

Mayor Jerry Bolin's 2014 State Of Village Address

May 6th 2013 - I was sworn in as President in the Village of Machesney Park. That truly was an honor to accept the responsibility to lead our Village from what it was, to what it is now, and what it will become in the future.

From my life experiences, both professional and personal, I have learned if you want to improve something, you first have to analyze and understand the present status and honestly use that as a starting point for improvement.

May 6th 2013 - I began analyzing the Staff and the Work Environment. I wanted to make sure this environment was of the highest standards. I have identified five (5) standards to analyze.

1. Safety
2. Friendly Demeanor
3. Professionalism
4. Fully Staffed - *(no overly burdensome workloads)*
5. Non-Hostile Work Environment

1. Safety *(needed improvement)*

- A. Added an officer to all Board and Committee Meetings
- B. Renewal of Staff / Employees Awareness
- C. Dead bolt lock where deemed necessary
- D. Added faster action door closure time
- E. Added one (1) Police Officer for Public Safety
- F. Replaced two (2) old squad cars with new vehicles

2. Friendly Demeanor - *(For most part satisfactory, but I could sense the tension from prior stressful provocations)*

- A. Established a respectful and appreciative work environment.

3. Professionalism - *(I felt the skills needed were already present, I did sense skills may have been restricted, perhaps because of prior adverse conditions)*

- A. I worked to establish a mindset to help where needed - when needed.
 - a. Be proactive, learn new skills - Yesterday's skills are old news, today's technology requires continual improvement.
 - b. Share your skills with others.

4. Fully Staffed - *(there were several vacant positions)*

- A. Hired Public Works Superintendent
- B. Hired Receptionist / Administration Assistant
- C. Hired Planning / Zoning Inspector
- D. Appointed Planning Economic Development Committee Member
- E. Appointed Planning and Zoning Commission Member
- F. Appointed Public Improvement & Safety Committee Member.
- G. *May 19th 2014 - Community Development Coordinator position became open. We will fill that position in a timely manner with a Professional Qualified Candidate. That candidate should possess the skills necessary for potential future career growth. This individual will lead and promote Community Development in Machesney Park for many years to come.*

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5. **Non Hostile Work Environment** *(Prior to May 6, 2013 needed improvement)*.

A. I believe and encourage all staff to excel in their occupational professionalism, showing respect for all.

B. I encourage all staff to use the proper channels *(micro-management and egocentric tactics are not acceptable under my leadership)*.

C. *Today Our Staff and Employee Work Environment has climbed to its Highest Professional Standard.*

Community Development

Machesney Park, for certain, is a leader in development and growth within our geographical area. Since May 6th 2013, Machesney Park has attracted several businesses to locate within our community. Machesney Park has welcomed, to name a few:

Meijer Grocery –Superstore
HMC Products
SCP Pool Company
TH Food
Hancock Fabrics
Chipotle Mexican Grille
Firestone Tire
Noodles and Company
Sleepy's Mattress
Kay's Jewelers
Mattress Firm
United States Army Training Facility
Hoffman House

Growth within existing businesses - must be recognized, also. Several businesses have expanded their facilities in / or to Machesney Park since their beginning.

Practice Velocity
Big Papa's Barbecue
US Cellular
Field Fastener
Trickie Enterprises
Forte
Jim Holder Heating / Air Conditioning
Curtis Metal Finishing
Carz R US
Machine Tool Builders
Alco Manufacturing Corp.

Future New Business's – Several businesses have been recently confirmed and will be coming soon to Machesney Park:

Hoffman House-Chop House
Saws International
Salveo
Many more will be announced in 2014

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Planning and Zoning

Planning and zoning confirms Economic Growth with (6) Zoning petitions applied for this year so far. We also have (5) Subdivision Plats.

Machesney is The Place To Be - The Place To Go & The Place To Stay.

Public Works

Our Public Works Team has taken proactive steps to cut cost within the Village. These efforts achieve quality services and cost effectiveness. Public Works:

- A. Are doing more projects in-house like doing a lot more of the Village mowing requirements.
- B. They bid out contracts for Garbage Hauling, Mowing, Forestry, and Cleaning.

Communications

The Village staff in the past year has focused on improving communication with the residents. They have done this through:

- A. Improvements in Village websites
- B. Higher visibility through Facebook and Twitter participation
- C. Our Village newsletter (The Village Voice has been a welcome addition for our residents).
- D. We continued the Yard of Distinction and the Holiday Lighting programs to encourage neighborhood beautification.
- E. The Shop 173 Program continues through the summer of 2014 construction season to encourage shopping along the Route #173 corridor.
- F. We have had several Town Hall Meetings with residents to keep them informed regarding Anna Ave - Queen Oaks - Wesley Rd. and 173 businesses, just to name a few.

Fiscal Year Ended

General Fund - Ended 3.66% higher than last year.

Road Fund - Ended 3.82% higher than last year.

Business District Sales Tax from Town Center

Received \$177,185.67 for the year *(we expect tax receivables to drop \$60,000 to \$65,000 in 2014-2015 fiscal year if JC5 Star building remains empty)* our Budget reflects that anticipation.

Video Gaming Tax

The average income is \$10,329.17 per month - \$123,950.04 for year end.
The Village has 56 machines in 12 Establishments.

Utility Tax

The average income is around \$102,000 per month.
The Village has issued rebates to 34 residents totaling \$1,916.74.

- 13 - Basic low doc rebates
- 13 - Quarterly rebates
- 8 - Annual rebates of actual taxes paid

Hotel/Motel Tax

In four (4) months the Village has collected \$1,628.03.

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Budget Fiscal Year 2014-2015

I'm proud to say we have a General Fund Balanced Budget. We presently maintain Revenue Reserve of around 90%.

Infrastructure

The Village has budgeted to complete \$6,374,000 in infrastructure improvements throughout the Village. This year our residents in late summer will see construction begin on a Boat Launch/Park at Bauer Bridge and Shore Drive. All these projects will create Jobs and return revenue to our community.

Summary

February of this year Mayor Bolin asked that every individual from the youngest to the oldest do something in the Year 2014 to improve neighborhood and/or community. There's nothing too small or too large to accomplish. Each achievement attributes to the success of our Village and a brighter future for generations to come. We (residents) decide what that future will be by our actions of today. Make an improvement in 2014 to our Village!

Join the Machesney Park 2014 Team Today.

The State Of Machesney Park

Resourceful - Think outside the box - we don't have to keep doing things the same way as in the past.

Capable - We have the ability to Adapt and to Change.

Dependable - We'll burn the midnight oil to achieve our Goals.

Continually Improving - Yesterday is Gone - Today is a New Opportunity to Correct Yesterday's Mistakes.

United - We Stand United - We will overcome all obstructions that block the Village of Machesney Park's successful future.

*Presented by Mayor Jerry Bolin
in an Address at the Village Board Meeting
Monday, June 16, 2014*

*The Board Meeting video is available for viewing on the Village Website at:
<http://www.machesneypark.org>*