

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 10, 2003**

Mayor Calderone led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty, Walsh and Mayor Calderone answered the Roll Call.

READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Thornton that the minutes from the previous Council meeting be passed without reading as everyone has received a copy thereof and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty, Walsh and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mary Turek, a Garfield School Brownie Troop leader, requested permission for her troop to sell Girl Scout Cookies at Constitution Court on March 8, 2003, from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm, under parental supervision. There were no objections from Council members. Mayor Calderone directed the Clerk to notify Ms. Turek re: Council approval of the cookie sale.

**APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR
GARFIELD BROWNIE TROOP TO
SELL GIRL SCOUT COOKIES AT
CONSTITUTION COURT ON
MARCH 8, 2003**

A representative from the Cook County Board of Elections was not available to present a demonstration of a ballot counting machine for the benefit of the voters who will cast ballots in the upcoming election. Mayor Calderone suggested that the representative be invited back to a future meeting for demonstration purposes. There were no objections from Council members.

**NO SHOW:
REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE
COOK COUNTY BOARD OF
ELECTIONS TO DISPLAY BALLOT
MACHINE**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Fire Department submitted its report for January 2003.

The Department of Public Property submitted its report for January 2003. Bill Heider stated that the Village is proud to announce the hiring of the assistant manager of the Animal Shelter, Laurie Polzak and added that she brings to the position ten years of experience in caring for animals at the Chicago AntiCruelty Society.

The Department of Health and Safety submitted its report for January 2003.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Gillian that the Resolution providing for the payment of bills be adopted. The Commissioner of Accounts and Finance has reviewed the bills as applicable to each department and found the aggregate amounts to be correct and recommends payment when funds are available. The bills totaled \$294,682.08.

**R-12-03
RESOLUTION FOR THE PAYMENT
OF BILLS**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty, Walsh and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Calderone introduced the discussion of the unit school district and stated that the Village Council had recently met with the District 91 School Board members in order to discuss land acquisition issues associated with the project. Mayor Calderone asked Commissioner Walsh to give a High School Task Force Update. Commissioner Walsh stated that the Task Force will continue to work to obtain more information. Commissioner Hosty asked for a consensus from the Village Council re: the unit school district and asked, "In what direction do we want to go?" Commissioner Gillian said that the kindergarten through 12th grade option is the most appropriate one. He stated that the task force should continue to explore the financial feasibility of the unit school district. Commissioner Hosty stated that the ICLE report has outlined options to explore. Commissioner Walsh stated that there are no final answers at this point but

HIGH SCHOOL TASK FORCE UPDATE

the task force is committed to answering the question, "Can we have a high school here in Forest Park?" Mayor Calderone suggested that legal counsel prepare a resolution to come before the Council which would create the opportunity for the high school task force to take the next step to investigate the feasibility of a unit school district in Forest Park. There were no objections from Council members.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Hosty motioned to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to execute any and all documents necessary to implement a Community Intervention/Mediation Program for the residents of Forest Park in conjunction with Family Service and Mental Health Center of Oak Park and River Forest. It was further resolved that the Village of Forest Park pay the sum of \$5000.0 to the Family Service and Mental Health Center of Oak Park and River Forest in order to support the program for the residents. Commissioner Thornton seconded the motion.

**R-13-03
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAYOR
AND CLERK TO EXECUTE ANY AND
ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO
IMPLEMENT A COMMUNITY
INTERVENTION/MEDIATION PROGRAM
FOR THE RESIDENTS IN CONJUNCTION
WITH FAMILY SERVICE AND MENTAL
HEALTH CENTER OF OAK PARK AND
RIVER FOREST**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty, Walsh and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned to pass the Ordinance amending certain portions of Ordinance O-17-94 entitled "Municipal Utility Tax Relief Ordinance" by amending Section IV (A) and (B). Commissioner Gillian seconded the motion. Mr. O'Shea stated that 70 residents took advantage of the program last year and \$3600 was returned to them. Mr. O'Shea stated that the annual income criterion for filing has been raised this year to \$30,000 from \$25,000. Commissioner Gillian seconded the motion.

**O-03-03
ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN
PORTIONS OF ORDINANCE O-17-94
ENTITLED "MUNICIPAL UTILITY TAX
RELIEF ORDINANCE"
BY AMENDING SECTION IV (A) & (B)**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty, Walsh and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was suggested by Mayor Calderone that any action on Zoning Variances requested by the owners associated with the property known as 7228-7228 1/2 Madison Street be tabled as just today the Council was given new information about the project from the developers via Nancy Hill and members have had no chance to review the material. Jonathan Split, architect for the project, stated that the building, by Zoning Ordinance definition, will be four or five stories tall, equaling 60 ft. He stated that the ground floor of the building will be commercial space with parking directly above it. Sixteen residential units will be built above the parking area. Each condo unit will measure from 1200-1350 sq. ft. with a price tag of \$225 per sq. ft. Ms. Nielsen, owner of the property, stated that two variances are requested of the Council, namely to reduce the lot area per family to less than 1250 sq. ft. and to reduce the amount of required parking. Mayor Calderone stated that the request for zoning variances will appear on the Council agenda for February 24, 2003. There were no objections from Council members.

**TABLED:
ACTION ON ZONING VARIANCES
ASSOCIATED WITH 7228 AND 7228 1/2
MADISON STREET**

Commissioner Hosty motioned to pass the Ordinance approving a Site Plan in Conformance with the Zoning Ordinance re: 7600 Roosevelt Rd, Portillo's Restaurant. Commissioner Thornton seconded the motion.

**O-04-03
ORDINANCE APPROVING A SITE PLAN
IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE ZONING
ORDINANCE RE: 7600 ROOSEVELT ROAD,
PORTILLO'S RESTAURANT**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty, Walsh and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Nancy Hill submitted a memorandum re: Parking Issues on Madison Street. The memo speaks to the Plan Commission's desire to provide additional parking in downtown Forest Park. Mayor Calderone stated that the Commission brought a fine recommendation to the Council and suggested that the Village may develop an ad-hoc committee to address this issue. Mayor Calderone suggested to Council members that all give the issue some thought and stated that the Council should be prepared this summer to discuss parking. There were no objections from Council members.

**MEMO FROM PLAN COMMISSION
ADDRESSING DESIRE TO PROVIDE
ADDITIONAL PARKING ON MADISON ST.**

Nancy Hill submitted a memorandum re: Historical Preservation Issues. The memo speaks to the Plan Commission's desire to adopt a Historic Preservation Ordinance to preserve certain historic buildings in town. Mayor Calderone agreed that this issue is one that has merit and stated that the Council should be prepared to discuss Historical Preservation Issues, perhaps naming an ad hoc committee to explore the issue, sometime this summer. There were no objections from Council members.

**MEMO FROM PLAN COMMISSION
EXPRESSING DESIRE FOR COUNCIL
TO PASS A HISTORIC PRESERVATION
ORDINANCE**

The Clerk read a Proclamation into the record, announcing the importance of restraining children properly in child safety seats and seat belts for their protection while driving. It was proclaimed that the week of February 9-15, 2003 is National Child Passenger Safety Week in the Village of Forest Park.

**NATIONAL CHILD PASSENGER
SAFETY WEEK FEBRUARY 9-15, 2003**

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. O'Shea stated that the General Obligation Library Bonds were refinanced last week resulting in a total savings to the Village of \$80,000 instead of the estimated \$45,000 figure. Mr. O'Shea stated that because of proper planning and good timing, the Village was able to bring the interest rate of the bonds down from 5.67% to 2.65%. Mr. O'Shea added that the Village has again received an excellent Moody financial rating of A2, reflecting the mature tax base with heavy residential and industrial bases of the Village.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Walsh stated that he was approached by the Forest Park Youth Soccer Association to use the 16th Street Park for soccer practices and games at various times throughout the spring and summer months. Practices are to be held from March 24 through June 7, 2003, Monday through Friday, from 5-7PM and soccer games are scheduled on Saturdays from April 5 through June 7, 2003. There were no objections from Council members. Mayor Calderone directed the Clerk to notify the Soccer Association re: approval to use the 16th Street Park.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ed Olson, 7342 Randolph, suggested that placing the parking meters back on Madison Street would help to alleviate the downtown parking crunch as parking enforcement officers could enforce metered parking and spaces would therefore turn over more. Mayor Calderone thanked Mr. Olson for his suggestion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be addressed, Commissioner Hosty motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Thornton seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. White
Village Clerk