



MANAGER'S REPORT FOR OCTOBER 31, 2014
GENERAL INFORMATION AND RESPONSES TO MAYOR & COMMISSIONER REQUESTS

Places to be this Week...

Village Council Meeting - The next Village Council meeting will be held on **November 4 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers** at Village Hall.

Future Calendar Reminders...

Village Council Meeting - The Village Council meeting will be held on **November 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers** at Village Hall.

Upcoming Proclamations -

November 18, 2014 - Proclamation of November 29 as Small Business Saturday

Wireless Fire Alarm System is Operational - The Downers Grove Village Operations Center (VOC) is now capable of receiving wireless fire alarm transmissions from businesses. To date 71 businesses have connected to the wireless alarm system and 8 applications are being processed. The Village expects that many more businesses will connect to the wireless system in the coming months. The installation of the wireless fire alarm system was a high priority action item.

The Village owns and maintains a fire alarm monitoring system and requires businesses to maintain a fire alarm that is monitored in the VOC. The purpose of the system is to alert the VOC when an alarm activates, signaling a fire or smoke condition at the business. Prior to the launch of the wireless system each business was required to have two telephone lines dedicated to the fire alarm system to transmit alarm activations. The Village currently monitors 894 alarms.

The Village's wireless alarm is a **voluntary program** that uses an **open platform** allowing businesses to select the alarm system transmission method that best suits their needs. This system was developed after many hours of research and program development and resulted in an innovative and groundbreaking business model that is being requested and mirrored by many fire departments.

Converting from the existing phone line system to the wireless system is completely voluntary. While many municipalities and fire districts require businesses to convert to the wireless system once it is installed, the Village offers business the choice of using the wireless system or continuing to use the phone line system.

Further, the Village's wireless alarm system uses an "open platform" that allows the local businesses to use any qualified fire alarm contractor of their choice to install wireless alarm devices in their business. This open platform program is a paradigm shift from the original method of one vendor installation, which does not allow businesses to choose alarm vendors in a competitive environment and can result in high costs.

The wireless alarm system has the following advantages:

- Cost savings to business owners in Downers Grove by eliminating phone lines
- Reduction in false and trouble alarm responses by the Fire Department and Village staff, resulting in more availability for emergency calls, reduction in risk and fuel savings
- Updated alarm monitoring equipment
- Elimination of manual tracking of problematic alarms by the Fire Prevention Bureau
- Allows businesses to select the alarm system that best meets their needs
- Allows businesses to select an alarm contractor in a competitive environment

Fall Street Sweeping

The Village's contractor began their 2nd fall sweeping cycle on Thursday. We are working from the south to the north and are using multiple sweepers. This cycle should be completed by the middle of next week.