

JANUARY 2022

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year, Channahon!

I wanted to take this opportunity to talk to you about a critical issue that the Village is currently facing: the future source of our public water supply. Water is a vital resource, and the decision that the elected officials must make in the coming months will help to ensure the sustainability of our water supply for the generations to come.

The Village of Channahon relies on groundwater aquifers as the source of its drinking water, as do many of our neighboring communities. However, modeling done of our aquifers by the Illinois State Water Survey indicates that our current water source is not sustainable and is set to be depleted in the coming decades.

"Coming decades" may seem like a while off to some, but please understand the immediacy of finding a new water source. Switching to a new water source involves significant improvements and additions to our water system along with regulatory approvals that will take years to accomplish. If we do not act soon, we run the risk of higher costs and limited options regarding a source for our drinking water.

The Village and our Board of Trustees do not come to this decision lightly. It has been a multi-year process including tremendous research - all of which can be found on our website. Through our research we found that excessive de-icing and salt usage across urban Chicagoland is causing chlorides in shallow aquifers to rise. Additionally, the water in the deep aquifer is being depleted quicker than rainwater can replenish it. This decision is not easy but is vitally necessary to ensure the water needs of Channahon residents and the viability of our community into the future.

The Village has compared the costs and benefits of treating and using Kankakee River water or Illinois River water versus joining a Regional Water Commission to receive Lake Michigan water as its future source. Most importantly, we are weighing the long-term prospects and sustainability of a new water source and how it impacts the overall future of our Village. Following all of our research, evaluation and the resulting similarity in costs between options, the Village is strongly considering switching to Lake Michigan water.

Should the Village join the Regional Water Commission and switch to Lake Michigan water, the Village would be partnering with our surrounding communities to provide high quality, sustainable drinking water to our current and future residents. Yes, water rate increases over time would be necessary to account for things like connecting to the Lake Michigan water system, additional water storage facilities and other improvements; but, water rate increases will be necessary regardless of which decision we land on. No matter what, a new water source does mean rate increases over time.

We will finalize our decision on the future of our public water supply in the next few weeks. More information can be found on our website (www.channahon.org), including all of the materials and research that we have been conducting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Village Board Meetings

- Monday, February 7, 2022 @ 6:00 PM
- Monday, February 21, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Planning & Zoning

Commission Meetings

- Monday, February 14, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Special Budget Workshop Meeting

- Saturday, March 19, 2022 @ 8:30 AM

St. Ann Catholic Church Blood Drive

- Saturday, January 22, 2022

Spring Village Garage Sales

- April 28, 29 and 30, 2022



CONTACT US



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www.channahon.org

GET TO KNOW THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The Village's Finance Department currently consists of a Finance Director, Accountant and two Accounting Clerks. The mission of the Finance Department is to provide financial services and oversight for the Village of Channahon to ensure financial stability, promote ethics and accountability in government, and maintain public trust and transparency.

The Finance Department is responsible for the accounting of state, local and federal tax dollars as well as all other revenue sources of the Village. Among other responsibilities, the Finance Department is also responsible for budgeting, monthly and annual financial reporting, utility billing, debt management, and the coordination of accounts payable, accounts receivables, and daily cash receipts. The Finance Department is dedicated to maintaining fiscal responsibility of public resources.

The Finance Department coordinates the Village's annual audit and other annual reports required by state statute or other regulatory agencies and works diligently to preserve compliance with all federal and state laws. The Village of Channahon has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting through the Government Finance Officers Association for the last 16 consecutive years.



REGISTER TO VOTE AT VILLAGE HALL

The Village of Channahon can register you to vote!

Please bring two forms of identification (one must show the voter's current address). Acceptable forms of identification include:

- Driver's license
- State ID card
- Utility bill
- Checkbook
- Library card
- Credit card
- Birth certificate
- Social security card
- Employee ID card
- Student ID card
- Insurance card

2022 PET TAGS STILL AVAILABLE

Have you gotten your pet's 2022 Channahon Animal License?

Village ordinance requires that all dogs and cats be licensed with the Village. A copy of the Municipal Code of Ordinances: Chapter 91: Animals can be found online at <http://www.channahon.org/government/municipal-code/>.

You can now register your pet online at <https://www.channahon.org/FormCenter/Administration-Forms-8/Animal-License-Application-51>

For more information, please contact Village Hall at 815-467-6644. We thank you in advance for your cooperation!

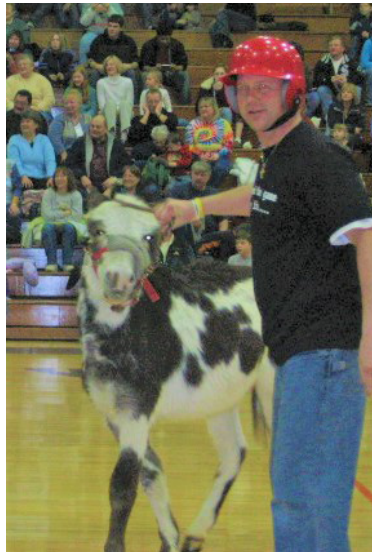
HAPPY RETIREMENT, OFFICER EDDIE BISCHOFF!



After selflessly serving the Village of Channahon and its residents for 29 years, Officer Edward Bischoff has retired. Over the years, Officer Bischoff held the roles of Patrolman, Officer-in-Charge, Field Training Officer, School Resource Officer, Evidence Technician and more. His long career with the Village also allowed him to serve as a mentor to many of the Police Department's current and former officers and staff.



Serving since 1992, Officer Bischoff is known around town for engaging in conversation with everyone he meets. He has positively changed, impacted and ultimately saved numerous lives over the course of his career with the Village. His presence, personality and company will simply never be replaced. Please join us in thanking him for his years of service and dedication to the Village of Channahon!



GET CONNECTED

