

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING JULY 23, 2007**

Mayor Calderone led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone answered the Roll Call.

Mayor Calderone introduced Commissioner Hoskins' parents, Mr. Robert Hoskins & Mrs. Billie Hoskins and welcomed them to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Hoskins that the minutes from the Regular Council meeting on July 9, 2007 be approved without reading, as everyone has received copies thereof, and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Jerry Webster of 627 Circle Avenue expressed his dissatisfaction with the Village removing the fence at the North Park without consulting with the Recreation Board. Mr. Webster stated that fencing is necessary and that the removal of the North Park fencing has caused an increase in the use of the park at Circle and Lehmer, which has a fence around it. Mr. Webster further stated that he did not feel the plan submitted by McAdam Landscaping is appropriate because they included trees near the play area. Mr. Webster stated that he would prefer the first plan with some modifications.

Ms. Jennifer Wolfe of 908 Beloit congratulated the Village Council and stated that she is glad that they are in the process of reconfiguring the parks. As a group, Ms. Wolfe explained, the Recreation Board did think that the park looks better without the fence and suggested putting a new fence around only the play area rather than the entire perimeter. Ms. Wolfe further stated that she emailed the elected officials to make some recommendations and thanked them for their consideration.

Mr. Varun Parekh of 7428 Washington, #408 spoke on behalf of the residents of 7428 Washington. Mr. Parekh stated that Alechri Properties is in the process of converting the building to condominiums. There has been no elevator service for almost 5 weeks. Mr. Parekh stated that he has helped some of the older people in the building, but is not there all the time and it is very hard on some of the residents. In addition, Mr. Parekh stated that the stairways are filthy and need to be

cleaned, painted and maintained. Mr. Parekh expressed his feeling that lives and health may be in jeopardy and asked for advice on how to handle the situation. Mayor Calderone stated that although the problem can't be solved tonight, he asked Mr. Parekh to work with the building department to resolve the issues.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Ms. Mary Witte of 114 Marengo wrote a letter asking the Mayor to consider a local ban on pit bull dogs. She stated that her dog was attacked by a pit bull on July 11. She further stated that pit bulls are considered to be vicious dogs. Commissioner Hosty stated that in the letter Ms. Witte says that other towns have banned pit bulls and asked what the procedure would be. Village Attorney Durkin stated that he is not sure of the process. Mayor Calderone pointed out that none of the municipalities mentioned are in Illinois. Mayor Calderone further stated that Forest Park has a vicious dog ordinance in place and the Police can cite any dog owner who lets their dog loose and to owners of misbehaving dogs. Mayor Calderone asked the Village Council whether there was a consensus to consider a ban or to allow the vicious dog ordinance that is already in place to apply. Commissioner Tellalian asked whether Ms. Witte filed a report. Mayor Calderone stated that she did, however this may be a one-time occurrence. Police Chief, Jim Ryan, stated that Forest Park has an animal administrator and he was brought in to consult on this case. Commissioner Hoskins asked whether the dog was put down. Chief Ryan stated that it was not put down. Commissioner Hoskins stated that it may be more appropriate to deal with each individual dog rather than all pit bulls.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

The Community Center and the Police and Public Works Departments submitted their June Reports.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Curry 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 \$487,402.72.

**R-44-07
RESOLUTION FOR THE
PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$487402.72
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

It was moved by Commissioner Curry and seconded by Commissioner Hosty to direct the Village Attorney to prepare an ordinance regarding ZBA 2007-10 authorizing approval of the alteration of a legal non-conforming multiple-family

**MOTION DIRECTING
VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO
PREPARE ORDINANCE RE:
ZBA 2007-10 7542 WEST**

residential structure, which property has a non-conforming west side yard of 0.0 feet, northern side yard of 0.0 feet, east side yard of 0.0 feet and south side yard of 0.0 feet allowing structural alterations of the structure in order to construct a fifth story addition and other internal structural alterations to the building, and authorizing a variation from sections 9-8-a(B)8 and 9-8-2 to reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces from 46 to zero (0) for a condominium conversion project for the property located at 7542 West Adams, in the R-3 High Density Residential District. Commissioner Hoskins stated that his initial opposition was based on the availability of affordable housing in Forest Park. Historically Forest Park has had a decent stock of affordable housing and that should continue. The article in the Review stated that Forest Park was deemed the most affordable suburb in the Chicago land area in 2000. That designation was based on rental rates and transportation costs. Commissioner Hoskins continued that approximately 40 people who currently live at 7542 Adams will probably be priced out of their apartment. Commissioner Hoskins expressed his desire to advocate maintaining affordable housing in Forest Park. Commissioner Tellalian stated that he was previously opposed to this project and wanted to table the issue in order to review the height. There were difficulties associated with altering the plan. Commissioner Tellalian further stated that the ultimate decision is whether the project makes sense and suggested that staff reports and recommendations be more clear when comparing unrelated projects as increasing the height will affect the light and air to the properties on either side. Commissioner Tellalian further stated that this type of project has not been approved in the past, however it would be a good trade off for improving the building and the Village of Forest Park and it would be best to approve this project.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Curry, Hosty, Tellalian
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: Commissioner Hoskins

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Hoskins that the Appropriation Ordinance of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2007, and ending April 30, 2008, be adopted.

**O-31-07
APPROPRIATION
ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL
YEAR 2007-08
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Tellalian that the Resolution authorizing the waiver of the hiring freeze for IMRF employees regarding the hiring of an Accounts Receivable Clerk be approved.

**R-45-07
RESOLUTION WAIVING
IMRF HIRING FREEZE FOR
HIRING ACCOUNTS
RECEIVABLE CLERK
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Curry and seconded by Commissioner Hosty that the Resolution authorizing the waiver of the hiring freeze for IMRF employees regarding the hiring of a building inspector be approved.

**R-46-07
RESOLUTION WAIVING
IMRF HIRING FREEZE FOR
HIRING BUILDING
INSPECTOR
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone distributed a proposal from DLK Civic Design Company and stated that they have extensive experience designing public parks. Mayor Calderone stated that the Council may want to hire DLK to work with us to come up with design specifications for the North Park as well as the other parks. Once the specifications are determined, the project could be bid out. Mayor Calderone further stated that a lot of work went into the McAdam proposals that have been presented to the Council. Mayor Calderone asked the Council to indicate which direction they would like to move. Commissioner Hosty asked whether the DLK proposal includes defining the scope of work and composing the bid package for \$2,400.00 and expressed his desire to do the project right rather than quickly. Commissioner Tellalian stated that the DLK proposal has a 2 week time frame and if we allow three weeks for bidding, we should have the quotes in the next two meetings. Commissioner Tellalian stated that he thinks that we can wait 5 weeks to begin this project. Commissioner Hosty suggested using Jennifer Wolfe's letter

**DISCUSSION REGARDING
PROPOSALS AND SCOPE
OF WORK FOR NORTH
PARK**

for suggestions. Mayor Calderone stated that Jennifer Wolfe can be included in discussions as well. Mayor Calderone further stated that DLK is conscious that governments need standards and it is better and easier to maintain if the materials are the same from park to park. Commissioner Hosty stated that he would like to see consistency and commonality from one park to another. Commissioner Hoskins stated that his main concern is for safety rather than aesthetics and suggested erecting a temporary fence around the tot lot to help parents keep children in the play area. Bob Kutak, Director of Public Works, stated that the department can erect a temporary snow fence right away. Mayor Calderone stated that DLK spent quite a bit of time at the park and will be able to prioritize the issues. Commissioner Tellalian reiterated that the 5 week time frame is important to him. It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Curry to approve and authorize the execution of the proposal from DLK Civic Design for the layout, bidding and installation of improvements to the North Park dated July 13, 2007 for a cost not to exceed \$2,400.00.

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZE
EXECUTION OF
PROPOSAL WITH DLK
CIVIC DESIGN
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Curry to ratify the purchase of one 2008 Ford F250 4X4 crew cab purchased on behalf of the Village of Forest Park Fire Department from Anderson Ford for the sum of \$26,836.

**MOTION TO RATIFY
PURCHASE OF 2008 FORD
F250 FOR FIRE
DEPARTMENT
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Tellalian to authorize the purchase of two 2007 Dodge Charger police pursuit vehicles from Bob Ridings, Inc., pursuant to the State Purchase Contract, for a total cost of \$41,380.

**MOTION AUTHORIZING
PURCHASE OF TWO 2007
DODGE CHARGE POLICE
PURSUIT VEHICLES
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Curry that the Ordinance amending certain portions of Section 6-4-2, entitled "Parking Restrictions," of Chapter 4, entitled "Stopping, Standing and Parking," of Title 6, entitled "Motor Vehicles and Traffic," of the Code of the Village of Forest Park be adopted.

**O-32-07
ORDINANCE AMENDING
SECTION 6-4-2 OF VILLAGE
CODE
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoskins and seconded by Commissioner Curry that the Ordinance amending Section 6-4-4, entitled "Parking Permits," of Chapter 4, entitled "Stopping, Standing and Parking," of Title 6 entitled "Motor Vehicles and Traffic," of the Code of the Village of Forest Park be adopted. It was moved by Commissioner Hoskins and seconded by Commissioner Curry to amend the Ordinance to allow for discounts for resident Senior Citizens at a cost of \$10.00/month and \$25.00/quarter for day parking, \$20.00/month and \$55.00/quarter for night parking and \$30.00/month and \$85.00/quarter for twenty four hour parking permits. Village Administrator, Michael Sturino, asked for a definition for "Senior Citizen." Mayor Calderone suggested "Senior Citizen" would mean a Forest Park resident over the age of 65.

**MOTION TO AMEND
SECTION 6-4-4 OF VILLAGE
CODE OF FOREST PARK**

**MOTION TO AMEND THE
PREVIOUS MOTION TO
AMEND SECTION 6-4-4 OF
VILLAGE CODE OF
FOREST PARK RE:
PARKING PERMIT RATES
AND FEES
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Tellalian stated that increasing the rates is not tied to alleviating the downtown parking problem and suggested raising fees or eliminating red top meters on Madison Street instead. Commissioner Tellalian moved to table the parking permit rate increase and wait to see how the employee parking pilot program works. The motion died for lack of a second. Commissioner Tellalian expressed his dissatisfaction with the proposed ordinance and stated that we just approved free parking to non-residents and now we are increasing parking fees to our residents. Commissioner Hosty

**MOTION TO TABLE
PARKING PERMIT RATE
INCREASE
DIES FOR LACK OF
SECOND**

**O-33-07
ORDINANCE AMENDING
SECTION 6-4-4 OF THE
VILLAGE CODE
REGARDING PARKING
PERMIT RATES AND FEES
APPROVED**

stated that the issue is more than the bottom line. The increase may provide money for property acquisitions. Commissioner Hosty further stated that he is in favor of moving forward. Commissioner Tellalian suggested charging for the employee parking permits. Commissioner Hosty stated that the employees get free parking as an incentive to walk two blocks to their job. Mayor Calderone explained that the Village owns lots not associated with Madison Street and this is a revenue enhancement having nothing to do with Madison Street.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: Commissioner Tellalian

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Hoskins that the Ordinance amending Section 4-2-1, entitled "Definitions," and Section 4-2-5, entitled "Charges," of Chapter 2, entitled "Garbage, Refuse and Waste," of Title 4, entitled "Health and Sanitation," of the Code of the Village of Forest Park be adopted. Mayor Calderone stated that this will be a hot topic as we are currently subsidizing about \$500,000 annually. This subsidy eats into our rainy day fund, which in turn, causes scrutiny of the elected officials. Commissioner Tellalian stated that there are 3 years left on the current contract. When the new contract is negotiated, we will look at incentives and try to get the rates down. Mayor Calderone added that it could be a "pay as you need" basis.

**O-34-07
ORDINANCE AMENDING
SECTION 4-2-1
REGARDING GARBAGE
FEES
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Hoskins, Curry, Hosty, Tellalian
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Sturino stated that he has spoken with Park District Director, Larry Piekarcz and he is talking to the Park District's Officials regarding the Village becoming involved in the park area at Harlem and the Eisenhower. He promised to continue dialogue regarding enhancements and including this in the Village's list of green spaces. The Park District seems to be interested.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Commissioner Curry thanked the staff and businesses involved in the Progressive Dinner as well as the Groovin' in the Grove event and announced that there will be another Groovin' in the Grove event in August, as well as a Centennial Celebration over Labor Day Weekend. Commissioner Curry addressed Mr. Parekh and assured him that the elected officials want to make the Village and the homes in the Village better and encouraged Mr. Parekh to contact him directly.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz
Village Clerk