

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING JANUARY 9, 2006**

Mayor Calderone led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

It was moved by Commissioner Gillian and seconded by Commissioner Steinbach that the minutes from the Special Council meeting on December 12, 2005 be approved 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.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Doolin that the minutes from the Regular Council meeting on December 19, 2005 be approved 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**

Chris Wessels of 1800 DesPlaines stated that he was not aware what the topic of discussion is for Industrial Drive seeing that the SSA was rescinded. He further stated that he was disappointed that he was not contacted or given any information with regard to the topic on the Council's agenda this evening and that he has a feeling of mistrust. Mr. Wessels further stated that he made a FOIA request on December 20<sup>th</sup> and was dissatisfied that he had not received any of the information contained in the request. Mayor Calderone assured Mr. Wessels that the SSA is on the agenda for discussion only, the possibility of creating an SSA is dead for now and that the Village will commit to notifying Mr. Wessels should the SSA be resurrected. Mayor Calderone further stated that it was his understanding that the Village Clerk requested additional time to gather the records requested by Mr. Wessels due to the voluminous request. Mr. Wessels then stated that his main concern is not the SSA, but the creation of a Special Assessment by the Village without involving the business owners that would be affected. Mayor Calderone reiterated his commitment to do our best to inform Mr. Wessels of any activity with regard to an SSA or SA for Industrial Drive.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Mr. Carlo Cavallaro, Director of Government Affairs for Comcast Cable notified the Village of price adjustments effective January, 2006.

Mr. Brian S. Murphy, Commissioner, Department of Water Management for the City of Chicago notified the Village that although there will be no water rate increase in 2006, the prompt payment discount has been eliminated. Mayor Calderone stated that the elimination of the prompt payment discount is the equivalent of an increase as the Village of Forest Park regularly exercises the discount.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

The Finance Department submitted its December report.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

It was moved by Commissioner Gillian and seconded by Commissioner Hosty 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 \$630,978.38.

**R-01-06  
RESOLUTION FOR THE  
PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$630,978.38  
APPROVED**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

It was moved by Commissioner Gillian and seconded by Commissioner Steinbach that the Ordinance amending the code of the Village of Forest Park by adding thereto Title 12, entitled "Historic Preservation" be adopted. Commissioner Gillian stated that the major difference between the Ordinance before the board today is that rather than 7 members, the ordinance calls for 5 members to the Historic Preservation Commission. Village Attorney Durkin added that the language regarding tear downs was eliminated as well. The tear down issue will come back to the Council as a stand-alone item. Mr. Durkin further stated that staff is continuing to work on the tear down document.

**O-01-06  
ORDINANCE ADDING TITLE  
12 ENTITLED "HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION" TO THE  
CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF  
FOREST PARK  
APPROVED**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The motion carried unanimously.

**FRENCH MARKET  
DISCUSSION**

Mayor Calderone opened discussion regarding the French Market for 2006. He stated that he met with Bensidoun, the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street representatives last week. The Council needs to discuss whether they will support the French Market and determine a suitable location for the Market. In addition, the discussion will include funds required by the Village of Forest Park. Mayor Calderone then introduced Art Sundry and Laurie Kokenes representing the Chamber of Commerce and Dorothy Gillian representing Forest Park Main Street. Mr. Sundry stated that as a result of their meeting with Bensidoun, both groups have committed to the French Market for 2006. He further stated that the preferred location is the parking lot on the corner of Circle and Madison streets. Mr. Sundry referred to the summary packet that was distributed and ask for permission to use the lot and for the Village to provide and install permanent signage promoting the Market, which would start on May 1, 2006. Commissioner Hosty asked what the proposed hours were and stated that he felt that keeping the Market open until 2:00 was useless. Commissioner Hosty suggested a 1:00 closing. Commissioner Hosty further stated that it is imperative that the tear down is done promptly to provide for parking for the businesses. Mr. Sundry stated that if the market closes at 2:00, the parking lot would be ready by 4:30, if the market closes at 1:00, the lot would be empty by 3:30. Mr. Sundry added that it would be acceptable to put the tear down requirements into the document. Commissioner Gillian asked whether Bensidoun would take care of the set up. Ms. Kokenes stated that not all the particulars have been worked out, however the parties will collaborate and select a reliable worker to set up and tear down weekly. Commissioner Steinbach asked who will be responsible for the cost of the anchors. Ms. Kokenes stated that Bensidoun will provide the anchors and the Village of Forest Park will be asked to pay to install them. The cost for installation last time was \$2,560. Mayor Calderone stated that the Village will find a way to manage the cost. Commissioner Steinbach stated that she felt that we cannot afford to lose 2 parking spaces for the entire summer in this lot to provide storage for the canopies. Ms. Kokenes stated that this detail will also be worked out should the Village commit to the Market for 2006. Commissioner Steinbach asked how we will be assured that Bensidoun will live up to their commitments. Ms. Kokenes stated that Bensidoun has already agreed that they will need to make special deals with the vendors involved to entice them

to Forest Park. Due to the various locations and the poor turnout in 2004, vendors will be hesitant to come to Forest Park. It will take a while to build the vendor base that other established French Markets enjoy. Ms. Kokenes further stated that Bensidoun has a very good reputation and rapport with the vendors. Bensidoun also wants the Market to be a success. Mr. Sundry added that Bensidoun is expanding into Chicago and New York State and has recommitted for at least a few seasons at this location. Commissioner Steinbach asked whether the cost to the Village of Forest Park would be \$5,000 as before. Ms. Kokenes felt that \$5,000 would be an adequate commitment. Mayor Calderone stated that it would be important to install permanent signs at strategic locations (near I290) to direct customers to the Market and added that this would be a partnership between Bensidoun, the Village of Forest Park and the Business Community of Forest Park. Commissioner Steinbach stated that she would like to see the same types of vendors in Forest Park as seen in the Wheaton French Market. Commissioner Gillian stated that he was disappointed with the products being sold last year. He added that the Village will accept some of the responsibility for the success of the Market and that \$5,000 is a reasonable and appropriate amount of money. Commissioner Gillian expressed his renewed commitment to the success of the French Market in Forest Park. The Village's responsibility would be the \$5,000, installation of signage, promotion wherever possible (website, water bills) and the supply of any necessary utilities. Auxiliary police were deemed unnecessary. Commissioner Doolin asked whether the Circle and Madison location was Bensidoun's choice. Mayor Calderone confirmed and Mr. Sundry stated that this was the number one location from the survey as well. Mayor Calderone stated that it seems like all Commissioners agree and that he would direct staff to research whether a Resolution is needed to move forward.

Mayor Calderone stated that Commissioner Hosty requested that Industrial Drive be placed on the agenda for discussion. Commissioner Hosty stated that he read a letter by Commissioner Steinbach in the Forest Park Review newspaper regarding the \$2.5 million repairs needed for Industrial Drive. He further stated that this is the proper forum for debate rather than in the newspaper. Commissioner Hosty then said that there were two mis-statements in Commissioner Steinbach's letter. The first was that \$2 million in taxes are paid to the Village of Forest Park by the businesses on Industrial Drive, when actually only \$300,000 is channeled to the Village of Forest Park. The second is that we aren't asking for business funding for the parking solution for Madison Street. Madison Street businesses also pay a large amount of real estate taxes and contribute sales taxes to the Village and the business community is willing to participate in the cost

## **INDUSTRIAL DRIVE DISCUSSION**

to solve the parking solution. Commissioner Hosty asked Commissioner Steinbach what her ideas are to come up with the \$2.5 million to fix Industrial Drive. Commissioner Steinbach had no response.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Calderone stated that the Village of Forest Park's new website is finally completed and expressed his thanks to Sally Cody for her dedicated hard work in taking this project from start to finish and leading the design of the website.

Sally Cody stated that the design took several months and that we are proud to announce the new design at the beginning of the New Year. She further stated that the first Village website was unveiled in 2001 and that she has been monitoring and updating the site for about 4 years. It was decided that the site needed to be updated and enhanced and soon discovered that the redesign would require budgeted funds so the project was postponed a year. Then Mr. Anthony Zito of Saber Tooth Web Design expressed his interest in helping design the site while keeping the cost affordable. Ms. Cody introduced Mr. Zito. Mr. Zito stated that in keeping with the village motto, the photograph on the home page shows the Sears Tower in the background of the shot of Madison Street. The site has some special flash features and the redundancy has been eliminated. The site is now more streamlined and user-friendly. In addition, an on-line bill payment feature has been added for water payments. This feature will be expanded in the future to accept parking ticket and other payments. There is also a search engine for the website and the internet in addition to the ability to place a service request online. The final product will be launched on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Sally Cody then thanked Mr. Zito for the great job on cleaning up the site and asked for feedback from the public. Ms. Cody further stated that in the future, we may solicit village photo submission by the public and added that she hoped everyone likes the final product. Commissioner Doolin asked whether the online bill payment would be working tomorrow. Ms. Cody stated that that is the plan; however it will only accept water payments for now. Mayor Calderone stated that all required documents have been submitted to the Treasurer's office and that a test payment will be done. Commissioner Steinbach asked that the French Market information be posted on the website promptly.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Gillian that the Ordinance amending Ordinance O-58-05 regarding the hiring of part-time police officers be adopted. Commissioner Steinbach asked what the change to the Ordinance is. Mayor Calderone stated that the hiring was

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW  
VILLAGE WEB SITE**

**O-02-06  
ORDINANCE AMENDING  
ORDINANCE O-58-05  
REGARDING HIRING PART-  
TIME POLICE OFFICERS  
APPROVED**

initially to be by the Village Council and the amended Ordinance states that the Commissioner of Public Affairs will authorize hiring of part time officers. Commissioner Doolin stated that this Ordinance just passed on November 14 with Village Council review and asked why this issue was not raised at that time and further stated that he did not agree that this is similar authorization as that granted to other Commissioners. He further stated that he felt that there is a distinct difference of the position of Police officer and Code Enforcement Officer and Village Clerk Staff, etc. and that there should be no distinction of authority between the hiring of part-time and full-time police officers since State Statutes recognize and give that authority to the Fire and Police Commission.

Commissioner Doolin expressed his opinion that it is important to have additional oversight and that should be done by the consent of the Village Council. Commissioner Gillian stated that Auxiliary Police Officers share the same responsibilities; including the use of deadly force and that the Village Council or the Fire and Police Commission do not approve the hiring or firing of Auxiliary Officers. Mayor Calderone stated that the Police and Fire Commission was created to afford protection to civil service employees and Police Officers and Firefighters are not at-will employees. Auxiliary and Part-Time Officers are at-will employees and stated that it is a totally different animal. Mayor Calderone further stated that the Village of Forest Park has been trying to accomplish the creation of this position for about 5 years and that these officers will be used for writing not only parking tickets but State tickets. Auxiliary officers are not authorized to write state tickets. Commissioner Doolin again asked why this is being changed now since the original Ordinance passed in November. Mayor Calderone stated that it was an oversight. Commissioner Doolin asked whether Mayor Calderone thought the hiring should be before the Village Council. Mayor Calderone stated that he thought that only Department Head hiring should come before the Village Council.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:** Commissioner Doolin

**ABSENT:** None

The motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Steinbach that the Resolution authorizing an application to the North Central Council of Mayors for Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds and further authorizing the Mayor to execute, and the Village Clerk to attest said application on behalf of the Village of Forest Park be adopted. Commissioner Steinbach asked whether the Village will be required to pay the approximately \$850,000 in funds for this

**R-02-06  
RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING  
APPLICATION FOR  
SURFACE  
TRANSPORTATION FUNDS  
APPROVED**

project. Village Administrator, Mike Sturino, stated that if the engineer's estimates are correct, yes. Commissioner Steinbach asked how we will be financially able to make up this amount with operating funds as the motor fuel tax funds are used to offset operating costs. Mr. Sturino stated that he and Public Works Director Curt Cashman are looking at creative ways to avoid using MFT funds and that possibly other grants are available. He further stated that this is a worthy project and that there is a deadline to be met. Mr. Sturino stated that all comments will be taken under consideration. Mayor Calderone stated that this is an application to get the funding. We don't have to commit to the project at this point and we will try to figure out the funding if we are able to get the STP funds.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone announced that the Village of Forest Park was recognized by the National League of Cities for reaching the 25 year milestone of membership. The Village received a plaque which will be displayed at Village Hall.

**AWARD FROM NATIONAL  
LEAGUE OF CITIES  
COMMEMORATING 25<sup>TH</sup>  
MEMBERSHIP  
ANNIVERSARY**

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

None

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS:**

Commissioner Gillian congratulated the Village Council and expressed his thanks to the Historic Preservation Committee for the Ordinance passed by the Village Council tonight. He added that this Ordinance took a lot of hard work and was a long time coming.

Mayor Calderone reported that the 2007 year marks the 100 anniversary of the Village of Forest Park under the Forest Park name. Prior to that, we were called the Village of Harlem. He further stated that it is very likely that some type of recognition and celebration is in order. This will require work, starting now, with the help of volunteers and residents. Mayor Calderone asked that even in light of the election in 2007, all elected officials be involved in the process and come together and start working today to create a fitting Centennial for Forest Park. Commissioners Hosty, Gillian, Steinbach and Doolin affirmed their support.

It was moved by Commissioner Steinbach and seconded by Commissioner Hosty to recess into closed session to set a price for the sale or lease of property owned by the public body.

**RECESS INTO CLOSED  
SESSION  
8:15 P.M.**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Steinbach and seconded by Commissioner Hosty that the Village Council reconvene to open session.

**RECONVENE OPEN  
SESSION  
9:17 P.M.**

**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 Steinbach motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hosty seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 9:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz  
**Village Clerk**