

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 26, 2020**

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

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Novak, Byrnes, Nero, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins answered the Roll Call. Mayor Hoskins announced that all members are attending remotely via video teleconference due to Governor Pritzker's Shelter-in-place order.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes that the minutes from the May 11, 2020, Regular Meeting of the Village Council be approved without reading as each member has received a copy thereof.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Novak, Byrnes, Nero, Voogd
and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

The Police Department submitted their March-April, 2020 Report

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes 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 \$399,385.03.

**R-36-20
RESOLUTION FOR THE
APPROVAL OF BILLS IN
THE AMOUNT OF
\$399,385.03
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Novak, Byrnes, Nero, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

It was moved by Commissioner Byrnes and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution to approve and ratify the execution of side letter agreements to the Village of Forest Park’s current Collective Bargaining Agreements be adopted. It was discussed that these concessions are in addition to the concessions given by non-contract employees and the Village Prosecutor. It was further discussed that each bargaining unit negotiated independently and the total financial impact of the concessions is \$171,165.

**R-37-20
RESOLUTION RATIFYING
SIDE LETTER
AGREEMENTS WITH
UNIONS
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Nero, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: Commissioner Novak

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Voogd and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes that the Ordinance confirming and extending a Declared State of Emergency within the Village of Forest Park due to the COVID-19 Pandemic be adopted.

**O-23-20
ORDINANCE CONFIRMING
AND EXTENDING
DECLARED STATE OF
EMERGENCY
APPROVED**

It was discussed that Illinois will be entering phase 3 of reopening and there may be small purchases of PPE and potentially thermometers and rental of jersey fences to protect the public from traffic.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Nero, Voogd
and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: Commissioner Novak

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Gillian advised that on May 18th the village and many of the homes experienced significant flooding due to a massive amount of rain. The administrator expressed his gratitude to John Doss and the Public Works crew, as well as to Republic Services for their efforts in collecting all the extra debris from the floods. The village will be discussing whether flood prevention assistance grants for homeowners will be available in the 2021 budget.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

Commissioner Novak echoed Administrator Gillian regarding the budget and noted that he is requesting a budget binder rather than electronic documents.

Commissioner Byrnes stated that the efforts of the Public Works Department were phenomenal and added that we are lucky to have these groups of employees and that he appreciates all that they do.

Commissioner Nero reported that he received many calls regarding the flooding as well as appreciation for the village's response efforts. The commissioner added that there are many ways to minimize water damage, including rain barrels, backflow prevention and others and encouraged residents to reach out to him with any questions. Last, the commissioner reminded the public that the government can't keep us safe, but that our actions and behaviors can help spread the COVID-19 virus.

Commissioner Voogd thanked the Public Works Department on the record and stated that she really appreciated their epic efforts after the recent flooding. The commissioner also reminded all not to lose sight during the quarantine and to take care of each other and to work together.

Mayor Hoskins reported that he is working with other mayors through the West Central Municipal Conference to appeal to FEMA for help to individual property owners who have experienced damage due to flooding. The mayor further expressed his appreciation to the first responders and Public Works employees for their recent efforts.

The mayor also reported that Village Hall will open on June 1st to the public. The employees will work to ensure that Village Hall is a safe place to do business and will put forth all efforts to follow guidelines. In addition to the village opening, many restaurants and bars may be opening on May 29th, following

proper social distancing and other guidelines, specified by the State. The parking meters throughout town will be reactivated and back in use on June 1st and the overnight parking ban and vehicle sticker deadline will be July 6, 2020.

Next, the mayor reported that staff is focusing on the Census and obtaining a complete count of Forest Park's residents, working with the Senior Citizen population.

Last, Mayor Hoskins reported that the village is hosting a food drive on Friday, June 5th from 9-3:00 at the Forest Park Community Center. Anyone donating non-perishable food will receive free face masks.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be addressed, Commissioner Nero moved and both Commissioners Byrnes and Voogd seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hoskins declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz
Village Clerk