



THE BRIDGE

Village Approves Budget

The Village's 2022-23 fiscal budget process concluded on April 12 with the adoption of a balanced budget that outlines projected operating and capital revenues, as well as expenses for the upcoming fiscal year, which runs May 1, 2022 - April 30, 2023. As a result of careful planning by Village leaders, who work in partnership with various intergovernmental and public and private organizations, the balanced budget projects that the General Fund revenues will exceed expenditures by \$295,599, and spending is estimated to be at one of the lowest levels in four years.

The Village budget is a collection of several budgets that cover separate Village funds. The main fund is the General Fund, which includes most major revenue sources, in addition to key expenses required to provide basic Village services. General Fund revenues for fiscal year 2022-23 are projected to be \$3,415,435, and include local sales taxes and the local portion of income and Illinois sales taxes allocated back from the State of Illinois.

General Fund expenditures for fiscal year 2022-23 are projected to be \$3,119,836, which are down from fiscal year 2021-22 expenses by 7.3%, and include salaries for five full-time staff, as well as fees for contracted staff that provides services to the Village such as engineering, legal, accounting, inspection, zoning and code review,

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From the Village President



Bill Jacob
Bill.Jacob@LongGroveIL.gov

I hope that you are enjoying the warmer temperatures and being outdoors as we transition to summer. It's always a beautiful time of the year in Long Grove.

The Village has resumed in-person Village Board meetings but are conducting them hybrid via Zoom. Perhaps Zoom is one element of the pandemic that will remain going forward, as it provides the most flexibility for those not able to, or who do not feel comfortable attending meetings in person at this time.

The Village Board recently conducted an in-person planning workshop to align on goals and priorities. One item that came out of the workshop was the need for improvements to Village Hall, both from an office and meeting space perspective.

A bit of history on our current Village Hall; the office space area was formerly the Drexler Tavern, which was gifted to the Village by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard VanderMeulen of Wheeling. In March of 1974, the Long Grove Historical Society was formed as a nonprofit organization to officially accept the building. Through a cooperative effort between the Village and the historical society, the tavern was moved to its current location. The building was renovated and expanded with an addition that now serves as the Village Hall and is where Village staff works from today. This was all done in typical Long Grove fashion with no tax to our residents and funded through a series of grants – including fund raising from the Long Grove Historical Society. The facility has served our Village well for nearly 48 years, but there is a need for more space as our staff has expanded. The pandemic also brought forward the need for social distancing so that the public can safely attend board and commission meetings. A bit more history about the Village campus; the little Archer School that sits just to the side of the Village Hall was also a gift, from Mr. and Mrs. Strahammer of Long Grove.

In regards to plans for Village Hall, the good news is that Long Grove will receive more than \$1 million in funding from the America Rescue Plan Act, with the first installment of \$537,834 already in hand. With the new guidelines, expanding or building a new village hall is now a qualified use of these funds. As a result, work is underway by our Village staff to investigate options. Ideally, adding a new, larger village hall to the existing building and using the current hall for office space would be preferred. But, the building is served by septic – and expansion or replacement may not be possible due to soil conditions. Additionally, there is no sanitary sewer access nearby if expanding or replacing our septic system is not viable. As

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Village Trustees



Chris Borawski
Chris.Borawski@LongGroveIL.gov



Anne Kritzmire
Anne.Kritzmire@LongGroveIL.gov



Rita O'Connor
Rita.Oconnor@LongGroveIL.gov



Bobbie O'Reilly
Bobbie.Oreilly@LongGroveIL.gov



Jennifer Michaud
Jennifer.Michaud@LongGroveIL.gov



Kent Tinucci
Kent.Tinucci@LongGroveIL.gov

Village Clerk



Michele Schmitke
Michele.Schmitke@LongGroveIL.gov

Village Approves Budget

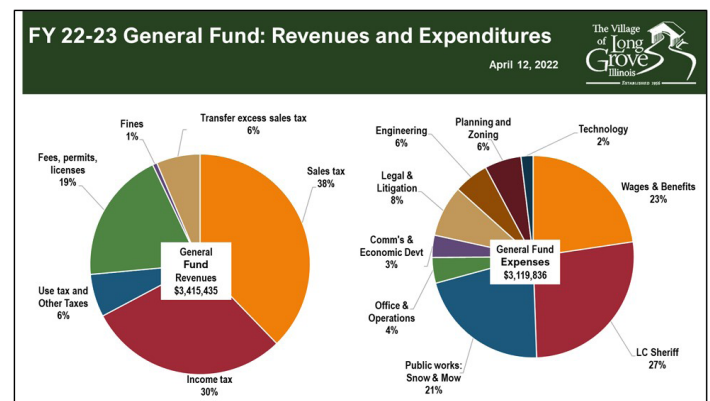
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communications, technology, public safety and public works (mow and snow). Even with the drop in expenses this year, the General Fund budget includes additional funds earmarked for initiatives to more effectively meet technology needs and grow staff efficiency.

Another key fund is the Infrastructure Fund, which is used to maintain and improve public roads and other infrastructure. These projects are funded by a local infrastructure tax, augmented by motor fuel taxes, and have also been supported through grants and General Fund revenues. The infrastructure projects planned for this year include repaving of Oak Grove Drive and Circle, Chickamauga Lane and Port Clinton Road.

Other major funds include the Motor Fuel Tax Fund, which provides funds for improvement and maintenance of streets not falling under homeowners associations. The Downtown Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Fund accounts for property tax revenues and expenditures anticipated over time within the Downtown redevelopment district; this year the TIF fund is projected to bring in revenues for the second year in a row. Additional funds include those for the Village water service delivery and SSA (special service area) special project taxing funds. In addition, the Village continues to receive Open Space Funds for the purpose of acquiring and preserving open space within the Village, which is another important priority of the Village Board.

The Village draws on many sources to develop the yearly budget plan: priorities from the Village Board, multi-year trends, forecasts from municipal economists, the status of the economy, contracted payments, debt maintenance, and engineering estimates for capital projects. As a result of careful expense management, debt refinancing, and conservative budgeting, a surplus is again projected for fiscal year 2022-23. A big “thank you” to Village Manager Greg Jackson, Assistant Village Manager Denise Rosenquist, Village Trustee Anne Kritzmire, along with their collaboration with various intergovernmental partners, for their thorough and thoughtful budget creation as Long Grove continually plans for the future. To view a copy of the Village’s current and past fiscal budgets, please visit longgroveil.gov/finance/page/approved-village-budgets.



Volunteering Perspective: John Marshall

In February of 2022, Long Grove resident John Marshall returned to serve on the Village’s Architectural Commission (AC) after previously serving as a Village Trustee from 2009 - 2017, and for several years earlier as a member on the AC and the Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

John has extensive experience as a general contractor working in residential and commercial construction and shares his thoughts on the value of community service: "I have come to realize what an important value community service has added to my life. At a time when I felt that I had experienced much of what life had to offer, I discovered the values of volunteering with the Village," he said. "Not only did I appreciate the

challenges of small government, but also the pride of what it means to be a part of a growing community. It has become a manner in which I define myself, and I feel a real sense of accomplishment stemming from my tenure as a Trustee on the Village Board."

The Village thanks John for his ongoing service to the community, and has a number of commissions and committees with volunteer opportunities for residents. If you are interested in applying, please complete a volunteer profile sheet at longgroveil.gov/bc; forms can be emailed to Sherry Shlagman at sshlagman@longgroveil.gov and saved for when openings on the Village’s commissions/committees occur.

Support Our Many Businesses

Long Grove Commons at Route 22 and Old McHenry Road features several businesses that provide a variety of goods and services to our local community and beyond. The Village recently welcomed two new businesses to the Commons: ANR Clinic and Soft Wave Fish Company.

Long Grove has five commercial districts that are home to a wide variety of unique businesses, all of which have appreciated the ongoing support from residents, visitors and surrounding communities through the challenges of the pandemic. For a complete listing of Long Grove's unique shops, restaurants and other establishments, visit the Village's website at longgroveil.gov/businessdirectory.



Soft Wave
Fish Company



ANR
Clinic



ClayOven
Tandoor



Red Cottage
Salon & SPA INC



Long Grove
Dental Studio



Just Bee
Yoga



Dunkin'



Royal Boutique
Nails



Midwest School of
Pet Grooming

From the Village President

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a result, this could lead us to look for a location to build a new village hall and perhaps keep the current building as another public meeting space. Over the coming months, more information will be shared in Village publications as we work through our options.

On April 12, the Village Board passed our fiscal year 2022/2023 budget which began on May 1, and currently projects an \$872,000 surplus. Since the Village does not levy a property tax, ensuring there are adequate reserves has been a top priority for the Board. I want to thank the Village Board and staff for their fiscal responsibility as Long Grove's financial position has strengthened over the past few years.

A road paving plan for this year was also approved by the Village Board, which includes paving nearly 2.6 linear miles or 9% of our Village-owned roads. After the paving is completed, we will have repaved 70% of our roads in eight years, which is two-and-a-half years ahead of schedule on our 15-year paving plan. This is another significant accomplishment for the Village Board and staff.

Stay well and I hope you enjoy the summer.

Village President - *Bill Jacob*



Covered Bridge Park

The Historic Downtown Long Grove Business Association (HDLGBA) is pleased to announce that the first phase of Covered Bridge Park is nearly complete! Covered Bridge Park will serve as a fitness trail and pedestrian greenway that will eventually circle the entire downtown and better connect the community. It will also represent the bridging of yesteryear by incorporating historical information, plaques and dedications of key influential Long Grove figures such as Barbara Turner, Maria Rodriquez and Robert Parker Coffin.



“Covered Bridge Park is going to be a symbol for Long Grove’s interconnected community,” said Ryan Messner, HDLGBA board member who is the lead on the project. “We are taking one of the only green spaces in town that is not privately owned and turning it into something we can all take ownership in and enjoy.”

Messner said while the funds to cover costs for the new park came from the HDLGBA, other partners were involved, including the Village. The next phase is planned to start in the fall and will expand the greenway to connect with Old McHenry Road. The project includes a variety of beautification enhancements including the installation of red brick walkways, natural grasslands, landscaping and gravel paths. Other park features that are planned are benches, tables and photo areas for visitors to stop and appreciate the rich history of Long Grove and the beauty of Buffalo Creek. Look for news on a special dedication ceremony and more coming this summer!

Sustainability

Protecting Our Waterways

Spring rains nourish our gardens and landscapes, but when they become stormwater runoff, they can feed into storm drains and culverts - and eventually make it into open waterways untreated. Residential stormwater runoff can collect pollutants such as fertilizers from our lawns, oil from our vehicles and waste from our streets, and has become a major source of open-water pollution.

The Village participates in a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4), regulated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The MS4 allows for enforcement procedures for unpermitted stormwater discharges and spills. Long Grove complies with the MS4 permit the IEPA has in place to monitor stormwater systems, basins and stream banks by visually inspecting water quality, which includes detecting oil on top of the water, algae and other contaminants.

It is imperative we do our part to protect our open waters from pollutants. Common pollutants we can control include pet waste, detergents, yard debris, trash, motor oil, fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides. The tips below provide information on how you can help prevent pollution of our waterways and help sustain a healthy environment for our Village and the greater area.

What can I do to prevent stormwater pollution?

Don't dump waste into storm drains.

- Pick up after pets and dispose of pet waste in trash receptacles.
- Avoid over-watering of lawns and limit the use of fertilizers and pesticides.
- Install native grasses and plants.
- Dispose of household chemicals properly. Visit swalco.org for resources.
- Clean up oil spills and fix leaking automobiles.
- Sweep driveways clean instead of hosing them down.
- Wash vehicles at commercial car washes.
- Drain swimming pools and spas into a sanitary sewer outlet.

Remember to Clean Culverts

The Village contracts with the Ela Township Highway Department to keep storm drains and culverts in the right-of-ways clear of debris, which also helps prevent clogs and nesting grounds for mosquitos and pests. Residents are asked to report any blocked culverts in the right-of-ways to the Village by calling **847-634-9440**, and to keep all drains and culverts on their property clear of any debris.



Garden Club Holds Annual May Plant Sale

Mark your calendar for the Long Grove - Kildeer Garden Club's annual plant sale on Saturday, May 14 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday, May 15 from 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at the Reed-Turner Nature Center. The plant sale will feature perennials, including grasses, flowers and other plants grown by Garden Club members, all of which are tried-and-true performers suited for our local soils and climate. Look for varieties of ever-popular heirloom tomato plants and milkweed plants. It's worthy of note that milkweed is the only plant where the endangered monarch butterfly will lay eggs - and is a welcome habitat to help protect this pollinator.

Garden décor, whether to place in the garden or to display on walls of garden sheds or patios, will also be available at the plant sale. The award-winning Reed-Turner Botanic Artists will also be selling their botanical artwork, including originals, prints and cards. In addition, gently used gardening books will also be for sale at bargain prices.

The Reed-Turner Nature Center is located at 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove. For additional information, email Kathy at kathymichas33@gmail.com.



History Corner Long Grove Then and Now: Mill Pond Water Wheel



After a long hiatus, the water wheel by the Mill Pond Shoppes, at 215 Robert Parker Coffin Road, is back up and running and making a splash! Through generous support from the Forsythe family, an improvement project began six months ago to remove the original wooden water wheel, which dated back to the 1970's, and replace it with a newly designed steel wheel powered by an overhead waterfall. The original wheel was driven by a small stream that eventually filled with silt, causing the wheel to stop turning, and the wheel fell into disrepair. The new wheel, weighs 2000 pounds and measures 12 feet in diameter.

Recognition Award for Lynn Michaelson-Cohn

In April, Long Grove resident Lynn Michaelson-Cohn was recognized by the Village Board for 25 years of dedicated service on the Architectural Commission, and for 12 years as commission chair. President Bill Jacob read a resolution honoring Lynn, and remarked on her significant contributions to the betterment of Long Grove and her efforts in maintaining the Village's unique character. Her exemplary service is highlighted by her respectful and positive approach, attention to detail, and keeping the best interest of the community in mind. Lynn was further thanked with a presentation of a replica of a Frank Lloyd Wright stained glass window.

Fire Safety Expo, Saturday, May 14

The Lake County Fire Chief's Association is hosting an annual Fire Safety Expo at Gurnee Mills Shopping Center in the east side parking lot near Bass Pro Shop Saturday, May 14, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. This free family event features a range of fire and rescue equipment used across the County, including fire engines, ambulances, airport foam apparatus, boats and hovercrafts. Children's activities will include face painting, sliding down the fire pole, and the kids' firefighter challenge obstacle course! Firefighters will demonstrate life-saving techniques, including the use of a bomb squad robot, the Jaws of Life, and underwater diving radios. A fire sprinkler show will highlight how sprinklers can save lives and property.

Tony Rodkey, Fire and Life Safety Director at the Countryside Fire Protection District (CFPD), encourages residents to attend to see the Tunnel to Towers Mobile Exhibit, with artifacts from the Twin Towers from 9/11. Firefighter Rodkey said of the exhibit, "In 2013, the Tunnel to Towers Foundation launched its 9/11 'Never Forget' Mobile Exhibit, a tribute to those who lost their lives and the 343 members of the Fire Department of New York City who made the ultimate sacrifice. The high-tech, 83-foot tractor-trailer, which transforms into a 1,100 square foot exhibit, is a tool to further educate people about the events of that tragic day."

Be Prepared for Spring Storms!

As the days begin to warm, the threat of strong spring storms climbs with rising temperatures. Being prepared for different weather scenarios can save lives and property.

Residents should determine where there are safe places to seek shelter when severe weather is imminent, such as a basement/storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor. And, make sure everyone in the family knows where to go. Chief Segalla recommends that residents utilize cell phone alerts and apps to stay notified of severe weather.

NOAA Weather Radios are believed to be an optimal way to receive weather warnings, which provides a tone-alert. In the middle of the night, the radio provides an alert with a high-pitched alarm. These radios are inexpensive and widely available at local stores.

Every home should also have an emergency supply kit with the following items in the case of a severe weather event: bottled water, non-perishable food, flashlights, batteries, clothing, blankets, an extra set of keys, cash, medications, a first aid kit and pet supplies. The LGFPD has a small supply of weather alert radios available free for residents in the District. Email dkauffman@lgfpd.org for more information. The weather alert radios were provided by the South Lake County Regional Community Emergency Response Team.



"Severe weather in the form of tornadoes, lightning, flash floods, damaging winds and destructive hail strike Illinois each spring and summer," said Long Grove Fire Protection District (LGFPD) Chief Paul Segalla. "With little or no warning, severe storms can spawn tornadoes or strong rotating winds. Flying debris causes most injuries and deaths from tornadoes, so we need our residents to be prepared!"



Festival Season Begins!

Historic Downtown Long Grove's beloved annual festivals are returning! Here's a preview of some of the biggest events planned this season. Visit LongGrove.org for more details.

Chocolate Fest: May 20-22 Long Grove's first major festival of the season features family entertainment and delicious handmade chocolate-inspired foods. In addition to live music on multiple stages, dozens of local vendors will dish out everything from chocolate cotton candy to burgers lathered in BBQ chocolate sauce!



Strawberry Fest: June 24-26 The annual homage to summertime fun focuses on the Midwest's sweetest berry. There will be live music, a kid's area, cold drinks, and classic summer games sure to bring out the kid in everyone!

Vintage Days: August 6-7 Vintage Days gives everyone from the collector to the admirer of timeless products an entertaining open-air marketplace of vintage collectables – along with cold beer, live music, and an array of throwback fun for the young and young at heart.

Irish Days: September 3-5 Long Grove pays homage to the Emerald Isle on Labor Day weekend, with a family-friendly celebration of Irish culture, music, food and beer. Highlights include an Irish Costume Doggie contest, Best Looking Men's Legs in a Kilt contest, and Where's Paddy Leprechaun Hunt.

Apple Fest: September 23-25 The festival that is known to bring “bushels of fun” to the Village will showcase hundreds of delicious apple-inspired treats for apple lovers from all generations. Other features include a vendor village, party bands, and timeless interactive games.

Visit longgrove.org/events-festivals for more information.



Ride Lake County Transit Service

Lake County and Pace Suburban Bus have launched a shared-ride paratransit service that is now available for seniors ages 60 and up and individuals with disabilities. This public service provides rides between desired pickup and drop-off locations across Lake County and runs daily from 6 a.m. - 6 p.m., excluding holidays. Riders can schedule trips in advance by calling Pace at 800-201-6446 for curb-to-curb and wheelchair-accessible transportation to and from medical appointments, shopping, work, events and more. One-way fare costs will vary between \$2 to \$6, depending on the distance traveled. For more information, and to view the service-area map, visit lakecountyil.gov/563/Ride-Lake-County.



Village Road and Public Works Projects

The season is upon us again for infrastructure and road maintenance projects! First up is a Lake County Public Works project that includes the replacement of the sanitary sewer force main in late May and will take place from the lift station in Three Lakes to the Archer Parking lot. The installation is scheduled to be complete by mid-June, weather permitting, with the final testing and restoration to be complete by the end of July. The Village is working with the County to minimize impacts of the projects to residents, businesses and festivals. The Village's road maintenance projects in the coming year include plans to resurface Oak Grove Drive, Oak Grove Circle, Chickamauga Lane and a portion of Port Clinton Road. These projects are scheduled for construction this summer. Details and updates on the projects, including road closures and detours, will be communicated in upcoming E-Newsletters.



Planning a Home Improvement Project?

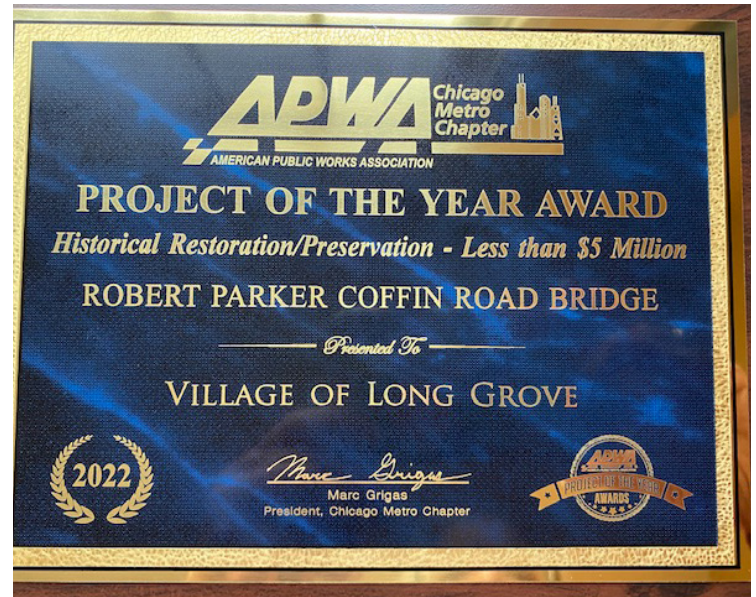
Spring is an opportune time of year to plan home improvement, repair and maintenance projects, as well as improvements to front and rear yards. Whether you are handling the job yourself or hiring a professional, please remember that most projects require building permits.

For many projects, including a new kitchen, bath, re-roofing, siding/windows replacement, AC, driveway, deck or tree removal, it is the Long Grove homeowner's responsibility to determine if a permit is needed before any work begins. A permit helps to ensure that construction is completed according to the most recent industry standards and the Village's current building and zoning codes. In addition to reviewing structural, electrical, mechanical and plumbing plans, the permit approval process may also include a review for fire prevention and life-safety standards, depending on the type of project.

Applications for permits can be found on the Village's website at longgroveil.gov/building. Information on permit fees and how to schedule an inspection, as well as the checklists for different types of permits are also available on this web page. Permits for windows, AC units, furnaces and water heaters can be applied for online; all other permit applications should be sent to Building Commissioner Margerita Romanello at mromanello@longgroveil.gov. Fees can be paid online, or checks can be mailed to Village Hall. If you have any questions, please call 847-634-9440.

Covered Bridge Project Award

The Village's Robert Parker Coffin Road Bridge Rehabilitation Project won this year's American Public Works Association (APWA) Chicago Metro Chapter's Project of the Year award in the category of 'Historical Restoration/Preservation - Less than \$5 Million'. The project in the downtown area wrapped up in August 2020, and won APWA awards in both the Chapter and the Lake Branch levels. Village Board Trustee Rita O'Connor and Village Engineer Geoff Perry recently attended a Chapter ceremony to accept the award and plaque, and a presentation is planned at an upcoming ceremony in June for the Lake Branch award. The project was also submitted by the Chapter for a national award, which will be announced later this year.



Blue Star Memorial Unveiled on Memorial Day

On Saturday, May 28, at 10 a.m. the Long Grove - Kildeer Garden Club will unveil a Blue Star Memorial Marker in a ceremony at Buffalo Creek Park on Old McHenry Road just north of Robert Parker Coffin Road in the downtown. The marker honors men and women who have served or are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Services.

The public is invited to attend, where community leaders, military families, veterans, local business owners and residents will also be present. The dedication will include flags, music, tributes, treats, flowers, a ceremonial wreath and more, in addition to the unveiling of the memorial plaque. Those who attend are invited to wear red, white and blue in tribute to our U.S. service members and their families.

The Blue Star Memorial program was developed in 1945 by the National Garden Clubs Inc., and was based on the original blue star flag displayed in family homes of those serving the country. The star became a symbol on dedicated Blue Star Highways throughout the United States, and later in parks, gardens, cemeteries and veterans' facilities.

The Garden Club is a casual, friendly group of men and women ranging from novice to master gardeners. They meet the second Monday of the month at the Reed-Turner

Woodland Nature Center, 3849 Old McHenry Road in Long Grove, unless a field trip is scheduled. To learn more, contact Paula VanSingel by phone at 847-478-0000 or email Paulavanwatson1@gmail.com.





Upcoming Meetings

Board of Trustees

May 10, 2022
May 24, 2022
June 14, 2022
June 28, 2022

Economic Development Commission

May 5, 2022
June 2, 2022

Plan Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals

May 3, 2022
June 7, 2022

Conservancy/Scenic Corridor Committee

May 4, 2022
June 1, 2022

Architectural Commission

May 16, 2022
June 20, 2022

Please visit
LongGrovelL.gov/meetings
for the most up-to-date meeting
information.

The above meeting schedule is current as of the publish
date of this newsletter.

Primary Election Dates

This year, the Illinois Gubernatorial Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, June 28. Please see important dates below if you plan to vote in the election:

Thursday, May 19: First day for delivery of Ballot by Mail. Registered voters can reserve a ballot online at www.lakecountyil.gov/351/Voter-Power.

Tuesday, May 31: Last day for in-person registration.

Monday, June 13: Early voting begins.

Thursday, June 23: Applications for Ballot by Mail must be received in the County Clerk's Office by 5 p.m.

To register to vote, residents can apply in-person, online or by mail. For more information visit lakecountyil.gov/361/Voter-RegistrationInformation, or call Village Hall at 847-634-9440.



Village Contacts

Village Office

3110 Old McHenry Road
Long Grove, IL 60047
847-634-9440
Fax: **847-634-9408**

Website

LongGrovelL.gov

Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Village Staff Main

847-634-9440

Village Manager

Gregory Jackson
GJackson@LongGrovelL.gov

Director of Operations

Denise Rosenquist
DRosenquist@LongGrovelL.gov

Building Commissioner

Margerita Romanello
MRomanello@LongGrovelL.gov

Management Analyst

Natalie Benner
NBenner@LongGrovelL.gov

Administrative Assistant

Sherry Shlagman
SShlagman@LongGrovelL.gov