Village Bond Rating Reaffirmed ‘AAA,’ Saving Residents Approximately $70,000 per Year

On April 12, 2017 Standard & Poor’s credit rating services reaffirmed the Village bond rating as “AAA.” A “AAA” bond rating with a stable outlook is the highest rating that the S&P grants to local governments.

As a result of the “AAA” rating, the Village refinanced $5.25 million in General Obligation bonds, issued in 2008, for road and drainage improvements. The refinancing savings of over $400,000 will reduce the annual payment on the bonds due each year. The lower annual payments will result in a reduction of approximately $70,000 per year, which in turn will result in a savings for all properties in Inverness.

The Standard & Poor’s rating stated, “Inverness’ GO (General Obligation) bonds are eligible to be rated above the sovereign because we believe the village can maintain better credit characteristics than the U.S. in a stress scenario.”

The S&P “AAA” rating was the result of the following:

- Very strong economy, with access to a broad and diverse metropolitan statistical area;
- Strong management, with the ability to consistently maintain balanced operations and “standard” financial policies and practices;
- Strong budgetary performance, with operating surpluses in the general fund and at the total governmental fund level;
- Very strong budgetary flexibility with a solid fund balance;
- Low overall net debt at less than 3% of market value and rapid amortization, with all debt scheduled to be retired in 10 years; and
- Strong institutional framework score.

Now Thru December 15
Weekly Yardwaste Pickup Underway

Please remember:

- There is no charge for the first two bags/bundles: Any combination of two yardwaste bags or bundles per week will be picked up at no charge.
- Stickers are required for additional bags/bundles: Yardwaste stickers are $2.40 each.
- Stickers may be purchased at the Village Hall, the Jewel at 1485 Palatine Road, or direct from Groot by calling 1-800-244-1977.
- Size and weight: Bundles may be no larger that four feet in length, two feet in diameter, may not weigh more than 50 pounds, and must be tied with twine.
- Bags must be biodegradable paper bags.
From the Desk of...

Jack Tatooles

Dear Residents:

The Village Board recently approved the FY 18 Financial Plan, which covers the period from May 1, 2017 to April 30, 2018. General operating expenses will be $3,464,750, an increase of 2.0% from last fiscal year. Similar to past years, the Village’s corporate property tax levy is tied directly to Police cost, which has remained steady for three years. Since 2009, when the Village established our own Police Department, the Village has saved nearly $5.0 million compared to the prior contract arrangement.

The Village’s general operating revenues consists of property taxes, intergovernmental revenues (shared State income tax and sales tax), and local revenues (building permits, franchise fees, and vehicle license fees). As shown on the chart, over 30% of the Village’s revenue relies on the shared revenue from the State of Illinois. This month, the State of Illinois approved a budget after 2 years of operating without one. Every year, one of the proposals to balance the State budget is to reduce the portion of the state income tax shared with cities and counties. The annually discussed 10% reduction would have cut the Village’s share by approximately $100,000. The State’s Fiscal Year 2018 budget does not call for this reduction. The Village is committed to be fiduciary responsible by operating a conservative financial plan and maintaining a healthy operating fund balance to withstand these fiscal pressures.

In this edition of the InverNews, we welcome our newest Police Officer, Larry Martin who is replacing Officer Don Suchomski. This spring, we also bid a fond farewell to our longtime Building Official, Bob Grzeczka. Bob retired on May 10, after serving the Village for over 25 years. During his tenure, Bob oversaw over 3,000 building permits issued in the Village. We thank Bob for his many years of services to the Village and wish him a very fulfilling retirement.

Have a wonderful summer.

Sincerely,

Jack Tatooles, Mayor

Have Summer Vacation Plans? The Inverness Police Department Will Keep A Close Watch on Your House While You’re Away

The Inverness Police Department offers a free Vacation Watch program for residents who will be away from home. Officers will check your house on a daily basis for any signs of suspicious activity. The Vacation Watch form can be downloaded from the Village’s website at www.villageofinverness.org/forms or you can stop by the Police Department or Village Hall to pick one up.

Before leaving on your summer trip, the Inverness Police Department suggests that you:

• Have your mail forwarded to you, held at the post office, or arrange to have it picked up daily.
• Cancel your newspaper delivery.
• Avoid announcing that you will be away from home on social media.
• Leave a phone number where you can be reached with one or more neighbors so you can be notified of an emergency.
• Give your home that “lived in” look by using timers for your lights and a radio. Vary the times they switch on and off. Never leave mail in a single central location, such as the kitchen table or countertop, where it can be seen and taken as an obvious sign that you are gone.

Village of Inverness
Welcome . . . and Best Wishes

The Village of Inverness welcomes Larry Martin as its newest patrol officer. Larry retired from the Lincolnwood Police Department in May of 2017 where he served for 28 years and obtained the rank of Lieutenant.

Larry brings a vast amount of experience and training to the Inverness Police Department. He was a Field Training Officer, School Liaison Officer, and an instructor for both taser and pepper spray. He served on the NIPAS Mobile Field Force Team for 22 years and recently retired as the Team Commander. Larry was also the founder of the Lincolnwood Police Foundation.

Don Suchomski retired on May 31st. He was one of the original twelve members of the newly-formed Inverness Police Department in March 2009. Village of Inverness staff and officials join in wishing Officer Suchomski well in his retirement.

Fire Department Open House

On Saturday, September 9, 2017, the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District will be hosting its annual Open House from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. The day’s activities will be held at the Fire Station located at 35 Ela Rd in Inverness. Parking will be available at Holy Family Church, 2515 Palatine Road. Shuttle service will be provided between the church and the fire station.

Numerous organizations and businesses will have display/resource tables. There will be a kids’ hands-on activity area and many more events planned throughout the day. And don’t forget to take your picture with Sparky the Dalmatian. Bring your family for a day of fun.

Remember:
The Palatine Rural Fire District provides more than just emergency services; the District also provides programs to enhance the safety and well-being of residents, including reflective address markers, key boxes, car seat inspections and home safety inspections.

For more information visit the community page on our website, www.prfpd.org or contact the Fire Department at 847/991-8700.

Need to Recycle an Old Computer, Cell Phone or Other Electronics? Just Leave Them at the Curb

The Village of Inverness has made arrangements with Groot Industries to provide free curbside pickup of electronic items to be recycled. Residents must call Groot at 1-800-244-1977 at least 24 hours in advance to schedule a pick-up. All items collected will be recycled and rendered inoperable.

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS
The following items will be accepted for recycling:
• Computers & monitors
• Printers
• Digital converter boxes
• Fax machines
• Video cassette recorders
• Portable digital music players
• Video game consoles
• Scanners
• Electronic keyboards
• Small scale servers
• Digital video disc players
• Electronic Mice
• Televisions
• Cable receivers
• Satellite receivers
• Digital video disc recorders

Summer Safety Reminders

• Having a party? “No Parking” signs, to be posted on the day of your party, can be checked out from the Police Department to ensure that guests only park on one side of the street. They are available on a first come, first serve basis. And out of courtesy to your neighbors, please keep the music and noise level at a reasonable and neighbor-friendly level.

• Be visible when out walking at night: Make sure passing motorists can see you. Wear bright colors or reflective clothing. For extra safety, stop by the Police Department and pick up a free flashing light to make yourself more visible. The light has an on/off button and can be attached to your clothing or your dog’s leash.

• Be sure your address is easily visible. Seconds count in an emergency. Reflective signs and letters are available from the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District.

2017 Holidays Affecting Refuse Collection, Village Hall Closings

Refuse collection will be affected by the following upcoming holidays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Scheduled Pick-Up Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day – Sept 4</td>
<td>Friday, Sept 8, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving – Nov 23</td>
<td>Friday, Nov 24, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas – Dec 25</td>
<td>Friday, Dec 29, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s – Jan 1, 2018</td>
<td>Friday, Jan 5, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Holidays Closings

Village offices will be closed in observance of the following holidays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Holiday</th>
<th>Date closed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>Monday, Sept 4, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus Day</td>
<td>Monday, Oct 9, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veteran’s Day</td>
<td>Friday, Nov 10, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving</td>
<td>Thursday and Friday, Nov 23 &amp; 24, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
<td>Monday, Dec 25, 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year’s</td>
<td>Monday, Jan 1, 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please save & post this calendar!
Even minor blockages can cause major havoc

Stream Maintenance Prevents Flooding

Streams are much more than a lovely amenity for the neighborhood. They provide the important function of draining stormwater and preventing flooding. In order to function effectively, streams need to be maintained.

When tree branches and other debris accumulate in stream channels, they obstruct stream flow. These obstructions can become large enough to disrupt existing drainage and contribute to flooding, stream bank erosion and property damage. This becomes more of an issue during periods of severe or prolonged rain. Minor blockages can build up quickly in heavy rains, as floating debris piles up and creates a dam. Obstructions in one spot can contribute to flooding far upstream.

Obstructions can contribute to the instability and poor health of the stream. It is important to remove objects that interrupt the flow of the stream water before significant sediment or debris have been deposited. Residents and Homeowner Associations should conduct routine stream inspections twice a year to identify fallen trees and other debris that need to be removed from the stream or banks. Additional inspections should be made after large storm events, during which debris is often deposited.

It is important to identify and fix potential problems before they can cause flooding. Dead and dying trees, which can eventually fall into streams and cause blockages, should be removed from the banks. Harmful invasive plant species, such as Buckthorn, should be removed to permit native plants to thrive and prevent erosion.

A common cause of blockages in residential areas is yard waste that has been thrown into a stream channel or placed along its banks. Therefore, it is very important not to place any yard waste along the banks of a stream. Instead, leave grass clippings on the lawn, compost them along with leaves & other vegetative matter away from the stream, which makes a healthy, free alternative to mulch for use in your garden and home landscape; or bag it for curbside pickup.

For more information about the region’s water system, visit the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago’s website at www.mwrd.org.

News to Know—

Parking of Restricted Vehicles and/or Equipment

Village ordinance prohibits the parking of restricted vehicles, such as all-terrain vehicles, any boat and/or boat trailer(s), camping trailers, commercial vehicles, junk vehicles, motorcycles, and recreational vehicles, unless the restricted vehicle is totally shielded from the view of other properties and public streets by a legal garage or other accessory buildings.

Residential Alarm Systems

If you have a permit on file for a residential alarm, the information on it must be updated every two years. Permit applications are available online at www.villageofinverness.org/forms.htm. If your permit is less than two years old, no action is required unless any of the information on the permit has changed.

It’s Mosquito Season

Don’t let water get stagnant.
Keep gutters clear, thoroughly empty kiddie pools and water buckets after use, and keep birdbaths filled with fresh water.

Check out what’s growing in your yard.
Mosquitoes love overgrown trees, brush, weeds and tall grass. Keeping lawns tidy helps keep mosquitoes out.