



Village Manager's Report
Week ending February 28, 2020

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, March 2:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 7 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber

- Tuesday, March 3:
 - No meetings scheduled

- Wednesday, March 4:
 - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., Council Chamber

- Thursday, March 5:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., Council Chamber

- Friday, March 6:
 - No meetings scheduled

Coordinating coronavirus response – The Oak Park Public Health Department is working closely with the [Illinois Department of Public Health](#) (IDPH) and [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) as concern over the spread of coronavirus grows locally. Public Health Director Mike Charley is receiving written briefings and updates almost daily from the IDPH and CDC. He also is participating in teleconferences intended to keep public health officials up to date on the latest information. Plans for dealing with such a potential health emergency are in place at the state and national level and will be implemented locally as circumstances require. At this time, local government officials are being urged to continue recommending common sense precautions like staying home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, frequent handwashing and routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and objects, a message we are disseminating within the community. [More information is posted on the Village website...](#)

Early voting at Village Hall – Village Hall will host early voting in room 101 beginning next week. Suburban Cook County voters can cast an early Primary Election ballot from March 2 - 16, including weekends. Village Hall also will offer grace-period registration during early voting hours. Early voting hours vary. More information, including early voting hours by date, is posted on the Village website - [just click here](#).

Lake Street update –The water and sewer main replacement phase of the Lake Street improvement project is set to begin Mon., March 2 between Euclid and Oak Park avenues. A traffic lane will remain open for westbound traffic. However, eastbound traffic will be detoured around the work site via North Boulevard from Oak
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Park Avenue to Euclid Avenue. The Avenue Parking Garage will remain open and accessible during the work, but parking will not be allowed in the construction zone on Lake Street. A second briefing for business owners and operators most affected by the project is scheduled for 8:30 a.m., Thurs., March 5 at the Lake Theater. A second round of door-to-door, one-on-one visits also is underway in the Hemingway and Pleasant business districts, including with the upper floor offices. All public information messages are promoting the dedicated project website www.betterlakestreet.com as the place to find the most up-to-date information and to sign up for email alerts.

Oak Park Avenue planning – Staff and members of the project team have scheduled a meeting to introduce stakeholders to future plans for the Hemingway District streetscape. Staff and members of the project team will meet with stakeholders from 6 to 8 p.m., Tues., March 10 at the Township Senior Services Center. The session will include an overview presentation of the project as well as small-group, facilitated discussions. Presenters also will discuss www.RenewTheAvenue.com, a dedicated website that will be the central information hub as the project gets underway. While the construction on Lake Street beginning next week will include intersection improvements at Oak Park Avenue, construction on Oak Park Avenue is not planned to begin until 2022.

Snow response – Public Works crews were on the streets this week for the 16th event of the season as light snow started accumulating at about 6:30 p.m. Tuesday (Feb. 25) night and continued to fall until after the Wednesday (Feb. 26) morning rush. Despite earlier forecasts calling for six or more inches, fewer than four inches fell in Oak Park, accumulating mostly on grassy and elevated surfaces. The relatively warmer temperatures limited accumulations on roadways and crews were able to rely primarily on salting rather than plowing. All streets and public way sidewalks along Village properties, mass transit hubs and school crossings were treated as was the Home Avenue pedestrian bridge.

Student protest – About 40 students from Oak Park and River Forest High School were at Village Hall for several hours Wednesday (Feb. 26) commemorating the anniversary of the killing of Trayvon Martin. The students also said they were protesting the presence of police school resources officers in both D97 and D200 schools. Village Hall services were affected by the noise and public access from the parking lot was blocked from about 10:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. by students and at least one adult with the group who sat in the south entrance. Police Chief Reynolds and Village Manager Pavlicek spoke with various students and the group's adult leaders.

Nicor inspections – Nicor Gas has informed the Village that crews will begin performing routine infrastructure inspections beginning in early March. The inspection area is within the area from Flournoy Street to Jackson Boulevard and Scoville Avenue to Austin Boulevard. The company said that specific information about the work is being mailed to property addresses within the area where the inspections are planned.

Advisory referenda requests – Three advisory referenda have been submitted to the Oak Park Township as part of the process to get non-binding votes included on the November 2020 election ballot. Under state law, if a citizen creates a petition supporting an advisory referendum question, gathers the signatures of 15 registered

voters and submits the petition to the local township clerk by a set deadline, it is placed on the township's annual meeting agenda, which is April 14 in Oak Park. The registered voters of the township who attend the annual meeting then vote on whether the referendum should be placed on the ballot of the next election. If question passes, the township clerk must submit it to the county clerk for placement on the ballot. [Click here to see the three questions submitted to the Oak Park Township for consideration at its April 14 annual meeting...](#)

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