

Riverside Review

October / November 2014

Village of Riverside

27 Riverside Road
Riverside, IL 60546
708-447-2700
www.riverside.il.us

Building Dept. 708-447-1241
Fire Admin. 708-447-2123
Parks & Rec. 708-442-7025
Police Admin. 708-447-2127
Public Works 708-442-3590
Museum 708-447-2542
Library 708-442-6366
EMERGENCY 911

Village President

Benjamin Sells

Board of Trustees

Joseph A. Ballerine
Patricia Collins
Michael Foley
Ellen Hamilton
Douglas Pollock
Jean Sussman

Interim Village Manager

Jessica Frances

Village Clerk

Cathy Haley

Village Board Meetings

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m.

October 2, October 16

November 6, November 20

Advisory Board & Commission Meetings

October 2014

09 Economic Dev. Comm., 7:30
09 Preservation Comm., 7:30
13 Cable Comm., 7:00
14 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
15 Safe Environment, 7:30
16 Police Adjudication, 6:00
20 Historical Comm., 7:00
22 Planning and Zoning, 7:00
27 Parks & Rec. Board, 7:00

November 2014

06 Police Pension Bd., 8:00 a.m.
10 Cable Commission, 7:00
11 Landscape Adv. Comm., 7:00
11 Board of Fire & Police, 7:00
13 Preservation Comm., 7:30
13 Economic Dev Comm., 7:30
17 Historical Comm., 7:00
17 Parks & Rec. Board, 7:00
17 Planning and Zoning, 7:00
19 Safe Environment, 7:30
20 Police Adjudication, 6:00

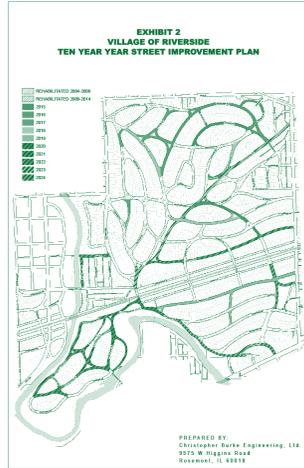
Please call
708-447-2700 ext. 254
to confirm the meeting
you wish to attend.

For more
Information,
please visit
www.riverside.il.us



Upcoming Referendum Question

At their Regular Meeting on Thursday, July 17, the Village Board of Trustees approved an Ordinance authorizing placement of a Referendum question on the November 4th General Election ballot. The Referendum question will ask voters to approve the issuance of up to \$2.5 million in General Obligation Bonds for the purpose of making road and street



improvements in the village. If voters approve the Referendum question in November, the village will be in a position to accelerate the schedule of much needed street repairs with NO INCREASE in the village's portion of the property tax burden. This debt issuance would be property tax neutral. This is possible because the village will be retiring its 2004 General Obligation Bonds issued for street improvement projects throughout the village in December 2014. The original amount of the bonds being retired was \$2.06 million and issuance of those bonds was approved via referendum in March 2004 with over 80% of voters in favor of issuing the bonds. Due to the Village's excellent bond rating and favorable interest rates, the village may be able to issue as much as \$2.5 million in bonds with no tax increase. The bonds will be repaid over a 10 year period.

A recent Street Sufficiency Study conducted by the village's engineering firm outlined \$8.2 million in needed street resurfacing, repair and maintenance projects over the next ten years; however, the village is only expected to have resources to fund \$4.6 million worth of repairs during that same time. Issuing the General Obligation bonds, if voters approve the Referendum, will allow the village to close the gap between the funds needed for repairs and the resources available to pay for projects.

1,000 Tree Planting Project

The 8th Annual, "1,000 Tree Planting Project" will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2014. The event kicks off at 10:00 a.m. in the Riverside United Methodist Church Dining Room, 82 Woodside Road. Be sure to dress for the weather. It was sunny and clear last year, but only 23 degrees. Hopefully, the weather will be a little warmer this year. Tree seeds and planting tools will be provided and proper planting techniques will be demonstrated.

Participants are encouraged to return to the Church following planting for a hot, home cooked chili dinner featuring at least seven different chili recipes, along with coffee and hot chocolate. This is a great family friendly event. Bring a friend or neighbor along and help reforest the village. Trees planted this year will bring shade and enjoyment to many future generations of Riverside residents.



Fall Yard and Garden Clean Up

Republic Services will continue to provide weekly yard waste collection through the month of November. As of this writing, the final 2014 yard waste collection in Riverside will take place Tuesday, November 25; however, because this date falls prior to the Thanksgiving holiday, Republic may be able to provide one additional yard waste pick-up on Tuesday, December 2. If an additional yard waste collection date is added, the village will send an eflash to notify residents. Please remember that drivers are not required to pick up unbundled, oversize or overweight brush and tree trimmings or oversize yard waste containers. Bundles of branches and shrubbery trimmings must not be more than 4 feet in length, 2 feet in diameter and 50 pounds in weight. These restrictions are in place for the safety of the workers who remove our refuse.

Meet your Interim Village Manager

On September 15, Finance Director Jessica Frances assumed the role of Interim Village Manager of Riverside. Ms. Frances has been with the village for almost three years. During that time, she has implemented policies which have resulted in upgrades to the village's bond rating and earned recognition from the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association. She has Master of Public Administration and Bachelor of Arts and Sciences degrees with majors in political science and criminal justice from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Sign up for the E-flash today! Visit the website for details.

To get the latest news and developments about the Village of Riverside, please sign up for the E-Flash. To register, go to www.riverside.il.us and click on the Riverside E-flash link on the left side of the homepage or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

Halloween, Thanksgiving and the Holiday Stroll

Hours for Trick-or-Treating in Riverside are from 3:00 — 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31. To ensure **Halloween** is a memorable holiday, follow these easy tips to keep children safe.

- Young children should always trick or treat in the company of a responsible adult.
- If older children will be trick-or-treating with friends, agree on a route and set a time for their return home. Make sure that your child is old enough and responsible enough to trick-or-treat without adult supervision. Make sure unaccompanied older children have a cell phone with them if possible.
- Respect others and their property. Don't cut through yards or across lawns. Stay on sidewalks.
- Instruct children not to eat any treats until they bring them home to be examined by a parent or guardian.
- Bring a flashlight along if trick-or-treating after dark and avoid wearing costumes that obstruct vision.
- Be alert to traffic, especially when crossing streets or walking past driveways.
- Instruct children that they should never enter the home of a stranger or get into a car with a stranger. Explain why this is not a good idea and what to do if someone they do not know approaches them and tries to talk to them.
- Report any suspicious activity to the Riverside Police Department on the non-emergency number: 447-2127.

Please note that Village and Township offices will be closed for the **Thanksgiving** holiday on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28, 2014. Village offices will reopen on Monday, December 1 at 8:00 a.m. The Village Board and staff wish everyone a safe and happy holiday.

Save the date! The 40th Annual Riverside Chamber of Commerce **Holiday Stroll** will be held on Friday, December 5, 2014 in downtown Riverside. This is always a memorable event and a great way to get into the holiday spirit. Please visit www.riversidechamberofcommerce.com for details.

Fire Prevention

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, the Riverside Fire Department is joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) during Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11, 2014, to remind residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in their homes and testing them monthly.

The latest NFPA research demonstrates working smoke alarms decrease the likelihood of being injured or dying in a fire by 50%. Currently, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in structures with no smoke alarms or no *working* smoke alarms.

According to Fire Chief Spencer Kimura: "In a fire, *seconds*, not minutes count. Roughly half of all home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m., when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out." Chief Kimura recommends that residents:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one alarm sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

For more information, visit NFPA's website at www.firepreventionweek.org. And remember, fire prevention is important every week, not only during Fire Prevention Week.

Police Warn of Telephone Scams

Telephone scams are very common and have caused many people great inconvenience and monetary losses. Some of the more common telephone scams follows.

The IRS scam: The caller claims to be an IRS agent and claims that you owe the IRS a large sum of money. The caller attempts to intimidate the victim into disclosing bank account or credit card information in order to take a payment over the phone to avoid prosecution.

The Jury Duty scam: The caller states that you missed jury duty and as a result there is a warrant out for your arrest. The caller says you can avoid any further problems by making a payment over the phone and then will ask you for your bank account or credit card information.

The Foreign Lottery scam: The caller claims to be a high ranking official from a foreign country. The caller says you have won a lottery in their country but in order to claim your prize you will need to send them money to pay for shipping.

If you receive one of these calls, hang up immediately. Do not provide any personal information. Here are some warning signs to help identify possible phone scams. Be alert if the caller says:

"You must act now or the offer won't be good."

"You've won a free gift, vacation, or prize but **YOU** have to pay for shipping or other charges."

"You must send money, give a credit card or bank account number, or have a check picked up by a courier."

"You don't need to check out the company with anyone, we're legit."

"You can't afford to miss this 'high profit, no risk' offer."

