

**VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS**  
**MANAGER'S REPORT**  
**JANUARY 18, 2013**

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- A. Policy Feedback –**
- B. Management Reports**
  - 1. Manager's Notes -- See weekly report**
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## **Village of Clarendon Hills Manager's Report**

To: Village President & Board of Trustees

From: Randall Recklaus, Village Manager

Date: January 18, 2013

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1. Peg Hartnett and I met on Wednesday to go over revenue projections for the General, Water, and Capital funds for FY 2013/14 budget year. The projections continue to be a work in progress, but it is clear that next year's budget will be another tight one. The building permit fees and new sales tax revenue from the Infiniti project were boosts to the last two years' budgets. This year, revenue growth will be more flat. Once again, we will have to be creative in the provision of services. However, I'm confident that we will be in a position to present a budget this spring that meets the community's needs while reflecting our limitations. We will be relooking at our long term budget projections this year as well, including a possible change to the manner in which we use SSA's to fund road projects going forward.
2. Work continued on the Police Consolidation project this week. Chief Jenkins, Peg Hartnett, and Christina Burns and I met with representatives of our insurance broker, Gallagher Benefits, yesterday. They are shopping around for a disability and survivor benefits policy that would mimic social security benefits that would be lost by our sworn police officers if consolidation is pursued. Next week will be a critical week for the project as this and other key issues are resolved.
3. I attended DuPage Mayors and Manager's Legislative Action Dinner on Wednesday evening. It featured a new format where each table had a roundtable discussion with a legislator and senator. The major initiatives being pushed by the conference this year are: Protecting Municipal Revenues, Reforming Municipal Pensions, Amending the Public Safety Employee Benefits Act to use the Federal Definition of "Catastrophic Injury", and removing the sunset date on the Wireless Emergency Telephone Safety Act. The good news from the session is that every legislator and senator in attendance believed that State employee and Teacher pension reform would be addressed this session, as pushing off to the 2014 political season was seen as infeasible and undesirable. If you want specific information on any of these items, let me know.
4. The Chamber met Monday morning at Village Hall. They discussed the success of the Christmas Walk and began planning for Daisy Days. The Chamber is also in the middle of their annual membership drive. We recently scheduled a presentation from representatives at

- Choose DuPage to review the various small business and economic tools they offer. They will be present at the March Chamber meeting.
- 5. The Special Events Committee met Monday. They expect to begin booking bands shortly and following up with additional sponsors.
- 6. The Safety Committee met Thursday. The Committee will be working on a few outstanding items from the IRMA Member Service Plan over the next two years. They will also continue to review and discuss training opportunities and open claims.
- 7. The Employee Appreciation Committee began a quarterly meeting schedule this week. They will continue the work they started last year with the Employee Picnic. Thanks to Chris Boone, Julie Johnson, Susan Larson and Mark Rediehs for their participation.

Have Great Weekend!

# **VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS**

## **Finance Department**

### **MEMORANDUM**

DATE: January 18, 2013

TO: Randy Recklaus, Village Manager

FROM: Peg Hartnett, Finance Director/Treasurer

SUBJECT: Department Report

- Randy and reviewed the preliminary revenue budgets for the Village's General, Water and Capital Projects Funds this week. Budget meetings are scheduled with each of the Department Heads for the week of January 28, in order to review their requests in detail and develop a balanced budget for the Village.
- The Finance Department welcomed back Jenneane Timreck this week. During her absence, Shmeaka Mickels of AccountTemp provided assistance in the accounts payable and receivable area. Lynn McCammon of Sikich LLP is also providing assistance with payroll and the general ledger on a limited basis. I would like to recognize Julie Johnson and Susan Larson for their outstanding efforts in ensuring the necessary finance functions continue in a timely manner. Their hard work is greatly appreciated.
- The search to fill the vacant Accountant position continues following the retirement of Phyllis Wertheimer. The deadline for applications has been extended to February 8.
- Preliminary information from the IPBC projects a 5% increase in health insurance rates and a 3% increase in dental rates for the plan year beginning in July 2013. Final rates are expected to be received in mid-March.
- A quarterly Police Pension Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the Village Hall conference room.

**Village of Clarendon Hills**  
**Department of Public Works**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** January 17, 2013  
**TO:** Randy Recklaus, Village Manager  
**FROM:** Mike Millette, Director of Public Works  
**SUBJECT:** Department Notes

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1. While we thought that the crack filling and seam sealing of the Ann Street reservoir were substantially complete, other leaks have developed as the known cracks and seams were filled. The contractor has been chasing these newly discovered cracks and we are waiting to see if any more develop. A project status meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday. The project schedule has been affected by this work, but we are holding firm on the budget.
2. We repaired a leak on our water system last week on Norfolk, east of Prospect. This leak was not caused by bolt failures; it was just a crack in the water main. The repair was completed during normal working hours.
3. A brief synopsis of this department's response to the January 12/13 ice storm follows:

Two trucks were dispatched to begin spreading salt at 10:00 p.m. on Saturday, the 12<sup>th</sup>. At that time the air temperature had dropped below 32 degrees and the rain which had been falling for about an hour was beginning to change to sleet. The trucks covered all Village streets. Operations ended at 1:00 a.m. on Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup>. The Police Department was notified and asked to call Glen should there be any other concerns.

A two-person crew arrived at 4:30 a.m. on Sunday to salt the commuter platform and our snow contractor, Gasaway, was called to spread magnesium chloride on the DB sidewalks which was completed within two hours.

Our second crew arrived at 5:00 a.m. and spread another layer of salt in the DB district and on hills on Prospect, Burlington, and at key intersections and some other known trouble spots.

All storm-related activities were completed by 7:00 a.m.

No plowing was necessary during this event and we used eight tons of salt.

**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Randy Recklaus, Village Manager

**From:** Dan Ungerleider, Community Development Director

**Date:** January 18, 2013

**Subject:** Department Report

1. Attached is the December 2012 Building Permit Monthly Report. In summary, the Department issued 18 building permits during the month of December. Our total value of permitted construction so far for the current fiscal year is just over \$9.5 million (including 13 new homes and 19 remodels).
2. Attached is the current weekly Code Enforcement Report. Most notably:
  - a. Construction at 47 Harris has been completed and is for sale. We have already received several inquiries from potential buyers. A temporary certificate of occupancy may be issued before the end of the month.
  - b. 450 Colfax was purchased by a remodeler last December. Early this week the Department received a building permit application to renovate and finish the home. A copy of the proposed elevation is attached.
  - c. Demolition of 227-231 Burlington Avenue: No changes to report. We will return to court next week seeking final judgment and permission to demolish the property.
  - d. Property Maintenance issues at 431 W Ogden (fka Scott's Pet Shop) have been corrected or are in the process of being addressed, as a result of receiving a Notice of Violation and Ticket issued to the current owner. The same has occurred at Fullers Tires next door at 427 W Ogden.
  - e. Park Willow Condominiums is addressing a long list of conditions since receiving a notice of violation from the Village. Dave Godek has been meeting with the Condo Association weekly to insure compliance. Issues being addressed include conditions found at their abandoned pool house and property maintenance, fire safety, mold and occupancy conditions found on the property. Kudos to Dave Godek for all his hard work.
  - f. In an effort to return outdated construction deposits, the Department continues to seek closure on old files not having certificates of occupancy or final approval.
3. During this past week, I met with potential purchasers and developers for the following properties: 9-23 Walker, 201 Burlington Av (former PD Station property), and 103 S Prospect Avenue. In anticipation of receiving submittals for these properties, I will be meeting with the members of the Downtown Design Review Commission to re-orientate them with their roles and responsibilities in the development review process as well as the upcoming Downtown Master Plan Update project.

The petitioner representing 103 S Prospect anticipates making their formal development submittal before the end of January.

4. The Department has received several inquiries regarding proposals for the redevelopment of 431 W Ogden Ave (fka Scott's Pet Shop).
5. I continue to validate and develop the Village's new GIS map. This map will be the base for new up-to-date address, land use, zoning and infrastructure inventory maps, and the structure for a future geo-based property database for the Village.
6. Christina Burns and I, in preparation of our first Downtown Master Plan Update Steering Committee meetings, are preparing a Community Outreach Plan that will be followed to ensure continued engagement of the community, its businesses, property owners and local organizations during the planning process and later during the implementation of the updated Downtown Plan. Once accepted, a copy of this plan will be posted on the Downtown Planning website at [www.clarendonhills.us/downtownplanning.dfm](http://www.clarendonhills.us/downtownplanning.dfm)

**As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.**

## VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS, ILLINOIS

## MONTHLY BUILDING PERMIT REPORT

DECEMBER 2012

Permit Type	Quantity	Dec-2012		FYTD - 2013		Quantity	Dec-2011		Quantity	FYTD - 2011		
		Fees	Value	Fees	Value		Fees	Value		Fees	Value	
Demolition	1	\$ 2,248	na	\$ 27,845	na	1	\$ 2,030	na	14	\$ 26,386	na	
New	2	\$ 22,502	\$ 1,350,000	\$ 91,934	\$ 6,035,000	1	\$ 7,619	\$ 350,000	14	\$ 98,077	\$ 6,708,000	
Addition/Remodel	3	\$ 5,403	\$ 200,000	\$ 25,989	\$ 1,493,788	2	\$ 1,833	\$ 44,700	24	\$ 24,097	\$ 1,595,873	
<b>SF SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 30,554</b>	<b>\$ 1,550,000</b>	<b>\$ 145,768</b>	<b>\$ 7,508,788</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$ 11,483</b>	<b>\$ 394,700</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>\$ 148,560</b>	<b>\$ 8,303,873</b>	
Demolition	-	\$ -	na	0	\$ -	na	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	na	
New	-	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	na	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	
Addition/Remodel	-	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	na	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>MF SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>na</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	
Demolition	-	\$ -	na	0	\$ -	na	\$ -	\$ -	na	\$ -	na	
New	-	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	na	\$ -	\$ -	1	\$ 899	\$ 8,968	
Addition/Remodel	-	\$ -	\$ -	0	\$ -	na	\$ -	\$ -	1	\$ 20,187	\$ 974,000	
<b>COM SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>\$ 835</b>	<b>\$ 10,000</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$ 6,495</b>	<b>\$ 1,720,100</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>\$ 5,971</b>	<b>\$ 160,000</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>\$ 21,086</b>	<b>\$ 982,968</b>
<b>Misc Permits</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>\$ 1,441</b>	<b>\$ 22,910</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>\$ 66,211</b>	<b>\$ 309,539</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>\$ 3,582</b>	<b>\$ 35,000</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>\$ 18,954</b>	<b>\$ 267,568</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>\$ 32,809</b>	<b>\$ 1,582,910</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>\$ 218,474</b>	<b>\$ 9,538,527</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>\$ 21,035</b>	<b>\$ 589,700</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>\$ 188,600</b>	<b>\$ 9,554,410</b>

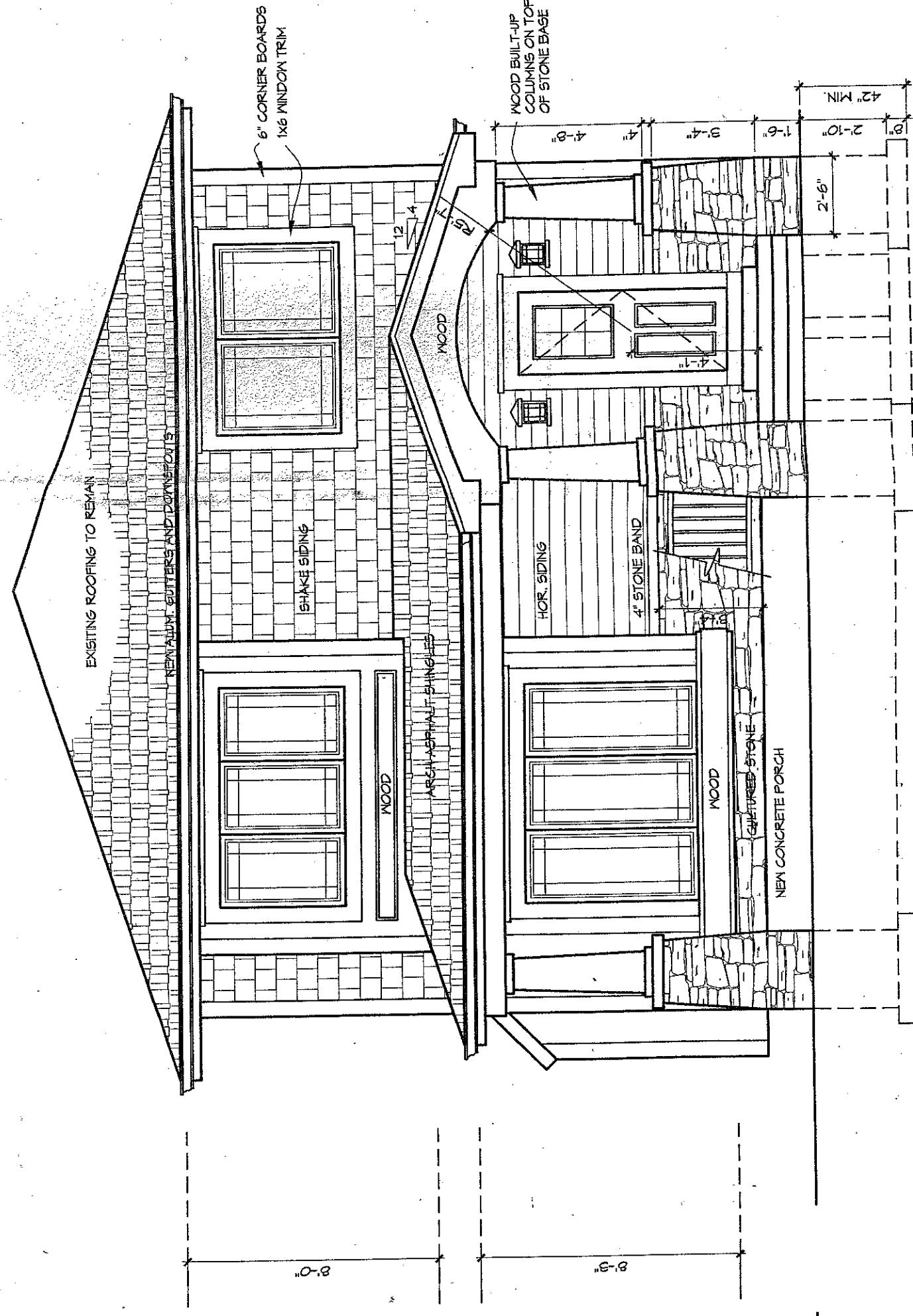
Fee Category	May-12	Jun-12	Jul-12	Aug-12	Sep-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	Jan-13	Feb-13	Mar-13	Apr-13
<b>CONST. VALUE</b>	<b>\$ 915,489</b>	<b>\$ 2,888,000</b>	<b>\$ 731,136</b>	<b>\$ 227,350</b>	<b>\$ 547,490</b>	<b>\$ 3,672,204</b>	<b>\$ 856,838</b>	<b>\$ 1,552,910</b>				
<b>ADMIN FEE</b>	<b>\$ 588</b>	<b>\$ 1,062</b>	<b>\$ 673</b>	<b>\$ 496</b>	<b>\$ 569</b>	<b>\$ 1,778</b>	<b>\$ 995</b>	<b>\$ 889</b>				
Engineering	\$ 268	\$ 1,479	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268	\$ 1,071	\$ 635				
Plan Review	\$ 4,064	\$ 11,446	\$ 1,088	\$ 822	\$ 2,345	\$ 13,550	\$ 2,196	\$ 536				
Fire	\$ 200	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 825	\$ 100	\$ 500				
<b>PLAN REVIEW FEES</b>	<b>\$ 4,531</b>	<b>\$ 13,555</b>	<b>\$ 1,083</b>	<b>\$ 822</b>	<b>\$ 2,743</b>	<b>\$ 15,446</b>	<b>\$ 2,931</b>	<b>\$ 4,243</b>				
H2O Billing	\$ 80	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 40	\$ 160	\$ 40	\$ 40				
Building	\$ 10,600	\$ 26,897	\$ 9,493	\$ 987	\$ 5,232	\$ 23,125	\$ 4,203	\$ 13,764				
Electrical	\$ 2,197	\$ 5,905	\$ 800	\$ 471	\$ 817	\$ 5,093	\$ 1,027	\$ 4,001				
Plumbing	\$ 2,147	\$ 4,445	\$ 689	\$ 281	\$ 901	\$ 3,424	\$ 679	\$ 2,104				
HVAC	\$ 833	\$ 2,096	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 285	\$ 1,854	\$ 570	\$ 927				
Stormwater	\$ 500	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	\$ 1,000				
Driveway	\$ 422	\$ 471	\$ 48	\$ 214	\$ 95	\$ 523	\$ 237	\$ 190				
Street/Parkway	\$ 618	\$ 2,011	\$ 628	\$ 466	\$ 471	\$ 1,570	\$ 942	\$ 471				
H2O Meter Fee	\$ 912	\$ 1,824	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 304	\$ 1,216	\$ 304	\$ 912				
TAP/H2O Conctrn	\$ 1,922	\$ 3,898	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 641	\$ 2,642	\$ 393	\$ 1,897				
Disconnect H2O	\$ 150	\$ 300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50	\$ 200	\$ 50	\$ 150				
H2O Meter Cert	\$ 90	\$ 180	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30	\$ 120	\$ 30	\$ 90				
Demolition	\$ 4,294	\$ 12,424	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,180	\$ 4,182	\$ 2,091	\$ 2,091				
<b>PERMIT FEES</b>	<b>\$ 24,763</b>	<b>\$ 63,690</b>	<b>\$ 11,658</b>	<b>\$ 2,418</b>	<b>\$ 11,546</b>	<b>\$ 46,108</b>	<b>\$ 11,067</b>	<b>\$ 27,677</b>				
<b>FEES TOTAL (Admin+REPF)</b>	<b>\$ 29,833</b>	<b>\$ 78,286</b>	<b>\$ 13,418</b>	<b>\$ 3,736</b>	<b>\$ 14,877</b>	<b>\$ 63,332</b>	<b>\$ 14,992</b>	<b>\$ 34,809</b>				
Average Fees Per Permit	\$ 964	\$ 2,700	\$ 639	\$ 187	\$ 741	\$ 1,508	\$ 625	\$ 1,823				
<b>Number of Permits</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>18</b>				

DPG	VOC/H2O	CONSTRUCTION	SW DEPOSIT
\$ 20,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,962	\$ 22,615



# PROPOSED FRONT ELEV.

SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"



# VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

**DATE:** January 18, 2013

**TO:** Randy Recklaus  
Village Manager

**FROM:** Brian Leahy  
Fire Chief

**SUBJECT:** Weekly Fire Department Report 2013-02

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1. Fire Prevention Bureau Activity during the past week.
  - No report this week.
2. Training Report:
  - Mutual Aid Training will be conducted on the next three (3) Fridays with the Hinsdale FD at 15 and 21 Spinning Wheel Drive in Hinsdale. On duty crews will be attending this training.
  - Firefighter recruits Bryce McElroy, Scott Wallace and Brian Fennell completed their recruit basic training Wednesday evening. They are now allowed to ride vehicles and respond to emergency calls as observers, but are not allowed to enter any building or areas where a firefighting hazard exists. They will soon be starting their Firefighter Basic 240 hour Certification training. When that is completed they will be allowed to function as a full firefighter.
3. Emergency Medical Services Report:
  - Dave Godek and Jim Weil attended a Loyola EMS Coordinators meeting this week. Loyola is now looking at a newer and less expensive option tablet type of computer for patient care reporting.
4. Clarendon Hills/Hinsdale FD sharing of services report:
  - The Hinsdale Fire Chief and I are working on the coordination of joint purchases to save both villages money.
5. This week preventive maintenance was performed on the building Emergency Generators located at the Village Hall, Fire Station, Police Station and Public Works Facility. This work is performed by an outside vendor twice each year. The generators for each of these buildings run the entire buildings including heat and air conditioning.
6. Wednesday, the new Fire Prevention SUV (398) was taken to Lund Industries in Northbrook for the installation of radio equipment, mobile data terminal and emergency lighting. We expect this vehicle to be there for about 2 weeks.

7. On Thursday, I attended the SWCD Executive Committee meeting. Normal business was conducted. Also at the meeting the Committee approved the installation of the Genesis Identification equipment which is used in conjunction with the DuPage Starcom 21 radio system.
8. Last week Captain Mark Rediehs and I completed the submission of a FEMA grant modification to use some of the left over money that was designated for the station sprinkler system. The sprinkler system came in about \$20,000 under budget leaving additional grant funds available. Last week we were approved for about \$9,500 to be used for training materials. We will be purchasing video training materials, a new video projector and also a Rescue Randy training dummy. Also at this time we are in the process of applying for a grant in the amount of \$5,000 that would be used for Fire Prevention programs. Our proposal will be to purchase about 150 combination smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and offer one (1) per household until they are gone.

9. Incidents of Interest:

- During the past week Hinsdale FD responded to two (2) calls in Clarendon Hills.
- During the past week Clarendon Hills FD responded to two (2) calls in Hinsdale.
- Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, the fire department responded for power lines down at 251 Burlington Ave.
- Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:20 PM. Ambulance 314 responded to assist the Westmont Fire Department with an ambulance at the Jewel 4 E. Ogden Ave. in Westmont. One (1) patient transported to a local hospital.
- Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:34 PM. Truck 319 with five (5) firefighters responded to assist the Hinsdale Fire Department for an attached garage on fire at 28 E. 57<sup>th</sup> St. in Hinsdale.
- Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:54 PM. Chief 310 responded to assist the Hinsdale Fire Department with an accident with injuries at Washington St. and Chicago Ave. in Hinsdale. Due to numerous calls and also a working fire in Hinsdale Chief 301 coordinated the scene and used an ambulance from Oak Brook to treat and transport one (1) patient to a local hospital.
- Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:05 PM. Ambulance 314 responded to assist the Westmont Fire Department at an accident with injuries on Cass Ave. north of Ogden Ave. One (1) patient transported to a local hospital.
- Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:50 PM. Heavy duty Rescue Squad 316 responded to assist the Westmont Fire Department with a structure fire at 125 Ainsly Ct. in Westmont.

10. Fire/Rescue/EMS calls:

- During the past week the fire department responded to twenty one (21) emergency calls.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me.

# new public works director for Clarendon Hills residents

BY CHUCK FIELDMAN | cfieldman@pioneerlocal.com January 14, 2013 8:02AM

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Mike Millette is the new public works director in Clarendon Hills.

Updated: January 14, 2013 8:02AM

CLARENDON HILLS — Mike Millette has a tough act to follow. The self-proclaimed Civil War buff took over in August as public works

director in Clarendon Hills. Millette replaced John Hays, who worked in that job for about 25 years and was employed with the village for 41 years before retiring. Millette came to Clarendon Hills from Downers Grove, where he was an assistant public works director. He also worked in Schaumburg and Lombard.

**Q. What appealed to you about coming to work in Clarendon Hills?**

**A.** Part of it was an interest in moving on to be a director. I also wanted to stay in DuPage County; I know a lot of people with the county. I also liked Clarendon Hills. I thought it was a nice community.

**Q. What did you like about Clarendon Hills?**

**A.** The sense of it being a positive version of a television community. There are a lot of people involved in a lot of things here.

**Q. What do you like to be involved in when you're not working?**

**A.** I like hiking and camping and bicycling. And, of course, I am a Civil War buff. I've been involved with that for about 20 years and take part in reenactments. I really do like to be outside. I decided when I was in college I wanted to have a job where I could be outside some and didn't have to sit at a desk all day.

**Q. Is working for the Clarendon Hills Public Works Department much different than it was working in Downers Grove?**

**A.** For me, I think there's a greater sense of responsibility because I am the director, although I took responsibility for my job in Downers Grove, too. Overall, it's different because we are a smaller department. We have more guys doing more different things. Everyone here does a lot of different things, and they like it that way. You don't get pigeonholed into one area that way.

**Q. What's it like taking over for someone who was in your job for so long and was so well liked and respected?**

**A.** The priority is to keep the ship on a nice steady course. Following John makes you respect even more so what he built, and it makes you want to protect it even more and keep things running the right way.

**Q. Do you believe there are any significant changes that need to be made in the Public Works Department?**

**A.** No, nothing major. I want to engage the community a little so they know what we do. I think we tend to be task oriented and have introverted personalities.

**Q. What do you want residents to know about the Public Works Department?**

**A.** We are a very proud group of public servants, and we want to keep them happy. The people in Clarendon Hills are the ones we work for. Whatever it is they want, we'll do the best we can to make it happen.

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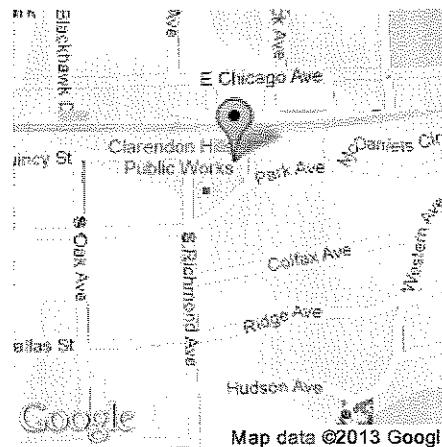
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Cheryl Pierce (Logout)

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Updated: January 16, 2013 4:50PM

**CLARENDON HILLS** — The Clarendon Hills Police Department will offer a roadside safety class from 9 to 11 a.m. Feb. 16, at the police station, 448 Park Ave., and can accommodate up to 25 people. Advance registration is required and can be made by calling the Police Department, (630) 286-5460.

Wanting to provide motorists with information that could help improve roadside safety is what prompted Police Chief Ted Jenkins to come up with the idea for the class.

“I originally was thinking about new drivers; my daughter is a new driver, and I wanted to take her out to show her some things that I think are important to know, such as how to change a flat tire, how to jump start a car, and basic automotive maintenance,” Jenkins said.

He realized a lot of people don’t know basic things, such as the location of their spare tire.

Jenkins said class participants would be given a few helpful items: a tire gauge, yellow safety vest, work gloves and flashlight.

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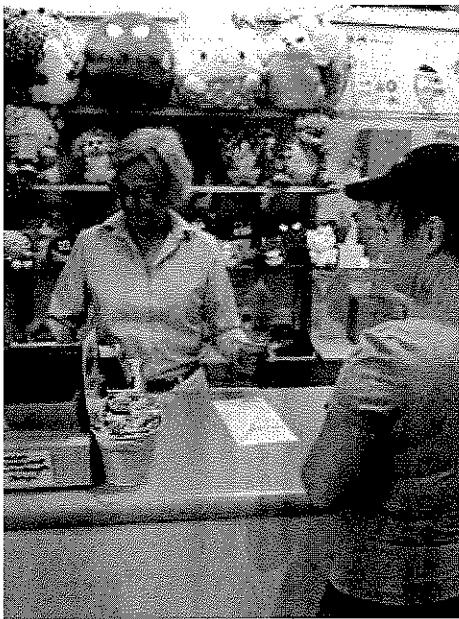
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Carole Thoeming, who owns Joelle's Hallmark in downtown Clarendon Hills with her husband, Gerry, said holiday sales were noticeably stronger in 2012 than was the case the previous year. | Chuck Fieldman—Sun-Times Media

Updated: January 15, 2013 8:00AM

**CLARENDON HILLS** — Business owners in downtown Clarendon Hills are reporting decent to very good holiday retail sales.

"I think the fiscal cliff talk was on the minds of a lot of people," said Lila Muffi, owner of The Modern Dog Boutique, 29 S. Prospect Ave. "Sales this year were about the same for me as last year; I thought it was going to be better."

The 2012 holiday shopping season was disrupted nationally by bad weather and consumers' rising uncertainty about the economy.

At All Wired Up, 27 S. Prospect Ave., owner Terrie Walker said she expects her bottom line on holiday sales to be about the same as a year ago. She doesn't, yet, have final sales figures.

"I was very busy, probably busier than last year," Walker said. "The big difference from last year is that people weren't buying the high-end stuff this year. Instead of buying a \$75 bottle of wine as a gift, they bought a \$50 bottle of wine."

Business was considerably better during the just-passed holiday season than was the case a year ago at Joelle's Hallmark, 6 S. Prospect Ave.

"It was a lot better than last year; I'd say about 15 percent better," said Carole Thoeming, who has owned the Hallmark store with her husband, Gerry, for more than 37 years. "People came in for cards, and we sold most of our gifts, too."

Holiday business also was noticeably increased from a year ago at The English Garden Flower Shop, 8 S. Prospect Ave.

"It was better than last year," said owner Sadie Belman. "I think the economy is better than it was, but it still isn't what it should be."

At nearby Oakbrook Center, holiday sales appeared to be better than was the case a year ago, said Chuck Fleming, the

mall's senior general manager.

"I think we had a pretty good year," Fleming said, adding that he won't see actual sales figures from the center's more than 160 stores until the end of January. "We did better than last year; I expect that we'll be up a couple of percentage points over last year."

A report that tracks national spending on popular holiday goods, the MasterCard Advisors SpendingPulse, indicated that sales in the two months before Christmas increased 0.7 percent, compared with 2011. Many analysts had expected holiday sales to grow 3 to 4 percent.

In 2008, sales declined by between 2 percent and 4 percent. A 4 percent increase is considered a healthy season.

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Ad  
The Last Man uses James Wishbone

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Year's Day Village offices Closed	2	3	4	5
6	7 p.m. – Village Board Meeting – CANCELLED	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 7 p.m. Special Events Committee meeting	15	16 9 a.m. – Chamber meeting	17 7:30 p.m. – ZBA meeting	18	19
20	Inauguration Day	21	22	23	24	25 C. H. Bank – Drivers License Mobile Unit – Board Room
27	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

► Jan 2013

► February 2013 ~ Mar 2013 ►

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 7 p.m. - Village Board mtg.	5	6	7 6 p.m. - Village Board Room in use by library	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 President's Day Village offices closed Board meeting rescheduled to February 19th	19 7 p.m. - rescheduled village board meeting	20 9 a.m. Chamber	21 7:30 p.m. - ZBA	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	Notes:	