



**Village Manager's Report**  
**Week ending January 4, 2019**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, Jan. 7:
  - No meetings scheduled
  
- Tuesday, Jan. 8:
  - Police Chief Swearing In Ceremony, 6 p.m., Council Chamber
  - Aging in Place Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Environment & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 124
  
- Wednesday, Jan. 9:
  - Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Zoning Board of Appeals Special Meeting, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
  
- Thursday, Jan. 10:
  - Civic Information Systems Commission, 7 p.m., room 215
  - Historic Preservation Commission, 7:30 p.m., Council Chamber
  
- Friday, Jan. 11:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Police Chief swearing in** – The swearing in of our new Chief of Police LaDon Reynolds is scheduled 6 p.m., Tues., Jan. 8. The ceremony will include a traditional honor guard presentation of the colors, as well as introductions of the Police command staff, the actual swearing in by the Village Clerk and brief remarks from Chief Reynolds and Mayor Abu-Taleb. The official announcement of the selection was made yesterday afternoon (Thurs., Jan. 3). More information is [posted on the Village website](#).

**Holiday tree collection starts Monday** – The Village's refuse hauler will begin collecting holiday trees on Mon., Jan 7 as part of the regular refuse collection schedule for residential properties of five or fewer units. Trees will be picked up through the week of Jan. 14. Residents are required to remove all decorations and stands, and place the tree in the regular collection area by 7 a.m. on their standard refuse collection dates. Since the trees are mulched and used for soil enrichment, trees in plastic disposal bags are not collected. Trees set out after the collection program ends must have a \$3 pink bulk refuse sticker attached. Wreaths and garlands cannot be collected for recycling because they contain wire so should be placed in the trash container.

**Fenwick parking structure application** – The Plan Commission has scheduled a public hearing for Jan. 17 to review a planned development application from Fenwick High School to construct a five-story, six-floor parking garage on its property. The structure

would be approximately 62 feet tall and have 350 parking spaces, with a facade in the same style as the existing historic building. Fenwick is requesting allowances for height and corner side yard setback. Maximum allowed height is 45 feet. The required setback is 15 feet, but the proposed structure would be set back nine feet in line with the existing structure. Fenwick also is asking the Village to vacate a public alley that currently has access from East Avenue to the west and Scoville Avenue to the east. An access easement would be maintained for the adjacent apartment building. The application packet is [posted on the Plan Commission page of the Village website](#). The alley vacation application is under the last tab of the application.

**Landmark nomination filed** – Under provisions in the Village Code, residents have filed a landmark nomination was filed on Dec. 28 for 640 – 660 Madison St., which is owned by Steve Foley and also known as the *Hill Motor Sales Company*. As required by Village ordinance, the Historic Preservation Commission must make a preliminary determination of eligibility for the building at its next meeting, which is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Thurs., Jan. 10. In general, the next steps in the process would include sending notices to nearby property owners and holding a public hearing before the HPC, which then would make a recommendation to the Village Board for consideration.

**A Day in Our Village recruitment begins** – June may seem like a long way from January, but planning already is well underway for [A Day in Our Village](#). This year's event is scheduled for Sun., June 2. A variety of volunteers is needed to help promote and staff the event, which includes activity booths, demonstrations, entertainment and food. Anyone interested in volunteering or more information is urged to call 708.358.5407 or email [community@oak-park.us](mailto:community@oak-park.us).

**Weather response** –Streets Division crews were on Village streets periodically from Fri., Dec. 28 through Wed., Jan. 2, in response to light snow and freezing rain that created the potential for travel issues. The half an inch of snow that fell on Saturday evening (Dec. 29) was the biggest challenge, requiring eight drivers to provide a proper response. Crews re-salted overpasses on Monday (Dec. 31) and main streets on Wednesday (Jan. 2).

**Miscellaneous project updates** – Streetscape work has continued to progress along South Boulevard between Harlem Avenue and Marion Street. The decorative crosswalk near the CTA entrance was installed this week, and installation of the bluestone sidewalk pavers along the [Eleven33 development](#) frontage is set to follow. All bluestone sidewalk pavers are expected to be installed by the end of the month. The new brick section of South Boulevard will re-open to traffic as soon as required traffic safety markings are applied, a final step that has been delayed by weather conditions. As for other winter projects, annual cleaning and inspections of sewer mains will begin soon at various locations throughout the Village. Streets should remain open during the inspection process, which typically takes about a month to complete.

**Public Works Activities** – Water & Sewer Division crews repaired a water main break at 1125 Linden Ave. and a water service line leak at 1108 Chicago Ave. Crews also replaced broken basins at Garfield Street and Kenilworth Avenue and at 923 Garfield St., power cleaned sewers at various locations, repaired a water shutoff valve at 531 N. Humphrey Ave and inspected fire hydrants to identify needed repairs. Streets

Division crews adjusted traffic calming bump-outs at Cuyler Avenue and Fillmore Street to allow easier navigation by school buses, restored parkways following utility repairs, picked up litter in the business districts and filled more than 100 potholes in various locations south of I-290. Street Lighting Division crews cleared a decorative five-cluster light fixture pole knocked down at 100 S. Marion St. by a large truck attempting to turn south onto Marion from South Boulevard. Crews also began the bi-annual safety check on the hardware for the 43 signalized intersections under Village jurisdiction.

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