

NEWS & VIEWS

3600 KIRCHOFF ROAD | ROLLING MEADOWS, IL 60008 | 847-394-8500 | WWW.CITYRM.ORG

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VOLUME 25 ISSUE 5



Residents learn more about local businesses and service providers at the 2019 Showcase.

EXPLORE LOCAL PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT SEPTEMBER 23RD BUSINESS & COMMUNITY SHOWCASE

Rolling Meadows' 2021 Business & Community Showcase will cater to residents interested in learning more about products/services offered by Rolling Meadows businesses, and job seekers exploring career opportunities with local companies.

Free Admission to Business Expo

The Showcase's Business Expo will take place Thursday, September 23rd, 5:00 – 8:00 pm, at Meridian Banquet & Conference Center (1701 West Algonquin Road). Admission is free and open to the public.

"The annual Showcase is designed to appeal to multiple audiences: residents, job seekers, freelancers, and business professionals," Rolling Meadows Business Advocate Martha Corner explained.

"The Business Expo, in particular, offers a welcoming forum for resi-

dents to meet with local business contacts, learn more about available products and services, and develop a greater understanding of all that Rolling Meadows' local business community has to offer," she added.

Business Exhibitor Registration

Local businesses that would like to register as exhibitors for this year's showcase may visit <https://cityrm.org/728/Business-Community-Showcase>.

There is a \$25 registration fee. For more information, contact Corner at cornerm@cityrm.org or 847-870-9004.

Note: This year's Showcase will incorporate COVID-19-related public safety precautions – including social distancing and face coverings, as deemed necessary. The event may be postponed or cancelled for public health reasons.

CITY EARNS FINANCIAL 'TRIPLE CROWN' AWARD

Rolling Meadows is one of only 286 governmental entities in the U.S and Canada to be awarded the Triple Crown from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). The award, presented for Fiscal Year 2019, recognizes the City's "commitment to producing annual reports that evidence the spirit of full disclosure and transparency," GFOA Director Michele Mark Levine announced.



The designation certifies that Rolling Meadows earned all three of the GFOA's awards for budget reporting and transparency: the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting; the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award; and the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award.

"Earning the Triple Crown affirms Rolling Meadows' longstanding commitment to the highest standards of governmental budgeting and accounting that goes back more than 30 years," Finance Director Melissa Gallagher explained.

The City has earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting 34 years in a row and is a four-time recipient of the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

For more information on the City's financial reporting efforts, and to access specific reports, visit <https://cityrm.org/221/Finance-Department>.

FIRE DEPARTMENT PROMOTES OFFICERS

Ben Dwyer and Ryan Lettieri, long-time Rolling Meadows firefighters with a combined 32 years of fire service experience, earned promotion to Battalion Chief and Lieutenant, respectively, in August.

Their promotions round out a series of elevations among the RMFD officers' group, following former Deputy Chief Rick Acosta's retirement this past summer:

- Former Battalion Chief Pete Sutter succeeded Acosta as Deputy Chief (*see August eNews*).
- Former Lieutenant Dwyer succeeds Sutter as Battalion Chief.
- Firefighter/paramedic Lettieri succeeds Dwyer as Lieutenant.



Ben Dwyer

Battalion Chief Dwyer joined RMFD in 2007, with four years of fire service experience. He is the Medical Group Supervisor for the Cook County Swiftwater Rescue Team/IL-WR1 and serves as Rolling Meadows' Emergency Management Coordinator. B/C Dwyer holds a master's degree in Threat Response Management from the University of Chicago.



Ryan Lettieri

Lt. Lettieri has served Rolling Meadows for 14 years and takes pride in helping to mentor young firefighter/paramedics through his work as an instructor and preceptor.

He earned a master's degree in Emergency Management from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ, and serves on multiple Department committees.

FALL EVENTS TO ENSURE GOOD TIMES KEEP 'ROLLING'

Another action-packed, event-filled summer is in the books, but the fun keeps "rolling" into fall! Join friends, neighbors, and colleagues at these upcoming community events.

Senior Luncheon

Tuesday, Sept. 7th, 12:30 – 2:30 pm
Senior Center (3705 Pheasant Dr.)

Reconnect with longtime friends and acquaintances over an Italian-style buffet luncheon and live music by the StingRays Band, who perform "the greatest music from the 50s, 60s, and 70s." All Rolling Meadows residents ages 50 and up are welcome. Cost is \$5 per person. For reservations, call 847-818-3205.



Residents cheer for their ducks at the 2019 race.

Duck Race

Friday, Sept. 10th, 6:30 – 7:00 pm
Kimball Hill Park

Hundreds of plastic ducks "racing" into Kimball Hill Pond for a variety of prizes – including a \$300 grand prize – makes for a unique sight, but this annual event also helps raise money for environmental restoration efforts. Purchase tickets (one ticket equals one duck) at City Hall, Rolling Meadows Park District, or at the Public Works Department. Ducks are \$5 each (\$20 for five).

Friday's ROCK! & Roll in Meadows (Featuring Boy Band Review)

Friday, Sept. 10th, 7:00 – 10:00 pm
Kimball Hill Park

Tribute group Boy Band Review channels the choreography, harmonies, and energy of late 1990s pop. Bring a blanket, a picnic dinner, and relive the days when frosted tips were all the rage and *Total Request Live* was must-see-TV!



City Market: Part farmers market, part bazaar.

City Market

Saturday, Sept. 25th,
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Community Church (2720 Hicks Rd.)

Take your pick of freshly grown fruits and vegetables, food and ice cream vendors, kiddie train rides, live music, caricatures, balloon animals, hand-crafted items created by local artisans, and more.



Wild Earp performs at the Hometown Hoedown.

Hometown Hoedown

Saturday, Oct. 2nd, 12:00 – 5:00 pm
Kimball Hill Park

Rolling Meadows' 5th annual fall festival is lining up to be a *stompin'* good time! Attractions include horse-drawn hayrides, kid's games, crafts, a performance by Wild Earp (*funky country western "rock n' roll-abilly"*), and more. Admission is free. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.



Please visit <https://cityrm.org/669/Community-Events> and the City's Facebook page for more information and updates.



Rolling Meadows community mascot Kimball Hoot (right) and a few thousand of his friends and neighbors celebrate National Night Out on August 3rd.

THOUSANDS GATHER FOR CITY'S ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT OBSERVANCE

Rolling Meadows residents on August 3rd proved once again that they know a thing or two about National Night Out celebrations, as an all-ages group numbering in the thousands came out to honor the bonds between the City's Police Department and the community it serves.

The three-hour festival, held at the Rolling Meadows Community Center, included free food and giveaways, high-energy canine stunt performances, a roaming juggler on stilts, law enforcement vehicle displays, face painting, balloon animals, a petting zoo, fireworks, and more.



The City's National Night Out celebration is an all-ages affair.

National Night Out, established in 1984 by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), is an annual campaign that promotes police/community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie, enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement, and brings police and residents together.

Learn more at <https://natw.org>.

RM BROADCASTING NETWORK CARRIES CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS LIVE

The Rolling Meadows Broadcasting Network (RMBN) lets residents view City Council meetings live on television from the comfort of their own homes or stream them from a computer or mobile device. Simply tune into Channel 6 or visit <https://cityrm.org/520/Rolling-Meadows-Broadcasting-Network>.

RMBN also broadcasts monthly Committee of the Whole meetings, District 15 Board of Education meetings, community event information, and more.



Rolling Meadows Broadcasting Network

Archived content, including past meetings, is available on demand through the City's website (<https://cityrm.org/610/On-Demand-Archive>) or its YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGvDLWmJZTgP25Qsalj_xMw).

WEBPAGE HIGHLIGHTS ROAD & WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Rolling Meadows offers residents a convenient online tool for tracking roadway and water system improvement projects taking place throughout the City.

Visit <https://cityrm.org> and click the "Construction Projects" link on the left side of the page (under *Quick Links*). From there, users are invited to peruse interactive maps that highlight locations of projects in both the preparation and construction stages.

The page also provides a wealth of information on specific upgrades, including:

- Start and estimated completion dates.
- Project descriptions and scope.
- Links to other sources of information.
- Overview of regional road improvements being pursued by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Residents may also sign up to receive email and text notifications on specific projects through the City's Notify Me feature (<https://www.cityrm.org/list.aspx>).

2021 Rolling Meadows Construction Projects

Roadway Projects
Water Projects
Regional Roadway Projects

Roadway Projects

2021 Street Reconstruction Program

Start Date: Late May/Early June
Estimated Completion Date: September 2021

Project Description: The work to be performed consists of storm sewer improvements, curb and gutter removal and replacement, sidewalk removal and replacement, asphalt pavement removal, roadway base reclamation and stabilization, asphalt pavement replacement, pavement markings and parkway restoration.

Construction Limits:

- Smith Street (Honeysuckle to Emerson)
- Newcastle Court (Honeysuckle Ct to Terminus)
- Honeysuckle Court
- Viola Court
- Norwood Court
- Lilac Court
- Jonquil Court
- Ironwood Court
- Farmington Court

SEPTEMBER 2021

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Due to ever-changing circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, meetings and events may be held remotely or postponed for public health purposes. Find the latest updates on the City's website and on Facebook.			1	2 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm	3 Cruise Night, 5 – 8 pm, Meadows Christian Fellowship (2401 Kirchoff Road)	4
5	6 LABOR DAY City offices closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.	7 Senior Luncheon, 12:30 pm, Community Center Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 pm	8	9 Adjudication Hearing 1 pm	10 Duck Race, 6:30 pm Fridays ROCK!, 7 – 10 pm, both at Kimball Hill Park	11
12	13 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am Economic Development Committee, 6 pm	14 Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	15	16 Adjudication Hearing, (Red Light), 2 pm	17	18
19	20 <i>Water Bills Due</i>	21 Community Events Foundation, 6 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	22	23	24	25 City Market, 10 am – 2 pm, Community Church (2720 Kirchoff Road)
26	27	28 Capital Projects Committee, 6:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	29	30		

OCTOBER 2021

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
WANT MORE NEWS? Access Rolling Meadows' electronic newsletter, <i>eNews</i> , published in February, April, June, August, October, and December, and archived at www.cityrm.org .					1	2 Hometown Hoedown Fall Fest, 12 – 5 pm, Kimball Hill Park
3	4 Economic Development Committee, 6 pm	5 Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7 pm	6	7 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2 pm	8	9
10	11 <i>Columbus Day</i> Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9 am	12 Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	13	14 Adjudication Hearing, 1 pm	15	16
17	18	19 Community Events Foundation, 6 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	20 <i>Water Bills Due</i>	21 Fire Pension Board, 8:30 am Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2 pm	22	23
24	25 Police Pension Board, 3:30 pm	26 City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	27	28	29	30
Halloween Trick-or-treat hours: 3 – 8 pm 31						



LOCAL BUSINESS INCENTIVE PROGRAMS OFFER GRANT FUNDING, TAX REBATES, FEE REIMBURSEMENTS FOR NEW RESTAURANTS & RETAILERS

City leaders have established a series of incentives aimed at drawing new restaurants and retail shops to Rolling Meadows, with particular emphasis on welcoming businesses to its downtown corridor along Kirchoff Road.

The incentives – designed specifically for non-corporate, independent business operations – include a blend of fee reimbursements, partial refunds of sales or food/beverage tax payments, and grant funding for facade or interior work. National chains and franchise owners, in most cases, are not eligible.

“These economic development tools expand our options for attracting new restaurants and businesses to Rolling Meadows,” Business Advocate Martha Corner explained when outlining the program. “We view it as an opportunity to grow

our business community, improve residents’ local shopping and dining experience, and further diversify the City’s tax base.”

Annual Tax Rebates

Under the incentive program, owners of restaurants that open along the Kirchoff Road corridor (between Rohlwing and Wilke Roads) will receive tax rebates equaling 60% of the food and beverage taxes paid to the City after one year, 40% after the second year, and 20% after year three.

Restaurants that open elsewhere in Rolling Meadows will be eligible for annual rebates of 40%, 20%, and 10%, respectively.

Likewise, new retail businesses on Kirchoff Road are eligible for home rule sales tax rebates equaling 25% after one year, 20% after two years, and 15% after three years

(15%, 10%, and 5% elsewhere).

Fee Reimbursements

Business owners who purchase or lease property for new restaurant or retail operations are eligible for reimbursement of up to \$5,000 for permit, inspection, and other fees paid to the City. Distribution will occur in two equal installments: the first coming just after the business opens to the public. The second installment will be paid after one year of operations.

Grant Funding

New business owners may also apply for up to \$10,000 in grant funding to cover facade and/or interior remodeling upgrades. The City will distribute approved grants in two installments: when the business receives its Certificate of Occupancy and after its first anniversary.

For more information, contact Martha Corner, Rolling Meadows Business Advocate (847-870-9004 or cornerm@cityrm.org). Program details and applications are available at <https://cityrm.org/858/Restaurant-Retail-Incentives>.

Tax Refunds for New Businesses

Food & Beverage Taxes (Restaurants)

- Up to 60% after first year
- Up to 40% after second year
- Up to 20% after third year

Home Rule Sales Taxes (Retail)

- Up to 25% after first year
- Up to 20% after second year
- Up to 15% after third year

HELP KIDS TRICK-OR-TREAT SAFELY THIS HALLOWEEN

This Halloween, let trick-or-treaters know they have the “all-clear” to come to your door by posting a City-issued pumpkin graphic (pictured) in your front window.

The graphic will also be included in Rolling Meadows’ October utility billing mailing. Printed copies will be available for pickup at City Hall.

Or, download the graphic from <https://cityrm.org> and on the City’s Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows>).





GUEST COLUMN BY KEVIN O'BRIEN, 3RD WARD ALDERMAN

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO GET INVOLVED

The past few years have made me a true believer in the adage, "time flies." It is hard to believe I'm entering the second half — the back nine, for you golfers out there — of my term as 3rd Ward Alderman. It has been my greatest honor to serve this community.

At this midpoint, I continue to stand by my commitment to collaboration and transparency. The only way change happens is by working together. Residents, businesses, City staff, and the City Council must all work together for the benefit and betterment of our community.

While each Ward has different needs and perspectives, our priority must always be to keep the City's best interests in mind and do everything we can to ensure that Rolling Meadows

remains a great place to call home and to do business.

I am always energized when residents reach out to me. Everyone is so kind, often beginning their message with, "I hate to bother you, as I know how busy you are." Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or my fellow Council members. While the seven of us cast the official votes on a variety of topics, those votes are a result of our discussions with those we represent.

For the residents who have reached out in the past, please continue to do so. For those who have yet to reach out to your ward representative, please take the opportunity to do so. It is essential for our community's continued growth.



CONTACT CITY OFFICIALS
City Hall Hours
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Monday – Friday

MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

- Mayor Joe Gallo847-814-9271
- 1st Ward Alderman
Karen McHale773-517-3873
- 2nd Ward Alderman
Nick Budmats847-202-0855
- 3rd Ward Alderman
Kevin O'Brien847-212-2587
- 4th Ward Alderman
Jenifer Vinezeano630-546-8133
- 5th Ward Alderman
Jon Bisesi847-772-8428
- 6th Ward Alderman
Mandy Reyez847-209-5435
- 7th Ward Alderman
Lara Sanoica847-770-3097
- Temporary City Manager
Melissa Gallagher847-394-8500

SERVICES

- Fire & Police Emergency911
- Fire Non-emergency847-397-3352
- Police Non-emergency847-255-2416
- Finance/Utility Billing847-394-8500
- Public Works847-963-0500
- Community Dev. Division .847-506-6030
- Senior Handyman Program .847-506-6030
- Crime Stoppers847-590-7867
- ComEd1-800-EDISON-1

 www.facebook.com/cityofrollingmeadows

 www.twitter.com/@cityofrm1



SUPPORT CITY'S COMMUNITY EVENTS FOUNDATION

Financial support for the City's community events is provided by the Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation, a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that relies on tax-deductible donations from residents and local businesses.

To contribute, please visit [https://](https://cityrm.org/679/Community-Events-Foundation)

cityrm.org/679/Community-Events-Foundation. Supporters may also make checks payable to *Rolling Meadows Community Events Foundation* and send them to:

City of Rolling Meadows
 Community Events Foundation
 3600 Kirchoff Road
 Rolling Meadows, IL 60008



Catch tribute group Boy Band Review Friday, September 10th! See page 2 for details.