



**Village Manager's Report
Weeks ending Nov. 20 and 27, 2020**

Meetings scheduled for next two weeks:

- Monday, Nov. 23:
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 5:30 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Tuesday, Nov. 24:
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Wednesday, Nov. 25:
 - Community Design Commission, 6 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, Nov. 26:
 - Thanksgiving – Village all closed
- Friday, Nov. 27:
 - Thanksgiving – Village all closed
- Monday, Nov. 30
 - Environment & Energy Commission, time to be determined, via Zoom
- Tuesday, Dec. 1
 - No meetings scheduled
- Wed., Dec. 2
 - Citizens Police Oversight Committee, 7:30 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Thurs., Dec. 3
 - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Fri., Dec. 4
 - No meetings scheduled

Village Hall holiday schedule – Village Hall will be closed for Thanksgiving, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25, 26 and 27. The lobby of Village Hall currently is open for walk-in services from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. only on Mondays and Tuesdays. However, a limited number of appointments are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays – Fridays, except holiday weeks. Anyone who needs in-person services may call 708.358.5700 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays to schedule an appointment. The reduced lobby hours are in keeping the state's latest recommendations that individuals only leave home when necessary. Residents are urged to review the wide range of services available anytime at [www.oak-](http://www.oak-park.org)

park.us/onlineservices before making an appointment or planning a trip to Village Hall.

Homeless assistance – Housing Forward has partnered with Amita Health to offer a dedicated telephone line to offer referral information for services to help homeless individuals in Oak Park. The hotline – 708.397.4423 – is staffed by Housing Forward from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Amita Health from 5 p.m. to 9 a.m. Since Housing Forward’s offices are closed to the public, clients are being screened via phone for assistance such as accommodations at the Wright Inn, which does not take walk-in clients.

Help for small business electric bills – Development Customer Services staff have notified our local business via email of a new ComEd program to help small businesses experiencing financial hardship pay their electricity bills. The utility is offering \$1.5 million in one-time grants to cover 30 percent of past-due balances up to \$1,000, as well as a new flexible-payment option. The programs are available for a limited time and interested business must contact ComEd directly by calling 1.800.334.7661 (1.800.EDISON.1), from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., weekdays to enroll in these or other ComEd’s bill-payment assistance programs. [Click here to download the ComEd program flyer...](#)

Lake Street set to reopen – The last remaining section of Lake Street between Oak Park and Euclid avenues should be completed by Wed., Nov. 25. The final layer of asphalt pavement was scheduled to be installed today between Forest and Euclid avenues. Tasks such as pavement markings, remaining bluestone sidewalk, signage, streetscape amenities and landscape restoration will extend into next week. ComEd’s reconstruction of an underground equipment vault near 1018 Lake St. should wrap up this weekend with streetscape restoration work scheduled for early next week. The project team will continue to post project updates at www.betterlakestreet.com and accept questions about the project via email to info@betterlakestreet.com.

Miscellaneous construction updates – Resurfacing-related activities should wrap up by early next week on Greenfield Street from Linden Avenue to Columbian Avenue; Superior Street from Harvey Avenue to Lombard Avenue; and Austin Boulevard from Lake Street to Chicago Avenue. Crews expect to have all of the cable installed in the new fiber optic ring conduit by Thanksgiving, with splicing and terminating tasks continuing into early December.

Employee news – Police have selected three officers to fill vacant residential beats, two began this week and a third in the New Year. Officer Eric Locke is the new RBO for Zone 1, which encompasses the northeast part of the Village. Officer Christine Simkus is the new RBO for Zone 2 on the northwest side. Officer Mike Murphy is set to be assigned to Zone 5 in a southwest section of the community. Officer Locke, who grew up in Oak Park, most recently served as a School Resource Officer for School District 97. Officer Simkus was with the patrol division and is a liaison to the Oak Park Area Gay & Lesbian Association (OPALGA). Officer Murphy, an 18-year veteran with the Oak Park Police Department, has served primarily in the Patrol Division where he has been an evidence technician, field training officer and traffic control

specialist with specific training in DUI enforcement. Contact information and more about the RBO program is posted online at www.oak-park.us/rbo.

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