

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING MARCH 10, 2008**

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 February 25, 2008 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**

Mr. Martin Sorice of 7425 Madison expressed his concern about the increase in liquor license fees and requested that the Village Council consider the effects that the smoking ban, the economy and the bad weather have had on the bar business and further requested that the Village Council consider deferring the increase.

Mr. John Raniere of 7425 Madison reiterated what Mr. Sorice said and asked whether the increase in the liquor license fees could be spread over a couple years.

Mr. Brian Kaczmar of 7420 Madison Street stated that he is the president of the Forest Park Liquor Association and stated that business has been bad the last couple of months, so the timing of the liquor license increase is poor.

Mr. Mike Trant of 7513 Madison Street stated that although business is not that bad, the proposed increase is significant. Mr. Trant asked the Council if they could somehow spread the increase out or keep the increase at a tolerable amount.

Mr. David Meyer of 814 Hannah stated that as a blind traveler, he is opposed to the elimination of the stop light at Circle and Madison. He further explained that it is very difficult for a blind traveler to determine when it is safe to cross the street at a four way stop sign because they depend on sounds to decide. Mr. Meyer asked the Village Council to reconsider and vote against the pilot program.

Mr. Andrew Harrick of 311 Marengo stated that his wife, who is blind, travels the intersection of Circle and Madison on a daily basis. Mr. Harrick urged the Village Council to oppose the proposal to replace the stop light with a four way stop sign.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

Ms. Angie Taylor of Carolyn Grisko & Associates, Inc., submitted information regarding the Canadian National Railroad’s proposed acquisition of the EJ&E rail line, which will result in a decrease in trains traveling through Forest Park. Ms. Taylor requested that the Village Council send a letter of support to the Surface Transportation Board supporting the sale and rerouting of the freight traffic in our area. It was decided that one letter will be drafted and signed by all of the elected officials in Forest Park.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

The Finance Department submitted their February report. Commissioner Tellalian asked whether we are expecting to receive the delayed revenue in time to pay back the VIP fund. Ms. Kovacs stated that we are.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

It was moved by Commissioner Hosty and seconded by Commissioner Hoskins that the Resolution 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 \$885,353.89.

**R-12-08  
RESOLUTION FOR THE  
PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE  
AMOUNT OF \$885,353.89  
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**

Mayor Calderone introduced traffic engineer, Mike Ziegler, of Christopher Burke Engineering to report and comment on the proposed trial of making the stop light at Circle and Madison into a four way stop sign. Mr. Ziegler stated that this issue was studied in 2002 to address queuing and speeding along Madison Street. Mr. Ziegler stated that the problem is at Harlem and that IDOT has made some adjustments. The car count on Harlem is 2,300 per hour and on Madison is 1,000 per hour. Mr. Ziegler suggested revisiting the no parking hours

**DISCUSSION RE:  
PROPOSAL TO MAKE  
MADISON AND CIRCLE  
INTERSECTION A FOUR  
WAY STOP**

and enforcement on the south side of Madison at Harlem. Mr. Ziegler expressed concern that the stop sign at Circle and Madison may exacerbate the problem because there are left turn lanes on all sides. Mr. Ziegler further suggested installation of radar speed signs may address pedestrian safety and decrease speeding. It was discussed that the main issues are pedestrian safety, traffic flow/blocked intersection and speeding. It was further discussed that enforcement of the no parking tow zone on Madison at Harlem will free up space for motorists turning south onto Harlem. The Village Council agreed to put Mr. Ziegler and Mr. Sturino to the task of coming back to them with some recommendations.

It was moved by Commissioner Curry and seconded by Commissioner Hosty that the Resolution approving an intergovernmental agreement for the provision of environmental health inspectional services between the Village of Forest Park and the Cook County Department of Public Health be adopted. It was discussed that it is more cost effective for the County to perform the health inspections for the Village.

**R-13-08  
RESOLUTION APPROVING  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
AGREEMENT WITH COOK  
COUNTY RE: HEALTH  
INSPECTION SERVICES  
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 Resolution authorizing application for 2008 Cook County Community Development Block Grant Funds be adopted.

**R-14-08  
RESOLUTION  
AUTHORIZING 2008 CDBG  
APPLICATION  
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 authorize the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to hire one (1) police officer from the current eligibility roster.

**MOTION AUTHORIZING  
BOARD OF FIRE AND  
POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
TO HIRE ONE POLICE  
OFFICER  
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 Resolution regarding the intention to purchase real estate pursuant to a parking grant be adopted. It was discussed that the grant is time sensitive and this will allow more time for negotiating. The grant cannot be used to improve existing parking, but for addition of parking in or adjacent to the Madison Street Business district. Any purchase would be contingent upon the funding of this grant.

**R-15-08  
RESOLUTION REGARDING  
INTENTION TO PURCHASE  
REAL ESTATE PURSUANT  
TO A PARKING GRANT  
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 Ordinance authorizing a variation in the regulations of the Zoning Ordinance of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois re: ZBA 2008-01: 1310 Marengo Avenue be adopted.

**O-08-08  
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING  
A VARIATION RE: ZBA  
2008-01: 1310 MARENGO  
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 Tellalian that the Ordinance amending Chapter 3 entitled "Liquor Control" of Title 3 of the Code of the Village of Forest Park be adopted. It was discussed that the purpose of the amendment is to clean up the code to make the descriptions more understandable and to increase license fees. It was further discussed that fees have not been raised since 1994 and before that since 1976. It was further discussed to explore sliding scale fees based upon size or semi-annual payment of the increased fees. It was moved by Commissioner Hoskins and seconded by Commissioner Curry to table the Ordinance amending Chapter 3 entitled "Liquor Control" of Title 3 of the Code of the Village of Forest Park.

**ORDINANCE AMENDING  
CHAPTER 3 ENTITLED  
"LIQUOR CONTROL" CODE  
TABLED**

**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 reported that the Forest Park St. Patrick's Day parade was filmed and will be posted on our website, as well as being broadcast on Comcast channel 19 at 5:30 p.m. on March 17. Mayor Calderone expressed his pleasure with having all of the elected officials walking in the parade together as a group as well as how lucky we were with the weather at our parade.

Commissioner Curry wished all in attendance a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Commissioner Curry further suggested looking into implementing an audible notification system for pedestrians at the Madison and Circle intersection.

Commissioner Tellalian reported that the Village will have the 50/50 sidewalk program in effect in 2008. This program allows property owners and the Village to share the cost to replace damaged or unsafe sidewalks. Any property owner wishing to replace sidewalk squares can call the Public Works department Secretary, Katie Murphy, at 708-615-6212.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 8:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz  
**Village Clerk**