

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, AUGUST 24, 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 and he is present in the Council Chambers due to Social Distancing regulations resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes that the minutes from the August 10, 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

Seventeen individuals spoke (via email) about their questions, concerns and ideas for the village-owned Altenheim property. Almost all expressed their desire to preserving green space vs. developing residential and/or other types of developments. In addition, community involvement and transparency were requested in making decisions about the future plans for this property. The individuals who expressed their public comment were: Theresa Marousek, Rose Krogh, Caitlin Hofert, Sarah Rouleau, Laura Hogan, Emily Benner, Jennifer Orrico, Tom O'Connell, Katie Wilkie, Kristen Lovett, Karen Weinberg, Mary Pat McCarthy, Pamela Fontana, Farrah Williams, Paul Laschinski, John & Kristen Lyons and Megan Tideman. In addition, Ms. Marge Zwadlo expressed her desire for the village to develop the land into a senior residence.

Ms. Kate Nolan commented that she would like to know why Commissioners Novak and Byrnes abstained from voting for the appointment of Maria Williams Baxter to the Police Pension Board.

Mr. Thomas Kovac expressed his opposition to the approval of the site plan for 7428 Franklin, which is next door to his residence.

Mr. Mark Boroughf expressed his appreciation of the continued Zoom meeting format for the Village Council and suggested that the Commissioners use the mute button so as to not interfere with the audio stream.

Ms. Liz Chilsen expressed her support for the liquor ordinance, replacing parking lots with permeable pavers, and stated that transparency is important regarding the Altenheim property. In addition, she expressed her opposition to the site plan approval for 7428 Franklin and her disappointment about the public health ordinance failure.

Ms. Ayanna Brown spoke about Forest Park Against Racism and their work to address racism in Forest Park. In addition, Ms. Brown requested permission to display the names of victims of police killings along the Circle Avenue Bridge.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

The Finance Department submitted its July, 2020 report.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was moved by Commissioner Byrnes and seconded by Commissioner Voogd 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 \$1,035,409.40.

**R-50-20
RESOLUTION FOR THE
PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$1,035,409.40
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 Nero and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes that the Ordinance amending Section 3-3-6, entitled "License Fee and Number," of Chapter 3, entitled "Liquor Control," of Title 3, entitled "Business and License Regulations" of the village code of ordinances of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois be adopted. It was discussed that this ordinance represents clean-up due to changes in the businesses that hold liquor licenses.

**O-27-20
ORDINANCE AMENDING
TYPE AND NUMBER OF
LIQUOR LICENSES
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes that the Ordinance granting Site Plan approval for a Residential Development at 7428 Franklin Street in the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois re: PC 2020-02; 7428 Franklin Street be adopted. It was discussed that the developer reduced the height of the proposed buildings in order to compromise with the Plan Commission. In addition, water runoff will be addressed by an engineer, approved by the Village Engineer and MWRD, prior to the issuance of any building permits.

**O-28-20
ORDINANCE GRANTING
SITE PLAN APPROVAL
FOR 7428 FRANKLIN
STREET
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Byrnes, Nero, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: Commissioner Novak

ABSENT: None

The motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Novak and seconded by Commissioner Byrnes that the Ordinance amending Section 3-5-1, entitled "Specific Licenses and Fees," and Section 3-5B-8, entitled "Ambulance," of Article B, entitled "Services, Businesses and Establishments," of Chapter 5, entitled "Businesses, Occupations and Trades," of Title 3, entitled "Business and License Regulations," of the code of the Village of Forest Park be adopted. Fire Chief, Bob McDermott, commented that this Ordinance is intended to comply with HFS figures (representing the actual cost to Forest Park), and to eliminate the divergent rates currently in place.

**O-29-20
ORDINANCE AMENDING
AMBULANCE FEES
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution authorizing the execution of Pay Request #1 for the 2020 Circle Avenue Sewer Separation Improvements Project to Swallow Construction Corp. be adopted.

**R-51-20
RESOLUTION APPROVING
PAY REQUEST #1 FOR
CIRCLE AVENUE SEWER
SEPARATION PROJECT
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Byrnes and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving Side Letter Agreements with AFSCME Council 31, Local 3026 and Forest Park Firefighters' Association, Local 2753 be adopted. It was discussed that these are an extension of the side letters adopted in May, eliminating pay raises for the members for an additional three months. It was also noted that the unions have been very cordial and accommodating during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**R-52-20
RESOLUTION APPROVING
SIDE LETTER
AGREEMENTS WITH
AFSCME AND
FIREFIGHTERS'
ASSOCIATION
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Novak and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of an Intergovernmental and Subrecipient agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds provided to Cook County under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act") be adopted.

**R-53-20
RESOLUTION APPROVING
IGA AND SUBRECIPIENT
AGREEMENT WITH COOK
COUNTY FOR
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF
FUNDS
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Gillian reported that we applied for a green infrastructure grant for permeable pavers for the employee parking lot several months ago and he is hopeful we will be approved. In addition, staff has been working with MWRD and the Metropolitan Planning Council to apply for grants for green improvements to the parking lots at Village Hall and behind Grand Appliance. The estimated total cost of the work is \$700,000 and the village's share would be 20%. The Metropolitan Planning Council helped with the application and we should hear the decision within a month.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

Commissioner Voogd expressed her appreciation to Administrator Gillian for pursuing green infrastructure projects and is hoping the grant funding will come through for the village. In addition, the commissioner reported that the last storm lead to extensive tree damage, including the loss of twenty trees. This is in addition to eleven trees lost earlier this season. The commissioner thanked all of the staff who worked tirelessly to clean up the debris. The Public Works department plans to plant twenty trees this fall and should go back to its regularly scheduled twenty-five trees in the spring and fall of 2021. The Tree City application has been completed and we should be able to move ahead with that as planned. The Commissioner stressed the importance of proper care and maintenance of trees and green spaces, adding that we are actively looking for grant opportunities to help achieve those goals. Having the Tree City designation is another thing that will help secure those opportunities. Anyone with questions about the availability of trees can email the commissioner or check out the Public Works page on the village website.

Mayor Hoskins reported that the Census deadline was initially October 31st, however they have changed the date to September 30th. We have a little more than a month to better report our population in Forest Park. The Census workers who may stop by your residence or building are not really looking for names, but more the number of people attached to that dwelling. Because Federal dollars allocated to Forest Park are based upon the Census count, it is important to get as accurate a count as possible. The Commissioners were encouraged to assist by promoting the Census. Last, the mayor encouraged all residents to complete the census before September 30th.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Hoskins declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz
Village Clerk