

JANUARY 2011

VILLAGE VOICE Your Franklin Park Newsletter

Mayor's Desk

Welcome to 2011! After the rush of the holiday season, it is time to get back to work and focus on our goals and priorities for the New Year.

In Franklin Park, that means continuing to provide quality services, while facing the realities of a tough economy. Home Rule would have helped us address these financial challenges. But we must continue to do our best, for you, our residents and businesses. To achieve that goal, we will be holding strategic planning sessions with our staff and elected officials. We will set our priorities and develop ways to increase productivity and efficiency.

January Meetings

January 3

Police & Fire Commission 6 PM
Board of Trustees 7 PM

January 5

Special Plan Commission 7 PM

January 6

Senior Citizen Commission 6 PM

January 11

ETSB (911) Board 9 AM

January 12

Zoning Board of Appeals 7 PM

January 18

Police Pension Board 5 PM
Board of Trustees 7 PM

January 25

Fire Pension Board 9:30 AM

January 26

Plan Commission 7 PM

January 27

Economic Dev. Comm. 8 AM

Call 847-671-4800 for locations and more information



Barrett F. Pedersen
Mayor

Tommy Thomson
Village Clerk

Trustees:

Juan Acevedo

Paul Bellendir

Tom Brimie

John Johnson

Cheryl McLean

Rosalba Rodriguez

9500 Belmont Ave.
Franklin Park, IL. 60131
Ph: 847-671-4800
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Police (Non-Emergency)
847-671-8270
Fire (Non-Emergency)
847-678-2400

Village Hall Closed
January 17
Martin Luther King Day

Town Hall Meeting
January 24
7:00-8:30 PM

Centre at North Park
10040 Addison Street

And we will want to hear from you. We want to hear YOUR voice as to the direction our Village should be taking. We are committed to including your voice in our strategic planning process. An upcoming Town Hall meeting will present the goals we develop.

We are expanding our partnerships with our neighboring communities and also asking State and County agencies to work with us to develop meaningful programs, events and workshops that will help all of us manage during the recession.

In the upcoming months, we hope to produce a summit on foreclosures and mortgage issues, a workshop on the new health care issues and a seminar on workman's comp for businesses, and a regional job fair. The Newsletter and our website will publish all dates for these and other events as soon as they are finalized.

Though Home Rule communities are less dependent on property taxes, we pledge to be ever mindful of the tax burden on our citizens and to operate in the most cost efficient manner.

We look forward to a great 2011 as we work together to make Franklin Park an even greater place to live, work and raise a family.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Barrett Pedersen

Lions Club Salutes Top Officer and Firefighter

The Franklin Park Lions-Manila Club recently selected Police Officer Joseph Vallejo and Firefighter Lt. Donald Johnston as their Police Officer and Firefighter of the Year.

Officer Vallejo has been a member of the Franklin Park Police force for over 23 years and has served as patrol officer, detective, truck enforcement officer and motorcycle instructor with the department. He was assigned for several years as a detective to the West Suburban Task Force (WESTAF), a multi-jurisdictional unit that investigates major crimes such as homicide and kidnapping. Throughout his career, Officer Vallejo was a leader who always demonstrated a willingness to assist other officers.

The Franklin Park Fire Department is honored to have newly retired Lt. Donald Johnston named as Firefighter of the Year. Despite coming from a police family, Johnston choose a career as a firefighter and served the community for thirty years before hanging up his turnout gear, including 11 years as a paramedic. Johnston mentored new firefighters, advising them to always demonstrate respect for the job and to live up to their responsibilities with pride.

Is Your Business Wasting Money on Utilities?

The Delta Institute, a regional leader in energy efficiency and green building technology will provide free federally funded energy assessments and assistance to local businesses to identify and implement ways to save money.

Businesses should attend the free Energy Efficiency Workshop, February 2, at 8:00 AM (breakfast served). RSVP to Victor Couto at 312-554-0900 x 19 or vcouto@delta-institute.org.

What's Our Water Worth – Town Hall Meeting

What Our Water's Worth is a new awareness campaign on the value of water. There will be a special presentation by the Metropolitan Planning Council at the next Town Hall Meeting on January 24 at 7:00 PM.

From Lake Michigan to the Fox River, how we use our water, how we conserve, how much we waste, and how we choose to invest in water quality, is up to each of us.

Join us at an informative session on our region's water, as well as on steps we can take in our homes and businesses to protect our shared water.

Community Notes

Keep our parkways

unobstructed.... To insure the safe use of streets, alleys and driveways, Village Code prohibits placement of landscaping, building materials or other obstructions in the parkway that would hinder the use of the street or a driveway in front of your home. This will help prevent Village snowplows from colliding with snow-covered objects when they clear the streets. Failure to remove obstructions may require removal by the Village at a cost to the homeowner.

Winter parking restrictions in

effect.... There is **No Parking** on designated Snow Route streets after a 2" snow fall until clearing operations are complete. Secondary streets have a **No Parking** restriction after a 2" snow fall from 9 AM to 9 PM on the odd numbered side of the street and 9 PM to 9 AM on the even address side.

Recycle electronics at two

locations.... Leyden Township will accept residentially generated electronic items for recycling at 2501 N. Manheim Road and at a drop-off container at 9360 Franklin Ave. Call 847- 455-8616 for details.

Vehicle sticker late fee to triple...

If you have not renewed your vehicle sticker for 2010-11, due last June, be advised that the \$30 annual renewal fee is now \$60 and will increase to \$90 on February 1. If you bought a new car, you must purchase a sticker that will be prorated to meet the June renewal cycle. Please phone 847-671-4800 for more information.