

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW
November 14, 2023**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular board meeting of the Village of Forest View was called to order by Village President Miller at 7:02 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 Ramirez, Liska
Absent: Trustees Hubacek, Nevarez

- President Miller stated that we have a quorum.

4. SWEARING IN CEREMONY (Police Department)

Officer Daniel Lepkowski was sworn in as a Full Time Police Officer by Village Clerk McGuffey. Family, friends, and residents were present to congratulate and take photos.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

That the minutes of the regular board meeting of October 24, 2023, to be approved as read:

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Ramirez

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

6. REPORTS OF EXPENDITURES

To approve the village payroll and accounts payable expenditures as of November 15, 2023:

1) Payroll- FT /PT/Officials	\$	124,520.22
2) Bills Payable	\$	121,088.40
3) Bills Payable (Manual Check 10/11/23)	\$	44,789.26
4) Bills Payable (Manual Check 10/27/23)	\$	<u>18,304.40</u>
Total Expenditures:	\$	308,702.28

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
 Second: Trustee Sudkamp

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

7. REPORTS OF REVENUES AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2023:

Cash Receipts:	\$	549,786.08
Sales Tax:	\$	57,107.43
Home Rule Sales Tax:	\$	40,324.73
Local Gas Tax:	\$	50,085.74
Interest:	\$	<u>19,319.35</u>
Total Revenue:	\$	716,623.33

Action Requested: None, informational only.

8. DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Agenda Item # 1 – Letter from Administrator Dropka is requesting the board approve amending Ordinance No. 23-14, Section 9-3-1 of the Forest View Village Code “Speed Restrictions,” in school and park zones in the village and clearly define those areas and increase the penalties for speeding in those areas.

Action requested: Motion to approve amending Ordinance No. 23-14, Section 9-3-1 of the Forest View Village Code “Speed Restrictions,” in school and park zones in the village.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
 Second: Trustee Liska

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

Agenda Item # 2 – Letter from Administrator Dropka and Village Accountant Joy Conklin requesting the board approve renewing the Employee Health Insurance Plan with Blue

Cross/Blue Shield for Calendar Year 2024 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Action requested: Motion to approve renewing the Employee Health Insurance Plan with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for Calendar Year 2024 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Liska

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

Agenda Item #3 – Letter from Police Chief Zarate seeking the board’s approval to reinstate Officer Jorge Garcia as a Full-time Police officer with the Village of Forest View and an agreement to extend his probationary period for 18 months.

Action requested: Motion to approve reinstating Officer Jorge Garcia as a Full-time Police Officer with the Village of Forest View and an agreement to extend his probationary period for 18 months.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

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

Agenda Item # 4 - Letter from Fire Chief Jones seeking the board to approve the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Master Agreement (MABAS) as approved by the MABAS Executive Board on October 19, 2022. In addition, he is requesting the board to approve Ordinance No: 23-13, an ordinance authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Participation in the mutual aid box alarm system (MABAS Master Agreement 2022) and approve Resolution No. 23-16 a resolution authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System.

Action requested: Motion to approve Mutual Aid Box Alarm System Master Agreement (MABAS).

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Ramirez

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

Action requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No 23-13 an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Ramirez

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

Action requested: Motion to approve Resolution No. 23-16 an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS).

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Liska

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

9. APPLICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS:

F23-23 Antonio Castillo, 4521 Wisconsin Ave. Installing a 220/240v (50amp) receptacle for EV charging.

F23-28 Tony Gaerlan, 4520 S. Oak Park Ave. Install 150' of 6' tall solid dog ear fence in green treated pine. Fence boards are to be 1x6 pickets, posts are 4x4 with 4x6 gate posts and rails are 2x4's and two gates to create a 10' wide opening across drive.

F23-29 Therese Guzman, 4524 Grove. Replace water supply lines and drains. Install showers and plumbing fixtures.

F23-30 Therese Guzman, 4524 Grove. Replacing windows, doors, furnace, ducts, studs, framing, electrical wires, and fixtures.

NF23-24 Dagoberto Lara, 4625 S. Wisconsin Ave. Replace Front Bay Window.

NF 23-39 Don Wilchek, 4504 Wisconsin Ave. Replace outlet with GFI, Smoke Detectors.

Action Requested: None, informational only.

10. APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMITS:

Agenda Item # 5 - F23-31 Azteca Foods, 5005 So. Nagle Ave. To remove existing dock and complete Concrete work.

Action requested: Motion to approve Permit F23- 31 to Azteca Foods to remove existing dock and complete concrete work.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Sudkamp, Liska, Grossi

No: None

Motion Carried.

11. REPORTS FROM THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:

- Reported that he is working on the tax levy and will be presenting it to the board on or before the December 12th board meeting.
- Plans on meeting with auditor Ed Tracy to finalize the annual audit and he will attend the board meeting to answer questions on or before December 12th.
- Working with the village attorney on a Special Service Area tax for the businesses along 47th Street and Central.
- Working with the village attorney on a new state law regarding Paid Leave that needs to be passed by the end of the year.
- Working on a new franchise agreement regarding Nicor Gas, as well as the ComEd that addresses the easement agreement to finalize plans for the Wenonah Sewer extension project in the spring.
- Working on a proposal to either stay with our current insurance company or consider reviewing other plans offered through Illinois Municipal League. He stated that he reached out to another insurance company through IML as the board requested last year to see how it compares with our current insurance company.
- Mentioned that next week we will be picking up some free surplus property (office furniture) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that some of the department heads had been requesting.
- Stated that the Oktoberfest close out meeting on November 2nd went very well and they discussed what went well and what they could have done better. He reported that there were about 435 people who attended this year, which was more than last year. Expenses were less than last year; primarily due to the increase in revenue and we came in under budget.
- Reported there were 6 houses that signed up this year for the Halloween House Decorating contest. First place winner was at 4503 Wenonah Ave, second place was at 4501 Grove Ave, and third place was at 4526 Wisconsin Ave. The winners received a Halloween gift basket full of assorted goodies.
- Our First Pumpkin Smash Event was held on November 4th from 11am to noon. The turnout was light, as this was our first event, but it was beneficial to have because we partnered the “National SCARCE Organization” that promotes the composting of

pumpkins. The event was arranged by the National SCARCE Organization and Groot Industries supplied the dumpster to the village free of charge.

- Our Veterans Day program on November 10th was a success. We had over 100 people attend including the 4th and 5th graders from the Home School Elementary school choir who sang the national anthem. He gave a special thanks to the Brookfield Elks Lodge, our own Forest View Police Honor Guard, Lt. Col. Michael Kowalski, and the Illinois National Guard making the program a success.
- Commented that he is looking into having a Forest View Business Christmas Party and to treat them to a meet and greet to promote camaraderie among our Forest View Business Family.
- Mentioned that the Christmas Home Decorating Contest will begin on November 25th and have a similar format to the Halloween House Decorating Contest.
- Provided information regarding the Santa Letters and our agreement with the North Pole will be published in our next newsletter. The village is inviting all kids in the village to write letters to Santa Claus and drop them off at the Village Hall anytime between November 13th and December 13th. Santa will be providing a response to every child that sends a letter.

12. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS:

A) Reports from Department Heads

Superintendent of Water and Public Works Filec:

- Reported that Riccio Construction has almost replaced all of the 2023 hydrants at Forest View Terminal Drive.
- Reported that he is looking at a new smart hydrant for water accountability and we can set the Fire Department on as users.
- Homer tree service cleared the forest on 51st street by the Pump House.
- Scheduled our IEPA inspection on the water system for the end of the month.
- Concrete has been poured for the Salt Dome.
- The Tree City USA application has been completed.

Police Chief Zarate:

- Reported that he submitted grant request for a Grant for Body Cams.
- Stated that the Police Honor Guard was a huge success and was a joint effort.
- Remarkd that there were no incidents to report.

Fire Chief Jones:

- Reported that staffing levels are good with the Fire Department Contract. Metro is only billing us for 5 Firefighter/Paramedic spots and will be adding the 6th person when available.
- Mentioned that the Honor Guard looked sharp and did a great job.

B) Reports from Village Trustees

- Trustees discussed the overflow of traffic in the village and asked if IDOT was contacted regarding the changing traffic patterns and also wanted to know if we are going to install speed bumps. Administrator Dropka wants to wait to see if installing the new signs and the increase in speeding tickets eliminates some of the traffic.
- Trustee Grossi discussed a Christmas Tree decorating event that will be held at Brookfield Zoo.

C) Reports from Village President

- Declared that the Village of Forest View will be joining Highland Park Mayor Nancy Rotering and other communities in a joint public statement. The purpose of this statement is to send a unified communication condemning all acts of hate, affirming public safety as our highest priority, indicating that there are no specific threats to our communities and issuing a call to action to continue to report suspicious behaviors, threats, and other activity to law enforcement and stand united.
- Commented on the Village Newsletters and an event coming up for a residents 100th birthday.

13. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Resident reported that there might be a person living in a trailer in a back yard.
- Resident complained that there is a house that has 5 dogs .
- Resident commented how nice the Color Guard was.
- A resident who works for the Park District mentioned that they are holding a Santa Workshop for children to decorate an ornament and will conclude with a tree lighting ceremony in the park.

14. MOTION TO ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION AT 7:45 PM.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
 Second: Trustee Sudkamp

15. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

Agenda # 6 - Motion to go into closed session for Open Meeting Act. Section 2 (c) (11): for probable or imminent litigation.

Agenda Item # 7 – To consider individual employee personnel matters, pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act

16. MOTION TO RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AT 8:32 PM.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
 Second: Trustee Liska

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

Agenda # 6 - Motion to go into closed session for Open Meeting Act. Section 2 (c) (11): for probable or imminent litigation.

Action Requested: Motion was held to not take action on what was discussed in closed session.

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Liska

Yes: Trustees Ramirez, Liska, Grossi, Sudkamp
No: None

Agenda Item # 7 – To consider individual employee personnel matters, pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act.

Action Requested: Motion to take action as discussed in closed session.

Motion: Trustee Liska
Second: Trustee Grossi

Yes: Trustees Liska, Grossi, Ramirez
No: Trustee Sudkamp
Motion Carried.

17. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Trustee Ramirez
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

18. ROLL CALL

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

19. ADJOURNMENT

To adjourn at 8:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura D. McGuffey
Village Clerk