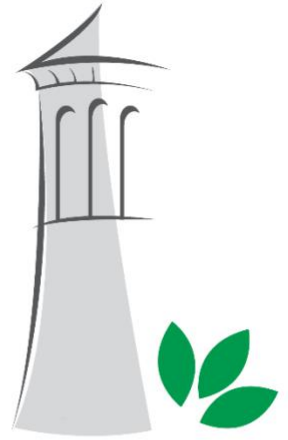


Western Springs FROM THE PRESIDENT

September 29, 2022



September 26 Board Meeting (the full agenda and meeting video is posted [online](#)):

The meeting began with a resolution regarding an intergovernmental agreement with the Illinois Tollway, authorizing the conveyance of surplus Village-owned property to the Tollway, the placement of a Village water pipeline on Tollway property, and the completion of certain street, water, and stormwater system improvements adjacent to or within the Village corporate limits. The resolution was passed.

An omnibus bill was passed that included a number of ordinances, resolutions, and motions, including: approving and authorizing an amendment to the standard water tower agreement, relative to existing telecommunications facilities at Spring Rock and Garden Market; an exception to the setback requirement for certain properties in Timber Trails to preserve existing Oak trees; an amendment to the Western Springs Fire code to adopt the regulations of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and the national fire code; approving amendments to the operating budget; authorizing the submittal of an application for funding in support of the Forest Hills sidewalk initiative; authorizing the submittal of a grant application for the Hillgrove Avenue streetscape improvement project; and approving an amendment to the LRS contract to include leaf disposal to augment the Village's leaf collection program. These items were previously discussed by the Trustees at least once during a prior meeting.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Monday, October 10.

The Village Welcomes New Director of Community Development:

- Following closed session during Monday's Board meeting, the Trustees approved the appointment of Tony Budzikowski as the Village's new Director of Community Development. Tony has extensive local government experience and has served several area communities, including tenure as the Community Development Director at the Village of Oak Brook, the Village of Lisle, and the City of Crest Hill. Tony will be sworn in at Village Hall on September 30. A formal announcement will be released in the coming days.

Fire Department Annual Open House/Fire Safety Week:

- The Village of Western Springs Fire Department will once again host their annual [Fire Prevention Open House](#) on Monday, October 10, from 6 – 8 pm. This popular event will kick off Fire Prevention Week which runs October 9 – 15. Bring the whole family and take the Firefighter Challenge, use the fire hose to put out a "real" fire, and slide down a firepole. There will also be fire engine rides, a live sprinkler demonstration, and many other exhibits. Kids will have a blast while learning about fire safety!

Wolf Road Bike Path Grand Opening:

- This past Monday, the Wolf Road Bike Path was celebrated with an official [grand opening ceremony](#). The new path directly connects Western Springs to the existing 7-mile Bemis Woods bike path just south of Salt Creek and includes a new signal-controlled crossing on the corner of Ogden and Wolf Avenues. The Village is pleased to offer this safety improvement to residents and surrounding communities alike.

Upcoming November Referendum:

- The Village is considering several funding sources to more completely address capital infrastructure needs. The Board has approved placing a referendum question on the November ballot that asks voters to consider a non-home rule infrastructure sales tax of 1% on tangible goods and prepared foods. The tax on groceries and medicine/prescriptions will not be increased. The proposed 1% non-home rule sales tax would increase the existing 1% sales tax the Village currently collects and would require approval by referendum. Our neighboring communities, including LaGrange, LaGrange Park, Hinsdale, Countryside, Indian Head Park, Westchester, and others, already charge this additional 1% sales tax. Learn more on the [Finance page](#) of the Village website and in this month's issue of [Tower Topics](#).

DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference:

- Recent regional concerns have illustrated that, increasingly, DuPage County communities and Western Springs are faced with the same issues. We have worked closely with our neighbors to the west and, as a result, it made sense to formally request associate membership to the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, which is the DuPage County Council of Government for its municipalities. I am pleased to announce that our request was recently approved, and Western Springs has the honor of being the first associate member of the DMMC's pilot affiliate member program. We look forward to working closely with the DuPage municipalities, as well as continuing to work with the municipalities in our current Council of Government, the West Central Municipal Conference.

Styrofoam Recycling:

- [Monthly Styrofoam collection](#) will take place on Saturday October 1 from 9 am – 12 noon in the Recreation Center parking lot.

Until next time,



Alice Gallagher,
Village President