

Mayor Yukich's Blog

November 13, 2015



Village Board Approves Amendments to Solicitation Ordinance

At the November 11 Village Board meeting, the Village Trustees and I approved Ordinance No. 15-046, an Ordinance amending the Solicitation Ordinance.

The Village Board and I directed staff to update the ordinance because it needed revisions that would limit nuisances for residents and ensure the safety of the public. The Board and I made it a priority to revise this ordinance to best serve the residents of Homer Glen, while still allowing individuals and groups to responsibly solicit. Below are highlights of the major changes to the Solicitation Ordinance:

1. Limit solicitation to the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and any legal holiday recognized by the State of Illinois.
2. Prohibits solicitation by any person on or in any highway or roadway at any time.
3. Prohibits any person to conduct solicitation from any motor vehicle or trailer in or on any highway or roadway.
4. Increased the solicitation registration fee from \$50.00 to \$100.00 for commercial solicitation applicants.
5. Solicitation permits may be denied if the applicant fails to have a letter grade rating of B or higher with the Better Business Bureau.
6. Penalty for any person guilty of committing a violation of the solicitation ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and no more than five hundred dollars (\$500.00).

The complete ordinance and additional information will be posted to the Village's Website in the near future.

American Flags Available at No Cost to Residents and Veterans

Trustee Brian Burian announced at the Village Board Meeting held on Veteran's Day that the Village will offer free 3x5 American Flags to Homer Glen residents that are U.S. Veterans. There are a limited number of flags available, so they will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. The complimentary flags are being provided at no-cost to the taxpayers of Homer Glen!

Furthermore, residents may drop off old or damaged American flags at the Village Hall so they may be properly retired. Village Hall is located at 14933 S. Founders Crossing. Regular Business Hours are Monday-Friday, 7:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Village Seeks Feedback on Proposed Gas Tax

Thank you to all residents that have provided the Village Trustees and I with feedback on the proposed gas tax. A decision has yet to be made as we are still hoping to hear from other residents. If this is the first time you are learning about this proposal, please read the following recap so that you are up to date.

Recap: At the October 28 Village Board meeting, there was a workshop discussion regarding the Village instituting a 3 cents per gallon gas tax. As a home rule community, the Village has the authority to impose a local vehicle tax with the passing of an ordinance.

Local vehicle tax is considered an excise tax because it is imposed on the delivery of fuel into gas stations and calculated on a fixed rate per gallon. This would not be considered an additional sales tax, which is imposed on the sale to the end user calculated as a percent of the selling price.

The Village currently has seven operating filling stations within the Village incorporated boundaries. Preliminary projections for total gallons delivered into the seven filling stations during a twelve month period are between 30 million gallons and 31 million gallons. Based on the preliminary projection, the Village would realize approximately \$900,000 annually.

As a Village located adjacent to a County border line, the sale of fuel within the Village is quite high. Many of the filling stations customers are passing through and purchasing gas at cheaper prices than in Cook County. Consequently, a portion of the fuel tax, designated for Village Recreation and Park Fund activities, would be paid by non-residents.

The Village Board and I request that you continue to send your feedback on this issue to village@homerglen.org

Highway Department Collecting Fallen Branches, Limbs and Trees from Recent Storm

The Highway Department notified the Village that they will be collecting branches, limbs and fallen trees as a result of the recent storm. Any resident in need of this service will have to bring the debris to the curb and **call the highway department at 708-301-0246 to schedule a pick-up**. Any calls for pick-up service made between now and Monday, November 23rd will be added to a list. Staff from the highway department will pick-up debris from each location on their list and may continue to do so after the 23rd. However, any calls for pick-up service after the 23rd will be denied.

Volunteers Needed for Village's Community and Economic Development Committee (CEDC)

The Community and Economic Development Committee acts as a recommending body which advises the Village Board and staff on planning for the economic health of the community, consistent with the goals established in the comprehensive plan. The Community & Economic Development Committee will address issues related to community development (i.e., comprehensive planning, growth strategies and community services) and economic development (i.e., business retention, recruitment relations and marketing).

Any residents interested in volunteering to serve on the Village's Community and Economic Development Committee are encouraged to submit via email or letter an explanation for why you are interested in serving on the CEDC and how you can contribute to the work. Also, please provide a resume listing your employment, education and prior experience in civic service with the Village or other organizations to: Village of Homer Glen, Attn: Mayor Yukich, 14933 S Founders Crossing, Homer Glen, IL 60491 or at village@homerglen.org

Sign Up For Updates on 159th Street Road Improvement Project

As construction continues on 159th Street, I would like to remind residents and business owners to sign up for periodic updates. Sign up to receive updates on the 159th Street Road Improvements Project via email or text message.

Simply click on the "Stay Informed" button on the Village's homepage, sign in with your email address, then select the "159th Street Road Improvements" under News Alerts. Updates will also show up under "Recent News" on the Village's homepage.

Upcoming Events

WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

Monday, November 2, 2015 – Friday, November 20, 2015. Home Dialysis Services Corporate Office is collecting items for Chicagoland Shelters. They are looking for new or gently used clothing: winter coats, socks (new), gloves, scarves, winter hats, small blankets, sweatshirts, sweaters and backpacks. They are also looking for personal hygiene items: chapstick, band-aids, tissues, warming pads, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and lotion. They will also accept \$5 food gift cards. These items should be dropped off at the Home Dialysis Services Corporate Office at 15786 S. Bell Road, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

HOMER GLEN JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Monday, November 16, 2015 at 7 p.m. at the William E. Young Elementary School Library, 16240 S. Cedar Rd., Homer Glen. All Women age 18 and older can attend. The Homer Glen Junior Woman's Club is a community service organization founded in 2010, dedicated to the improvement of Homer Glen and its citizens. For more information, contact President Megan Mitchell at (708)-208-1066 or visit www.homerglenjuniors.org.