

VILLAGE OF DEER CREEK
101 E. FIRST AVE.
P.O. BOX 38
DEER CREEK, IL 61733

Phone: 309-447-6749
Fax: 309-447-6749
Email: clerk@deercreekillinois.org
www.deercreekillinois.org
Police: 309-447-6265
Non-emergency: 309-346-4141
Fire Department: 309-447-6490
Emergency: 911

FIRST CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NUMBER 1
DEER CREEK, IL 61733



DC World News

Special Edition
March 2023

Bridging Past, Present and Future

Community Solar and Electric Aggregation

That title just makes you all tingly inside doesn't it? If you have paid a gas or electric bill lately, I am sure it does not make you smile.

First, the Village Administration & Hawk-Attollo are pleased to announce that the Deer Creek Community Solar project is finally nearing completion and expected to be generating and serving the homes that have signed up soon. We know it has been a long wait but what a process it has been.

Secondly, the Village has for many years participated in a bid group for its electric energy aggregation program. The bid group cooperatively contracts with an alternate supplier of electric energy. Our contract ended last June. Bids were sought at that time, but due to market volatility, no bidders were interested.

Through many months of effort, the consultant was finally able to obtain a contract with Energy Harbor, formerly known as First Energy. A 29-month contract has been signed at a rate of 12.1 cents per kilowatt-hour and will begin in July of this year. This rate is slightly below the current Ameren rate to compare. As in the past, information will be mailed out to all homes in the village to have your energy supplied by this provider. This will be, like before, an OPT-OUT program. This means you will automatically be switched to this supplier if you do not opt-out. Expect information regarding this program in your mail within the next couple of months.

This is where things may get a bit confusing. If you have purchased a solar subscription from Hawk-Attollo, you will still have an energy provider listed on your Ameren bill. Whether or not you allow the change of provider is your decision. If you did not sign up for a solar subscription, you should not have to do anything to be moved to First Energy as your provider and lock in your rate.

If you own your own solar, be careful about changing providers. Check your credits. When your provider is switched, as we found out last year, any credits built up are lost.

It may seem like a lot of information here. Just do your due diligence and ask questions if you have them.



Special Edition



The Deer Creek Village Board meets at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of every month. These meetings are held at the Village Hall/Community Center.

Your Village Officers:

President: Jim Hackney
Clerk: Lori Lewis
Treasurer: Jodi McMahon
Trustees: Judy Cremeens, Mary Eschelbach, Grant Hackney,
Ross Kraemer, Stefanie Lee Berardi, Jake Smith

The Village of Deer Creek is an Equal Opportunity Employer

The Consolidated Elections are April 4, 2023

Library News

Show your support for the Deer Creek District Library by voting on **April 4th, 2023**. On your ballot you will see the question:

“Shall the annual public library tax rate for the Deer Creek Public Library District, Tazewell and Woodford Counties, Illinois, be established at .20% instead of at .15% the maximum rate otherwise applicable to the next taxes to be extended?”

YES / NO

If YES, the Referendum passes

The Library will be able to:

- Proactively maintain our 22-year-old building because the aging mechanical systems are failing and other physical aspects are reaching their lifespan.
- Increase the budget to supply the community with more books, DVDs, and other materials for the library collection.

Manage rising inflation costs, utilities, state minimum wage, online services, contractors, etc...

If NO, the Referendum fails

The Library will have to:

- Minimize maintenance to include only emergency or as-needed building repairs.
- Decrease services including limiting materials budget and library buying power.
- Continue making budget cuts that affect services and hours.
-

If this passes, will it increase property tax bills? Yes, a home valued at \$150,000 will increase by about \$22 for the year. That increase will help the Library keep its doors open to continue serving the community.

More Election Information

We all have an opinion on government. Too much. Too little. Just too.... Thought we would take this opportunity to talk a little about our local government body and what we do for you.

First, on the ballot this year are three village trustee positions. Grant Hackney is running for another four year term. Grant has lived in Deer Creek his entire life. He has served as Village Trustee since 2011. Deer Creek’s very own Clark Griswold, Josh Rossman will also be on the ballot for the first time. He and his family have lived in town just a little over a year.

The Village of Deer Creek operates under the Trustee-Village form of government. Six Trustees form the legislative body, with the Trustees generally being elected from the Village at-large. The terms of the President and Trustees are four years. Appointments to all non-elective offices, unless otherwise specifically provided by statute, are made by the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Trustees.

The Village President and Clerk are also elected at large, and the treasurer is appointed.

The president is the chief executive officer of the village. He is a member of the corporate authorities, but generally presides over the board meetings. The president casts votes in the event of a tie or when a vote greater than a majority of the corporate authorities is required.

The legislative body of the municipality is the board. With the advice and recommendations of the village president, the village board of trustees make the decisions pertinent to the operations of the village. The village board makes sure that we have streets to drive on, safe drinking water, and a way to get rid of our waste. Those are basics. Daily tasks include paying the bills, preparing water bills, managing projects, and dealing with residents’ concerns. There is so much more. If you have ever considered serving on a board, now is your time to ask questions.

The Planning Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals is looking for 2 members. This is an appointed position. Meetings are on an as needed basis. Call the village office if you are interested in further information.



Deer Creek Community Blood Drive

Deer Creek Community Center

100 N Main
Deer Creek, IL 61733

Wednesday, March 22, 2023
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

To make an appointment, please contact the school at 309-447-6226 or visit www.RedCrossBlood.org (Enter Sponsor Code: DeeMackChiefs) or sign up with a student.



Come give in March and get a \$10 Visa Prepaid Card by email. PLUS, get a chance to win a \$3,000 Visa Prepaid Card to help with gas or grocery expenses! You could be one of five lucky winners. Lend an arm; we'll lend a hand. Terms apply: rcblood.org/help.



Donate blood during #RedCrossMonth!

Visit redcrossblood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS or download the Blood Donor App to schedule an appointment.

© 2017 The American Red Cross | 158001

2023 Events

For you calendar

Daylight Savings - March 12
Time to Spring Forward!

Car Show - June 10
Would you like to help? Park cars, sell tickets, all the while enjoying the show. Contact Lori at the village office.

Townwide Garage Sales - June 17

Many of you are now having sales on Friday also. This year we will put extra days on the map. This will mean you have to get your information to the village office just a day or two earlier if you want on the map. Maps will be ready on June 15. If you want your sale on the map, drop off your \$2 along with your address, and you can even include any special items you would like to list. The \$2 pays for advertising and copies. Anything not spent is put in the park fund.

DOG POO

Got your attention? Spring is just around the corner. People are emerging from their homes. On behalf of all of us who like to walk outside, PLEASE clean up your doggie poo. It really stinks. There are so many other reasons to clean it up but seriously ~ it is the right thing to do.

'cuz it really stinks!

Your neighbors thank you and the boys who have to read your meters really thank you.



“I learned this, at least, by my experiment; that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.” —Henry David Thoreau