



**Village Manager's Report
Week ending Mar. 8, 2013**

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- March 11:
 - Village Manager Performance Goals, 6:30 p.m., room 101

- March 12:
 - Condo Network, 7 p.m., room 201
 - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130

- March 13:
 - Community Development Citizen Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Farmers Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Code Adoption Forum, 7 p.m., room 201

- March 14:
 - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
 - Special Plan Commission Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., room 201

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

- March 18: Village Board Finance Committee Meeting, 8 a.m., room 130
- April 20: Board Outreach Event - Earth Fest, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Public Works

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Ridgeland Common groundbreaking – The Park District of Oak Park will break ground on the site of the new Ridgeland Common at 10 a.m., Sat. March 9, near Ridgeland Avenue and Lake Street. The Park District's flagship facility will undergo complete reconstruction, including expansion of the ice rink to official size, new locker rooms and new sports field with synthetic turf, lighting and fencing.

Code changes public outreach – The first of two public forums on the proposed changes to the building and property codes now under consideration was held this week. Staff reports that about 14 individuals attended the forum, including at least one local reporter. Both the business community and design professionals were represented. The discussions were characterized by staff as both cordial and informative. Much of the concern continued to center on the sprinkler requirement and the issue was diminished greatly when the proposed limited impact was explained. The second forum is scheduled for 7 – 8:30 p.m., Wed., March 13 at

Village Hall. The Building Codes Advisory Commission (BCAC) met Thursday evening to review a synopsis of all proposed code changes. Commission members will continue reviewing information gathered from the public and will include their comments in a report that will be forwarded to the Village Board once the public discussion process is complete.

Food service safety training – Staff of the Health Department’s Environmental Health Division trained food service staff on safety as part of the mandated Illinois Food Service Safety Manager Certification course. A total of 31 employees of local restaurants and other food service providers attended the training, held in late February at Village Hall. All certified health departments in Illinois are required to offer the training annually.

Public Works activities – Snow removal dominated Public Works activities during the week. The seasons’ largest snowfall Tuesday night and Wednesday had crews on the road for 36 hours, plowing and salting as they battled an accumulation of more than nine inches. At the height of the storm, 14 pieces of equipment were at work clearing streets as the snow fell at an average of more than an inch an hour. However, by late afternoon Wednesday, all streets were clear and even alleys had been plowed. In the meantime, tree trimming continued in the area between South Boulevard and Chicago Avenue, from Austin Boulevard to Harlem Avenue, with crews from both the Forestry Division and a private contractor involved.

Condo board training to begin – Condominium board members who want to learn more about how to meet their responsibilities are invited to participate in free, one-hour training seminars sponsored by Association of Condominium, Townhouse and Homeowners Associations (ACTHA). The first session, which will focus on how to conduct a one-hour board meeting, is scheduled for Tues., March 12. Other sessions are scheduled for April 9 (developing and enforcing rules and regulations, including smoke-free housing); May 14 (hiring a management company); and June 11 (collections and foreclosures). All sessions are held at 7 p.m., in Village Hall, 123 Madison St., and advance registration is not required. If you know of anyone who may be interested, but would like to have more information, please refer them to the Housing Programs Division at 708.358.5410 or housing@oak-park.us.

Fire Department update – The Fire Department responded to 424 incidents in February, a significant drop from January. Emergency medical service calls continued



Extricating a driver involved in an accident at Oak Park Avenue and Madison Street.

to dominate activities, with the 263 incidents representing 62 percent of all February activity. General calls for service were second with 80, followed by alarms initiated (62) and fire/hazardous conditions (19). The Department responded to four fire incidents in January, all minor with total damage estimated at \$1,190. Two motor vehicle accidents required extrication, but passengers sustained only minor injuries. The Department reported a spike in auto

lock-outs of autos (17) with the engines running, and an increase in assist invalid calls (car-to-house), both increases likely due to weather.

Health staffer elected to lead regional environmental health association – Health Department Sanitarian Cameron Hendricks was elected to lead the north chapter of the [Illinois Environmental Health Association](#) for 2013. IEHA is a statewide, not-for-profit organization of professionals formed in 1950. Membership consists of administrators, environmental health practitioners, sanitarians and technicians. Members of the north chapter come from 18 counties across northern Illinois.

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