



Village Manager's Report Week ending April 3, 2015

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Monday, April 6:
 - No scheduled meetings
- Tuesday, April 7:
 - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, April 8:
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, April 9:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, April 13 – Village Board Special Meeting regarding Madison Street, time to be determined., room 101
- Monday, April 20 – Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Monday, April 27 – Village Board Special Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101

Yard waste collection begins Monday – The Village's refuse hauler will begin [collecting yard waste](#) Monday. The program is intended to help residents recycle items such as brush, grass clippings, leaves, shrubs and vines that should not be placed in the regular refuse container. Yard waste is picked up on regular refuse collection days, so long as a green yard waste sticker is attached to the bundles, bags and containers. We continue to urge residents to look for alternatives to bagging yard waste such as mulching mowers, leaf shredders or backyard compost piles.

Animal license renewals underway – The annual [animal license](#) renewal cycle is underway. The 2,900 residents who had provided their email addresses when they last purchased a license were notified on March 6, and about 960 have renewed so far. Another 3,900 renewal reminder notices were mailed Monday. The Village licensed 3,206 animals in 2014/2015. Animal licenses expire on May 1 of each year.

Artists sought for clearance sale – The [Oak Park Area Arts Council](#) is seeking local artists interested in doing some spring cleaning and moving out their older works,

seconds, prototypes or any related items they would be willing to discount at a special clearance sale. The sale is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sat., April 18 in the AGLS Building, 222 Lake St. The event entitled B-sides, an art studio clearance sale!, is modeled on similar events in Columbus, Ohio and Kalamazoo, Michigan that have attracted thousands. The deadline for artists to apply for space is Mon., April 6. [Click here for details.](#)

Tuesday lecture series returns – The annual [Green Tuesdays lecture series](#) returns to the Main Library next week to take on a range of important environmental challenges and issues relevant to the community. All lectures will be from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The program, sponsored by the Village's [Environment & Energy Commission](#), is now in its 10th year.

Capital improvement updates – Signs alerting motorists to the closing of portions of Ridgeland Avenue went up this week in preparation for a major sewer replacement project along this important north-south roadway. Ridgeland will be closed from Lake Street to Chicago Avenue for approximately three weeks. Construction will shift to the section from Chicago Avenue to Division Street in early June. The first alley improvement project of the 2015 season will begin next week with the T-shaped alley between Harvey and Lombard avenues from Roosevelt Road to Fillmore Street and the east-west alley south of Harrison Street between Taylor and Lyman avenues. The two alley improvement projects postponed from last year are expected to begin in mid-April. These are the east-west alley south of North Avenue between Humphrey Avenue and Austin Boulevard and the north-south alley between Woodbine and Kenilworth avenues from Berkshire to Greenfield streets.

Public Works activities – Efforts are well underway to clean up and repair damage from the winter and prepare for spring and summer. The Streets Division repaired and replaced missing trash can lids at various public locations throughout the Village, as well as patched potholes, picked up litter and repaired openings in streets where water repairs were made. Street sweeping also is underway. Abandoned catch basins were removed at 410 – 426 S. Austin Blvd. and a sink hole repaired at 338 S. Austin. The old water service was disconnected at the Park District headquarters building, 218 Madison St. in preparation to install a new six-inch service line. In addition to removing old and broken holiday lights from parkway trees on Harrison Street that were preventing proper pruning, Forestry crews focused on removing trees infested with emerald ash borer, restoring public landscaped sites and responding to resident requests for trimming. The winter tree pruning cycle is winding down, but contractors are continuing to remove larger dead, diseased and damaged trees. The week's removals included problem trees between Madison Street and Chicago Avenue, near Division Street and Chicago Avenue and along the walkway beside the Holley Court Parking Garage.

Employee news – David Brown joined the Fleet Service Division of the Public Works Department. His previous position was with an automotive repair shop in Bridgeview. He honed his repair skills building and racing vintage cars.

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