

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW
Held Virtually on Zoom Due To COVID-19
November 24, 2020**

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular board meeting of the Village of Forest View was called to order by Village President Powell at 7:03 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL:

Present: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Miller, Stimach, Kirchgatterer
Absent: None

Village President Powell asked for a moment of silence in honor of our longtime resident Walter “Bud” Nitka who has passed away. He will truly be missed.

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

That the minutes of the regular board meeting of November 10, 2020 be approved as read:

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Stimach

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Hubacek, Miller, Stimach, Grossi
No: None
Abstain: Trustee Kirchgatterer
Motion Carried.

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS CHECK REGISTER:

- A. To approve the check register from the payroll of the November 10, 2020 board meeting in the amount of \$ 92,560.47

Check # 30722-30728

Voided: None

- B. To approve the check register from the accounts payable of the November 10, 2020 board meeting in the amount of \$ 30,409.79

Check # 30729-30758

Voided: None

Action Requested: Motion to approve
Motion: Trustee Kirchgatterer
Second: Trustee Stimach

Yes: Trustees Hubacek, Miller, Stimach, Kirchgatterer, Grossi, Sudkamp
No: None
Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS OF EXPENDITURES:

- A. To approve the village payroll in the gross amount of \$ 95,787.22 . This payroll covers the period from November 16-30, 2020 for regular full-time employees. Also covered is the Officials payroll from November 1-30, 2020 and the part-time payroll from November 1-15, 2020.
- B. To approve the accounts payable as listed in the amount of \$ 68,819.08
- C. Total Expenditures: \$ 164,606.30

Action Requested: Motion to approve
Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Kirchgatterer
Yes: Trustees Miller, Stimach, Kirchgatterer, Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek
No: None
Motion Carried.

7. DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Agenda Item # 1 – Letter from Village Administrator, Mark C. Masciola and Village Accountant, Joy M. Conklin, regarding the upcoming 2020 Tax Levy.

Action Requested: Motion to approve the preparation of the Annual Tax Levy Ordinance with a 10.0% increase of the levy amount, a Resolution to eliminate the 5% loss and cost and reduce the loss and cost to 3% for the 2016 General Obligation Bond line item.

Village Administrator Masciola spoke regarding the upcoming 2020 Tax Levy. Each year the Village must adopt and file the Annual Tax Levy Ordinance by the final Monday in December.

Last year, the Village Board approved a 4.99% increase to the levy amount from \$1,678,946 to \$1,762,725 or \$83,779. Although the levy amount was increased by 4.99%, the tax bill for the

average homeowner increased approximately 3.393%. The average homeowner paid an additional \$38.34 to the Village with the last levy amount increase.

In 2017, the Village Board approved a 10% increase in the levy amount for approximately \$145,377 to capture the increase in our Equalized Assessed Valuation (EAV) due to the addition of the Daubert Chemical property to the tax rolls. This year, the 2019 tax year, the Village received \$118,564 and \$35,451 in additional property taxes from the FedEx property and the Daubert Chemical property, respectively, as a result of these two (2) annexations. These new property tax sources continue to help reduce the tax burden for our Village residents.

In the current year, the Village has realized over \$16,392,800 in new commercial and industrial building activity. This new construction will translate into additional EAV in future tax years. We are recommending the Village Board consider a ten percent (10%) increase in the 2020 levy amount. Although 2020 is almost over, the 2020 levy is approved and is collected in 2021. A 10% levy amount increase will result in the addition of \$176,272.

State law provides that any increase in tax funding, in excess of 4.99%, requires the municipality to place a legal notice in a local newspaper and have a public hearing prior to board approval of the ordinance. If the Village Board agrees with a 10% increase in the levy amount, we will need to move our regularly scheduled December 8, 2020 Board meeting to December 15, 2020 for the approval of the Annual Tax Levy Ordinance to meet the public notice requirements.

Last year we had a total of \$728,441 of Fire and Police Pension debt which is the required Illinois Statutory Minimum Contribution to the Pension Funds. Last year we had Lauterbach & Amen out at the Village Board Meeting and their suggested contribution amounted to \$868,847 for both the Fire & Police Pensions. Before the end of this Fiscal Year, we will need to make an additional contribution to meet the minimum contribution.

A total of \$217,693 is required under the Minimum Contribution for the Fire Pension. The suggested contribution for the Fire Pension is \$268,752 this year. We do not have the Police Pension Fund Actuarial report yet.

Village Administrator Masciola stated that the Village has an enormous pension obligation and limited revenue sources. A year to date comparison of video gaming revenue for January 2019 to September 2019 and January 2020 to September 2020 indicates a reduction of \$18,133 or approximately 23%. However, in 2019 there was a total of 3 establishments versus 5 establishments in the 2020 comparison. The video gaming revenue from the BP Amoco, which is our largest funding source of video gaming revenue during the same comparison period indicates a reduction of \$31,586 or approximately 46.6%. In addition, the Village has a large Capital Improvement Project to fund that includes \$400,000 for the Wenonah Avenue Basin Flooding Relief Improvement Project.

If the board does not want a 10% increase, a 4.99% levy amount increase will result in the addition of \$87,959. In tax year 2020, an additional \$257,500 will automatically be added to the tax levy amount for the 2016 General Obligation Bond Refinancing plus an additional three percent (3%) for loss and cost. Regarding the comparison of the residential portion of the tax bill,

our residents account for 22.68% of the total levy. The remaining 77% is paid by your industrial areas and businesses.

At this time, we are recommending a 10.0% levy increase. We will not have too many opportunities to take advantage of in the future with the significant building activity we have had this calendar year.

Discussion ensued regarding the tax increase, options regarding the percentage increase, the Equalized Assessed Valuation, Pensions and the Capital Improvement Project that includes \$400,000 for the Wenonah Avenue Basin Flooding Relief Improvement Project. This tax increase will not show until the second installment of the tax bill. The Trustees would like to revisit this topic before the second installment and review all options to lower the percentage if possible.

To approve Agenda Item # 1

Motion: Trustee Kirchgatterer

Second: Trustee Stimach

Yes: Trustees Stimach, Kirchgatterer, Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Miller

No: None

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 2 – Letter from Village Administrator, Mark C. Masciola and Village Accountant, Joy M. Conklin, notifying the Board of a decrease in the premium for the renewal of liability and workers' compensation insurance with the Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT).

Action Requested: Motion to approve the renewal of liability and workers' compensation insurance with the Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT) at a cost not to exceed \$186,810.00 for the period December 1, 2020 thru November 30, 2021 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Village Administrator Masciola spoke regarding the Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT). This group provides our insurance for our General Liability and our Workers Compensation. They also provide training sessions on various topics for staff members. We have no cost access to some legal counsel and certain lawsuits are represented through this group representing the Village.

The coverage period runs from December 1 thru November 30. We have received the renewal rates for our coverage effective December 1, 2020.

The renewal rates are as follows: Liability coverage \$105,885 and workers' compensation coverage \$93,765 for a total premium cost of \$199,650. The premium for the liability and workers' compensation coverage has decreased \$14,345 or approximately 6.7%. The decrease is

in the worker compensation line due to improved loss experience over the past several years. In addition, ICRMT is providing a credit of \$12,840 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our overall premium drops to \$186,810.

We recommend the approval of the continuation of our insurance program with the Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust.

To approve Agenda Item # 2

Motion: Trustee Miller
Second: Trustee Kirchgatterer

Yes: Trustees Kirchgatterer, Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Miller, Stimach
No: None
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 3 – Letter from Fire Chief, Thomas A. Heller, regarding the Firehouse/ESO Software System.

Action Requested: Motion to authorize the Fire Chief to execute a contract with ESO Solutions, Inc. to upgrade the Firehouse Software System in an amount not to exceed \$5,600.00.

Village Administrator spoke on behalf of Fire Chief Heller regarding the Firehouse/ESO Software System used for reports and record keeping. The software system is out of date effective January 2021. It is no longer being supported by the company or accepted by the State and FEMA. We need to update our software to a new version. This system is basically the same format that we are using now and will make the change over easier for the Chief and members to use. I am requesting Village Board approval for this software upgrade.

To approve Agenda Item # 3

Motion: Trustee Stimach
Second: Trustee Kirchgatterer

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Hubacek, Miller, Stimach, Kirchgatterer
No: None
Motion Carried.

8. APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS:

- NF20-46 Lois Hrejsa, 4531 S. Grove Avenue, Reroof House and Garage.
- NF20-47 Wendy Neal, 4532 S. Maple Avenue, Replace Fence.
- NF20-48 Tim McLachlan, 4533 S. Maple Avenue, Replace Vinyl Siding, Repair Wood Where Needed, Window Trim, Soffit, Fascia, Gutters and Downspouts, House Only.

- F20-41 Raymond H. Petter, 4508 S. Wenonah Avenue, Install Home Generator.
F20-42 Best Food Services, Inc. 6500 W. 51st Street, Install Rooftop Solar Array System.

9. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

A.) Reports from Department Heads

1. Village Administrator Mark Masciola
 - Along with Police Chief Wiseman and Fire Chief Heller, we attended the meeting of the South West Cook County Consolidated ETSB on November 13, 2020. The cutover date to the new Consolidated Dispatch Service is still set for December 8th at 11:00 a.m.
 - The Permit has been issued to Best Food Services Inc. for a Solar Panel Rooftop Array System. The project value is over \$346,000.
2. Superintendent Water & Public Works Jack O'Donohue
 - On November 20, 2020, we had a small water main break at the dead end of Wenonah Avenue. We had it repaired in less than two hours. We lost 16,000 gallons of water.
 - Wishing everyone a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving.
3. Police Chief Gary Wiseman Jr.
 - Provided Police Reports for November 10 – November 23, 2020.
4. Fire Chief Tom Heller
 - The Firehouse software system is out of date. We appreciate the Board passing agenda item #3.
 - Some of our Firefighters are out with COVID, while others are at home quarantining.
 - We assisted Riverside with a house fire. We also had a call for a car fire.
 - Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

B.) Reports from Village Trustees

A Trustee had a question regarding a Police Officer who was out on leave, if he is back to work and fit for duty. Police Chief Wiseman stated that he is back at work and doing well. The Trustee asked if the Officer was sent for a fit for duty clearance from our doctor. Chief Wiseman said no, he did not go to our doctor. Police Chief Wiseman confirmed that the Officer was cleared and provided a note from his own doctor.

A Trustee asked about the ongoing investigation. Village President Powell stated that interviews are still being conducted and this is still under investigation. A meeting with the Village Attorney would take place after the interviews have been completed. Discussion ensued regarding the timeline. Village President Powell stated that he will speak with the Attorney and follow up with the Trustees.

C.) Report from the Village President

Village President Powell spoke regarding the December Newsletter. A Trustee asked if that will be delivered to every resident's home? Village President Powell stated that the Newsletter will be delivered to every home. He has ideas on how the Newsletters should be delivered and would like to discuss these ideas with each Trustee.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT OR QUESTIONS:

Resident Susy Uribe spoke regarding ConGlobal Industries Inc. GPS has mixed up ConGlobal's address with her home address. There are trucks, a flat bed and packages arriving at her home. She has called ConGlobal directly. She suggested signage to help direct traffic to ConGlobal. Village President Powell stated that the GPS also sends the trucks to the dead end of Oak Park Avenue. Discussion ensued regarding GPS and options on rerouting the trucks. Village Administrator Masciola stated that he will call ConGlobal.

Resident Maria Rosales asked if the minutes from the last Board Meeting have been released. Village President Powell stated that they have been approved and will be posted in the Village Hall.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

To adjourn at 8:13 P.M.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Miller

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

Respectfully submitted,

Joy M. Conklin
Village Clerk