# THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST PARK, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS HELD ON TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 27, 2025

Mayor Hoskins led all assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:02 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

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

## <u>APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</u>

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin that the minutes from the October 14, 2025, Regular Meeting of the Village Council be approved.

**ROLL CALL:** 

AYES: Commissioners Maxham, Melin-Rogovin and Mayor Hoskins

NAYES: None

ABSENT:

**ABSTAIN:** Commissioners Nero and Voogd

The motion carried.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

None

#### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

Fire Department Report September 2025

#### <u>APPROVAL OF BILLS:</u>

It was moved by Commissioner Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Nero that the Resolution for the payment of bills be adopted. The bills totaled \$608,663.98

R-106-25 RESOLUTION FOR THE PAYMENT OF BILLS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$608,663.98 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 Maxham and seconded by Commissioner Melin-Rogovin that an ordinance authorizing the execution of an Addendum to an agreement between Redspeed Illinois and the Village be approved.

O-45-25 ORDINANCE APPROVING ADDENDUM WITH REDSPEED 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 Ordinance authorizing the Village to borrow funds from the public water supply loan for Lead Service Line Replacement Project – Stage 3 be approved. O-46-25 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING VILLAGE TO BORROW FUNDS FOR LEAD LINES 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 authorizing the appointment of Letitia Olmsted as Village Treasurer.

O-47-25 ORDINANCE APPOINTING LETITIA OLMSTED TREASURER 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 Resolution approving the execution of an IGA for the provision of Environmental Health Inspection Services by the Village of Forest Park be adopted.

R-107-25 RESOLUTION APPROVING IGA ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTION 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 contract award for the 2025 Sidewalk Program to Andreas & Sons, Inc. and the Village of Forest Park be adopted. R-108-25 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZE CONTRACT WITH ANDREAS & SONS 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 approval of Pay Request #7 for the AMI Water Meter Replacement Project to Veregy Central, LLC be adopted. R-109-25 RESOLUTION APPROVING PAY #7 VEREGY WATER METER REPLACEMENT 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 authorizing the execution of the application for Green Infrastructure Grant Opportunities (FY2026) with the IEPA (Constitution Court Parking Lot) be adopted. R-110-25 RESOLUTION APPROVING APPLICATION FOR GIGO WITH IEPA PARKING LOT APPROVED 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 and authorizing the execution of a Professional Engineering Services Proposal for Construction Engineering with CBBEL for the 2025 Sidewalk Improvement Project be adopted. R-111-25 RESOLUTION FOR EXECUTION OF PROPOSAL CBBEL SIDEWALK 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 an IGA with MWRD for the Green Alley Project 3 be adopted. R-112-25 RESOLUTION APPROVING GREEN ALLEY PROJECT 3 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 to approve the Raffle Permit application submitted by Windmills Softball Organization.

RAFFLE LICENSE FOR WINDMILLS SOFTBALL 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:**

Administrator Entler reported that she recently attended the IPELRA Conference and expressed her appreciation to the Village Council for the opportunity to participate. She noted that the conference was highly beneficial, particularly in providing updates on human resources topics such as FMLA and other employment regulations.

Ms. Entler also extended her gratitude to all Village staff, noting that six of the Village's seven departments are currently operating with reduced staffing. She commended employees across all departments for their dedication, willingness to work overtime, and continued teamwork to ensure the success of the Village of Forest Park.

Additionally, Administrator Entler announced that the Clerk's Office service window will no longer close between 2:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

## **COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS:**

Commissioner Maxham reported that she was honored to attend the West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) dinner alongside Police Chief Gross and Fire Chief Hankus. She emphasized the continued importance of supporting both the community refrigerator and the Forest Park Food Pantry, noting that the pantry is need of assistance. Commissioner Maxham encouraged residents to contact the Community Center at 708-771-7737 for information on how to donate or volunteer.

Commissioner Nero discussed ongoing rodent control efforts, emphasizing that active resident participation remains the key to success. He reminded residents to avoid placing overflowing garbage cans in alleys before collection day, to keep garbage areas clear, and to remove overgrown brush. The Village continues to issue citations and work with Smithereen to lay bait, and rat reports have decreased by 75% since August—showing progress that must be maintained.

Commissioner Nero also noted that property tax revenue is the Village's largest source of income and expressed interest in continuing zoning discussions to address resident concerns. He highlighted the rise in home values and the need to review zoning policies accordingly, stating that more information and ideas will be shared at the next meeting. He concluded by announcing that Steak and Hoagies will open on November 5.

Commissioner Melin-Rogovin reminded residents that the Traffic & Safety Commission meets on the third Wednesday of each month to discuss pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety issues. She noted that the Commission will soon present a report to the Council outlining its strategic plan. She also met with the Environmental Control Commission (ECC) to discuss her collaboration with the Chicago Academy of Sciences on a sustainable leaf collection initiative. Additionally, Commissioner Melin-Rogovin attended a regional meeting with the Forest Park Arts Alliance. It involved meeting with statewide organization focused on how communities across Illinois are engaging artists, supporting local businesses, and strengthening their economies. The meeting emphasized the important role of the arts in community and state development.

Commissioner Voogd reported attending the Intragovernmental Award Gala, where the Village received recognition for its joint Pocket Park program with the Park District. The award celebrated the successful transformation of Forest Park's pocket parks. She noted that the Park District has maintained the parks for about five years, and under the leadership of former Village Administrator Tim Gillian, Park District Director Jackie Iovinelli, and herself, a renovation plan was developed and implemented over that time. Commissioner Voogd commended the collaboration between the Village and the Park District, emphasizing that when local taxing bodies work together, great results can be achieved.

She also attended the Tree Planting Ceremony organized by Director Stella on October 23 as part of a Trees Forever grant. The event included participation from Forest Park students and was a great success. Commissioner Voogd thanked Director Stella, Amy Binns-Calvey, Kate Linne, and Meghan Hunt for their help in planting the tree. She concluded by reminding residents that the Pumpkin Smash will take place on Saturday, November 8, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Mayor Hoskins discussed ongoing efforts to secure funding and safety improvements related to the CTA. He has been actively advocating for additional support for Forest Park's first responders, who continue to face a heavy demand for services at the Forest Park Blue Line station. Mayor Hoskins recently met with representatives from the Cook County Board President's Office and state legislators to encourage passage of a key transit funding bill. He expressed strong support for the legislation, which aims to enhance public transportation across the metropolitan area and provide critical assistance to local communities like Forest Park.

Mayor Hoskins also attended the West Central Municipal Conference (WCMC) Dinner on October 24 and shared that WCMC is considering allowing union organizations to join as affiliate (nonvoting) members. He concluded by reminding residents that the PTMAN Pastor Breakfast will take place at the Community Center on November 8.

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# <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

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

Mayor Hoskins declared the meeting adjourned at 7:43 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Roach Deputy Village Clerk