



Village of Bedford Park

Board Briefs

August 26, 2022

“Preserving the past to enhance the future”

Picnic

We hope everyone had a good time at the picnic. We greatly appreciate everyone's cooperation with the summer like weather and the efforts of our staff in hosting a great picnic. Also, a thank you to Dave Phillips and the Belt Railway for their participation. Four questions came up that we would like to address.

1. The food vendors we had this year were Uncle Bub's, Los Razos Mexican Grill, Chicago Ice Cream and Snowie's. The corn was donated by Cermak Foods in Bedford Park.
2. The Village has looked at connecting the sidewalk along Archer from Resurrection Cemetery to Roberts Road. The east side is not in Bedford Park and there are issues with a stream that flows through the area. The Village is working on the west side which is in Bedford Park and would not have the issues with the stream.
3. The Village is working with Kraus Electronic, who handles the fiber internet, on increasing internet speed to deal with bandwidth issues.
4. Jobs: All village job openings are posted internally and publicly, on our website, and by notification to our residents. The Village conducts testing for job openings by hiring an independent testing company to create the eligibility lists. The written tests account for 75% of the final score with the interview accounting for the remaining 25%. Residents are given an additional 5 points in the final scoring. The eligibility list is then established by ranking the scores, which is posted in the Village Hall for public viewing. Candidates are hired off the eligibility list by ranking from the final scores. When a position becomes available, a recommendation is made to the Village Board to appoint the highest ranked candidate. The specifics for Police and Fire are outlined by the State and the Village follows that model for all non-supervisory positions. Supervisor jobs are chosen through an interview process by the Village Board with appointment by the Village President. This process is mandated by Village Code and is consistent with State law. For our recent administrative staff eligibility list, we had 72 applicants, six took

the written test and four passed the test. The four finalists were interviewed. We hope to finalize the hiring at the September 1st Village Board Meeting. Eligibility lists remain in effect for two years or until they are exhausted.

Police and Fire Department

There is shortage of candidates for Police and Fire jobs nationwide. This is especially true with paramedics. The State halted paramedic training centers for two years during the pandemic. We are also having trouble recruiting candidates. For example, Bridgeview, at times, has been manning one ambulance versus usually two. We have been covering our vacancies through overtime. Many municipalities are offering incentives to recruit candidates. Thus, we will be offering an incentive for new paramedic hirings and lateral pay movements for experienced Fire and Police officers moving from other jobs. This will be an issue for about six months. However, we do not foresee a reduction in service.

New Hires

As you might have noticed at the Village Picnic, we have many new employees especially in Fire and Police. Among the retirees is Fire Chief Sean Maloy. Sean has been a lifelong resident and has served the Village since he was 18 years old. He has had a distinguished career and we greatly appreciate his service. Dan Johnson will assume the Fire Chief position on August 27th. Dan worked in our Fire Department in the early 1990's before leaving for Schaumburg where he served as Deputy Chief. He resides in Bridgeview. We look forward to working with Dan. Mark Murray was promoted to Deputy Chief and will also continue with the Fire Marshal duties.

Wintrust Sports Complex

Through the first 10 months since opening, we are exceeding our finance expectations. By law, the Village cannot make a profit on the event center. However, with the additional revenue of increased hotel tax, we are breaking even with 22 of 26 weekends between October and March booked.

White Sox Game

The White Sox game for village residents is August 31st. If you were contacted, please stop by the Village Hall to pick up your tickets.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer!!!!