

Village Manager's Report Week ending Aug. 9, 2019

Meetings scheduled for next week:

- Monday, Aug. 12:
 - o No meetings scheduled
- Tuesday, Aug. 13:
 - o Aging in Place Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Wednesday, Aug. 14:
 - o Farmers' Market Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
- Thursday, Aug. 15:
 - o Building Codes Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., room 215
- Friday, Aug. 16:
 - No meetings scheduled

Farmers' Market corn roast is Saturday – The Farmers' Market corn roast is Saturday (Aug. 10). The annual corn roast also is part of the celebration of National Farmers' Market Week, Aug. 4 – 10. Fresh-picked corn from Market growers will be sold by the ear hot off the roaster from about 8:30 a.m. to noon. More details are posted on the Village website.

Parking lot nears completion – This was a big week for the Village Hall parking lot, as the project quickly moved toward what should be a complete reopening next week. The remainder of the lot was paved and striped this week, and the pavers were installed on the plaza. Some landscaping tasks remain, including the plantings in the large brick circular planter that will be the visual centerpiece of the project, but visitors and employees can now see that the project is nearly complete.

One-on-one customer service – In an effort to further expand the use of the online property services portal <u>VillageView</u>, counter staff are offering walk-up customers one-on-one, hands-on training on the system. Permit Technicians Tineshia Patterson-Moss and Danielle Robinson are using the computer terminal at the main permit processing desk to teach individual customers how to register on-line for current and future permit needs. They also are answering questions and explaining each step of the process with the goal of demonstrating how transactions can be done anywhere at any time on a computer, smart phone or pad without a trip to Village Hall during business hours. The trend toward using the online system is clear, as nearly half of all building permit applications filed last year were online. So far this year, staff report that use of the online system is up about 8 percent.

Downtown construction update – Infrastructure and utility work around the Lake Street and Forest Avenue is wrapping up soon. AT&T has relied upon traffic flaggers to maintain two-way traffic flow during their utility work and pavement restoration. The sidewalk adjacent to the Albion redevelopment project at Lake Street and Forest Avenue has reopened to pedestrians, and work on the sidewalk and planters is finished. This is similar to the walkway between Lake Street and the alley by Austin Gardens, which has also been opened to the public, although finishing work continues. The alley adjacent to the Forsyth Building at 1001 Lake Street just west of Forest Avenue is scheduled to be restored as well.

Madison Street work update – The dilapidated brick parkway areas on Madison Street just west of Austin Boulevard were being removed and replaced with new concrete sidewalk this week. Concrete work on the south side of Madison Street between Oak Park and Harlem avenues is expected to be completed by the end of next week. Milling of the current roadway and other paving activities are scheduled to start on Aug. 19 at Austin Boulevard and move west. The first layer of pavement should be placed by the end of the month, with installation of the final layer beginning by mid-September. Construction updates are distributed weekly via email to subscribers and posted on the dedicated project website www.madisonstreetconstruction.com.

Water and sewer improvements – Clarence Avenue remains closed between Roosevelt Road and Harvard Street as chlorination and testing of the new water main continued. This project is expected to be completed by Sept. 20. All residents affected by the water main work will be contacted by letter and invited to participate in the pilot water pitcher and filter program once the ordered items are on hand at the Public Works Center. Work on the sewer on Berkshire Street between Columbian and Grove avenues is expected to be completed next week, with street and parkway restoration completed in early September.

Street resurfacing projects – Crews will be removing existing curb and roadway surface into next week for the reconstruction of Wisconsin Avenue between Harrison and Adams streets. Pavement was milled on Clarence Avenue, Randolph Street and Iowa Street in preparation for paving. The reconstruction of Marion Street between Ontario Street and Chicago Avenue will follow in the coming weeks. Replacement work continues on various sidewalk, garage aprons and crossing ramps on Randolph, Marion and Iowa streets. The final phase of paving will be completed in September.

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