

Village Hall Notes

Zoning Commission Appointed. At a recent meeting of the Village council, an ordinance was passed appointing a Zoning Commission in accordance with legislation passed by the last Legislature. The appointments are as follows: Eugene Rummier, chairman; L. Sherman Aldrich, C. L. Byron, M. K. Meyer, Philip S. Post, Victor Elting, George D. Wolf.

This Commission has the power, under State statute, to prepare an ordinance regulating the height and bulk of new buildings, the intensity of use of lot areas, and restricting the location of business, industries and residences to certain defined districts, to the end that the public health, safety and welfare of citizens may be conserved.

The Commission held its first meeting on Friday evening, December 12, and made plans to push the work of preparing a comprehensive Zoning Ordinance with all possible despatch. The Zoning law provides for public hearings at which all property owners will be given an opportunity to express their views, and notice of these hearings will be given full publicity.

Public Skating Rinks. Children and grown-ups will be interested to know that several public skating rinks are in course of preparation and will be ready for use soon. The pond near the Skokie school is now open to the public. The other rinks are located on the Athletic field of the North Shore Country Day school and on the grounds of the New Trier High school.

Oak Street Coasting. The Village authorities are planning to provide for coasting on Oak street hill in the usual custom and the track will be cut as soon as the Village workmen can find time from their routine duties.

An attempt will be made to properly guard the crossing at Maple avenue during certain restricted hours, and parents are urged to insist that children do not use this hill for coasting except at that time, in order to avoid serious accidents which are bound to occur if this precaution is not taken.

Report of Auditor Received. The semi-annual report of the Village Auditor, M. H. A. Higgins, was received by the Council at its meeting on Tuesday evening, December 16. This audit covers the first six months of the fiscal year, ending September 30, 1919. A summary of the important facts shown in the report will be presented by the Village manager in the near future.

Smoke Ordinance. The Judiciary committee is considering the provisions of an adequate smoke ordinance, regulating the emission of dense smoke from chimneys of both public and private buildings, and it is expected that the ordinance will be introduced at the next meeting of the Village Council.

Possible Reduction in Insurance Rate: The Chicago Board of Fire Underwriters, which has jurisdiction over insurance rates in Cook county, recently sent a representative to Winnetka to investigate the possibility of a reduction in insurance rates, resulting from the increased fire protection facilities which have been provided during the past few months. It is expected, as a result of this report, that Winnetka may be placed in a higher classification, with regard to rates for fire insurance.

Special Assessment Due. The attention of property owners is called to the fact that the current installments of all special assessments will be due and payable beginning January 2, 1920. Notices will be mailed to each property owner against whose property assessments have been levied, and detailed bills, with interest computed to any desired date, will be mailed to any property owner who desires to pay his assessments at the Village Hall, rather than at the County building after March 10.

Property owners are strongly urged to pay their assessments locally inasmuch as the Village receives considerable benefit from the legal commission which would otherwise be received by the Cook county authorities.

Damage to Trees. Several months ago the Village Forester called the attention of residents to the importance of ascertaining the qualifications of any so-called "tree expert" who is engaged to work on trees in the Village either on private property or on the parkways.

In spite of this warning, there have recently occurred several instances where valuable trees have been practically ruined by irresponsible workmen from outside the Village posing as experts.

Our citizens are again warned of this danger, and are requested to confer with the Village Forester, Mr. T. J. Lynch, telephone Winnetka 1294

before engaging any unknown person to do tree work. Mr. Lynch has given very generously of his time, without compensation, to persons desiring information in connection with tree problems, and stands ready at all times, as Village Forester, to give any advice desired. There are a number of competent tree experts available whom the Village Forester can recommend, and no possible justification exists for hiring incompetents.

The attention of residents is also called to the fact that no trimming of trees on parkways should be done without first obtaining a permit from the Village Forester. Failure to observe this regulation constitutes a violation of the Village ordinance.

DANCE IS SUCCESS

The dance given at the Winnetka Woman's club house Tuesday evening by the Triangle club was a decided success. A large crowd attended.

CHRISTMAS BASKET SALE

A sale of Christmas baskets is being held at the Hubbard Woods Cash Grocery starting today and continuing late Wednesday evening. The baskets are sold at a low price and contain the following articles:

Mince meat, mixed nuts, cranberries, fancy Johnathan apples, oranges, grape fruit, salad dressing, sweet potatoes, Poultry seasoning, canned peaches, coffee, cider, powdered and granulated sugar.

FIRE AT WEHRSTEDT HOME

The Fire department was summoned to the home of William Wehrstedt, 90 Cherry street, Saturday to extinguish a small fire in the basement. The damage was small.

COASTING HILL READY SOON

The coasting hill on Oak street will put in shape for use within the next few days according to Superintendent of Public Works Gibbons.

"K" COMPANY HONORED

"K" Company, Wilmette's unit of the Illinois National Guard, will be in the line of march in Chicago Saturday when Chicago and the north shore accords its official welcome to General Pershing. The company will be under the direction of Captain Rye.

Miss Margaret Casey, 988 Elm street, left today to spend Christmas in Aurora, Ill.

BUY + CHRISTMAS SEALS

Famous Gretna Green.

Gretna Green is a village of Dumfries, a border county of Scotland and near the border line between Scotland and England. Formerly a common resort of runaway couples from England, the practice was broken up by an act of 1856, which provided that no marriage should be valid in Scotland unless one of the parties had lived in Scotland for the 21 days next preceding the marriage, or had his or her usual residence there at the time.

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