

SMOKE SIGNALS

Volume 44/Number 10 March 2014



Administration Message

Dear Fellow Residents:

When will it stop - the snow and the cold that is? I hope that by the time you read this that the weather has finally taken a turn for the better. Like last time, I will keep my part of this issue's administration message short so that we can devote space to provide you with some additional factual information for your use in connection with the Street Bond Referendum that will be on the March 18, 2014 general primary election. However, there are a few things that I would like to call to your attention.

First, at the regular February Village Board meeting, the Board approved ordinances that will increase our water rates by \$.48 per 1,000 gallons. This is a pass through of the Chicago water rate increase to the suburbs passed along to us by the City of Countryside. It is effective as of January 1, 2014 and will be reflected on your next water bill in April for the first quarter of this year. Next, the VBT passed an ordinance that eliminates the pay for elected officials and the liquor commissioner. By State law, this will go into effect at the beginning of all terms following the next municipal election in April 2015.

Street Bond Referendum

With respect to the Street Bond referendum, we will have a town hall style meeting in conjunction with our regular VBT meeting on March 13, 2014 concerning this issue. It will follow the conclusion of the regular VBT business. If you have questions about the bond referendum, this is another opportunity to seek that information. Please keep reading the "Just the Facts" sheet below primarily authored by Trustee Wittenberg about the Street Bond Referendum.

In addition to this, I want to call to your attention that even though the March 18th election is a "general primary election", you can request only the municipal question ballot and cast your vote without having to request any particular political party's ballot. So, those of you who would rather not vote in the "primary election" can still cast your ballot on this important Village matter. The referendum has the support of your Village Board which believes that this will provide the means at low interest cost and economies of scale by having a comprehensive village-wide street plan to fix our streets and help maintain our property values.

A similar street bond was approved in 1996/97 and paid off in 2012. If approved, the increase in your property tax to pay for the bond will solely go to repair our streets and, like the

previous bond, when it is paid off, the incremental increase to your taxes attributable to the road bond will drop off. The choice is yours.

Respectfully, Richard S. Andrews, mayor

Early Voting Information – March 18, 2014 Election



Please visit the links on the Village of Indian Head Park Website at www.indianhead-park-il.gov for further details about suburban Cook County early voting locations from March 3rd to March 15th. March 13, 2014 is also the last day to request a mail ballot from Cook County and March 15th is the last day for grace period registration and early voting. Voter registration status as well as general election information may be found also on the county site at www.cookcountyclerk.com.

Scheduled Meeting Dates

Village Board of Trustees: 7:30 p.m.:

Thursday, March 13, 2014 – Regular Meeting

Planning and Zoning Commission: 7:30 p.m.:

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Fire and Police Commission: 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 1, 2014

E-911 Board: 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 20, 2014

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

JUST THE FACTS

IHP Road Bond Referendum – Election Date: March 18, 2014

Vote by Mail: Any registered suburban Cook County voter may request a mail ballot using the online application at: <http://mailvoting.cookcountyclerk.com/>

Once your registration is verified, a paper ballot will be sent to the mailing address you designate in your application. Deadline to apply, including email verification, is five days before an election.

Early Voting: Hodgkins Public Library March 3 - 15, 2014
Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Referendum On the 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?”

Referendum Background:

The VBT has requested additional money from IHP residents for operating and maintaining Village infrastructure and services in several recent Elections. These Referendums were not successfully passed. At a recent Village Town Hall 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.

The Board of Trustees voted to approve placing the referendum question to the voters to fund the “All Street Plan” (summarized in detail in the February 2014 Smoke Signals and online) which requires approximately \$2,500,000 to complete.

Resident Cost:

Depending on the payoff terms and interest rates of the Road Bond that will be finalized at the date of Bond Funding, the approximate range of cost this will have on a resident with a \$250K home will be approximately \$109 - \$169 annually. Here is a summary of 3 different home fair market values and

the cost impact for each based on borrowing \$2,500,000 for 15 years:

Total Annual Increase (based on 15 year payoff):

Home Value Total	Annual Increase
\$150,000	\$77
\$250,000	\$128
\$500,000	\$256

As this shows, the Street Bond Referendum costs the \$250,000 homeowner approximately \$10 per month.

This amount is before any homeowner or senior exemptions and senior freezes are applied, that may act to further reduce the increase to some homeowners.

Has the Village Financed Street Repairs with a Road Bond before?

Over the last 2 years, the Village has just finished the payoff of a Road Bond that was financed in the 1996/97 timeframe. All residents had been paying on their tax bills the expenses associated with that Road Bond which has been repaid. This new Road Bond works exactly the same way, it will come off the Real Estate Tax Bill after the Bond is paid off.

What if the Road Bond Referendum Doesn't Get 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. These other options would impact the funding needed for the “All Street Plan” and would force the Village to do streets in a “piece meal” fashion, making project costs higher if they are spread out into multiple projects.

Note that property taxes are deductible on your income tax and that municipal fees like those for vehicle stickers are not.

Remember, you can choose to vote only on this issue!

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<i>Smoke Signals</i> 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 <i>Smoke Signals</i> 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	
Police Dept.	Non-Emergency	246-4534
	Emergency	9-1-1
Fire Dept.	Non-Emergency	352-9229
	Emergency	9-1-1

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Easter Egg Hunt

Blackhawk Park on Cascade for Children of All Ages



Saturday April 19, 2014 at 11:00 a.m.

Hosted by the Village of Indian Head Park

Advertisements

Rachel Thompson

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TEEPEE TOPICS

Congratulations to the following students from Indian Head Park who achieved honor roll status or the dean's list: **Nazareth Academy students (honor roll):** Bridget Brodlo, Haylee Donovan, Taryn Kryza, Rachel Pellegrino, Anna Rafanelli, Cara Rafanelli, Michael Yu and Ali Nix. **Illinois State University students (dean's list):** Teresa Begy and Victor Conforti. **Marquette University (dean's list):** Conor Connelly and Jessica Koziel.

Our condolences to the Bailey family on the loss of Barbara Bailey, age 79, the mother of Trustee Brian Bailey.

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 Microwave oven with convection feature, Kitchenaid, never used. Model KCMS125Y, countertop, black dim. 21.5 x 16 x 11.5 inches, orig. price \$200. Best offer. Contact (708) 246-4148, daily after 7:00 p.m.
- For Sale Upholstered Queen headboard, bedspread, pillow shams, bedskirt reduced to \$100. Sheets free with purchase. Call Jean (708) 246-6635.
- For Sale White leather contemporary sectional. \$750. Two matching oak/glass display cabinets (one with drawers, one with doors) \$350. One oak/glass display cabinet \$130. All in mint condition. Text or call (708) 369-9961 for showings or pictures.

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