

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING APRIL 11, 2005**

Mayor Calderone led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Calderone suggested that if there was no objection, to move item #1 of new business up. There were no objections. Mayor Calderone performed the swearing in ceremony of Village Clerk: Vanessa Moritz

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 Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Steinbach that the minutes from the previous regular 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

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Laurie Kokenes, Executive Director, Forest Park Chamber of Commerce, requested permission to hold Summerfest 2005 on Madison Street on Friday, June 10 from 5 to 11 p.m. and on Saturday, June 11 from noon to 10 pm. There were no objections from Council members. Mayor Calderone directed the Clerk to notify Ms. Kokenes about Summerfest approval.

**SUMMERFEST 2005
JUNE 10 AND 11, 2005: APPROVED**

Patty Russart, Coordinator of Family, Volunteer, and Community Outreach requested permission for Volunteers to tag for the 31st Annual Little City Smiles Tagging Campaign to be held on Thursday, September,

**LITTLE CITY'S REQUEST TO HOLD
TAG DAY ON SEPTEMBER
15, 16 AND 17, 2005: APPROVED**

15, Friday, September 16, and Saturday, September 17.
There were no objections from Council members.
Mayor Calderone directed the Clerk to notify Ms. Russart about Tag Day approval.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

The Finance Department submitted its report for March, 2005.

The Fire Department submitted its report for March, 2005.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Doolin 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 \$254,087.02.

**R-21-05
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

None

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Commissioner Steinbach and seconded by Commissioner Hosty to pass an Ordinance authorizing the sale or disposal of property of the Village of Forest Park.

**O-14-05
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE
SALE OR DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC
OWNED PROPERTY**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Doolin and seconded by Commissioner Hosty to pass a resolution authorizing the execution of a Certificate Regarding the Operation and Maintenance of Public Water Facilities.

**R-22-05
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
THE EXECUTION OF A
CERTIFICATE REGARDING THE**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF
PUBLIC WATER FACILITIES**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone opened discussion concerning proposed changes to the solicitation ordinance. He suggested having the Village Attorney review the current ordinance and make recommendations to give us the authority to require a background investigation and fingerprinting as well as issuance of a photo ID by the Village of Forest Park for solicitors. Applicants would be required to pay any associated fees.

**DISCUSSION CONCERNING
PROPOSED CHANGES TO
SOLICIATION ORDINANCE**

Commissioner Steinbach wondered whether the authorization would be granted to the organization or the individual doing the actual solicitation. She also inquired whether there would be a charge for the ID cards. Mayor Calderone advised we would charge fees to cover the direct cost to the Village of Forest Park.

Mayor Calderone wondered whether the photographs would available on file if we issue photo ID cards. Sally Cody advised that the photographs are saved.

Commissioner Gillian asked if the Village would be violating any person or group's constitutional rights. Attorney Durkin advised that requiring background checks and charging associated fees to non-commercial groups and religious groups that are not selling product would be a violation of the First Amendment Right to Free Speech. He also advised that newspaper vendors can also be protected under the First Amendment.

Commissioner Gillian thought that the proposed changes "need some work".

Commissioner Doolin inquired about the nature of the issues being brought to Mayor Calderone's attention by the Citizens. Mayor Calderone advised that the issues that were reported were by non-political/non-religious solicitations.

Commissioner Doolin added that the proposed changes need to be geared more toward door-to-door sales versus Poppy Day volunteers. More narrow focus is needed.

Commissioner Steinbach asked if the law provides for solicitation to end no later than 9:00 p.m. She added that our ordinance states

8:30 p.m. Mr. Durkin advised that the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals said 9:00 is the cut-off. Mayor Calderone stated that we are not mandated to change our ordinance to 9:00.

Mayor Calderone suggested that the council review and comment to Mike Sturino, Village Administrator. He will then try to have the council put together a first round draft of the proposed amendment.

Mayor Calderone asked the Clerk to read the proclamation designating May 1, 2005 as Hunger Walkathon West "You Can Make A Difference Day"

**PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING MAY
1, 2005 AS HUNGER WALKATHON WEST
"YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY"**

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Michael Sturino stated that he has been approached by the contract purchaser of the Roos property and that there is a proposal to acquire the property by a different developer. There are no changes in the site plan requested at this time and there has not been a closing to his knowledge. Mr. Sturino will advise the council as additional information becomes available. The current developer has a zoning variation request that is not related to the actual site plan that is coming up at the next zoning board meeting. That relates to a height variation for the relocation of a proposed monopole. The presumption was that the height in our zoning code would be sufficient. Because of "line of sight" issues it cannot be built under our 75 foot height limitation. He advised that demolition is still being looked at. Mr. Sturino has spoken to the developer regarding moving the fencing if the demolition is going to be delayed to prevent any unnecessary hardship or inconvenience to the citizens and/or businesses.

A successful parking ticket amnesty program was conducted by Municipal Collection Services, Inc. during February and March. \$72,720.00 has been collected in outstanding fines to date. The program will end in about a week and we anticipate an additional \$10-15,000.00 collected. Thanks to our police department for pursuing our parking violators aggressively and in that manner and getting unfinished business taken care of.

There has been some movement on the Lathrop Avenue Street project. Bob Kutak and Mr. Sturino met with Chuck Biondo, the Village Administrator for the Village of River Forest. They have identified grant money that will cover about all of the costs of the project that is one half in River Forest and one half in Forest Park. They will be working on an intergovernmental agreement in the coming months to present to council for their consideration for a improvement program to Lathrop so that there will be minimal financial impact on the Village of Forest Park.

Mr. Sturino gave a brief update on the Prairie Path Agreement. We have not yet received revised financial information from Maywood and their consultants. As soon as we receive the information, it

will be presented to council and the village attorney has been working on an agreement with Maywood's attorney.

A bike rack will be installed at Village hall.

The Business Improvement District meeting for Madison Street that was scheduled for Wednesday is being deferred, with new date to be announced at the next council meeting.

Mr. Sturino expressed thanks to Deputy Clerk, Sally Cody for her hard work and professionalism during the absence of a Village Clerk.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Gillian reported that we have our health insurance increase from Blue Cross Blue Shield. The result of the negotiations was a 3.75% increase as opposed to a national average of 15-20% increases.

Commissioner Hosty reported that we are still searching for a department head for the department of health and safety.

Commissioner Doolin reported that we are going to try and meet with the village engineer regarding the updated condition map to start phasing the street and alley repair project. Commissioner Doolin requested input from the entire council to be given to either himself or Village Administrator, Mike Sturino. Commissioner Doolin also reported that the asphalt plants opened today and requested that pothole requests be forwarded to Public Works. Also, please forward any alley cleaning requests to public works. Commissioner Hosty inquired about the cut-off date for the street improvements. Commissioner Doolin advised that input be forwarded as soon as possible.

Commissioner Steinbach stated that all 70 flower boxes in the village have been prepared and will be planted starting tomorrow. The spring tree planting program is beginning the week of April 25th. If you would like to request a tree, please call to be put on the list. Tree trimming has begun on the north side of town from Lathrop & Madison east to Harlem & Circle. If you need a parkway tree trimmed that is outside of this area, please call The Village and we will take care of that in a timely fashion. The playgrounds will be inspected by a certified inspector next week. We are also sending three of our public works employees to be certified.

Mayor Calderone met with the new owner of the Polo building. This building was in bankruptcy. Mr. Wally Aiyash of W.J Management, Inc. called Mayor Calderone and announced that he is the new owner. If the council has any ideas to approach the new property owner with, now would be the time to have that conversation. There are 2 parking lots on that property. We might want to consider doing something with that alley. Mayor Calderone requested that the council forward any comments or requests to him.

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 7:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz
Village Clerk