

The Forest View

VIEWS FROM THE DESK OF...

Dear Employees,

I have decided to reprint my Manager's message from one year ago since the situation/facts have not changed (sadly)

In preparing this year's budget message, I could relate to the main character in the 1993 movie Groundhog Day, played by Bill Murray. I felt like I was trapped in a time loop, listening to Governor Rauner deliver his 2016 Budget message, when eight months after the start of the State's fiscal year, the Illinois Legislature still has not adopted the 2015 Budget. The State of Illinois' financial picture has not improved, and unquestionably has gotten much worse. The uncertainty and impacts of the "rendezvous with reality" discussed in early 2015 still persists today with no clear end in sight.

Legislators refuse to make the tough decisions necessary for the state to live within its means,

and fail to appreciate that with each passing day the situation becomes increasingly dire. Too bad they cannot learn from us. City employees have consistently shown over the years how to be innovative, creative and committed to finding ways to "do more with less" and maintain a high level of service to our residents.

While the news out of Springfield may not be great, I hope that you will attend the upcoming City Manager Informational meetings in May to learn more about what is going on and how this might impact City operations.



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BIRTHDAYS

Billy Loyd	PW - Bldg. Maint.	03/27	Ismael Ramirez	PW - Sanitation	04/21
James Gluth	Fire	03/31	John Baldwin	P&R - Parks	04/22
Joanne Yorro	CROYA	04/01	Rob January	P&R - Parks	04/23
Luke Miller	PW - Streets	04/01	Mary Good	Library	04/27
Bernard Pondexter	PW - Engineering	04/02	Joe Mobile	P&R - Admin.	04/29
Yoni Garcia	PW - Sanitation	04/03	Karl Walldorf	Police	05/01
Pablo Garcia	PW - Sanitation	04/05	Mike Glomski	ComDev	05/01
Dominick Bellino	Police	04/06	Matt Goodman	ComDev	05/05
John Bardi	Fire	04/10	Daniel Blaul	Police	05/06
Dave DeMarco	PW - Fleet/Eqpt	04/13	Anthony Anaszewicz	P&R - Rec	05/08
Mike Gernenz	PW - Sanitation	04/17	Ken Pierini	P&R - Rec	05/08
Marty Blitstein	Police	04/17	Kate Buckardt	Library	05/11
Rickey Parham	PW - Sanitation	04/18	Paul Petersen	ComDev	05/12
Matt Wert	P&R - Parks	04/19	Charlie Flesch	Police	05/14
Matthew Bachler	FIT - Finance	04/20	Mike Hughes	Police	05/14
Elizabeth Poppenhouse	Library	04/20	Jian Tan	Library	05/17

City Manager Informational Meetings Schedule

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	WORK GROUP
Monday May 1	9:00 AM	PSB - Fire Station (Main)	Fire
Tuesday May 2	1:30 PM	PSB - Fire Station (Main)	Fire
	2:45 PM	PSB - Police Roll Call	Police
Wednesday May 3	6:45 AM	PSB - Police Roll Call	Police
	8:00 AM	PSB - Fire Station (Main)	Fire
Friday May 5	7:00 AM	MS Training Room	Sanitation
	8:30 AM	MS Training Room	Finance/IT, ComDev, OCM, Seniors, HR (1/2)
	9:30 AM	MS Training Room	Finance/IT, ComDev, OCM, Seniors, HR (1/2)
	1:30 PM	CROYA	CROYA, Cemetery, Parks, Forestry, Rec
Tuesday May 9	10:00 AM	MS Training Room	Streets, Water&Sewer, Water Plant
	11:00 AM	MS Training Room	Engineering, PW Admin, Building Maint., Fleet

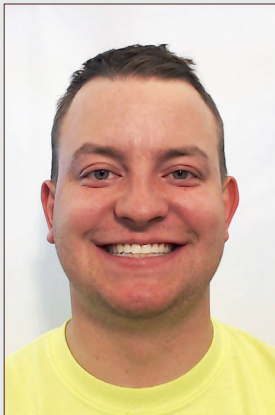
Note: If employees cannot meet at the appointed time for their workgroup, please have them attend another scheduled meeting.

NEW EMPLOYEES



Jamie Ferretti has joined the City as an Administrative Assistant in the HR Department. Jamie previously worked at a Lake Forest Law Firm and for the Great Lakes Naval Museum.

She is an animal lover, helps out at local rescues in spare time and loves football, GO EAGLES!



Richie Paulsen has been promoted from a Seasonal position to a fulltime Maintenance Worker in the Building Maintenance Section.

He loves to cook, hang out with friends and family on his days off and is a sports fanatic.

GROWING FAMILIES

Dana and **Dan Lainio** (Fire)
Brianna Marie
February 15

Tara and **John Baldwin** (Parks)
Kali Debrah
March 11

Lindsay and **Matt Signa** (Police)
McKenzie Monroe
March 13

Ashley and **Aaron Kruchko** (Police)
Xander Alan
March 17



THE LIBRARY

Library closings:

Friday, April 7 - Staff Institute Day
Sunday, April 16 - Easter

Book Sale at Lake Forest Library

This Cookbook and Garden Book Sale features like-new cookbooks and gardening books. Friday April 28, 9:00 am-5:00pm; Saturday, April 29, 9:00am-3:00 pm. Library Conference Room-Main Level

New Book Club

Our new cookbook club, Cook with Books meets from 7:00-8:00 pm on the fourth Monday of each month. Create recipes to share with the group from that month's chosen cookbook. No registration Required.

For more information on these programs see lakeforestlibrary.org

EMPLOYEE NEWS



Dwight Davis has been appointed as Police Commander!

Dwight started as a police officer with us in 1995 and has served as a Sergeant since 2012. Along the way, he worked as an undercover narcotics officer, a Detective, and on the Chicagoland regional crowd-control team. Dwight is a 2014 graduate of Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. He recently completed a four-part promotional evaluation with a panel of regional Chiefs of Police.

IMPORTANT BENEFIT REMINDERS AND UPDATES

PBA Coordination of Benefits

PBA will be sending out their annual Coordination of Benefits letter to all employees with family coverage the week of April 17 . DO NOT THROW AWAY.

For those of you who have dependent coverage on your health insurance, keep an eye out for a Coordination of Benefits letter that will be mailed to your home in the next few days by PBA.

-- It is important that you complete this letter and return it to PBA as quickly as possible. This is information needed for our excess liability carrier and failure to complete the form could result in a delay in processing your medical claims. Always be sure to keep a copy for your files. If you have any questions, contact HR.

FLEX due Friday March 31, 2017

If you have a balance exceeding \$500 in your Flexible Spending Account, now is the time to submit your claim. All claims incurred prior to December 31, 2016, must be submitted no later than March 31, 2017.

Online filing of claims is available at pbaclaims.com

If you wish to check the balance in your Flexible Spending Account, you can do so at pbaclaims.com under the Flex tab. You can also submit your claims online by scanning your receipts and filling out the online claim form on the same PBA site. It's very easy to do.

If you have any problems logging in or have additional questions, please contact PBA customer service at 630.655.3755.

Due to Federal guidelines, only \$500 is allowed to roll over to 2017. Do not jeopardize your funds!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOUR BENEFITS OR THESE UPDATES, PLEASE CONTACT HR. THE GENERAL HR LINE IS 847-810-3533.

Spring is coming!

