

NEWS FROM CLINTON VILLAGE HALL – DECEMBER, 2014

Your Village of Clinton Tax Dollars

If you are a Village taxpayer, you will soon be receiving your property tax bill for Village, State, County, School District and Technical College services. Village property taxes provide the majority of the revenue the Village receives to pay for annual operations. The following is a summary list of the Village services you will receive for your property tax dollars in 2015:

Police Protection – For 2014, the Village Police Department had 5 full time positions (4 patrol officers and 1 administrative management position) in the Police Department to provide police protection for Village residents, citizens and visitors 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For 2015, the Department will have 5 full time positions (4 patrol officers and the Chief who has patrol duties in addition to administrative duties).

(For 2014 approx. 33.7% of Village expenditure budget, for 2015 approx. 33.85% of expenditure budget)

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) - We contract with the Clinton Fire Protection District for Fire Department and EMS service. The District serves the Village of Clinton, Town of Clinton, and Town of Bradford. Based on a cost sharing formula, the budget for the District is based 50% on population and 50% on equalized value. The Village provides the majority of financial support to the Fire District.

(For 2014 approx. 9% of Village expenditure budget, for 2015 approx. 9.10% of expenditure)

Public Works – For 2015, this includes street maintenance programs such as snow plowing and repair, mowing of Village property, operation of the compost site, maintenance of Village buildings and parking facilities, street lighting costs, 1 road improvement project, some equipment purchases, contracted engineering and contracted refuse collection costs.

(For 2014 approx. 29% of Village expenditure budget, for 2015 approx. 29.30% of expenditure budget)

General Government/Administrative Services – This includes costs for the Village Board, Village Administrator, Attorney, Clerk and Treasurer, elections, finance, human resources, assessment services, auditing services and municipal court.

(For 2014 approx. 14% of Village expenditure budget, for 2015 approx. 13.1% of expenditure budget)

Culture, Recreation and Education - This includes the Library, parks & recreation (3 Village Parks), senior center and Village forestry efforts and activities.

(For 2014 approx. 12.6% of Village expenditure budget, for 2015 approx. 12.4% of the expenditure budget. For the Library alone, for 2014 approx. 8.6%, and for 2015 approx. 9.4%)

Miscellaneous - This includes planning services, economic development effort, building inspection, cemetery support and contingency.

(For 2014 approx. 1.7% of the Village expenditure budget, for 2015 approx. 2.25% of the Village expenditure budget)

Debt Service (General Fund) - The debt the Village has results from funds borrowed for capital improvement project work done in the Village. The Village has not borrowed new money since 2009. In 2013, the Village spent \$155,298 on debt service principal and interest payments, paid down on debt principal and re-financed some existing debt. For 2014, the Village will spend \$61,856 on debt service principal and interest payments. For 2015, the Village will spend \$63,521 on existing debt service.

Tax Incremental Financing District #4 - The Village pays their share of financial support (through property taxes) for the Village's TIF District as does Rock County, the Clinton School District, and Blackhawk Technical College District.

The following Village services are paid for by the users of those services: water, sewer and the collection of recyclables for residential properties (1 -4 unit buildings).

Your total tax rate this year is \$24.78 per \$1,000 of assessed value of your property.

	2014 (Payable)	2015 (Payable)
Village of Clinton	\$ 7.94	\$ 7.93
State of Wisconsin	\$.15	\$.15
Rock County	\$ 6.18	\$ 6.08
Clinton School District	\$10.99	\$11.16
Blackhawk Technical College	\$ 1.73	\$ 1.01
School Tax Credit	\$(1.61)	\$(1.55)
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	\$25.38	\$24.78

The average assessed value of a home in the Village is \$100,647. For a home assessed at \$100,000, the Village share of property taxes is approx. \$793 based on the Village tax rate of approx. \$7.93 per \$1,000 of assessed value compared to \$7.94 for 2014.

Payment of Property Tax Bills All property tax bill payments are collected by the Rock County Treasurer's Office. Checks must be **payable to Rock County Treasurer**. If you are requesting a receipt, enclose a self- addressed stamped envelope. Please include your tax ID number on your check and/or with your payment. Payment may be made in the following ways: in person at the County courthouse in Janesville Monday - Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at the Treasurer's office (closed Dec. 24, Dec. 25 & Jan. 1), by mail – follow instructions on the bill, online electronically – go to the Rock County Treasurer's website at www.co.rock.wi.us for the link to GovTech Services Inc. Fees apply for online payments. Payments cannot be made at Village Hall in Clinton.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS & POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN 2014!

- **Thank you** to our downtown property owners who have done exterior and interior property improvements this last year! We are grateful and pleased with this continued investment in our Village and the future of our downtown. The projects that have taken place downtown directly support the Villages' adopted Strategic Plan strategy #3 "Maintain and enhance the Main Street business area."
- **Thank you to Village resident Mary Ann Inman** for all her volunteer time and work with the steps needed to set up the **Clinton Public Library Foundation!** The Foundation's mission is "to provide quality library facilities for information, recreation, and lifelong learning for residents of all ages in the Village and surrounding area." "Clinton Public Library Foundation's purpose is to acquire donations, gifts, memorials, grants and bequests to help the library search for and obtain quality facilities including, but not limited to the erection and maintenance of the library building, circulation, technology, furnishings, and grounds." Tax deductible donation information can be found on line at www.clintonpubliclibraryfoundationwi.com.
- **Congratulations to New Police Chief David Hooker!** The Village Board promoted Dave from Lieutenant to Chief effective October 13, 2014.
- **Congratulations Pam Franseen on your promotion to Village Clerk/Treasurer!** While Pam has been the Village Treasurer/Deputy Clerk for many years, the Village Board is planning to appoint Pam Village Clerk as well as Treasurer at the December Village Board meeting. Thanks Pam for a great job this last year!

- **Watch for the new Village outdoor skating rink!** The Village Board at the recommendation of the Village's Park Board has purchased an outdoor skating rink which is set up at the southeast end of Herb Reffue Park for the upcoming winter season! Check it out for some winter fun!

Interested in weekly information on what's new at Village Hall and what's going on each week in the Village?

Please sign-up for the Village's DIRECT E-MAIL SERVICE! You can sign-up by going to the Village's website at www.clintonwi.us. On the Village's home page select "Sign-up for our E-mail & Newsletter". Usually, the Village sends out a weekly e-mail directly to those signed up for this service. After you sign up, you will receive an e-mail so that you can complete the registration process by verifying you want to be signed up. Be sure to complete this step!

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.....

What is the special charge on my property tax bill? While trash collection service is included in the property tax for residential properties of 1 – 4 units, the cost of collection of recyclables is not. The special charge on your property tax bill is for the collection of recyclables and applies only to residential properties of 1 – 4 units. For 2014, the special charge is \$39.48 per unit for the year. The Village's contract with Advanced Disposal (formerly Veolia) is for collection of refuse and recyclables for residential properties of 1-4 units only.

Lottery Credits Are you receiving the lottery credit? If you have already applied for the lottery credit and are receiving it, it will show up on your property tax bill. Please check that before making a new application for lottery credit.

Need information about a tree on your property? Please call Forestry Board Chairperson Art Bushue (728-2347) for information or advice about a tree on your property whether it's about emerald ash borer (EAB) or some other topic. The Forestry Board is pleased to assist you!

Dog Licenses Dog licenses may be obtained at Village Hall. Renew existing licenses by 4/1 to avoid \$5 late fees. License fees are: spayed/neutered - \$7.00, non-spayed/neutered - \$12.00, puppy - \$8.00. Please remember to bring in the rabies vaccine serial number listed on your vet's invoice. If it's not on the invoice, you can call the vet to get it. We just want to remind you that a dog license is required by the State of Wisconsin. The fine for not having a license for your dog is \$187.

Winter street parking rules have been eliminated. The Village will now be utilizing emergency snow removal regulations. A snow removal emergency may be declared at any time by the Village's Public Works Director if he determines based upon forecast information or actual observed conditions that the accumulation of ice or snow will reasonably necessitate snowplowing, snow removal or winter pavement treatment operations.

During a time of snow removal emergency, no person shall cause nor allow the parking or standing of any vehicle, trailer or semitrailer upon any Village street until the declared snow emergency time period has ended. When a snow removal emergency has been declared by the Village, notification of this will be publicized using the following media outlets: Beloit Daily News, Janesville Gazette, WISC-TV 3, WMTV – 15, WKOW – 27, WMSN – 47, 1380 The Big AM, WGEZ 1490 AM, WCLO 1230 AM, and WJVL 99.9 FM.

The municipal parking lot is available for downtown parking during a snow removal emergency. Please be advised the Clinton Police Department may tow any vehicle found to be in violation. Citations for violation of these regulations can result in penalties over \$100.00.

Please keep your **sidewalks** free of snow and ice. Failure to do so may result in the Village DPW having to remove the snow/ice with the cost charged to the property.

Village Hall Hours 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Mon. – Thurs., 8 a.m. – 1 p.m. Fri. **Village website – www.clintonwi.us**

Clinton Library Hrs. 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Mon. & Fri., 8:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Tues. – Thurs., Sat. 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Police Emergency /Fire Emergency Phone Number – 911 Police non-emergency – 676-2221, Police Administration – 676-5140 & Fire non-emergency – 676-5550, Village Hall – 676-5304, Library – 676-5569.

What do I do if I find a lost or stray cat or dog? First contact the Village police department (non-emergency phone number- 676-5140). The PD may know or be able to find out who the animal belongs to.

Volunteers are always needed to serve on Village Committees and as election workers! Interested in community service? Call the Village President Connie Tracy at 676-4196 to discuss your interests for serving on a committee or call the Village Clerk at 676-5304 if you are interested in training to become an election worker!

Happy Holidays from the Village Board and Village Staff!

