



Village Manager's Report
Week ending November 15, 2013

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- November 18:
 - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
 - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
 - HPC/Architectural Committee, 7:30 pm., room 215

- November 19:
 - Board of Health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Citizens Police Oversight Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- November 20:
 - Community Relations Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Oak Park Area Arts Council, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Housing Programs Advisory Committee, 7 p.m., room 215
 - Tri-Board Meeting, Intergovernmental Agreement Annual Meeting regarding Early Childhood Collaboration, 7 p.m., D200 Offices, 201 N. Scoville

- November 21:
 - Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5:30 p.m., room 215

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

- December 2: Employee Recognition Event 6:30 p.m., room 201 followed by Village Board Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. room 201
- December 9: Tentative: Village Board Special Meeting 7:00 p.m. room 201
- December 10: Village Board Reinventing Government, 7 p.m., room 130

Property stewardship awards ceremony – The Historic Preservation, Environment & Energy and Community Design commissions will present their 2013 awards at a combined ceremony set for 7 p.m., Thurs., Nov. 21, at the Nineteenth Century Club. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. The ceremony will include presentations of the historic preservation awards, green awards and Cavalcade of Pride awards, honors that recognize extraordinary commitment to protecting the community's heritage.

Construction update – Water and sewer main improvements on Taylor Avenue from Erie Street to Ontario Street is complete. Sewer mains have been lined on Scoville Avenue from Roosevelt Avenue to Fillmore Street and Grove Avenue from Harvard Street to Garfield Street. Lining of the water main on Lombard Avenue under I-290 is

scheduled to start November 19. Work on the lighting and decorative metal is substantially complete on the Marion Street viaduct, with work scheduled to move to the Ridgeland Avenue viaduct next week. New bicycle shelters are complete on Ridgeland Avenue, with bike racks now being installed. Concrete work related to paving on Harvard Street, Belleforte Avenue and Cuyler Avenue is complete, and asphalt work is scheduled to start next week. Curb patching is underway on Taylor Avenue from Chicago Avenue to Iowa Street and on Greenfield Street from Oak Park Avenue to Linden Avenue, with asphalt work scheduled to begin next week.

Public Works activities – The Streets Division treated streets and overpasses during Monday’s first snowfall of the season. Less than an inch of snow accumulated, but conditions were slippery. The Forestry Division continued parkway tree planting, with 80 trees scheduled to go in this fall. The private contractor continued removing trees infected with emerald ash borer and grinding out stumps. The survey of infected ash trees for 2014 removals is nearing completion. The annual fall leaf collection program continues, but weather and an unusually large amount of leaves had Waste Management crews behind schedule and working overtime to keep up. However, they expect to be back on schedule next week.

Volunteers sought to help seniors – Oak Park Township Senior Services is seeking volunteers to assist individuals in the community who have difficulty managing their financial affairs. Candidates should be able to devote between five to seven hours of their time monthly and provide their own transportation. Math aptitude, access to a computer, and the ability to balance a checkbook are also required. If you know of anyone who might be interested in helping out, please have them call Steven Smith at 708.383.8060.

Crime data update – The Police Department is reporting a 7 percent decrease in crime from January through October of this year as compared to the same period last year. There were 1,546 crimes reported from January through October 2013 as compared to 1,671 for the same period in 2012. Thefts were down, with 1,011 in 2013 compared to 1,146 in 2012. However, burglaries were up, with 371 reported from January through October, compared to 364 last year. Burglaries increased significantly in October of this year, with 70 reports as compared to 29 last year. A residential burglary crime pattern that included nine apartments and 27 houses prompted the department to initiate a directed mission and use crime data analysis, regional intelligence information and multijurisdictional resources to address the issue. This burglary initiative resulted in the arrest of a residential burglary ring that included three adults and one juvenile, all Chicago residents. In addition, two Chicago residents were arrested for garage burglary. While the Police Department cleared a significant portion of the October burglaries, the initiative is continuing. More than half of the burglaries reported through October 2013 were to garages, with more than half of these involving unsecured doors. Eight more motor vehicle thefts were reported from January through October of 2013 as compared to 2012. In addition, 32 aggravated assault and batteries had been reported through October 2013 as compared to 26 for the same period last year. However, arrests for aggravated assaults are up 57 percent so far this year. [Click here to review the full year-to-date report](#). In terms of calls for service, the department had fielded 28,197 through October. About 40 percent were considered medium-priority calls, such as accidents

without injuries. High priority calls represented about a third of total calls for the same period. Police were on the scene of high-priority calls in an average of three minutes and 39 seconds.

Building & Property Standards update – The volume of permit and plan review applications rose about 5 percent in October from the previous month. Construction activities remained as strong as in September. At the end of the October, 25 applications were in the plan review queue with one case, which was under historic review, overdue one day. The renovation of the 12-unit apartment building at 111 Garfield St. concluded in October, with occupancy targeted for early November. In addition, final inspections of the structural repairs for the Holley Court Garage expansion area were performed. [Click here to review the full report.](#)

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