

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING SEPTEMBER 24, 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.

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 September 10, 2007 be approved without reading as each member has received a copy 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.

It was moved by Commissioner Hoskins and seconded by Commissioner Tellalian that the minutes from the Closed Council meeting on July 9, 2007, July 18, 1007, August 13, 207 and August 27, 2007 be approved without reading as each member has received a copy 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

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

Sister Rosemary Connelly of Misericordia requested permission to conduct their "tag days" fundraiser in Forest Park on Friday April 25, 2008 and Saturday, April 26, 2008. There were no objections from the Village Council and the Clerk was instructed to notify Sister Rosemary Connelly of the approval.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

The Police Department submitted its August report. Commissioner Tellalian requested comments from Police Chief Ryan on the investigation of one of our police officers. Chief Ryan stated that he contacted the Illinois State Police and requested they perform an investigation regarding accusations against one of our sworn officers. The investigation did not indicate a need for criminal charges. The State Police have stated that the complete investigation report should be delivered to Chief Ryan by Wednesday morning. Chief Ryan will have a copy delivered to Village Attorney, Michael Durkin, on Wednesday afternoon. Chief Ryan will then discuss the report with Mr. Durkin and determine whether there is a need for an internal investigation.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

It was moved by Commissioner Hoskins 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 \$426,743.31.

**R-56-07
APPROVAL OF BILLS IN
THE AMOUNT OF
\$426,743.31
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

It was moved by Commissioner Hoskins and seconded by Commissioner Hosty that the Resolution providing for the levy of an additional Library Tax for Building and Maintenance be adopted. Mr. Durkin stated that this resolution is an annual requirement that the Library Board triggers. The Library Board adopted an ordinance in August, 2007 requiring that the Village include in their levy ordinance an additional tax of 0.02% for the building and maintenance. This levy is pursuant to the Local Library Act. If adopted by the Village Council, and published within 15 days, registered voters in Forest Park can circulate petitions for a back door referendum. If the petitions include the signatures of 10% of the registered voters, then the issue will appear on the primary ballot on February 5, 2008. If no such petitions are submitted, the Village will include the 0.02% in their annual levy ordinance. Commissioner Curry explained that this is a two one-hundredths of one percent not a two hundred percent levy. Mr.

**R-57-07
RESOLUTION PROVIDING
FOR ADDITIONAL LIBRARY
TAX IN THE AMOUNT OF
0.02% FOR BUILDING AND
MAINTENANCE
APPROVED**

Durkin further stated that this 0.02% levy would appear on the 2007 tax bills, payable in 2008 and that the Village Council plays a ministerial part in the process. Commissioner Tellalian asked whether the Village Council has any input in how this money is spent. Mr. Durkin stated that the Library Board governs their own expenditures; however this levy is for building and maintenance only.

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 authorizing the sale of surplus property by public auction through the West Central Municipal Conference be adopted.

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 Ordinance authorizing the sale or disposition of surplus property of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois be 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 Hoskins that the Resolution authorizing the waiver of the hiring freeze for IMRF employees regarding the hiring of a Communication Operator be approved. Commissioner Hosty suggested that the Village Council consider reviewing the necessity of the hiring freeze. Mayor Calderone stated that normally a hiring freeze is not necessary, but one reason it was adopted was that an elected official hired an employee without going through the normal hiring and screening procedures. Commissioner Hosty stated that we have a new group of commissioners and it does not appear to be a necessary safeguard at this time. Mayor

**O-43-07
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
THE SALE OF SURPLUS
PROPERTY BY PUBLIC
AUCTION
APPROVED**

**O-44-07
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
THE SALE OR
DISPOSITION OF SURPLUS
PROPERTY
APPROVED**

**R-58-07
RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING WAIVER OF
IMRF HIRING FREEZE RE:
THE HIRING OF A
COMMUNICATION
OPERATOR
APPROVED**

Calderone suggested allowing the Village Administrator to think about it and give feedback to the Village council.

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 Hoskins to approve and authorize the purchase of office furniture in the amount of \$26,855.00 from Arthur P. O'Hara Office Furniture.

**MOTION TO AUTHORIZING
PURCHASE OF OFFICE
FURNITURE FROM
ARTHUR P. O'HARA
FURNITURE
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 to approve the 2008 Village of Forest Park Council Meeting Schedule as proposed.

**MOTION TO ADOPT 2008
VILLAGE COUNCIL
MEETING SCHEDULE
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

None

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS

Mayor Calderone stated that he would like to remind everyone that in honor of the Village of Forest Park's Centennial, the Community Center put together a cookbook. They are for sale for \$5.00 each at the Community Center and at Village Hall.

Commissioner Hoskins stated that he has received many residents' comments and concerns that there is no place in the Village to play basketball. Commissioner Hoskins added that the Community Center has basketball hoops and that we need volunteers to supervise play. If anyone is interested in volunteering, they can leave their contact information at the Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Hoskins announced that he has provided a summary of government LEED incentives relating to the development of green buildings that was released by the United States Green Building Council. The Village is in the process of updating the building codes. Commissioner Hoskins asked for feedback from citizens and advised that anyone interested in a copy of the summary can obtain it from the Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Curry stated that he concurs with Commissioner Hoskins regarding the lack of basketball courts in Forest Park and offered to volunteer to help organize a program. Commissioner Curry reminded residents that the Village rodent abatement program is still in place and residents can call the Department of Health and Safety or Commissioner Curry directly. With the smoking ban law going into effect in approximately 90 days, Commissioner Curry felt it was timely to announce that the University of Illinois is conducting a Stop Smoking program and a breast cancer awareness program. Anyone interested can contact Tammy Reynolds at 449-4320. Commissioner Curry also announced that the Forest Park Art fest will be held on September 29 and 30 on Madison Street.

Commissioner Hosty congratulated and expressed his thanks to Beverly Thompson and the staff of the Community Center on the hugely successful Rib Festival that was held last weekend in Forest Park.

Commissioner Tellalian congratulated Beverly Thompson and her staff on a job well done. Commissioner Tellalian further stated that they have received the cut sheets on the proposed renovations to the North Park on Friday and are awaiting specifications and budget information. Hopefully the project will be completed this fall.

Mayor Calderone stated that The Park District and the School district should be providing programming for the children in Forest Park and have not done so to date. Mayor Calderone suggested asking the Park and the School Districts to make the opportunity available as they have indoor basketball courts and outdoor playgrounds. Commissioner Curry suggested that all three entities work together to try to coordinate and implement a program. Commissioner Hosty stated that the School District has over \$3 million excess in their budget and we should be encouraging them to provide programming which is tied to a learning experience. In addition, we should sit down with the three governing bodies and encourage them to do the right thing. Commissioner Tellalian agreed that we need more activities for our youth and echoed Commissioner Hosty with regard to the well funded School District and Park District. Commissioner Tellalian added that the basketball hoops that were previously in the North Park and the Dog Park were taken down because the Village couldn't maintain them to residents' satisfaction. Commissioner Hoskins stated that when groups of kids have nothing to do, it can affect the general welfare of the community. It is our responsibility to the community to advance this discussion and not pretend it's not our job. Mayor Calderone stated that the Village should play a role. We can take action, but we can't force the School District or the Park District to comply. The Park and School Districts should be serving a role in education and activities for our youth. We need to engage them as this issue affects the quality of life and home in our community. Commissioner Hosty suggested that we gather the 3 elected bodies to discuss goals for Forest Park. Village Clerk Moritz offered to bring this issue up at the Citizen's Advisory Board meeting on September 27th.

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 8:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz
Village Clerk