Two programs offered to lower electric bills

Community Electric Aggregation

The Village is asking voters for authority to seek competitive pricing bids for an electric supplier for Lisle residences and small businesses under a single contract. If approved, the Village would work independently, or with other area communities collectively, to issue a Request for Proposal for competitive electricity prices. If the referendum is approved, the Village will be required to hold two public hearings to discuss a plan of operation and governance for an electric aggregation plan. This will precede any bid for electric supply.

The only difference would be energy received from the selected supplier and lower, more stable prices. ComEd would continue to deliver the electricity. Users would continue to receive a single bill from ComEd with the power provider named on the bill’s line for electricity supply. In an outage or need for service, users would continue to contact ComEd.

Three components to electric bills: supply (where power comes from), transmission (getting supply from its point of origin or the high voltage grid), and distribution (getting the electricity from a substation to consumer’s meter). Aggregation addresses only the supply component, which is typically 65–70% of the electricity bill. The transmission and distribution parts of the bill will be unaffected by aggregation.

Small businesses must be in Village of Lisle and ComEd’s “Commercial 0–100kW” customer group, comparable to a fast–food restaurant, to qualify.

Earliest date for implementation, if approved, is Summer 2012. Initially, all potential users will be able to “opt out” of the program. If opting out, users would continue with their current supplier, either ComEd or other retail supplier.

If already under contract with a non-ComEd retail supplier, users must “opt in” to join. Check before deciding: most contracts have termination fees. Weigh your savings.

For more detail on this topic, see the Village website. There is a link on the homepage under “In the News” about this program.

On the ballot
March 20th:

Shall the Village of Lisle have the authority to arrange for the supply of electricity for its residential and small commercial retail customers who have not opted out of such program?

An alternative supplier: Energy Savings Program

For those who don’t want to wait for the referendum decision/implementation to begin saving on electric bills, Clean Air Counts, a campaign created by the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (of which Lisle is a member), has launched an Energy Savings Program to provide lower rates to residents through Integrys Energy Services.

While signing up for this program would result in immediate savings, it requires a commitment until June 2013. Otherwise, a termination fee applies. Residents must take action on their own to join this program.

More information about this program is available via links on www.cleanaircounts.org or directly at www.integrysenergy.com/Marketing/MEC/default.aspx
From the Mayor...

The last few years have been difficult for everyone, and Lisle has not been exempt from economic realities. In 2011 the Village trimmed its workforce. A voluntary separation plan eliminated 11 positions; other positions have remained unfilled in the past 2-3 years. Information technology services were contracted out. The Village is running lean.

We still have concerns, esp. what impact State finance problems will have on us.

A year ago I expressed optimism for the future, and that optimism is being rewarded.

Welcome to our new/expanded businesses

Navistar now has 1383 employees (excluding contractors) at their new Lisle headquarters campus. Their commitment of 2800 employees is expected to be met well before November 2013.

SunCoke has brought 106 jobs to its new offices at 1011 Warrenville Rd and is investing $6.6M to relocate from Knoxville, TN.

Leeco Steel has relocated its corporate offices next to SunCoke in Arboretum Lakes. It created its Wind Energy Group to be fully dedicated to sustainable energy.

ArmourEckrich renewed their lease and expanded to 71,500 s.f. at Central Park of Lisle.

Smaller businesses. We celebrate nearly 30 smaller businesses that are new to, or have expanded in, Lisle, as well as the above larger ones on the corporate corridor.

Infrastructure improvements continue

Short St Bridge replaced with federal grant funding majority of $1.45M project; Village portion totaling $323K

Storm sewer installed to convey water to pumping stations in two areas prone to flooding along the river

Water main replaced in Middleton ROW, including under the river

Sidewalk installed near Tate Woods and Schiesher schools ($250K), fully funded by Safe Routes to School grant

Elevators, to provide ADA access to the commuter pedestrian tunnel, funded completely by WSMTD. The $591K project also included new roofs on the shelters. The Village initially requested funding for several improvements, but the elevator project eventually became the primary focus in securing funding as project costs and priorities were assessed.

Committed to financial stewardship

It is interesting to note comparisons from the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference annual revenue survey of 27 communities. The Village collects taxes on property, telecommunications, electric and gas. Lisle has fewer fees/taxes than 21 other communities, and only one has fewer. The Village’s property tax rate is lower than in 17 other municipalities.

24-hour Info Line
630-271-4110

Use the menu to hear or leave a message. Recorded messages are changed periodically.

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Joseph Broda, Mayor
Mark Boyle Ken Modaff
Catheryn Cawiezel Joseph Schmitt
Lee LaFond Ed Young
Tim Seeden, Village Clerk
Gerald Sprecher, Village Manager
Meetings held 1st and 3rd Mondays,
Workshops held 2nd Mondays,
each month at 7:00 p.m.

VILLAGE OFFICES
Village Hall – 925 Burlington Ave.
Monday through Friday
Business Office: 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Other offices: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Public Works: 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Police: 24/7 service

Police Response 9-1-1
Police Administration 630-271-4200
Public Works 630-271-4180
Community Development 630-271-4150
Economic Development 630-271-4148
Business Office/Other 630-271-4100
General Email Lisle@villageoflisle.org

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Resources for businesses
The Village Economic Development Dept had a busy year:

- Offered **educational seminars** to help businesses better understand how to use social media and identify sources of financial assistance.
- Published **Restaurant & Catering Guide** and **Downtown Shopping Guide**, posted on website, sent to businesses on corporate corridor.
- Updated the **Village Profile** including photos of new downtown, list of top employers, demographics, and more facts for marketing purposes.
- Marketed **Lisle French Market**, now six years and still growing; an economic strategy to bring more people downtown.

**PrairieWalk Pond**

**Improvements** continued in 2011.

**Dragonfly Landing** Splash Pad opened for its first summer.

**Signs and tours** inform and educate.

**Volunteers**—the Knights of Columbus who are helping to keep the site clean, and tour guide Barbara Plichta.

**2011 Native Landscaping Award**
Chicago Wilderness recognizes sites that are exemplary in the use of native landscaping, ecosystem restoration and protection and/or conservation design.

The award is for the transformation of a block of flood plain property into a landscape rich in native habitat and biodiversity; the sustainable features that were incorporated into the design, the long-term planned maintenance program, public education activities, and the Village’s commitment to biodiversity conservation.

**Marketing efforts awarded**
The International Economic Development Council honored three Lisle initiatives with Excellence in Economic Development awards.

- **Multi-Year Economic Development Project** – **Redevelopment of Downtown Lisle** new streetscape: façade, retail and restaurant grants; zoning changes; branding activities, floodplain related improvements, the creation of a new 4.5 acre recreational area, and more.

- **Sustainable & Green Development** – **Green By Choice**

- **General Purpose Promotion** – “**The Arboretum Village**” Video helps attract new businesses, residents, visitors and students and makes the Village’s website more engaging.

**Changes at Police Dept.**
Within months of taking the helm, Police Chief Jim Kosatka filled out his administrative team. Dave Anderson was promoted to Deputy Chief. Dennis Canik and Dan Fitzgerald were promoted to sergeants, when long-serving officers, Sgt. Jim Flaherty and Sgt. Neil Sullivan retired in April.

In May 2011, dispatching moved from a service shared only by Darien and Lisle to DU-COMM, now serving 32 communities. Expected savings for the first year run $100K.

**Zoning & Subdivision Code update in progress**
A comprehensive review of the Village’s development regulations and practices is underway to promote more uniform, modern, and user-friendly standards. A task force has been appointed and begun its work. A public hearing is anticipated in autumn 2012.

**Earth Flag for “green” efforts**
SCARCE awarded Lisle an Earth Flag commending:

- **Green Audit of buildings, staff training, and practices**
- **Ongoing reduce/reuse/recycle programs, including recycling within Village facilities**
- **Sponsor waste/energy reduction programs**
- **Environmental programs for residents**

- **Drop-off electronics**, battery, etc. recycling—monthly on 3rd Sat began in 2011.
- **Sustainable Saturday In Lisle** – next event April 28, 2012.
- **RxBox** for safe medicine disposal in Police entry.
- **Recycling totes** coming this summer to single family curbside.

**Community Spirit Awards**
Mayor Broda presents this award to one or more individual(s) whose efforts and actions make Lisle an even better place to live and work. **Barb Plichta** trained for and conducted tours of PrairieWalk Pond. The Knights of Columbus—SJA, esp. **Dennis Regan** (o) and **Dave Cascarano** (c), KC Community Project Coordinator, helped keep the area clean. All are commended for their volunteer time and effort.

Dennis Regan and Dave Cascarano receive award from Mayor Broda.
**Water rate increase**

After news of Chicago’s boost in rates for water sold to DuPage Water Commission (DWC), it is no surprise that the Village will be increasing its rates. Effective Feb. 1, the new rate of $4.40 per 1,000 gal reflects a 30% increase in water rates charged by DWC. Business customers and multi-family who are billed monthly will begin seeing it on their March bills, and other residents on their April bills.

This will not be the end of rising rates, either. The Village has been notified of continual increases from DWC through 2015, as they will pay escalating rates to Chicago.

**Water conservation pays!**

**Village Clerk Seeden receives award**

Municipal Clerks of Illinois (MCI) awarded Village Clerk Tim Seeden their Ilion Crabel Member of the Year Award in recognition of a member who has made a significant contribution to the objectives of the Municipal Clerk profession and/or the Clerk’s own community.

Clerk since 1999, Seeden has achieved both Registered Clerk and Certified Municipal status. “Tim Seeden’s contributions have been formalized by the Clerks’ association only this year”, said Mayor Broda, “but those contributions have been long–standing and deserving of recognition for some time.”

**Latest Pillar Award winners**

The Village of Lisle congratulates all winners and is proud of their accomplishments. Because of their actions, Lisle is a better place!

**Paul Eckard – Citizenship** for assisting neighbors during the 2011 winter storms.

**Kathy Brock – Caring** for her efforts that extend beyond the normal duties of a crossing guard.

**Receive info via Facebook or Twitter**

**Facebook**

“Like us” on Facebook. Learn latest info and get special offers. The Village posts information organized in three ways:

ENJOY! – recreational activities
GREEN! – sustainable info or Green By Choice member news
LISLE! – municipal services/news
www.facebook.com/villageoflisle

**Twitter**

Receive tweets about Village, French Market, and/or Go Green in Lisle. Three Twitter groups are available:

For Village postings:
www.twitter.com/villageoflisle
For French Market:
www.twitter.com/lislefrenchmkt
For Green By Choice news:
www.twitter.com/gogreeninlisle

**Buy dog tags now**

All dogs are required to wear a Village of Lisle tag, in addition to the DuPage County rabies tag. Buy 2012 dog tags ($10) now at the Village Hall Business Office. Bring an up–to–date veterinarian’s certificate of rabies vaccination.

**Newsletter distribution**

The Lisle Village Newsletter is posted to the website. Only a limited number are being printed for residents to pick up at Village Hall, Lisle Library, or Lisle Park District.

To be notified via email when a new newsletter is posted, sign up for e–Notify on the Village’s website. Click on the e–Notify box on the homepage and follow instructions.