



**Village Manager's Report  
Week ending Feb 12, 2021**

**Meetings scheduled for next week:**

- Monday, Feb. 15:
  - President's Day – Village Hall closed
- Tuesday, Feb. 16:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 5:30 p.m., via GoToMeeting
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 6 p.m., via GoToMeeting
- Wednesday, Feb. 17:
  - Historic Preservation Commission Architectural Review Committee, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Thursday, Feb. 18:
  - Plan Commission, 7 p.m., via Zoom
- Friday, Feb. 19:
  - No meetings scheduled

**Hollywood returns** – Lionsgate Films will be at Cheney Mansion Feb. 17 and 18 filming scenes for its new crime drama *Power Book V: Force*. The show is a spin-off continuation of the popular hit series *Power*, which ran for six seasons. Filming is anticipated to run from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day. A multi-departmental staff team that includes Community Relations and Parking Services has been assembled to help ensure minimal impact on a block or neighborhood where film crews work. The series premiere is slated for early summer on the STARZ network.

**Oak Park Avenue improvements** – The new website [www.OPAveAnew.com](http://www.OPAveAnew.com) launched this week in preparation for the Oak Park Avenue improvement project planned for this construction season. The website will feature construction details and schedules, and offer an option to sign up for email updates. The Village received \$2.56 million in federal funds to resurface this vital north/south roadway from North Avenue to Roosevelt Road, which was last done in 2004/2005. No work is scheduled between Pleasant and Ontario streets this year, which will give businesses in the Hemingway District a break following the major disruption caused by last year's Lake Street project. The project also includes replacing and rehabilitating underground water and sewer mains, some of which are more than 100 years old. The water and sewer infrastructure work is expected to begin in March, with street resurfacing scheduled to start in June. All work is scheduled to be completed by November.

**Snow response** – Continued intervals of snow throughout the week have kept Public Works Department crews busy plowing and salting streets. While much of the

precipitation this week has been less-dense lake effect snow, it still can pack down on streets and create slippery driving conditions. Once abundant salt supplies have begun to dwindle across the region and we are facing stiff competition for additional deliveries. If supplies get too low, the snow response strategy will be to conserve supplies to make sure main roadways are sufficiently treated before moving deeper into the residential neighborhoods and alleys. According to meteorologists, February 2021 is among the coldest ever and the snowfall is more than twice the typical February level. Meanwhile, the Fire Department has reported an increase in calls for injuries caused by falls on slippery surfaces. Residents are urged to take care since direct sunlight can cause the snow to melt, run onto hard surfaces and then refreeze at night.

**Miscellaneous construction updates** – Nicor is preparing to resume routine infrastructure inspections between Harrison Street and Jackson Boulevard, and between Gunderson Avenue and Austin Boulevard. Meanwhile, AT&T and ComEd crews are still relocating infrastructure near the intersection of Madison Street and Euclid Avenue to allow a new senior living facility to be built there. Demolition also is continuing at the site to make way for the new construction.

**Employee news** – The Public Works Department has welcomed a new Water & Sewer Superintendent. Mike Bills comes to the Village after more than a decade of experience in Roselle. He is no stranger to Oak Park, however. Prior to holding a range of increasingly responsible positions in Roselle, he had worked in the Building Maintenance Division of our Public Works between 2005 and 2008.

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