

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 18, 2023**

Mayor Hoskins led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:06 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 Melin-Rogovin that the minutes from the November 27, 2023, Regular meeting of the Council be approved.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Dan Riley requested that the village contact the owner of the vacant lot at Marengo and Roosevelt because there is an abandoned vehicle there that may be harboring animals.

Mr. Will Carpenter urged the village to put a speed bump or some other traffic calming device on the 1100 block of Lathrop, as many vehicles disregard the stop sign and there are 11 children who live on the block.

Mr. Steven Backman expressed his dissatisfaction with the handling of the zoning for 7713 Wilcox and 838 Circle, and stated his concerns about the 25-foot vacant lot at 836 Circle.

**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 \$1,074,872.84.

**R-110-23  
APPROVAL OF BILLS IN  
THE AMOUNT OF  
\$1,074,872.84  
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:**

Jordan Kuehn, Chair of the Safety and Traffic Commission presented the Village Council with a year to date report and recommendations from the Commission for specific issues.

**SAFETY AND TRAFFIC  
COMMISSION YEAR-TO-  
DATE REPORT AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. James Amelio of Christopher B. Burke Engineering, presented the proposed Three-Year Infrastructure Plan for 2024, 2025 and 2026.

**INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN  
FOR 2024, 2025 AND 2026  
PRESENTED**

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the Ordinance terminating the designation of the Brown Street Station-Harlem Avenue Redevelopment Project Area of the Village of Forest Park as a Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area, and dissolving the Special Tax Increment Allocation Fund for said Redevelopment Project area be adopted.

**O-58-23  
ORDINANCE TERMINATING  
BROWN STREET STATION-  
HARLEM AVENUE TIF  
DISTRICT  
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 Annual Tax Levy Ordinance of the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2023 and ending April 30, 2024, be adopted.

**O-59-23  
ANNUAL TAX LEVY  
ORDINANCE ACT  
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 directing the County Clerk to calculate separate limiting rates for the Tax Levy of the Village of Forest Park, Illinois for the 2023 Tax Levy Year be adopted.

**R-111-23  
RESOLUTION DIRECTING  
COUNTY TO CALCULATE  
SEPARATE LIMITING  
RATES FOR LEVY  
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 Ordinance amending the Forest Park Municipal Code to require a form of paid leave for Village Employees be adopted.

**0-60-23  
ORDINANCE AMENDING  
CODE REGARDING PAID  
LEAVE FOR VILLAGE  
EMPLOYEES  
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 Nero and seconded by Commissioner Maxham that the Ordinance authorizing the approval of authorized variations to allow the construction of a single-family residence at 7713 Wilcox Street, in the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois (PZC 2023-08: 7713 Wilcox Street) be adopted. It was discussed that controls have been put in place to avoid this type of oversight going forward.

**0-61-23  
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING  
VARIATIONS TO  
CONSTRUCT SINGLE-  
FAMILY RESIDENCE AT  
7713 WILCOX  
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 Nero and seconded by Commissioner Maxham that the Ordinance authorizing approval of authorized variations to allow the construction of a Single-Family residence at 838 Circle Avenue, in the Village of Forest Park, Cook County, Illinois (PZC 2023-09: 838 Circle Avenue) be adopted.

**O-62-23  
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING  
VARIATIONS TO  
CONSTRUCT A SINGLE-  
FAMILY RESIDENCE AT  
838 CIRCLE AVENUE  
APPROVED**

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYES:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Commissioner Voogd

The motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution to approve and authorize the execution of a Professional Engineering Services Proposal for Phase II Design for the Roosevelt Road Landscape Island Removal Project by and between Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., and the Village of Forest Park be adopted.

**R-112-23  
RESOLUTION APPROVING  
ENGINEERING PROPOSAL  
FOR ROOSEVELT ROAD  
ISLAND REMOVAL  
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 Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Maxham that the Resolution approving a 2024 Paratransit Service Provider Agreement between Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority (PACE) and the Village of Forest Park be adopted.

**R-113-23  
RESOLUTION APPROVING  
2024 PACE PARATRANSIT  
SERVICE AGREEMENT  
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 Voogd and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin that the Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of a Vehicle Parking License Agreement by and between Currie Motors Chevrolet, Inc. and the Village of Forest Park be adopted. It was discussed that this will allow for 300 cars and will be screened for aesthetics.

**O-63-23  
ORDINANCE APPROVING  
PARKING LICENSE  
AGREEMENT WITH CURRIE  
MOTORS CHEVROLET, INC  
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 Pay Request #1 (FINAL) for the 2023 Sidewalk Improvements Project from Nardulli Construction Company, Inc. be adopted.

**R-114-23  
RESOLUTION APPROVING  
PAY REQUEST #1 FOR  
2023 SIDEWALK  
IMPROVEMENTS  
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 #8 for the 2023 Water Main Project to Uno Construction Co., Inc. (Wilcox & Ferdinand) be adopted.

**R-115-23  
RESOLUTION APPROVING  
PAY REQUEST #8 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 Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving Pay Request #2 for the 2023 Wilcox & Ferdinand Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Resurfacing Improvements Project to A Lamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. be adopted.

**R-116-23  
RESOLUTION APPROVING  
PAY REQUEST #2 FOR  
2023 WILCOX/FERDINAND  
MFT RESURFACING  
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 Voogd and seconded by Commissioner Maxham to approve the request from the Forest Park Arts Alliance to co-sponsor the "Paint the Bridge" project with the Village of Forest Park. It was discussed that the bridge will be closed for the day of the project.

**FOREST PARK ARTS  
ALLIANCE CO-SPONSOR  
"PAINT THE BRIDGE"  
APPROVED BY MOTION**

**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 Voogd and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin to approve the request from Pilgrim Congregational Church to display banners promoting their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary showcase of Black History, Culture, and Entrepreneurship to be held on February 24, 2024.

**PILGRIM CHURCH BANNER  
REQUEST  
APPROVED BY MOTION**

**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 to approve the Raffle License Application from Oak Park Windmills for their fundraising event to be held on February 1, 2024.

**OAK PARK WINDMILLS  
RAFFLE LICENSE  
APPROVED BY MOTION**

**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 Nero to approve and ratify the execution of an agreement with Elegante Cuisine, associated with events organized by the Community Center.

**COMMUNITY CENTER  
EVENT AGREEMENTS  
APPROVED BY MOTION**

**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 reported that the parking meters in the business district have been suspended for the remainder of the holiday season, overnight parking restrictions are suspended from December 23<sup>rd</sup> to January 2<sup>nd</sup>, however in the event of a 2" or more snowfall, the snow routes will be enforced. The administrator announced that Village Hall will be closing early at 2:00 for the next two Fridays. Last, the administrator wished all a happy holiday season and stated that she is looking forward to 2024.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

Commissioner Maxham again thanked residents John Cunningham and Rob Sall for coordinating the Candyland display at Ed's Way and the beautiful tree lights display on Beloit Avenue, and wondered if there is any way the village can officially commend them for their efforts. The commissioner wished all Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Commissioner Nero reported that the Neighborhood Watch is meeting tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. and encouraged residents who are interested to attend. The commissioner further wished all Happy Holidays, Happy New Year and thanked the village employees, department heads and elected officials for their hard work over the last year.

Commissioner Melin-Rogovin thanked all those who attended and those businesses who participated in the three Operation Rising Spirits nights, where they wrote and sent 257 cards and letters to Veterans to wish them well and thank them for their service to our country. The commissioner further reported that both Wal-Mart and Jewel have been contacted and advised that the village will no longer return their shopping carts that wind up abandoned in Forest Park.

Commissioner Voogd thanked all of the Recreation Board members and volunteers who participated in the village-wide clean up events and the inaugural Pumpkin Smash event. The board is also in need of new members. Anyone wishing to volunteer can submit their application to the mayor's office. The commissioner acknowledged the passing of village resident, Jerry Webster and commended 11-year-old, Grace Mezza, who has spent many hours picking up trash in the village. Last, the commissioner wished all Happy Holidays and Happy New Year.

Mayor Hoskins reported that the Mayor's Toy Drive was extremely successful, thanked Rabbi Bernstein for helping with the Menorah Lighting ceremony and thanked the Chamber and its sponsors for the successful Holiday walk and Tree lighting. The mayor further reported that he will be presenting the following village employees with service awards at a luncheon tomorrow:

25 Years – Scott Frey and Nick Petrovic

20 Years – Mike O'Connor, George Prescott and Andrew Weber

15 Years – Chris Chin, Jarlath Heveran, B.J. Reid, Paul Richards and Lauren Battistoni

10 Years – Francie Lane, Jack Reilly, Adam Stasinopoulos and Frank Marasco

5 Years – Joe Schick, Zack Calamus, Daysi Riglos, Arleta Kochan, Ben Marti, Sandy Nutley, Maribel Fuentes, Casey Dougherty and Brendan Reilly

The Mayor expressed his appreciation to all of the dedicated employees of the village.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be addressed, Commissioner Nero moved and Commissioner Maxham seconded to adjourn into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to consider litigation. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hoskins declared the meeting adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz, Village Clerk