



Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. My message this time will be brief to allow for space for information concerning the Street Bond Referendum on the March primary election ballot. It seems this new year is starting off right where last year left off with some major challenges to be faced. One such challenge is the need to find a replacement for our combination Police Chief/Village Administrator Frank Alonzo who has notified us of his intent to retire as of February 14th. Chief Alonzo has indicated that he wants to spend more time with his family and especially with his grand-children who live out of state. We will sorely miss Frank's expertise and the bargain-basement deal he has given us for his service. As the Chief moves on to the next chapter in his life, we wish him well and thank him for helping make our community a better place to live. The VBT and I are in the difficult process of finding a replacement. Another such challenge is our Village finances and the need to repair streets and infrastructure. Please plan to attend our March 13, 2014 VBT meeting where we will take time for a townhall style meeting regarding the Street Bond Referendum. Finally, keep reading the enclosed Fact Sheet for important details about the Street Bond Referendum.

Respectfully, Richard S. Andrews, mayor

IHP Street Bond Referendum Fact Sheet

IHP Street Infrastructure Status Update:

At the December 10, 2013 Village Board meeting Trustees' approved an Ordinance to place the following question to voting residents on the March General Primary Election Ballot:

"Shall the Village of Indian Head Park, Cook County, Illinois undertake to make roadway improvements with the Village and issue its bonds to the amount of not to exceed \$2,500,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?"

All IHP registered voters will have the opportunity to vote on this Street Infrastructure Bond referendum question on the ballot of the General Primary Election to be held on the March 18, 2014. We have provided a summary below to facilitate the decision making process.

What are the objectives of the IHP Village Infrastructure Project?

In spring 2013, Mayor Andrews and the Village Board of Trustees requested that a short and long-term Infrastructure Plan be developed for the Village. Here's a brief summary of the steps taken in this process.

- Collect data to understand the short and long-term infrastructure needs in the Village to facilitate discussion regarding these needs with the residents of Indian Head Park.

- Analyze and present data to enable the prioritization of these short and long-term needs across the infrastructure in Indian Head Park with Village Administration and IHP residents.
- Discuss and understand the financial and human resources needed in the short and long-term to update and optimize our infrastructure in IHP.
- Discuss alternatives for funding and scheduling the completion of these projects.

During a Special Town Hall Meeting November 7, 2013, Frank Alonzo, along with the Public Works and Finance teams, presented the Village Infrastructure needs for the present and future. Three scenarios were discussed (see detailed presentation on Village Website for what Scenarios 1 and 2 entailed) The VBT decided to pursue Scenario 3 in large part because it provides the most comprehensive plan for the entire Village, interest rates are historically low at this time, and savings due to the economies of scale are more likely to be achieved by the comprehensive project.

continued on page 2

IHP Street Bond Referendum *continued from page 1*

Scenario Three: All Street Plan

Street	Surface Treatment	Cost
Cascade Drive	Thick Mill & Overlay	162,624
Arrowhead Trail	Mill & Overlay	105,248
Glenbrook Lane	Mill & Overlay 3"	173,888
Edgebrook Lane	Mill & Overlay 3"	160,160
65th Street	Reconstruct	90,000
Eastern Avenue	Reconstruct and Drain	36,000
Cascade	Crackseal & Overlay 2"	146,362
Deercrest Lane	Thick Mill & Overlay 3" + Curb	96,960
Ashbrook Lane	Thick Mill & Overlay 3"	96,960
Pontiac	Crackseal & Overlay 2"	113,392
Acacia Drive	Crack Seal	10,588
Vine Street	Reconstruct	92,928
Laurel Avenue	Crackseal - Misc Patching + Ditch Line	30,000
Stonehearth Lane & Square	Crackseal & Overlay 2" + Curb	39,600
Heatherwood Court	Crackseal & Drainage & Curb	38,438
Keokuk	Thick Mill & Overlay & Ditch	51,702
Sweetwood Court	Crackfill & Curb	31,680
Tecumseh Lane	Crackseal & Overlay 2"	44,408
65th Place	Mill & Overlay	46,865
Apache	Mill & Overlay	63,360
Big Bear Drive	Mill & Overlay	53,222
Briarwood Lane and Square	Mill & Overlay & Curb	75,000
Howard Avenue	Crack Fill & Ditch Line	31,243
Indian Head Trail	Crack Fill & Curb	31,680
Thunderbird	Mill & Overlay	50,688
Algonquin Drive	Crackfill	3,041
Cherokee	Mill & Overlay	34,800
Cochise	Crackfill & Minor Patching	8,828
Elmwood Drive	Crackfill & Curb & Drive	24,000
Frontage Road	Crackfill	2,112
Tecumseh Lane	Crackfill	676
Wabanssee Lane	Crackfill	887
Westwood Drive	Crackfill & Curb & Drain	36,000
70th Place	Crackfill	4,182
Acacia Lane	Crackfill & Minor Patching	5,100
Indian Head Trail Court	Crackfill	1,183

Street	Surface Treatment	Cost
Sioux Trail	Crackfill	1,351
Pembroke Drive	Mill & Overlay 3" & Curb	15,488
Buttonwood Court	Mill & Overlay 2" & Curb	18,000
Arrowhead Court	Crackfill & Minor Patch	12,672
Brairwood Court	Crackfill & Curb	90,000
Mohawk Court	Crackfill	10,138
Osceola Trail	Crackfill	2,011
Tanglewood Court	Crackfill & Curb	12,000
Cherrywood Court	Crackfill & Patch& Curb	12,000
Edgebrook Court	Crackfill	2,450
Elmwood square	Crackfill & Curb	12,000
Elmwood Court	Crackfill & Patch& Curb& Drain	12,000
Flagg Creek Drive	Crackfill	3,600
Hawthorne Square	Crackfill & Patch& Curb& Drain	12,000
Indian Woods Drive	Crackfill	2,450
Sauk Trail	Crackfill	1,800
Shawnee Trail	Crackfill	1,200
Westwood Court	Crackfill & Curb	12,000
Westwood Square	Crackfill & Major Curb	60,000
72nd Street	Crackfill	1,200
72nd Street	Crackfill	2,100
Acacia Circle	Crackfill	2,100
Acacia Circle	Crackfill	2,700
Acacia Circle	Crackfill	2,100
Blackhawk Trail	Crackfill- Minor Patching	4,800
Glenbrook Court	Crackfill	2,100
Hiawatha Lane	Crackfill	2,100
Osceola Trail	Crackfill	1,200
Potawatomie Trail	Crackfill	1,800
Sequoia	Crackfill	2,100
Shabbona	Minor Crackfill	2,100
Stratford Court	Crackfill & Drain	4,800
Timber Ridge Court	Minor Crackfill	1,200
Frontage Road	Minor Crackfill	1,000
Indian Wood Lane	Crackfill	3,379
Nacona Lane	Crackfill & Minor Patch	6,970

The All Street plan cost estimate is \$2,500,000.

continued on page 3

IHP Street Bond Referendum *continued from page 2*

At the Village townhall meeting, with over 50 residents present, many of the attendees stated their support for a Road Bond that would be specifically used on a road improvement project and for no other use. Minutes of this meeting and a video can be viewed on the Village website.

How Can IHP Raise This Money?

The Board of Trustees voted to approve placing the referendum question to the voters to fund Scenario Three -the All Street Plan, which would require \$2,500,000 to complete. If the referendum is successful, receiving approval from the voters in the upcoming March election, the Village Board will then initiate the process for funding the Municipal Street Bond. The table below displays the term options for financing and the estimated interest rates and total costs to the Village for the term of the bond at each term for the \$2,500,000 principal amount:

Estimated Average Annual Debt Service Payments if we act now while interest rates are low. (with total interest cost for life of bonds listed below each term)

Payoff Term	Finance Cost	Interest Rate
10 Year	\$296,928 per year	3.2%
Total Interest Cost	\$469,182	
15 Year	\$224,518 per year	4.0%
Total Interest Cost	\$867,767	
20 Year	\$192,426 per year	4.6%
Total Interest Cost	\$1,348,511	

We will work with our bond underwriters to confirm the payoff and interest rate at the time of the Bond Funding. As summarized in the chart above, if we choose the 15 year payoff, it will cost the Village \$224,518 per year for annual debt service and an overall interest payment of \$867,767 over the life of the 15 year loan.

How do we repay this street bond?

Just as was previously done by the Village in 1996/97, the Village would repay the bond from funds raised through property taxes until the bond is repaid at the end of the financing term selected. Once repaid, the additional property tax increment would terminate and your property tax would be reduced by that amount.

How much will that cost me?

As shown in the table below, if we choose to pay the Bond back in 15 Years, the annual impact on a home worth \$250,000 is \$128.08 annually.

Resident Annual Property Tax Impact: EAV \$76,250 – for \$250,000 Home Value

Options	\$250,000
10 Year	169.39
15 Year	128.08
20 Year	109.78

As this shows, the 15 year payoff option, for example, would cost the homeowner a little over \$10 per month. If your home is worth more than \$250,000 market value you would pay a little more, if worth less, you would pay less.

Why does the Village need these Funds?

The drastic downturn in the economy in 2008 and the Village’s financial resources have prevented the VBT from setting aside money in the budget for depreciation of streets and infrastructure. At the same time, the Village has cut costs by opting to forgo all but necessary street and infrastructure repairs, leaving a police officer position vacant, replacing a full-time police chief with a part-time one (Chief Alonzo), eliminating the leaf pick-up program, and freezing employee pay raises for 3 years, among other things. The VBT is working to be able to set aside money in the budget on a yearly basis for future street/infrastructure repairs.

Here’s a brief list of some initiatives being considered to support this budgeting strategy in the future:

Initiatives to decrease operating costs in the Village:

- Decrease over-time in the Police and Public Works Departments where possible;
- Decrease professional services costs (Legal, Engineering and other Professional Services) as prudent;
- Seek reduced costs by Re-bidding existing service contracts as they come up;
- Eliminate compensation for all future elected officials and commissions.

Initiatives to increase revenue to the Village:

- Increase Village Fees for vehicle stickers, permits and fines;
- Increase revenue from cell tower leasing when able;
- Raise business license and liquor license fees where appropriate;
- Possibly Re-consider Home Rule (with real estate tax cap).

How will the Village complete street repairs if the Street Bond Is Not Approved?

There are limited options to fund road improvements next summer if this Street Infrastructure Bond is not approved. One possible alternate option is to increase vehicle sticker prices which could be approved by the VBT this spring and be effective this year. Note that property taxes are deductible on your income tax and that municipal fees like those for vehicle stickers are not.

Town Hall Meeting—Street Bond Referendum

A town hall style meeting will be held in conjunction with the VBT meeting on March 13, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall. The town hall meeting will be devoted to the Street Bond Referendum on the March 18th primary election ballot. This is your opportunity to obtain any additional information you need on the initiative.

From the Township of Lyons Assessor's Office

Barbara Weyrick, Assessor • 6404 Joliet Road • Countryside, IL 60525 • 708-482-8300 option 1

Senior exemptions are hitting the streets

Please read below BEFORE you come in to our office.

Senior Prime Exemptions

Homeowners who were born in 1948 and turned sixty-five in 2013, will be eligible for one of the senior exemptions for the first time. We have the Prime forms available for first time seniors. Please bring in your Driver's License, recent property tax bill, and 2012 Federal Income Tax for the total household income.

Renewal applications for senior property tax exemptions have BEEN mailed. All seniors must apply to renew their exemptions.

If you do not receive your form, please wait until January 27, 2014 before you come into my office, as the County prefers we use the pre-printed form.

The form will indicate "this form must be returned by February 5, 2014". Please know this date is a tentative date, NOT the actual date. This date will be changing 3 more times. DO NOT mail the form in. Bring the form into my office and we will deliver your paper work directly to the County Office. If you need assistance in filling out the form, my staff and myself will assist you. If you know of a senior who cannot come into my office, please have them call me and I will make a visit to their homes.

Under current law, Senior Exemptions must be renewed every year. There are two senior citizen property tax exemptions:

- 1) The Senior Exemption, available to all seniors regardless of income, reduces property taxes by about \$200.00. It is available to any owner-occupied residential property whose owner was born in 1948 or earlier.
- 2) The Senior Freeze provides some seniors with additional savings if the combined income of all occupants in a senior's household is less than \$55,000, and if the senior has been an owner-occupant of the house since January 1, 2012. Please bring in your total household federal income tax for 2012.

The senior applications that have been mailed are for 2013 property taxes, (paid in calendar year 2014) and the savings from the exemptions will appear on the second installment tax bills that will likely be mailed in July of 2014.

Now a topic that no one wants to talk about but it is going to happen soon. First installment 2013 tax bills will be going out the end of January or the beginning of February with a March due date.

If you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to call my office.

Township Officials of Illinois Scholarship

The Township Officials of Illinois will award seven \$1,500 scholarships this spring. Deadline for filing the scholarship application is March 1. The application/guidelines are available on the TOI web site, www.toi.org and go to "News".

For more information, contact:

Erin erin@tio.org

Toll free 866-897-4688 or 217-744-2212

Smoke Signals

(708) 246-3137

Volume 44, Number 10

Circulation 2000

Smoke Signals is published by the Village of Indian Head Park to inform its residents of present activities in the village and the ever-growing plans for the future in the pursuit of better government and good citizenship.

Teepee Topics news items should be submitted to the Newsletter Coordinator at the Municipal Offices.

Full page advertisements - \$200.00, 1/2 page advertisements - \$125.00, 3 1/2" x 3 1/2" size advertisements - \$75.00, business card size advertisements - \$45.00, trading post advertisements - \$20.00 (no commercial advertisements - the advertisement will run two times at no cost, then a \$20.00 charge).

Extra copies and back issues (up to one year) of *Smoke Signals* can be obtained at the Village Hall.

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

VILLAGE OF INDIAN HEAD PARK

201 Acacia Drive, Indian Head Park, IL 60525

(708) 246-3080

www.indianheadpark-il.gov

Office Hours

Mon., Tues., Wed. and Fri 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and

Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Closed Saturday, Sunday and Holidays

Mayor: Richard S. Andrews

Trustees: Brian T. Bailey Norman L. Schnauer
Tom Hinshaw Matthew P. Walsh II
Brenda O'Laughlin Amy Jo Wittenberg

Village Clerk: Joseph V. Consolo

**Chief of Police/
Administrator:** Frank Alonzo, Jr.

Police Dept. Non-Emergency 246-4534
Emergency 9-1-1

Fire Dept. Non-Emergency 352-9229
Emergency 9-1-1

The advertisements and notices of privately sponsored events or activities contained in *Smoke Signals* are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Village of Indian Head Park, its officials or employees. The inclusion of a product advertisement or notice of a privately sponsored event or activity herein should not be construed as an endorsement by the Village of that product, event or activity.

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees: 7:30 p.m.:
Thursday, February 13, 2014

Planning and Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m.:
March 4, 2014

Fire and Police Commission: 7:00 p.m.
March 6, 2014

E-911 Board: 6:30 p.m.
No meeting scheduled at this time.

All meetings are held at the Municipal Facility at
201 Acacia Drive. All residents are welcomed!

Advertisements

Prudential Rubloff Properties

Terri Bergmann Shepley
Broker Associates

Telephone (630) 780-1233
Cell# (708) 646-4176
Fax # (630) 780-1283
tshepley@Rubloff.com

35 S. Washington, Hinsdale, IL 60521



JOHN C. SKREKO, DDS, MAGD

*Master Academy of General Dentistry
Fellow Academy of General Dentistry
Fellow Academy of Dentistry International
Fellow International College of Dentists*

- Serving the community over thirty years.
- Call for an appointment.
- Most procedures performed.
- Comprehensive care for the family including implants.



6961 VINE STREET, SUITE #A
INDIAN HEAD PARK, IL 60525
708-246-1263

Heritage Center Library

The Heritage Center Library is open to the public on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. (except during holidays). In these winter months, there is no better time to curl up with a good book. A variety of reading materials for all ages are available at the library, so please stop when you have a chance. If you have books that are no longer needed, book donations are always accepted and may be left in the vestibule at the Village Administration Offices at 201 Acacia Drive anytime during regular office hours.

Advertisements

SHARON KALINOSKI, CPA

Income Tax Preparer

Acacia Homeowner
Authorized IRS e-file Provider since 1999

Very Reasonable Rates

Evening & Appts. Available

1-708-805-0675

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Your Ashbrook Specialist . . .

Put 40+ years of real estate experience in
the Western Suburbs to work for you!

Pat Lehman
CRS, GRI
630/586-7440



Selling or Buying a Home?

*Call for a FREE No obligation
Market Evaluation!*

Rose Mary Woodley, ABR
Real Estate Broker Associate
Direct 630-586-7450





TEEPEE TOPICS

The Lyonsville Congregational Church at 6971 Joliet Road in Indian Head Park will be hosting the 7th Annual Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale on Saturday, February 8, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children ages 5-12 and children under 4 are free. Contact the Church offices at (708) 236-1255 for additional information or to purchase tickets.

Our condolences to the families who lost loved ones: Dorothy Stefan who was a resident of Indian Head Park for twenty-three years. She was an avid bridge player, past President of the Divine Providence "Over 50 Club", a gifted painter and talented member of the Divine Providence Quilters. Salvatore Guardino age 92, who was a WWII Veteran and also Charles Lankton, age 85.

TRADING POST

- Alterations . . . Experienced with silks, woolens, ultrasuede, leathers, hems, zippers, etc. Heirloom christening gowns designed from mother's wedding gown. Call Jean at (708) 246-6635.
- For Sale Ariens #932000 Series Snow Thrower, 5 HP, five speed, electric start. Overhauled in April 2013. Asking \$475.00. Call Mark at (708) 246-1276.
- For Sale Microwave oven w/convection feature. Kitchenaid, never used. Model #KCMS125Y, countertop, black. Original price \$200. Best offer. Contact (708) 246-4148, after 7:00 p.m.

Printed on recycled paper

Postal Customer
Indian Head Park, Illinois
60525



Presort Standard
U.S. Postage
Paid
Indian Head Park, IL
Permit No. 203