



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

6:30 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Vicki Scaman called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Junior Deputy Clerk Eva Marie Waters called the roll. Village Clerk Christina Waters introduced her niece and President Scaman presented her with a certificate for her civic engagement.

Trustee Buchanan joined the meeting at 7:26 P.M. via remote participation per Village policy.

Present: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 0

III. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation and Collective Bargaining

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Parakkat, to adjourn into Executive Session. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 6 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Buchanan

V. Reconvene to Regular Meeting in Council Chambers and Call to Order

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 7:26 P.M.

VI. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 0

VII. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Trustee Straw, seconded by Trustee Wesley, to approve the Agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

VIII. Minutes

A. [MOT 24-183](#) A Motion to Approve Minutes from the May 28, 2024 Special Meeting and June 4, 2024 Regular Meeting of the Village Board

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Straw, to approve the Minutes. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

IX. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Robert Parks: Presented a petition signed by 1,875 residents asking the Board to amend its leaf disposal vote by delaying implementation until 2025, publishing costs and environmental data, and empowering residents to make the decision via referendum.

Don DeBruin: Resident of 50+ years. Most residents are unaware of the leaf bagging issue. There needs to be a significant communication effort to proceed and a strong rationale, which we do not yet have.

President Scaman noted there is more information and a FAQ about the leaf bagging program on the Village website. Village Manager Kevin Jackson said staff will provide an update on the communications planning around the leaf collection issue.

X. Proclamation

B. [MOT 24-182](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation Recognizing Juneteenth Annually on the 19th of June.

Trustees Wesley and Enyia read the Proclamation into the Record.

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Enyia, that this Motion be approved. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

XI. Village Manager Reports

Chief DEI Officer Dr. Danielle Walker thanked the Juneteenth planning committee and shared the planned festivities hosted by the Village.

Manager Jackson introduced Neighborhood Services Director/Assistant Village Manager Jonathan Burch. He acknowledged his wife Linda and oldest daughter Caitlin in the audience.

XII. Village Board Committees

Trustee Straw reported the Transportation Commission met to discuss

draft neighborhood greenways plans and he looks forward to their recommendations coming to the Village Board in the near future.

XIII. Citizen Commission Vacancies

C. [ID 24-327](#) Board & Commission Vacancy Report for June 11, 2024

There were no comments.

XV. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Straw, to approve the items under the Consent Agenda. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

D. [RES 24-218](#) A Resolution Approving Amendments to Appendix I ("Job Class and FLSA Status") and Appendix VII ("Appointee Pay Plan Schedule") of the Village of Oak Park Personnel Manual

This Resolution was approved.

E. [RES 24-228](#) A Resolution Authorizing a Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation Loan and a Lead Hazard Reduction Grant (SFR-102)

This Resolution was adopted.

F. [RES 24-229](#) A Resolution Awarding a Small Rental Property Rehabilitation Loan and Authorizing the Execution of a Loan Commitment and Agreement for the Property Located at 114 Madison Street (SRP-048)

This Resolution was adopted.

G. [ORD 24-132](#) An Ordinance Waiving and Suspending the Right of Way Obstruction Permit Fee and Parking Obstruction Fee for the Planned Development Located at 201 North Scoville Avenue Through February 28, 2026

This Ordinance was adopted.

H. [ID 24-304](#) A Motion to Approve the Bills in the Amount of \$9,108,434.24 from May 1, 2024, through June 1, 2024

This Report was received and filed.

XVI. Regular Agenda

I. MOT 24-180 **A Motion to Concur with the Recommendation of the Oak Park Area Arts Council to Enter an Independent Contractor Agreement with Ray King Studio, Ltd. for a Flame Beacon Art Installation at the Southeast Corner of South Boulevard and Oak Park Avenue and Direct Staff to Prepare the Necessary Agreement**

Village Engineer Bill McKenna presented the Item. Oak Park Arts Council Executive Director Camille Wilson-White provided additional information.

Trustee Parakkat inquired about the maintenance of the artwork. Engineer McKenna said it should be relatively easy to maintain.

Trustee Straw asked if the art installation will be built into the streetscape, which Engineer McKenna confirmed. Trustee Straw inquired about the interplay between the two pieces. Engineer McKenna said the artists will have the opportunity to interact with each other.

Trustee Robinson inquired about the artists' experience doing outdoor work in our climate. Engineer McKenna said the materials are what we want to see for an outdoor piece. She asked if the Village would be installing electrical work. Engineer McKenna said the Village would run underground conduit and wiring in that area anyway for the traffic signals and street lighting so the artist would install over that infrastructure. She noted this would be an appropriate use for ARPA funds.

Trustee Wesley said he prefers every other piece by this artist to these, which feel more in line with the district to him.

Trustee Parakkat asked if any interactive art options were considered. Engineer McKenna said they did not receive many proposals that were interactive or would fit into the small site that requires a more narrow and vertical footprint.

President Scaman recommended visiting the Ray King website. She said each piece is meant to stand on its own merits. She wondered if the end product will look exactly as presented today. Engineer McKenna shared an example in Virginia of what the finished product might look like.

It was moved by Trustee Enyia, seconded by Trustee Wesley, that this Motion be approved. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

J. **MOT 24-181** **A Motion to Concur with the Recommendation of the Oak Park Area Arts Council to Enter an Independent Contractor Agreement with Graham Carraway for a Viaduct Art Installation Under the Viaduct Between North Boulevard and South Boulevard and Direct Staff to Prepare the Necessary Agreement**

Engineer McKenna presented the item. Director Wilson-White provided additional information.

President Scaman noted the CTA station will be redone to add ADA accessibility. Engineer McKenna confirmed the Village has met with CTA about their planned renovation to ensure its design will fit with the streetscape. The art will most likely be applied to the concrete wall. She asked if the Oak Park lettering is part of the design, which Engineer McKenna confirmed new lettering will be done that is less prone to damage.

Trustee Robinson requested clarification about the wraparound pieces. Engineer McKenna said it is to be determined. The Village is working with Union Pacific to suggest removing the old staircase on the north side of the viaduct which would allow for a wraparound mural. It will be a red brick roadway and the Village Board approved a bluestone paver sidewalk which would continue under the viaduct.

Trustee Straw said he is very excited about this and the lighting under the viaduct will make it much more pleasant. Engineer McKenna said the artist is exploring options for lighting the archways.

Trustee Parakkat inquired about the maintenance. Engineer McKenna said they will be easy to maintain. Trustee Parakkat noted the round numbers in the estimate. Engineer McKenna said those numbers were provided in the RFP. He said he is in favor and would support using ARPA funds.

President Scaman said he would want to know other options for using the ARPA funds. Manager Jackson said there will be an opportunity to have a conversation about ARPA in the Finance Committee meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Enyia, seconded by Trustee Wesley, that this Motion be approved. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

K. MOT 24-185 A Motion to Adopt Phase 1 of an Alternative Response to Calls for Service Pilot Program

Assistant Village Manager/HR Director Kira Tchang presented the item.

Trustee Parakkat inquired about the training aspect. Director Tchang said a benefit of in-house staff with mental health expertise is to be a resource for the Village organization to provide the best service to the community. Phase 1 would hire a program manager and two mental health clinicians working for the Village.

Trustee Robinson inquired about the phrase "warm hand-off." Director Tchang said it is about direct connectivity and making a call together instead of just providing a phone number. The Village is presenting Phase 1 now. Phase 2 will take more time and get at the dispatch of clinicians through the 911 system to respond to certain types of behavioral and mental health calls.

Trustee Robinson asked if these positions would also take on responsibilities in Phase 2. Director Tchang said it will depend on the recommendation. Trustee Robinson asked if there is enough volume to keep the three positions sufficiently busy, which Director Tchang confirmed. Trustee Robinson inquired about the reporting structure for these positions. Director Tchang said the two mental health clinicians would report to the program manager who has mental health experience. These positions would be in the Village's Neighborhood Services department reporting to the grants manager who has her MSW as well. Trustee Robinson said she is supportive of this Phase 1 outline.

Trustee Straw asked if the positions have input into the design of Phase 2. Director Tchang said that would be ideal though it will also depend on timing. He said he is fully in support of the proposal as Phase 1.

Trustee Wesley said he is wholly in support of the service response to this. He requested clarification on how this differs from the community care navigation that was presented to the Board in April. Director Tchang said the community care navigation responsibilities are the same. The difference is that we have stripped out the direct to 911 dispatch of these individuals into the community. This plan also talks more about the youth engagement program with Oak Park Township.

Trustee Wesley asked if any services are already being provided in our village. Director Tchang said the demand outstrips the resources available at this time. We are seeing increased unhoused residents within the community. There is a lot of need and we do not believe we would be duplicative. We have a meeting with Housing Forward to discuss how the

two programs would interact.

Trustee Wesley inquired about the collaboration with other organizations. Director Tchang by creating a program like community care navigation, we will be better able to collaborate with those partners with a specific focus on this service connection. There is a lack of a general case management service for the Oak Park community. He asked about the IT support for this. Director Tchang said the Village has had that conversation with the Township and it is being contemplated through this process.

Trustee Enyia said the 2-year pilot is setting in the right direction and having increased collaboration. He asked if the community service officers (CSOs) receive the same trauma-informed training as officers. Director Tchang said we want to ensure our CSOs are well equipped to respond. Deputy Chief Dave Jacobson said they would be trained up with the same CIT training as our officers.

Trustee Buchanan said she is excited this is going forward and not working in a silo.

President Scaman said collaboration is extremely important. She clarified that we are not going to become clinical care, but we will connect folks to resources that already exist from our partners, which Director Tchang confirmed. President Scaman asked if the team's hours are the same as the original proposal. Director Tchang said staff have not made a specific recommendation around the hours. The intent is to have the follow-up care align with business hours. President Scaman said she supports bringing back an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the Township.

Trustee Wesley asked if there is a proactive component in reaching out to residents who are hard to reach. Director Tchang said the vision of community care navigation is to follow up to these calls for service. There may be opportunities to be more proactive about the programming depending on the call volume. Manager Jackson said we want to be intentional in that regard.

President Scaman noted that Living Room is a resource through NAMI West Suburban and she would support expanding that resource here.

Trustee Wesley said he would like to see some success metrics. Trustee Parakkat agreed. Manager Jackson said staff can do that. Director Tchang said staff presented a list of key data points.

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Straw, that this Motion be approved. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 7 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

XVII. Call to Board and Clerk

Clerk Waters said residents can register to vote with the Office of the Village Clerk. She will be registering voters at the Juneteenth cookout this Saturday. There will be a Black History Bike Tour by OPRF Museum starting Saturday at Village Hall at 1:30 P.M.

Trustee Enyia expressed his gratitude to Camille Wilson-White.

Trustee Straw acknowledged Oak Park Youth Baseball and Softball (OPYBS) and their playoffs.

Trustee Parakkat thanked the Juneteenth organizers and young speakers. He wished all fathers a happy father's day.

Trustee Buchanan mentioned the Climate Ready Oak Park (CROP) plan and need for the Village to dedicate budget toward it. She said she would like to hear quarterly updates and hopes to see some action over the summer on these plans.

President Scaman six delegates from Estonia will spend the day with her and Eileen Lynch from Sen. Don Harmon's office. She said she will then go to Toronto with the C4 group to study green technology.

XVIII. Adjourn

It was moved by Trustee Straw, seconded by Trustee Wesley, to Adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned 9:50 P.M., Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

**Respectfully submitted,
Deputy Clerk Hansen**