

Intersection construction to begin in March



Conditions permitting, construction at the intersection of Routes 21 (Milwaukee Avenue) and 137 (Peterson Road) is scheduled to begin in March, according to IDOT. The project, which should be completed by December, will widen the intersection to seven lanes and Route 21 to four lanes north of the intersection. Initially, however, the intersection will be reduced to three lanes with one lane in either direction, plus a turning lane.

Access to all businesses at the intersection will be maintained throughout the construction. Signage will direct customers appropriately, according to Walsh Construction which was awarded the contract.

The Village has no direct authority on the project. However, residents can receive information about the project by signing up for E-news on the Village website at www.libertyville.com. From the homepage, select "Construction Updates" under the "Notify Me" tab. Updates will also be available on the Village website at www.libertyville.com/idotproject or by calling IDOT at 217-557-1130.

Message from the Mayor about Two referenda on Primary Ballot

The Village has placed two referenda on the March 20, 2012 General Primary Ballot asking voters to approve the issuance of bonds to improve our roads and to authorize the Village to secure lower electric rates. Last year the Village went to an electronic version of the *Village Views* newsletter that is available at the Village website; however, the Village Board and I decided to mail this newsletter due to the importance of these referenda.

The Electric Aggregation Referendum seeks voter approval for the Village to negotiate lower electricity rates for residents and small businesses. The road referendum asks voters to approve the issuance of \$20 million in bonds to rehabilitate Village roads. The bonds would be issued over the next four to five years and would be paid back over 20 years.

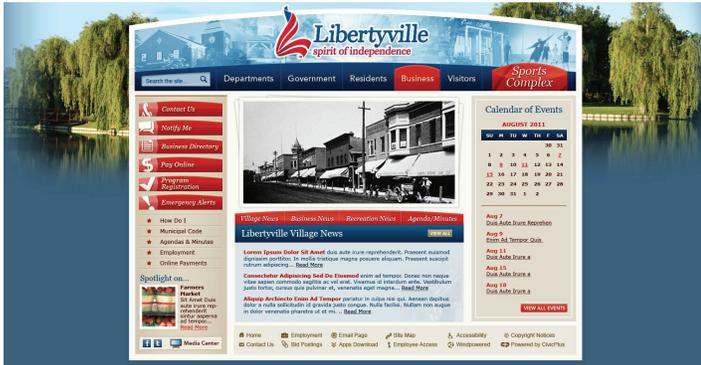
One of the major issues in the Village is the condition of Village streets. While the Village spends approximately \$1 million a year on road repair and/or reconstruction, unfortunately it is not enough money to keep up with the approximately 89 miles of roads maintained by the Village. As an example, in 2011 nearly all of the \$1 million in the Village expenditure went toward the total reconstruction of just one road, Dymond Road. The purpose of the referendum is to seek voter approval to issue \$20 million in bonds, which would allow the Village to rehabilitate Village streets prior to their becoming in worse condition and requiring much more expensive total reconstruction.

The tough reality is, if we want better roads, we have to come up with more money to fix them. Residents often ask me, "Why don't you just sell the Sports Complex? Wouldn't that solve the problems? Wouldn't that give you the money?"

The Sports Complex *has* struggled financially. It was originally envisioned as a self supporting facility but has required annual subsidies from the General Fund portion of the Village budget. Both the Golf Learning Center and Family Entertainment Center portions of the

Continued on page 2. See Mayor's Message

Village website gets a face-lift



The re-launched Village website is more user-friendly than ever before. Check it out at www.libertyville.com. Among the new features are Facebook and Twitter news integration, online service requests and tracking, a photo gallery and online agenda packets to access specific items in the new Agenda Center. Also on the way are iPhone apps for service requests and general information.

Through Facebook and Twitter, the Village is sharing news flash items that are integrated, photos and interesting Village facts. The homepage also features a more interactive calendar. Residents are encouraged to notify the Village of community events to place on the calendar.

2012 Village sticker sales

It's that time of year again. The 2012 Village sticker goes on sale at the Village Hall in mid-March and must be displayed in your vehicles' windshields no later than May 1, 2012.



Stickers are required for all vehicles registered or housed in the Village and cost \$30 for cars and trucks. The minimum penalty for not having a valid vehicle sticker displayed is \$100. One-hundred percent of vehicle sticker revenue — approximately \$400,000 — goes to repairing Village streets.

Mayor's Message

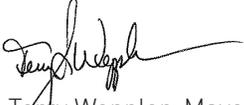
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property continue to be for sale. However, the offers we have received have not come close to covering the approximately \$20 million in bond debt owed and, if sold at the low prices we've been offered, we would still owe a majority of the money and have nothing to show for it.

In thinking about the referendum, please consider that compared to other area communities, taxes for our Village are low. The Village portion of our property taxes is less than half of that paid by residents in Mundelein, Grayslake, Deerfield, and Buffalo Grove. On a \$300,000 home, for example, the taxes paid last year for fire, park and other village (or city) services were:

Mundelein.....	\$1,614
Grayslake.....	\$1,439
Deerfield.....	\$1,389
Buffalo Grove.....	\$1,222
Lake Forest.....	\$990
Highland Park.....	\$965
Lake Bluff.....	\$935
Antioch.....	\$883
Vernon Hills.....	\$880
Lincolnshire.....	\$845
Libertyville.....	\$499
Gurnee.....	\$394

Libertyville's taxes will still be the second lowest of the communities even with additional taxes to help fix our roads. Before you decide how you will vote on the referenda, please take the time to read the information in this newsletter. We are also having an **informational Town Hall Meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5, at the Civic Center to discuss both referenda**. And, you may get more information or have questions answered by calling 847-362-2430 to reach the Village Administrator's office, one of your Village Board members or me.


Terry Weppler, Mayor

2012 General March Primary

Ballot includes two Village of Libertyville Referenda



When: Tuesday, March 20, 2012

Polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Where: Check your voter registration card for your polling place or call the Lake County Clerk's office for information at 847-377-2410.

In a primary, voters are required to declare a party to vote on party nomination ballots. **If there are referenda, nonpartisan ballots are available and contain no partisan candidates.**

Referendum to repair Village's deteriorating roads

If passed, the Village would issue bonds over the next 4 to 5 years not to exceed \$20 million

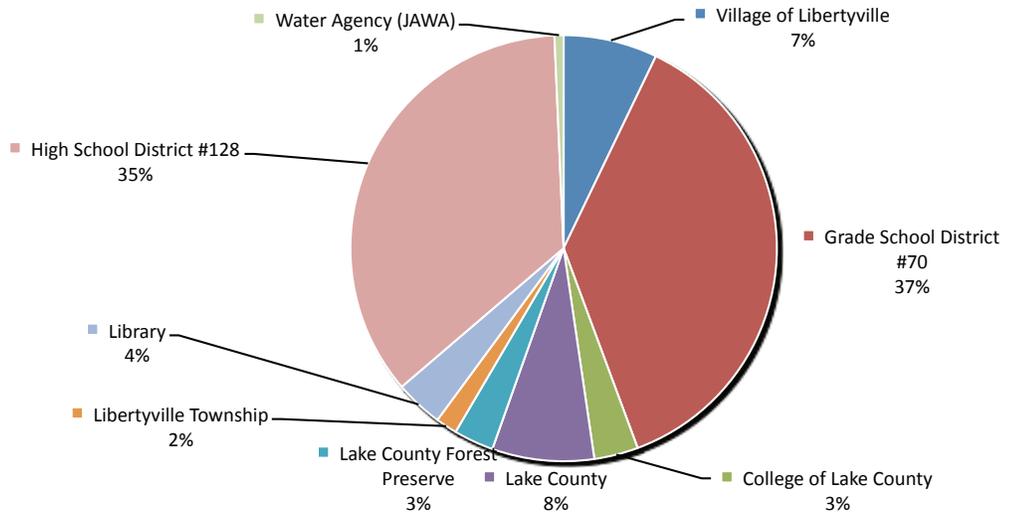
Why the referendum?

The Village spends about \$1 million a year on road repairs and reconstruction, but this amount isn't enough to maintain roadways to an acceptable standards. The cost of road repairs ranges from \$650,000 per mile for pavement overlay to about \$1.85 million per mile for reconstruction.

The Village saves money by making repairs before roads deteriorate to the point they need reconstruction; however, current funding sources don't produce enough money to maintain the roads in the Village.

Don't I already pay property taxes to fund Village roads?

- No property tax dollars are used for road construction and only a small percentage of property taxes go towards roadway and sidewalk maintenance.
- Property Tax dollars support nine separate government agencies that serve our community, including High School District 128, Grade School District 70, Cook Library District, Libertyville Township, Lake County, College of Lake County, Lake County Forest Preserve District, the Water Agency and the Village.
- The Village receives only about 7% of a homeowner's property taxes. On a \$300,000 home, this is about \$500 of the approximately \$7,000 in taxes paid. That money pays for Village services, including police, fire, community development, administration, boards and commissions, legal services, and recreation. It also funds public works, which includes street and sidewalk maintenance, storm water, street light, park maintenance and forestry.



Town Hall Meeting
7 p.m.
Monday, March 5
Libertyville Civic Center
to discuss referenda
on March Primary Ballot

Continued on next page.

Referendum to repair Village's deteriorating roads *continued*

For questions or information:

Call the Village Administrator's office at 847-362-2430.

Visit the Village website at www.libertyville.com/referendum2012

Attend the Town Hall Meeting at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 5, at the Civic Center.

The Referendum

The referendum asks residents to decide if the Village should issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$20 million for road repairs. The Village intends to stagger the amount into four \$5 million bond issues that would be repaid over 20 years.

State statute requires reference to an interest rate not to exceed 9%. However, recent issues have actually been in the 4 to 5% range. The Village would evaluate market interest rates at the time each bond is issued.

Then how are roads funded?

Road funding currently comes from two sources:

- Based on population, the Village receives a portion of the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) collected by the State of Illinois. This fiscal year, the Village should receive about \$543,000 in MFT funds.
- Village sticker sales of approximately \$400,000 and a portion of the telecommunications infrastructure maintenance fee also fund roads through the Village Capital Improvement Fund.

What roads will be included if the referendum passes?

- The Village maintains approximately 89 miles of roads that require continual maintenance and repair and last an average 15 to 20 years. About 30 miles of these roads will be included if the referendum is passed.
- Approximately \$32 million in pavement work needs to be done in the near future. However, \$20 million is identified for repaving to prevent continued deterioration which would then require more costly reconstruction in the future.
- The list of roads is available from the Village and on the Village website. It will be reviewed and re-evaluated annually based on water and sewer main work and the roads most in need of repair for safe access for emergency vehicles and the public.

What will the referendum cost each taxpayer?

- Property taxes would only go up at an amount necessary to finance each of the staggered bond issues. The Village is not required to issue bonds if the bond market and interest rate environment are not beneficial.
- For a \$300,000 home, the Village anticipates that the referendum would add approximately \$2.83 per month or \$34 per year to a resident's property tax bill for each \$5 million bond issue. If all four issues are completed, the maximum increase would be \$11.32 per month or \$135.93 per year to a resident's property tax bill. Libertyville would maintain one of the lowest property tax rates in Lake County.

What will happen if referendum is not approved?

- If the referendum fails, the Village will continue with the current annual road program utilizing existing funding sources.

SHALL BONDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000,000 BE ISSUED BY THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTYVILLE, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS FOR THE PURPOSE OF REPAIRING AND REHABILITATING PUBLIC ROADWAYS WITHIN THE VILLAGE, BEARING INTEREST AT THE RATE OF NOT TO EXCEED 9%

YES _____

NO _____

Cubs players a hit with youth at Libertyville Sports Complex

The Cubs Caravan made a stop recently at the Libertyville Sports Complex. Cubs pitcher Randy Wells taught pitching techniques while 2nd baseman Darwin Barney worked on fielding. Players posed with more than 100 Little League players and their families for a "team photo."



Referendum to secure lower electric supply costs

If passed, residents and small businesses could pay less for their electricity

Why the referendum?

Illinois has deregulated energy markets and given municipalities the authority to negotiate the price of electricity on behalf of residents and small businesses through Municipal Electric Aggregation. The program can only be implemented when voters approve aggregation through a referendum in a General Election.

Can't I purchase electricity on my own?

- Residents and small businesses can choose a new electric supplier. These companies advertise savings of 10 to 20% compared to Commonwealth Edison.
- However, many communities in Illinois that participate in municipal aggregation have negotiated rates with even greater savings, generally in the range of 20 to 30%.

What if I don't want to participate in the program?

- If the referendum is approved, residents and small businesses will automatically be enrolled in the program.
- There will be multiple opportunities to "opt out" of the program for those who don't wish to participate and want to continue to buy power through ComEd.

Are there other energy supply programs I can participate in?

- There are numerous energy supply companies that are contacting residents and small businesses offering lower rates than ComEd.
- There is also the "Clean Air Counts Energy Savings Program," an interim energy savings program that runs through June 2013 and offers prices approximately 20% below ComEd rates under a contract with Integrys Energy Group. This program is offered through the Metropolitan Mayor's Caucus. Information about it available at www.cleanaircounts.org or by telephone at 312-201-4506.

For more information about aggregating electrical power usage, visit www.ElectricAggregation.org. Information is also available by calling 800-856-3404 (NIMEC), on the Village website at www.libertyville.com, or by calling the Village Administrator's office at 847-362-2430.

The Referendum

The referendum asks residents to decide if the Village should use the Municipal Electrical Aggregation process to seek competitive bids for electric rates and potentially reduce electricity costs for residents and small businesses.

SHALL THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTYVILLE HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ARRANGE FOR THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY FOR ITS RESIDENTIAL AND SMALL COMMERCIAL RETAIL CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE NOT OPTED OUT OF SUCH PROGRAMS? YES _____ NO _____



Village of Libertyville
118 West Cook Avenue
Libertyville, Illinois 60048

[847] 362-2430
e-mail: vol@libertyville.com

Mayor
Terry Wepler

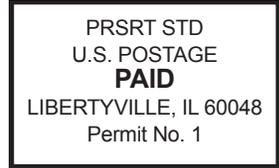
Trustees
Donna Johnson
Drew Cullum
Richard Moras
Todd Gaines
Jay Justice
Jim Moran

Village Clerk
Sally Kowal

Village Administrator
Kevin J. Bowns

website: www.libertyville.com

The Village Views is published by the Village of Libertyville, Illinois, in the belief that interested and informed citizens are the safe-guard of good government.



ECRWSS
Postal Customer

Shop Libertyville

Open for business

From one-of-a-kind boutiques to restaurants and service providers, several news businesses have opened within the Village in the last several months. Please patronize them along with Libertyville's hundreds of other retailers and service providers. New businesses in the Village include:

- **Art With Atattooed**, 122 Peterson Rd., 847-367-1966, tattoo studio.
- **The Batterz Box**, 1336 South Milwaukee Ave., 847-886-0160, baseball equipment sales and batting cage practice.
- **Dover Saddlery**, 306 Peterson Rd., 847-367-9600, equestrian equipment sales.
- **The Hair Source**, 197 Peterson Rd., #101, 847-573-1993, hair salon.
- **Singalila Gallery**, 531 North Milwaukee Ave., 847-816-3820, art gallery and accessories.
- **Tony's Italian Shop**, 732 North Milwaukee Ave., 847-847-8221, Italian food market.
- **Top Driver**, 1426 South Milwaukee Ave., 800-374-8373, driver education.
- **Wifler Law Group**, 709 North Milwaukee Ave., 847-549-3083, legal services.

One business recently relocated:

- **Ariazi Salon & Spa**, 605 North Milwaukee Ave., 847-367-3660, hair, skin and nail service.

Being green made easy

Being green is easy when it comes to recycling in the Village. With single stream recycling, residents need not separate their recyclable materials. All coded plastics, #1 through #5 are acceptable. All clear, green or brown bottles and jars are acceptable. All beverage cans and food cans, including aluminum, steel and by-metal, may be recycled. Acceptable paper goods include newspapers, paperboard (cereal boxes and paper tubes), telephone books, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper and cardboard, sized up to two feet by two feet.

Green Living Fair

Village residents will get valuable tips on how to protect the environment at the third annual Green Living Fair from 10 am. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 17 at the Libertyville Civic Center, 125 West Church Street.