Downtown projects coming this spring
Clearing the way for luxury living, dining and shopping in downtown Oswego p. 4-6

SPECIAL DOUBLE EDITION
Flip over your newsletter for a special section devoted to financial transparency!

Cheers! Wine on the Fox returns to Oswego on May 4 & 5!
TICKETS ON SALE SOON! p. 10
Greetings Oswego friends and neighbors,

Growing up there were a lot of rules in my parents’ home. Some were concrete, hard and fast rules so you knew what to do and what not to do. These included things like: no hitting, scratching, or kicking; place dirty dishes in the sink (we never did have a dishwasher) and dirty clothes in the hamper; no staying out past 11 p.m.; and we eat dinner together at the table.

Then there were other rules, actually, they were family norms. Things we did and didn’t do because, well, we were Vrunos. These were more difficult to discern and as I grew older they were more open to interpretation (or so I thought). They included: never kiss your date under the porch light, don’t leave the family car low on gas (we only had one), call if you’re going to be late, and never talk about certain subjects.

Top among these forbidden topics: politics, religion, sex, and money. Since the first three of these are still taboo as far as this newsletter is concerned, let’s tackle the fourth and talk money. Primarily, what the Village does with yours.

There are only two ways government entities like the Village get funds with which to operate: fees and taxes. Some would argue they are one in the same. In Oswego we consider fees to be what you pay for water/sewer and garbage collection. There are few other fees for things like permits and fines; however, they make up a small portion of our revenue stream. Taxes show up on your bills and receipts as such.

We have rules and norms surrounding how we manage the money you entrust to us, as well. Laws govern much of this and we have been recognized by the Government Finance Officers’ Association for our budget, financial reporting, and our Popular Annual Financial Report, which is excerpted in the back of this newsletter.

Just like my family, every government agency also has norms. Oswego is no exception. We have made it our norm to be as transparent as possible when it comes to our finances. Each year since I have been Village President we have had a budget workshop. This workshop is primarily for the Village Board and staff to go over budget items and discuss them in detail. Almost all of our board and management team members attend. This session will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, at Oswego Village Hall and, like all our meetings, are open to the public.

Another norm: transparency. We post almost everything on our website. If we’ve not posted something you’re looking for, simply ask. If we’ve discussed it, it’s public and you have a right to the information. All our department heads and board members have their contact information on the website, as well.

Flip this newsletter over for more information on Oswego’s finances. Sorry Mom and Dad, we’re going to talk money. Where we get it, where it goes, and how we steward it. As Benjamin Franklin said, “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”
Greetings Oswego friends and neighbors,

SPRING 2019 | 3

FROM THE VILLAGE CLERK

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2019

This consolidated election includes candidates for village president, trustee, school board, and other local positions, plus local referenda questions.

VOTE EARLY AT OSWEGO VILLAGE HALL MARCH 18-28

Early voting will be held at Oswego Village Hall from March 18 through March 28. Early voting times are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. There is no early voting at Oswego Village Hall on Sundays. More information is available at www.co.kendall.il.us.

The last day to vote early in this election is April 1, 2019, at the office of the election authority (Kendall County).

NEED TO REGISTER TO VOTE?

We have the solution. Several employees at Village Hall are certified registrars. Staff is usually available Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information visit www.oswegoil.org and click on I Want To. Information can be found in the Apply For section. More information can also be found on the Kendall County Election & Voter information page at www.co.kendall.il.us.

For more election and voter registration information, visit www.co.kendall.il.us/voter-registration/

WATCH MEETINGS FROM THE COMFORT OF HOME

Log on to our website at www.oswegoil.org and click on Meeting Agendas & Videos on the homepage. Committee of the Whole meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., followed by the Regular Village Board meeting at 7 p.m.
WE’re BUILDING SOMETHING

A transformed downtown Oswego starts taking shape this spring and summer as construction begins on new restaurants, retail and public amenities. Here’s more about what’s coming soon.

WHEN IT’S FINISHED, The Reserve at Hudson Crossing will add to the landscape of downtown Oswego in a big way. The six-story, two building development will feature luxury apartment living, new retail, restaurants, free public parking decks for downtown shoppers, and street improvements, all on the site of the former Alexander Lumberyard on Washington Street in downtown Oswego.

On Wednesday, Feb. 26, representatives from the Oswego Village Board and Shodeen, Inc., kicked off construction of the new project by popping a confetti-filled champagne bottle and counting down to demolition of an old structure on the lot with an excavator. The event celebrated the start of a busy construction year, a response to requests from the community for more unique shopping and dining experiences in downtown Oswego.

“Our residents told us that what they wanted most for Oswego was to strengthen the heart of this community with renewed interest in our downtown,” Village President Gail Johnson said. “They wanted more unique dining options, an enhanced shopping district, and places to gather with friends and neighbors on a Friday evening to connect and have fun. This is a day we’ve been looking forward to for a long time, and I am pleased to tell you today that this dream is becoming a reality.”

The Reserve is expected to take at least three years to complete.

In addition to the demolition, work including plan approvals from state and Federal agencies is happening behind the scenes. In December 2016, the Village Board voted to purchase the former Alexander Lumberyard, which had been sitting as a vacant eyesore, then sought proposals for the property. Geneva-based
BIG IN DOWNTOWN OSWEGO!

Shodeen, Inc., proposed combining the lumberyard with adjacent rental properties to develop The Reserve, complete with 280 luxury apartments, 10,000 square feet of retail along Washington Street, a restaurant with outdoor dining, and completely reconstructed streets with benches and other amenities. Parking decks on the lowest floors of the development will be owned by the Village and provide approximately 520 new spaces of free parking for both residents and downtown shoppers.

ALSO COMING SOON: BLOCK 11

Construction season this year will also include work on the new Block 11, a reimagined streetscape featuring a pedestrian-friendly shared promenade for shoppers and diners to gather on the block bordered by Washington, Adams and Main Streets. The block will be anchored by a three-story mixed-use development of first-floor retail and upstairs office space slated for the former Village Hall site, and a two-story Mexican restaurant along Washington Street from the team behind Naperville-based Potter’s Place.

STAY UP-TO-DATE ON DOWNTOWN BUILDING

More information on downtown Oswego’s new developments is available at www.goOswego.org/coming-soon.

Sign up for email alerts on downtown road closures, parking restrictions, event information and more by visiting www.oswegoil.org and clicking on the blue Email alerts button.

Follow @VillageOfOswegoIL on Facebook and @OswegoIL60543 on Twitter. #BuildingOswego.
The Oswego Village Board approved a TIF District that will help finance new projects. Here’s how the math works for the new Reserve at Hudson Crossing:

In 2016, the empty Alexander Lumber lot had an equalized assessed value (EAV) of approximately $194,000. The owners of those lots paid a combined $20,000 a year in property taxes. The developer Shodeen, Inc., purchased the adjacent lot from a private owner, and will get the Alexander Lumberyard lot from the Village.

The Village and Shodeen agreed to split the costs on the development, estimated to be about $62 million. Shodeen will pay for $46 million to build the retail, restaurants and apartments. Oswego will bond (get a loan for) $16 million to pay for the parking deck. Shodeen will be required to pay back that $16 million through its property taxes, and the Village will own the parking decks once constructed. Here’s how:

When construction is complete, the value of the same property will increase exponentially and the property taxes will increase as a result. This is a two-phase project. When both buildings are open in 2023, the new property owner, Shodeen, Inc., will generate approximately $1,400,000 annually in property taxes.

The original $20,000 (give or take a few dollars) will go to the County as usual as regular property taxes and be distributed to the Village, schools, fire district and other taxing bodies, the same as every year.

The remaining $1,380,000 is called the tax “increment.” It will go into a special fund that will pay the $16 million bond (loan) for all the public expenses for the project, including the public parking deck.

When the TIF District expires 20 years from now, the property owner will pay the full $1,960,000 for both phases annually in property taxes, bringing $1,940,000 more every year to fund schools, parks, libraries, Village operations and more.

Without this partnership between the developer and Village, the old vacant lot might have stayed an old vacant lot for years. Thanks to this partnership, our residents will get new independent dining and shopping options, plus free public parking, reconstructed streets, and a reinvigorated downtown.
CONSERVE WATER THIS SPRING WITH SMART SPRINKLING

IN OSWEGO, drinking water is supplied by an underground aquifer with a limited supply. Ensuring the sustainability of our region’s water supply takes the efforts of everyone. To that end, the following restrictions on watering are in place:

Properties with even-numbered street addresses may use Village-distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for yard watering on even calendar dates 4-9 a.m. and 6-9 p.m.

Properties with odd-numbered street addresses may use Village-distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for yard watering on odd calendar dates 4-9 a.m. and 6-9 p.m.

All non-addressed properties including but not limited to subdivision entrances, roadway islands and parkways may use Village-distributed water for sprinkling or automatic water systems for yard watering on odd calendar dates 4-9 a.m. and 6-9 p.m.

There are no restrictions when using a hand-held watering device to water gardens, trees, shrubs, or other plants.

Automatic watering of trees and shrubs with root feeders within the drip line of the tree or shrub follows the same even/odd restrictions.

Planting sod or grass seed is prohibited during July and August.

Property owners or residents who want to continuously water a newly seeded, slit-seeded, or sodded area of more than 10 square yards must get a water permit at Village Hall or Public Works. This permit is free; however, violators will be fined.

Residents wishing to fill a swimming pool may have water brought in by tank through a contractor or may use a private garden hose. Filling swimming pools with hydrant water is prohibited. Residents using a private hose must follow the water conservation rules above.

FREE WOOD CHIPS!

THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT has free wood chips available for residents. These wood chips are the product of our brush pick-up program and other tree removal. This is coarsely cut wood from a variety of species, not the fine, uniformly sized and colored mulch you might purchase at a home improvement store. Still, these woodchips are effective at keeping water from evaporating from soil and will break down into nutrients for your garden.

Homeowners may pick up the wood chips at the Public Works Facility, 100 Theodore Drive. Public Works hours of operation are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If the filling will take longer than the conservation limitations, residents can get a permit to allow the hose to run for a period of 48 hours.

Questions? Call Public Works at (630) 554-3242.

RAIN BARRELS AND WATER-FRIENDLY LANDSCAPING

Wednesday, March 13 at 7 p.m.
Oswego Public Works, 100 Theodore Drive
Sponsored by The Conservation Foundation and Village of Oswego
Learn how to install, maintain and use rain barrels, plus learn about rain gardens, how native plants can solve many water issues, and how nature can help keep you happy and healthy too. Come learn how to collect and keep precious rainwater on your property at this free workshop. Attendees will receive a native plant guide, learn how to get a free yard visit to help solve their specific problems and get information on obtaining a rain barrel. Free. Registration is required.

RSVP by March 11 to jchurch@theconservationfoundation.org or call (630) 553-0687 x204.
BAGGED YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Groot’s yard waste pick-up begins Monday, April 1, and continues weekly through Friday, Nov. 29.

Yard waste is defined as grass or shrubbery cuttings, leaves, small tree limbs and other materials accumulated as the result of the care of lawns, shrubbery, vines and trees.

Yard waste material will be collected only if it is placed in a 30-gal. Kraft paper bag with a Groot Industries yard waste sticker affixed to the front of the bag. Yard waste stickers do not expire, regardless of any dates which may appear. Yard waste stickers purchased in 2019 will cost $2.00 each. Kraft bags and stickers are available at local retail grocery and hardware stores.

Set your yard waste at the curb by 6 a.m. on your regularly scheduled garbage day.

COMPOST WITH A YARD WASTE CART!

Do you generate a lot of yard waste and food scraps? Want to do the best for the environment?

Consider a Yard Waste Subscription cart from Groot. You’ll get a 95-gal. cart to dispose of compostable food scraps and yard waste. Just put it at the curb on your regular garbage day and never sticker again!

A fee applies for this optional service. Contact Groot to sign up at (800) 244-1977.

BRUSH AND YARD WASTE PICK-UP

THE VILLAGE of Oswego offers free brush collection throughout the growing season.

ZONES
The Village collects brush on alternate weeks by zone. There are two separate residential brush collection zones. See the map below. A list of the neighborhoods located in each zone can be found on the Brush, Leaves and Yard Waste page at www.oswegoil.org.

RESTRICTIONS
Brush is defined as tree and bush branches less than 5 inches in diameter. The brush collection program is not intended to handle branches, logs, or tree stumps as a result of large-scale tree trimming or removal. Crews will not pick up logs, wood, root balls, cuttings, or grass clippings. Crews will place an orange tag on your door indicating the reason they did not pick up the brush if it is the wrong material or placed at the curb too early.

FOR COLLECTION
Place brush at the curb by 7 a.m. on Monday morning of the designated week but no earlier than noon the Friday before. The Public Works trucks will pass through an area once and will not return for brush placed after the deadline. Place unbundled brush parallel or perpendicular to the street in neat bundles with all cut ends facing the same direction. Do not put brush in a container or in the street.

The Village does not accept landscaping waste, tree branches, or tree removals as a result of contracted work. Crews will not remove brush from commercial, industrial or other non-residential properties.
CALL JULIE BEFORE YOU DIG THIS SPRING

Whether you are planting shrubs or building a house, hidden dangers may lurk below the ground. Electrical, gas, communications and other underground pipelines and cables are unseen but always present. Underground cables and pipelines can be damaged or ruptured by tools, power equipment, or explosives, whether you are grading, trenching, digging, drilling, boring, tunneling, or scraping.

When damaged, these lines can endanger you, your neighbors and nearby property. Damaging natural gas, telephone, water, or electricity lines can leave your community without vital fire, police and medical services. These damaged lines are also expensive and time-consuming to repair. **State law requires that you call JULIE to assist with finding such lines before you dig.**

Call JULIE toll free at (800) 892-0123 or 811 two working days before you dig, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. JULIE operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. For more information, visit www.julie1call.com or call 811 or (815)741-5000.

MEMORIAL DAY

NO TRASH COLLECTION

Groot Industries will not pick up residential trash or recycling on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day. Trash pickup will be delayed by one day that week.

PARKWAY TREES AT HALF PRICE!

If your parkway tree is removed for any reason, as a homeowner you can get a tree for half the price through the 50/50 tree replacement program.

This program allows homeowners to select the species of the tree from a list provided by the Village. If you choose to participate in the 50/50 replacement program, you will be responsible for half of the wholesale cost of the tree. You are not charged for the removal, stump grinding, or planting. Call the Public Works office at (630) 554-3242 to sign up.

APRIL 1-19

WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Public Works Department will flush water mains April 1-19, beginning at 7:30 a.m. each day. Signs will alert residents of the upcoming flushing in their neighborhoods a week before flushing. Do your laundry before 7 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on days that crews are in your neighborhood to avoid rust discoloration of clothes. If your clothes become discolored, call the Public Works Department at (630) 554-3242.

The Public Works Department flushes all fire hydrants in the spring and fall as recommend by the Illinois EPA. Flushing gets rid of iron deposits that could produce discolored water and allows Village staff to ensure that fire hydrants are in working order.

APRIL 15-19

FREE SPRING CLEANUP WEEK

During the week of April 15th, Groot Industries, the Village’s contracted waste hauler, will collect additional household waste, yard waste, and bulk items from residents curbside for free.

Yard waste must be placed in 30-gallon Kraft bags but stickers will not be required during this week. Residents cannot put out appliances, televisions, electronics, or plastic bags containing yard waste.

Place all items at the curb along with your regular garbage and recycling by 6 a.m. on your regularly scheduled collection day. If you have any questions regarding this collection week, call the Public Works Department at (630) 554-3242.
Toast the return of spring May 4 & 5

OSWEGO WELCOMES spring each year with a toast! Join your neighbors and the Village of Oswego at Wine on the Fox, on Friday and Saturday, May 4 and 5.

Try more than 100 wines from independent Illinois wineries, plus enticing varietals from Italy, Spain and more, enjoy live music, food, and engaging spaces for children to play. Then buy your favorite bottles and cases to take home to savor the day.

This year’s event will be held on the Village Green at Oswego Village Hall to avoid construction dust, and will feature new wine and food pairing specials. Proceeds help support other events and amenities in Oswego all year long!


Raise a glass! Sample and learn about Illinois and international wines, discover new favorites, and listen to live music. Wine newbies and vinophiles alike will discover new finds, and all proceeds benefit events and amenities in our community like Fourth of July fireworks, holiday decorations and more!

Have 401(k) questions? Let’s talk.

Jim Cargo
Financial Advisor
1063 Station Drive
Oswego, IL 60543
630-636-6317
www.edwardjones.com

Organized Shop Rides - Road and Mountain!
Bike Repair Classes available throughout the year, call for details.

Edward Jones®
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING
Member SIPC
IN ILLINOIS, each county is divided into townships, and every resident in the state lives in a township and pays taxes to the township for basic services like property assessment. Every Oswegoan lives in either Oswego Township or Bristol Township.

Most residents of Illinois also live in a municipality – a city, town, or village, like the Village of Oswego. These incorporated municipalities offer local services like policing, road maintenance, trash collection and more, paid for by taxes to the municipality.

Locally, this means that all Oswego residents live in a township, but not all township residents live in Oswego. Township residents who do not live in the Village of Oswego live in unincorporated areas, sometimes referred to by the post office that services their area, i.e. “unincorporated Oswego.”

For example, Boulder Hill is not incorporated into Oswego. Its residents do not pay Village of Oswego taxes or receive any services from the Village of Oswego. Law enforcement is conducted by the Kendall County Sheriff and brush collection and other services are offered by Oswego Township. However, because of their ZIP code, many residents of Boulder Hill may have an “unincorporated Oswego” or “unincorporated Montgomery” address.

If you live in and pay taxes to the Village of Oswego, you get Village of Oswego services, including Oswego police, water treatment, trash and recycling, brush and snow collection, and much more. Residents who do not live within the Village of Oswego do not pay those same taxes and thus do not get those same services.

Many services may be available to unincorporated residents through your township. For more information on available services, contact your township.

Oswego Township  
www.oswegotownship.org  
Supervisor: 630-554-3211  
Road District: 630-264-4587  
Assessor: 630-554-3214

Bristol Township  
www.bristoltownshipassessor.com  
Supervisor: 630-553-0101  
Highway Department: 630-553-0101  
Assessor: 630-553-3940
All of them date back to the mid 19th century, with most of them built between the 1840s and the 1860s. Owners built the majority of these structures to serve as private residences. But a few of them were constructed for business purposes. Take the Curry Home located at 2470 Route 31 (locally known as Turtle Rock). Early owners used it as an ice, dairy, and cheese factory before it was renovated into a private residence.

As far as the building materials used, contractors worked with what they had on hand. For these structures, that meant limestone harvested from local area quarries. Comparing them side-by-side, you will notice that these homes vary in style, often reflecting the most popular ones at the time. Take the houses located at 56 Jackson Street and 2094 Route 25 as examples. Both exemplify the Greek Revival style used in many structures built in the 18th and 19th centuries. They include specific details of this architectural style like hipped roofs and widow’s walks. But by the time these houses were completed, the style was on its way out and new ones were cropping up around Oswego.

For this spring’s Property of the Season, the Oswego Historic Preservation Commission chooses to honor the town's various stone houses. As we steadily approach the 200th anniversary of Oswego's founding, these buildings stand as a reminder of our town's rich local history.

For more resources and information about the Oswego Historic Preservation Commission and upcoming Preservation Month activities in May, visit our website at www.oswegoil.org/government/board-and-commissions-and-committees/historic-preservation-commission.aspx.

The stone house at 56 Jackson Street in 2014 (top) and in 1860 (bottom). Historic photo courtesy of the Little White School House Museum.
Meet with banks, local government agencies and nonprofits that can offer financing, technical assistance and other resources to help your small business grow at Scale Up: A Small Business Resource Fair, from 8 to 10 a.m. in the community room of Oswego Fire Station 1. Free. More details at www.oswegoil.org/economic-development.

The Oswego Village Board meets at 7 p.m. at Oswego Village Hall to vote on Village business. Meetings are open to the public and include a public forum for those wishing to speak. A Committee of the Whole meeting precedes at 6 p.m. to allow for more in-depth discussion on issues before they reach a final vote of the Board. Agendas and streams of live meetings are available at www.oswegoil.org.

Learn how to install and use a rain barrel at Rain Barrels and Other Water-friendly Landscaping Ideas, by The Conservation Foundation and the Village of Oswego, at 7 p.m. at Oswego Public Works, 100 Theodore Drive. Register by March 11. More details on page 7.

Considering a new business opportunity, but not sure if it’ll be worth it? Join Oswegrow for ‘Choosing a Business Opportunity That’s Right For You’ and start your research on the possibilities and pitfalls of new businesses. For details, visit facebook.com/oswegrow.

Curbside bagged yard waste and unbundled brush collection begins on your regular garbage day and continues throughout the season. Details on page 8.

Crews will be conducting water main flushing. Avoid washing clothes during working hours. Details on page 9.

Cast your vote in the Consolidated Election, including open seats for the Oswego Village Board. Polls are open 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Details on page 3.

Recycle old electronics, medications, batteries, Styrofoam and just about everything else at the Recycling Extravaganza from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Public Works Facility, 100 Theodore Drive. Details at www.oswegoil.org.

Hop on over to downtown Oswego for the Bunny Hop! Meet the Easter Bunny and go on an Easter egg hunt from shop to shop at our downtown businesses. Details at facebook.com/DowntownOswego.

Bring the neighbors and celebrate the arrival of spring with wine samplings, live music, food and fun at Wine on the Fox! Proceeds benefit special events and amenities in our community all year long. Find early bird ticket deals at www.wineonthefox.com. More details on page 10.

Gain confidence, conquer your content, and learn to present a stellar elevator pitch for your small business at Perfect Your Pitch, an Oswegrow workshop, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Oswego Public Library downtown campus. Free. Details at facebook.com/oswegrow.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Avoid the lines. Early voting for the April 2 Consolidated Election is available at Oswego Village Hall. See page 3 for times and details.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Follow us on social media for up-to-the-minute announcements and event information. @VillageOfOswegoIL @OswegoIL60543

It’s Spring Cleanup Week! Toss extra trash an bulk items at the curb on your regular garbage day for free! Details on page 9.

Gain confidence, conquer your content, and learn to present a stellar elevator pitch for your small business at Perfect Your Pitch, an Oswegrow workshop, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Oswego Public Library downtown campus. Free. Details at facebook.com/oswegrow.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Oswego Village Board 7 p.m. Committee of the Whole 6 p.m.

Join the Oswego American Legion Post 675 in honoring those who have died in service to the country for a Memorial Day parade through downtown Oswego. Village Hall will be closed and garbage collection will be postponed one day all week.

Follow us on social media for up-to-the-minute announcements and event information. @VillageOfOswegoIL @OswegoIL60543
Oswego residents, even as new residents move into the area, expect the same level of service from the Village. This means that dollars are available to pay for the Village services. The historic property tax levy, the total dollars collected in the Village, is on the rise this year, according to the Village tax website, which shows the total dollar amount that the Village collected from all property owners in the Village. The total dollars collected has increased, even as Village leadership has continued to lower the Village property tax levy. This ensures that dollars are available to pay for the Village services, despite the Village continuing to lower the Village property tax rate. The Village property tax rate, the historic property tax levy, shows the total dollar amount that the Village collects from all property owners in the Village. The total dollars collected has increased, even as Village leadership has continued to lower the Village property tax rate. This ensures that dollars are available to pay for the Village services, despite the Village continuing to lower the Village property tax rate.
The Village of Oswego receives the second smallest share of property tax of any taxing district in town. Of your total property tax bill, just 1.5%, or less than two cents of every dollar, goes to the Village of Oswego to provide development, road maintenance, public safety, and all of our other services.

The amount due that appears on your tax bill is based on the following equation:

$$\frac{\text{EAV}}{100} \times \text{Tax Rate} = \text{Taxes Owed}$$

Your EAV, or equalized assessed value, is equal to one-third of the value of your home, as determined by the Township assessor, minus any exemptions you receive.

Therefore, if you own a property valued at $300,000, your EAV would be $100,000. A home-stead exemption of $6,000 would further reduce this amount to $94,000. The tax rate is expressed as an amount per $100 of EAV. Assuming a combined tax rate from all taxing bodies of 10.25143, your taxes owed would be $9,636.34 and are calculated as follows:

$$\frac{94,000}{100} \times 10.25143 = 9,636.34$$

$9,636.34 and are calculated as follows:

The amount due that appears on your tax bill is less than 2¢ of every dollar you pay in property tax goes to the Village of Oswego for the services you use every day, including schools, libraries, the protection and more.

Your property tax dollars are split between many different local government bodies to provide services you use every day, including schools, libraries, the protection and more.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Taxes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School District 308</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oswego Fire Protection District</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kendall County</td>
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<td>Waubonsie Community College</td>
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<td>Oswego Library District</td>
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<td>Road District</td>
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<td>Forest Preserve District</td>
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<td>Village of Oswego</td>
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<td>Oswego Township</td>
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<td>Oswegoland Park District</td>
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The Village of Oswego spent $30.3 million in the past fiscal year to provide all of the services it offers to the community. This is a breakdown of how those dollars were spent:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>$9.4 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Government</td>
<td>$5.4 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water and Sewer Services</td>
<td>$5.5 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Garbage Collection</td>
<td>$2.4 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Works</td>
<td>$7.6 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Payments</td>
<td>$1.3 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses, year over year</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
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The Village of Oswego spent just $230 per resident to provide all of the services provided by the Public Works Department in 2018, from snow removal to leaf collection.

The Village of Oswego has invested $27.4 million in new capital projects. The Village issued bonds to pay for large capital projects, such as the widening of Douglas Road from two lanes to four. The Village has $27.1 million in outstanding debt.

The Village provides water and sanitary sewer services to 11,000 customers. All the costs to deliver clean water and maintain the 162 miles of water main and 119 miles of sanitary sewer lines are paid from the usage fees charged to customers.

The Village spends $7.6 million on Public Works, which includes costs for the annual maintenance and rehabilitation of the roadways, snow plowing and ice control, street maintenance, and parkway tree maintenance.

The Village spends $9.4 million on Public Safety, which includes the costs of operating the Village police department and providing safety to the residents of Oswego.

The Village spends $5.4 million on General Government, which includes the costs for administrative services, building andzoning, community development, maintaining public facilities, and financial operations.

The Village spends $5.5 million on Water and Sewer Services, which includes the costs for delivering clean water and maintaining the 162 miles of water main and 119 miles of sanitary sewer lines.

The Village spends $2.4 million on Garbage Collection, which includes the costs for having curbside garbage collection.

The Village spends $1.3 million on Interest Payments, which includes the payments made for the interest cost on outstanding bond issuances.

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The Village of Oswego spent $30.3 million in the past fiscal year to provide all of the services it offers to the community. This is a breakdown of how those dollars were spent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public Safety</td>
<td>$9.4 million</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses, year over year</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Village of Oswego spent just $230 per resident to provide all of the services provided by the Public Works Department in 2018, from snow removal to leaf collection.

The Village of Oswego has invested $27.4 million in new capital projects. The Village issued bonds to pay for large capital projects, such as the widening of Douglas Road from two lanes to four. The Village has $27.1 million in outstanding debt.

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The Village of Oswego spent $30.3 million in the past fiscal year to provide all of the services it offers to the community. This is a breakdown of how those dollars were spent.
The Village brought in $32 million in revenue from a variety of sources. By having several sources of revenue, the Village can rely less on property taxes paid by residents. 

**Village Revenues**

- **Taxes**: $19.3 million
- **Miscellaneous**: $1.8 million
- **Charges for Services**: $9.9 million
- **Grants and Donations**: $1.1 million

Village revenues are received from Federal and State programs, contributions from developers, and other miscellaneous fees charged to cover operational costs.

**Taxes**

- Property taxes account for just 60 percent of revenue.
- Of all sales tax revenue received by the Village, sales taxes are 57% of all tax revenue.
- Approximately 60% of total revenue are from taxes.

**Charges for Services**

- Charges for water/sewer billings, garbage collection fees, building inspection, and code enforcement fees.
- Charges for services account for 31%.

**Grants and Donations**

- Received from Federal and State grants.
- Grants and donations account for 3%.

**Miscellaneous**

- Includes miscellaneous fees and contributions from developers.
- Miscellaneous revenues account for 6%.

**Total Revenues, year over year**

- FY 2016: $1.7 million
- FY 2017: $1.0 million
- FY 2018: $0.5 million

**All other revenues received from various sources**

- FY 2018: $1.3 million
Accomplished this year in Oswego

Better together means moving beyond business as usual and looking for innovative ways to accomplish more for our residents. Here are just a few things the Village has accomplished in the past year to improve efficiency, service delivery and quality of life in Oswego.

The Oswego Brewing Company was the first business to use the award and opened in May in the old firehouse.

An agreement was struck to develop The Reserve at Hudson Crossing, a new six-story mixed-use development of luxury apartments, retail and free covered parking on the site of the former Alexander Lumberyard.

Two developers have agreed to build on Block 11, the former Village Hall block. In addition to a new Mexican restaurant, residents can look forward to a mixed-use development that includes office, retail and restaurant space.

The Public Works Department has initiated engineering on these two transformative downtown projects. The Reserve will get reconstructed utilities, plus streetscaped roads and sidewalks. Plans for Block 11 include integrative engineering on these two projects.

Community Engagement

Staff reorganized the annual special events program to provide opportunities for residents to gather and celebrate without relying as heavily on tax dollars.

The Village launched an expanded GoOswego.org, Oswego's online home for events and local tourism. The Village also joined the Aurora Area Convention and Visitors Bureau to expand its reach and attract additional tourism dollars.

Amenities

A new Police Department headquarters was built on time and on budget, paid for with sales tax revenue, approximately 60% of which is generated by non-residents.

The Village negotiated with MetroNet to bring a competitive high-speed fiber Internet connectivity option to Oswego residents and businesses.

The new Oswego Police Department includes space for organizations like the Kendal-All Co. Health Department and Mutual Ground to provide critical support services for a healthier, safer community.

Amenities


Accomplished this year in Oswego

Downtown Development

- $175,000 in the first eight months.
- Purchasing Manager position was created.
- The cost by comparison shopping and negotiating.
- The best suppliers were provided at the lowest price.

Residential and Commercial Development

- Oswego is a hot residential market again for new home builders, who have begun work on several neighborhoods like the Estates of Fox Chase and Hunt Club, which had been left half-finished in the housing crisis.
- Over the past year, the Community Development Department processed and approved 58 development projects, including new single and multi-family homes and new retail in vacant commercial spaces.
- The uptick in new housing is partially attributed to a decision to reduce impact fees for multi-family developments, and building has restarted in townhome neighborhoods like Seasons of Southbury and Ashcroft Walk.
- Several new businesses opened, including LongHorn Steakhouse, Kiss My Dish, Steve Buresh’s Cheesecake, and many more. See page 9 for a complete list and be sure to welcome them to town by patronizing their establishments.

Finances

- Finance staff have been implementing an Enterprise Resource Planning System. This large-scale software program will help staff accurately track Village resources including staff time and money spent on specific programs and services. Having this information will help guide decision-making and improve efficiency throughout every department.
- Staff also refinanced $5.2 million in debt, saving residents more than $300,000.
- The Village passed a balanced budget, keeping the property tax rate steady at its lowest rate since 2011, with no cuts to services for residents.
- The Village partnered with other local government entities to share services, staff and equipment, saving money.
- The Village also partnered with other local government bodies to share services, staff and equipment, saving money.

About this special section

Every year, the Village of Oswego produces the Popular Annual Financial Report, which includes detailed information about the Village’s finances -- revenue, expenses, our accomplishments, long-term goals, and financial statements. The next few pages are highlights ripped straight from that report. More for your tax dollar.

From that report, we learn:
- In a recent community-wide survey, 88% of residents said they love living in Oswego, but just 31% of residents were satisfied with the value they get for their tax dollars.
- The average household in Oswego pays just $1,158 in taxes.
- Oswego is a net residential market again for new residents.
- Oswego is a great place for families.
