all have to remember is that the rain which falls on our homes, yards, parks, and pavements drains to these streams and lakes. This stormwater runoff picks up pollutants such as oil and grease, chemicals, nutrients, metals, and bacteria as it runs over the land and carries them to the nearest body of water. It is a violation of local, state, and federal laws to intentionally discharge anything that is not stormwater into the stormwater drainage system. The dumping of paint, motor oil, grease, lawn chemicals, trash, and other materials into the stormwater drainage system is strictly prohibited. When washed into streams and lakes, these and other foreign matter can damage or kill plants, animals, and make humans ill. Debris can also cause storm drains to become blocked, causing them to overflow onto adjacent streets and properties.

If you witness a questionable discharge into storm drains, you are encouraged to report this activity. You can report such activity to the Public Works Department by calling (815) 459-3025.

Mosquito Abatement & West Nile Virus

In May, the Public Works Department began proactively installing mosquito larvicide in all Village catch basins and standing water in street rights-of-way. The larvicide prevents mosquito larvae from developing into adult mosquitoes. We will continue to reapply the larvicide as required throughout the season. The Village will not be spraying pesticides for adult mosquitoes this season due to the minimal, short term benefit provided. Therefore, we are asking residents to remove all standing water from yards, toys, furniture, play structures, clogged gutters, flower pot saucers, and any items that are not moved regularly to prevent the breeding ground needed by the mosquitoes. The first and best defense against mosquitoes/mosquito borne illness is to eliminate the places where they breed. There are also numerous mosquito control products available to the public. They include, but are not limited to: yard foggers, insect sprays, barrier sprays, repellents containing DEET, non-DEET repellents recognized by the CDC, along with microbial and chemical larval control for use in standing water. These products can be found at your local retailer, home and garden center, etc.

There are numerous species of mosquitoes, but in Illinois the West Nile virus is primarily associated with Culex species of mosquitoes. Culex mosquitoes breed in stagnant water. They thrive in hot, dry weather and their eggs can be flushed away by heavy rains before they hatch. Keep in mind that the most common mosquito found in Illinois is the inland floodwater mosquito, which is not believed to be a significant vector

for West Nile virus. The Aedes (flood water) mosquitoes are the annoying, aggressive biters that appear shortly after heavy rains. For more information, visit <http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/wnv.htm>.

PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS

Summer and Break-in Tips

First, we would like to thank all of our residents for being so vigilant the past few months. We have received an overwhelming number of house check requests. Also, it has become very apparent that neighbors are watching out for their neighbors. Please keep up the good work!

Please remember that if you see anything that doesn't seem right or is out of the ordinary in your neighborhood, call the Police Department immediately. **Please don't wait.** You are our eyes and ears as we can not be everywhere.

In the unfortunate event your home is broken into and you return home and discover the break-in, we ask that you do not touch anything or begin searching for missing items. Please exit the home and call the Police Department immediately. This prevents contamination of the crime scene and helps us when looking for evidence we can use to track the offenders.

We are also asking residents that when they leave home to please set your alarm system and advise your alarm company that in the event of a trouble alarm have them call the Lakewood Police Department as soon as possible. Again, this will assist us should your home be the target of a break-in.

Lastly, with the summer upon us, when you have guests or relatives visiting please remind them to lock their cars when parked outside and do not leave valuables in the cars including but not limited to; cash, luggage, or gps systems.

Have a safe and happy summer. Should you need anything, please call us at our non-emergency number (815)459-2151.

Be a Good Neighbor—Don't Block the Bike Path

With the summer weather upon us, neighbors are out walking and riding their bikes throughout our community. This is especially true along Huntley Road with the marked bicycle lanes. In order to keep our pedestrians and bicyclists as safe as possible, please keep your garbage cans, recycle totes, and yard waste bags off of the bicycle lanes. In this way, they will not have to veer around these items and into the roadway. In addition, please make sure your dogs are secure in your yard.

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

Wood Chips Available to Residents of Lakewood

We have three locations available for pick-up of free wood chips:

1. Haligus Road – South of our Sewer Treatment Plant at 6650 Haligus Road.
(Note: There is limited access to this location during wet conditions)
2. The maintenance barn at the Redtail Golf Club located at Lakewood Road and Palmer Drive.
3. 8810 Bard Road. There is a Village of Lakewood entryway sign at this location and it is all asphalt access.

Grafton Food Pantry

Grafton Food Pantry will be accepting food/paper donations during the Celebrate Lakewood event. Grafton Food Pantry, a 501 (c) 3, non-profit organization, is the pantry that serves the Village of Lakewood. They are located at 11481 Allison Court in Huntley. For every \$1 donated, they have the buying capability of \$4 of food at their partnering agency, Northern Illinois Food Bank. Donations are tax deductible to the extent as permitted by law. To donate, volunteer, or for further information, please contact the Grafton Food Pantry at (847) 495-0992 or visit their website at: www.graftonfoodpantry.org.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT
Erin Smith - (815) 356-8005

VILLAGE TRUSTEES
J. Carl Davis - (815) 459-2685
Gene Furey - (708) 373-0606
Jeff Iden - (815) 356-6070
Kenneth Santowski - (847) 910-2985
Gary Sexson II - (815) 356-9422
Bev Thomas - (815) 455-3321

VILLAGE MANAGER
Catherine J. Peterson - (815) 459-3025
E-mail: peterson@village.lakewood.il.us

DEPUTY VILLAGE MANAGER
Shannon Andrews - (815) 459-3025

VILLAGE CLERK
Janice S. Hansen - (815) 459-3025

TREASURER
George Roach - (815) 459-3025

FIRE CHIEF
Ralph Webster - (815) 459-1797

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT
Pat McDonagh - (815) 459-1589

POLICE CHIEF
Leigh Rawson - (815) 459-2151

RETAIL GENERAL MANAGER
Chris Neuhart - (815) 477-0055

CODES YOU SHOULD KNOW -11.04 VEGETATION CONTROL

The purpose of Section 11.04 is to insure that standards for the maintenance of lawns, yards and parcels of land in the Village are met; to prevent unsightly and dangerous landscape conditions; to encourage the neat and orderly maintenance of property; and to provide for a system of abatement should any provision of the Section be violated.

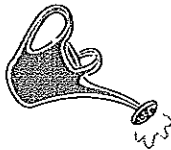
It shall be unlawful for any owner of any property in the Village to refuse or neglect to cut weeds or grass as follows:

1. On improved real estate, weeds and grass shall not exceed 6 inches in height;
2. On unimproved real estate (i.e. a vacant lot), weeds and grass shall not exceed 10 inches in height.

If you would like to register a complaint, please call Village Hall and provide the address and/or lot number of the property in question.

WATER USE

ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES—MAY WATER ON TUES/THURS/SAT
EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES—MAY WATER ON WED/FRI/SUN
NO USER MAY WATER ON MONDAYS



Village Hall is a drop-off location for:

- ◆ Old cellular phones to benefit Turning Point.
- ◆ Clean Styrofoam
- ◆ Christmas Lights to be Recycled

Holiday Schedules

Fourth of July
Village Hall Closed:
Friday, July 4

Trash, Recycling and Yardwaste Pickup:
Saturday, July 5

Labor Day
Village Hall Closed:
Monday, September 1

Trash, Recycling and Yardwaste Pickup:
Saturday, September 6

Police and Fire Departments are on duty
24 hours a day

Village of Lakewood
2500 Lake Avenue
Village of Lakewood, IL 60014

Hours: 8:30 a.m.— 4:30 p.m.— Mon.— Fri.

Phone Numbers:

Emergency: -----	9-1-1
Village Hall: -----	(815) 459—3025
Fire (Non-Emergency): -----	(815) 459—1797
Police (Non-Emergency): -----	(815) 459—2151
Building Department: -----	(815) 459—4671
Public Works Department: -----	(815) 459—3025
MDC Environmental Services: -----	(815) 568—7274
Village Hall Fax: -----	(815) 459—3156
E-mail: -----	info@village.lakewood.il.us