

November 2006

## **VILLAGE NEWS**

### Village Board Approves Tax Levy

The Village Board has approved and adopted the 2007 Village Budget in the amount of \$1,880,631.94. The Village Board set the tax levy at \$1,565,685, an increase of \$30,699 or a 2 % increase. The resulting tax rate increased from \$5.31 per thousand to \$5.42, an increase of 2.1 %.

### Thanksgiving Holiday Office Closing

The Village Hall will be closed Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday. If you need to contact someone regarding a non-emergency issue you may call 367-2600 and our dispatch center will have an officer make contact with you.

### Building/Zoning Code Changes

At their October Village Board meeting, the Village Trustees adopted changes to the Building/Zoning Code in the following sections.

*Section 5.03* – Added 5.03(1)(c) stating that a grading permit is required regardless of whether or not a structure is involved.

*Section 5.22* – Proposed new ordinance which requires that a permit be obtained before constructing or relocating a driveway.

*Section 5.23* – Proposed new lighting ordinance which deals with light trespass.

*Section 6.09* – Addition of 6.09(1) and 6.09(2)(c) and (d) regarding removal of shore cover.

*Section 6.10* – This section was modified as prior ordinance did not have direct enforcement guidelines. Section 6.10(2) “Restoration” was added.

To obtain further information on these changes, you may either stop by the Village Hall to view a copy of the changes or view them on the Village’s website which is [www.chenequa.org](http://www.chenequa.org).

Section 5.20 “Swimming Pool Regulations” is also under review. More information regarding possible changes to this section will be forthcoming as discussions progress.

### Elmbrook Humane Society

**Have you found a stray or injured animal?** Residents of the Village of Chenequa who are experiencing an animal related issue should call Elmbrook Humane Society during normal business hours at 262-782-9261 or use our after hours number 262-893-8189, for evenings and weekends. In addition to companion animal adoptions and surrenders, EBHS is available for the pick up stray animals, injured wildlife, and to handle animal related emergencies and complaints 24-hours a day. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance to you. Please see our website for additional information regarding the shelter and our Humane Officer services at [www.ebhs.org](http://www.ebhs.org).

### Tax Collection

All documentation necessary for the processing of property tax bills will be received soon and the bills will then be in the printing process. It is anticipated that the tax bills will be mailed in early December.

Tax payments may be made at the Chenequa Village Hall during normal business hours, which are Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The office **will be open** Friday, December 29<sup>th</sup> until 4:30 p.m. The office **will not** be open Saturday, December 30<sup>th</sup> or December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Tax payments may also be mailed to the Village Hall or dropped in the drop box located to the right of the Village Hall main entrance. After processing payments, receipts will be mailed to you. Payments postmarked on or before December 31, 2006 will be receipted as a 2006 payment. Any payments found in the drop box at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 1, 2007 will be receipted as a 2006 payment.

### Dog Licenses

Soon it will be time to renew dog licenses for 2006. **Please remember that you must submit a copy of your dog's current rabies certificate along with your application.** We cannot issue a dog license until we have a copy of the rabies certificate in our office. A copy of the Application for Dog License is enclosed.

### Waste Collection

Please make special note of the following garbage collection dates for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. Pick up for those weeks will be as follows:

*Saturday, November 25, 2006*

*Saturday, December 23, 2006*

*Saturday, December 30, 2006*

### Goose Fencing

Reminder: Goose fencing along shorelines should be removed by November 30<sup>th</sup> to comply with Village Code.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

### Background Checks

Many of our Chenequa residents hire people for miscellaneous duties around their homes. Due to recent events, the Police Department strongly encourages you to check their criminal backgrounds and obtain their full name and date of birth. Under the Wisconsin Open Records Law you can access Wisconsin Circuit Court Records through a web site. This web site is: <http://wcca.wicourts.gov/index.xsl>.

### Vacation House Watch

If you are leaving town for more than a couple of days and would like the Police Department to make a periodic check of your home, please call the Village Hall and let us know when you will be away. If you return early, please call us so you are not surprised by a visit from an officer.

### **HIGHWAY/FORESTRY NEWS**

#### Winter Roadway Procedures and Reminders

The 2006/2007 Snowplowing/Sanding Agreement and Release of Liability form is attached. If you wish to have the Village maintain your roadway/driveway in accordance with the Winter Roadway Maintenance Policy, your signed agreement must be returned to the Village Hall along with **\$10.00** by December 27, 2006. **Failure to do so will remove your address from the plowing list effective January 1, 2007.** For snow plowing updates call our information line @ 367-4681 ext #5. A message will be left on this line stating when plows will be out.

The Village plow trucks do not normally begin plowing until a snowstorm has subsided. Exception to the rule would be very heavy snowfalls over a period of time. Plowing of public and private roads is done as needed to ensure access for emergency vehicles and safe passage for other vehicles. It is not intended to be of the quality that may be available from some commercial services. Although we strive to satisfy everyone's needs, the Village plowing service does have budget, manpower, and truck limitations. As a result, we may not be able to meet all the possible requirements of all Village residents. If you have specific or unique requirements, you may need to contract privately for your plowing service.

Heavy snow weighs down branches that hit the windshields of the plows and other large vehicles such as fire trucks. Please trim your drive of low branches and brush. We should have a clearance of 10 feet in height and 2 feet from the edge of the pavement.

#### Fall Plant Care

This fall before the ground freezes, give your trees and shrubs a long drink of water. The dry weather puts additional stress on plants, which leaves them more susceptible to insect attacks and other plant problems. Evergreens especially require watering to prevent the winter burn or browning of the needles during the early spring. Mulching will also help to insulate the ground from temperature extremes. It will prevent the frost from penetrating as deep which could damage shallow roots. Mulch depth should be 2-4 inches deep and away from direct contact with the trunk.

#### Removal of Invasive Plants

Fall is an excellent time to cut and remove invasive plants such as buckthorn and honeysuckle. Buckthorn identification is easier in the fall. Its dark green leaves stand out against the fall coloration of our native plants. Chemical applications used against buckthorn, which are still actively growing are less likely to be applied to non-target plants. Also, the herbicides used to kill brush are more effective in the fall. For more information or assistance in plant identification call the village forester. Shoreline cutting does need village approval prior to beginning the work.