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CITY NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2016



Fall Brush Pick-Up Starts November 7th

Public Works Staff will begin collecting brush throughout the City on Monday, November 7 and will continue until they have made one pass through the City. This program is designed to assist residents with the removal of limbs and branches that have come down as a result of storm damage or routine pruning. All brush must be stacked neatly at the curbside no later than 7:00 AM on the first day of collection. To ensure that your brush is collected please adhere to the following guidelines:

- Brush should be stacked parallel to the street**
- Brush should not include root balls, leaves or debris**
- No branches under 3 ft. in length**
- Whole trees will not be collected**



Before the "sunset" of the Marengo Main Street program, the board voted to donate the above flag pole to the City of Marengo as their final contribution to the community. The installation was completed at the end of August by Team Reil, Inc. of Union.

City crews will be only making one trip through the City and cannot return if brush is not out on time. Questions can be directed to 815-568-2669.

Interchange Funding Approved by County

“Exit 36” Bridge Work Construction to Start Next Year

By a vote of 21-1, on September 6 the McHenry County Board approved 25 percent funding for the design and construction of a full interchange on the Interstate 90-Jane Adams Tollway at Illinois Route 23. Estimated at \$8 million to \$9 million, this commitment is expected to be matched by the Illinois Tollway Authority at 50 percent and by the Illinois Department of Transportation at 25 percent. Based upon the four remaining design options under consideration, the total project cost is expected to range from \$32 million to \$36 million.

Interchange Development Schedule

| | |
|------|---------------------------------|
| 2016 | Bridge Engineering Completed |
| 2016 | Bidding for Bridge Construction |
| 2016 | Ramp Engineering Starts |
| 2017 | Bridge Construction Starts |
| 2018 | Ramp Engineering Completed |
| 2018 | Bidding for Ramp Construction |
| 2018 | Bridge Construction Ends |
| 2019 | Ramp Construction Starts |
| 2020 | Ramp Construction Ends |

The interchange located on the southern edge Marengo will cut the 17 mile gap between the US Route 20 interchange in Hampshire and the Genoa Road interchange in Belvidere, which is the longest uninterrupted stretch of I-90 in Illinois. The new I-90 access point will be six miles west of US Route 20 interchange and will provide access north to Marengo, Harvard and western McHenry County. Located just two miles north of the county line, it will also will become the more direct interstate highway point of entry into northern DeKalb County and Northern Illinois University. With this interchange, McHenry County having more than 307,000 people, will no longer be the largest populat-

ed county in the country without direct access to an interstate.

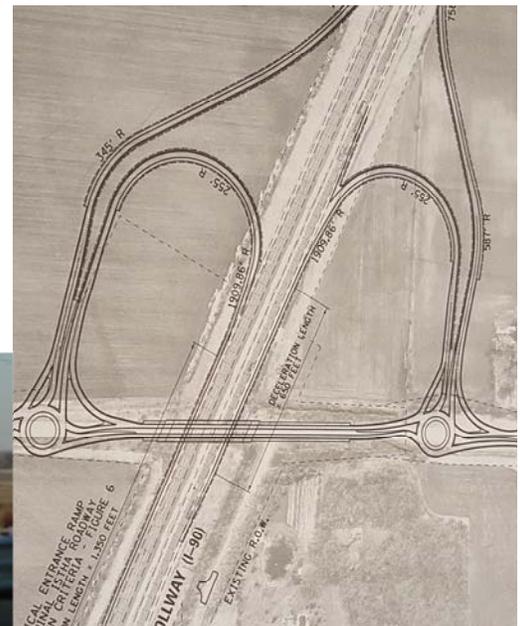
In the past few years the city approved amendments to its comprehensive plan and annexation agreements totaling more than three square miles of open land. These actions indicate that Marengo is setting up the ground near the new interchange for industrial and business uses, with the area most immediate to I-90/Illinois Route 23 earmarked for interchange related commercial development. The City expects that with its equidistant location from O’Hare and the Chicago-Rockford Airports, Marengo’s location can provide reasonable connections for air passengers and air freight haulers. Along with a recently upgraded, enlarged and easily expandable sewage treatment plant, a plentiful water resource that lies outside of the Lake Michigan basin, its short distant to major rail ports, and adjacent access to a I-90 high-speed fiber-optic line, Marengo feels that it can provide a new opportunity for industrial development in the Chicago and Rockford metropolitan areas.

Along with McHenry County’s funding commitment, the County and the City of Marengo entered into an intergovernmental agreement to hire HR Green of McHenry to complete the Phase 1 engineering and the Phase 2 design of the interchange ramps. This contract totals \$2.66 million, and will be coordinated with the Tollway Authority’s design of the Route 23 Bridge over I-90. The bridge plans have been developed and currently under review. The Tollway Authority will be responsible for all construction bidding and construction oversight of the project.

It is expected that the bridge construction will go out to bid yet this year for a planned 2017 construction start-up. With the completion of the bridge at the end 2018, work will then begin on the interchange ramps. Completion of the entire project is expected by the end of 2020.



There are four interchange design options remaining from which the County and the City must choose for the final ramp design. Pictured above is one of two “traditional” diamond exchange options. This particular option shows a traffic circle intersection on the northside of the Tollway and a signalized intersection on the Southside. Traffic signalization would be required for both diamond design options because the topography of the bridge and the tollway ownership on the West side of 23 would make a traffic circle very difficult to build.



The above design is one of two “parclo” (partial clover leaf) options. This particular option shows traffic circles on both the north and south side of the tollway that would discourage wrong way entrance onto the tollway. The other “parclo” option would show signalized intersections that could cause wrong way entrance on the tollway.



The view over the Rte 23 bridge looking West out onto I-90 will look much different in 2020.

Marengo-Union Library Provides a Variety of Programs

The Marengo-Union Library District is excited to be celebrating two years in its current building, located at 19714 E. Grant Highway. If you haven't seen the new Library, then it's definitely time for you to visit, we would love to see you! Be sure to make time to stop at the Friends' of the Library book sale room while you're here.

In the last two years, the Library has been busy developing its print and non-print collections, including the additions of a Roku box, Blu-rays, fishing poles, and video games. There is something of interest for everyone!

If you're looking for something to do, check out our programming. To start, the Library has book clubs for every level of reader, story times for children from birth to preschool, craft times for youth, Chess Club, and even a Teen Advisory Board. Adult programming includes, but is not limited to, Adult Coloring Book Club, Adult Craft Night, and Saturday Movie Matinee. Last but not least, the whole family can enjoy the monthly Friday Night Movie together. Monthly calendars are available at the front desk, or you can check the library's website calendar for upcoming events (some require pre-registration).

The Library continues to offer traditional services such as copying, scanning, and faxing, along with computers for public use, and WiFi access. The Library also has study rooms, a meeting room, and a play area for



children.

Unable to physically come to the Library? We have homebound outreach. You can also download e-books and audiobooks through our website!

For more information about materials or services, browse our website (www.muld.org), or call us at [815-568-8236](tel:815-568-8236). Don't miss out. Visit us today!

2017 Consolidated Election Includes City Races

Residents who wish to run for Mayor, City Clerk, or Alderman, in the City of Marengo during the April 4, 2017 Consolidated Election, may pick up a candidate's election packet at the City Clerk's office at City Hall beginning Wednesday, September 14, 2016 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. A candidate may not begin circulating petitions before September 20, 2016. Completed petitions are to be filed at the City Clerk's office the week of December 12-19, 2016 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. December 19, 2016, the last day to file, the City Clerk's office will be open until 5 p.m.

Ward one has two seats to be filled due to the resignation of an Alderman who moved into a different ward. Mike Miller was appointed in May 2016 to complete the remaining term, which expires in 2017.

If you need to register to vote, you can do so at Marengo City Hall, located at 132 E. Prairie Street, the Marengo-Union Public Library, located at 19714 E. Grant Highway, or

the McHenry County Clerk's Office, located at 667 Ware Road, Suite 107, Woodstock

The following is a list of seats that are up for municipal election and their terms:

- Mayor** One – four year term
- City Clerk** One – four year term
- Ward 1** One – two year term
One – four year term
- Ward 2** One – four year term
- Ward 3** One – four year term
- Ward 4** One – four year term

Polling locations are as follows:

- MAR (engo) 1**
Marengo Park District- Nature Center Room
825 Indian Oaks Trail
- MAR (engo) 2**
Marengo City Hall
132 E. Prairie Street
- MAR (engo) 3**
Marengo Township Building
4010 North Route 23
- MAR (engo) 4**
Marengo Township Building
4010 North Route 23
- RIL (ey) 1**
Riley Town Hall
9312 Riley Road

Calvin Spencer Gazebo Receives TLC



Top Photo: Before, Bottom Photo: After. Calvin Spencer Park is receiving a lot of attention this year. In addition to the wonderful volunteer maintenance performed routinely by Marengo resident Lynn Courier, the Public Works Staff performed tree trimming to raise canopies and thin out the deadwood in the many trees throughout the park. Now the gazebo is getting a much needed facelift. In order to return this structure to its former glory the gazebo has been pressure washed, sanded, primed and painted by Tom Stokes Decorating.

Fall Tree Planting Program

The Public Works Department is proud to offer the 2016 fall tree planting program to residents that have had a tree removed from the parkway adjacent to their property by the City. If you had a tree removed by the City and would like to have a replacement tree planted on your property (not the parkway) please contact the Public Works Director on email at hmoser@cityofmarengo.com or 815-568-2669 before October 10, 2016.



Once it is determined by Public Works that your property is eligible for a new tree we will call JULIE for utility locations to determine the best planting site. You will be given an approved list of available trees to choose from (no charge). The new tree will be planted on your property this fall at the specified location and you will receive watering instructions. Once the tree is planted the tree becomes the resident's responsibility. The Public Works Department **WILL NOT** maintain the new tree. Tree orders will be filled on a first come first serve basis until funding runs out. Unfilled/late orders will be added to the 2017 spring planting list.

Water System Improvements Made Throughout this Summer

DPW undertook a fire hydrant maintenance program that replaces problematic hydrants. These replacements were identified during the July water system flushing. DPW staff also made repairs to four different system leaks discovered after hydrant flushing. One of the leaks located in Brookside Meadows took DPW staff 4 weeks to locate. This high pressured quarter inch leak caused the loss of approximately 1/2 mill gallons of water during the one month period of time. Unlike other leaks this water never surfaced and was detected in a storm water sewer catch basin. It was thought this leak was caused by a rock compressed against a water service lead to a vacant lot.



The "culprit" in actual size.

Safety Drill Held at MCHS

Active Shooter Crisis Included School Lockdowns



On Saturday, September 10, the Marengo Police Department along with the Marengo Fire and Rescue Districts and The McHenry County Sheriff's Department hosted an "Active Shooter" drill at the Marengo Community High School.

Planning a training drill of this scale took several months of preparation. The drill allows for the Marengo Police Department and participating agencies to strengthen their coordination skills with each other during a time of crisis and exercise their communication skills, scene security, rapid deployment, rescue operations, hostage negotiations, tactics, safety and teamwork. This type of drill benefits all involved and the citizens we serve as it helps us to better prevent, prepare and mitigate various types of critical incidents.

Students volunteered to play roles which helped make the scenario more realistic. The drill commenced with a blank gun being fired within the school prompting a 911 call to McHenry City Dispatch Center.

Multiple tactical skills were tested between responding patrol officers as well as SWAT officers. The scenario also tested a new skill set in which the fire service now joins law enforcement to promptly and effectively perform rescues of injured individuals in these types of critical incidents. The Marengo Po-

lice Department and Marengo Fire & Rescue Districts have members certified instructors to train others in these life saving tactics and skill sets.

Police agencies from the surrounding areas participated in the drill. Participants included police officers from Huntley, Woodstock, McHenry County Conservation District, McHenry County College, Lake in the Hills, Algonquin, City of McHenry, City of DeKalb, United States Marshalls Service and the McHenry County Multi-jurisdictional SWAT Team.

Fire departments included Union, Harvard, Woodstock, Huntley, Hampshire, Pingree Grove, Crystal Lake, Elgin, Cary and Hebron.

Other participants include the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), The Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS), Centegra Huntley Hospital, McHenry County Emergency Management Agency, McHenry County Coroner's Office, McHenry County Sheriff's Explorers and Volunteer programs, Belvidere Police Volunteer program, along with administrators from the Marengo Community High School District 154, Marengo School District 165, Riley School District 18 and Zion Lutheran School.

It's unfortunate that in these times we must train for incidents like this, but in the event something like this happens we have to be prepared to respond at a moment's notice and be ready to confront the task at hand. The Marengo Police Department extends thanks to everyone involved with this successful drill.



Giving Thanks to Marengo PD

On August 4, 2016 Florence Nursing Home held an appreciation cookout to show their support to the Marengo Police Department. Florence provided a wide spread of delicious food, water slides, live entertainment and a petting zoo. The staff at Florence Nursing home had a personalized cake made in honor of the police department and presented Acting Chief Solarz with a generous donation of \$750 to the Drug Enforcement Fund.



Pictured Above: Interim Police Chief Solarz, Records Clerk-Denise Westland, Officer Bass, Administrative Assistant Megan Burke, Sergeant Riley, K-9 Shadow and Sergeant Fritz

The Marengo Police Department is blessed to be part of a community that stands united. Our police officer's started their career in law enforcement because they wanted to make a difference. During the midst of constant scrutiny they can lose focus, but when the community comes together and shows such appreciation and support, they are reminded of why they do what they do.

The Marengo Police Department would like to send a heartfelt thank you to Florence Nursing Home for their enthusiastic support and charitable donation.

Regalia, Reminders and other References

E-Pay

As part of our ongoing commitment to improve service to our residents, we are offering the following electronic payment options at www.cityofmarengo.com:

- Water/Sewer Payments
 - Vehicle Sticker Payments
 - Parking/Bond Ordinance violations
- Payments can be made by Mastercard, American Express, Discover or E-Check. The convenience fee charged for using credit services is not charged or collected by the City of Marengo.

Email Updates

Want to stay connected with City happenings? Have Marengo City Council agendas, news releases, calendar's of monthly meetings and general updates delivered right to your inbox. To register, go to www.cityofmarengo.com and enter your email address in the "subscribe to email updates" box or stop by City Hall.

Overnight Street Parking

Parking is not allowed on any residential street between the hours of 12:01 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. Central Business District parking is not allowed between the hours of 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. Violators are subject to a \$25 ordinance violation fine.

2016/17 Vehicle Stickers

The 2016-17 Vehicle Stickers are on sale. The cost is \$40 per vehicle or \$10 per vehicle for those aged 65 years and older. Fees have doubled after August 1, 2016. Residents not displaying a current City vehicle sticker are subject to an ordinance violation fine of \$150.

Travel Trailers & Recreational Vehicles

Parking of travel trailers, utility trailers

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Donald B. Lockhart
815.568.6559

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ward I | Ward II | Ward III | Ward IV |
| Nicole DeBoer 815.568.0911 | Michael Smith 815.568.1246 | Todd Hall 815.568.7273 | Dennis Hammortree 815.568.5577 |
| Mike Miller 815.568.6925 | Steve Mortensen 815.735.0766 | Matt Keenum 815.404.4585 | Brett Martin 815.568.1223 |

City Clerk Constance Boxleitner
815.568.6937



Standing: D. Hammortree, S. Mortensen, C. Boxleitner, N. DeBoer, M. Keenum
Seated: M. Miller, B. Martin, D. Lockhart, M. Smith, T. Hall

or other recreational vehicles shall only be permitted behind the front property line between the dates of April 15 and October 15. After October 15 and prior to April 15, the parking of travel trailers, utility trailers and other recreational vehicles shall only be permitted behind the building setback line.

Garage Sales

A \$5.00 garage sale permit is required. The ordinance allows for 6 days throughout the calendar year. You are allowed three signs for advertisement. Signs must have their own support, they can not be placed on trees, poles or traffic signals.

Approved Resolutions and Ordinances June, July and August 2016

June

- 16-6-1 An Ordinance Amending Section 33.07-B, Number of Licenses Issued
- 16-6-2 Prevailing Wages

July

- 16-7-1 An Ordinance Making the Appropriation from Corporate purposes for FY 16-17
- 16-7-2 An Ordinance Execution of a Second Amendment to an Annexation Agreement By & Between the City of Marengo & Brookside Meadows
- 16-7-A Resolution Clarifying Chain of Command & Organizational Reporting Structure for Municipal & Police Department

August

- 16-8-2 An Ordinance Authorizing Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement for Shared Telecommunications
- 16-8-3 McHenry County Storm Water Management Ordinance
- 16-8-A Resolution Creating Retirement Fund to Offset Payment of Sick Time as Severance Pay to Employees Upon Retirement

The *September 2016 Marengo Newsletter* has been produced by the following staff members: *Article contributors:* Gary Boden, Howard Moser, Interim Chief Rich Solarz, Anna Leyrer and Marengo-Union Library. *Desktop publisher:* Megan Lopez