



# NEWS

Volume 22 Number 6

City Firefighter Joins Hurricane Rescue Efforts  
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# & Views

3600 Kirchoff Road . Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 . 847-394-8500 . [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

## Welcome Holidays at December 6th Tree Lighting, Community Dinner

The spirits of holidays past, present, and future will come together at 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 6th, when the community gathers for one of Rolling Meadows' most time-honored traditions: the lighting of the City's Holiday tree.



Residents enjoy a complimentary community dinner at the Fogarty Fire Station.

Join family, friends, and neighbors for this annual seasonal event, which will again take place in front of the McDonald's on Kirchoff Road. Santa Claus and his elves will make a special trip from the North Pole to help residents celebrate the occasion.

Following the Tree Lighting and a winter's eve fireworks display over downtown, City officials will welcome residents to the Fogarty Fire Station (3111 Meadow Drive) for a complimentary spaghetti dinner (*while supplies last*).

Additional event details will be available in the December edition of eNews & Views, and on the City's website ([www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows](https://www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows)).



Community members gather at the base of Rolling Meadows' Holiday Tree.

## Rolling Meadows Finance Director Elected IGFOA President



Melissa Gallagher

Finance Director Melissa Gallagher has been elected President of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association (IGFOA).

Her elevation to the organization's top leadership position marks a continuation of her ongoing efforts over the past decade to improve the quality of Rolling Meadows' financial reporting and that of local governmental entities across the state.

An IGFOA member since 2008, Gallagher previously served as Chair of the association's Technical Accounting Review Committee. Under her guidance, TARC played a leading role in helping finance professionals throughout Illinois understand and implement new standards approved by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Closer to home, Gallagher's IGFOA membership positions her to share knowledge gained on topics such as governmental accounting, managing capital assets,

leadership, and ethics with Finance Department staff members. In fact, all Department personnel have participated in IGFOA-sponsored training programs.

"I speak for everyone here in congratulating Melissa on her election as IGFOA President. It says quite a lot about her commitment and professionalism," City Manager Barry Krumstok said. "We know she will be an effective leader for that organization, just as she is here in Rolling Meadows." Learn more about the IGFOA online at [www.igfoa.org](http://www.igfoa.org).

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

### MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor: Len Prejna . . . . . 847-776-9442  
1st Ward Alderman: Mike Cannon . . . . . 847-687-3276  
2nd Ward Alderman: Nick Budmats . . . . . 847-202-0855  
3rd Ward Alderman: Laura Majikes . . . . . 847-577-3746  
4th Ward Alderman: Joseph Gallo . . . . . 847-814-9271  
5th Ward Alderman: Rob Banger, Jr. . . . . 224-639-6686  
6th Ward Alderman: John D'Astice . . . . . 847-409-9367  
7th Ward Alderman: Robert Williams . . . . . 847-303-0482  
City Manager: Barry Krumstok . . . . . 847-394-8500

### SERVICES

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



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 [www.twitter.com/CityofRM1](https://www.twitter.com/CityofRM1)

 Find Us on the Web:  
[www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org)

# Harper College Referendum to Appear on November 6th Ballot

A referendum question set to appear on the November 6th election ballot will ask residents to approve a plan by Harper College to proceed with \$180 million in planned improvements to its Palatine campus.

## Bond Issue Proposed

If approved by voters, Harper College officials say they will issue bonds to fund the improvements at no additional cost to taxpayers. Instead, the plan would maintain current tax levels that were established in 2000, following a similar bond issue. Current bonds are scheduled to be paid off in 2020.

If the referendum fails, residential property taxes would decrease by \$23 per year for the owner of a \$250,000 home,

according to the Harper College News Bureau.

The referendum question reads: “*Shall the Board of Trustees of William Rainey Harper Community College District No. 512, Counties of Cook, Kane, Lake and McHenry and State of Illinois, acquire real property, build and equip new buildings, build and equip additions to and alter, equip, repair and renovate existing buildings of the District and issue the bonds of said Community College to an amount not to exceed \$180,000,000 for said purposes?*”

## Voters to Choose State and Federal Leaders

The November election is also the culmination of months-long races for elected office at the state and national levels. Candidates on this year’s ballot are



Harper College seek approval for a \$180 million campus upgrade program.

running for Illinois governor, state senator, state representative, U.S. Congress, and other offices.

Polling places will be open 6 am – 7 pm on Election Day. Make your voice heard!

To learn more about the election, and to confirm the location of your polling place, visit [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com).

# December Filing Deadline Looms for Candidates Running in April 2019 Election



Rolling Meadows residents planning to run for local elected office next spring should mark their calendar for

December 17th. That is the deadline for candidates to file completed petitions necessary for them to appear on the April 2nd, 2019 Consolidated Election ballot.

City offices to be contested in 2019 are:

- Mayor (4-year term).
- 1st Ward Alderman (4-year term).
- 2nd Ward Alderman (final two years of the current 4-year term).

- 3rd Ward Alderman (4-year term).
- 5th Ward Alderman (4-year term).
- 7th Ward Alderman (4-year term).
- City Clerk (4-year term).

Qualified candidates must be Rolling Meadows residents for at least one year and, if running for City Council, live in the ward they seek to represent.

Candidate packets are available online at [www.cookcountyclerk.com](http://www.cookcountyclerk.com). Filing will begin Monday, December 10th, 8 a.m., and will conclude Monday, December 17th, at 5 p.m. For more information, call City Hall at 847-394-8500.

# City Firefighter Joins Hurricane Rescue Efforts



John Loesch

Firefighter/Paramedic John Loesch, Sr. proudly represented Rolling Meadows on a regional task force that deployed to Riegelwood, North Carolina in the wake of Hurricane Florence

and provided water rescue support to area residents. Task Force members, who spent nearly two weeks away from home, serve with area departments participat-



Aerial view of Riegelwood, North Carolina, following Hurricane Florence.

ing in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

## ‘eNews’ Provides Coverage of City Events & Initiatives

Stay up-to-date on City news with Rolling Meadows’ electronic newsletter, *eNews & Views*, which is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December and posted online for convenience.

*eNews* provides expanded coverage of City events and initiatives covered in *News & Views*, which is printed six times per year, and offers embedded links that give readers access to additional resources and insights.

Here are just a few of the topics covered in recent *eNews* editions:

- “Public safety program requires solicitors to register at City Hall.”
- “Annual Duck Race raises \$3,000 for local conservation.”
- “Distinguished Budget Award reflects Rolling Meadows’ commitment to high accounting standards.”
- “Rep’s Place quenches community’s thirst for downtown restaurants.”

Visit [www.cityrm.org](http://www.cityrm.org) and select “community newsletters” from the “Our Community” tab to access past issues.

# ComEd Grant Helps Police Equip Emergency Vehicles with Life-Saving AED Units



John Nowacki

Rolling Meadows patrol vehicles are now equipped with life-saving automated external defibrillator units (AEDs) purchased with a \$4,139 grant provided through ComEd's "Powering Safe Communities" program, Police Chief John Nowacki reports.

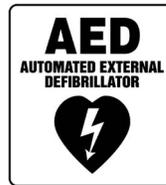
The LIFE PAK CR Plus Semi-Automatic AEDs enable patrol officers to safely, effectively, and quickly administer life-saving treatment to anyone suffering cardiac arrest.

"Police officers are often the first responders to arrive on-scene in emergency situations, and AEDs offer one of the

most effective methods for treating cardiac arrest victims," Chief Nowacki explained. "These units significantly increase the odds of patient survival by enabling our officers to stabilize them while emergency medical personnel are en-route."

The Police Department's application for ComEd funding was reviewed and approved by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus, which administers the program on behalf of the utility.

Over the past three years, ComEd's Powering Safe Communities program has provided over \$500,000 to public safety projects throughout the region.



## Holiday Briefs

### Support Toys for Tots



Join the City in once again supporting the United States Marine Corps Reserve's annual Toys for Tots program. This year's collection drive will take place November 6th through December 7th. Bring new, unwrapped toys and games to City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road) or the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane). For more information or to make a cash donation, visit [www.toysfortots.org](http://www.toysfortots.org).

### Help Firefighters 'Keep the Wreath Red'



Festive wreaths on display at Rolling Meadows fire stations are a public safety reminder that the upcoming season offers no "holiday" from fire danger. Through the "Keep the Wreath Red" program, each wreath begins the holiday season illuminated with red light bulbs. Firefighters will add a white bulb for each fire in Rolling Meadows found to have been caused by seasonal decor.

## Online Residential Survey Helps Guide Comprehensive Plan Development

Residents may learn more about ongoing efforts to update Rolling Meadows' Comprehensive Plan and offer their own ideas for the City's future development by taking an online survey posted at [www.plan4rollingmeadows.org](http://www.plan4rollingmeadows.org).

The website also features periodic news updates, an online form where residents can share their views, updated project



documents, and more.

It is one of multiple outreach strategies employed by City officials to generate public input on proposed modifications to the Comprehensive Plan – the main blueprint for development and land use in Rolling Meadows.

Plans call for City Council to approve an updated Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code next spring.

### Refuse Collection Schedule

#### Early Refuse Set-out Begins November 5th

Beginning Monday, November 5th, residents may place refuse at the curb after 3 p.m. (instead of 6 p.m.) the day prior to their scheduled pick-up, as part of the City's "early refuse set-out" program. The program was initiated several years ago as a way to help residents put their refuse out before dark. Early set-out times run through March 2019.

#### Yard Waste Collection Ends November 30th

The City's 2018 yard waste collection service will conclude Friday, November 30th. Residents should place yard waste in craft paper bags at the curb – separate from household waste – for pickup on their regular collection date. Public Works will begin collecting yard waste again next spring.

#### City Announces Holiday Refuse Schedule

- **Thanksgiving:** Rolling Meadows' Public Works Department will be closed Thursday, November 22nd, and Friday, November 23rd, for the Thanksgiving holiday. *Regular Thursday and Friday routes will be delayed one day.*
- **Christmas Eve:** Public Works will be closed Monday, December 24th. *City crews will provide early refuse collection. Place all refuse at the curb by 6 a.m. that morning.*
- **Christmas:** Public Works will be closed Tuesday, December 25th. *Refuse collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.*
- **New Year's Eve:** Regular refuse collection is scheduled for Monday, December 31st.
- **New Year's Day 2019:** Public Works will be closed Tuesday, January 1st. *Refuse collection will be delayed one day for the remainder of the week.*

# November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Keep updated on City news with Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, E-News & Views, published in February, April, June, August, October and December. Each newsletter is archived on the City's website, www.cityrm.org.				Adjudication Hearing 1 (Parking), 2 pm, City Hall	2	3
Daylight Saving Time 4 ends. Clocks "fall back" one hour. Change batteries in your home's smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.	5	Election Day 6 Economic Development Committee, 6 pm Env. Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:30 pm, all at City Hall	7	Adjudication Hearing, 8 1 pm, City Hall	9	10
11	Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am, City Hall	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

# December 2018

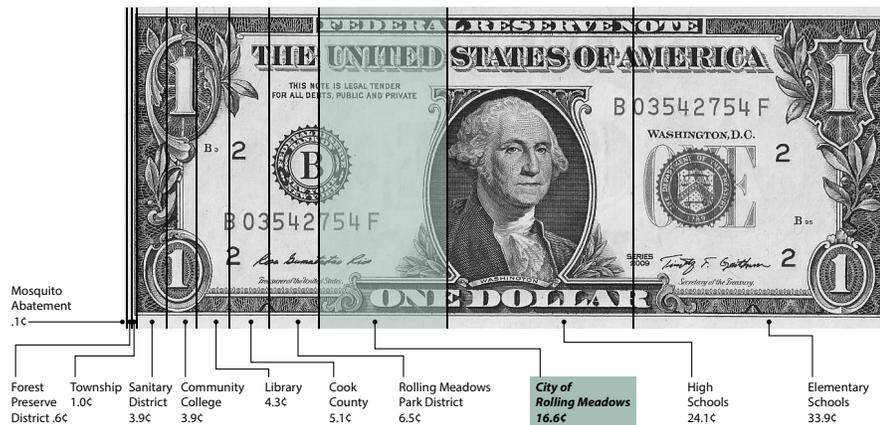
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
City offices will be closed Tuesday, January 1st, 2019 (New Year's Day). Tuesday – Friday refuse collection will be delayed one day.						1
Hanukkah begins 2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# Proposed Budget Keeps Focus on Capital Improvements, City Services

The Fiscal Year 2019 budget and property tax levy, now being finalized by aldermen and City staff, will enable Rolling Meadows to upgrade local infrastructure and ensure the continued delivery of high-quality services.

City officials' long-standing commitment over the past decade to meet annual pension requirements, combined with improving performance of the invested funds, has provided opportunities for next year's budget to focus on other

**Rolling Meadows Share of Property Tax Bill – Approx. \$0.166 per Every \$1 (Elk Grove Township – 2016 Property Tax Levy for FY 2017 Budget)**  
(Most recent data available)



priorities.

“The 2019 budget focuses heavily on capital improvements, rebuilding City roads and utilities, and providing the services residents and businesses have come to expect,” Finance Director Melissa Gallagher explained.

Residents may review the proposed 2019 Budget online at [www.cityrm.org/233/Financial-Reports](http://www.cityrm.org/233/Financial-Reports). A printed copy is also available at the Rolling Meadows Library (3110 Martin Lane)

and City Hall (3600 Kirchoff Road).

Plans call for City Council to approve the budget at the end of November.

## Former Police Auxiliary Officer Hired as Deputy Clerk; Long-Time Resident Joins Finance Department as Cashier

There are a few new friendly faces at City Hall these days: Deputy Clerk Judy Brose and Finance Department Cashier Marti McNally are the latest additions to Rolling Meadows' customer service team:

### Deputy Clerk Judy Brose



Judy Brose

Judy's hire as Rolling Meadows' Deputy City Clerk represented the next phase of a public service career that spans nearly two decades. While working as a paralegal in the private sector, she also served nearly 15 years as a part-time auxiliary officer with the Schaumburg Police Department. Judy then spent five years as a full-time employee with the Village of Hoffman Estates' Finance, Code Enforcement, and Building Departments.

“The Deputy Clerk position offered an incredible opportunity to take the next step in my career,” Judy said. “It's been a pleasure getting to know the other staff members and working with them to serve residents. Everyone here is very friendly and outgoing, but what has impressed me the most is their commitment to delivering courteous, professional services.”

Judy arrived at City Hall in the months leading up to the November mid-term election. Soon after, her focus will turn to the spring 2019 local election, in which candidates for City Clerk and six City Council seats – including Rolling Meadows' Mayor – will appear on the ballot (see story on page 2 for details on filing candidate petitions).

“I'm excited to get involved,” she said with a smile. “It should be fun.”

### Finance Cashier Marti McNally



Marti McNally

Since joining the Finance Department as an afternoon cashier in July, Marti McNally has used her past experience as a bank teller to serve residents who stop by City Hall to pay a utility bill or conduct other City-related business. So far, more than a few of them are former neighbors and acquaintances of this 26-year Rolling Meadows resident.

“I've run into a lot of people I used to know when I was raising my kids. It's been so comforting to reconnect with them,” Marti said. “For me, it reinforces my belief that we made the right decision when choosing Rolling Meadows as the

community in which to raise our family.”

Marti is not the only member of her family to work in the municipal sector. Her husband, Bob, is a police officer in Harwood Heights. They have three children: one is a Corporal in the U.S. Army; the other two are in college. They also have two dogs, who Marti calls her “new babies.”



### Holiday Light Recycling Program Returns

Bring old holiday lights to City Hall for free recycling, through a program organized by Rolling Meadows, the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County, and Elgin Recycling. Drop boxes are located on the west side of the facility. The program runs Monday, November 5th through Friday, February 15th.

## Year-in-Review City Showcases Community Pride, Growing Business Base

by Mayor Len Prejna

Rolling Meadows residents throughout 2018 witnessed the continued growth of our local business community and joined an expanded roster of community events.

The showcasing of our city – through free concerts in the park, patriotic parades, lively summer block parties, and the like – reinforces Rolling Meadows' reputation as a great place to live, work, and do business.

Last spring, we held our first "Business and Community Showcase," which brought citizens and businesses together at Rolling Meadows High School. The event helped residents discover the many types of businesses that call the City home and offered valuable networking opportunities to business owners.

Meanwhile, new restaurant incentives and video gaming have helped draw several new establishments to our community

– offering Rolling Meadows residents, and neighbors in surrounding communities, expanded options for local dining. These new businesses will also be a source of increased tax revenue to fund City operations.

In October, the City began updating its Comprehensive Plan – an opportunity for residents to offer their views on the future development of Rolling Meadows. We are also preparing for the reconstruction of Kirchoff Road next spring.

As we look ahead to 2019, allow me a moment to thank all the volunteers who worked so hard to make our Community Events a success. There's more fun to come and new opportunities to get involved! Please email Lori Ciezak ([ciezakl@cityrm.org](mailto:ciezakl@cityrm.org)) to join this great team.

Lastly, here's wishing you all a Merry Christmas, a happy holiday season, and a prosperous New Year.

## Local Holiday Shopping (and Dining) Keeps Tax Dollars Here in Rolling Meadows



Searching for great shopping value, variety, and convenience this holiday season? Look no further than Rolling Meadows! The City's business community – featuring everything from "Big Box" retailers offering the latest in electronics and apparel to independent shops and galleries with

unique gifts – offers a wide range of good and services.

### Boosts Sales Tax Revenues

Rolling Meadows' diverse blend of retail and service businesses offers advantages that go well beyond exceptional convenience and selection: Shopping locally boosts sales tax revenues that fund City services while reducing reliance on residents' property taxes.

### Shop First, Then Dine

Once you've stocked your sleigh with gifts, make sure you take time and explore the City's bustling restaurant scene. Local establishments offers a savory menu of flavors to suit practically any taste.



Meijer, Walmart, and Staples are among Rolling Meadows' "Big Box" retailers that deliver extensive selection and value.



## Hometown Hoedown Brings Fall Fun to Kimball Hill Park

Young residents enjoy a sweet treat while competing in a "Donut on a String" contest (above) at the City's October 6th Hometown Hoedown. This year's festive fall celebration welcomed nearly 500 people to Kimball Hill Park for live music, horse-drawn hayrides, a cowboy cookout, games, crafts, and more.

