



Village Manager's Report
Week ending Feb. 21, 2014

Meetings scheduled for the next week:

- February 24:
 - **Village Board Executive Session, 6:30 p.m., room 130**
 - Village Board Special Meeting, 7:30 p.m., room 101
 - Transportation Commission, 7 p.m., room 201
 - HPC Education Committee, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- February 25:
 - First Time Homebuyer Seminar, 7 p.m., room 101
 - Board of health, 7 p.m., room 102
 - Liquor Control Review Board, 7:30 p.m., room 215

- February 26:
 - Disability Access Commission, 7 p.m., 834 Lake St.
 - Community Design Commission, 7 p.m., room 101
 - HPC Architectural Review Committee, 7 p.m., room 215

- February 27:
 - No Scheduled Meetings

Crime-free housing program status – Staff from the Police, Community Relations, Communications and Development Customer Services departments are working together to launch the Village's new Crime-Free Housing Program. Content is being developed and dates set for the training session. Representatives of all rental property owners and managers will be required to attend. Multiple sessions will be offered, since as many as 1,500 attendees are possible. Communications staff is working to set up an online registration form that will allow individuals to choose a session that best meets their time schedules. A webpage also will be created to provide program details to property owners, managers and potential renters. To take advantage of having a key target audience gathered together in a single place, staff also intends to make information on the Village's Fair Housing Ordinance a key component of the training sessions. More information will be provided on this effort as it nears implementation.

Comprehensive Plan update – The Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee will begin reviewing each chapter of the document draft when it meets at 8 a.m., Thursday (Feb. 27) in Room 101 at Village Hall. The goal is to work through five of the 11 chapters at this meeting. A special meeting likely will be called in mid-March to continue reviews. Draft chapters have been provided to staff for review and revision, with the revised documents to go to CPAC members today (Friday) via delivery.

Packets also were made available at Village Hall for those committee members who preferred to pick them up rather than have them delivered to their homes.

Marion Street set to reopen – Lou Malnati’s restaurant and Chase bank expect to remove the barricades and open Marion Street by early Monday morning. Both businesses were doing work in the northbound lane of Marion just north of Lake Street, hampering traffic flow through the busy downtown intersection for several weeks. The work entailed installing water and sewer service lines for the popular new restaurant, as well as new electrical service for Chase that included weaving conduit through a very complex set of utility services in the street. The two projects were separate, but Engineering staff worked to bring the two parties together so that only one street disruption was necessary for both projects. The season’s extreme weather hampered work and negatively affected the project timeline. However, crews were pouring concrete for the last section of sidewalk today (Friday) and expect to remove the barricades and open the street by early Monday morning. Final street pavement restoration will be scheduled for the spring.

Snow plowing activities – Public Works crews faced snow events on Saturday and Monday that added another eight inches to our total for the season that, so far, has reached about 70 inches. Crews also continued general cleanup throughout the Village, including the Home Avenue pedestrian bridge, bicycle crossings and parking spaces at the high school and throughout the Village, paying special attention to spaces designated for drivers with disabilities. In addition to the public ways, staff also cleared numerous icy spots around Village Hall caused by the rapid thaw and refreezing Wednesday. We still have about 800 tons of salt on hand and can have additional salt delivered under the current contract if needed.

Water-related issues addressed – The Water & Sewer Division repaired a four-inch valve on the 400 block of Wesley Avenue that was first thought to be a water main break. The division repaired water main breaks at 901 Division St., 520 Washington Blvd. and on the 800 block of Lombard this week as well. Frozen water services were repaired at 1168 Wenonah Ave. and 1219 N. Elmwood Ave., and a frozen water service line was replaced at 307 Division St. Crews also continued thawing frozen hydrants from Lake Street to Roosevelt Road and Harlem Avenue to Austin Boulevard. Thursdays thaw had crews focusing on clearing sewer inlets on streets throughout town to reduce the chances of localized flooding and standing water.

Tree trimming continues – The Forestry Division continued the winter trimming cycle, pruning parkway trees on the 600 and 700 blocks of North Oak Park Avenue and 500 through 700 blocks of North Kenilworth Avenue. The Village’s contractor trimmed trees larger than 12 inches in diameter on the 500 block of North Marion Street and 500 through 1200 blocks of Woodbine Avenue.

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