

NEWS & VIEWS

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VOLUME 26 ISSUE 3

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE: JOIN CITY'S JULY 4TH PARADE

Rolling Meadows 2022 Independence Day Parade offers a "star-spangled" opportunity for businesses, community groups, schools, and other local organizations to build amazing floats and specialty vehicles, or decorate cars, bikes, trikes, wagons, strollers, and more.

Join the fun this July 4th! Online application forms are available at www.cityrm.org. Submit completed applications by Monday, June 20th to reserve a place in this year's event.

The parade will begin at Rolling Meadows High School at 11:30 a.m. Participants will head west on Central Road to Owl Drive, proceed north on Owl to Kirchoff Road, and turn east on Kirchoff before ending at the Rolling Meadows Shopping Center.

For more information, contact Lori Ciezak, Assistant to the City Manager, at ciezakl@cityrm.org or 847-394-8500 x 1002.



Memorial Day ceremonies will take place at the Carillon Tower, site of the City's Veterans Monument, on Kirchoff Road.

'WE HONOR THOSE WHO SERVE:' MAY 28TH MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE TO DIGNIFY LOCAL HEROES

Rolling Meadows will honor local veterans and all who gave their "last full measure of devotion" in America's defense Saturday, May 28th, during a series of captivating Memorial Day ceremonies.

Downtown Parade (11:00 am)

This moving tribute to those who wore the uniform of the U.S. Armed Forces will feature generations of local veterans and their family members. The parade route begins at the corner of Meadow Drive and Kirchoff Road, and travels west on Kirchoff to the Carillon Tower.

City officials invite all resident veterans to take part in this year's parade. Family members of local veterans may also march, carrying photos or other mementos to honor their loved ones.

Organizers will provide a trolley to transport participants unable to walk the length of the parade route.

Carillon Ceremony (11:30 am)

The City's observance will continue at the Carillon, where retired U.S. Navy Reserve Captain George K. Busse (see sidebar, page 2) will present the event's keynote address.

The proceedings will feature a wreath-laying ceremony at the base of the City's Veterans Monument, and also recognize local veterans who passed away in 2021.

Veterans Registry

The Veterans Committee maintains a registry of resident veterans with whom they have previously connected. Registered veterans receive invitations to Rolling Meadows' annual Memorial Day ceremony, Veterans Dinner, and other City events.

Veterans who are not currently listed on the registry, and would like to add their names, may contact Lori Ciezak (ciezakl@cityrm.org or 847-394-8500 x 1002).



MEMORIAL DAY KEYNOTE SPEAKER: CAPTAIN GEORGE BUSSE, USNR (RETIRED)



Captain George Busse

Captain George K. Busse's 30 years of service (1976-2006) in the United States Navy/Navy Reserve included five Commanding Officer tours, and tours of duty on/with the Spruance-class Destroyer USS Comte de Grasse (DD-974), Destroyer Squadron 10, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Congressional Office of Legislative Affairs. He also served as the U.S. Navy Track and Field coach and as White House Social Aide to President Ronald Reagan.

Capt. Busse was awarded the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal. In addition, he earned the Navy Surface Warfare Pin and Navy-Marine Parachute Wings.

As a civilian, Capt. Busse is the Elk Grove Township Supervisor and serves on several corporate and charitable boards of directors. He was a Partner at William Blair & Company, a global financial firm headquartered in Chicago, until his 2018 retirement.



"Automated" refuse collection, scheduled to begin August 1st, will provide faster, more efficient service for customers and improve employee safety.

'AUTOMATION' INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES; NEW PROGRAM TO ENHANCE CUSTOMER CONVENIENCE AND EMPLOYEE SAFETY

Public Works is moving ahead with an initiative that will upgrade weekly refuse collection operations, enhance customer convenience, and improve employee safety – with no reduction in service levels – when it takes effect August 1st.

Program implementation will involve multiple phases, including:

- **Delivering new 65-gallon wheeled recycling carts to all customers.** *New carts will be provided by the City's recycling contractor, Flood Brothers, at no charge to homeowners during the last week of July.*
- **Re-purposing existing recycling carts for refuse/garbage.** *City employees will place TRASH ONLY labels on recycling carts currently used by residents during the week of July 25th. NOTE: Keep your cart at the curb until it receives a sticker.*
- **Retrofitting City refuse trucks to handle automated collection.** *The City's approved 2022 budget includes \$115,000 to upgrade the City's vehicle fleet.*

Flood Brothers remains the City's recycling contractor, and Public Works will continue to provide weekly refuse

collection service once the new program begins August 1st. City leaders expect to realize multiple benefits from automated collection operations, which may be performed with just one employee per vehicle:

1. Reduced staff time devoted to refuse collection.
2. Lower risk of employee injury/worker's compensation claims.
3. Expanded opportunities for employee cross-training/rotation.
4. Less refuse debris caused by animals breaking into garbage bags.
5. Reduced operational costs.

Residents who would like to learn more about the City's automated refuse collection program will find additional information at www.cityrm.org. Questions? Call Public Works (847-963-0500).

IMPORTANT DATES

July 25th – 29th: Flood Brothers will deliver new recycling carts to all customers on their regular refuse collection days. *City staff will re-purpose old carts for TRASH ONLY.*

August 1st: First day of new, two-cart service format.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION SPEARHEADS UPDATES TO CITY BUILDING CODES

Community Development Division staff members are developing updates to Rolling Meadows' Building Codes that, once adopted, will simplify the code interpretation process for customers and contractors, guide the incorporation of newer technologies now more common in residential and commercial construction, and improve overall public safety.

The updates, which are based on the 2018 International Code Council (ICC) code sets, will supplant current City codes that were last revised in 2010. Plans call for the new code language to take effect later this year, following review and approval by City Council.

"The updated codes are based on current industry practices that are now mandated at both the county and state levels," explained Elizabeth Kwandras, Interim Superintendent. "In particular, they incorporate newer technologies – such as solar panels and wireless smoke detectors – that were not available during the last update."

From a customer service perspective, Kwandras says the revised code standards will make it easier for residents to apply for and receive permits by eliminating scores of redundancies and local amendments that can create project delays.



Simpler, more streamlined codes will also allow City inspectors to review and approve home improvement and/or other projects more efficiently.

The Building Code updates follow a series of major code/policy updates overseen by the Community Development Division over the past three years. They include the City's:

- Comprehensive Plan (adopted in April 2019)
- Zoning Code (effective January 2020)
- Building Permit fee schedule (adopted August 2020)
- Business License and Zoning fees (adopted March 2021)

For more information on Community Development Division services, visit www.cityrm.org/148/Community-Development or call 847-506-6030.

CITY DRINKING WATER MEETS EPA SAFETY STANDARDS



Rolling Meadows' drinking water in 2021 once again met all quality and safety standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency, according to the City's new Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) that details the source and quality of the water used by residents and businesses.

The full 2021 report will be posted on the City's website by June 30th. Customers who would like to receive a printed version of the report by mail, once it is complete, may contact Public Works at 847-963-0500.

Lake Michigan is the source of Rolling Meadows' drinking water.

CITY ACCOUNTANT EARNS ELITE GFOA SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Carrie Marckess

Carrie Marckess, an accountant in the City's Finance Department, is one of only two municipal professionals in North America to earn the 2022 Jeffrey L. Esser Career Development Scholarship, presented by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA).

The award was established in 2017 to advance the public finance careers of local government professionals. Marckess intends to use the \$7,500 scholarship to pursue her goal of becoming a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

"I'm proud of the work we do here in the Finance Department and I'm excited to continue my education on behalf of the community we serve," Marckess said.

"Earning the Esser Scholarship is a great opportunity – one that would not have been possible without the support of my fellow team members," she added.



Founded in 1906, the GFOA represents public finance officials throughout the United States and Canada. The association's more than 20,000 members are federal, state/provincial, and local finance officials deeply involved in planning, financing, and implementing governmental operations in each of their jurisdictions.

GFOA's mission is to advance excellence in public finance. Learn more at www.gfoa.org.

MAY 2022

All meetings take place at City Hall, unless noted.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Economic Development Committee, 6:00 pm	3 Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 pm	4	5 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2:00 pm	6	7
8 <i>MOTHER'S DAY</i>	9 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9:00 am	10 Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	11	12 Adjudication Hearing, 1:00 pm	13	14
15	16	17 Community Events Foundation Volunteer Committee, 6:00 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm	18 Veterans Committee, 6:30 pm	19 Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2:00 pm	20 <i>Water bills due</i>	21
22	23	24 City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	25	26	27	28 Memorial Day Parade, 11:00 am; Observance, 11:30 am
29	30 <i>MEMORIAL DAY</i> City offices closed. Refuse collection delayed one day all week.	31			View upcoming City Council and volunteer committee meeting agendas at www.cityrm.org .	

JUNE 2022

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 Adjudication Hearing (Parking), 2:00 pm	3	4 Public Works Open House, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, 3900 Berdnick St.
5	6 Economic Development Committee, 6:00 pm	7 Environmental Committee, 6:30 pm Planning & Zoning Commission, 7:00 pm	8	9 Adjudication Hearing, 1:00 pm	10 Community Block Party, 5:30 – 9:30 pm, Central Road (Barker Ave. & Jay Ln.)	11
12	13 Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, 9:00 am	14 Crime Stoppers, 5:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	15 Veterans Committee, 6:30 pm	16 Adjudication Hearing (Red Light), 2:00 pm	17 <i>Friday's ROCK! & Roll in Meadows</i> , 5:30 – 10:00 pm, Kimball Hill Park	18
19 <i>FATHER'S DAY</i>	20 <i>Water bills due</i>	21 Community Events Foundation Volunteer Committee, 6:00 pm City Council Committee of the Whole, 7:30 pm <i>First Day of Summer</i>	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Capital Projects Committee, 6:30 pm City Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	29	30		



CITY WELCOMES NEW FIREFIGHTERS; DEPARTMENT HOSTS FIRST SWEARING-IN CEREMONY SINCE 2019

Rolling Meadows Fire Chief Jeff Moxley (above, left) congratulates new firefighter/paramedics Dusty Psaila, Javier Salgado, and Nicholas Mann at the conclusion of a swearing-in ceremony held during City Council's March 22nd meeting – the first of its kind since 2019, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Others who have joined the RMFD or earned promotion over the past two years include Matt Bohnen and JT Brault (new firefighter/paramedics); Ryan Lettieri, John Palmisano, and Rob Rabelhofer (promoted to Lieutenant); Ben Dwyer, Dan Kusek, and Jim



Marvin (promoted to Battalion Chief); Pete Sutter (promoted to Deputy Fire Chief); and Jeff Moxley (promoted to Fire Chief).

POLICE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTS '9:00 PM ROUTINE' TO REDUCE RISK OF NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME

Rolling Meadows Police Department offers a simple suggestion for residents to minimize their risk of becoming crime victims: follow the "9:00 pm Routine."

At that time every evening, remember to:

- Remove any valuables that might be in your vehicles.
- Lock your vehicle's doors.
- Lock all doors to your home.
- Turn on exterior lights.
- Activate all alarms.



"The 9:00 pm Routine is easy to remember but goes a long way toward reducing your risk of becoming a crime victim," Sergeant John Manfredi explained. "Making it part of your nightly routine will discourage thieves and make our neighborhoods safer."

Residents who observe suspicious vehicles or persons in their neighborhoods should call 911.

Learn more about crime prevention strategies and RMPD operations at www.cityrm.org/207/Police-Department. Residents may also follow RMPD on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube.

CITY PARTNERS WITH CHAMBER FOR MAY 18TH 'TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS' LUNCHEON

A May 18th "Taking Care of Business Luncheon" – a collaboration between the City and the Rolling Meadows Chamber of Commerce – will feature a keynote presentation by Mayor Joe Gallo, whose "State of the City" address will provide an update on the current business climate and ongoing economic development plans.

The event, which is open to the public, will take place from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, at Meridian Banquet & Conference Center (1701 W. Algonquin Road).

City officials, including City Manager Rob Sabo and Business Advocate Martha Corner, will be on-hand to discuss the City's vision for further strengthening its business community.

"Many people do not realize that the Chamber is an independent entity and not part of City operations," Corner explained. "Rolling Meadows' participation in this event is the latest example of each organization's commitment to work together for the best interests of our entire community."

Registration starts at \$25 for Chamber members (\$50 for non-members). Fees include networking, lunch, and program. Learn more about the May 18th event by visiting www.rmchamber.org.



SUMMER IN THE CITY: CELEBRATE SUMMER'S ARRIVAL WITH COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY, FREE CONCERT IN KIMBALL HILL PARK

Summertime blues? Not here in Rolling Meadows! The season's pending arrival means that it's almost time for residents to gather and celebrate their city with a variety of fun-filled community activities.

Upcoming events include:

Community Block Party Friday, June 10th, 5:30 – 9:30 pm

One of the northwest suburb's biggest block parties returns with family-friendly activities, music, food, and fun. The action takes place on Central Road (between Barker Avenue and Jay Lane).

This year's event will feature live performances by:

- **Feel Good Party Band.** This fun, energetic, Chicago-based tribute band plays party jams from the 1960s to today.
- **Sixteen Candles.** The nation's premier 80s pop experience has been keeping it "tubular" for audiences across the country for nearly 20 years.

Friday's ROCK! & Roll in Meadows Friday, June 17th, 5:30 – 10:00 pm

This free, all-ages concert in Kimball Hill Park will feature TWO outstanding live acts.

- **Roger That** – "California surf, British invasion, American rockabilly" (5:30 – 7:00 pm)
- **Student Body** – "Party anthems from the 80s, 90s, and now" (7:30 – 10:00 pm)

View a complete list of upcoming community events at www.cityrm.org/669/Community-Events.



OPEN HOUSE TO OFFER 'BEHIND THE SCENES' VIEW OF PUBLIC WORKS OPERATIONS, JUNE 4TH

Public Works' upcoming community Open House is a chance for residents to enjoy a "behind the scenes" glimpse of Department operations and explore the remarkable variety of



services it provides to the community. The family-friendly event will take place Saturday, June 4th, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, at the Department's 3900 Berdnick Street facility. Attractions will include:

- Live demonstrations that showcase Department operations.

- Q&A sessions with PW employees.
- Touch-a-Truck.
- Free food and refreshments (*while supplies last*).
- Prizes and giveaways.

"Department employees are excited to showcase our services and eager get to know our residents a little bit better," explained Public Works Utilities Supervisor Ryan Rivard. "We think our guests will have a lot of fun and, in the process, walk away with a more detailed understanding of how Public Works helps make Rolling Meadows a great place to call home."

For more information, call Public Works at 847-963-0500.

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



MAYOR and CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Joe Gallo 847-814-9271
1st Ward Alderman
Karen McHale. 773-517-3873
2nd Ward Alderman
Nick Budmats. 847-202-0855
3rd Ward Alderman
Kevin O'Brien. 847-212-2587
4th Ward Alderman
Jenifer Vinezeano 630-546-8133
5th Ward Alderman
Jon Bisesi 847-772-8428
6th Ward Alderman
Mandy Reyez 847-209-5435
7th Ward Alderman
Lara Sanoica. 847-770-3097
City Manager
Rob Sabo 847-394-8500

SERVICES

Fire & Police Emergency 911
Fire Non-emergency. 847-397-3352
Police Non-emergency. 847-255-2416
Community Development. 847-506-6030
Finance/Utility Billing 847-394-8500
Public Works. 847-963-0500
Senior Handyman Program 847-506-6030
Crime Stoppers 847-590-7867
ComEd 1-800-EDISON-1

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'ENEWS' OFFERS EXPANDED COVERAGE OF CITY INITIATIVES

Stay on top of all that is happening in Rolling Meadows with eNews, a supplemental online newsletter published in February, April, June, August, October, and December.

Together, News & Views and eNews provide expanded monthly coverage of City plans, events, and initiatives. The e-newsletter's web-based PDF format also offers embedded links that give readers access to additional resources and insights.

Access eNews at www.cityrm.org. Select "Monthly City Newsletters" from the "Our Community" menu.