

**THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 25TH, 2004**

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 PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Steinbach and seconded by Commissioner Hosty 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark Rogovin from 930 Dunlop stated that he received a letter from the Village recently that stated that his car park in the back of his home needed to be paved. Mr. Rogovin stated that the required paving costs a large amount of money that he does not have right now and added that he believes that we have grossly paved over the earth and will pay for that practice.

Mayor Calderone suggested that Mr. Rogovin seek out Nancy Hill of the Code Department so that she can help guide him in his compliance process.

Jerry Jacknow from 236 Lathrop stated that the approval of curb cuts, like the one at 224 Lathrop, affects him, as aesthetically the resultant parking ruins the look of the community and there are additional issues with runoff. Mr. Jacknow stated that a whole new approval process is needed, adding that in the 16 years of his tenure as commissioner, only three curb cut requests were entertained, and only one of those was granted.

Marty Tellalian from 7335 Jackson stated that there has been a rash of burglaries in the area, and asked that the Council focus its energy on the important issue of crime.

Floyd Schultz from 228 Lathrop stated if the owner of 224 Lathrop is allowed to utilize parking on the property, parkers will back out of the space and hit cars parked on Rockford Court. Mr. Schultz stated that he was against the parking variance associated with 224 Lathrop.

COMMUNICATIONS

Clare Sierawski, Citizen Outreach Director of the Illinois Public Interest Research & the Illinois Public Interest Research Group (Illinois PIRG), announced its door-to-door canvas and membership drive to increase awareness of issues such as clean water and consumer rights. The solicitation will be for a full month immediately following approval. There were no objections from Council members.

ILLINOIS PIRG DOOR-TO-DOOR CANVAS AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE APPROVED

The Little City Foundation requested to hold its 30th Annual Smiles Tagging Campaign on Thursday, September 30th, Friday, October 1st, Saturday, October 2nd, and Sunday, October 3rd, 2004. Volunteers will take to the streets to raise money to help children and adults with developmental challenges. There were no objections from Council members.

LITTLE CITY TAG DAYS SEPT. 30, OCTOBER 1, 2, AND 3, 2004

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Fire Department submitted its report for July 2004.
The Police Department submitted its report for June-July 2004.
The Community Center submitted its report for July 2004

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. 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 \$ 335,212.72.

R-46-04 RESOLUTION FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Calderone introduced the discussion about curb cut authority and process and encouraged all to talk through the issues in order to devise the best process for the community. Mayor Calderone suggested that staff could be directed to compile recommended standards that would apply when curb cuts come before the Council. Commissioner

CURB CUT DISCUSSION

Hosty suggested that all curbs be heard by the Zoning Board of Appeals, so that adjoining property owners might have an opportunity to voice their opinions. Commissioner Doolin stated that if the property owner requests a variance, then a process is already in place for the ZBA to hear the petitioner, and then the Council reviews both the variation petition and the ZBA recommendation. Commissioner Doolin stated that if the owner does not need a variance for parking associated with a curb cut, there is no reason to deny the curb cut request. Commissioner Doolin added that he believes that good checks and balances are already in place. Commissioner Steinbach stated that the process that is detailed in the ordinance has been followed every time and believes that the curb cut application being initially reviewed by the Director of Streets and Public Improvements for utility checks, then forwarded to Code for zoning review, and finally to the Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements for overall approval should continue as written. Commissioner Gillian stated that an amendment to the Code should be written to state that if the Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements feels there is a conflict with his or her approval of the curb cut application, the application should be forwarded to the Commissioner of Public Property for approval. Mayor Calderone reiterated the need for standards and parameters regarding curb cut approval. Commissioner Gillian agreed. Commissioner Doolin stated that setting a standard would be impossible, as the very nature of what a curb cut leads to is different in each instance. Commissioner Doolin stated the standard is that if a variance is needed, the issue is heard by the ZBA, an independent board whose members should not be influenced by the Village Council. Commissioner Steinbach stated that since each situation regarding a curb cut is different, standards won't fit. Commissioner Hosty suggested that there may be a standard associated with lot coverage. Commissioner Doolin suggested that he requests to include the parking pad as lot coverage, so that a variance is required and the issue is heard by the ZBA. Mayor Calderone directed Nancy Hill to phone other towns to determine their curb cut processes. Mayor Calderone suggested that current curb cut process should remain intact while staff researches other towns' procedures and makes further recommendations. There were no objections from Council members.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Gillian motioned and Commissioner Doolin seconded to appoint Ms. Janice Collins to the ad-hoc Committee for Historic Preservation.

**MS. JANICE COLLINS APPOINTED
TO HISTORIC PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gillian motioned and Commissioner Hosty seconded to adopt a Resolution Providing for the Submission to the Electors of the Village of Forest Park at the General Election on November 2, 2004, a Public Question as to whether the Village should Impose a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Non-Home Rule Municipal Service Occupation Tax to be used for expenditure on public infrastructure or for property tax relief or both. Commissioner Gillian stated that although we can't predict the financial health of the Village, perhaps in the future the Council may offer NOT to raise property taxes. Commissioner Gillian added that if the language regarding utilizing money for property tax relief is not included, the Village can never use proceeds for property tax relief. Commissioner Steinbach stated that she objected to utilizing these funds for property tax relief, since talking about same is less tangible than talking about infrastructure and added that in her opinion, property tax relief would never happen. Commissioner Steinbach added that the Village's infrastructure has been ignored, money is scarce, and proceeds obtained from the Retailers' Occupation Tax and Municipal Service Occupation Tax needs to be dedicated to infrastructure improvement. Mayor Calderone asked Commissioner Steinbach if she thought that homeowners don't want property tax relief. Commissioner Steinbach stated that homeowners won't believe it, and the majority of them wouldn't affirmatively vote for the referendum. Commissioner Hosty stated that this referendum is so important that he was willing to change its language to state that money be used for infrastructure only. Commissioner Doolin stated that he was a proponent of the Resolution and referendum question stating that money be used for infrastructure only. Commissioner Doolin stated that everyone would like their property tax reduced, but would it ever happen? Commissioner Doolin stated that the Village should be able to have the ability to pave its streets. Commissioner Gillian stated that he would withdraw his original motion.

Commissioner Gillian motioned and Commissioner Hosty seconded to adopt the Resolution Providing for the Submission to the Electors of the Village of Forest Park at the General Election on November 2, 2004, a Public Question as to whether the Village should impose a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Non-Home Rule Municipal Service Occupation Tax to be used for

R-47-04
**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE
SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS OF
THE VILLAGE AT THE GENERAL
ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 2, 2004,
A PUBLIC QUESTION AS TO
WHETHER THE VILLAGE SHOULD
IMPOSE A NON-HOME RULE
MUNICIPAL RETAILERS'
OCCUPATION TAX AND A NON-
HOME RULE MUNICIPAL SERVICE
OCCUPATION TAX TO BE USED FOR
EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC
INFRASTRUCTURE**

expenditure on public infrastructure.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Doolin motioned and Commissioner Hosty seconded to pass an Ordinance amending the Official Map of the Comprehensive Zoning Code of the Village of Forest Park (Hannah Avenue north of Harrison Street and Adjacent Pumping Station.) Michael Durkin, village attorney, explained that the Village is vacating the east side of Hannah, north of Harrison because there is a loading dock there, and the Village wants to ensure that the owners of the Roos building can access their loading dock, should they need to do so.

**O-34-04
ORDINANCE AMENDING THE OFFICIAL
MAP OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ZONING
CODE OF THE VILLAGE (HANNAH NORTH
OF HARRISON AND ADJACENT PUMPING
STATION**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The amendment carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned and Commissioner Doolin seconded to pass an Ordinance vacating a portion of a public right-of-way in the Village (Hannah Avenue north of Harrison.)

**O-35-04
ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF A
PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY IN THE VILLAGE
(HANNAH NORTH OF HARRISON)**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned and Commissioner Steinbach seconded to forward the 100 Harlem/Elgin alley traffic issue to the Traffic and Safety Commission for review and recommendation.

**FORWARDED TO TRAFFIC & SAFETY
COMMITTEE: 100 HARLEM/ ELGIN
ALLEY TRAFFIC ISSUE**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hosty motioned and Commissioner Steinbach seconded to adopt a Resolution authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Forest Park and the Armed Forces Reserve Center.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND THE ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Steinbach motioned and Commissioner Doolin seconded to approve a request by Director Kutak for the purchase of a small boom truck and accept the lowest bid of \$54,300 received from City Utility Equipment.

APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO PURCHASE A SMALL BOOM TRUCK FROM CITY UTILITY EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,300

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Steinbach motioned and Commissioner Doolin seconded to waive the requirements of Section 1-8A-3D of the Village Code and approve that certain Long Distance Voice Services Only Agreement between the Village of Forest Park and SBC Global Services Inc., and authorizing the Mayor to execute same.

APPROVAL OF THE LONG DISTANCE VOICE SERVICES ONLY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND SBC GLOBAL SERVICES INC.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone introduced a Proclamation for “International Hispanic/Latino Mental Health Week” that announces a Campaign to increase awareness of the mental health and substance abuse treatment needs of Hispanics/Latinos.

PROCLAMATION FOR “INTERNATIONAL HISPANIC/LATINO MENTAL HEALTH WEEK”

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

None

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gillian announced that Abbe Yacoben, Finance Director, has resigned her position with the Village of Forest Park, effective September 3, 2004. Commissioner Gillian wished her well in her new endeavors.

Commissioner Hosty wished Commissioner Doolin a happy birthday.

Commissioner Doolin congratulated Ms. Yacoben and wished her good luck. Commissioner Doolin congratulated the Village Council on its coming together to pass the sales tax referendum unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. White
Village Clerk