

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 25, 2003**

Mayor Calderone led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone answered the Roll Call.

READING OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

It was moved by Commissioner Gillian and seconded by Commissioner Doolin that the minutes from the previous Council meeting be passed without reading, as everyone has received copies thereof and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Oak Park Area Arts Council requested its annual funding in the increased amount of \$7,500. Camille White, a representative from the Arts Council, delivered an overview of its mission to support the arts throughout the Villages of Forest Park, River Forest, and Oak Park via newsletter information, poetry contests, provision of scholarship monies, management of art galleries, and development of other art programs. Commissioner Doolin suggested that the Arts Council encourage Forest Park residents to sit on its board of directors. Commissioner Doolin motioned to approve the request by the Oak Park Area Arts Council for its annual funding in the amount of \$5,000, thereby staying within the amount appropriated for the Arts Council by the Village Council for the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Commissioner Steinbach seconded the motion.

**OAK PARK AREA ARTS COUNCIL
TO RECEIVE ANNUAL FUNDING
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,000.**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion passed unanimously.

The Forest Park Firefighters Association requested to host its annual "Boot Day" fundraiser in support of Muscular Dystrophy on August 29, 2003. There were no objections from Council members. Mayor Calderone directed the Clerk to notify the Firefighters of fundraiser approval.

**FOREST PARK FIREFIGHTERS
ASSOCIATION REQUEST TO
HOST ITS ANNUAL "BOOT DAY"
ON AUGUST 29, 2003**

The Salvation Army requested to host its annual "Christmas Kettle Program", November 21 through December 24, 2003, in support of needy people throughout the Chicago Metropolitan area. There were no objections from Council members. Mayor Calderone directed the Clerk to notify the Salvation Army of fundraiser approval.

**SALVATION ARMY TO HOST
ANNUAL "CHRISTMAS KETTLE
PROGRAM" NOVEMBER 21
THROUGH DECEMBER 24, 2003**

Commissioner Gillian motioned to approve the request by the Forest Park Main Street Redevelopment Organization for its annual funding in the amount of \$40,000. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion. Commissioner Gillian stated that the Main Street Organization initially requested \$60,000, but with the current economic status being what it is, he thought that \$40,000 is more appropriate. Commissioner Steinbach stated that discussion ensued during budget workshops that the Main Street Organization's Village funding be weaned over two years to zero. Commissioner Gillian added that the Main Street Organization will provide a monthly expense report to the Village Council and added that the Village Administrator has spoken to Main Street's Director about the need to determine other avenues of funding. Commissioner Hosty suggested that the approval letter to the Main Street Organization re: the annual funding contain notification about the need to reduce future Village allocations to Main Street. There were no objections from Council Members re: notification of decreased funding.

**FOREST PARK MAIN STREET
REDEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION'S
REQUEST FOR ANNUAL FUNDING
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone introduced a letter written by Robert Marani of the 7600 block of Monroe that detailed concerns about traffic and parking on the 7600 block of Monroe due to the volume of postal workers parking cars there as well as increased congestion caused by a few businesses on DesPlaines and Monroe. Commissioner Hosty suggested that the two hour parking ordinance be enforced there and added that the Traffic and Safety Committee could review these issues. Commissioner

**TRAFFIC AND SAFETY
COMMITTEE TO REVIEW
ISSUES OF TRAFFIC
CONGESTION AND PARKING
ASSOCIATED WITH THE
7600 BLOCK OF MONROE**

Doolin stated that these problems are ongoing ones and added that committee members need to brainstorm and explore options like resident zone parking to enable a resident to park for longer than two hours in front of his or her home while non-entitled parkers are ticketed. Mayor Calderone stated that issues need to be heard in front of the Council first, and then referred to the Traffic and Safety Committee for discussion. Mayor Calderone added that the Traffic and Safety Committee then refers the issue back to the Council for further discussion of options/solutions and voting. Commissioner Hosty suggested that the Police Chief talk to people affected by increased traffic and congestion. Mayor Calderone stated that parking is a huge problem and any permanent solutions will be expensive. Commissioner Doolin stated that the Traffic and Safety Committee meets on the second Thursday of each month. Commissioner Hosty motioned to have the Traffic and Safety Committee review traffic congestion and parking issues associated with the 7600 block of Monroe and other affected areas. Commissioner Doolin seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Steinbach motioned to accept the donation of a 1994 Dodge Van from the Park District of Forest Park to the Forest Park Police Department. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion. The van will be used to transport youth involved with the PEER and PIPE Programs.

**DONATION OF A DODGE VAN
FROM THE PARK DISTRICT OF
FOREST PARK TO THE
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Community Center submitted its report for July 2003.

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Steinbach that the Resolution providing for the payment of bills be adopted, except for the line item associated with the Forest Park Water Project in the amount of \$10,360.

**R-71-03
RESOLUTION FOR THE PAYMENT
OF BILLS**

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 \$393,323.79.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Gillian moved to appoint Matthew O'Shea, Village Administrator; Joan White, Village Clerk; Nancy Hill, Community Development Director; Beverly Thompson, Community Center Director; Bill Heider, Director of Public Property; and Robert Kutak, Director of Streets and Public Improvements to serve in such offices until successors have been appointed and qualified. Commissioner Steinbach seconded the motion. Mayor Calderone stated that the Fire Chief was appointed last week and the Police Chief was appointed recently as well.

APPOINTMENT OF DEPARTMENT HEADS

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Hosty motioned to adopt the Resolution designating and appointing the authorized agent of the Village of Forest Park with the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund and allowing said agent the authority to cast votes in IMRF elections. Commissioner Gillian seconded the motion. Abigail Yacoben, Finance Director, is designated as the IMRF authorized agent in the Resolution. Mike Durkin stated that the authorized agent can cast votes for IMRF trustees and can authorize the filing of a petition for executive trustee of IMRF.

**R-72-03
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING AND
APPOINTING ABIGAIL YACOBEN
AS THE IMRF AUTHORIZED
AGENT**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned to approve a certain SBC CompleteLink Agreement between the Village of Forest Park and SBC Information Systems, Inc., as an agent for Illinois Bell Telephone Co., d/b/a SBC Illinois, a copy of which is attached hereto, and further authorize the Mayor to execute such agreement on behalf of the Village, subject to the Village canceling its current combined access and usage plan with SBC Illinois or its affiliate or predecessor. Commissioner Steinbach seconded the motion. There is an estimated savings to the Village of more than \$12,000 over the life of this contract.

**SBC COMPLETELINK AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF FOREST
PARK AND SBC INFORMATION
SYSTEMS, INC. APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, and Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone introduced an unusual application for business licensure of a coffee and baked goods cart on a street corner and encouraged discussion about the regulation of street vendors. Mike Durkin stated that a formula is needed to regulate licenses and locations because otherwise when a street license is granted to one vendor, licenses need to be granted to all interested vendors. Commissioner Gillian stated that if the Council wants to move forward on this issue, a draft Ordinance needs to be written. Mike Durkin stated that space limitations should be addressed, for example, direct that only one vendor can locate per block and added that it is not good practice to let a transient merchant be in direct competition with a property tax-paying business owner. Commissioner Steinbach stated that she was in favor of more research into this area of street vending. Commissioner Doolin stated that he supported the exploration of issues associated with street vending, and encouraged Council Members to speak with Nancy Hill about their ideas and concerns so that she can consolidate them and move them on to legal counsel for ordinance drafting. There were no objections from Council Members and Mayor Calderone directed staff to begin exploration of street vending issues.

STREET VENDING DISCUSSION

Commissioner Hosty motioned to deny the proposal to upgrade the Springbrook Software to reflect water billing rates. Commissioner Steinbach seconded the motion. Commissioner

**SPRINGBROOK SOFTWARE
UPGRADE RE: RATES ON
WATER BILL DENIED**

Hosty stated that the \$900 software upgrade fee, along with the yearly maintenance fee seemed like a large expense for this service. Mayor Calderone stated that he received only one request to place the rates on the water bills and added that the Clerk's Office has communicated water rates at many different times in many different media. Commissioner Steinbach suggested that the Clerk's Office insure that the water rates be reflected on water bills twice per year in the "special announcement" section. There were no objections from Council members re: the above suggestion.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach, and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Steinbach moved to authorize the 600 block of Circle to use the Veterans' Park Tot Lot on September 13, 2003, between the hours of 12:00PM and 9:00PM, in conjunction with their block party being held on Lehmer between Circle and the Hannah Circle alley, provided that no alcoholic beverages may be possessed or consumed on the property of the Veterans' Park Tot lot; and provided that a completed Block Party Application form is submitted to the Village Clerk. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion.

**PERMISSION FOR 600 BLOCK
CIRCLE TO USE THE
VETERANS' TOT LOT ON
SEPTEMBER 13, 2003 IN
CONJUNCTION WITH THEIR
BLOCK PARTY**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gillian motioned to accept the petition by Red Cab of Oak Park to license four taxis. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion.

**PETITION BY RED CAB OF OAK
PARK TO LICENSE 4 TAXIS
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned to convene Executive Closed Session to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, and to discuss collective negotiating matters between

**MOTION TO CONVENE INTO CLOSED
EXECUTIVE SESSION**

the public body and its employees or their representative.
Commissioner Steinbach seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. O'Shea stated that last Thursday he met with the village administrators from Oak Park and River Forest to discuss economic development issues, related community issues, and budget issues. Mr. O'Shea stated that a result of municipal cooperation will be the ornamental lighting on the Madison Street Bridge at the Des Plaines River. Both sides of the bridge will be illuminated and Forest Park and River Forest will share the cost, each Village contributing \$24,000 to the project. Mr. O'Shea stated that soon the Governor will act on bills that will affect our municipality, and stated that he will be working with our lobbyist and legal counsel to work toward optimal effects for the Village.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gillian updated the Water Improvement Project punch list associated with Elgin Avenue between Roosevelt Road and 16th Street. He stated that work started this morning and added that Bob Kutak has some concerns about certain methods the water contractor is using. Commissioner Gillian finished by stating that he would meet with the contractors about this issue early tomorrow morning.

Commissioner Hosty stated that following the fire at 800 Circle recently, it has been postulated that overcrowding may have been an issue. Commissioner Hosty stated that a committee of Chief Ryan, Chief Glinke, Nancy Hill, and legal counsel is looking at stronger overcrowding enforcement.

Commissioner Steinbach stated that she attended the WCMC kick-off of "Keep West Cook Beautiful." Commissioner Steinbach stated that by joining "Keep West Cook Beautiful", Forest Park can take advantage of programs like litter inventory, community clean-ups, graffiti elimination, litter prevention, and waste reduction. Commissioner Steinbach stated that there is a \$1000 membership fee, and the money has been appropriated for a purpose such as this. Mayor Calderone stated that the "Keep West Cook Beautiful" program will appear on the agenda for the next Village Council meeting so that approval of expenditure can occur.

Commissioner Steinbach stated that the Ark held a dog wash fundraiser last weekend and collected over \$800 to be used for animal care and control.

Commissioner Steinbach stated that on September 27th, 2003 the Ark will hold a fundraising "Bark-beque" from 3:00PM to 7:00PM, at the Forest Park Picnic Grove. All are invited to attend.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John O'Donnell of 7709 Polk Street questioned why the new townhomes on DesPlaines and Harrison Street were built without firewalls. Mayor Calderone instructed Mr. O'Donnell that this

portion of the meeting is for public comment only, not for answering questions. Mr. O'Donnell stated that he would speak with Nancy Hill about this situation at the meeting's end.

Mr. O'Donnell stated that the Village needs to do a better job of pest control, as when Chris Thornton was on vacation last week, no one was available to set traps and the growing families of possums and raccoons are a health hazard.

Steve Backman of 329 Burkhardt Court stated that the caffe LeLuca development concept has expanded to include the serving of alcoholic beverages and added that the owners wish to include a beer garden on the rear of the property. Mr. Backman stated that the property in question backs up to the south side of Warren Street, about 16 feet from residents. Mr. Backman stated that since the ZBA does not get involved with licensing specifications, he would like Mayor Calderone to have alternative plans that he has suggested for the development that require at least 2 parking spaces to be maintained for parking. Mr. Backman asked that the Council approve the recommendation of the ZBA to deny the setback variance and create modifications in parking on the property to reflect two spaces be maintained.

Ed Olson of 7432 Randolph Street stated that the Village should buy the Roos building property, demolish it, and make the site into a parking lot so that Ferrara Pan employees and Park employees could pay for parking there.

Mike Leonard from 339 Burkhardt Court stated that his property is littered with beer bottles since he is so close to Madison Street and wants to make sure that caffe DeLuca's variance is denied.

Catherine Ditto of 333 Burkhardt Court stated that she has recognized an increase in noise and traffic around the area currently, and stated that a beer garden at caffe DeLuca would invite more noise and traffic congestion. She hopes that caffe DeLuca's zoning variance is denied.

Rick Vitton of 500 Marengo stated that when people bought homes on Burkhardt Court, they knew businesses were close in proximity, as businesses have been on Madison Street since the 1800's. Mr. Vitton asked, "Why did you buy your homes knowing that you are in a business district?"

Mr. Scaffiti of 815 Marengo stated that he recently wrote to Mayor Calderone, detailing information that should be added to the Village's web site.

Larry Miller of 335 Burkhardt Court stated that he has been a resident since 1945, and stated that he has been there before the businesses. He stated that caffe DeLuca will need to park at least 20 employees, and Warren/Burkhardt are already loaded with parked cars. Mr. Miller stated that deliveries of goods to businesses and increased traffic in the area constantly block his garage and added that noise, creation of dirt, urinating in the alley, and tossing garbage are negative aspects of living behind Madison Street. Mr. Miller stated that the beer garden will be open until 12:00AM during the week and 2:00AM on weekends, causing increased noise, dirt, congestion and added that the area will no longer be residential.

Gloria Backman of 329 Burkhardt Court stated that the ZBA should attempt to minimize caffe DeLuca's affect on residents' properties in this area. She said that people are trying to sleep with increased noise and that of the 20 businesses down the alley, 10 have beer gardens. Ms. Backman stated that the creation of more beer gardens will impact the character of the neighborhood as well as the lives of the property owners. She added that the caffe DeLuca's request is the first of many more to come.

Joel Villano of 2300 North Harlem in Elmwood Park stated that he is interested in vending hot dogs via a cart within Forest Park and urged the Council not to legislate the street vending issue before getting the facts. He added that perhaps granting conditional licenses would be a way to slowly implement street vending satisfactorily in Forest Park.

The Council moved to the Mayor's Office to convene closed session at 8:50PM.

**CLOSED SESSION
8:50PM**

Commissioner Steinbach motioned and Commissioner Doolin seconded to end closed session and reopen regular session.

**REOPEN REGULAR SESSION
9:40PM**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Gillian, Hosty, Doolin, Steinbach and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 9:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. White
Village Clerk