

# InverNews

The Village With A Heritage



Fall 2008

## 27-Year Law Enforcement Veteran and Inverness Resident Robert Haas Named to Head Up Village's New Police Department

When the Village of Inverness' first-ever Police Department becomes operational on May 1, 2009, it will have one of its own, Robert Haas, Jr. at its helm.

Haas, who has been Deputy Police Chief in the Village of Palatine since 2002, has a 27 year career in law enforcement. He was selected to head up Inverness' Police Department after a nationwide recruitment process that resulted in 65 letters of interest from candidates with a wide range of law enforcement experience. Haas was selected based on his professional credentials, his experience, and his response to questions by a panel of current and former area police chiefs.



*Police Chief Robert Haas, Jr.*

"Bob Haas had all the credentials we were looking for," said Mayor Jack Tatooles. "And it is a huge plus to have one of our own residents as our new Police Chief."

Since being named Inverness Police Chief on July 22, Haas has focused on selecting the officers who will staff the Department. He has assembled a team of 11 veteran police officers from the north and northwest suburbs who bring more than 325 years of experience to the new Department.

"This is a very experienced group of police professionals," Haas said. "As a team, they bring a range and depth of skill sets that will meet the public safety needs of the community."

Inverness decided to end its long-standing agreement for police services with the Village of Barrington earlier this year after a consultant's study revealed that the Village would save \$1.3 million over five years by starting its own Police Department.

Although the Village's contract for police services with Barrington does not end until May 1, Chief Haas will officially assume his position as Inverness Police Chief later this year. Police officers will be hired in March, 2009. The overlap is designed to enable the Inverness Police Department to seamlessly assume the duties that have been performed by Barrington officers.

The new Police Department will be housed in the Village Hall Annex at 1415 Baldwin Road.



## Dates to Remember

### October 7

**Last day to register** to vote at Inverness Village Hall

### October 8-22

**Grace period registration.** You can register and/or vote IN PERSON at the County Clerk's office five suburban locations, or the downtown office. Go to [www.voterinfonet.com](http://www.voterinfonet.com) or call (312) 603-0906 for hours and locations.

### October 13-30

**Early voting.** All registered voters in Cook County are eligible to cast their ballot at any one of 44 locations during the Early Voting period. Go to [www.voterinfonet.com](http://www.voterinfonet.com) or call (312) 603-0906 for information.

### Applications Available Now

**Absentee ballots.** You need a reason to vote absentee by mail in Illinois, such as being out of town, hospitalized, away at school or in the military. The last day to request an absentee ballot is October 30. It must be postmarked by November 3 in order to be counted.

### November 4

**Regular Election Day.** To check your current registration, or for additional registration information, please visit the Cook County election website at [www.voterinfonet.com](http://www.voterinfonet.com) or call (312) 603-0906.

## Jack Tatoes



Dear Residents,

I am very pleased to report that our Village of Inverness Police Department is well on its way to becoming a reality. Our new Police Chief, Inverness resident Bob Haas, has been appointed and has assumed the leadership role in developing a Police Department that will serve our residents and community well. Chief Haas brings a great deal of energy as well as a wide range of experience and qualifications to his new position. I am confident that our new Police Department is in the best of hands. We are equally excited about the quality of candidates who have applied to become Inverness police officers. These seasoned professionals will bring an enviable depth of experience and professionalism to the Department.

Inverness has already been accepted into Northwest Central Dispatch, the premier police dispatching agency in the northwest suburbs. They currently dispatch for the Palatine Rural Fire Protection District, which will provide important interoperability between the police and fire departments. Four squad cars have been purchased, and design plans will be finalized shortly for the modifications to the Annex where the new Police Department will be housed. The remodeling is expected to be underway before the end of the year.

On another front, we are pursuing a comprehensive road program that will result in improvements to our entire roadway system. The Village Board recently approved the concept of issuing up to \$10 million in general obligation bonds, which will provide funds for a system-wide improvement to the 50 miles of roads maintained by the Village. Village Trustees felt the time was right based on the ever increasing cost of asphalt, and the relatively low interest rate, about 4%, to borrow money through a bond issue.

Infrastructure Management Services has been retained to study roadway conditions, prioritize the needed repairs, and develop an action plan for making the improvements over the next two years. The engineering study is scheduled to be underway within the next few weeks, and a roadway improvement action plan in place by early spring, 2009. When completed, the system-wide roadway improvements will be of enormous benefit to the entire community.

As a final note, you may have read newspaper accounts of the road salt shortage that has occurred in a multi-state region here in the Midwest. Although road salt for the 2008-2009 winter season is going to be harder to find and more expensive to purchase, we are committed to doing our very best to maintain the level of service that you expect during the coming winter months.

Sincerely,

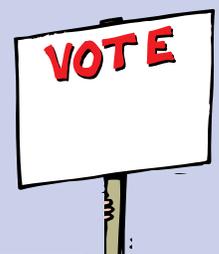
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jack Tatoes, Mayor

### A Reminder About Political Signs

Section 5-5-12 of the Village Code provides that political signs must: (1) be located on private property at least 30 feet from the edge of the street pavement; (2) be no more than six square feet in surface area; and (3) be removed three days after the election.

Thank you for your cooperation.



# Financial Health of Inverness: Excellent

## Village to pursue comprehensive road improvements

The Village of Inverness is proud of its continuing tradition of strong financial health and its commitment to fiscal stability.

Did you know that less than 4% (less than 5% in the Barrington Township portion of Inverness) of your total property tax bill goes to fund Village of Inverness services, including police protection and roads and drainage? To put that in perspective, the typical Inverness residents pays a larger portion of their tax bill to Harper College, than to fund the Village and its essential police and road services.

Seventy-three percent of the Village's \$4.7 million total budget goes toward police and road programs.. This fiscal year, the shortfall between revenues and expenditures will be made up from the Village's strong financial reserve.

### ROADS PROGRAM

There are three governmental bodies that are responsible for the roads in and around Inverness:

#### ▲ The State of Illinois

- Dundee Road
- Barrington Road
- Palatine Road

#### ▲ Cook County

- Roselle Road
- Ela Road
- Bradwell Road

#### ▲ Village of Inverness

- The remaining 50+ miles of public roads in the Village. (This does not include roads in private communities.)

As we are all too well aware, this past winter was a very cold one -- which was not only hard on the residents but very destructive to the roads in and around our Village. Inverness, like other communities, has been hit by an almost "perfect storm" in its road program:

- Roads have deteriorated very badly as a result of this past harsh winter;
- Winter road salt costs were up dramatically due to the shortages throughout the country;
- Motor fuel tax revenues to the Village from the State of Illinois are down due to the high cost of fuel and the fact that individuals are driving less and therefore using less fuel. (This tax is a fixed amount per gallon,, and gallon consumption is down.)
- Road repair costs are up substantially due to the high price of the petroleum component in asphalt.

Given the need to repair a substantial portion of our Village roads, the Village Board has unanimously agreed to proceed with a bond issue to be used solely to fix, at the same time, the majority of our Village roads during 2009 and 2010, versus the 10 year cycle where a small amount of roads are repaired each year.

This bond issue will generate up to \$10 million to be used for road repairs, versus the \$750,000 that we would normally be spending on road repairs in a normal fiscal year.

At the present time, the Village will be able to obtain a very favorable interest rate of approximately 4% on these bonds. The financing will be structured so that the annual payments for these bonds (both the principle and interest) will be approximately \$750,000 per year -- *the same amount that we are currently spending each year on our Village road program.*

The result? Virtually *all roads* in the Village will be improved in the next two years, at a fixed cost, at a time when interest rates are remarkably low, while locking in a lower cost for the project at a time when materials costs are projected to rise dramatically in future years.

The Finance Committee and Village Board wholeheartedly endorsed the concept of the bond issue, and we know it will benefit all of our residents.

## TLC for Your Beautiful Tree

Fall is a great time to prune and feed those beautiful trees that add so much to your home and our community.

The Inverness Tree Commission reminds you that regular pruning keeps mature trees healthy so they don't have to be cut down and replaced with trees that will never be as magnificent in our lifetime. Taking care of the trees you already have will save money in the long run.

Mature trees add to the value of your home, improve the air we breathe, and can result in substantial savings on both heating and cooling costs.

Save money, save energy, save the planet. Give the trees on your property the care they need and they will pay you back with their beauty and cost-saving benefits.



# 'Sno Fooling – Winter's On Its Way!

With winter weather just around the corner, this is the time to take a look around your property and remove all landscaping obstructions -- such as boulders, stones and tree limbs -- from the right-of-way. Such items can pose a significant safety hazard for Village snow plowing crews.



While crews always do their best to protect lawn areas adjacent to the roadway, we ask you to report any damage caused by snow plows to Village Hall within 24 hours so that we can investigate and make repairs as warranted.

Residents are reminded never to shovel or plow snow from the driveway into the street. Snow from driveways that is deposited on the roadways can become compacted and icy, posing a significant danger to both vehicles and pedestrians. Violators are subject to a minimum fine of \$200.00.

We recommend removing snow from your driveway after the plow has made its last pass. Snow plows are designed to push snow to the outside edge of the road, which means the plow will inevitably leave snow at the bottom of your driveway. You can save yourself both time and frustration by waiting to clear the bottom of your driveway until the plow has made its final pass on your street.

## Fire Extinguisher Training -- Your First Defense

The Palatine Rural Fire District is proud to announce the recent acquisition of a fire extinguisher training system. Studies have shown that only 1% of the population has been adequately trained to use a fire extinguisher. When an individual is properly trained on the use of fire extinguishers, they are 2 ½ times more effective when extinguishing a fire.

The "BullEx" Intelligent Training System provides clean, safe and effective fire extinguisher training to people of all ages and experience levels. Interested groups should contact the Fire District at (847) 991-8700 to schedule a training session.

## Calendar of Events

### October

- 14 Village Board
- 20 Zoning Board
- 21 Plan Commission

### November

- 11 Village Board
- 17 Zoning Board
- 18 Plan Commission

### December

- 9 Village Board
- 15 Plan Commission
- 16 Zoning Board

## WINTER TRAVEL INFORMATION

Illinois Department of Transportation

.....1-312-DOT-INFO  
(1-312-368-4636);

[www.dot.state.il.us](http://www.dot.state.il.us)

For information about state highways including Palatine, Dundee and Barrington Roads.

Cook County Highway Department.(1-708-485-7136);

[www.co.cook.il.us](http://www.co.cook.il.us)

To report problems on county highways such as Ela, Roselle, and Bradwell Roads.

Illinois Tollway Information Line

.....1-800-TOLLYFI  
(1-800-865-5394);

[www.illinoistollway.com](http://www.illinoistollway.com)

For tollway information including problems with fog, snow, ice, high winds and trailer bans. This information is updated every four hours, more often if weather conditions warrant.



Village of Inverness  
1400 Baldwin Road  
Inverness, Illinois 60067

847/358-7740  
847/358-8858 fax

Website: [www.villageofinverness.org](http://www.villageofinverness.org)

Village Hall Hours:  
Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM

Jack Tatoes. . . . . Mayor  
Diane C. Haas . . . . . Clerk

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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