



# VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS TRUSTEE TOPICS

[www.clarendonhills.us](http://www.clarendonhills.us)

November/ December 2022

## Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

For my last message of the year, I like to reflect on accomplishments from the year and also look to the plans already in motion for next year.

A major goal of my tenure on the Village Board is continuing to invest in the community's infrastructure. On November 7th, we will finally hold the ribbon cutting for the Train station and surrounding downtown revitalization program. These projects were half funded by outside agencies including Metra, Regional Transit Authority, DuPage County, IL Commerce Commission, Illinois Department of Transportation and federal grants through West Suburban Mass Transit District, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) with the help of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP). The balance was funded utilizing local capital funds and the Downtown TIF with no new tax increases. The new public spaces created by the improvements are already getting daily use as public spaces and during special events, including the farmers market, Oktoberfest and the Witches Ride after party events.



Village President  
Len Austin

Next year, the Village is authorizing the reconstruction of Burlington Ave with watermain replacements. Federal funding will cover up to 80% of the road construction costs. Additionally, the Village expects to finish the concrete curbs in the Village with the reconstruction of Ann and Byrd to bring those streets up to the Village's current standards.

The Village also continues to invest in the safety of the community by increasing public safety resources. In 2022, the Village Board increased police staffing by one officer, providing full staffing for each shift. In October, the Village issued body cameras to all police officers, meeting the State of Illinois mandate ahead of the 2025 deadline. Body cameras help in gathering evidence, protect officers from unfounded accusations and ensuring our officers are held to the highest policing standards. In 2019, the Village Board authorized increasing fire staffing by 33% to add an additional certified paramedic to our ambulance, allowing for two experienced, fully trained paramedics to respond to every medical emergency in town. Finally, the Fire Department received a new ambulance with the latest technology/equipment and was authorized to order a new ladder truck and pumper, replacing equipment that is 23 years old.

When COVID hit, the Village was ready to do business online. During my tenure we continued to invest in technology, allowing for online requests, remote participation in Village Board meetings, more timely digital communications including emergency texts and email "blast" communications, and complete transparency into government documents and finances through the public documents' portal. Almost all business with the Village can at least start online, with much of it routed automatically through Village departments. Every year we add new services online and streamline our processes both internally and externally to better provide services for our residents, businesses and local contractors.

Along with the public infrastructure improvements, the Village continues to seek private-public partnerships with our business community to create a business environment that is profitable for businesses while maintaining the small-town charm many of our residents moved here for. Since created in 2020, the Downtown TIF has been able to bring much of the core downtown up to modern building standards, including assisting with putting fire sprinklers in Tierra Distillery, Il Mio, and The English Garden. These investments have been matched at least 3:1 by the local property owners and local business owners, and these properties may still be vacant if not for the Village proactively assisting the modernization of these properties. Because of the shifting business environment, we are seeing businesses such as The Open Door and Tap Room, La Pearl, Thassos Greek Restaurant, and Wasabi Restaurant and Bar open without using any tax dollars.

Additionally, the Village committed to support the Chamber of Commerce with funding allowing the Chamber to enhance and expand events and marketing for the downtown. The Ogden TIF is now wrapping up after successfully attracting the .....

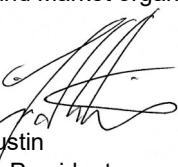
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Infinity Dealership. The proposed budget includes refunding the remaining balance of \$276,289 to local taxing districts, including our local schools. This represents a dividend from a successful development plan, and we will continue to see additional dollars in future years for our schools.

The Village Board is also committed to keeping taxes low. The Board is expecting homeowners to see about a 1% property tax increase on their Village portion of the bill (2%, with 1% offset by redevelopment or "new growth"). This is despite record inflation and rising pension costs for the Village's Police Pension which will absorb a majority of the increase in revenue. The Village has done this by decreasing administrative staff, eliminating middle managers throughout the organization and utilizing technology to lower staffing requirements over the years.

See you all at the Tree Lighting on December 2nd to kick off the Holiday Walk and Market organized by the Chamber of Commerce!



Len Austin  
Village President



**LOCK IT OR LOSE IT**

LOCK IT OR LOSE IT campaign graphic featuring a car key and remote, and three icons: a car with a lock, a briefcase, and a smartphone. Text below the icons: HIDE YOUR VALUABLES, LOCK YOUR VEHICLE, TAKE IT WITH YOU.

**Be Smart. Stay Safe.**

- Always keep your valuables out of sight or in the trunk
- Never leave valuables in unattended vehicles
- Always lock your vehicle
- Notify the police of any suspicious activity

## REFERENDUM ON THE NOVEMBER BALLOT

At the July 18, 2022 Board meeting, staff was directed to proceed with a referendum to convert the Village Clerk position into an appointed rather than an elected position. This would take effect at the end of the current elected term in May 2023. Dawn Tandle, the current long term serving Village Clerk, has advised that she does not intend to run for election in 2023 for another term. The proposed question will be on the November 2022 ballot.

The Village determined that the duties could be absorbed by current staff members and/or minor contractual spending with a projected savings to Village residents. The Village currently employs an Executive Assistant that acts a Deputy Clerk in order to fulfil some of the duties of the position in the Clerk's absence. Unlike other paid positions within the Village, Illinois State Statute requires a referendum be approved to allow for the position to be appointed and to distribute the statutory duties of the position among staff. The Village Clerk would be appointed by the Village President with the advice and consent of the Village Board if the referendum is approved.

The proposed question will be on the November 2022 ballot.

Shall the Village Clerk of the Village of Clarendon Hills be appointed by the President, with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees, rather than be elected?

Yes  No



## No Stickers For YARD WASTE!!!

For the month of November, Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) is providing unlimited collection of yard waste containers without stickers for the purpose of leaf collection. To avoid any confusion, all bagged yard waste (leaves, mixed grass leaves, fall clean up, etc.) shall be picked up at no charge during the rest of November. Simply place out with your other garbage without a sticker.

## Around Town



### Board Meetings

Nov. 7th at 6:30 PM  
Nov. 21st at 6:30 PM  
Dec. 5th at 6:30 PM  
Dec. 19th at 6:30 PM

### ZBA/Plan Commission

Nov. 17th at 7:30 PM  
Dec. 15th at 7:30 PM  
[www.clarendonhills.us](http://www.clarendonhills.us)

### Holiday Walk & Market

*Chamber of Commerce Event*  
Dec. 2nd at 5 PM with Holiday Market  
then 6 PM at Village Hall Plaza for tree  
lighting

[www.clarendonhillschamber.com](http://www.clarendonhillschamber.com)

### Library

November 17th - 7 PM to 8 PM

Presenter Gary Wenstrup traces the  
careers of 1970's duo James Taylor  
and Carly Simon

Adult Program (CHPL Meeting Room)  
Registration Required.

630-323-8188

[www.clarendonhillslibrary.org](http://www.clarendonhillslibrary.org)

### Park District

Check out their website for all the  
programs offered for residents of all  
ages.

Dec. 13th from Noon to 2 PM

*Holiday luncheon for Senior Residents*  
At Community Center (315 E. Chicago)  
Registration required. Code 840300-14

Park District Number: 630-323-2626  
[www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org](http://www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org)

## FREE PARKING AT METRA LOT

With all the new restaurants and businesses downtown in the Village, residents should know that there is FREE parking at the Metra lot weeknights after 3PM and during the weekends.

Please don't leave valuables in the car and be sure to lock your vehicles.



## Winter Snow Reminders

Residents are required to park off the Village streets if the weather predicts 2 or more inches of snow fall. This is to allow for proper snow removal. (*It's recommended snow be removed from the top of your vehicle prior to driving!*)

No person shall dump snow onto any public road, public sidewalk or fire hydrant.

Garbage cans should be placed at the end of your driveway and not on the street which includes the concrete ribbons. This makes it easier and safer for our crews to clear the streets of snow and allows cars to go around garbage trucks picking up cans.

## Luminaria Sales



The Clarendon Hills Auxiliary Chapter of the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago (CHIW) invites you to participate in the annual tradition of Luminaria Lighting this Christmas Eve. Once again, the CHIW will donate hundreds of Luminaria to the Village and the members of Cub Scout and Boy Scout Troops #51 will light the luminarias in downtown Clarendon Hills on Christmas Eve.

CHIW luminaria kits will be sold in December during regular business hours at the Clarendon Hills Bank and Kramer Foods; as well as the Lions pool parking lot during specific hours.

Check for times at <https://clarendonhillsinfantwelfare.org/luminaria>  
Order on-line at <https://clarendonhillsinfantwelfare.org/luminaria-orders-online>

Standard kits consist of five candles and bags being sold for \$6.00. The funds raised through the sale of CHIW Luminaria in Clarendon Hills help support the Infant Welfare Society of Chicago's full-service clinic for mothers and children that cannot afford health insurance. Please join the community and light each candle for a child on Christmas Eve.

## Village Hall Closed

Weekdays from Noon to 1 PM for lunch

Nov. 11th in observance of Veterans Day

Nov. 24th and 25th in observance of  
Thanksgiving

Dec. 23rd and 26th in observance of  
Christmas

January 2nd in observance of New Year's  
Day!

**Trustee Topics****Village of Clarendon Hills**

1 North Prospect Avenue  
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

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Illinois 60514  
Permit No. 45

## Holiday Walk and Market

This exciting Chamber of Commerce event will be held Friday, December 2nd. The Holiday Market will begin at 5 p.m. with local businesses & merchants to support your holiday needs and our traditional Holiday Walk begins with the lighting of the Village Hall Plaza Trees at 6 pm in front of the Village Hall along with the lighting of the Chamber donated trees in the downtown. Stroll through town where the shops and Market stay open late, restaurants serve holiday features & refreshments, visit with Santa, sing with the carolers, take a horse carriage ride through town, taste roasted chestnuts cooked on an open-fire, catch photo-ops with Elfie and Scrooge, and soak in the holiday spirit. Everything needed to kick off the holiday season will be here in downtown Clarendon Hills. The event ends at 9 pm. Find more info at [www.clarendonhillschamber.com](http://www.clarendonhillschamber.com)



The Chamber of Commerce is looking for families, groups and or businesses to give the downtown business district some Christmas spirit. Trees will be up in town for the entire month of December for all our residents to see. For a \$175 donation to the Chamber of Commerce, a tree will be placed with your groups name and ready to be decorated by your group. Some may be lit depending on their location. First come, first serve.

Check out <https://www.clarendonhillschamber.com/trees>

## Lions Club Christmas Tree Sales

The Clarendon Hills Lions Club sells Christmas Trees starting the Friday (Nov. 25th) after Thanksgiving at the Lions Park Pool located at 100 Byrd Court. The lot is open Monday - Friday from 6 PM to 8 PM and Saturday and Sunday 9 AM to 6 PM.



## Christmas Tree Clean Up

Lakeshore Recycling Services (LRS) offers free recycling for Christmas Trees during the month of January. All decorations must be removed. Place trees only for recycling at the curb.

## Find Recent Village Board Actions at [www.clarendonhills.us/AgendaCenter](http://www.clarendonhills.us/AgendaCenter)

## Contact Us

**Village President:**

Len Austin 630-286-5420

**Village Trustees:**

Dorothy Foster 630-286-5421

Greg Jordan 630-286-5422

Allyson Russo 630-286-5423

Steve Tuttle 630-286-5424

Meredith Lannert 630-286-5425

Matt DeDobbelaeere 630-286-5426

**Village Clerk: (Tues & Fri AM)**  
Dawn Tandle 630-286-5403

**Village Hall:** 630-286-5400  
Finance Dept.: Press 2  
Building Dept.: Press 3  
Administration: Press 4

**Public Works:** 630-286-4750

**Non-Emergency:**

Police: 630-286-5460

Fire: 630-286-5430

[www.clarendonhills.us](http://www.clarendonhills.us)

**Community Numbers:**

Park District: 630-323-2626

Public Library: 630-323-8188

**Online Transaction Safe****Zone Location:**

Police Station (448 Park Ave.)