

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 24, 2002**

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 Thornton and seconded by Commissioner Hosty 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

Mike Espinosa of the Park District of Forest Park presented an award to the Village Council on behalf of the Illinois Association of Park Districts and the Illinois Park and Recreation Association for its outstanding community service regarding the advancement of parks, recreation, and leisure activities. Mayor Calderone thanked the Park Board on behalf of the Village Council.

**AWARD PRESENTATION:
PARK DISTRICT OF FOREST PARK
TO VILLAGE COUNCIL**

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mayor Calderone explained that a regularly scheduled Council meeting is the Village's business meeting, and the Department Reports are seen by the Council members for the first time at the business meeting. Mayor Calderone continued that it is the Council's obligation to look at the Department Reports for discussion at the business meeting and then all the information contained is available to anyone who requests it after the Council meeting.

The Police Department submitted its report for January 2003.

The Community Center submitted its report for January 2003.

The Department of Streets and Public Improvements submitted its report for January 2003.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Thornton 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 \$199,579.39.

**R-14-03
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

Commissioner Gillian moved that the ZBA recommendation denying the variances from the Zoning Ordinance and Site Plan associated with the property known as 7228 Madison Street be approved (ZBA 2002-19). Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion. Commissioner Gillian stated that he is concerned with parking and density issues at the site, feels that many of the hardships are self-inflicted, and doesn't see why the property cannot be developed within the Village's current ordinances. Commissioner Gillian continued that the variations sought are self-imposed as they are concerned with financial hardship for the developer. Commissioner Walsh stated that Commissioner Gillian captured his concerns and said that the project does not meet requirements on both primary issues of density and parking.

**DENIED:
VARIANCES AND SITE PLAN
ASSOCIATED WITH 7228 MADISON**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gillian motioned to adopt the Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to enter into an agreement with Bensidoun Group for a French Market. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion. Commissioner Thornton stated that she had a concern

**R-15-03
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
MAYOR AND CLERK TO ENTER INTO
AN AGREEMENT WITH BENSIDOUN
GROUP FOR A FRENCH MARKET**

With a 10 year lease agreement and asked if the Village would be able to break the contract if need be. Commissioner Gillian stated that nobody wants to stay in business if no business is being generated and added that the Bensidoun Group needed a ten year commitment from the Village in order to attract vendors. Commissioner Hosty stated that the Bensidoun Group has already invested \$50,000 and therefore is invested in the project. Mayor Calderone said that he thought Commissioner Thornton's concern is legitimate and added that the Village administrator and attorney reviewed the contract relative to the ten year lease agreement and the Bensidoun Group remained firm on its position. Mayor Calderone continued that he believes that if the Market is not working out in the best interests of the Bensidoun Group, they would not want to continue the agreement. Mayor Calderone added that he hopes the French Market is a win-win situation for the next ten years. Commissioner Walsh said that he was uncomfortable with a ten year lease agreement and the three year lockout clause should the Village not renew with the Bensidoun Group after the ten year period. Mayor Calderone called for a Roll Call vote.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty and Mayor Calderone
NAYS: Commissioner Walsh
ABSENT: None
The motion carried.

Commissioner Hosty motioned that the Resolution authorizing and directing the High School Task Force to take the necessary action to proceed with its investigation into the feasibility of creating a Unit School District within the Village of Forest Park be adopted. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion.

R-16-03
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIGH SCHOOL TASK FORCE TO TAKE NECESSARY ACTION TO INVESTIGATE THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT WITHIN FOREST PARK

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Thornton, Hosty and Mayor Calderone
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Thornton motioned to adopt the Resolution authorizing the execution of an Agreement for Transportation Engineering and Planning Advisory Services between the Village of Forest Park and Robert H. Anderson & Associates, Inc. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion. Nancy Hill, Community Development Director, stated that since we do not have the available talent in-house to evaluate complex transportation issues, she recommends that the ability to tap into the consultant's expertise would be most helpful. Ms. Hill added that the transportation consultant's expenses would be paid for by the developer of the project.

**R-17-03
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE
EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT
FOR TRANSPORTATION
ENGINEERING AND PLANNING
ADVISORY SERVICES BETWEEN
THE VILLAGE AND ROBERT H.
ANDERSON & ASSOCIATES, INC.**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty moved that the Mayor and Clerk enter into an Agreement with Christopher Burke for Engineering Services for the NPDES Phase II Application. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion.

**AGREEMENT WITH CHRISTOPHER
BURKE FOR ENGINEERING
SERVICES FOR THE NPDES
PHASE II APPLICATION**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned that the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resolution be adopted. Commissioner Walsh seconded the motion.

**R-18-03
MFT RESOLUTION**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned that the Resolution for the 2003 CDBG be adopted. Commissioner Gillian seconded the motion.

**R-19-03
2003 CDBG RESOLUTION**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Thornton motioned to adopt the Resolution designating and appointing Joan M. White to be the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund's authorized agent for the Village of Forest Park. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion.

**R-20-03
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING
JOAN M. WHITE TO BE THE
IMRF AUTHORIZED AGENT**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone asked the Clerk to read the Safe a Life Foundation Proclamation into the record. SALF week is designated May 18-24, 2003 and the Foundation advocates the training and developing of people, especially children, in Life Supporting First Aid, including cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), bleed control, the Heimlich Maneuver, and the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED). Mayor Calderone stated that he is pleased to bring forward this proclamation, as it can directly save lives.

**PROCLAMATION:
SAVE A LIFE WEEK**

Commissioner Hosty motioned to reappoint George Andrews Jr. to the Forest Park Police Pension Board. Commissioner Thornton seconded the motion.

**GEORGE ANDREWS JR.
REAPPOINTED TO POLICE
PENSION BOARD**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone thanked Mr. Andrews for his dedicated service to the pension board.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Matt O'Shea recognized the hard work of the Recreation Board and associated department heads in their hosting of the public meeting discussing the feasibility of creating a dog park in Forest Park. The large turnout was due to great publicity and the opportunity for residents to voice their opinion about the issue.

Mr. O'Shea stated that the Commissioners of the Cook County Board of Review will present a seminar at the Howard Mohr Community Center on Tuesday evening, March 4, 2003 at 6:30PM

instructing residents on the process to appeal their property taxes. Mr. O'Shea encouraged all to attend with a copy of their tax bill.

Mr. O'Shea announced that Ron Pfeiffer, Finance Director, will resign his position with the Village as of February 28, 2003 due to family concerns. Mr. O'Shea said he will miss his friend and department head who has brought excellent financial talent to the Village.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gillian stated that he hired Ron Pfeiffer three years ago and that he was the first CPA the Village ever had. He congratulated Mr. Pfeiffer on his dedicated work to bring the finances of all departments under his management and stated that Mr. Pfeiffer worked with all the department heads at budget time to keep them within the budget guidelines. Commissioner Gillian stated that Mr. Pfeiffer will be missed by the many people with whom he had contact in the Village.

Commissioner Thornton stated that Ron Pfeiffer is one of the finest accountants and a wonderful human being.

Commissioner Hosty stated that Mr. Pfeiffer will truly be missed as he brought the Village's financial department to the next level.

Commissioner Hosty added that CDBG grants need to be used in the neighborhoods of lowest income, which is determined by the U.S. census.

Commissioner Walsh thanked the Recreation Board for hosting an informative discussion regarding a potential dog park in the Village of Forest Park.

Mayor Calderone stated that there was a good response regarding the dog park with some residents being proponents of the idea and others against it. Mayor Calderone stated that it was a great opportunity for public input, congratulated the staff involved, and directed that same staff to move forward with a recommendation to come before the Village Council.

Mayor Calderone stated that Mr. Pfeiffer announced his resignation with tears in his eyes and added that Mr. Pfeiffer will miss all employees he worked with in the Village.

Mayor Calderone announced that High School District 209 is hosting a coffee Wednesday evening, February 26, 2003 at 7:00PM in Village Council Chambers.

Mayor Calderone reminded all to exercise their right to vote tomorrow, February 25, 2003, in the consolidated primary election.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

James Papa, 612 Ferdinand, asked if he needs to reside on a "blighted block" in order to get his alley fixed. Commissioner Hosty stated that there are 17 miles of alleys in the Village of Forest Park and stated that some are in worse shape than others. Mayor Calderone stated that the alleys that have been rebuilt in the Village have been paid for within specific CDBG guidelines that are based on income level, not blight.

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 8:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. White
Village Clerk