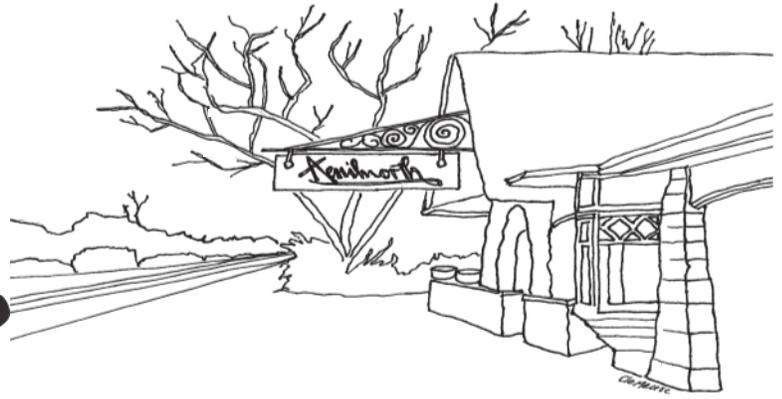


Village of

Kenilworth



419 Richmond Road
Kenilworth, IL 60043
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Village President's Message—Vol. XXIII

December 2013

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Hello Friends and Neighbors,

Happy Holidays. This is one of my favorite times of year to be a Kenilworth resident. It is the season where friends and families gather to reflect upon the past year, homes are decorated with warm and festive lighting and the generosity of the community is at its highest point. The annual tradition of the tree lighting ceremony and holiday wreaths is a wonderful example of the generosity of our residents. I extend my appreciation to the members of the Kenilworth Club for coordinating the tree lighting ceremony as well as the members of Kenilworth Garden Clubs / Beautification who generously provide the holiday wreaths for our gateway streets. Their dedication and support helps ensure that the traditions that help make our community a special place continue.



Bill Russell
Village President

As we prepare for the holiday season, there are a number of Village updates that I would like to share with you.

New Refuse and Recycling Agreement

As many of you know, we have been working for much of the summer to prepare for our next refuse and recycling contract. Despite our best efforts, we were unable to convince Mr. Perrin to submit a proposal to continue providing refuse services to the Village. I spoke with him personally on several occasions as did several other residents to no avail. While the presence of Mr. Perrin will be missed, we have worked to ensure that services will continue without interruption and that Mr. Perrin's employees have an opportunity to continue providing service within the Village

To ensure continuity of service, we have successfully negotiated a new agreement with Republic Services – our current recycling provider. For most of you, the only changes you are likely to notice is that your recycling will now be collected weekly and your monthly refuse and recycling costs will decrease \$10/month for weekly backdoor service. The new agreement is effective January 1, 2014 and the monthly rate for backdoor service will be \$49. Under the new agreement, you will still be able to use your existing refuse containers to dispose of a maximum of 95-gallons of refuse and collection day will remain the same.

Your recycling will now be collected on the same day as your refuse, but on a weekly basis. It is our hope that the additional recycling collection will allow you to recycle more and as a result, lower our costs for refuse. After nearly a year of the new recycling program, residents have increased the diversion rate from 4% to 14%. I am hopeful that we can exceed 20% in 2014. For residents who receive alley service, a new rate tier has been negotiated. Please contact Village hall to request the alley rate if you keep your refuse containers on the alley for collection. Special pickups for additional refuse, white goods, and electronics are still an option and may be arranged in advance by calling Republic Services at 847-981-0091. If you have any questions about your refuse and recycling services, please feel free to contact Village Hall.

Kenilworth 2023 Update

As we begin to prepare for the impending snow, our engineering team is thinking about the summer construction season. Our team has been designing the water main improvements planned for Roger, Brier and Melrose, and we have been studying the best methods for reducing flooding through separation of our sewer system. While the water main improvements are straight forward, the best approach for addressing our flooding problems is a little more complex. In an effort to be as environmentally sensitive as possible in addressing our flooding problems, we have been exploring various options to address our storm water. The historical method for most communities has been to pipe the storm water from the roadways directly to the lake or other local body of water. To minimize the frequency of flooding, the size of the storm sewer pipes is determined based upon the capacity necessary to convey a 10-year rain event. While often effective at addressing the need to convey water away from homes, channelizing the water in a storm water system to another body of water comes with its own set of problems and concerns. Those concerns primarily revolve around the quality and velocity of the storm water and our ability to direct the water to Lake Michigan.

In an effort to find the best way to manage storm water while minimizing channelization, we have evaluated a number of different best practices. New "green technology" features such as permeable pavers, rain gardens and bio-swales have all been identified as options to help us achieve our goals. To help defray the additional costs associated with the green infrastructure, the Village has been actively pursuing partnerships and grants. While we cannot release specific information yet, we are currently working with one partner that has expressed interest in helping the Village fund a significant portion of the green infrastructure currently being considered.

Prior to finalizing our roadway and storm sewer designs, the Village Board and I would like to learn which green infrastructure elements residents prefer. As you may recall, the first wave of sewer separation will occur in the area of Cumberland, Melrose and Roslyn in 2014. This work will likely involve the use of permeable pavers for the road surface which will offer the opportunity for a new appearance. Additionally, there is a potential for the installation of rain gardens and parkway swales to help address our storm water. Before we proceed to the main design phase for the roadways, we will be conducting a neighborhood meeting on Tuesday, December 17th at 7:30 p.m. at the Kenilworth Club. During the meeting, we will explain the work that will occur, solicit resident feedback regarding specific design elements, and address project questions. It is our hope that the input received will help guide the current and future roadway design for areas where we are addressing flooding concerns.

Our Water Plant

We have also been taking a close look at our costs for producing drinking water. It has been 13 years since we evaluated our water plant in response to regulation changes associated with the Safe Water Drinking Act. As our water plant continues to age and our cost of producing water increases, the

Village Board felt it was prudent to evaluate our current costs and ensure that we are investing our resources wisely. We are currently reviewing both recent and past studies concerning the water plant and our options for providing high-quality drinking water. I anticipate that we will be discussing our options at both the Public Works Committee and Village Board meetings in the coming months. We will provide updates through both the Kenilworth Contact and my newsletter.

2014 Village Budget

At the November meeting, the Village Board conducted a public hearing on the proposed 2014 Village Budget. The General Fund budget for 2014 anticipates revenues exceeding expenditures by \$100,000. The budgeted surplus offers a comfortable level to address most unforeseen circumstances that may arise during the year. The Village Board will be considering adoption of the budget during the December 16th meeting.

For the current fiscal year which ends on December 31st, our budget is expected to end with a positive balance of over \$400,000. This exceeded our budget by nearly \$300,000. This has allowed us to transfer an additional \$100,000 to our Police Pension Fund to help improve our funded ratio which has been sliding since 2008. Our Village Manager and staff have done a wonderful job maintaining close control of expenditures, and helping us maintain a balanced budget. Their efforts are appreciated.

Closing

This year has been a busy one for the Village operations. We have embarked upon a plan to address our flooding and water pressure concerns, we have made notable progress on our recycling efforts, and we are finishing the year in a strong financial position. Thank you for both your support and your patience this year. I hope that you and your family will have a joyous holiday season.

Sincerely,



Bill Russell
Village President

Village of



419 Richmond Road
Kenilworth, IL 60043

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Village of Kenilworth News

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