

that can be salvaged. The construction will be challenging because the new treatment units must be constructed while maintaining operation of the existing units. The existing treatment process must remain operational and meet IEPA permit requirements during construction.

Sustainability is an important design consideration for the West STP improvements. Some of the key elements are:

- **ENERGY CONSERVATION** - This includes the use of high efficiency motors, variable frequency drives (VFD), and computer-based monitoring and control of the treatment process. These controls not only save power and reduce electrical costs to the City but also provide a better and more stable treatment process. In addition, grant funding may be available to assist with paying for energy efficient improvements.
- **LIGHT POLLUTION REDUCTION** - The exterior lights are dark sky compliant lights which only emit light where needed and reduce light pollution from unnecessary light scatter.
- **WASTE REDUCTION** - The improvements to the West STP include new tanks and structures however several of the existing structures will be re-used. Re-use of existing structures reduces construction waste and saves money on capital cost.
- **RESOURCE RECOVERY AND REUSE** - The treated (reclaimed) water has typically been discharged to the Rock Run Creek, but as part of the improvements, reclaimed water will also be made available for the non-potable water needs of the treatment plant such as equipment wash down, process carrier water, and site irrigation. The West STP will utilize heat pumps which use the consistent temperature of the reclaimed water to provide heating and cooling for buildings thus reducing electrical and natural gas usage, and saving the City money on power costs. Biosolids will continue to be reused on agricultural land for the fertilizer value.

The construction of the West STP Improvements are planned to start in Fall 2014.

**John Tomaso** & **Baxter Woodman**  
City Administrator 815-741-5123

**KEEPING OUR CITY BEAUTIFUL!**

As spring warms our City, thoughts turn from snow removal to grooming our yards and parkways! Along with that we'd like to give our residents and property owners a friendly reminder about our City Ordinance 7.08 Weed Control; Tree Removal.

Vegetable growth of six inches or more is in violation of the ordinance. When visually checked by our inspector, we will send out a notice to the property owner per Will County records. The owner will have five days from the date of the notice to cut the vegetation before the inspector comes back to check the property. If the vegetation hasn't been cut and removed we will turn the address over to the landscaping company that had lowest bid this year. The property owner will be billed the amount the landscaping company charges the City plus a \$50.00 administrative fee. If that bill is not paid in 30 days from the date of the invoice, the property will be liened by the City Clerk's office, which will cost the county fee for the lien as well as a \$100.00 administrative fee.

We don't like to send out notices. Please keep your grass and weeds cut and removed; it's better for you, your neighbors and your city! Thank you.

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Development Department at 815-741-5106.



<b>MAYOR</b>	
Raymond R. Soliman	
<b>CITY CLERK</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>
Vicki Hackney	Glen Conklin
815-741-5100	815-355-1579
<b>WARD 1</b>	<b>WARD 3</b>
John Vershay	Tina Oberlin
815-726-4049	815-953-4257
Scott Dyke	Candi Thuringer
815-726-7905	815-545-4603
<b>WARD 2</b>	<b>WARD 4</b>
Claudia Gazal	Charles Convery
630-915-7449	815-609-8058
Barbara Sklare	Tom Inman
815-725-0479	815-609-0636

The City

**Update** The Official Newsletter of the City of CREST HILL Illinois

**From the Mayor's Desk**

Dear Residents,  
I would like to wish all of our residents a happy and healthy 2014 and a year in which all your dreams and goals come true.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all of our employees for their hard work, commitment, and dedication for enduring one of the coldest and snowiest winters we have had in a long time. I am certainly looking forward to an early Spring with warm weather and sunny skies.

As a direct result of the passage of the 2012 sales tax referendum, the city hired two additional police officers to improve public safety, completed long overdue street and water main improvements to Leness Lane and Donmaur Drive, and began phase 2 engineering for necessary improvements to the Gaylord Road and Division Street intersection. Also, all property owners will begin receiving a 25% percent property tax rebate for the city portion of your property tax bill in the Spring of 2014. Hopefully, this yearly rebate check will help all of our residents during some tough economic times.

Looking forward, the City Council will begin discussing several road improvement projects and upgrades to an aging infrastructure throughout our city. We will also discuss future improvements to our west sewage treatment plant that was built in 1968 and last upgraded in the early 1990's. The City Council has also been working on updating our comprehensive plan after receiving a \$100,000 grant from the

Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. This comprehensive plan will provide a vision for the next 20 years for the City of Crest Hill and I thank all of our residents who have attended and participated in the community workshops over the past few months.

The City Council recently approved a 5-year contract with Allied/Republic Services for garbage collection. You will be notified of service changes and delivery of new containers to be used for garbage and recycling in the near future. I am excited for and am looking forward to many new businesses opening soon. This is a sign of economic improvement and a positive outlook for the City of Crest Hill. We also welcome Bishop Conlon and the Diocese of Joliet to our City and look forward to working with them and all of our businesses in the future.

As always I hope that this newsletter is informative to you. Please feel free to contact me with any comments or suggestions that you may have.

*Raymond R. Soliman*  
**Raymond R. Soliman**  
Mayor 815-741-5123

**City of Crest Hill**  
1610 Plainfield Road  
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403  
815-741-5100  
www.cityofcresthill.com  
City Hall Hours: M-F 8:00am - 5:00pm

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**MAYOR'S OFFICE**  
Raymond R. Soliman  
815-741-5123

**CLERK'S OFFICE**  
Vicki Hackney  
815-741-5100

**TREASURER'S OFFICE**  
Glen Conklin  
815-741-5125

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR**  
John Tomaso  
815-741-5123

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
Brent Cann  
Director/City Engineer  
815-741-5108  
Mike Greenan  
Deputy Director  
815-723-8671

**UTILITY BILLING**  
Irma Rangel  
Utility Billing Supervisor  
815-741-5104

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
Amber Miller  
Community Development Director  
815-741-5106

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
Dwayne Wilkerson  
Chief of Police  
815-741-5115

**CITY ATTORNEY**  
Heather McGuire  
815-741-5123

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**  
Maribel Deharo  
815-741-5123

## What is Crest Hill's Vision for the Future?

As you are aware, the City has been diligently working on the Comprehensive Plan since late fall of 2013 with the assistance of some very active public participants, the Planning Commission and the City Council.

## What is a Comprehensive Plan?

A Comprehensive Plan serves as a City's official guide for land use, physical improvement and development. The Comprehensive Plan provides a foundation for decision-making based on community consensus, community vision, existing conditions and future potentials. The Plan serves as a "road map" for 15 to 20 years into the future by guiding policy decisions and helping the community achieve its long-term objectives.

The Comprehensive Plan for the City of Crest Hill will address many issues including economic opportunities, transportation and circulation, image, infrastructure, environmental features and open space, community character and urban design. The Comprehensive Plan will provide community-wide plans for land use & development, transportation, trails and mobility, parks and open space, community facilities and infrastructure, and implementation.

The City received its first draft of the Existing Conditions section of the Comprehensive Plan January 27, 2014 at a Joint meeting of the City Council and the Planning Commission which functions as the Steering Committee for the process. Over the next few weeks the City will be receiving the drafts for the remainder of the document. At this point in the process this is a working document, nothing has been adopted and we are still seeking comments and input. There is still plenty of time for you to be heard.

Even if you can't participate in person, you can always provide feedback on the project website through surveys, interactive mapping and sending questions directly to the planning team. This website will have dates and times for future meetings, summaries of past meetings, drafts of documents and all kinds of valuable information. There is also a link to the Comprehensive Plan website from the City of Crest Hill home page which can be found at <http://www.cityofcresthill.com/>

**Amber G. Miller**

Director of Community Development 815-741-5106

## City Clerk's Office News.....

City of Crest Hill 2014 Vehicle Stickers and Animal Tags went on sale January 2, 2014. Vehicle stickers must be purchased by March 31, 2014 to avoid penalty charge. Failure to purchase and display a vehicle sticker on your vehicle by March 31, 2014 will result in a \$50.00 penalty charge added to each sticker.

Vehicle stickers and animal tags can be purchased by the following ways:

1. Visit the Clerk's Office and purchase the vehicle sticker/animal tag in person.
2. Mail your completed application with corrected information to the Clerk's Office and we will mail the sticker/animal tag back to you.
3. Place your completed application and payment in the white drop box in front of City Hall and we will mail the sticker/animal tag back to you. The drop box is available for your use 24 hours.
4. Purchase at Hillcrest Currency Exchange, 1701 N. Larkin Avenue. (Additional \$2.00 fee will be added to each sticker/animal tag).

City Clerk's Office hours are:

Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

**Extended hours for vehicle sticker/animal tag sales:**

Saturday, March 22, 2014 from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm.

Monday, March 31, 2014 from 8:00 am until 7:00 pm.

Any questions regarding costs, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 815-741-5100.

Crest Hill Citywide garage sales will be May 15-18 and August 14 - 17, 2014. The permit fee is \$5.00 each sale. Advertising will be in the Joliet Patch, Herald News, Crest Hill Cable TV Channel 6 and WJOL radio. Residents are allowed two additional garage sales on their own along with Citywide sales for a total of four per year.

Stop by the Clerk's Office to obtain your free new Welcome Book which has useful information about the City for residents.

### Did you know?

The Clerk's Office provides free notary services. Bring in proof of residency and the unsigned document with you. The document must be signed in front of the Notary.

**Vicki Hackney**

City Clerk 815-741-5100

## Important Information on your Garbage Service

As many residents are already aware, Crest Hill residents will begin new automated trash and recycling services May 1, 2014. This change comes as part of a new contract with our garbage service provider Allied Waste/Republic Services. A notice was put on the January bills to announce the change as well as website announcement and container displays at City Hall. The containers are still on display at City Hall outside the Utility Billing Office. If you have not had a chance to view the containers, they will remain on display until the May 1st start date. In the month of April, Allied Waste/Republic Services will be delivering one 96-gallon cart for trash and one 96-gallon cart for recycling. All carts will be delivered before the May 1st start date. Households will be provided one wheeled blue cart for household refuse and a second wheeled blue cart with a green lid for recycling.

Once all carts are delivered, residents will be notified of a date to call by to trade their cart for a smaller 65-gallon or 35-gallon cart if the 96-gallon cart does not suit their particular needs. Directions on the new cart program will be provided at delivery. Recycling will now be every other week and Yard Waste will continue to be on regular trash pickup day. If residents want to get rid of their old containers after they have received their new containers, residents may place them at the curb on normal pickup day and simply leave a note saying "Garbage man please take this container" and it will be included with your normal pickup.

As always, a reminder to residents that yard waste will begin in April with regular garbage pickup.

**Irma Rangel**

Utility Billing 815-741-5104

## Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements

News from the City Administrator and Baxter & Woodman, Inc.

Concerned with aging wastewater treatment facilities and regulatory compliance, the City of Crest Hill authorized Baxter & Woodman, Inc. to prepare a long term plan and design improvements to allow the City's facilities to continue to meet the needs of our residents and meet requirements of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

Wastewater treatment is one of the key services that the City of Crest Hill offers its residents as it provides a crucial public health benefit and also produces reusable resources. Wastewater, often referred to as "sewage", consists of liquid waste collected from residences and businesses from sources such as sinks, drains, toilets and laundry facilities. It is conveyed in the City's pipe network, referred to as the sanitary sewer collection system, to a wastewater treatment plant. At the treatment plant, the wastewater is processed to recover water suitable for discharge to the Rock Run Creek and biosolids which have agricultural use. The treated water is also used extensively throughout the treatment plant site in place of potable (drinking) water and is available for non-residential reuse.

The City owns and operates two wastewater treatment facilities. The East Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) is located south of Caton Farm Road and east of Illinois Route 53 along the Des Plaines River. The West STP is located north of Theodore Street and west of Gaylord Road. The East STP is currently being upgraded. The West STP was constructed in 1968 and was last improved in the early 1990's to extend its life. The expected life of a treatment plant improvement is typically 20 years. The West STP has served long past that time and is in need of major work to continue service. The IEPA is also proposing new and stricter limits for the West STP that require significant upgrades.

A planning report was prepared in February 2010 to identify the improvements necessary at the City's STPs. The plan was to focus on the plants one at a time starting with the East STP due to imminent repairs needed at that facility. The East STP construction will be complete in Spring 2014. The City is currently pursuing a loan from the IEPA to fund the \$20.3 million in improvements needed at the West STP. By obtaining an IEPA loan, the City will save its residents approximately \$6 million in interest payments compared to a traditional public bond sale.

The project at the West STP includes construction of major improvements necessary to replace outdated equipment and to maintain compliance with IEPA regulations. This includes facilities to remove phosphorus from the wastewater before it is discharged to Rock Run Creek.

Improvements to the West STP include providing new equipment, new structures as required, and reuse of the structures