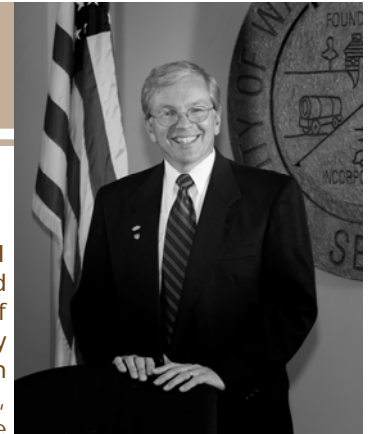


HOMETOWN HAPPENINGS



Mayor David L. Brummel

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MAYOR'S COLUMN

Most of you are probably aware that in my "other life", when I am not acting as Mayor, I am a cabinetmaker. Designing and building projects for peoples' homes has been a central part of my life for the past 35 years. I consider myself to be singularly blessed to be able to claim two such divergent career paths. In my shop, I get to call all the shots, generally work in solitude, am able to express myself creatively, and can measure progress easily by surveying the shop at lights-out to assess how much began the day as lumber has ended the day as part of something that only existed in my head previously. The completion of a project always brings a welcome and satisfying burst of positive feedback. Being Mayor requires more collaboration and people contact, more tolerance for less certainty about outcomes, much more diplomacy, and far more ambiguity concerning the worthiness of some of the projects in the eyes of our "clients". And the positive impacts for a lot of what gets accomplished for the community aren't always readily apparent, or in many cases, won't be felt or appreciated for years or even decades.

Different worlds, with different kinds and levels of feedback. Recently it was highlighted for me that something that really rings my bell in cabinetmaking does the same for me in public life. When another woodworker whose standards I know to be high, and who really knows quality, views my work and says "Wow!" that is just the best. When that other professional, who knows the business, who knows where to look for the difficult transitions or the cutting of corners or the less than careful planning or assembly or finish, when that person surveys your work and judges it exceptional, life is good.

At the January 23rd Finance Committee meeting we enjoyed just such a moment for the work we do for the community. In August 2011, the City engaged an outside consultant, Voorhees Associates LLC, with considerable expertise in municipal governments (staffed by retired managers and administrators), to provide us with a service levels/staffing study, reasoning that while we believe we are running a pretty tight ship, an outside view might be the best way to identify ways to improve that we have overlooked. I invite you to watch their presentation on your computer (available at warrenville.pegcentral.com for two weeks after every meeting) if you missed it live. In general, they found Warrenville to be very professionally and efficiently run and gave us very high marks all around, as well as providing a number of recommendations, as we had hoped, that we might want to consider in the interest of improving on an already high standard.

Here is a short excerpt from their executive summary: "Warrenville has a high level of leadership and management in their organization. The Mayor and Council provide policy direction and the administrative team provides policy recommendations and good management of the City services. This is reflective in the observations of the consultants as well as the employee survey conducted for the City. In addition, the city provides a high level of services at a lower level of cost than in comparable cities (my emphasis).

Always good to hear, from someone who knows what they are looking at, that they admire your work. Makes you want to keep improving.

**Police, Fire, and
after hours Water &
Sewer Emergency
Dial911
City Hall Hours
8:00 a.m.. to
5:00 p.m.
Monday - Friday**

FEEDBACK:

Please send your
feedback to:
Ana Vainisi, Editor
City Clerk's Office
28 W 701 Stafford Place
Warrenville, IL 60555 or
avainisi@warrenville.il.us

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO DO in WARRENVILLE:

Check out these local organization websites or give them a call:
City of Warrenville: www.warrenville.il.us (630) 393-9427
Warrenville Public Library District: www.warrenville.com (630) 393-1171
School District #200: www.CUSD200.org (630) 682-2000
Warrenville Fire District: www.warrenvillefire.com (630) 393-1381
Warrenville Park District: www.warrenvilleparks.org (630) 393-7279
Warrenville Historical Society: www.warrenvillehistorical.org (630) 393-4215
DuPage Forest Preserve District: www.dupageforest.org (630) 933-7200

For more current events, also check out the Channel 10 message board

City Address Requirements

Every residence in the City is required to display its complete address (for example: *1 S 123 Main Street*). If the residence is visible from the street, the address may be placed adjacent to the front door. Or, if the mailbox is located directly in front of the residence and there are no other mailboxes placed in close proximity, the entire address may be posted on the mail box.

Residences that are located farther back and are not visible from the street are required to have the complete address affixed to a post placed at the street. Address digits are required to be a minimum of four inches in height and be mounted on a surface of contrasting color. This allows for the address to be easily identified in the event of an emergency.



Please address any questions to Sonya Shearer, Code Enforcement Officer, at (630) 836-3034.

Foreclosures

In these trying economic times for the country as well as the residents of Warrenville, there are an increased number of foreclosed and vacant homes in Warrenville. Anyone concerned that a property nearby may be vacant and have possible property maintenance issues, should contact Code Enforcement Officer, Sonya Shearer, at (630) 836-3034.

Looking for a Good Dentist?

Do you need help finding a reputable tax preparer? Roofer? Cleaning service? Don't know where to begin looking? Good News! The City has compiled an easily accessible listing of hometown businesses to suit your every need. From auto repair to veterinary services—they're located right here in your backyard—ready and waiting to serve you with a smile.

The next time you are online, take a minute to peruse this Warrenville Business Directory on the City's website, www.warrenville.il.us, by clicking on the "Shop Warrenville" acorn icon at the bottom of the page. You will be surprised at the variety of services, shopping, and dining options available right here in Warrenville. Check it out!



Cool Cities Climate Protection Agreement

On January 17, 2012, Mayor David Brummel signed the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement thereby officially joining Warrenville to the Sierra Club's Cool Cities Program, this initiative was led by volunteers around the country, striving for collaboration among "community members, organizations, businesses, and local leaders to implement clean energy solutions that save money, create jobs, and help curb global warming. Since 2005, over 1000 city and county leaders have made a commitment to cut their community's carbon footprint." (<http://coolcities.us/about.php>)

The agreement was endorsed by the Warrenville City Council on December 12, and the volunteers of the Environmental Advisory Commission (EAC) will now lead the effort to develop a Climate Action Plan for Warrenville. The Plan will explore ways the City and its residents can reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. It is an excellent opportunity to demonstrate Warrenville's ability to "think globally, act locally."

The first public Climate Action Plan meeting will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012, at 10 a.m. at the Warrenville Public Library (28W751 Stafford Place, Warrenville) and the public is invited to attend and provide input towards this timely issue.



Members of the Warrenville Environmental Advisory Commission and Cool Cities representatives look on as Mayor David Brummel signs the Cool Cities Climate Protection Agreement. From left to right: Connie Schmidt, Cecilia Gerber, Ana Vainisi, Tony Kresl, David Leonard, Bob Kanara, Carol Angarola, Betty Roubik, Mayor Brummel, and Rita Dolan



All exterior holiday decorative lighting should be removed by March 1

Phase II Sound Mitigation Program

In June 2009, the City Council approved an agreement between the City of Warrenville and Canadian National (CN) railroad to provide homeowners impacted by railroad noise with money to install sound mitigation improvements on their property, and approved criteria for the disbursement of these funds. Phase I of the CN Sound Mitigation Program was launched on January 1, 2010.

The first phase of this program ended on December 31, 2011, and the Council approved criteria for Phase II after receiving significant citizen feedback. The new criteria applies to 63 eligible properties. Eligible property owners were notified by letter in mid-January that the amount available is \$2,200 per eligible property. Anyone interested in reviewing the list of eligible properties to see if their property is included, can go online at www.warrenville.il.us under "Bulletin".

These sound mitigation funds can only be distributed in accordance with the criteria set by the Council; property owners should read it carefully, as all regulations articulated in the criteria must be complied with. The sound mitigation program is a reimbursement program only. Meaning, property owners will be reimbursed by the City once the work is complete, paid for, and the proper paperwork and receipts have been submitted. Reimbursements can only be issued for work that mitigates train noise and is initiated and completed after January 15, 2012, but before December 31, 2013. A copy of the criteria is also available online at www.warrenville.il.us under "Bulletin" or by calling City Hall at (630) 393-9050.

The City recognizes that the increased volume in train traffic on the former EJ&E tracks has negatively impacted the quality of life for those residents near the tracks. It is the City's hope that this program can provide some relief from that impact. Questions can be directed to Assistant City Administrator Jennifer McMahon at (630) 393-9427 or jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us.

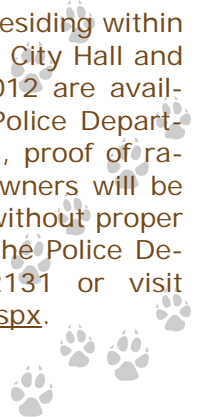
Coyote Sightings

Urban coyotes are sighted frequently in Warrenville, and, sadly, sometimes with reports of domestic pets being lost to the natural instincts of these wildlife predators. Residents are encouraged to take proactive measures to prevent a coyote's attraction to residential backyards by keeping the ground clear of pet and wild animal feed and not leaving small pets unattended outside. More information is available from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources website, www.dnr.state.il.us and at www.warrenville.il.us/liv_pub_animal.aspx.



2012 Dog Tags

City dog tags are required for all dogs residing within the City limits and can be purchased at City Hall and the Police Department. Dog tags for 2012 are available at City Hall and the Warrenville Police Department. In order to purchase a dog tag, proof of rabies inoculation must be presented. Owners will be fined up to \$25 if a dog is impounded without proper tags. For further information, contact the Police Department Records Division at 393-2131 or visit www.warrenville.il.us/liv_pub_animal.aspx.



Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Planning Meetings

The City will be discussing the proposed FY 2013 Budget at the following meetings:

- Monday, February 6, 2012, at the 7:00 p.m. City Council meeting
- Monday, February 13, 2012, at the 7:00 p.m. Public Safety Committee meeting
- Monday, February 21, 2012, at the 7:00 p.m. City Council meeting
- Monday, February 27, 2012, at the 7:00 p.m. Special City Council Workshop to discuss budget revenues
- Saturday, March 12, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. at a City Council Budget Workshop (will not be televised)

All meetings will be held in the City Council chambers, 28W701 Stafford Place, Warrenville, IL. Interested parties may attend in person, watch the evening meetings live on Cable Channel 10, or the next day via link on the City's website www.warrenville.il.us.

Voter Registration Reminder

City Clerk Emily Larson reminds those who are not registered to vote, that February 21, 2012, is the last day to register or transfer registration to be eligible to vote in the Tuesday, March 20, 2012, General Primary Election. Please visit www.warrenville.il.us/c_dept_c-clerk.aspx, or call Deputy City Clerk Ana Vainisi at (630) 836-3027 for additional information.

City of Warrenville

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Warrenville, IL 60555

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Hometown Happenings Online -Don't Miss Out-

The editor of *Hometown Happenings* is taking requests from residents who would like to receive notice via email with a link to connect to the bi-monthly online only edition of the newsletter. The April issue will be the next online publication and the March 2012 issue will be published in hard-copy and mailed. Please contact Ana Vainisi at (630) 393-9427 or avainisi@warrenville.il.us, and request to be added to the e-mail list or stop by City Hall and fill out a request form.

HISTORICAL COPIES: Residents may also view current and past issues of *Hometown Happenings* on the City's Laserfiche system. Simply go to www.warrenville.il.us under Living or Business, then General Information and choose the Newsletter page. There is a link on the bottom of that page to the Laserfiche database called *View past issues of the Hometown Happenings*, then choose the folder titled City Newsletter. Issues date back to 1997.

Refuse Sticker Sales

On January 3, 2012, City Hall began selling Refuse/Yard-waste stickers only in full sheets of five stickers, for a price of \$14.30. Individual stickers will no longer be sold. This practice is being implemented as a financial control mechanism. Your opinion is important to us, please provide your feedback at (630) 393-9427.

New Electronics Recycling Regulations

Electronics are banned from landfills in Illinois as of January 1. Electronics must now be recycled by a registered collector, recycler, and/or manufacturer. For the new electronics recycling regulations, contact Jennifer McMahon at (630) 393-9427 or jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us.

WINTER REMINDERS

- Applications for the Senior Citizen Telecommunications Tax Rebate for the 2011 calendar year must be submitted by April 30, 2012. Applications are available at www.warrenville.il.us.
- The application period for the DuPage County Senior Citizens Real Estate Tax Deferral program ends March 1, 2012. Applications are available at www.dupageco.org/treasurer/generic.cfm?doc_id=1251.
- Disabled individuals parking placards: Permanent placards are issued by the Illinois Secretary of State, while temporary placards may be obtained immediately at no cost from the Finance Department at City Hall by filing a completed application. Applications are available at City Hall or at www.sos.state.il.us.
- Snow removal is done on all main and through streets before clearing begins on side streets, dead ends, and cul-de-sacs. It is not possible to prevent the deposit of snow at driveway entrances. This is the safest and most efficient way to remove snow. The City does not provide snow removal from sidewalks or driveway entrances. Private property owners are responsible for snow removal on their property.
- Parking is prohibited on all streets after 2 inches of snowfall. No vehicles can be parked on the roadway or its shoulder for a period of 24 hours after the accumulation of 2 inches or more of snow or until the street has been cleared of snow. When City plows are clearing snow, the Police Department will issue tickets and are empowered to tow vehicles.
- It is unlawful to shovel, plow, or otherwise deposit snow onto City streets, as this causes a hazard for motorists and emergency vehicles. Also, watch for drainage from roofs, paved areas, sump pumps, yards and courts, and other open areas on the premises, which should not be discharging in a manner that creates a public nuisance or ice of any thickness on a public sidewalk or roadway.
- Residents may be compensated up to \$100 for mailboxes damaged by snowplows. A claim form must be completed within 30 days of the damage and sent to 28W701 Stafford Place, Warrenville, IL 60555, Attention: Risk Manager or jmcmahon@warrenville.il.us. Claim applications are available at www.warrenville.il.us.
- Frozen water pipes can be prevented by removing garden hoses from outside spigot and changing outside faucets to the non-freezing types; allowing warm air to circulate around water meter, keeping the heat at a minimum 55 degrees; sealing tightly any vents or access areas in crawl space, replace broken windows, caulk holes in foundations and window frames; and running water at a trickle on extremely cold nights to maintain water movement through the piping system.
- During the winter months please help the firefighters by keeping fire hydrants free and clear of snow and ice