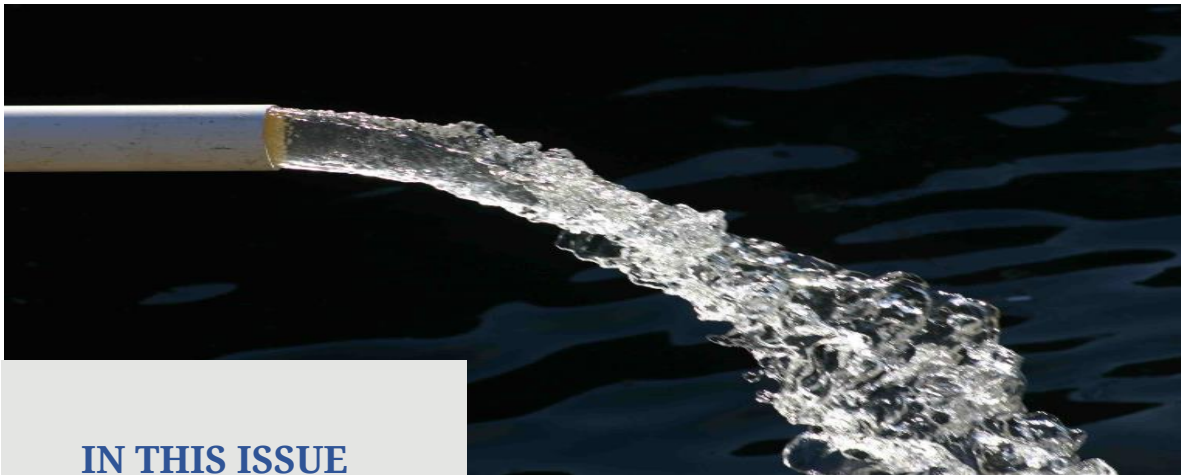


ISSUE

02

Chenoa Junction

September 19, 2023



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Service Line Material Identification

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency recently revised the lead and copper rule for community drinking water, requiring municipalities to gather and update water service line material information for all structures connected to the distribution system.

The EPA has requested information for each Illinois resident to identify if your pipes are: Lead, Galvanized Steel, Cooper or Plastic.

Two weeks ago the City of Chenoa mailed correspondence to the home of each Chenoa resident requesting you to identify your pipes. At your earliest convenience, please return this completed pamphlet to City Hall.

If the pamphlet is not returned, we will send a representative to your door to obtain this information. This person will not check your pipes for you but collect the information from you.



It's an honor to be the Mayor of Chenoa. I was born, raised & attended school in Chenoa. I am committed to preparing Chenoa for a better future. Chenoa has great residents. I want to help grow and improve the town for everyone. I'm invested in the future of Chenoa.

If you have ideas or concerns, please reach out.

- Send an email mayor@chenoail.org.
- Give me a call or a text (309) 825-2396.

Together we can discuss realistic improvements while working within the budget.

Thank you for your continued support.

Commissioner Corner

Ordinances? What Ordinances?

By Jay Myers, Finance Commissioner

Every city in America has three things in common:

1. A Main Street – though it might not be named “Main.”
2. A Gas Station that sells Pizza.
3. Ordinances.

Ordinances? Yes. If a village, town or city has a formal local government, it has Ordinances (rules and laws) passed to establish basic ways of living together. Without our modern city Ordinances, we'd be living in times worse than the Old West.

Ordinances make life in all our small towns and cities enjoyable, safe and fair. Most of us are thankful we have Ordinances that help us get along with neighbors. But for some people the very words “City Ordinances” brings a scowl to the face. *“Bah! City Ordinances! The blinkity-blink with City Ordinances!”*

Nobody in a city government, especially a small one like ours, wants to hassle people about following the Ordinances. Some cities are so shy about enforcing Ordinances that they – just don't do it. They “forget.”

They look the other way. Yeesh! Who wants to climb all over Big Bob about his weedy or trashy yard?

And look at it from Big Bob's viewpoint: He just doesn't care to keep a yard looking like Augusta Golf Course. Weeds are *natural* in his mind. If he breaks out the John Deere twice in a summer, that's “good enough” in his book. And if it isn't good enough for somebody else; too bad! Bob has “rights,” doesn't he? It's his property, correct? **Who says** he has to mow weeds and grasses taller than 8 inches? More to the point, just Who with that Army is going to **make** him now the weeds?

We feel you, Big Bob, but you are missing two very important points. One is legal; if you choose to own property in a city that has adopted Ordinances then you are bound to follow these Ordinances, legally. You don't get to pick which laws you'll obey and which you won't in our city, state, or country. Bob has no “Right” to ignore or refuse to follow a Law. Sorry.

The second point is that his neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Little, have some stake in this too. They do like a neat looking yard.

Continued on Extra Pages 1 & 2

Resident Ave

The Open Meeting for Budget Workshop for Tuesday, September 19, 2023 has been postponed.

State Rep Tom Bennett Visit to Chenoa



Thomas Bennett is a Republican member-designate of the Illinois Senate from the 53rd District. Representative Bennett spoke with Mayor Shane about improving Chenoa – improving the city water and obtaining grants to improve Chenoa. The City of Chenoa is devoted to Chenoa and the residents.

The 53rd District includes all or portions of Bureau, Ford, Grundy, Iroquois, LaSalle, Marshall, McLean, Peoria, Putnam, Tazewell, Will and Woodford counties.

Resident Question: When will the Division Street work be completed?

Soon – Hopefully within the next few weeks! The work will continue when the permit for the railroads and the flaggers has been coordinated.



TIFFANY A HENYARD WALK OF HOPE TO SPRINGFIELD

If you were in downtown Chenoa around 4 pm on Wednesday September 12, 2023, then you probably heard the music and saw joyful dancing in the streets. The Tiffany A Henyard Walk of Hope to Springfield made a stop in Chenoa. Last year, Tiffany A Henyard signed a bill to grant a \$10K tax credit to anyone with a terminal illness. Please check out her Facebook page for more information.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=310938258204710>

Dolton is a village in Cook County, Illinois. The 2020 population of Dolton was 21,426. Dolton is located just west of the expressway Interstate 94 and south of the Chicago city limits.



Jason R Bunting, State Representative District 106, recently visited Crossroads Café for community outreach on September 5, 2023. Chenoa Finance Commissioner Jay Myers met and talked with Bunting. Representative Bunting has committed to returning to Chenoa to attend a Town Council Meeting in the future. Bunting has a great interest in Chenoa. He wants to help Chenoa with state grants for improvements and growth. He believes this is Chenoa's time to move forward.

The 106th district includes parts of Ford, Grundy, Iroquois, LaSalle, Livingston, McLean and Will Counties.



Chenoa Club Crossing

The **VFW** is a non-profit veterans service organization of U.S. war veterans, who, as military service members fought in wars, campaigns, and expeditions on foreign land, waters, or airspace.

- The VFW supports the VFW National Home for families in Eaton Rapids, Michigan.
- The VFW raises money twice a year via poppy donations.
- The VFW helps many local groups, boy scouts, and school events.
- The VFW has Memorial Day services.
- The VFW goes to school on Veterans Day to give students an idea of what a veteran is.
- The VFW has a hot dog cookout on Halloween.
- The VFW raises money to help many veteran organizations.

VFW Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of each month. Eligible veterans are welcome to come to the meetings. Young members are needed so Chenoa Post 8350 will remain active. Contact persons are Dwayne Price and Dale Roach.

The **VFW Auxiliary** helps with many activities that the VFW does also. They put together many care packages to send to disabled veterans in many locations. They have a breakfast of biscuits and gravy on the community day auction day to raise money. The contact persons are Phaedra Price and Vicky Roach.

Chenoa Business Boulevard

Crossroads Cafe is a family owned business and was formed in 2018. Our heart for this community is to be a safe, fun place for everyone to gather and make meaningful memories. Patrons can relax and enjoy a beautiful atmosphere, rent out our space and have a coffee party, work from home, do homework, etc. We want to make Chenoa a destination for those near and far!

Our amazing goods are gourmet coffee, espresso, teas, frappes, smoothies, low sugar protein shakes, popping boba, chai, sandwiches, baked goods, gifts, and custom t-shirts by Crossroads Customs.

Please come visit us in the drive up or inside M-F 6-4 & Sat 7-1



For Newsletter comments or questions, email:

officeassistant@chenoail.org

Commissioner Corner Continued

Continued from page 2 of 4 of the Chenoa Junction

Ordinances? What Ordinances?

By Jay Myers, Finance Commissioner



They've never been able to bring themselves to talk to Big Bob about his weedy yard. You don't poke a bear in the eye, right? But now they're retiring and are about to put their home on the market. They need to get the best price for their house that they can, for obvious reasons. And now Mr. and Mrs. Little have a sensitive problem: Big Bob Next Door and his Big Weeds. According to The Appraisal Institute, a national Home Appraisal organization, living next door to a weedy, or trashy neighbour can easily **knock at least 10% off the value of your home.**

Match up Big Bob's "Rights" against Mr. and Mrs. Little's lost home value and what do you have? One big fight usually. Ideally Ordinances should serve to stop any conflicts from ever breaking out.

Weeds aren't the only story. It is also illegal in Chenoa to have cars, trailers, trucks, and other vehicles on your property with no valid license and registration. Or wheels.

Or to have junked vehicles and equipment strewn about your property with no fence to screen the view. Yes, even "project" cars and lawn mowers that don't exactly drive or mow anymore, have to be stored in an enclosed building (garage) between the fiddling with tools.



Add having building materials laying around in higgly-piggly piles outdoors with no fence.

–To have an upholstered living room sofa parked on your front porch. Or pulled up to the fire pit in the back.

–To solely blame your Tenants on the mess they've caused on the property because no part of that real estate investment is going to be eaten up by maintenance, right?



–To have piles of brush on your property that would make Daniel Boone proud.

–To let an old building you own slowly crumble into gravel.

All of these things are covered in the City Ordinances of Chenoa.

Most residents, and past and current City Council members, would probably agree that the City Ordinances have not been strictly enforced for some time. Easy to understand why: enforcing Ordinances tends to make you unpopular with some people, especially if they don't understand how their property fits into this "bigger picture" of the development of Chenoa?

That is about to change and change for the better we hope.

Starting **September 15** the City is going to launch a new effort to try to fairly enforce the Ordinances we have on the books.

We will be moving through the City of Chenoa making notes of properties where people may need some nudging to get into compliance with the ordinances. Official notices will be served explaining the ordinance and giving you time to correct the problem.

We will absolutely try to work with you in a friendly, supportive way on the "fix up" solutions. Just reach out and tell us about your situation.

You can find all our Ordinances and do your own research at:
https://codelibrary.amlegal.com/codes/chenoail/latest/chenoa_il/0-0-0-1

You can also email me, City Commissioner Jay Myers, Email me at finance@chenoail.org. (You must include your name and phone number for quick follow ups.)

Special Notes from Chenoa Women's Club

October 2, 2023 Meeting is at Trinity Lutheran
Food Pantry Items: Cleaning – soaps, detergents,
deodorants, shampoo, conditioner
Program: Life in Ukraine by Mary Teplova

The proceeds of the can recycling for the months of
September and October will be donated to the PC West
Primary School (Chenoa) After School Program.

September /October

2023

	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
September / October	17 September	18 Trash & Recycle Day	19	20	21 EDC Meeting	22	23 First Day of Fall
	24 5th Annual Manard Bags Tournament	25 Trash Day	26 City Council Meeting 6:30 pm	27	28	29	30
	1 October Mental Illness Awareness Week begins	2 Trash & Recycle Day Zoning Board Meeting 6:30 pm	3	4	5	6 Chenoa Citywide Fall Garage Sales 8 am - 5pm	7 Chenoa Citywide Fall Garage Sales 8 am - 3pm
	8	9 Trash Day City Wide Hydrant Flushing begins today Columbus Day	10 City Council Meeting 6:30 pm	11	12	13	14
	15	16 Trash Day & Recycle Day Issue 3 Chenoa Junction Released Bosses Day	17 Water Shut Off Day	18	19	20	21 Sweetest Day
	22	23 Trash Day	24 City Council Meeting 6:30 pm	Chenoa Women's Club Meeting 7 pm at Trinity Lutheran. Program: Life in Ukraine by Mary Teplova. Water bill due date is 10/25/23 Trick or Treat Hours will be 5pm to 8pm on Tuesday, October 31, 2023			