

**THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 11, 2024**

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 Melin-Rogovin that the minutes from the February 26, 2024, Regular meeting of the Council be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Nero

The motion carried.

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin that the minutes from the February 26, 2024, Closed Session meeting of the Council be approved.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSTAIN: Commissioner Nero

The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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 \$432,722.43.

**R-19-24
APPROVAL OF BILLS IN
THE AMOUNT OF
\$432,722.43
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 Ordinance approving and authorizing the execution of the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network (IPWMAN) Agreement be adopted.

**O-13-24
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
MEMBERSHIP IN IPWMAN
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 Ordinance waiving bid and authorizing the acceptance of a proposal for Municipal Property Landscape Maintenance on Madison Street, West of Des Plaines Avenue, by and between McAdam Landscaping, Inc. and the Village of Forest Park be adopted.

**O-14-24
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
PROPERTY LANDSCAPE
MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL
WITH MCADAM
LANDSCAPING
APPROVED**

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**O-15-24
ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING
LANDSCAPE
MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL
WITH MCADAM
LANDSCAPING
APPROVED**

It was moved by Commissioner Voogd and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin that the Ordinance waiving bid and authorizing the acceptance of a proposal for Municipal Property Landscape Maintenance by and between McAdam Landscaping, Inc. and the Village of Forest Park be adopted.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**R-20-24
RESOLUTION APPROVING
CDBG GRANT
APPLICATION FOR 2024
PROGRAM YEAR
APPROVED**

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving and authorizing the execution of an application for a Cook County Bureau of Economic Development Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) 2024 Program Year Capital Improvement/Demolition and Economic Development Project (15th Street – Marengo to Elgin – Sewer Separation and Resurfacing Project) be adopted. It was discussed that this application is a re-application for the 15th Street project.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**R-21-24
RESOLUTION APPROVING
SPECIFICATIONS AND
BIDS FOR MADISON
STREET REVITALIZATION
PROJECT
APPROVED**

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving the specifications and authorizing the advertising of bids for the Village of Forest Park Madison Street Site Furnishings and Revitalization Project be adopted. It was discussed that the bid documents need to be updated to require the contractor to recycle any materials that are being discarded and to correct the language in the responsible bidder section to be consistent with the village's Responsible Bidder Ordinance requirements.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**R-22-24
RESOLUTION APPROVING
SPECIFICATIONS AND
BIDDING FOR 2024 GREEN
ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT
APPROVED**

It was moved by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin and seconded by Commissioner Voogd that the Resolution approving the specifications and authorizing the advertising of bids for the Village of Forest Park 2024 Green Alley Improvements Project (800-900 Blocks Marengo-Circle) be adopted.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**MAYOR’S ARBOR DAY
PROCLAMATION
ACKNOWLEDGED**

It was moved by Commissioner Voogd and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin to acknowledge the Mayor’s Official Proclamation designating April 26, 2024, as Arbor Day in the Village of Forest Park.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

**COMMUNITY CENTER
AGREEMENTS RATIFIED
APPROVED BY MOTION**

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero to approve and ratify the execution of an agreement with Motor Group Dining and Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens, association with events organized by the Community Center.

ROLL CALL:

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

NAYES: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Administrator Entler received an email from Mr. Jarvis Hart, thanking the Police Department for their hard work on Parade Day and saying that he is dropping off some Dunkin’ Donuts for the department in gratitude. Administrator Entler expressed her thanks to the Police Department and to the staff of the Clerk’s Office who have been shouldering extra responsibilities during this very busy time of year. Ms. Entler reported that she attended the Illinois Public Employers Labor Relations Association’s Employment Law Seminar and was trained on such subjects as grievances, arbitration, contracts, etc. Last the administrator reminded residents that vehicle sticker renewal is in progress and can be purchased in person, through the mail and online.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:

Commissioner Maxham reported that she attended a local tourism summit, along with Administrator Entler and Forest Park Chamber Director, Laurie Kokenes. The group is planning to promote the area and market to those attending the Democratic National Convention in Chicago in August. The commissioner expressed her gratitude to Commissioner Melin-Rogovin for hosting the International Women's Day event last week, which doubled as a fundraiser for Sarah's Inn. Commissioner Maxham further thanked all of the village's first responders, businesses, and Public Works crews for all of their hard work before, during and after the St. Patrick's Day Parade. Last, the commissioner discussed Governor Pritzker's proposal to eliminate the 1% state tax on groceries. Although the tax is only \$1.00 per \$100 spent on groceries, the Village of Forest Park will lose hundreds of thousands of dollars, which we currently use to pay for Public Works services and for our First Responders. The commissioner urged the other elected officials to join her in Springfield to lobby against eliminating the grocery tax.

Commissioner Melin-Rogovin wished all in attendance a Happy Women's History Month. The commissioner also attended a ribbon cutting ceremony for the re-opening of M.E. Marketplace. Commissioner Melin-Rogovin thanked staff, especially those who worked so hard at problem solving and coming up with a creative solution to allow all residents to enjoy the parade, even those who have sensory issues with loud noise. The commissioner further thanked the Mayor, Commissioners, Department Heads and staff who participated in the event celebrating women leaders. About 100 people attended and over \$3,000 was raised for Sarah's Inn. Last, the commissioner invited residents to participate in the Active Transportation Alliance's training for safer streets on March 12 or March 25.

Commissioner Voogd echoed the sentiments about the Parade, adding that the event was fun, the weather was perfect and the Chamber, the Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works Department staff did a great job. The commissioner additionally thanked Chief Gross for coming up with the idea for the siren free/horn free zone. It was appreciated by many attendees. Commissioner Voogd expressed her gratitude to Commissioner Melin-Rogovin for her efforts, follow through and fundraising for the Women's event last Friday. The village's tree planting program will start up soon. Residents can look at the tree survey map online and determine whether their location is open for planting. There is limited availability and anyone with questions can email Commissioner Voogd or contact her through the website. Last, Commissioner Voogd asked all in attendance to save the date of Friday, April 26th for the Arbor Day Tree Planting and Saturday, April 27th for the community clean up event.

Mayor Hoskins reported that he has been in communication with Senator Harmen and Representative Welch about the Grocery Tax Repeal issue. The elimination of the tax will be a blow to this and other small communities. Mayor Hoskins urged the elected officials to join in contacting our representatives to lobby against the repeal, as well as to follow up with a written letter.

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 7:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Moritz, Village Clerk