



## Village Manager's Report Week ending July 31, 2015

### Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- Saturday, August 1:
  - Village Board Outreach – Farmer's Market, 7 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- Monday, August 3:
  - Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130
  - Village Board Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 201
- Tuesday, August 4:
  - Environmental & Energy Commission, 7 p.m., room 130
- Wednesday, August 5:
  - Citizen Involvement Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
  - Public Art Advisory Commission, 7 p.m., room 102
  - Zoning Board of Appeals, 7 p.m., room 201
- Thursday, August 6:
  - 7th Congressional District Town Hall Meeting, 7 p.m., room 201
- Friday, August 7:
  - No scheduled meetings

### Upcoming Meetings:

- Monday, August 10, Finance Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, August 13, Reinventing Government Meeting, 7 p.m., room 130
- Monday, August 17, Finance Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., room 101
- Monday, August 24, Tentative Village Board Study Session, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, November 18 – Village Tri-Board Meeting, 7 p.m., OPRFHS

**Posters available for Farmers' Market appearance** – The table for the [Village Board](#) at Saturday's Farmers' Market will be located in the same space as last year toward the [northeast corner](#). Staff has prepared about 400 posters to be given away to patrons. The poster, which commemorates the market's 40th season, features a water color of sunflowers purchased at the market by local artist and well-known [fair housing advocate Bobbie Raymond](#). A framed version will be provided for display on the table, while the posters are rolled up with rubber bands for easy distribution.

**Youth skills workshop returns** – The Community Relations Department will kick off its annual workshop next week to help teenagers learn life skills and critical techniques

necessary to finding and getting a job. Now in its 11th year, the *Summer Youth Skills Series* will be held Aug. 3 through 7, with sessions at the main branch of the Oak Park Public Library and at Village Hall. Among the topics to be addressed will be job search techniques, resume writing, completing employment applications and interviewing techniques. Participants will be actively engaged in exercises that challenge their minds as well as help them develop the ability to sell themselves by highlighting experiences and qualifications. The series will close with a teen diversity [dinner and dialogue](#) session that will give participants an opportunity to discuss race and diversity issues high school students face. Representatives from the School District 97 Multicultural Education Center and Austin community based youth programs will be on hand to participate in the dinner discussion.

**Online vehicle sticker sales increase** – By the time this year’s vehicles sticker sales deadline arrived, 22,341 stickers had been sold, up about 118 from last year. Online sales increased a respectable 5.4 percent in 2015 as compared to 2014. Nearly 1,000 fewer stickers were sold at Village Hall this year compared to last, with 82 fewer mail-in purchases and 105 fewer stickers sold through the kiosks at Village Hall, as more people chose the online option. Online sticker sales represented 66.4 percent of all sales, followed by in-person (26 percent), mail (5.3 percent) and kiosk (2.3) percent).

**Electronic recycling remains active** – The seasonal monthly electronics recycling event at the Public Works Center this past weekend collected items from 330 households. The event continues to prove popular among residents as a convenient way to safely dispose of unwanted electronic items that are no longer allowed in landfills. The collection events are held the last Saturday of each month from May through October. The next event will be Aug. 29.

**Congressman to host meeting** – [U.S. Rep. Danny K. Davis \(D-7th District\)](#) will discuss a variety of topics with the public at a town hall meeting scheduled for 7 p.m., Thurs., Aug. 6 at Village Hall. According to the Congressman’s staff, the agenda will include the Affordable Care Act, jobs and the economy, education, immigration, international affairs and any other issues residents might wish to discuss.

**Reservoir project nears completion** – The contractor repairing the Central Water Reservoir under Stevenson Park estimates it will take another two to three weeks to finish placing the soil back on the outside reservoir roof. Restoration work will begin once soil operations are completed.

**Ridgeland Avenue sewer project on track** – Work on the main sewer line on Ridgeland Avenue continues north of Thomas Street. Restoration of the concrete base in the street is underway between Chicago Avenue and Thomas in preparation for resurfacing by the Illinois Department of Transportation that will begin once the sewer project is completed. Sewer work is tentatively scheduled to be completed the second week of August.

**Capital improvement projects status** – The season’s first water and sewer project on Harvey Avenue between Augusta and Thomas streets continues. The water main has been installed, with pavement restoration expected to follow in the next several weeks. Sewer work began last week on Kenilworth Avenue adjacent to Holmes Elementary School. Work began at Chicago Avenue and is proceeding north to

Augusta Street, with activities adjacent to the school scheduled to be completed prior to classes beginning. Crack filling began this week on numerous streets throughout the Village, with the focus so far on Harrison and Division streets.

**Street resurfacing underway** – The season’s first local street resurfacing projects are underway on seven roads. Old pavement has been removed from five of the streets, and concrete work is underway on the remaining two streets. A preconstruction meeting was held this week with the contractor handling the second round of street resurfacing projects.

**Alley improvements continue** – Two alleys of the season’s second round of projects have been reopened to traffic and a third was expected to open by the end of this week. Surface removal continues in the remaining four alleys scheduled to be improved this year.

**Public Works activities** – A water main break at 722 N. Harvey Ave., a sinkhole at 515 S. Scoville and a catch basin frame at 477 N. Harlem Ave. were repaired. Crews also installed a one-inch water service upgrade at 47 Garfield St. as part of the lead abatement program. Repairs to pavement where water issues required excavation continued at various locations in the Village. Crews also focused on litter cleanup in the business districts, power washing sidewalks, weeding viaduct areas and repairing bluestone and sidewalk bricks on Marion Street and in other areas downtown. Forestry staff continued cleaning up issues remaining from last week’s storm including pulling down broken, hanging limbs, pruning and picking up brush. Stump removal and landscape improvements have begun across the Village, as crews take advantage of the improved weather. Staff has also made the first visit to the nursery to tag trees for the upcoming fall planting season.

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