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H A P P Y N E W Y E A R , G R A S S L A K E

Village Town Hall Meeting January 23

No other government entity has more impact on the day-to-day lives of our citizenry than local government.

The Village of Grass Lake will host its next quarterly Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 7:00 pm at the Grass Lake Village Hall, 119 N. Lake St. These meetings offer Village residents an opportunity to engage with their elected policy makers — to improve community awareness and clarify issues.

Town Halls provide information sharing beyond Public Comment portions of regular meetings where one may address the council but does not include time for a discussion. Town Halls are official pro-

ceedings with agreed social protocols, that provide a setting for Public Dialogue with both elected and appointed officials. One may ask questions and receive answers. General rules of civility are to be observed, including one's language and all should be respectful of each other.

While each Town Hall will include a prepared presentation on some general topics, all questions and suggestions are welcomed.

What are those yard flags for?

A Public Notice posted on the Village of Grass Lake Facebook page, explained that EGLE mandated that 140 Parcels connected to the Village water distribution system be randomly selected for material verification. Village DPW and USIC marked utilities to facilitate soft dig excavations at these locations. Please leave flags in place until the project has been completed to avoid costly repairs to utilities. (Water, sewer, cable, phone, gas, electric, etc.) All excavation sites will be filled and reseeded each day, no holes will be left open. Note: EGLE does not reimburse the Village for the work DPW does; the purpose is to identify materials in the water distribution system.

For DPW information,

Check out the Village on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/VillageofGrassLake

Budget Workshop Meeting Date is January 16

Village Council has held budget workshops one hour before the regularly-scheduled meetings for most of November and December to review the FY25 Budget draft. The next budget workshop will be at **6:00 pm** on January 16.

Previous workshops addressed several sections of the budget— General Fund, Salaries, DDA, Major and Local streets, Assets and Depreciation, and Debt Administration.

The public hearing for the budget will take place on February 20 at 6 pm. That hearing will be followed by a regular Village Council meeting at which council will vote to approve the budget. The new budget takes effect March 1.

Now is the time to contact the Village Manager and Council members over any personal concerns. As stated before, nothing replaces being in the room to hear the questions and answers that explain the funds and the logic behind proposed figures.

Government budgets are more than tally sheets, they are living policy documents determining project and priority spending in the community. The budget includes line item revenue and expenditures, by fund and department; a six-year Capital Improvement Plan; Water and Sewer Rate details, fund balances, debt and depreciation, and more—all of which direct staff regarding how to spend funds to execute policy throughout the Village.

Meetings Scheduled

Please note: Village Offices will be closed on Mondays, **January 1** and **January 15** for government holidays.

GOVERNMENT

January 2, 7:00 pm: Village Council Regular Meeting, Village Hall, 119 N. Lake St.

January 16, 6:00 pm: Budget Workshop on Fund Balance Policy Annual Updates, Capital Assets and Debts

January 16, 7:00 pm: Village Council Regular Meeting, Village Hall

January 23, 7:00 pm: Village Town Hall

COMMUNITY

January 11, 8:00 am: Grass Lake Regional Chamber of Commerce, at Village Hall

Do the best you can in every task, no matter how unimportant it may seem at the time. — Sandra Day O'Connor