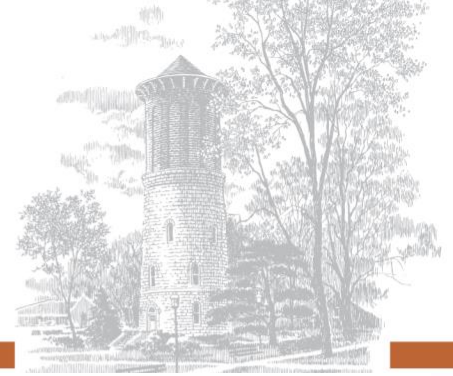


# TUESDAY TOPICS



September 21, 2021

## Village Manager Retires:

- As I mentioned last week, Village Manager Ingrid Velkme retired this past Friday, after more than 30 years in municipal government – many of those years here in Western Springs, and with the last four years as our first female Village Manager. In addition, on Friday night Ingrid was awarded the prestigious Jack Williams Intergovernmental Achievement Award at the West Central Municipal Conference annual dinner. On behalf of the Board, administration, and staff, I extend my congratulations and best wishes to Ingrid!

## Interim Village Manager:

- At the September 13 Meeting of the Village Trustees, the Board met in closed session to discuss next steps in appointing a new Village Manager. We are fortunate in that two outstanding internal candidates applied for the position. As a result, and given the added expense and delay in planning and operations, the Board decided to forego an external search. The Board directed me to enter into negotiations with one of the candidates. In the interim, the Board has appointed Deputy Manager Casey Biernacki as Acting Village Manager, and we are grateful to Casey for taking on the additional responsibilities of the Manager role.

## Hinsdale Oasis Closed:

- As part of the Tollway expansion project, the Hinsdale Oasis pavilion closed to the public last week, in preparation for the anticipated removal of the over-the-road structure. The two adjoining fuel stations and convenience stores operated by 7-Eleven will remain open and continue to provide services for both northbound and southbound travelers along I-294. The Tollway's press release can be found on the [Village website](#).

## National Rail Safety Week:

- It's National Rail Safety Week, and to promote rail safety awareness and education, the Western Springs Police Department is taking a proactive approach to vehicle and pedestrian safety around railroad tracks and trains through both education and enforcement. Enforcement details are planned throughout the week at various railroad grade crossings and commuter stations within Western Springs to ticket both drivers and pedestrians who disobey the laws associated with railroad grade crossings and railroad property. You can read more in the Police Department's press release [here](#).

Until next week,

Alice Gallagher,  
Village President

*Take Care of Yourself, Protect Others, Support our Community*