

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023**

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

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins answered the Roll Call.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the minutes from the August 28, 2023, Regular Meeting of the Council be approved without reading as each member has received a copy thereof and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the minutes from the September 5, 2023, Special Meeting of the Council be approved without reading as each member has received a copy thereof and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the minutes from the September 5, 2023, Closed Session Meeting of the Council be approved without reading as each member has received a copy thereof and found same to be correct.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Labeat Rrahmani spoke in support of the partnership with Vlora Municipality, Albania. Mr. Rrahmani added that he grew up in Forest Park, after his family fled Kosovo, Albania in 1999, when he was 7 years old and a lot of what he learned here has carried him through law school.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

None

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the Resolution for the payment of bills be adopted. The bills totaled \$1,290,407.09.

**R-77-23
APPROVAL OF BILLS IN
THE AMOUNT OF
\$1,290,407.09
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin,
Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving Pay Request #2 (Final) for the 15th Street Sewer Separation Project (CDBG Project 2107-018) from John Neri Construction Co., Inc. be adopted.

**R-78-23
RESOLUTION APPROVING
PAY REQUEST #2 FOR THE
15TH STREET SEWER
SEPARATION PROJECT
FROM JOHN NERI
CONSTRUCTION
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin,
Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution authorizing the execution of Pay Request #6 for the 2023 Water Main Project to Uno Construction Co., Inc. be adopted.

**R-79-23
RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING PAY
REQUEST #6 FOR 2023
WATER MAIN PROJECT
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin,
Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the Resolution proposing a Redevelopment Plan and Project for, and the designation of, the Circle Harlem Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area and the adoption of Tax Increment Allocation Financing therefor, convening a Joint Review Board and calling a Public Hearing in connection therewith be adopted.

**R-80-23
RESOLUTION PROPOSING
REDEVELOPMENT PLAN,
DESIGNATION OF CIRCLE
HARLEM TIF
REDEVELOPMENT
PROJECT AREA AND
CONVENING JOINT
REVIEW BOARD AND
PUBLIC HEARING
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin,
Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Chicagoland Paving, Inc. for the Rehabilitation of the access road to the North Water Tank Paving Project be adopted.

**R-81-23
RESOLUTION APPROVING
CHANGE ORDER NO. 1
FOR ACCESS ROAD TO
NORTH WATER TANK
PAVING PROJECT
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin,
Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin that the Resolution to enter into a dialogue to explore establishing a Cooperation Agreement between Vlora Municipality, Albania and the Village of Forest Park be adopted. It was discussed that there was a delegation here this summer that met with Mayor Hoskins and this dialogue could result in a sister-city relationship. There is no requirement, obligation or resources of the village at this time.

**R-82-23
RESOLUTION TO EXPLORE
COOPERATION
AGREEMENT WITH VLORA
MUNICIPALITY, ALBANIA
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin,
Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Interim Village Administrator Entler expressed her gratitude to the Village Council for allowing her to serve and to Staff, who are instrumental in the operations of the village. The administrator reported that with the new watermain on the 800 Block of Ferdinand, the village has replaced 120 lead water service lines so far, serving 140 residences. The process for creating the Circle/Harlem TIF District is on schedule for completion at the end of November. Residents in the area of the proposed TIF will be notified directly by mail. Griffon is in the process of installing new cameras at Village Hall. There will be a bid opening this week for the 2023 Sidewalk Replacement Project and the Village Hall and Community Center parking lots. Administrator Entler and Director Glinke are working on a re-write of the village's zoning code. Updates on the process are forthcoming. Last, the administrator acknowledged all of the village's Firefighters, Police Officers, EMS workers and other first responders, in reference to the twenty-second anniversary of the 9-11 terrorist attack on the United States.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

Commissioner Maxham is working with local youth and organizing a clothing swap, which will take place at the Altenheim (rain location Community Center) on September 23rd in the afternoon. Food will be served and more information is available on the village's website.

Commissioner Nero discussed the importance of property owners keeping their property in a safe and marketable condition. There is positive news from the Health and Safety Department – 7201 Adams is back under bank ownership; 7300 Harvard has received court authorization to be sold and 837 Harlem is planned to be demolished and replaced with a new structure. Last, the commissioner reported that the housekeeping problem at the former Bed, Bath and Beyond is being addressed tomorrow.

Commissioner Melin-Rogovin reported that she is working with Fire Chief Chiappetta to complete a grant application for necessary equipment and encouraged residents to support the local scout troops, who are selling popcorn as a fundraiser.

Commissioner Voogd reminded residents that the Fall clean up event is being held on September 23rd. The Recreation Board is going to try a different approach by starting in two different locations and assigning zones. There is a link on the village's website for volunteers to sign up to help.

Mayor Hoskins reported that there has been activity towards developing the site at Des Plaines and Roosevelt Road, and the Representative Danny Davis Town Hall event was well attended. The mayor invited the elected officials to attend the West Central Municipal Conference's annual dinner on

September 29th as well as the Forest Park Kiwanis Club's 100th anniversary celebration dinner on September 30th at Fearon Hall (St. Bernardine Parish).

ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS:

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Maxham to recess into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to consider litigation.

**RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION
AT 7:31 P.M.**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Nero and seconded by Commissioner Maxham to reconvene open session.

**RECONVENE OPEN SESSION
AT 7:50 P.M.**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the Resolution approving the execution of a Release and Settlement Agreement re: Gomez v. Village of Forest Park, Case No. 22-CV-00607 be adopted.

**R-83-23
RESOLUTION APPROVING
RELEASE AND SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Nero, Melin-Rogovin, Voogd and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Hoskins declared the meeting adjourned at 7:51 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz, Village Clerk