



VILLAGE OF CLARENDON HILLS

TRUSTEE TOPICS

www.clarendonhills.us

January/ February 2020

Message from the President

Dear Neighbors,

Welcome to the New Year! 2020 will be an exciting one as we continue moving forward with our much anticipated Downtown Revitalization Project. The Project is one of the many steps we will take to reinvigorate Downtown in 2020.

We have already generated a lot of buzz in the area as we begin the early construction stages of the \$11.5 million investment. While we are excited to see the newly designed station, the safer roads and crossings, we have also noticed the empty storefronts. The question has been asked many times: "what is the Village doing about it?" Well, not only are we making major capital investments in the area but, as mentioned in previous newsletters and Village Board meetings, we are exploring establishing a tax increment financing (TIF) district to help create interest in our town.

So, let's talk TIFs. We have all heard of TIFs before, but what exactly is a TIF? A TIF is an economic development tool employed by municipalities across the nation. TIFs work by establishing boundaries and "freezing" the current property tax rate of parcels within those boundaries. As investments are made within the boundaries of the TIF, the property values of the parcels rise, and owners of those parcels pay their share of taxes on the increased values. When the owners pay taxes which exceed the established "frozen rate" those taxes get reinvested in the district.

Those reinvested dollars can be used for a number of improvements including offering low interest loans to building owners to install fire sprinklers. Installing sprinklers will bring the older buildings up to code and allow businesses to move in without worrying about that specific cost. TIF dollars could also be used on environmental remediation allowing new uses for existing buildings. There are a number of other solutions that can be offered via TIF which the Village Board will publicly discuss over the next few months. I invite you all to attend Village Board meetings as we discuss TIFs and other issues impacting our town. If you are unable to attend meetings, you can still keep up on Village happenings by listening to recordings of all Village Board meetings available on our website, Clarendonhills.us. On the website, you can also view calendars of meetings, agendas and information pages including those on the Downtown Revitalization Project and the proposed TIF.

Downtown is the heart of our Village. We all care about it and want all the businesses to succeed. The Village is taking active steps to see that it does. We are making major capital investments and taking steps to increase its commercial marketability. What we also need is resident participation. How? Easy- shop local. We have gift shops, tailors, a toy store and hardware. We have restaurants, candy and coffee shops. Our Downtown has so much to offer right now and we will only build upon it when we get the right tools in place.

Finally, with winter in full-swing, I would like to extend a thank you to our public safety departments and public works department. While we enjoy our warm homes, we can count on the Police department to arrive in emergencies and the Public Works department to keep our roads safe and clear of snow. Be sure to extend a thank you next time you see them plowing or patrolling your neighborhood.

Looking forward to seeing you shopping Downtown!


Len Austin
Village President



Village President
Len Austin



For questions, contact the Village Hall at (630) 286-5400

Planned 2019 Projects Update!

In January of 2019 we shared the projects planned for that year. Well, here we are in January of 2020 with an update of the following projects.

- **Downtown Revitalization Project** - Although delayed from 2019, the long anticipated project groundbreaking is scheduled for January 6, 2020 at 9 am. Improvements include razing the Village's out-of-date train station and constructing a new cost-conscious station that will improve safety, incorporate green infrastructure and introduce enclosed waiting areas and covered bike shelters. Although commuters may not enjoy some of the inconveniences during this project, we think it will be well worth it. The inbound station improvements are scheduled to be completed by late fall of 2020.

Tying these projects together will be improvements at the intersections of Prospect and Railroad, Prospect and Burlington, and Burlington and Golf Avenues, as well as the streetscapes along Prospect and Burlington Avenues. In addition to reducing the pedestrian crossing distance at the intersections, new plazas and landscape areas will be created to provide space for community activities and gatherings.

The third component of the Downtown Revitalization Project is replacement of the Prospect Avenue Railroad crossing gates with a state of the art quad gate system, making way for a new outbound enclosed train station and bike shelter. This portion of the overall project is awaiting State and BNSF approval, and has yet to be scheduled.



In total, the Village has been awarded over \$5.5 million dollars (this is 2 million more than reported in January of 2019) in grant funding from federal, state and local programs in support of these improvements. For more information, visit www.clarendonhills.us/dtrevitalization.

- **Chestnut Alley Improvements** - in 2019, DuPage County awarded a grant to the Village funding infrastructure improvements along the Chestnut Alley, between Burlington Avenue and Chestnut Avenue. Originally scheduled for summer of 2019, the project will now occur in 2020. The Village plans to reconstruct the alley with new pavers, underground stormwater storage, with an improved pumping station to remove stormwater. While these improvements may not address the worst of storms, it will help to protect the adjacent residential and business properties during the most common rain events.
- **Downtown TIF Study** - In 2018, the Village conducted an economic incentives study which analyzed potential development tools that the Village could employ to encourage private investment for the Downtown Business District. In 2019 the Village conducted a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Feasibility study which analyzed the potential benefits a downtown TIF district would provide to the Village. In December of 2019 the Village Board approved an Ordinance calling for a 2020 Public Hearing and a Joint Review Board meeting to consider the designation of a Downtown Tax Increment Financing District. More information about the Study and report can be found at www.clarendonhills.us/dttif.

- ✓ **Infiniti New Vehicle Storage Annex Project** - In late 2018 the Infiniti of Clarendon Hills purchased the tire center building across from their dealership, at the southwest corner of Ogden Avenue and Woodstock Avenue. In 2019 the Village's car dealership redeveloped the property for a new vehicle storage parking lot and we are pleased with how it turned out.

- ✓ **Burlington Avenue Water Tower Recoating and Branding Project** - In 2018, the Village recoated and branded the Park Avenue Water Tower. In 2019, the Village gave the Burlington Avenue water tower the same treatment. This type of maintenance is required every 15-20 years and is done to extend the useful life of our water towers. Funding for this work comes from the Village's Water Fund.



- ✓ **Parking Lot Pavement Improvements** - In conjunction with the Road Improvement Programs, the Village in December of 2019, completed the much needed pavement improvements to the Park Avenue Commuter Lot west of the Village's Fire Station. The Park Avenue Parking Lot is owned by the Village and is open for parking on an hourly basis.

Around Town



Board Meetings

Jan. 6th Cancelled

Jan. 21st at 7 PM (rescheduled due to MLK Day)

Feb. 3rd at 7 PM

Feb. 18th at 7 PM (rescheduled due to Presidents Day)

ZBA/Plan Commission

Jan. 16th at 7:30 PM

Feb. 20th at 7:30 PM

www.clarendonhills.us

Historical Society

Open House

Jan. 11th at Noon to 2 PM

Feb. 8th at Noon to 2 PM

Heritage Hall is located at 50 Sheridan
www.clarendonhillshistory.org

Library

January 19th at 12:30PM

Lunch and a Movie

"Toy Story 4"

Youth Program—bring your own lunch!
No Registration Required.

630-323-8188

www.clarendonhillslibrary.org

Park District

Ending February 28th!

"Cool" Snowman Photo Contest

Submit picture to the Park District at

valeriel@clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org

Include the family name, address, and contact information when submitting.

Feb. 28th from 6 PM to 8 PM

Blast Off Into Space (Ages 4-10)

(Mommy/Son date night)

Clarendon Hills Middle School

\$35 per mother/son + \$7 additional son

Non-residents \$45/\$9

Registration required.

Park District Number: 630-323-2626

www.clarendonhillsparkdistrict.org

MYCROFT ROW

Mycroft Row at 221-231 Burlington Avenue is scheduled to be completed in 2020! A local Clarendon Hills resident purchased the two-story office building and the vacant property directly east of the Burlington Water tower for the development of 2 mixed-used buildings containing six 2,700 square foot rowhomes featuring



3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, spacious open-concept living space and kitchen, balcony, 2 car garage and an in unit elevator. Each building will also provide up to 2,400 square feet of commercial space. Discover more at www.mycroftrow.com

Richmond Education Gardens and Apiary

Personalized Engraved Bricks are still available for purchase. **Show your support and order now!** These bricks will be installed into the walkways of the Richmond Education Gardens and Apiary in the spring of 2020. Help create this amazing outdoor classroom in our community. Purchase bricks to support the project and to honor your family, pets, or promote your business.

You can find out more about the Gardens and the purchasing of bricks at:
www.clarendonhills.us/gardens

Picture showing the 2019 progress. Planting beds are complete, stairs with railing and pavers installed.



Village Hall Closed

Weekdays from Noon to 1 PM for lunch

Feb. 17th in observance of Presidents Day!

Trustee Topics
Village of Clarendon Hills
1 North Prospect Avenue
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

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Secretary of State Mobile Unit

The Clarendon Hills Bank is sponsoring the Secretary of State Mobile Unit on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 from 10 am to 2 pm. Secretary of State Mobile unit will be here at Village Hall to renew or correct your Drivers License/State ID, get a new license plate sticker and/or register to be an organ donor. For questions regarding this visit contact the Clarendon Hills Bank at 630-323-1240



Recycle Holiday Lights

The Police Department is accepting worn out strings of holiday lights and extension cords until February 1, 2020. You can find the collection bin in the lobby of the Police Department located at 448 Park Avenue.

Find Recent Village Board Actions at
www.clarendonhills.us/AgendaCenter

January/ February 2020 Trustee Topics

Contact Us

Village President:

Len Austin 630-286-5420

Village Trustees:

Don Knoll 630-286-5421
Greg Jordan 630-286-5422
Ken Hall 630-286-5423
Carol Jorissen 630-286-5424
Wil Freve 630-286-5425
Matt DeDobbelaere 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

Community Numbers:

Park District: 630-323-2626

Public Library: 630-323-8188

Online Transaction Safe

Zone Location:

Police Station (448 Park Ave.)