



# NEWS RELEASE

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April 16, 2013

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## **Village Passes Fiscal Year 2013-2014 Budget**

On April 11, 2013 the Village of Woodridge passed its Fiscal Year 2013- 2014 budget. The budget totals \$47,192,755 in expenditures and includes several large capital projects in the Capital Improvement Plan. The budget continues to provide core services to residents and maintains the Village's low Village employee per 1,000 resident ratio. Highlights of the plan include roadway work which, for the upcoming budget year, will mean roadway resurfacing in several areas of the Village, replacement of aging signalization equipment at Center Drive and Janes Avenue, and traffic light interconnect on Center Drive to improve traffic flow.

The plan also includes a tree removal and planting program to help reforestation efforts that are necessary due to Emerald Ash Borer infestation. The program consists of removing affected or vulnerable trees and replanting with trees that are not susceptible to the pest. A storm sewer inventory will be conducted, which will help update atlases of sewers and serve as the master plan for the Village's televising and improvement plan. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has awarded the Village 75% of the funding needed for this inventory effort. The Town Centre planning efforts will continue this year, with members of the community working together to develop a plan for the Town Centre property.

Additionally, the selection and implementation of Enterprise Resource Program software will help to provide a high-quality customer service experience for residents and others, as well as create internal efficiencies for staff. Replacement of the Village's failing phone system will also serve in that effort.

Of the total expenditures, \$26,227,768 is budgeted for operating costs. This represents a 6% increase over last year and one that is attributable to increases in the costs of services, including personnel costs. In an effort to reduce the residential tax burden, this year there is no increase to the Village's property tax levy. A resident with an average home in Woodridge will pay only \$238 in property taxes to the village.

The budget supports the overall mission of the Village to achieve a high quality of life by providing superior services in a fiscally responsible manner and reflects the priorities of the Village Board, which are to reduce the residential tax burden, maintain a safe community, provide adequate infrastructure, provide for governmental transparency and accountability, to foster intergovernmental coordination and consolidation, and to stimulate the business community.