



Village Manager's Report
Week ending Feb. 14, 2014

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- February 17:
 - Village Hall Closed

- February 18:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 210
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 6:30 p.m., room 130

- February 19:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - OPAAC Board Meeting, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215

- February 20:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30pm, room 215

Village Hall closed Monday – [Village Hall](#) will be closed on Mon., Feb. 17, in observance of [Presidents' Day](#). As always, we are urging residents to call the Police nonemergency number 708.386.3800 should an incident that doesn't quite rise to the level of a 9-1-1 emergency occur when Village Hall is closed.

Sustainability research study begins– The Village is collaborating with the [Illinois Institute of Technology](#) and the [Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat \(CTBUH\)](#) in a study to determine what factors actually contribute to sustainability in an urban/suburban context. The project is entitled *A Study of the Sustainability Implications of Differing Urban + Suburban Locations in Chicago*. Residents are invited to take an online survey as part of the study. The survey, which covers topics such as energy consumption, transport movements and quality of life, is quite long and may take a while to complete – [click here to take survey](#). The project is being led by [Oak Park resident Antony Wood, Ph.D.](#) Questions about the survey or the study should be directed to pdu@iit.edu.

Public Works activities – Public Works Department crews were back on the street Saturday following another two-inch-plus snowfall. Crews also continued cleaning up streets throughout the week, removing snow to widen narrow streets and clearing packed snow from parking areas and making sure handicap parking spaces were accessible. The Water & Sewer Division focused on digging out fire hydrants buried in snow and thawing them where necessary. A water service repair also was required at 1031 S. East Ave. Meanwhile, the Forestry Division continued winter cycle parkway

tree pruning on the 500 block of North Grove Ave. and the 800 blocks of N. Kenilworth and Oak Park avenues.

Development Customer Services update – Permit and plan review application volume decreased about 30 percent in January as compared to the previous month as the winter construction slow-down continued. The decrease likely was compounded by the sub-zero temperatures and above average snowfall. At the end of January, 18 applications were in the plan review queue with five cases overdue an average of five days – [click here to see the full report](#). Building staff responded to four emergency call-outs for vehicle damage to buildings, three of which had substantial structural damage.

Employee accomplishments – Dan Bartl, a Forestry Division Technician since September, was promoted to crew chief. New street lighting technician, Keith Seat, earned [International Municipal Signal Association](#) (IMSA) certifications in temporary traffic control safety, traffic signal technician level I and traffic signal field technician level II. Chief Building Inspector Steve Touloumis achieved his certification as Master Code Professional, the highest certification offered by the [International Code Council](#). Plans Examiner Ken Bauer and Plumbing Inspector James Dee have previously achieved that certification.

Help for seniors – [Oak Park Township Senior Services](#) is seeking volunteers for its [Illinois Volunteer Money Management Program](#), which assists individuals who have difficulty managing their financial affairs. Candidates must be willing to donate up to seven hours of time per month and provide their own transportation. Math aptitude, access to a computer, and the ability to balance a checkbook are required as well. If you know of someone who might be interested in volunteering, please ask them to call 708.383.8060.

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