

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW
FEBRUARY 24, 2026**

BOARD MEETING:

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 Liska 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: Trustee Grossi, Sudkamp, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez

Absent: Trustee Hubacek

4. PRESENTATIONS

President Liska started the meeting with a moment of silence for the loss of Fire Chief Mark Jones who had passed away suddenly.

- Swearing in Ceremony – Full Time Forest View Police Officer Joseph Robinson
- Police Chief Ritz to recognize the Police Officers Sgt, Erik Kulaga, Ofc. Phil Rutka, Ofc. Rafal Polkowski, Ofc. Daniel Lepkowski, Det Salamon Gusman, Ofc. Jamie Annen, Ofc. Shane Miller, Ofc. Gerardo Martinez, and Ofc. Dominique Dickerson for their outstanding professionalism and dedication involved with a recent investigation on January 29th.

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

That the minutes of the regular board meeting of February 10, 2026 to be approved as read:

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Grossi

Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Castaneula , Nitka, Nevarez

No: NA
Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS OF EXPENDITURES

To approve the village payroll and accounts payable expenditures as of February 28, 2026:

1) Payroll- FT /PT/Officials	\$	111,257.36
2) Bills Payable	\$	<u>61,952.55</u>
3) Total Expenditures:	\$	173,209.91

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nevarez

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nitka, Nevaerz, Grossi, Castanuela
No: NA
Motion Carried.

7. TREASURERS REPORT FOR JANUARY 2026:

1) Revenues:	\$	597,882.58
2) Expenses:	\$	785,645.53

Action Requested: None, informational only.

8. DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Agenda Item # 1 – President Liska is requesting the board’s approval to re-appoint Lucy Vogt and Laura McGuffey as Pension Trustee with the Forest View Firefighters Pension fund for an unexpired term ending May 1, 2028.

Action requested: Motion to re-appoint Lucy Vogt and Laura McGuffey as Pension Trustee with the Forest View Firefighters Pension fund for an unexpired term ending May 1, 2028.

Motion: Trustee Nevarez
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Nevarez, Sudkamp, Grossi, Castaneula, Nitka
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 2 – President Liska is requesting the board’s approval to re-appoint Gary Pohanka and Laura McGuffey as Pension Trustee with the Forest View Police Pension fund for an unexpired term ending May 1, 2029.

Action requested: Motion to re-appoint Gary Pohanka and Laura McGuffey as Pension Trustee with the Forest View Police Pension fund for an unexpired term ending May 1, 2029.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Nitka

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Nitka, Nevarez, Sudkamp, Castaneula
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 3- President Liska is requesting the board approve Ordinance No. 26-06 Establishing a Veterans Memorial Committee. The committee will consist of a Chair who shall be a Village Trustee, a Secretary and other community members appointed from time to time by the Village President and approved by the Village Board.

Action requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-06 Establishing a Veterans Memorial Committee.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nevarez

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nevarez, Grossi, Castaneula, Nitka
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 4 – President Liska is requesting the board’s approval to appoint the following individuals Mike Grossi, Committee Chair, Laura McGuffey, Committee Secretary, Tim Kutt, Project Manager, John Marbes, Resident Veteran Advisor and Gary Pohanka, Resident Veteran Advisor to our newly established Forest View Veterans Memorial Committee.

Action requested: Motion to appoint the following individuals Mike Grossi, Committee Chair, Laura McGuffey, Committee Secretary, Tim Kutt, Project Manager, John Marbes, Resident Veteran Advisor and Gary Pohanka, Resident Veteran Advisor to our newly established Forest View Veterans Memorial Committee.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nitka

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nitka, Nevarez, Castaneula, Grossi
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 5 – President Liska is requesting the board’s approval to hire Van Bruggen Signs to create and install a Tree decal in the village hall, on the wall outside of the Village office, for a total of \$1,982.00.

Discussion ensued and board wants to table this item and is requesting (3) three bids.

Motion tabled.

Agenda Item # 6 – President Liska to discuss a memo from Attorney Murphy regarding the Forest View Real Estate Transfer Tax Referendum that will be on the election ballot on Tuesday March 17, 2026 and will provide frequently asked questions and answers in the meeting.

Action requested: None, information only.

Agenda Item # 7 – Office Manager Lucy Vogt is requesting the board approve Ordinance No.26-05 to include Open Market to the Vending License Ordinance at a cost of \$100.00 annually.

Discussion ensued regarding food trucks.

Action requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No.26-05 to include Open Market to the Vending License Ordinance at a cost of \$100.00 annually.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Castaneula, Nevarez
Abstain: Trustee Nitka
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 8 – Superintendent of Public Works Miller is requesting the board approve a quote from Air Comfort to replace the Village Hall Vestibule heater blower motor at a cost not to exceed \$1,681.00.

Action requested: Motion to approve a quote from Air Comfort to replace the Village Hall Vestibule heater blower motor at a cost not to exceed \$1,681.00.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nitka

Yes: Trustees Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi, Sudkamp
No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 9 – Superintendent of Public Works Miller is requesting the board approve a quote from Air Comfort to replace the Fire Department air compressor motor at a cost not to exceed \$4,954.00.

In the meeting Miller was asked to inquire about getting an extended warranty

Action requested: Motion to approve a quote from Air Comfort to replace the Fire Department air compressor motor at a cost not to exceed \$4,954.00.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nevarez

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nevarez, Grossi, Castanuela, Nitka
No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 10 – Memo from Police Chief Ritz requesting to start the process to hire one (1) full time police officer to replace a full-time police officer who resigned and took a position with another police agency.

Action requested: Motion to approve to start the process to hire one (1) full time police officer.

Motion: Trustee Castanuela
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Castanuela, Sudkamp, Grossi, Nitka, Nevarez
No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 11 – Memo from Police Chief Ritz requesting the boards consideration and approval to hire one (1) full-time police officer to maintain current department staffing levels and to begin the process to appoint one (1) current full-time police officer to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Federal Task Force.

Action requested: Motion to approve the hiring of one (1) full-time police officer to maintain current department staffing levels and to begin the process to appoint one (1) current full-time police officer to the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Federal Task Force. * The board agreed to approve as long as it benefits the Village and if it doesn't it will be taken back.

Motion: Trustee Nitka

Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Nitka, Castanuela, Grossi, Sudkamp, Nevarez

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 12 - Memo from Police Chief Ritz is requesting board support and collaboration to implement a Police Officer Retention Strategic Plan for the Forest View Police Department .

Action requested: None, information only.

Agenda Item # 13 – Memo from Tim Kutt requesting the board to approve an updated Awesome Pest Control Agreement at a cost not to exceed \$375.00 per month which is an increase of \$150.00 per month. This service will include inspecting and treating all municipal building listed in the Scope of Work for general pests and rodents month. Inspect and treat sewers when necessary for rodents and bait along 46th street as needed per visual inspections and bait along railroad tracks behind the park.

Discussion ensued and board wants to table this item and is requesting (3) three bids.

Motion tabled.

9. APPLICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMIT:

NF26-03 John W. Marbes, 4523 Wisconsin Ave. Remove existing 12 x 12 wooden shed and replace with a metal storage shed on existing slab.

Action Requested: None, information only.

10. REPORTS OF OFFICERS: NA

11. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Public Works Superintendent Miller:
 - Reported her has received 150 code red applications from our residents.
 - Assisted with moving the Police Department Investigations Office upstairs
 - Replaced air vents
 - Received a report from EPA regarding the Leaded Copper samples and was told that we were below the limit and will only need to do this once a year. Discussed water samples.
 - Pinner electric is looking into the lights in the park.
- Deputy Fire Chief Dudek was present.
- Police Chief Ritz:

- Chief gave his condolences to the Fire Department.
 - Reported that Tanner and his department did a great job moving the office upstairs.
 - Reported on the Police Departments Monthly Statistical Report as of February 24, 2026.
 - Commented that Tanner and his department did a great job moving the office upstairs.
 - Reported that he reached out to the Deputy Chief in Stickney with Sergeant Kulaga and we have a great relationship with Stickney.
 - Reported that Officer Maria Guzman in general conference.
 - Reported on Forest View Park checks and terminal drive.
- Building Compliance and Consulting Specialist
 - Discussion regarding Central Stickney

12. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE TRUSTEES:

- Trustee Grossi reported that our Forest View Veterans Memorial Committee is finally up and running. He said that he appreciates that we will be using the vacant lot and will be working with the engineers to start designing the monument. He mentioned that we will be starting a fundraiser and reported that we have received \$500.00 in donations. He went on to say that the Village was founded by Veterans that live in the Village of Forest View and that this is very important that we design a beautiful monument.
- Trustee Nevarez discussed a house that is for sale.

13. REPORTS FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT LISKA:

- President Liska stated that him and Trustee Nitka be will available to talk to residents and will have copies of the question and answers regarding the referendum that will be on the next ballot.

14. QUESTION, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Discussion regarding rumors that are on a website
- Discussion ensued that the Village should have their own official website. President Liska stated that we are working on a website.
- Resident asked if the village can make small post cards with the referendum information for her to have on hand at the next election.

15. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Motion: Trustee Castanuela
 Second: Trustee Sudkamp

16. ROLL CALL;

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

17. ADJOURNMENT:

To adjourn at 8:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura D. McGuffey
Village Clerk