

Village of Oak Park Board of Trustees
Jan. 4, 2016

Maria Jepson, Observer
7:30 Open Session

In attendance: Village President Anan Abu-Taleb, Trustees Glenn Brewer, Adam Salzman, Collette Lueck, Robert Tucker, Peter Barber, Andrea Ott.

Non Agenda Public Comment:

The first resident to address the board wanted to encourage the trustees to prevent the demolition of the parking garage that may be replaced by the high school swimming pool.

Another resident had questions for the environment and energy commission regarding cell phone mini-antennas. The speaker said that she has requested information in the past, but still has unanswered questions.

The third person to come to the board requested that the board consider real enforcement of the edict that sidewalks in front of homes are to be shoveled.

Village Manager Reports:

The village manager reported on the 2015 community survey results done by the National Research Center of Boulder, Colorado. The following areas received declining marks: opinions and acceptance towards those of diverse backgrounds, street repair and snow removal and customer service. The areas receiving favorable ratings included the key findings that four out of five people think Oak Park is a good place to live, shopping and employment opportunities have increased and there is a rise in the favorable opinion of land use planning, zoning and economic development. The ease of walking and bicycling are higher than the national benchmark.

President Abu-Taleb expressed his disappointment that customer service was one of the areas receiving lower marks. He also charged the Public Works department head to determine what changes can be made in his department to better serve the community. Abu-Taleb also discussed that several innovations had been put in place since this survey was completed, and he expressed his hope that the next survey will reflect a more positive experience. He also stated the portion of property tax that the Village receives is about \$32.00 a week from homeowners paying \$12,000-13,000 a year in property tax.

Citizen Commission Appointments:

Several appointments were made to citizen committees.

Consent agenda:

All items were approved.

Regular Agenda:

A motion to approve the Plan Commission's recommendations and grant special use permit for planned development along Madison Street.

Four residents brought their concerns to the board regarding this development. Among the concerns were the variances that the developer requested, parking issues and that the reduced amount of green space does not allow for adequate storm water run-off.

The development will include affordable housing and commercial retail.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned: 9:13pm.

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