

## Village of

# LINDENHURST

Developing Today for Tomorrow

#### In this Issue~

Page 1: Grand Avenue Corridor Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Page 2: From the Mayor's Desk 2-1-1 Help; Living w/ Coyotes Page 3: Linden Notes
Ordinance Reminders

Page 4: Village Approves
Cannabis Ordinances

#### **Event Calendar**

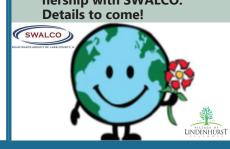
\* Due to on-going pandemic restrictions, events are subject to change. \* Visit <u>www.lindenhurstil.org</u> for more details about all Village events:

### Check out <u>www.lindenhurst-parks.org</u> for Lindenhurst Park District family and adult events and information

- Monday, January 10: final Groot Christmas Tree collection. Place trees roadside, without decorations, as part of your regular garbage/recycling pick-up
- Saturday, February 12, 6PM-8PM: Park District presents "The Roaring Twenties Family Dance," at Community Center Gym (registration required)
- Monday, February 21: Village Hall & Postal Substation closed for Presidents' Day
- Sunday, March 13, 2AM:
   Daylight Savings Time starts-set your clocks ahead an hour
- Saturday, April 9 (rain date of Sunday, April 10): Park District Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bunny Meet at Millennium Park, 201 Country Place
- Saturday, June 18, 9AM

   12PM: Recycle-O-Rama
   at Village Hall, in partnership with SWALCO.

   Details to come!



#### **Grand Avenue Corridor Tax Increment Finance (TIF)**

One of the strategic priorities of the Mayor and Trustees of the Village has been the redevelopment and revitalization of the Grand Avenue corridor. Building upon the momentum generated through the reconstruction of the Grand Avenue roadway, the Village began the necessary planning to use certain redevelopment tools to create a vibrant community center, attracting residents and visitors alike to our community.

A common tool used to provide reinvestment into a commercial area is tax increment financing. Tax increment financing (TIF) is a method which allocates growth in the property taxes of a designated area to pay for improvements within that specific area. It is the Village's desire to leverage these funds to enhance the appearance and vitality of the Grand Avenue corridor.

The general area of the Village's focus runs approximately from Village Hall

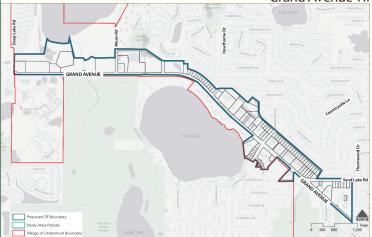
on Grand Avenue westward toward Deep Lake Road - primarily encompassing properties on the north side of the roadway. The map shown captures the vast majority of commercial properties along Grand Avenue.

To incorporate the most commercial properties possible, the boundaries do include some residential properties. These residential properties are included solely to connect commercial properties together so that these commercial areas are eligible for assistance with revitalization and reinvestment, and potentially to provide greater buffer between commercial and residential uses. The Village does not have an interest in purchasing or otherwise acquiring residential properties. Largely, residential properties will remain unaffected by TIF activities.

Please visit our website <u>www.</u> <u>lindenhurstil.org</u>. The Featured Topic "Grand Avenue TIF Redevelopment

> District" should address many of your TIF questions, as well as provide a link to a feedback form.

You may also call or send an email to Clay Johnson, Village Administrator at (847) 356-8252 or cjohnson@ lindenhurstil.org.



## From the Mayor's Desk 2021: Year in Review

Much like 2020, a lot of time was spent in 2021 focused on providing essential Village services during a global pandemic, while keeping employees and residents safe.

A few key accomplishments to note:

- We determined that the Grand Avenue corridor meets the requirements of a Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District. (See page 1 for additional.)
- To help residents with financial struggles due to the pandemic, the Village Board delayed an increase to the refuse and recycling rates, and delayed an annual increase to water and sewer rates.
- Held a joint public meeting with the Village Board and the Plan Commission to discuss the Grand Avenue Corridor redevelopment.
- Held a joint public meeting with the Village Board, Plan Commission, and Board of Police Commission-

- ers to discuss the Open Meetings Act, Freedom of Information Act, and Ethics policy.
- Dedicated the Art Neubauer Board Room at the Village Hall.
- Adopted an ordinance to regulate food trucks in our Village.
- Held another successful (although shortened) Lindenfest
- Approved a plan to spend America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds over the next 3 years (\$1.9mm).
- Pursuing a grant thru the IL Department of Commerce and Economic Development (DCEO) to redevelop Slove Park thru the 2021 Rebuild Illinois Main Street and Downtown Corridor Grant program.
- Amended our zoning ordinance to allow for 1 and only 1 cannabis retail dispensary.

2022 will be another exciting year. Hopefully the COVID-19 pandemic will be much less of an issue and we can return to 'normal'-whatever 'normal' means.

### HELP IS ONE CALL OR TEXT AWAY!

United Way of Lake County's 211 is Lake County's one-stop shop for help. 211 is a free, confidential, 24-hour infor-

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mation and referral helpline for essential health and human services inour community. 211 is open to everyone in Lake County and connects people to available resources by phone, text and online, including food, rent and utility assistance, mental health services, health care and many other resources.

United Way of Lake County

To access 211, simply call 211 or text your zip code to 898211. Resource navigators at the 211 contact center are trained, experienced specialists who understand you and your local

community. They will guide you to the help you deserve in your moments of need. 211 is multilingual with English and Spanish speaking staff, and interprets to more than 150 other languages.

Call 211 or text your zip code to 898211 for immediate assistance, or visit 211LakeCounty.org for more information.

## Living with Wildlife: Coyotes (courtesy of lcfpd.org)

Human development in urban areas has replaced natural areas that were once habitat for wildlife. Open fields, forests and wetlands have been replaced by lawns, gardens and neighborhoods. Many animals are adapting to this new environment, sometimes at the expense of their human neighbors, by creating a disturbance or causing damage to property.

The best way to prevent common wildlife issues is to avoid providing them potential sources for food and shelter. Following are recommendations for how to prevent common wildlife conflicts:



- Do not encourage wildlife to come in or near your home by feeding them.
- Keep pet food and water dishes indoors.
- Turn on outside lights, make noise, observe the area for any signs of wildlife before letting your pet outdoors.
- Do not allow spilled seed to accumulate around bird feeders.
- If possible, do not keep garbage cans outside.
- Keep grills and barbecues clean.

Coyotes cannot tell the difference between their natural prey and pets. Therefore, they have been known to occasionally prey on cats. Coyotes, which are dogs themselves, do not think of dogs as prey and usually will not attack a dog for food. However, coyotes do view dogs as competition for territory, food and mates. Therefore, if a dog is within a coyote's territory, the coyotes will attack it if they are unable to chase it away. If you are approached by a coyote or it comes into your yard, scare it away by shouting at it and waving your arms over your head. These actions will reinforce the coyote's natural fear of people, and teach it that your yard is not available territory.

Even though it may be tempting to trap and remove a nuisance animal, removal typically does not provide a permanent solution. Trapping and removing animals only creates an opening for another animal to occupy. The best solution is to focus on removing the attraction, not the animal. (Please remember that it is illegal for homeowners to discharge any type of projectile weapon or firearm within Village limits.) Coyotes play an important role in maintaining healthy ecosystems and species diversity. By preying on smaller predator species, coyotes also help protect our bird populations.

Lake County organizations and HOAs can book a free informational presentation about coyotes, or request a brochure by contacting Lake County Forest Preserves' Public Affairs office at 847-367-6640.

## Linden Notes

50/50 Programs

Lindenhurst offers reimbursement to residents that have planted a tree, added shoreline buffer plantings or purchased a rain barrel and/or compost bin. Please visit the Community Resources/Green Initiatives section of the Village website at <a href="https://www.lindenhurstil.org">www.lindenhurstil.org</a> for forms and information.

- Program dollars will be dispersed by the Village to the homeowner after proof of purchase and residency.
- Households may participate one time during the Village's fiscal year (May 1- April 30).
- Residents must submit a receipt to Village Hall for reimbursement.
- First-come, first-served basis as budgeted funds are available.

#### Rain Barrel & Compost Bin:

This program will allow residents to be more sustainable by reducing residential water consumption or improving soil and plant life.

Up to \$75 for up to three rain barrels OR a compost bin (excluding sales tax, delivery, accessories, etc.).

#### **Shoreline Stabilization:**

Residents who own lake shore property are reimbursed 50% for acceptable shrubs and plantings that help preserve the shoreline and water quality of the lakes.

Up to \$100 for approved shoreline plants (excluding sales tax, delivery, installation, etc.).

#### **Tree Reimbursement:**

Residents are reimbursed 50% of the cost of a single tree planted in their parkway or private yard excluding sales tax, delivery, installation, etc.)

Up to \$200 for an **acceptable** tree (no invasives permitted; other exclusions may apply).

#### **Utility Bill Payment Options**

Residents can take advantage of the Village's online utility bill system, at no additional cost. Residents can use InvoiceCloud to pay their utility bill, view the bill or receive paperless billing through the e-bill program. To register, visit <a href="https://www.invoicecloud.com/line-throst/ww

https://www.invoicecloud.com/lindenhurstil.

Please contact Village Hall at (847) 356-8252 if you have any questions about on-line utility bill payments.

#### **VILLAGE ORDINANCE REMINDERS**

This Winter, please be mindful of our Village ordinances. Our full code can be found at www.lindenhurstil.org.

#### **Snow Removal**

Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) plows Grand Avenue and Route 45, and the Lake County Department of Transportation plows Sand Lake, Gelden, and Grass Lake Roads. All other public roads in Lindenhurst are maintained by Village snow removal crews.

Please don't deposit snow onto the roadway from your shoveling or snow-blowing efforts.

#### **Parking Restrictions**

To assist our snow plow crews, there is no parking on any Village streets when there is 2" or more of accumulated snow. The restriction applies until the streets have been cleared of snow. Violators may be towed.

2 AM to 6 AM street parking is always prohibited.

#### **Road Hazards**

Though basketball nets are never allowed adjacent to o<mark>ur roadways, th</mark>ey pose a particular hazard to our plow drivers as they clear our streets. Please store them appropriately year around. Also, remove garbage/recycling cans from the end of your driveways ASAP after pick-up, and no later than 8PM.

#### **Snowmobiles**

Snowmobiles are not permitted on any public right of way or roadway, school grounds, Village or Park District property.

Snowmobiles are only permitted on private property, with the permission of the owner.

Special rules apply for Lake Linden and snowmobile equipment requirements. Please refer to Village website <a href="www.lindenhurstil.org">www.lindenhurstil.org</a> for link to snowmobile ordinances, or call Village Hall at (847) 356-8252 for more information.

## Village Approves Cannabis Ordinances

Prior to the legalization of recreational cannabis on January 1, 2020, municipalities were given the option to prohibit the establishment of retail cannabis businesses, craft growers, infusers, and cultivation centers within their jurisdiction. On December 9, 2019, the Village Board voted to prohibit these businesses through an ordinance which outlawed the uses through amending the zoning code. Prohibiting all cannabis related businesses prior to January 1, 2020 gave the Village the greatest defensible position to any prospective cannabis businesses that may want to challenge the zoning ordinance. At that time, the Board reached a consensus that they would revisit this issue in a year once there was a better understanding of the new law and its impact on Illinois communities.

The topic of whether or not to permit retail sales of Cannabis within the Village has been discussed numerous times in Village Board meetings, even prior to its legalization. The Village wanted to ensure that whatever direction they took was in keeping with the wishes of its residents. Therefore in Fall of 2019, the Village Board published a non-scientific survey online and distributed through its various communications channels to garner feedback on the subject of cannabis business uses (see charts below).

The survey reflected that approximately 7 out of 10 residents responded that they wanted some type of cannabis dispensary within the Village. Village Trustees reviewed the online survey results as well cannabis impacts on other states, including policy on taxation/revenues, public health, and public safety. Village officials have also attended various forums on the topic of recreational cannabis held by the Lake County Municipal League, Illinois City/County Managers' Association, and Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police. Through this research and discussion, a majority of the Village Board concluded that dispensaries may be allowable within the Village on a very limited, controlled basis.

During the course of a November 17th public hearing, Plan Commissioners discussed a wide variety of issues related to cannabis retail sales, including zoning amendments which would allow cannabis retail dispensaries as a special use within certain zoning districts. There was a consensus among the Board and Plan Commission relating to the prohibition of other cannabis business uses such as cafes, lounges, and large cannabis cultivation centers. Much of the deliberation regarding dispensaries raised issues not unlike those that have been debated at the Village Board — Village image, public safety concerns, sales tax revenue generation, increased traffic generation, and impacts to

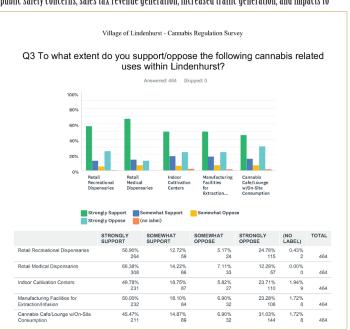
neighboring properties.

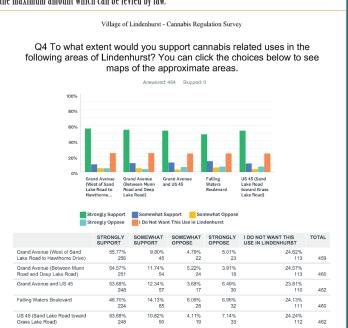
The first cannabis ordinance amends the zoning code to allow cannabis dispensaries by special use within only the CB-Community Business and BK-Business Park zoning designations. The allowance of cannabis craft growers and infusers is not new to the zoning code as this special use was amended into the code over a year ago. This ordinance is specific to dispensaries only. No other cannabis related business like processors, transporting organizations, cultivation centers, or on-premises users are permitted in any other zoning classification.

Limiting the prospect of cannabis dispensaries to special uses within the CB and BK districts allows the Village to be able to exert an extended amount of influence over the proposed use. The Village Board may be able to include additional restrictions and conditions as part of a special use permit to limit any real or perceived impact of the operation of the business on the community. Dispensaries would also be subject to all site plan, landscape, lighting, and architectural plan reviews as would be customary with any business locating within Lindenhurst. Above and beyond the conditions that may be imposed through the special use permit process, these regulations are included in the approved ordinance that potential dispensaries must meet:

- 1. There can only be one dispensary operating within the community at any time.
- 2. A dispensary cannot be located within 250 feet of a pre-existing public/private school, public park, public library, daycare center, or place of worship.
- 3. There must be at least 6 parking spaces per 1,000 square feet of floor area.
- 4. Traffic studies may be required of an applicant if it is believed the use will cause an undue impact on the area.
- 5. The business must submit to random inspection by local law enforcement.

The second approved cannabis ordinance imposes a retailer's occupation (sales) tax on cannabis transactions that occur in the community. The proposed ordinance levies an additional 3% tax on the gross receipts of taxable cannabis sales as permitted by the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. This is the maximum amount which can be levied by law.





Village of Lindenhurst , 2301 Sand Lake Road , Lindenhurst, IL , 60046 <u>www.lindenhurstil.org</u> , (847) 356-8252 , <u>mail@lindenhurstil.org</u>

Mayor Dominic Marturano Trustee Patty Chybowski Trustee Patrick Dickson Trustee Patrick Dunham Trustee Ronald Grace Trustee Heath Rosten Trustee Dawn Suchy

Village Clerk Jody Stoughtenger

Village Board meetings are scheduled on the second and fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 2301 E. Sand Lake Road.

Please visit  $\underline{www.lindenhurstil.org}$  for more information.

