



Streamwood Community News

January/February 2024

Village of Streamwood - 2024 Budget Summary



Looking Ahead

The Village of Streamwood recently adopted its 2024 Balanced Budget. The Property Tax Levy is flat or a 0% change from the prior year's extension. The majority (82%) of the General Fund Budget represents our commitment to core services (Police, Fire, and Public Works Departments). In 2024, the Police Department will be implementing the use of a body-worn camera program. The 2024 Budget includes funding for the equipment and support staff to meet the State of Illinois mandate ahead of the 2025 deadline. The Village is committed to developing strategies to implement social media, and a potential residential improvement program. Funding is also included for facility improvements to Fire Station #32, the Police Station, and the planned construction of a pedestrian bridge over IL-59 near Irving Park Road (conceptual design shown below). All these projects are being completed without impacting taxpayers, keeping our long tradition of offering exceptional services in a cost-effective manner.



New Water Rate Plan

Since 2019, the Village has maintained a freeze on water rates. The Village did not increase rates during the pandemic and utilized federal relief funds to offset costs. Yet, costs have increased significantly over this time. The City of Chicago has increased water rates charged to the Village by 13.5% with another 2.6% increase proposed in 2024. At the direction of the Village Board, a water rate study was completed to evaluate the long-term sustainability of our current system. Based on this study, a new four-year plan was recommended and approved effective January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2027. The new water and sewer structure provides one single rate for all users and eliminates the minimum usage charge of 2,000 gallons per month. In addition, to maintain our system even if no water is used, an infrastructure fee based on meter size has been instituted. Individual bills will vary based on water usage, however, 85% of residents and businesses will receive a decrease, flat, or modest increase (\$0.50 - \$6.00 per month).

To view our entire 2024 Budget, please visit our website at streamwood.org.



Village of Streamwood President, Board of Trustees, and Village Clerk



Billie D. Roth
Village President



Michael H. Baumer
Village Trustee
Community Development
Committee



James P. Cecille
Village Trustee
Public Safety Committee



Rezwanul Haque
Village Trustee
Public Works Committee
Community Affairs
Committee



Nazneen Hashmi
Village Trustee
Legislative Committee



Mary F. Thon
Village Trustee
Finance Committee



Kittie L. Kopitke
Village Clerk

Village Board News

Snow Plow Routes Information

The Public Works Department works hard to keep our streets clear throughout any storm event. Please remember not to park on streets after a 2" or greater snowfall to allow the plows to do their job. To decrease excessive snow at the end of your driveway, try to shovel in the direction of traffic, starting with a small clear space along the curb line and at the end of your driveway. If a plow inadvertently hits your mailbox, or causes other damage, please report it immediately by calling 630-736-3850. Please note that the Village does not plow IDOT or Cook County roads. IDOT is responsible for plowing Barrington Road, Irving Park Road, Lake Street, and Route 59. For questions on IDOT roads, please call 800-452-4368. Cook County Highway Department maintains Schaumburg, Bartlett, and Bode Roads. For questions on County roads, please call 847-397-4145.



2023 Fire Prevention Coloring Contest Winners

At the November 11 Village Board meeting, winners of the 2023 Fire Prevention Coloring Contest were recognized. Children in grades 1-6 from schools across the Village participated. Grade-level winners from each school were invited to a pizza party at Fire Station #31 before the Board meeting. Congratulations to all the young artists who participated!



Life-Saving Award

At the October 19 Village Board meeting, two of our public safety personnel were honored for their quick thinking and teamwork that helped save a life. Commander Tom Seida and Sergeant Kyle Skopek, from the police department, were presented life-saving awards for their heroic actions and dedicated performance of duty. We are grateful for their service to our community!



2023 Holiday Helping Program

The holidays were made bright for over 50 families this past season when dozens of children were able to shop for gifts at Target with members of our police and fire departments. This program is made possible by the generous donations of residents, businesses, and civic groups in our community. Thank you for helping to bring holiday joy to your neighbors!



Smoke Alarm Installation Program

The Streamwood Fire Department is in the process of implementing a community risk reduction program to replace non-functional, expired, or missing smoke alarms. The Be Alarmed! smoke alarm installation program was created by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal and Illinois Fire Safety Alliance in 2018 and has since partnered with over 250 Illinois fire departments to successfully install over 21,000 smoke alarms in Illinois homes. We hope to kick off this program in the Spring of 2024. For questions and inquiries, please contact the Fire Department at 630-736-3650 or fire@streamwood.org.



Happy New Year! We hope your holidays were filled with joy. Another year has passed, and 2024 is here. We have been very busy this past month planning for 2024, to make sure we continue to serve our community well. The Village Board recently adopted our 2024 Budget. It is a balanced budget focused on maintaining all levels of services with no increases in taxes or new fees. We conducted a water rate analysis and adopted a new water rate plan. This plan will ensure equitable costs across all users while making sure our infrastructure is maintained. We are pleased to note that 85% of our customers will see a decrease in their billing as a result. We continue to focus on building and realizing the community vision from our Comprehensive Plan. We are finalizing our facility upgrades with changes to Fire Station #32 and the Police Department. We are building an interconnected pathway system that will link the east and west sides of our community with a bridge over Route 59 near Irving Park Road. We will continue our annual street program. We are working on plans to revitalize and maintain Kollar Pond as part of our municipal campus. We are continuing our business assistance program and exploring the implementation of an assistance program for residents. We are working to create a social media presence for the Village and public safety. We will continue to monitor our spending, while ensuring that our residents and businesses receive the highest quality services, delivered in the most cost-effective way.

On December 1, residents of all ages came out to enjoy our annual luminaria event, where our holiday tree was draped in thousands of bright, white lights. On behalf of the Village Board of Trustees, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to all those who helped to continue this 39-year Streamwood tradition, including the Community Relations Commission, Dee's Catering, Cub Scout Troop 15, and the many individuals, groups, and families who decorated our parkways and helped at Village Hall. The luminaria couldn't be lit if it wasn't for the dedicated volunteers who worked the month of November to fill the bags in preparation of the event – we are thankful for their assistance.

A special thanks also goes to the many people who helped make the holiday season bright for those less fortunate in our community. The Village hosted its annual Holiday Helping Program. This program gives children from local disadvantaged families an opportunity to shop for Christmas gifts at the Streamwood Super Target store, accompanied by Streamwood police officers and firefighters. Volunteers made sure the gifts were wrapped just in time for the holidays. We offer our grateful appreciation to the dozens of businesses, individuals and volunteers, who helped to make this a truly happy holiday for these families. Many people also dropped off donations at the Village Hall, and other locations throughout town, for Hanover Township's toy drive, and Township food pantry. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to help our neighbors.

Although the holidays are behind us, please consider giving one additional gift – the gift of life! The Streamwood Blood Commission will be hosting its first drive of the year on January 24.

The entire Board of Trustees would like to wish you and your family a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Sincerely,

Billie D. Roth
Village President

Keep The Snow On The Parkway

Please be reminded that it is unlawful to shovel or blow snow into the street. This is especially important after the plows come through. The plows clear the snow and lay salt. If you shovel snow onto the roadway, it can create ice slicks leading to dangerous road conditions. Please shovel or blow the snow to either side of your driveway onto the parkway.

Please Remove All Outside Holiday Lights

Damaged lights pose a serious fire risk. Temporary lights should be taken down within 90 days of putting them up. Code Enforcement officers will warn residents who have not removed their holiday lights in a timely manner after the holidays are over.

Do You Own Rental Property In The Village?

Please be reminded that all rental property in Streamwood is required to be properly licensed and inspected each calendar year. The Community Development Department licenses rental property. Forms are available on the Village's website, or at Village Hall, to initiate the process.

Village Offices will be closed on Monday, January 1 for the New Year's Day holiday; Monday, January 15 for an employee in-service training day; and Monday, February 19 in observance of Presidents' Day.

Village News

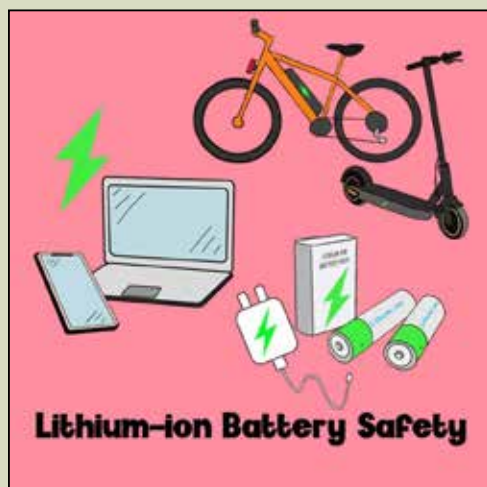
Holiday Lights Recycling Program

The Village of Streamwood is partnering with Elgin Recycling for a Holiday Lights Recycling Program. The program runs until Friday, February 9. If you have old holiday lights to recycle, you can drop them off at any of four (4) convenient locations: Village Hall, Public Works, Poplar Creek Public Library, and Park Place Family Recreation Center. Lights accepted include mini-lights, Italian lights, C7 and C9 lights, rope lights, LED lights, as well as extension cords. Simply place old, broken, and unused lights, cords, and strands in the designated containers.



Community Blood Drive

The Streamwood Blood Commission will hold its first donation drive of 2024 on Wednesday, January 24, from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm, at Fire Station 31 (1204 S Park Ave). Please contact Vitalant at 877-258-4825 or vitalant.org to register. Be sure to use group code ORDOSW98. Appointments recommended but walk-ins are always welcome. Remember – a pint of blood can save up to three lives!



Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

Lithium-ion batteries are becoming more and more popular. Think of all the things you used to have to plug in that are now conveniently available as battery powered. Most of these batteries are lithium-ion due to their capacity and shelf life. However, if the charging mechanism fails, the battery can enter a process called thermal runaway that eventually results in a high-temperature fire.

Protect yourself, your family, and property. Now is the time to take action to prevent these fires and to know what to do if a battery fire does occur. It is recommended to only charge battery-powered equipment when someone is home so that if a fire starts, it can be identified early.

Take C.H.A.R.G.E. of Battery Safety: **C** - Choose certified products; **H** - Handle lithium-ion powered devices with care; **A** - Always stay alert for warning signs; **R** - Recycle devices and batteries properly; **G** - Get out quickly if there's a fire; and **E** - Educate others on safe practices. Visit batteryfiresafety.org to learn more.

Community News

2023 Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Thank you to all the residents who participated in the 2023 Holiday Home Decorating Contest and for showing your Streamwood spirit! Members of the Community Relations Commission had a difficult time judging all the beautifully decorated homes.

Congratulations to the following winners:

- Most Traditional, Daryl and Cynthia Palmer on Kennedy Drive
- Merry & Bright, Jake Pedersen on Wildflower Way



39th Annual Luminaria

Streamwood residents gathered to help ring in the holidays during the Village's annual Luminaria celebration. Volunteers lit over 3,000 luminaria displayed along Park Boulevard, Veterans Memorial, and the Village's municipal campus. Guests enjoyed friendship, cookies, and cocoa, while children waited patiently for a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. The end of the evening was celebrated by one lucky winner selected to help President Roth light the official holiday tree in Veterans Memorial; the final touch to the Luminaria's magnificent display of holiday lights.



Government Partner News



Hanover Township
hanover-township.org

Free Tax Preparation Available

Hanover Township and volunteers from AARP are offering free tax preparation beginning February 5, at the Township Senior Center, 240 S IL Route 59 in Bartlett. Residents may schedule appointments starting January 22 at 9:00 am. Appointments are required and are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Participants are asked to pick up the necessary documentation prior to their appointment at the Township Senior Center. All returns will be filed electronically, and printouts will be given to each participant for their records. For questions or to schedule an appointment on January 22, please call 630-483-5660.



Restock The Hanover Township Food Pantry!

The food pantry is always in need of donations, even more so following the holidays. Compared to last year, the Township is experiencing a 16% increase in the number of visits from residents in need of the pantry's resources. Most needed items include canned goods, pasta, macaroni and cheese, peanut butter, paper products, personal hygiene items, cereal, pancake mix, instant

potatoes, and cooking oil. Donations can be dropped off at the Astor Avenue Community Center & Food Pantry at 7431 Astor Avenue, Hanover Park, at any Township office, or Village Hall. The pantry's Amazon shopping list can be found at hanover-township.org with items sent directly to the community center.



Streamwood Park District
streamwoodparks.org

Aquatic Center Pools Closed for Resurfacing

The lap pool and activity pool at the Park Place Aquatic Center, 550 S Park Blvd, are closed for resurfacing work. The pools are scheduled to reopen in mid-January. During this time, Park Place members will be allowed access to the Bartlett Park District pool. Swimmers will be required to bring their key fob and sign in when they arrive. For the latest updates, visit streamwoodparks.org.

Winter Membership Sale

During January 2-15, enjoy 10% off annual memberships, punch passes, and locker rentals. Save an additional 10% on any all-inclusive and annual memberships. Does not apply to monthly EFT memberships. Visit Park Place Guest Services for more information.

Winter Wine Walk

On January 19, from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, pair a beautiful venue like Hoosier Grove Barn, 700 W Irving Park Rd, with some tasty wine and food samples and you've got a perfect way to spend a January evening! Experience includes six, 1 oz. wine samples and some simple, tasty food samples. All participants must be 21+. Cost is \$22 per person.

Bows 'N Boots Daddy-Daughter Dance

Bring out your best bows, boots, and country bling and join other dads and daughters at Hoosier Grove Barn for our Bows n' Boots Daddy-Daughter Dance. Enjoy a country-themed dance event on February 16, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, with a touch of glamour and fun. Price is \$35 (residents)/\$40 (NR) per couple. Each additional child ages 3-12 is \$10 (residents)/\$15 (NR). Register by Friday, February 10.

Winter 2023 Program Guide

Be sure to browse the Streamwood Park District's Winter Program Guide at <https://bit.ly/SPD-Winter-23-24-Program-Guide> and then visit streamwoodparks.org for more information or to register for upcoming programs and events.



Gail Borden Library
gailborden.info

Celebrating 150 Years!

Look for special events, programs, and fun activities that will take place throughout 2024 for Gail Borden Library's 150th anniversary. Elgin historian Jerry Turnquist will highlight its history from modest beginnings to transformation into a premier institution at 6:30 pm on January 30 at the Main Library.



Down to the Creek Series

Jennifer Hammer of The Conservation Foundation will discuss issues affecting the watershed in this two-part virtual series. Join her at 7:00 pm on January 16 when she talks about The Watershed: Getting Acquainted, and at 7:00 pm on February 20 for My Watershed: Where Does it Flow?

Sunday Afternoon Concerts

Warm up your winter with live music performances at the Main Library. The Silver Rose Duo flute and guitar will capture the wonder of songs, dances, and legends with dance music from around the globe on January 21. Internationally renowned and award-winning concert pianist Lindsay Garritson will perform on February 25. Both concerts begin at 2:00 pm.

The Great North American Eclipse

Michelle Nichols, Director of Public Observing at the Adler Planetarium, will help you prepare for April's solar eclipse during this virtual program at 7:00 pm on January 25. She leads all the Adler Planetarium's telescope, observatory and public sky observing initiatives and events. Before landing at the Adler Planetarium, Michelle worked at U.S. Space Camp and other planetariums.

To register for any of these programs, please go to gailborden.info/events, all 847-429-4597 or register in person at any library branch.



Poplar Creek Public Library
pclib.org

"Book Your Escape!" Winter Reading Challenge

Sign up for our all-ages reading challenge, which runs from January 8 - February 23, and earn a great prize for reading only 720 minutes! For details, please visit pclib.org or call 630-837-6800.

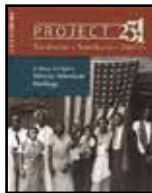
Family Concert Series: Mr. Myers Band

On Sunday, February 18, at 2:00 pm, Mr. Myers will play a fun mix of island favorites from Bob Marley to Jimmy Buffett, Harry Belafonte, Paul Simon, and more. With a 40+ year legacy of thrilling audiences of all generations, they'll transport you straight to the tropics! All ages are welcome; registration is required. For concert details or to register, visit pclib.org/events or call 331-808-3515.



Game Night

Come to the library to play some board games from our collection on Thursday, January 25 and February 29, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm. Bring your friends or meet people here! One of our librarians will be available to help select & teach you how to play the games. Chips and other snacks will be served. Soda, wine, and beer are available for purchase (proof of age is required). Walk-ins are welcome but registration is preferred.



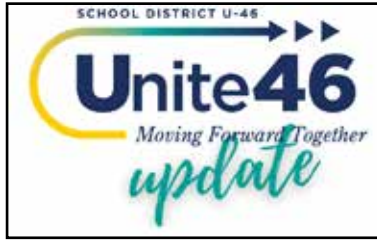
Project 2-3-1 Exhibit

Curated by the Elgin History Museum, the traveling exhibit contains movie clips from the documentary film beginning with Civil War "contrabands", who were the first African Americans to Elgin, and continues to the present day. From February 1 - February 29, the film and exhibit is filled with enthralling stories, amazing history, and wonderful photographs, many that are being shown for the first time.

Using the extensive photo and archival resources of the Elgin History Museum, plus many hours of video interviews with Ernie Broadnax and other individuals in the Elgin community, Grindstone Productions wove together a three-part narrative of Elgin's past.



School District U-46



Unite U-46 Update

School District U-46 continues to move forward in working to meet the recommendations of the Unite U-46 community engagement initiative, which include shifting to a true middle school model and enhancing the educational experience for students. This fall, attendees at several Unite U-46 public engagement sessions provided their input on related issues, such as establishing priorities and standards for building updates, and determining the optimal number of elementary school buildings in the district. Groundbreaking was also held in December to mark the start of construction to transition Hawk Hollow from an elementary school to a middle school serving the southeast portion

of the district. More Unite U-46 sessions will be held this winter and spring, and all members of the community are urged to participate. Details and a schedule of upcoming sessions can be found at u-46.org/uniteu46.

Introduce a Girl to Engineering

Female students from Streamwood High School were among those to visit Flender Corporation in Elgin for a November event called "Introduce a Girl to Engineering." The students heard from female engineers at Flender, created wind turbines during hands-on activities, and asked questions about the engineering career field. The Alignment Collaborative for Education helped organize the event.



We're Hiring

Have you considered becoming a part of the U-46 team? As the second-largest school district in Illinois, School District U-46 offers a number of rewarding opportunities for educators and support staff, including bus drivers, social workers, secretaries, food service technicians, and more. You can learn more about our District and job openings at u-46.org/careers.

College while working?

You'll fit right in.

Spring classes begin January 16.

APPLY TODAY.
elgin.edu/brightchoice

Elgin Community College

The advertisement features a smiling woman in a blue shirt and jeans, holding a folder. The background is a solid blue color. The Elgin Community College logo is in the top right corner.



Village of Streamwood

301 E. Irving Park Road
Streamwood, IL 60107
(630) 736-3800 | (630) 736-3798 (TDD-hearing impaired only)
www.streamwood.org

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60107
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Village President | mayor@streamwood.org
Billie D. Roth | (630) 736-3801

Board of Trustees | trustee@streamwood.org
Michael Baumer James Cecille Rezwatul Haque
Nazneen Hashmi Mary Thon

Village Clerk | clerk@streamwood.org
Kittie L. Kopitke | (630) 736-3806

Village Manager | manager@streamwood.org
Sharon Caddigan | (630) 736-3832

ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Village Departments

Fire - Mike Meyer, Chief | (630) 736-3650 | fire@streamwood.org
Police - Shawn Taylor, Chief | (630) 736-3700 | police@streamwood.org
Community Development - Jeff Harris, Director | (630) 736-3829 | communitydevelopment@streamwood.org
Finance - Josh Peacock, Director | (630) 736-3800 | finance@streamwood.org
IT - Joe Ritter, Director | (630) 736-3851 | it@streamwood.org
Public Works - Matt Mann, Director | (630) 736-3850 | public_works@streamwood.org

Village Hall Hours:
Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

Village Calendar

January

1	New Year's Day – Village Offices Closed	
4	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners Meeting	6:00 pm
4	Village Board Meeting	7:00 pm
15	Martin Luther King, Jr Day – Village Offices Closed (Employee In-Service)	
16	Planning and Zoning Board Meeting	7:00 pm
18	Village Board Meeting	7:00 pm
23	Veterans Memorial Commission Meeting	7:00 pm
24	Community Blood Drive (page 2)	1:00 pm - 7:00 pm
25	Community Relations Commission Meeting	6:00 pm

February

1	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners Meeting	6:00 pm
1	Village Board Meeting	7:00 pm
9	Holiday Lights Recycling Program Ends (page 4)	
15	Village Board Meeting	7:00 pm
19	Presidents' Day – Village Offices Closed	
20	Planning and Zoning Board Meeting	7:00 pm
22	Community Relations Commission Meeting	6:00 pm
27	Veterans Memorial Commission Meeting	7:00 pm



Sign Up for E-Communications

Do you want Village information delivered to your email? Interested in getting Emergency Alerts? Consider signing up for our E-Communications. Simply go to streamwood.org, under Connect With Us (on the home page), and sign up. Our E-News is published multiple times per month. You can choose to receive general Streamwood and local government news and/or Streamwood business news. You may also register for Emergency Community Alerts which provide important safety and community information to your home number, cell phone, or wherever you specify. Keep informed and connected!