

Village Manager's Report Week ending Dec. 6, 2013

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- December 9:
 - o Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - o Village Board Special Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- December 10:
 - o Reinventing Government Committee, 7 p.m., room 130
 - o Medical Reserve Corps, 7 p.m., room 101
- December 11:
 - o Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- December 12:
 - o Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- December 13:
 - No scheduled meetings
- December 14:
 - o Village Board Special Meeting, 8:30 a.m., room 101

Police traffic crackdown – Oak Park Police made 43 traffic stops during a two-week enforcement campaign leading up to Thanksgiving weekend, resulting in citations for impaired driving and safety belt violations. The stepped-up enforcement efforts ran concurrently with a media campaign that reminds motorists to Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over and Click It or Ticket. The blitz yielded 23 safety belt violations, three arrests for impaired driving, three arrests for driving with a suspended or revoked license, two arrests for drug possession and one warrant arrest for speeding. During the 2012 Thanksgiving holiday period, motor vehicle crashes in Illinois claimed nine lives and injured more than 700 individuals.

Leaf collection wraps up – Village-wide fall leaf collection wrapped up with the last of overnight leaf pushing and collection by Waste Management this week. Waste Management, which also handles street sweeping, has been in town sweeping streets now that leaf piles are cleared.

Coat drive at Police Station – The Oak Park Police Department is hosting a coat drive through Dec. 20 at the Police Station, 123 Madison St. Members of the public are invited to drop off a gently used coat anytime, day or night.

Holiday light recycling – Once again the Village has partnered with Vintage Tech Recyclers to host a holiday light drop-off box at the Public Works Center, 201 South Blvd., during December and January. Mini-lights, C7 lights, C9 lights, rope and LED lights, as well as extension cords, are acceptable. Items may be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Public Works Activities – The Street Lighting Division is testing pedestrian cameras at Lake and Kenilworth that would replace push buttons. When a pedestrian stands at the intersection for more than three seconds, signal is sent for the traffic light to change (much like a push button). The division also repaired light poles on the 1100 block of Madison Street and the northeast corner of Euclid and Lake due to vehicle accidents. The Water and Sewer Division continued the Meter Head Change-Out Program.

Capital Improvements – Water and sewer main improvements on Lombard under I-290 are in progress. The water main has been lined and the contractor will replace the piping at Flournoy and Garfield next week. Completion is expected by Dec. 20. The contractor anticipates finishing the pedestrian canopy work under the Marion viaduct and also having the sign panels installed on the Marion viaduct by Dec.13. Lighting work at both viaducts is expected to wrap up by Dec. 20. The street resurfacing contractor has mostly wrapped up work for this year and will complete the project in the spring of 2014. The contractor anticipates installing traffic signal loops on Lombard at Washington next week. Parkways are currently being restored on Euclid, Belleforte, and Cuyler. Sewer cleaning and inspection along Ridgeland Avenue is scheduled to start next week and will be completed by the end of the year, weather permitting.

Emergency Preparedness continuing education – Murray Snow, Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager, was recognized Dec. 4 for his participation in the Suburban Duty Officer Course, which provides training and professional development for first responders and emergency managers. The educational course took place earlier this fall.

New department director named — Tammie Grossman has been named Director of the new Community and Economic Development Department and will assume those duties on on Jan. 6. She currently serves as Housing and CDBG Programs Manager and is also overseeing the Human Resources Department as interim director. Grossman's appointment comes as the Village restructures its building, business services, housing and planning departments into a single department to streamline services and improve the development process for customers. The new position will serve as the primary point of contact for all development efforts, and Grossman will be the liaison between Village Hall and the development community.

New firefighter sworn in – The Fire Department welcomed Jadeer Judah as its newest Firefighter/Paramedic during a Nov. 25 swearing-in ceremony. Previously, Judah had worked as a firefighter in Mundelein.