

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 13, 2018**

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

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Byrnes, Mannix, Novak, Entler and Mayor Calderone answered the Roll Call.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Mannix and seconded by Commissioner Entler that the minutes from the October 22, 2018, Regular Meeting of the Village Council be approved without reading as each member has received a copy thereof and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Mannix, Novak, Entler
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Leah Shapiro requested that the Village Council address issues with traffic and parking along Van Buren , and consider installing stop signs. In addition, she requested that more sidewalks be installed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was moved by Commissioner Mannix and seconded by Commissioner Entler 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 \$1,101,906.29.

**R-68-18
RESOLUTION FOR THE
PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$1,101,906.29
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Mannix, Novak, Entler and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Calderone administered the Official Oath of Office to Police Sergeant Nicholas Defors.

**OATH OF OFFICE
ADMINISTERED TO POLICE
SERGEANT
NICHOLAS DEFORS**

Police Chief Aftanas presented Sgt. Defors with a Life Saving Award in recognition of his quick-thinking, preparedness and efforts to save the life of a gravely injured person on August 11, 2018.

**SGT. DEFORS PRESENTED
WITH LIFE SAVING AWARD**

Mr. Michael Mencarini of the National Park Service presented the final report of the community outreach efforts in relation to the idea of a cultural park at the village’s property near the Altenheim. Mr. Mencarini held 14 conversations, 3 targeted public outreach events and 4 public outreach sessions to gather input about the use of the land. This outreach was the result of a grant awarded to the village for technical assistance through the National Park Service. The report will be available on the village’s website for viewing. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to hold a town hall open forum to discuss both the National Park Service’s report as well as the ad hoc Cultural Park Committee’s report. Mr. Mencarini was thanked and commended on a stellar job. Mr. Mencarini advised that he would be available to the village on an ongoing basis as the technical assistance was intended to be over a period of 12-24 months. Mr. Mencarini proceeded to field questions from the attendees.

**NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
FINAL REPORT
PRESENTED**

It was moved by Commissioner Mannix and seconded by Commissioner Entler that the Resolution determining the estimated property taxes to be levied by the Village of forest Park for the 2018 tax year be adopted. It was discussed that the levy is limited based on the CPI. In addition, of the \$5,611,538 levy, 51% of the levy is allocated to police, fire and IMRF pensions. Last, it was announced that there will be a hearing on December 17, 2018 before the Council Meeting for the purpose of receiving public comment on the annual levy.

**R-69-18
RESOLUTION
DETERMINING ESTIMATED
TAX LEVY
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Mannix, Novak, Entler
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Mannix and seconded by Commissioner Entler that the request from the West Cook YMCA to display a banner promoting their Christmas Tree Lot, be approved.

**WEST COOK YMCA
BANNER REQUEST
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Mannix, Novak, Entler
and Mayor Calderone

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

No report.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS:

Commissioner Byrnes reported that last weekend was a big Forest Park event weekend, starting out with the Fire Department and Twisted Cookie fundraising event, to the Veteran’s Day ceremony at Popelka Park to Game Day at St. Bernardine to the Historical Society Dinner for the Veterans to Officer Grimes’ retirement party.

Commissioner Mannix wished all a Happy Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Novak wished all a Happy Thanksgiving as well as reported that he attended the Twisted Cookie Fire Department fundraiser with his daughter and 13 local girls. Last Commissioner Novak reflected on the November 6th election and thanked the village residents for the outstanding turnout. Novak hopes to see a similar turnout at our upcoming election in April. He noted that his current term of service has enlightened him to the true state of the village and community. The current Mayor and Commissioners have spent a lot of time working with staff in an attempt to cut expenses as much as possible. The village is in desperate need of additional revenue and resources in order to maintain the current level of services. The loss of legal video gaming revenue will be a blow to both the village and the businesses who have incorporated the revenue into their business plan. Commissioner Novak stated for the record that it will be a lot of work for those who are elected in the next term to find additional revenue sources so that the basic needs of our residents (police, fire, public works, etc.) can be met. Novak expressed his hope that those that are elected in the next term are ready to accept responsibility and be able to make the sometimes difficult decisions that will make Forest Park continue to be a good place to live, work, play and own a business.

Commissioner Entler commended Twisted Cookie and the Fire Department for their fundraising efforts for the Forest Park Food Pantry. The money raised will be used for Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes for local families who are in need.

Mayor Calderone commented on the past busy weekend, especially the Veteran's dinner hosted by the Historical Society. Mayor Calderone stated that they did a fantastic job capturing oral interviews of veterans and they should be seeking to capture history from all Forest Park Veterans. Mayor Calderone thanked all veterans for their service and asked all United States citizens to say thank you to the veterans.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be addressed, Commissioner Mannix moved and Commissioner Entler seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Calderone declared the meeting adjourned at 8:22 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz, Village Clerk