



Village of Bedford Park Board Briefs

November 28, 2022

“Preserving the past to enhance the future”

Finances

We are prepared to pass a 3.95% increase in our 2023 levy. This is substantially below the inflation rate and below what most of our neighboring government bodies are approving. Our finances remain strong. The Wintrust Sports Complex is running ahead of the estimated financial proforma. Bookings of major events continue to increase. We have completed the Early Retirement Incentive payments and have several new employees. As other municipalities are doing to add new fire and police staff, we have offered incentives to hire new staff especially in hiring qualified paramedics. Fire Chief Johnson and Deputy Chief Murray have done a great job recruiting staff. The hotel tax revenue is now exceeding pre-pandemic levels. The Village commissioned a study that stated we have a shortage of three hundred hotel beds, mainly by the development of the Wintrust Sports Complex. We are thankful to Marilyn Curnutte, Rhonda Hyde, and accounting staff for managing our finances and our supervisors for watching their budgets.

Security

Please remember to lock your car and your house. We had items stolen from three unlocked cars overnight about 10 days ago.

New Businesses

We are negotiating with three hotel developers, a turf dome developer, and a manufacturing company on new sites in Bedford Park. Also, two vacant buildings on Cicero Avenue have new owners. With the apparent end of the pandemic, we are seeing good progress with businesses. Many employers are reporting job openings.

Winter Weather

Please follow our winter parking guidelines. Our Public Works does an outstanding job of keeping our streets clean. Supt. Ormins and his staff have had many countless sleepless hours making sure the job is completed. Kindly remember, the residential streets are only a small part of streets they oversee.

Tax Rebates/Gated Community Survey/Poll

Property tax bills are now available on the Cook County Treasurer's website. The bills are due to be mailed out on December 1st and due on December 31st. We will start issuing residential rebates on December 1st. Further information will be sent out to you on this. Voting on the gated community will take place through a survey/poll at the Village Hall when you receive your rebate. One vote for each tax paying household. The poll will run from December 1st through January 4th. The Village Board will honor the survey results unless approval of the project does not match our financial means.

Gated Community Ideas

1. All four streets would be gated off Archer. The traffic flow on all four streets would remain the same. The gates would match the existing fencing around the Village.
2. Residents would receive a transponder for each car registered with the Village. A code can also access the gate. The code would change on a weekly basis. Residents would also be given two additional transponders for frequent visitors.
3. Pedestrian and/or bicycle traffic would continue in the existing manner.
4. An additional road would be built on the Village easement behind the Village Hall connecting 67th Street from the Village Hall and the parking area for the park and school. A roundabout for school traffic including school buses to drop off and pick up students would be added. This would be tied into a new entrance planned by District 104 for Walker School.

5. A gated road would be built to connect Bridgeview Gardens and the Park District at 77th Avenue. Bridgeview Garden residents only would be given a transponder and the code for this road.
6. Gates would have a call box that would be manned remotely to handle residential deliveries and guests approved by residents.
7. As part of the project, the Village would provide for construction for an ongoing water retention issue for the park and tie in a pickleball court for the park. The school would be given additional parking. These projects would be subject to approval of the gated community.
8. Any homes that have frequent guests because of a business would not be affected due to the code system.

There will be no additional costs to residents on this. This is a complicated issue in which we appreciate everyone's study of the issue before participating in the survey. The Village Board will remain neutral in the issue until the survey is completed.

Happy Holidays!!!!