



Village of Oak Park

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

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Monday, March 20, 2023

7:00 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Vicki Scaman called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Present: 6 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

III. Agenda Approval

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

IV. Minutes

- A. [ID 23-165](#) Motion to Approve Minutes from Special Meeting of February 27, 2023, Regular Meeting of March 6, 2023 of the Village Board.

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

VI. Proclamation

- B. [MOT 23-27](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation for Proclaiming April 10-14, 2023 as CDBG National Community Development Week.

Trustee Robinson read the Proclamation aloud.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

- C. [MOT 23-28](#) A Motion to Approve a Proclamation for Proclaiming April 11, 2023 as Dr. Percy Julian Day.

President Scaman read the Proclamation aloud.

Faith Julian, daughter of Percy Julian, joined the meeting by phone to give her remarks and gratitude for reinstating Percy Julian Day. She said she looks forward to meeting the Trustees, Village Manager, and Village Clerk.

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

AYES: 6 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enya, Village Trustee Parakkat, Village Trustee Robinson, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

V. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Nancy Schroeder: Resident of 1100 block of South Euclid. Initiated a petition in 2019 for traffic calming measures at Euclid and Fillmore and Wesley and Fillmore. Had a hearing with the Transportation Commission resulting in recommendations. Urged the Village Board to do its due diligence and read the public comments from the Commission agenda and watch the live hearing with public comments; include the Commission's recommendation on the Village Board agenda ASAP; and vote in favor of these recommendations.

Emily Masalski: Resident of 1100 block of South Euclid. Passionate about getting the Transportation Commission's recommendations before the appropriate person(s) so they can be enacted expeditiously. The Hopes the Village Board can take action on two of the Commission's six recommendations immediately: implement a reduced speed of 20 mph as provided under the Safe Park Zone Act for the intersections of Euclid and Fillmore and Wesley and Fillmore; and take action to install four-way stop signs at both intersections.

Village Clerk Christina Waters read the following public comment into the record:

Caitlin Wilkes: I'm writing to express my concern about the lack of access to COVID-19 boosters for children under 5 in Oak Park. I've had difficulty locating a nearby facility. I would need to take my four-year old to a non-Oak Park pediatrician for an unneeded office visit and it does not seem fair that I would need to drive to a different city to access this simple health care measure. If we hope to keep Oak Parkers safe and healthy and encourage regular vaccinations, local booster clinics are much needed.

VII. Village Manager Reports

D. [ID 23-168](#) **Official Oath of Village Officer: Environmental Services Manager - Erica Helms**

Village Manager Kevin Jackson introduced Environmental Services Manager Erica Helms. He noted that oaths have previously been done internally and will now be done publicly at Village Board meetings.

Clerk Waters performed the swearing in.

Manager Jackson introduced Village Engineer Bill McKenna who provided a status update on the traffic safety petition and the recommendation of the Transportation Commission, followed by Board discussion.

Engineer McKenna estimated the bump-outs to be \$75K. The FY23 budget includes \$55K so the Village will seek approval from the Board for the increase. The Dunkin Donuts project is under budget and included in the FY22 resurfacing project. Historical spending for traffic calming improvements was \$25K-\$30K annually. The cost of proposed improvements varies widely so it would be difficult to predict an overall amount and it depends on how many individual items can be worked through with the Commission in addition to them working on the holistic Vision Zero plan.

Manager Jackson noted that a year ago, the Board directed staff to seek contracted resources to help with the backlog.

VIII. Village Board Committees & Trustee Liaison Commission Reports

There were no comments.

IX. Citizen Commission Vacancies

E. [ID 23-164](#) **Board & Commission Vacancy Report for March 20, 2023.**

There were no comments.

X. Citizen Commission Appointments, Reappointments and Chair Appointments

F. [ID 23-166](#) **Motion to Consent to the Village President's Appointment of:**
Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee - Anne France, Appoint as Member
Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee - Urmi Sengupta, Appoint as Member
Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee - Karen Schneller, Appoint as Member
Farmers' Market Commission - Macaire Ament, Appoint as Member
Historic Preservation Commission - Amy Peterson, Appoint as Member
Historic Preservation Commission - Mark Weiner, Appoint as Member

Plan Commission - Michael Sturino, Appoint as Member
Plan Commission - Miriam Tamayo, Appoint as Member
Zoning Board of Appeals - Steve Ruszczyk, Term Extension

Clerk Waters read the names into the record.

It was moved by Trustee Wesley, seconded by Trustee Buchanan that these Appointments be approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

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

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

XI. Second Reading

- G. [ORD 23-22](#) **Second Reading and Adoption of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 (“Motor Vehicles and Traffic”), Article 3 (“Parking Meters, Parking Permits, and Municipal Attendant Parking Lots”), Section 15-3-18 (“Parking Rates; Parking Meters, Pay By Space Machines, Village Operated Parking Structures, Permit, Extended Pass, Valet and Daytime On Street Permit Parking”) of the Oak Park Village Code to Establish a Reduced Parking Permit Fee Program**

Manager Jackson introduced the Item for discounted parking permits for housing choice voucher holders.

Parking Services & Mobility Manager Sean Keane said there have been no changes since the first reading on March 6. Staff had pitched this idea at the February 14, 2022 Board meeting in alignment with the Village Board's goal of affordability. It will be effective April 1 with any quarterly parking permit. The goal is to get the program integrated with the Village's online software. For now, applicants would have to come into the Village to apply with a document provided by the Housing Authority. The Village will rely heavily on the Housing Authority to inform their clients about this program and may look into further marketing in the future.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

XII. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

- H.** [ORD 23-12](#) **An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Budget**
This Ordinance was adopted.
- I.** [ORD 23-21](#) **An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Vehicles and Equipment Owned by the Village of Oak Park**
This Ordinance was adopted.
- K.** [MOT 23-12](#) **A Motion to Approve the Unaudited Year-to-Date Quarterly Financial Report as of December 31, 2022**
This Motion was approved.
- L.** [MOT 23-13](#) **A Motion to Approve the Bills in the Amount of \$7,107,628.24 from January 13, 2023 through February 17, 2023.**
This Motion was approved.
- M.** [MOT 23-14](#) **A Motion to Approve the February 2023 Monthly Treasurer’s Report for All Funds**
This Motion was approved.
- N.** [RES 23-52](#) **A Resolution Approving a Three-Year Lease and Maintenance Agreement with Canon Solutions America for Copier Equipment at a Cumulative Three-Year Not to Exceed Cost of \$102,000 and Authorizing Execution of the Agreement**
This Resolution was adopted.
- O.** [RES 23-106](#) **A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Program Year (PY) 2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds Action Plan**
This Resolution was adopted.
- P.** [RES 23-109](#) **A Resolution Approving the Renewal of the Annual Software License and Support and Maintenance Agreement dated December 15, 2014, with CityView, a Division of N.Harris Computer Corporation, for the Village’s Permitting, Licensing, and Inspection Services in an Amount Not to Exceed**

\$196,509.44 and Authorizing its Execution

This Resolution was adopted.

- Q.** [RES 23-111](#) A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Program Year (PY) 2020 Annual Plan for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) By Adding Returned Funds to the Public Works Department Capital Budget
- This Resolution was adopted.
- R.** [RES 23-112](#) A Resolution Approving a Task Order for Professional Architectural and Engineering Services with Studio GC, Inc. for the Main Fire Station Bunk Room Renovations and AC Unit Replacement Project and the North Fire Station Emergency Egress Project in an Amount Not To Exceed \$36,225.00 and Authorizing its Execution
- This Resolution was adopted.
- S.** [RES 23-113](#) Resolutions Approving Temporary License Agreements with Five (5) Oak Park Businesses to Allow the Use of On-Street Parking Spaces for Outdoor Dining for the 2023 Season Through October 31, 2023, and Authorizing their Execution
- This Resolution was adopted.
- T.** [RES 23-114](#) Resolutions Awarding Funding Grant Agreements for Affordable Housing Projects Totaling \$1,484,000 from the Housing Trust Fund and Authorizing Execution of the Agreements
1. Housing Forward - \$658,082
 2. Housing Forward - \$251,341
 3. Oak Park Residence Corporation - \$450,000
 4. West Cook YMCA - \$125,000
- This Resolution was adopted.
- U.** [RES 23-115](#) A Resolution Approving the Purchase of Five 2023 Ford Utility Hybrid Police Interceptor Vehicles with Police Package from Currie Motors of Frankfort, Illinois in an Amount Not to Exceed \$229,460.00 Waiving the Village's Bid Process for the Purchase
- This Resolution was adopted.
- V.** [RES 23-116](#) A Resolution Approving a Professional Services Agreement with Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for Permit Plan Review and Inspection Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$165,000 and Authorizing its Execution
- This Resolution was adopted.
- W.** [RES 23-117](#) A Resolution Approving a Contract with Triggs Construction, Inc. for Project

23-4, Alley Improvements, in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,336,309 and Authorizing its Execution

This Resolution was adopted.

- X. [RES 23-118](#) A Resolution Approving a Task Order for Professional Engineering Services with Edwin Hancock Engineering Co. for Design and Construction of Alley Improvements in 2023 in an Amount Not to Exceed \$281,312 and Authorizing its Execution

This Resolution was adopted.

- Y. [RES 23-121](#) A Resolution Approving an Intergovernmental Maintenance and Easement Agreement by and between the Village of Oak Park and the Park District of Oak Park for the Park District's Community Recreation Center at 229 Madison Street and Authorizing its Execution

This Resolution was adopted.

- Z. [RES 23-126](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of One 2023 John Deere 444 P 4WD Loader from West Side Tractor Sales Co. of Lisle, Illinois through the Sourcewell Joint Purchasing Program in an Amount Not to Exceed \$172,904.24 and Waiving the Village's Bid Process for the Purchase

This Resolution was adopted.

- AA. [RES 23-128](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Submission of a Cook County Electric Vehicle Charging Station Grant Program Application

This Resolution was adopted.

- AB. [RES 23-129](#) A Resolution Authorizing the Release of Certain Executive Session Minutes

This Resolution was adopted.

- AC. [RES 23-130](#) A Resolution authorizing the submission of a Public Health COVID-19 Vaccination Grant Application with the Illinois Department of Public Health With an Anticipated Funding Amount of \$160,892 from October 1, 2022 through December 30, 2023 and Approval of a Subsequent Agreement for the Grant and Authorizing its Execution

Clerk Waters read the following public comment into the record from:

Christina Welter, Board of Health Commissioner

Lisa Mitchell

Rebecca Ward

Richa Singhal

Asked the Village Board to support the Oak Park Health Department's application for the COVID-19 Vaccination Grant. This grant will provide

funding so that all community members have equitable access to life-saving resources and supports a gap in preventative health services in our community for prevention of communicable disease threats. This grant can support delivering services early before there is an outbreak and provide vaccinations to those that cannot access them.

This Resolution was adopted.

XIII. Regular Agenda

- J. [ORD 23-23](#) An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 (“Motor Vehicles and Traffic”), Article 1 (“In General”), Section 15-1-27 (“Parking Pilot Program”) and Article 4 (“Vehicle Licenses”) of the Oak Park Village Code to Codify the Expansion of Components of the Village’s 2019 Parking Pilot Program as Directed by the Village Board on February 27, 2023**

Robert Becker: Concerned about the proposed expansion of Zone Y7 parking on the 300 block of South Harvey. The street is already parked up overnight and formalizing it will make matters worse. Concerned about how this intersects with snow and leaf removal and existing parking regulations. Taken aback with the lack of transparency. Urged the Village Board to get more information and rethink this.

Jay Rowell: Lives on the 300 block of South Harvey. The block is parked up on both sides of the street every night. With permit parking on one side, those illegally parked cars will fill the other side, leaving nowhere for residents' guests. Suggested an alternative of expanding the zone to both sides of Randolph between Lombard and Harvey. Asked Village Board to send it back to the Transportation Commission for continued discussion with residents. Shared photos of cars parked at night.

Allen Matthews: Lives on the corner of Humphrey and Iowa. Opposes the conversion of Iowa into a parking lot. He takes care of the parkway that belongs to the Village. He picks up the trash from the parked cars on his street.

Mark Bukalski: Lives on 1100 block of South Oak Park Avenue and is the only single-family home being added to Zone Y7. The intersection at Fillmore has always been dangerous and will be even more so with the addition of parked cars all the time. Has had to deal with moving vans early in the morning and people fighting late at night.

Clerk Waters read similar public comments into the record from:

Jillian Sims and Daniel Schneider

Anna Laubach

Katherine Penick

Jeff Griffin
Edward Schweitzer
Esther Warren
Carla Veneziale
Rebeca Griffin
Rosilie Hernandez and Michal Markowski
Wendy Borlabi
Lori Browder

Trustee Robinson requested to remove Item J from the Consent Agenda.

Manager Keane clarified that it is just the west side of the 300 block of South Harvey where overnight permit parking is proposed. He noted the ongoing development at 226 Washington and said staff relocated some of those permit parking holders which is why there has been an increase in vehicles on that block. People can also park there with temporary passes since it is not currently permitted.

Regarding the proposal for Randolph between Lombard and Harvey, the Transportation Commission discussed that as a possibility but the Y7 permit holders primarily live in the Washington Boulevard corridor which is why the Commission made the recommendation for the 300 block of South Harvey.

Trustee Robinson said the Village Board received a 100-page PDF of public comment for the February 27 meeting. She asked staff to again consider reconfiguring the mapping instead of just expanding all zones.

Manager Keane noted that written notice was given at this meeting and six Transportation Commission meetings.

Trustee Parakkat inquired about parking enforcement. Manager Jackson noted that enforcement is affected by the staffing challenges within the police department. The parking analysis also recommended addressing the issue of access. Chief Johnson said OPPD has one parking officer on midnights who is responding to complaints. OPPD is looking to add two more parking enforcement officers within the next month.

Trustee Parakkat said his preference is to wait until enforcement is being done before implementing these recommendations. Manager Jackson said the staffing challenge is a historical one and the Village is actively working to fix it structurally. A specific timeline cannot be provided this evening. Staff can follow up with communication about what can be done with existing resources, though this does not address the access issue.

President Scaman asked if expanding the zone may mitigate congestion on these blocks and allow permit holders to park closer to their homes. Manager Keane confirmed the Village is not recommending to increase the number of permits, but rather to spread out the existing permit holders. Director Grossman said the Village lot is closed due to the Washington construction project. Those permit holders are being temporarily located to the 300 block of South Harvey. Once the construction is over in May or June, those permit holders will go back to the Village lot, which is why the Village is proposing only making one side of the 300 block of South Harvey permit parking post-construction. If it does not work, the Village can come back and make changes.

Trustee Buchanan said the purpose of addressing this was to give permit holders a chance to park closer to their homes. The "illegal" parkers could be the temporary permit holders from the Village lot. She said she supports it as is.

Trustee Wesley asked if the parking staffing shortage is similar to the police officer shortage. Chief Johnson said those positions are in the budget and are a challenge to fill post-COVID.

Trustee Enyia said neighbors and residents should see some of the congestion decrease once the construction is done.

President Scaman asked Clerk Waters to ensure all public comments from this evening are shared with the Village Board.

Trustee Parakkat said he will vote no.

Trustee Robinson said she will vote no.

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

AYES: 4 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 2 - Village Trustee Parakkat, and Village Trustee Robinson

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

AD. [MOT 23-20](#) **A Motion to Concur with the Transportation Commission's Recommended Processes and Elements to be Included in a Vision Zero Plan**

Engineer McKenna presented the Item. Transportation Commissioner Brian Straw presented additional information on the Vision Zero Plan.

Trustee Wesley said he loves the Vision Zero Plan and systems-based approach and would like to see a reduction in enforcement and an increase in the use of infrastructure for traffic calming.

Trustee Robinson asked if the \$150K budget item and \$120K grant reimbursement would be in the same fiscal year. Engineer McKenna said it will likely span into 2024. The grant requires state approval. Qualifications will go out next week and it will be a two month process to interview consultants and develop a proposal. An agreement will likely be presented at the May 15 Village Board meeting.

Trustee Robinson asked how the areas of concern can be elevated, like the intersection of Chicago/Fair Oaks/Scoville. Engineer McKenna said staff will share those areas with the consultant and will do stakeholder and public engagement. The Village will collect traffic and bike and ped data to ensure it is hitting the areas it needs to. That particular intersection is included in the 2023 resurfacing projects for improvements.

Trustee Robinson said she is willing to go with staff's recommendation on the enforcement, though she shares the Transportation Commission's concern and hopes the consultant will provide non-police enforcement alternatives.

Trustee Parakkat said he believes the enforcement needs to continue until the metrics show otherwise and the system can take over.

Trustee Wesley said the Village is down 20 police officers and 2 parking officers and cautioned against creating a plan that relies on people to enforce it. He said he would like to give the consultant wide-ranging powers to come back with what they believe is the appropriate amount of enforcement. Engineer McKenna confirmed that is the recommendation staff is making.

Trustee Buchanan inquired about the difference between the two approaches. Engineer McKenna said the Village is looking at the concerns that have been brought up. There will never be zero concerns and enforcement will always be needed. Commissioner Straw said the Vision Zero Plan states that enforcement will be a key component. The Commission instead recommended asking the consultant to what extent enforcement will be used to supplement the systemic changes. Engineer McKenna said the Village will look at best practices from places that have been implementing a Vision Zero Plan.

Trustee Wesley asked if staff will make their own recommendations after the public planning process. Manager Jackson responded that this is an

opportunity for the Village to examine its enforcement procedures in relation to Vision Zero and get policy direction from the Village Board on the infrastructure and enforcement practices. Trustee Wesley said he wants to ensure the infrastructure is doing the heavy lifting. Engineer McKenna confirmed the Commission and staff are in alignment on that.

Trustee Enyia said everyone is working together to address these concerns in an equitable way. He recommended prioritizing the issues and acting sooner with funds available rather than waiting for the consultants.

Trustee Parakkat said the question is what is the right balance between infrastructure and enforcement. Enforcement will be needed until the data shows otherwise. Engineer McKenna confirmed it will be a multi-year implementation plan that is a living document with continuous evaluation.

Trustee Buchanan asked if the concern about enforcement is coming from a DEI perspective. Engineer McKenna said the DEI evaluation is consistent with all Vision Zero Plans and is a core principle of the planning process and final document. Dr. Walker said the assessment will be rooted around the intended outcome and its impact. It is important to talk about enforcement in the engagement opportunities to gain an understanding from the community about their feelings about enforcement.

President Scaman said the Transportation Commission wants to raise the bar for the infrastructure and that is what the Village will communicate to the consultant as the high priority. She said she will go with staff's recommendation.

Village Attorney Paul Stephanides suggested a friendly amendment to concur with the Transportation Commission's recommendation with the additional recommendation from Village staff regarding enforcement.

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

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

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1 - Village Trustee Taglia

XIV. Call to Board and Clerk

Clerk Waters said early voting is underway at Village Hall beginning today for suburban Cook County voters through Monday, April 3.

Trustee Parakkat urged residents to vote and congratulated Manager

Jackson on his first anniversary as Village Manager.

Trustee Buchanan acknowledged D200 for their Inclusivity Week.

Trustee Wesley said hello to his son and congratulated Manager Jackson.

President Scaman congratulated Manager Jackson. Harriette Gillem Robinet received an award from the Literary Hall of Fame at Dominican University on March 14. She thanked Faith Julian for joining the meeting this evening.

XV. Adjourn

It was moved by Trustee Buchanan, seconded by Trustee Robinson, to Adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 P.M., Monday, March 20, 2023.

**Respectfully Submitted,
Deputy Clerk Hansen**