



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending November 8, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- November 11:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., room 101 immediately followed by a tour of portions of the Police Facility between 6:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. prior to returning to room 101 for the remainder of the agenda (FY14 Budget).
- November 12:
 - Medical Reserve Corps, 7 p.m., room 102
- November 13:
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- November 14:
 - Village Board Special Meeting (FY14 Budget), 7 p.m., room 101
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

Save the date reminders (see calendar for all future meetings):

- November 20: Tri-Board Meeting, Intergovernmental Agreement Annual Meeting regarding Early Childhood Collaboration, 7 p.m., D97 offices
- December 2: Employee Recognition Event 6:30 p.m., room 201 followed by Village Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. room 201
- December 10: Village Board Reinventing Government, 7 p.m., room 130

Grant to support water conservation – The Village has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation to support our Residential Water and Energy Conservation Program. The grant will be used in 2014 to provide approximately 250 free water saver kits to Village households and about 250 rebates of \$100 to replace toilets with water saving models.

Parking Services update – Repairs to the Holley Court Parking Garage were completed by the Oct. 31 deadline and construction trailers were scheduled to be removed by the end of the week. The pay by phone service is gaining in use. Through October, more than 1,000 transactions had been completed by more than 500 unique users. The Department is gearing up for the holiday free-parking promotion that begins after Thanksgiving. Bags are being designed for the meters to let

motorists know about the two-free hours on Saturdays in the downtown and south Oak Park business districts where the program will be in effect.

Fire Department activities – October was the department’s annual remembrance of the Chicago fire of 1871. As part of this tradition, the department sponsors a poster and essay contest open to all students, from kindergarten through eighth grade. We had 500 entries this year. The 16 winners and their families will be treated to pizza at the main fire station and awarded certificates and prizes. In operational matters, October was a relatively quiet month with only one significant structure fire and routine medical response activities. The fire, which was caused by an overheated kitchen pan, was quickly extinguished but not before it had caused serious damage to the room. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of all U.S. residential fires. The ambulance the department provides to each OPRF home football game made it through the regular season without having to respond to any serious injuries and Halloween passed with no incidents. Through October of this year, the department has fielded 5,076 calls. Some 60 percent – or 300 calls – were for emergency medical services. Alarm initiated calls were the second largest category (96) in October, followed by general service (74) and fire/hazardous conditions (26).

Hazard mitigation plan approved – The Village has received full and final approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for our Multi- Hazard Mitigation and Sustainability Plan (MHMP). By receiving full approval from FEMA, the Village is now eligible to apply to the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Program to obtain funds to put our local MHMP recommendations into effect. The MHMP identifies threats to the Village and various mitigation actions that can be taken to lessen the damage and effects of disasters and emergencies. Our plan, which took 18 months to complete, was created by the Health Department’s Emergency Preparedness Division, Public Works Department and the Sustainability Manager.

Construction update – Highland Avenue between Harrison and Van Buren streets is expected to reopen late next week following landscaping and patching at the intersections. The sewer main on Scoville Avenue from Roosevelt Road to Fillmore Street is scheduled to be relined next week. The water main on Lombard Avenue under I-290 also will be relined next week. Lining of the sewer main on Grove Avenue between Garfield Street and Harvard Avenue that began this week will continue into early next week. Removal of the concrete driveways and curbs on the east side of Belleforte Avenue is underway. Concrete work on the west side of Cuyler Avenue was scheduled to be completed by the end of this week. Paving is complete on Adams Street, Cuyler Avenue, Euclid Avenue and Erie Street. Curb patching is scheduled for next week on Taylor Avenue from Chicago Avenue to Iowa Street and on Greenfield Street from Oak Park Avenue to Linden Avenue. Siphoning, cleaning and inspecting of the Ridgeland Avenue sewer is scheduled to begin in mid-November.

Viaduct enhancement project status – Weather delayed the installation of bicycle shelters near the viaducts on Marion Street and Ridgeland Avenue. However, we anticipate the shelters will be completed early next week. Meanwhile, electrical work for the lighting and decorative metalwork is underway at the Marion viaduct.

Public Works activities – All divisions of the Public Works Department began preparing for the winter season with the annual half-day training program, which covers safety, policies and procedures for snow clearing operations. In addition to the ongoing early morning repairs of street light outages, a street light pole hit by a vehicle at 118 Clinton Avenue was replaced and LED lighting was installed in the Harlem Avenue and Austin Boulevard viaducts. The late fall parkway tree planting cycle has begun, with 80 trees scheduled to go in. The final planter arrangement on the Harrison Street maintenance project was installed and the annual Village wide leaf collection program continued.

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