



NEWS

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3600 Kirchoff Road . Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 . 847-394-8500 . www.cityrm.org

Dominick's Redevelopment Plans to be Unveiled March 5; Grocer Targeted for Renamed Meadows Marketplace

The owner of the former Dominick's site on Kirchoff Road will present preliminary development plans and property rezoning requests during the City's March Plan Commission meeting, a possible indicator that redevelopment may proceed quickly beginning this spring. The Plan Commission meets Tuesday, March 5, 7:30 p.m., at City Hall.



Redevelopment of Meadows Marketplace may begin in earnest this spring.

Uncle Joe's Tuscan Fresh Market, to serve as anchor tenant for the redeveloped property – now known as Meadows Marketplace. An agreement had not been finalized as this issue of *News & Views* went to press.

“Meadows Marketplace presents a rare opportunity in these economic times to create a completely redeveloped neighborhood shopping center to serve residents,” explains Clark Street Development's Fritz Duda, Jr. “When completed, it will generate new jobs, boost

sales tax revenues and enhance the City's overall economic health.”

Clark Street's redevelopment/rezoning applications include proposals for a new exterior façade, roof, mechanicals, parking lot, landscaping, lighting and signage. It also seeks to rezone the entire property as a “General Commercial Services District.”

Much of the site was rezoned as a “General Residence District” several years ago, in anticipation of plans for a mixed-use development that would have featured a blend of retail and residential units. Those plans were shelved after the 2007 real estate market crash and amid neighbors' concerns about increased traffic congestion.

The property has been mostly vacant since Dominick's left the City in 2004.

Chicago-based Clark Street Development has been negotiating with a grocer,

Be Alert for Unsolicited Calls from Electricity Suppliers

Customers who participate in Rolling Meadows' electrical aggregation program receive their electrical power from First-Energy Solutions and should ignore any unsolicited calls from other suppliers claiming to be affiliated with the City.

“Ignore any unsolicited calls from other suppliers claiming to be affiliated with the City.”

To file a complaint against dishonest retail electricity supplier solicitations, contact the Illinois Commerce Commis-

sion's Consumer Services Division at 800-524-0795 or visit www.icc.illinois.gov/consumer/complaint.

The City's electrical aggregation program was launched last year, after residents overwhelmingly approved a referendum that authorized City leaders to negotiate lower

electricity rates on behalf of residents and small businesses. Participating customers continue to receive monthly bills from ComEd, which delivers energy to customers, and is responsible for service issues and emergency repairs.

For more information, contact First-Energy Solutions (866-636-3749; www.fes.com) or City Hall (847-394-8500; www.cityrm.org).

Contact City Officials: City Hall Hours: 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday

MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL	
Mayor: Tom Rooney	847-392-2254
1st Ward Alderman: Mike Cannon	847-925-8919
2nd Ward Alderman: Jim Allen	847-202-0822
3rd Ward Alderman: Laura Majikes	847-577-3746
4th Ward Alderman: Brad Judd	847-902-3248
5th Ward Alderman: Rob Banger, Jr.	847-818-1663
6th Ward Alderman: John D'Astice	847-409-9367
7th Ward Alderman: James Larsen	630-244-4228
City Manager	Barry Krumstok

SERVICES	
Fire & Police Emergency	911
Fire Department Non-emergency	847-397-3352
Police Non-emergency	847-255-2416
Public Works	847-963-0500
Finance/Utility Billing Questions	847-394-8500
Community Development	847-506-6030
TDD	847-506-0490
ComEd	1-800-EDISON-1
Curfew	Sun. – Thurs. 11 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. Midnight

Look Us Up on the Web at: www.cityrm.org

Aldermanic Candidates to Run Unopposed in April 9 Election



Three candidates for City Council are running unopposed in the April 9 Consolidated Election:

- Long-time resident **Len Prejna, Jr.** will become new 2nd Ward Alderman. He will succeed James Allen, who was appointed to fill a vacant Council seat in 2011 but declined to seek election this year.
- 4th Ward Alderman **Brad Judd** and 6th Ward Alderman **John D'Astice**, both elected in 2009, will each continue their service for another four-year term.

Readers will find brief candidate profiles on this page.

For more information on the April 9 Consolidated Election, including polling places, contact Deputy City Clerk Ginny Cotugno (847-870-9007; cotugno@cityrm.org), or the Cook County Clerk's Office (312-603-0906; www.cookcountyclerk.com).

Mayor Rooney Appoints Laura Majikes to Fill 3rd Ward Council Seat



Laura Majikes

Laura Majikes, a 22-year resident of Rolling Meadows, was sworn-in as 3rd Ward Alderman on February 12, after her appointment by Mayor

Tom Rooney was approved by City Council. She will complete the term of Alderman Larry Buske, who passed away in December.

Alderman Majikes is a licensed real estate agent and relocation specialist. She and her husband, John, own a garage door business in Palatine.

City Council Candidate Profile: Ward 2



Len Prejna

Len Prejna

Occupation: Educational Support Personnel, H.S. District 214

Education: Bachelor of Science, Western Michigan University; Associates Degree, William Rainey Harper College

Rolling Meadows resident for... 29 years

Family: Wife, Pat (married for 31 years), three daughters

Past/current public offices held: President of Rolling Meadows Crime Stoppers

Volunteer service: Past chairman and secretary of Board of Fire & Police Commissioners (12 years); coached and refereed AYSO Soccer; coached Rolling

Meadows Park District softball and girl's junior high church basketball league; taught Sunday School for 10 years.

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is... Kimball Hill Pond (behind Jewel) and the bike paths.

Three words that best describe me are... serving, hard-working, dedicated.

In my spare time I like to... read, golf, bowl and grill.

My favorite quotation is... "A patient man has a great understanding, but a quick-tempered man displays folly."
– Proverbs

My heroes are... my mother and father. They worked so hard to give me life's opportunities.

City Council Candidate Profile: Ward 6



John D'Astice

John D'Astice

Occupation: Director of Sales – Embassy Suites Hotel

Education: Bachelor's Degree, DePaul University

Rolling Meadows resident for... a quarter century this July.

Family: My wife of 32 years, MaryLou, and four wonderful children (Nicole, Michelle, Dominic and Angela)

Past/current public offices held: 6th Ward Alderman from 1993 – 2005 & 2009 – present

Volunteer service: I currently serve on the City's Economic Development, Finance and Capital Review Committees. I was also on the Ad Hoc Refuse Review Committee and District 15's Central Road School Task Force. I was involved with the Indian

Princess/Indian Guides program with my children for over 15 years.

My favorite place in Rolling Meadows is... anywhere! Friends' houses, restaurants, shopping centers, the pool on Owl, the parks, Rolling Meadows High School football games, the 4th of July fireworks display – Rolling Meadows is a great place to live and raise a family.

Three words that best describe me are... knowledgeable, accomplished, honest.

In my spare time I like to... go hunting and fishing. I also enjoy going out with my wife and entertaining friends at our home.

My hero is... my father. He came to America from Italy when he was a young man, learned English and became a U.S. citizen. He got married, worked 50 to 60 hours a week in a factory, bought a house and raised four sons. He was our mentor and role model.

City Council Candidate Profile: Ward 4

Brad Judd

Editor's Note: Alderman Judd did not submit a profile for this issue.

Scott Franzgrote Sworn-in as Fire Chief; Pete Till Promoted to Deputy Chief

Scott Franzgrote, a 22-year Fire Department veteran who had served as Acting Chief since last April, was officially sworn-in as Rolling Meadows Fire Chief in January.

During his career, Chief Franzgrote has served as firefighter/paramedic, lieutenant/EMS Coordinator, Battalion Chief/Shift Commander, and Deputy Chief.

Also sworn-in were:

- Deputy Chief Pete Till, who has served with the RMFD since 1980.



From left, Lt. Pete Sutter, Chief Scott Franzgrote and Battalion Chief Jeff Moxley were recently promoted, along with Deputy Chief Pete Till (not pictured).

- Battalion Chief Jeff Moxley, who joined the Department in 1991.
- Lieutenant Pete Sutter, who was hired in 2001.

Safe Schools Initiative Takes Proactive Approach to Protecting Students

By Police Chief Dave Scanlan



Dave Scanlan

Nearly three months after the horrific school shooting in Newtown, CT, Rolling Meadows still mourns those who lost their lives that December day. As parents, we cling to the hope that it could

never happen here. As law enforcement officials, we have been working diligently with local schools for more than a decade to improve safety and ensure that our children are able to focus on their education.

The Safe Schools Initiative is a partnership between the Rolling Meadows Police Department and local school officials. Its purpose is to identify and implement strategies that make our schools more secure. Working together, we conduct regular school security assessments to develop new approaches for protecting our children.

We use tools such as annual lockdown drills to educate students, teachers and administrators about what to do in cases of danger. We are always taking a fresh

look at our security protocols and identifying ways to do better.

This commitment to ongoing improvement, combined with advances in technology, is creating new opportunities to improve school safety and speed the Police Department's response to potential dangers.

Through the Initiative, we are pursuing federal funding to purchase and install new communications radios in our schools that will communicate in "real time" with the Police Department's main desk. If a potential threat were to arise at any of our schools, this direct line of communication will improve officers' ability to respond quickly and effectively to what may be a rapidly-changing situation.

Going forward, our commitment to proactive planning and preparation will continue, as it has since the Safe Schools Initiative first launched in 2002. Every member of this Department is committed to protecting our students and we will always strive to improve. It is what the children of Rolling Meadows deserve.

City's Chipper Service No Longer Offered

As part of ongoing cost-containment strategies, the City will no longer provide seasonal Chipper service. Last year, the Department offered fee-based pickups for

residents upon request, but demand for the service was minimal. Public Works will provide City-wide brush and branch pick-up after major storms are declared.

Growing Number of Utility Customers Enjoy eBilling's Convenience



Nearly 900 Rolling Meadows utility customers have signed up for the City's Web-based utility billing service and now get their water bills via email.

Customers who choose the convenience of eBilling receive a monthly email that contains a link to their utility billing statement. Balances may be paid online through the City's Utility Bill Management System, by mail, or in person at City Hall.

"Electronic utility billing enhances customer convenience and helps save taxpayers thousands of dollars per year in printing and mailing costs," Finance Director Melissa Gallagher explains.

The service lets users review a two-year billing history for their account and provides a Web link to the City's newsletter, *News & Views*.

To register for eBilling, visit www.cityrm.org/finance. Contact the Finance Department at 847-394-8500 for more information.

Yard Waste Collection Begins, Early Refuse Set Out Ends April 1

Public Works crews will begin annual yard waste collection services on Monday, April 1.

That day also marks the end of early refuse set out, which is allowed by City ordinance from November 1 – March 31.

Beginning in April, residents should place refuse and recyclables at the curb after 6 p.m. the night before scheduled pick-up.

For more information, contact Public Works at 847-963-0500 or visit www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks.

March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	Economic Development Committee , 6 p.m. Environmental Committee , 7 p.m. Plan Commission , 7:30 p.m., all at City Hall	Zoning Board of Appeals , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	Adjudication Hearing (Parking) , 2 p.m., City Hall	8	9
Daylight Savings Time begins... move clocks ahead one hour.	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners , 9 a.m., City Hall	Crime Stoppers , 5 p.m. City Council Meeting , 7:30 p.m., both at City Hall	13	Adjudication Hearing , 1 p.m., City Hall	15	16
17	18	City Council Committee of the Whole , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	Water bills due 20	Adjudication Hearing (Red Light) , 2 p.m., City Hall	22	23
St. Patrick's Day			First Day of Spring			
24	25	City Council Meeting , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	27	28	29	30
31 Easter						

April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Yard waste collection begins. Early refuse setout ends. Place refuse at the curb after 6 p.m. the day prior to pickup.	Economic Development Committee , 6 p.m. Environmental Committee , 7 p.m. Plan Commission , 7:30 p.m., all at City Hall	Zoning Board of Appeals , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	Adjudication Hearing (Parking) , 2 p.m., City Hall	5	6
7	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners , 9 a.m., City Hall	Crime Stoppers , 5 p.m. City Council Meeting , 7:30 p.m., both at City Hall Election Day	Urban Affairs Committee , 5:45 p.m., City Hall	Adjudication Hearing , 1 p.m., City Hall Community Events Foundation Fundraiser , Noodles & Co., (1327 Golf Rd.)	12	13
14	15	City Council Committee of the Whole , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	17	Fire Pension Board 8:30 a.m., Fogarty Fire Station (3111 Meadow Dr.) Adjudication Hearing (Red Light) , 2 p.m., City Hall	19	20
21	Water bills due	City Council Meeting , 7:30 p.m., City Hall	24	25	26	27
	Earth Day				Arbor Day	
28	29	30				

Value of 2012 Business, Homeowner Property Improvements Surpasses \$30 Million

Rolling Meadows businesses and homeowners proceeded with property improvements valued at more than \$30 million in 2012, a 15% increase over the prior year and nearly 40% higher than in 2010, Community Development Director Valerie Dehner reports.

Department staff members worked with customers on high profile business expansions – such as Capital One’s decision to lease 150,000 sq. ft. of Rolling Meadows



Capital One has leased 150,000 sq. ft. in the Atrium Corporate Center.

office space – and a growing number of home improvement projects. The Department issued 2,701 permits that were valued at \$30,075,127 and generated \$561,408 in permit fees. It marked the second consecutive year of growth after years of stagnation caused by the Great Recession and its aftermath.

“The past two years have been very exciting, as Rolling Meadows homeowners and businesses continue to invest in their futures. It bodes well for the local economy and may be an indication that sustained growth is finally underway,” Dehner says.

Whether it’s helping businesses put down new roots in Rolling Meadows or providing expert inspection services to homeowners, Community Development is organized to facilitate the development of a healthy, prosperous community.

The Department takes an active role in the City’s overall economic development initiatives while helping residents with the permit and inspection process.

For more information, contact Community Development at 847-506-6030 or visit www.cityrm.org/rmcd.

ComEd Reports Increase in Utility Scams

ComEd warns customers throughout the northwest suburbs to watch out for scam artists who claim to be ComEd representatives, and threaten customers with service disconnection unless payment is made. Call 800-EDISON-1 to verify that a ComEd worker is in the area or if a

caller is a ComEd employee. Customers who believe they may be the target of a scam should call the Illinois Attorney General’s office at 800-386-5438, or visit www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov and click on “Protecting Consumers.”

Retiring Officers Served with Honor & Pride

Two long-time Rolling Meadows Police officers who have represented the Police Department “with honor, pride and a commitment to excellence” are retiring after a combined 48 years of service, Police Chief Dave Scanlan reports.



Steve Gizzi

Patrol Officer Steve Gizzi, who began his career with Rolling Meadows in 1990, will retire on April 20. He helped establish the Department’s Bicycle Patrol Group and served as one of its Defensive

Combat Instructors.

Officer Mark Hinds, who retired Febru-



Mark Hinds

ary 8, came to Rolling Meadows in 1987. During his career, he served as Patrol Officer, Investigator and as one of the Department’s Range Officers. “Officers Gizzi and Hinds personify the Police Department’s commitment to serving our community,” Chief Scanlan explains. “Both have been recognized with several Exceptional Duty Awards, and received many Letters of Appreciation from Rolling Meadows residents and businesses. We value their professionalism, thank them for their service and wish them well in retirement.”

City Acts to Secure Competitive Pricing for Streets Program

City Council’s February approval of an engineering services contract in support of the 2013 Streets Program will help the City take advantage of competitive pricing for resurfacing up to 10 residential streets this summer, Public Works Director Fred Vogt reports.

“It was in our best interest to move forward quickly with the engineering phase. The sooner we complete that, the sooner we can prepare the project for bidding, and improve our odds of securing lower unit costs for labor and materials,” Vogt explains.

Although the \$502,000 program may be modified once actual costs are determined, preliminary plans call for the resurfacing of the following streets in 2013:

- Azalea Court
- Bayberry Court
- Elizabeth Place
- Lavender Court
- Mayflower Court
- Teaberry Court
- Pheasant Drive (from Starling to terminus)
- Bluebird Lane (from Hawk to Grouse)
- Kieth Court
- Debra Court

Welcome New Businesses

- BL 3Dimension Corp.
Computer hardware resale/services
5100 Newport Dr. #9 (847-612-4609)
- Cambium Networks Inc.
Wireless broadband technology
3800 Golf Rd. #360 (847-439-6369)
- Global Facility Solutions Inc.
Housekeeping services
5420 Newport Dr. #46 (847-873-0820)
- Paycheck North America Inc.
Sales office
1701 Golf Rd. T2 #600 (585-385-6666)

Remembering Our Friend, Larry

by Mayor Tom Rooney

Yes, I know it has been a couple of months since Alderman

Larry Buske's passing. The transition on the City Council has already taken place, but I just can't use this first column since Larry's passing for anything other than some words about my friend.

Larry Buske was a great big teddy bear. Sure, he could growl with the best of them – the world he grew up in was a world where men were pretty gruff – but on the inside, Larry had a huge, sentimental heart.

Nothing could turn him into absolute mush like his four little granddaughters. I even remember seeing him when their little curly-haired dog had to be put to sleep: it was a side of him that most people who watch Council meetings never got to see.

It was obvious to everyone who knew Larry that he loved this City. A very big part of that sentimental heart was devoted to Rolling Meadows. Many people talk about the place they grew up with a special fondness; Larry's special fondness was reserved for the place where he built his

business and where he and his beloved wife, Brenda, built their family.

Larry and I did not start off as friends, but we became friends very quickly. He and I even had two very big knock-down, drag-out fights with each other over City business. But once they were over and the votes were taken, we shook hands (literally), dusted ourselves off (figuratively), and continued right along with a friendship that was truly a treasure for me...

...I miss you, Lar.

Calling New Recruits: Public Works' Academy to Begin April 18

The Public Works Department will launch its 2013 Citizens Training Academy on April 18 and is looking for a new class of resident participants, Assistant Public Works Director Bob Hartnett reports.

Academy members will learn more about Public Works operations through a series of hands-on training activities and classroom instruction. Thursday evening informational sessions will take place 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. on April 18 and 25, and May 2, 9 and 16. The Academy culminates with an outdoor "field course" scheduled for Saturday morning, May 18.

"Public Works is responsible for an extensive Capital Improvement program, and Department crews provide a range of services that have a tremendous impact on residents' quality of life," Hartnett says. "Academy graduates will enjoy a greater understanding of these operations and how they affect us on a daily basis."



Hands-on training sessions will help residents learn more about Public Works operations and how they impact residents' quality of life.



The 2013 Citizens Training Academy will deliver in-depth information and a behind-the-scenes look at the Public Works Department's:

- **Street Maintenance Division** – Learn about forestry services, refuse collection, snow removal and pavement maintenance.
- **Water Division** – Discover how water quality and monitoring operations ensure that residents have access to a safe, reliable source of drinking water. Learn basic plumbing maintenance to fix leaky water pipes, faucets, and other home plumbing problems.

- **Underground Utilities Division** – Uncover details of the City's vast underground infrastructure, which features hundreds of miles of water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer lines.

Public Works Academy participants will also learn more about the Fleet Services, Facilities and Administrative Divisions.

To register for this year's Academy, contact Assistant Director Bob Hartnett at 847-963-0500 or hartnett@cityrm.org.

Golf/New Wilke Intersection Reconstruction to Begin April 1

A \$5.3 million Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) project to completely rebuild the intersection at Golf and New Wilke Roads is scheduled to begin April 1. The 41 year-old intersection is among the most heavily congested in the northwest suburbs, handling roughly 70,000 vehicles each day.

Funded by federal and state grants, the reconstruction project will improve

local traffic flow by rebuilding and widening approximately 2,000 feet of Golf Road. It will add an additional lane in each direction and an extra turn lane for eastbound vehicles turning north onto New Wilke.

The project will also update the intersection's traffic signals, install new storm sewers, and build new sidewalks, bike paths, driveway entrances

and medians. During construction, lane closures will limit traffic to one lane in each direction on both Golf and New Wilke. IDOT officials expect all lanes to be open by December.

Project updates will be available in upcoming issues of *News & Views* and on the City's Website, www.cityrm.org.