



West Dundee Village Newsletter

*SUMMER
2012*

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RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICAL AGGREGATION CONTRACT Significant Savings Anticipated for West Dundee Residents

The Village of West Dundee has selected FirstEnergy Solutions of Akron, Ohio as its new electricity supplier for our residents.

Rates for those residents choosing not to "opt out" of the Village's program will be set at 4.90 cents per kilowatt hour for the next 24 months. This is a 42% reduction from Commonwealth Edison's current blended rate of 8.5 cents per kilowatt hour. **Annual savings per household is estimated to be approximately \$350.**

During the 24 months of the contract, FirstEnergy has guaranteed our residents that if ComEd's rate falls below the rate of 4.90 cents per kilowatt hour any time during the contract term, FirstEnergy will match that lower rate.

It is anticipated that the change-over to FirstEnergy will occur in August 2012, with the new rates being reflected in the September bills.

Further information regarding the program will be mailed to West Dundee residents this month. It is important to know that this program is designed to be an "opt out" program - meaning that **no action will be required from eligible residents wishing to participate in the program.** If residents wish to remain with ComEd as their energy supplier, a response to the Village's mailing will be required.

Residents will continue to be billed for their electricity through ComEd, as ComEd will still be responsible for the distribution and maintenance of the lines. As a result, there will be no changes to your ComEd account numbers or payment processes.

Should you have questions regarding this program, please contact Village Hall at (847) 551-3800.

The **West Dundee Village Newsletter** is published quarterly as a public information service for Village residents and businesses.

VILLAGE BOARD

West Dundee is governed by a Village President & Board of Trustees, elected at-large.

The Village Manager is responsible for the administration of Village activities and services.

Village President	Larry Keller
Village Board of Trustees	Rebecca Gillam Patrick Hanley Norm Osth Thomas Price Julie Voss Andy Yuscka
Village Manager	Joseph Cavallaro

The **Village Board meets** on the **1st** and **3rd Mondays** of each month at **7:30 pm** at **Village Hall** unless otherwise noted. The public is invited to attend and citizen participation is encouraged.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Village Hall: 102 S. Second Street	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Public Safety Center #1: 555 S. Eighth Street (Rt. 31)	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Public Safety Center #2: 100 Carrington Drive	Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Public Works: 900 Angle Tarn	Monday - Friday 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police/Fire Emergency	911
Non-Emergency Dispatch	847-428-8784
Village Hall	847-551-3800
Police Administration (PSC 1)	847-551-3810
Public Works	847-551-3815
Fire Administration, Community Development & Building (PSC 2)	847-551-3805



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

- 4 **Happy Independence Day!**
Village Offices Closed
- 6 Concert & Movie - Grafelman Park 7:00 pm
- 7 **Saturday Refuse Collection**
- 9 Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 13 Concert & Movie - Grafelman Park 7:00 pm
- 18 Blood Drive - Spring Hill Mall 3 - 7 pm
- 18 ECC Concert - Grafelman Park 7:00 pm
- 20 Concert & Movie - Grafelman Park 7:00 pm
- 23 Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 30 Planning & Zoning Commission 7:30 pm

August

- 6 Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 7 Appearance Review Commission 7:30 pm
- 20 Village Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 25 Earth Day Gardening 9am-Noon
- 27 Planning & Zoning Commission 7:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE

September 14, 15 & 16
Heritage Fest

**REFUSE COLLECTION WILL BE
MOVED TO SATURDAY FOLLOWING
THESE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS:**

*Independence Day
Labor Day*

Please visit our website at wdundee.org
for meeting agendas, news and information.

FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 BUDGET APPROVED

The Village's 2012/13 budget was formally adopted by the Village Board in April of 2012. Our fiscal year runs from May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013. The budget can be viewed in its entirety, along with many other Village documents, on the Village website at www.wdundee.org.

Shortly after the adoption of this budget, Best Buy announced that it was closing several locations nationwide and in the Chicago area, including its location in West Dundee.

This announcement continues the downward trend of sales tax loss in the community, as a result of the difficult economic climate and retailers choosing to consolidate and downsize their locations in and around Chicagoland. The closing of Best Buy is estimated to result in a loss of sales tax revenue to the Village in excess of \$400,000 annually. Of this, \$200,000 in sales tax is attributable directly to our General Fund, which pays for the day-to-day operating expenditures of the Village.



In order to balance this year's budget, and due to the fact that no new or increased revenue sources were included in the budget, it was necessary to evaluate additional decreases in expenditures. The reductions that the Village Board voted to enact include:

- A change in health insurance providers and coverage for the full-time employees of the organization resulted in a savings of \$50,000 for this year.
- Elimination of the Community Service Officer position within the Police Department.
- Reduction of the number of Village Board meetings held each month, from 3 to 2.
- Reduction in the number of hours for 7 part-time positions across all of the departments in the organization.
- Lastly, and most importantly, changing the minimum staffing requirement at Public Safety Center #2 from 3 firefighter/paramedics to 2 firefighter/paramedics, and eliminating the part-time shift at this station.

Although the budget has been balanced with the above itemized reductions, the question of how to fund needed ongoing capital improvements, vehicles and equipment is of a high priority for the Village's administration. Over the next few months, ideas for revenue sources to adequately address our capital needs will be presented to the Village Board for their review and input.

Providing the needed municipal services at the most reasonable cost to our residents continues to be the paramount objective of the West Dundee organization.

We recognize the difficult state of the economy that we are all facing. Increasing fees or taxes is something the Village does not take lightly or enact without significant discussion and evaluation.

The budget reductions that were made were necessary reductions, and were the best alternatives to minimize service delivery reductions to the community. The Village continues its efforts to do more with less. These continue to be unprecedented times for all of us and we as a Village are fortunate that we continue to work cooperatively with other local governmental agencies and across all of our own departments in order to come up with collective and cost-effective solutions.

continued from page 3... FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 BUDGET APPROVED

Continuing our efforts to maintain the strong financial foundation that has been established within this organization is one of the Village Board's paramount goals. The organization continues to ensure that the Village does not expend more than it takes in on an annual basis, but we continue to struggle with meeting increased municipal service obligations and costs with diminishing revenues, particularly from sales tax. The commercial tax base of the Village has always been a significant revenue source in terms of funding municipal services, and necessary in order to reduce the cost of providing municipal services to the residents and businesses of this community.

It continues to be ever more important to shop locally within our own community in an effort to maintain the retail tax base in our community for everyone's benefit. This ensures that the cost of municipal services are paid through sales taxes rather than property taxes or other direct costs to the residents and businesses of our community.

WATER & SEWER RATE INCREASE

Effective May 1, 2012

In conjunction with the passage of the Village's 2012-2013 budget, water and sewer rates were increased as follows: **The bi-monthly distribution fee of \$22.50 was increased to \$23.00 and the usage charges were increased by 2.5%.**

Based on these increases, an average user of approximately 10,000 gallons per bill would expect to see a **\$2.02 increase** to their bill once every two months. A water and sewer rate sheet is available at wdundee.org, to further illustrate the effects of this rate change.

Over 65% of Sewer and Water Fund expenditures are attributed to electricity, water treatment salt, wastewater treatment charges and debt service. The Village has little or no control over these costs, which continue to increase, and are in direct correlation to water production and wastewater treatment costs.

Budgeted expenses for the 2013 fiscal year are \$1,962,000, up \$15,000 from fiscal year 2012. Based on the rate increase, an additional \$40,000 in revenues is projected for fiscal year 2013. The additional revenues anticipated are earmarked to fund the ongoing operations of the Village's water and sewer systems.

The facility and equipment needs of the Water and Sewer Fund have been subsidized for many years by revenues received from sources other than water and sewer billings, including home rule sales tax. As highlighted in the previous article, these revenues have continued to erode, and as such, capital maintenance of the water and sewer systems has continued to be deferred or defrayed due to a lack of funding.

The Village Board and administration are always hesitant to increase water and sewer rates. However, deferred maintenance cannot continue and attention to capital maintenance issues related to the pumps, wells and lift stations within the community are essential to maintaining a reliable water and sewer system for the community.

We would encourage all residents and businesses to conserve water on an ongoing basis. Some simple tips for water conservation can be found at the website wateruseitwisely.com.

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

The annual water quality report for the West Dundee water system is now available. This annual report provides important information about the source and makeup of our drinking water.

A copy of the water quality report, as well as the water source assessment summary, are available in electronic form on the Village website, wdundee.org, or in paper form at the Village Hall at 102 S. Second Street and the Department of Public Works at 900 Angle Tarn.

WATER USE RESTRICTION LEVEL YELLOW Odd/Even Outside Watering In Effect

Please be advised that, as of June 20, a water use restriction level "Yellow" is in effect for all water accounts in the Village of West Dundee. This water restriction will remain in effect until further notice.



Level Yellow means that Odd/Even outside watering is in effect, corresponding with odd/even numbered addresses. For example, if your address ends with an odd number, you may water outside on odd numbered days only. For addresses ending in an even number, you may water outside on even numbered days only. "Outside watering" includes such practices as lawn sprinkling, irrigation systems and filling of swimming pools.

It is imperative that the Village ensure that an adequate water reserve is available to address fire suppression and life safety issues, especially given the recent high temperatures and lack of precipitation.

We sincerely appreciate our residents' and business owners' support and cooperation during this water restriction. We ask that everyone continue to practice water conservation measures on those days when watering is permitted.

Water restriction signage such as the above example are posted throughout the community. When the water restriction level is amended, these signs will be updated to reflect the current guidelines.

Should you have any questions regarding the water restriction, please contact the West Dundee Public Works Department at (847) 551-3815 between the hours of 7:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, or by email to publicworks@wdundee.org.



SHOP WEST DUNDEE - KEEP YOUR MONEY LOCAL

Would you like to help out your community? Shop at your local businesses and fill up your gas tank in West Dundee whenever you can!

Sales tax and motor fuel tax dollars add up. These revenues are used to maintain roadways, perform capital projects and provide valuable services.

In addition to strengthening the local economy, shopping locally also influences the retention of local businesses, availability of local jobs, enhances community identity and reduces your footprint on the environment by limiting the need for extended travel.

NEW TRAFFIC SAFETY DEVICES

In the coming days and weeks, you will notice a few new traffic safety devices, specifically stop signs, at several different locations within West Dundee.

These new stop signs are the result of ongoing traffic studies conducted by the Village of West Dundee, which show trends that warrant the installation of additional traffic safety devices to protect both motorists and pedestrians. The new stop signs will be located as follows:

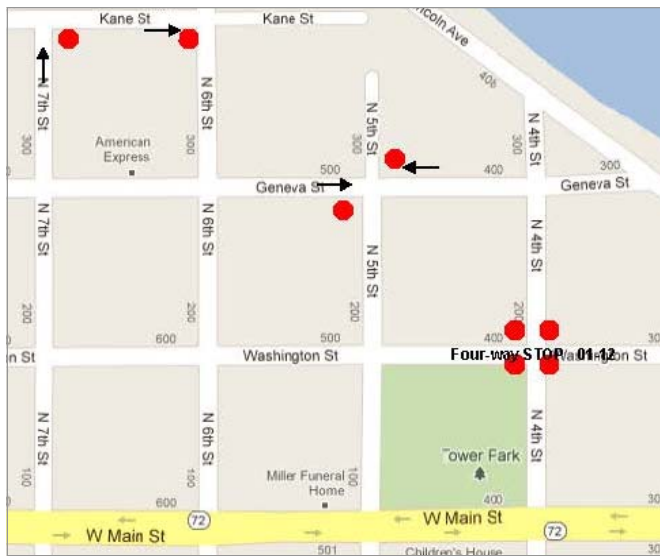
- South Fourth St and Liberty St - two-way STOP- North/South on South Fourth St
- North Fifth St and Geneva St - two-way STOP - East/West on Geneva St
- South Fifth St and Edwards Ave - four-way STOP
- North Sixth St and Kane St - STOP - eastbound Kane St at North Sixth St
- North Seventh St and Kane St - STOP - northbound Seventh St at Kane St
- South First St and Liberty St - two-way STOP - East/West Liberty St at South First St
- Village Quarter Rd and Market Loop - STOP - northbound Market Loop at Village Quarter Rd
- Market Loop and Willow Lane - STOP - Southbound Market Loop at Willow Lane

These are in addition to the designation of a four-way STOP at North Fourth St and Washington St, which was put in place in January of this year.

Traffic study results provided the necessary warrants for these intersection changes, including high traffic counts, limited sight distance, school zone approach, obstructed views, bike path intersection and dangerous curves. Based on these findings, a recommendation was made by the West Dundee Police Department and approved by the Village Board to provide for the additional controls.

Should you have questions regarding traffic safety and control on Village-owned streets, please contact the West Dundee Police Department at (847) 551-3810 or police@wdundee.org.





FOX ARTS CENTER A Vision For Downtown West Dundee

There is a grassroots movement underway to create a performing arts center in the historic downtown district, to serve West Dundee and surrounding communities.

The site under consideration for this venue is the former Ace Hardware Building on First Street, just south of Main Street. The plan includes retrofitting the existing building into a 258-seat state of the art performing arts center for theater, dance, film, art and education.

The individual at the center of this movement is Village resident Rick Browne. He and his supporters have presented a preliminary plan to the Village and have requested a six month period to test the feasibility of the proposed project.

The Village has passed a resolution in support of the effort, as a successful performing arts theater can assist in the revitalization of the downtown, as well as provide ancillary benefits to our existing restaurants and businesses by bringing more patrons into the downtown area.

To see if there will be adequate financial support for the theater from donors in the area, organizers have begun an initial fundraising program. The goal of this initial campaign is to raise the first \$500,000 needed by August 1, 2012 in order to get the project started. If this goal is met, this initial campaign will be followed by a larger fundraising effort to meet the overall fundraising budget of \$1.8 million by May 2014.

If successful in raising the money needed, construction could begin as soon as September 2013 with the Center opening to the public for the 2014-2015 season.

For more information about the project or to learn more about becoming a donor, please visit the project website at foxartscenter.com.





EARTH DAY, EVERY DAY in West Dundee Community Gardening Project

Saturday, August 27th 9:00 am - noon

Registration begins at 8:30 am at Village Hall, 102 S. 2nd Street

Mark your calendar for our final summertime gardening event of the season. Please join us in our continuing effort to improve the landscaping of public spaces for all to enjoy.

During our April event, an army of volunteers made quick work of planting annuals in the Main Street planter boxes, as well as digging out overgrown plants, replanting some and potting up the rest to be relocated around the Village.

In June, we moved over to Public Safety Center #2 at 100 Carrington Drive. Dedicated community volunteers worked alongside the West Dundee Fire Department to establish a new garden at the back entry and remove plants from landscape beds that had been infiltrated with invasive weeds. In the coming weeks, new plantings will replace those removed.

Our final event will focus on sprucing up the downtown in preparation for Heritage Fest. We would love to have your assistance in putting our best foot forward to the thousands of visitors that attend our annual festival. Everyone is welcome to participate!

Please bring along your garden gloves and tools (a spade and hand trowel are the most useful), and a refillable water bottle for your use. Please remember to mark your items clearly with your name to ensure that they find their way home at the end of the day.

For more information, please check our website www.wdundee.org, or contact Village Hall via email at villagehall@wdundee.org or phone 847-551-3800.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Local Event Cancelled for 2012

Unfortunately West Dundee's National Night Out celebration has been cancelled for 2012 due to rising costs to host this 2-hour event.

National Night Out is a crime and drug prevention event that promotes police-community partnerships. In the spirit of NNO, the Police Department encourages residents to leave their porch light on the evening of August 7th to take a stand against crime.

The West Dundee Police Dept is supporting the Special Olympics Torch Run of Illinois. Please consider supporting this worthy cause by purchasing a Special Olympics Torch Run T-Shirt at Public Safety Center #1 for \$15.00.

ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE Donate to Save a Life

Heartland Blood Bank will conduct the annual Village blood drive on **Wednesday, July 18th at Spring Hill Mall from 3:00 to 7:00 pm.**



Please call Village Hall to schedule a time for your donation, or sign up at www.heartlandbc.org. Walk-ins are welcome until 7:00 pm.

A certificate for a free quart of Oberweis Ice Cream will be provided to all donors.

Volunteers Needed For HERITAGE FEST!

This year marks the 15th annual Heritage Fest! This year's event will take place **September 14th, 15th and 16th** in downtown West Dundee.

There will be exciting live entertainment and delicious food and beverages from local vendors throughout the weekend. Friday night will feature a spectacular fireworks display and a Battle of the Bands. Saturday and Sunday will be action packed with a business expo, craft fair and classic car show downtown, as well as fun activities for kids, an antique fair, chili cook-off contest and Baggo tournament at Grafelman Park.



In order to make our community festival a success, **we need volunteers** to help out with operations. Most shifts are two hours, with the primary volunteer activities being beverage sales and assistance with the Battle of the Bands. However, if there is a particular activity that you are interested in helping out with, we will be happy to assign you to that activity.

Please call the Village Hall at (847) 551-3800, stop by, or visit www.wdundeeheritagefest.org for an application to volunteer.

CONCERTS & MOVIES IN GRAFELMAN PARK

Come out to the parks this summer to enjoy FREE open-air concerts and movies (weather permitting).

The first ever Concert and Movie at Huffman Park took place this past Friday, June 29, with over 400 attendees! Throughout July, Grafelman Park will be bustling with activity as area residents come out to enjoy the following entertainment:

Friday, July 6 at Grafelman Park (Main Street)

- | | |
|------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 pm | Friction - <i>"deep tracks" and crowd favorites</i> |
| 9 pm | The Smurfs - <i>a modern day adventure for the tiny blue Smurfs</i> |

Friday, July 13 at Grafelman Park (Main Street)

- | | |
|------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 7 pm | Jin and Tonic - <i>modern country 6-piece band</i> |
| 9 pm | Hugo - <i>Oscar-winning children's film</i> |

Wednesday, July 18 at Grafelman Park (Main Street)

- | | |
|------|--------------------|
| 7 pm | ECC Concert Band * |
|------|--------------------|

Friday, July 22 at Grafelman Park (Main Street)

- | | |
|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7 pm | New Odyssey - <i>almost every style performed on over 30 instruments</i> |
| 9 pm | Soul Surfer - <i>real-life tale of teenage courage</i> |

** In the event of rain, the ECC Concert Band will perform at the Senior Center at the Dundee Township Park District, 665 Barrington Avenue, Carpentersville.*

For more fun events from the Dundee Township Park District, including additional concerts and movies in area parks, visit www.dtpd.org. Hot dogs and other food and beverage options will be available from the Dundee Township Lions Club, with proceeds benefiting local charitable endeavors.

TALL GRASS & WEEDS

Please be reminded that it is unlawful for any property owner within the Village of West Dundee to permit grass or weeds to grow taller than 10 inches. Citations are issued for violations of this local ordinance.



A property owner cited for having grass or weeds over this height will be provided 3 days to bring the property into compliance. If compliance is not achieved within this time frame, the Village of West Dundee Public Works Department will proceed to abate the nuisance at a minimum charge of \$200 per hour, to be paid by the owner or occupant of the property.

Such violations may be reported to the Public Works Department at (847) 551-3815 between the hours of 7:30 am and 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, or by emailing publicworks@wdundee.org.

DOG REGULATIONS

The Village of West Dundee would like to remind residents that Village Code requires all dog owners to license their canines with the Village within 60 days of moving in.



Dog tags can be purchased at either the Village Hall or the Police Department, and are available for a one year period at a cost of \$10 or three year period at a cost of \$20. Proof of a valid rabies inoculation is required.

We would like to remind pet owners to restrain their dogs (or cats) from running at large within the Village. Unrestrained pets may be impounded and a citation imposed on the owner.

Pet owners must also clean up after their pets when they relieve themselves on other people's property. This includes public property such as sidewalks and parkways.

Your neighbors and your community will thank you for your consideration!



SPEAK OUT ...provides another way for you to communicate with Village Officials.

Written comments can be mailed or placed in the drop box outside Village Hall, 102 S. Second Street, or emailed to villagehall@wdundee.org. Please be sure to include your name, address and e-mail address. Attach additional sheets of paper if needed.
