

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW
October 24, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular board meeting of the Village of Forest View was called to order by Village President Miller at 7:01 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Miller led the Board Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The Roll Call of Board Trustees by Clerk McGuffey is as follows:

Present: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Ramirez, Nevarez, Liska
Absent: None

4. SWEARING IN CEREMONY (Police Department)

NA

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

That the minutes of the regular board meeting of October 10, 2023, to be approved as read:

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Ramirez

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Ramirez, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Nevarez, Liska
No: None
Motion Carried.

5. REPORTS OF EXPENDITURES

To approve the village payroll and accounts payable expenditures as of October 31, 2023:

1.) Payroll – Full-time / Part-Time / Officials	\$ 123,935.39
2.) Bills Payable	\$ 83,403.26
Total Expenditures:	\$ 207,338.65

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nevarez

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nevarez, Ramirez, Liska, Grossi, Hubacek
No: None
Motion Carried.

6. TREASURERS REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 30, 2023:

Revenues:	\$	367,803.21
Expenses:	\$	<u>755,938.55</u>
Exceeds Expenses:	\$	-388,135.34

Action Requested: None, information only.

7. DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Agenda Item # 1 – Letter from Administrator Dropka to discuss creating a Centennial Planning Committee. The Village was incorporated on December 8, 1924 and we will be entering into our 100th year as an incorporated municipality soon and would like to plan on a total of 4 events commemorating the 100th Anniversary by instituting one centennial event per quarter. He is requesting the board’s approval to form a Centennial Planning Committee. Our Village Clerk, Laura McGuffey, would like to be the Chairman of this Committee and begin filling the committee with committee members and plan to put a link on the Village website where residents can submit their ideas to the committee.

Action requested: Motion to approve creating a Centennial Planning Committee, planning 4 events commemorating the 100th Anniversary by instituting one centennial event per quarter and approving Village Clerk, Laura McGuffey as Chairman of this Committee.

Motion: Trustee Liska
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Liska, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Grossi, Ramirez, Nevarez
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 2 – Letter from Chief Zarate requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 23-12 an ordinance authorizing the sale or disposal of certain Surplus personal property and requesting permission to surplus and dispose of the 2019 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor, VIN No. 1FM5K8AR4KGA29342.

Action requested: Motion for the board to approve Ordinance No. 23-12, an ordinance authorizing the sale or disposal of certain Surplus personal property and is requesting permission to surplus and dispose of the 2019 Ford Explorer Police Interceptor, VIN No. 1FM5K8AR4KGA29342.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Sudkamp, Grossi, Hubacek, Nevarez, Liska
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 3 - Letter from Chief Zarate requesting approval to purchase an annual subscription to FLOCK SAFETY license plate reader cameras. Flock Safety will install 4 (LPR'S) license plate reader cameras throughout the town at an initial starting cost of \$12,600.00 for the first year and \$12,000.00 each additional year after.

Action requested: Motion for the board's approval to purchase an annual subscription to FLOCK SAFETY license plate reader cameras. Flock Safety will install 4 (LPR'S) license plate reader cameras throughout the town at an initial starting cost of \$12,600.00 for the first year and \$12,000.00 each additional year after.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Hubacek

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Hubacek, Ramirez, Nevarez, Liska, Grossi
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item 4 – Letter from Chief Zarate requesting approval to purchase 20 Getac body cams for the amount of \$35,771.00. He is currently applying for a state grant for reimbursement that could offset the cost to the Village. The body cameras were budgeted item and discussed during budget meetings and are a mandate from the state which the Village will need to be in compliance by the year 2025.

Action requested: Motion to approve the purchase of 20 Getac body cams in the amount of \$35,771.00.

Motion: Trustee Liska
Second: Trustee Ramirez

Yes: Trustees Liska, Ramirez, Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Nevarez
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 5 – Letter from Chief Zarate requesting approval to hire Daniel Lepkowski as a Full-time Probationary Police Officer at a starting salary of \$69,557.34.

Action requested: Motion for the board to approve the hiring of Daniel Lepkowski as a Full-time Probationary Police Officer at a starting of salary \$69,557.34.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Ramirez

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Ramirez, Sudkamp, Liska, Hubacek, Nevarez
No: None
Motion Carried.

8. APPLICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS:

F23-21 Kathy Ehresman, 4601 Wisconsin Ave. Remove cracked curb and install a 10-foot Concrete Apron in the parkway up to sidewalk.

F23-22 Therese Guzman, 4524 Grove Ave. Install drain tile around the perimeter of the foundation wall with dimple mat drain board and replacing sump pump.

F23-37 Rosario Pressler, 4500 S. Kenilworth Ave. Replacement of existing furnace.

NF23-38 Therese Guzman, 4524 Grove Ave. Removal and replacement of fiberboard sheathing and siding. Replacing 5/8-inch plywood on 1st floor in house.

Action Requested: None, informational only.

8. APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS:

Agenda Item # 6 - F23-24 Grahm Enterprise, Inc., 4701 South Central Ave. Work related to the Diesel Expansion Project located to the east of the Convenience Store.

Action requested: Motion to approve Commercial Building Permit F23-24 to Grahm Enterprise, Inc., 4701 South Central Ave for work related to the Diesel Expansion Project located to the east of the Convenience Store.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Liska

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Liska, Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Nevarez
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 7 - F23- 26 Daubert Chemical Company, 4700 S. Central Ave. Chicago, IL. Requesting a commercial permit to construct a new building at the Daubert Chemical Plant in Forest View, IL.

Action requested: Motion to approve Commercial Building Permit F23-26 to Daubert Chemical Company, 4700 S. Central Ave to construct a new building at the Daubert Chemical Plant in Forest View, IL.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Nevarez

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Liska, Sudkamp, Grossi, Hubacek, Nevarez
No: None
Motion Carried.

8. APPLICATION FOR ART TRECKLER ROOM RENTAL REQUEST:

Agenda Item # 8 - Letter from Village Administrator Dropka regarding a request from Mr. Sanchez to rent the Art Treckler Room for a Family Video Showing on Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm for approximately 30 guests and is requesting to waive the fee.

- *Discussion ensued and the Trustees were in agreement that they would approve the request but that they would not waive the fee.*

Action requested: Motion to approve renting the Art Treckler Room to Mr. Sanchez for a Family Video Showing on Thursday, October 26, 2023 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm for approximately 30 guests and not waive the fee.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Liska

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Liska, Sudkamp, Grossi, Hubacek, Nevarez
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 9 - Letter from Village Administrator Dropka regarding a request from the Forest View Park District and the Lions Club to rent the Art Treckler Room for a Park District & Lions Club Holiday Event on Saturday, December 2, 2023 from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm for approximately 80 to 100 guests and is requesting to waive the fee.

Action requested: Motion to approve renting the Art Treckler Room to the Forest View Park District & the Lions Club for a Holiday Event on Saturday, December 2, 2023 from 12:30 pm to 4:30 pm for approximately 80 to 100 guests and waive the fee.

Motion: Trustee Liska

Second: Trustee Ramirez

Yes: Trustees Liska, Ramirez, Nevarez, Hubacek, Grossi

No: Trustee Sudkamp

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 10 - Letter from Village Administrator Dropka regarding a request from President Miller to rent the Art Treckler Room for a Childrens birthday party on Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm for approximately 50 guests and is requesting to waive the fee.

- *Discussion ensued and the Trustees were in agreement that they would approve the request but that they would not waive the fee.*

Action requested: Motion to approve renting the Art Treckler Room to President Miller for a Childrens birthday party on Saturday, November 18, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm for approximately 50 guests and not waive the fee.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez

Second: Trustee Liska

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Liska, Grossi, Nevarez

No: Trustees Sudkamp, Hubacek

Motion Carried.

9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

FROM THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:

- Reported that he is researching the possibility of doubling police tickets and fines around the park and is working on an Ordinance to be considered by the board at the next meeting.
- Plans on meeting with our auditor Ed Tracy to finalize our annual audit and asked him to come present the audit to the board at our next meeting.
- Reported that he is working with the Village Attorney on putting together the Special Service Area tax on the businesses along 47th Street. They would have an additional tax tacked onto their property bills that would go into the water and sewer fund that would help pay for any issues that occur with the sewer lines newly acquired by the village and is hoping to impose this by the end of the year along with our annual tax levy.
- Mentioned that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is getting rid of some surplus furniture. He went to their offices and looked at the condition of their inventory and stated that we will be picking up some free file cabinets and other pieces that some of our department heads have been requesting which will save the village some money rather than purchasing new items.

- Reported that he and the Village Engineer met with Congressman Garcia to discuss funding for some of our upcoming projects and the types of grants that he may be able to assist us with. They also discussed some ongoing bureaucratic issues that we have found, and we are trying to have rectified at the federal level so that the village is able to receive funding and apply for grants we are currently not eligible for should be eligible for.
- Mentioned that the red-light camera project continues to be ongoing, and we are making preparations for that regarding signage, crosswalks and stop bars.
- Reported that he and Joy met with our insurance company and went over our options for the upcoming year as the policies will be expiring and need to be renewed every year. They reached out to another insurance company that is through the Illinois Municipal League (IML) as requested by the board last year to see what they offer and to compare IML with our current insurance company and they will be coming to the board meeting next month with a proposal to either stay with our current insurance company or go through one offered by IML.
- Reported that the Oktoberfest close out meeting will be on Thursday November 2nd at 6:00 pm.
- Reported that the Halloween House Decorating contest began on October 1st. This year, we have six households signed up for the competition, and we will be judging and awarding prizes for the top three houses this week. A flyer with the list of houses participating in the contest is in the lobby.
- Commented that our Pumpkin Smash event is scheduled for Saturday November 4th from 11:00 am to Noon. Groot will be supplying a dumpster free of charge at the dead end of Oak Park Avenue to compost the pumpkins rather than tossing them in garbage or yard waste cans. We will be providing some Apple cider and cookies for anyone who wants to stop by and toss their pumpkin.
- Reported that Veterans Day program is coming together. A guest speaker will be the Exalted Ruler of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks from Brookfield. Our keynote speaker will be Lt. Col. Michael Kowalski from the Illinois National Guard. The Home school Elementary School Choir will sing the national anthem. We will have a rifle salute performed by our very own Forest View Police Honor Guard that will be their first event followed by refreshments upstairs. The program will take place outside by the flagpole at 11:00 am on Friday November 10th.
- Our Christmas Home Decorating Contest will begin on November 25th and will be similar to the Halloween House Decorating Contest.
- Mentioned that information regarding the Santa letters and our agreement with the North Pole will be published in our next newsletter. We are inviting all kids in the village to write letters to Santa Claus. Letters to Santa should be dropped off at the Village Hall anytime between November 13th and December 13th. We will get the letters up to Santa himself, and he will even provide kids with a response!
 - *Trustee Ramirez asked what grants he was referring to regarding being ineligible. Administrator Dropka stated that among them include the CDBG grant for roads and infrastructure and the Illinois EPA Lead Water Line Grants. The problem is with the way the US Census has Forest View listed and also for example with the Village Medium household income and is working on this.*

10. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

A) Superintendent of Water and Public Works Filec reported:

- Reported that M.E. Simpson finished our Hydrant testing last week and he is waiting for flow data to be provided to five to our Fire Department in conjunction with our ISO ratings.
- Stated that last week Painters USA finished painting the overhead doors applying a new shade of brown on the Police doors and red for the Fire Department doors.
- Mentioned that the Salt Dome construction continues, soft soil was removed and leveled with grindings provided by other towns to make a solid base and the project should be completed in late November.
- Reported that we applied for a Grant for Safety Speed Cameras that will be installed throughout the town and should help mitigate speeding through town. This will be the first phase before we implement speed bumps.
- He reported that he is beginning on the 2024 road project walking the streets with our Village Engineer before going out for bid in late December or January to do four more streets for summer in 2024.

B) Police Chief Zarate reported:

- Reported on the Police Department Activity report for the month of September 2023. They issued 41 Traffic State Citations, 13 Parking Tickets, 61 P Traffic (Ordinance) Tickets, 15 Accident (Crash) Reports, for a Total of 187 Service Calls. There were 2 arrests, 2 misdemeanors, and 0 Felonies.
- Monies generated by the Police Department-Paid Parking/Ordinance Tickets \$2,425.00, 4 Tow Seizures at \$3,000.00, Truck enforcement \$2,025.00 for a total combined of \$7,450.00.

➤ *Trustee Grossi commented that he likes that the Truck Enforcement is doing a great job.*

C) Fire Chief Jones reported:

- Reported on the Fire Department Activity report for the month of September 2023. They received a total of 51 calls that included 15 EMS calls, 25 Fire calls, 10 motor vehicle accidents, and 1 other Fire calls for invalid assists / stand by-fill ins. The Fire Department did 3 fire station tours and completed 495 hours of training.
- Mentioned that the Open House went well. He stated that for next year they are hiring a public relations person to help sell T-Shirts and bring in a bigger crowd.

➤ *Trustees asked if they could promote this more next year by having more signs posted, getting Home School and the Park District involved. The Chiefs mentioned that next year they are thinking about closing the street on 46th and having the event in the street.*

- Trustees would like the Fire Department to get more involved with Home School events such as Field trips to the firehouse since they don't need to rent a bus when the firehouse is within walking distance.
- Reported that the Fire Prevention and Inspection program is going very well. The new software FLOW MSP allows them to preplan every commercial building, showing the sizes, where the hydrants are how much water is needed and all the important information will be incorporated with the Police Department so they will know what they will need for an active shooter. Trustee Sudkamp asked if they have thermal guns. The Chief said that they had two thermal imagers but is looking to replace one that is broken.
- Mentioned that the Fire Department Contract is going well, we received very good, experienced applicants and five of the six applicants will be starting November 1st.

11. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE TRUSTEES:

- Trustee Ramirez was concerned with the Treasurers report for September because it was showing a negative balance.
 - Administrator Dropka stated that this report fluctuates month to month. For September it shows that we spent more than we took in. There was a 400k bill for the streets, and the Village had a lot of big projects that were all due in September. We are able to pay our bills sufficiently and on time.

REPORTS FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT:

- None

12. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Resident complained about a house on 45th and Wisconsin Ave that has 5 dogs, 2 adults and 3 Mastiff puppies. She stated that she brought this up at the last meeting and asked Chief Zarate if these dogs have their Pet tags.
 - *Discussion ensued and the Chief is going to look into this. One trustee mentioned that the family was trying to find homes for them but have not found anyone. Another trustee stated that if they can't sell them, they need to give them away since they are only allowed 3 dogs per house.*
- Resident complained about an issue with the Park District Board.
 - *President Miller stated that he needs to address this with the Park Board that the Village has nothing to do with the Park Board.*
- Resident stated that the Park District is owned by the Village and is being leased by the Park District. He stated that there must be something that the Village can do since this is causing havoc and causing conditions that are unsafe. The resident went on to state that

when there is a majority of residents complaining about the same issue and they do not listen, do not show any respect, calling residents names and in the meetings, we are told that we can't talk about these issues.

- *Discussion ensued among the Board, and they ask the President and Administrator Dropka to reach out to our attorney to see if there is anything that we can do.*
- Resident inquired about the Forest View signs.
 - *Superintendent Filec stated that he is working on it. He concluded that he is in the process of getting the lights for the sign on Oak Park Ave fixed.*

13. MOTION TO ADJOURN at 7:50 P.M.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Nevarez

14. ROLL CALL

VOICE VOTE: AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE Motion Carried.

15. ADJOURNMENT

To adjourn at 7:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura D. McGuffey
Village Clerk