

Minutes of the Meeting
Of the Village Board for Forreston
January 4, 2021 7:00 PM

Village President Metzger calls the meeting to order at 7:04PM. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all. On Roll Call by VP Metzger, Trustees Cotter, Toms, Norris, Freeze, Buss, & Vinnedge are all in attendance. Also in attendance is Interim Chief Thiel and Supt of Public Works Rust. Also in attendance is Katie Kalina, Seth Gronewold (Fehr & Graham), Christine Klipping, Brittany Busker, Jeremy Glick, Jane Koeller, and Dan Rice with SGA Design (for Casey's).

Village President Metzger asks if everyone received the Minutes from the last meeting - Clerk Drayton realized they were not in the packet and emailed all trustees with the information. All state they reviewed them prior to the meeting. Trustee Vinnedge motions to approve the minutes as read and the motion is 2nd by Trustee Toms. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Freeze, Vinnedge, Toms, Buss and Norris all respond with Ayes.

Jane Koeller requests to speak for Public Comment. She asks if the Village will be clearing the sidewalk in front of the public parking lot downtown – it is very icy. Supt of Public Works Rust states he will have it done in the morning. There is no other Public Comment.

Building/Demolition, Sign, Fence & Pool Permits – Trustee Toms asks if all the Trustees received copies of the blueprints for Casey's. He thanks Dan Rice for submitting them. Most of the changes to be done are interior except for the addition of an exterior freezer and an exterior cooler. Casey's have purchased an additional 45' to the north of the existing building so they have plenty of room for the freezer and cooler with no setback issues. The total square footage is 108 sq ft. A permit fee of \$50 must be received before they can be added. Trustee Toms asks Seth if Fehr Graham has any issues or comments. Seth states there are some possible ADA upgrades that can be done – he will forward the information to Dan. Trustee Freeze asks if anyone has spoken with a Casey's Representative about our TIF or BDD programs. Trustee Cotter says he has not, and Trustee Toms states he has spoken with Laura but is uncertain if she remembers. Trustee Toms asks Dan to say something to Laura and see if she wants information. Motion is made by Trustee Toms to approve the permit pending receipt of the \$50 permit fee and the motion is 2nd by Trustee Toms. On Roll Call, Trustees Vinnedge, Toms, Buss, Norris Cotter, and Freeze all respond with Ayes.

Accounts Payable – Supt of Public Works states there should only be 1 charge for Hi-Viz for cones. Clerk Drayton states there were 2 receipts turned in, 1 for cones and 1 for barricades. Supt Rust states we only purchased cones. Clerk Drayton will remove the duplicate charge. Trustee Freeze asks about the Raynor charge – Clerk Drayton states it was storm damage, and the relay board was damaged on all 3 doors. Trustee Norris asks about the alarm dialer that needed to be replaced. Supt Rust explains it was storm damage. This system monitors the WWTP hourly and does daily diagnostics. It calls Supt Rust, Scott, and Kevin if there are any issues. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve the Accounts Payable with the mentioned changes and it is 2nd by Trustee Cotter. On Roll Call, Trustees Vinnedge, Toms, Buss, Norris, Cotter, and Freeze all respond with Ayes.

Committee Reports:

Streets and Alleys – nothing to report

Sewer and Water – nothing to report – the Change order with Fehr Graham will be handled under old Business.

Finance – Trustee Norris states she has nothing to report, however Committee Chairs need to start setting meetings now for getting budget work done.

Building, Grounds, Parks, Zoning and Planning – Trustee Toms states he would like to set a meeting for January 25th at 6:00 PM to work on the budget. VP Metzger will set up the ZOOM link for the meeting.

Ordinances – Trustee Toms states we need to review ordinances to be codified and some which need to be updated. He asks costs for codification and Clerk Drayton states she is unsure. Our Codifier retired and was bought by

another company. She has not received a price list. There is \$4,500 in the budget for codifying. Clerk Drayton will contact the new codifier for pricing.

Animal Control – nothing to report

Clerk's Report – Clerk Drayton reports she included a copy of the article written about Forreton and the derecho storm this summer. This was published in the Illinois Rural Water Association Waterways Fall 2020 edition. She also states she has requested all funds available thru the CURES/CARES act.

Chief of Police Report – Interim Chief Thiel states Chief Boomgarden was back to Van Matre, however, is now in OSF again. Two new Forreton Officers - Officer McKean and Officer Despain are sworn in. Parking during the snowstorm has been an issue, parking tickets are out of date and need to be updated. Thiel informs the Board that prior to Chief Boomgarden's illness, he had been discussing changing the permit fee for the Solicitor Permit to \$100. This does not have to be a change in ordinance. This is a per company fee. Trustee Freeze asks if there is a fine if solicitor does not have a permit. We need to add a fine if a solicitor is caught with no permit. Clerk Drayton states no, Chief would simply escort the person out of town. Trustee Freeze states we need to change that. Trustee Vinnedge asks Clerk Drayton to send a word document for Ordinance 2-2-1 to him and he will make the changes. Permit fees for Food Trucks are also discussed and omitting fees for Food Trucks during festivals.

Next, Thiel states we need to add a Tow Ordinance which would allow us to charge a fee if we have a vehicle towed. Area towns are charging between \$300-\$350 for tow fees, Ogle County is \$500. Our Parking Ticket envelopes are so old they state the fee is \$5 while the ordinance states \$25. Thiel would like to purchase the ETicket system. There is an initial fee for this, then an annual fee for updates. We could write State and Village tickets with the system. The ticket would immediately be emailed to the County and to Michelle. Would need a printer for the squad, but that is not expensive... Thiel will provide more information on the system.

Supt of Public Works states next meeting I will have a report for you. Right now we are busy moving snow. Thank you to the Police Department for helping get some of the vehicles moved. We need to work on the odd/even parking. If we can get residents to move their vehicles, we are able to do a much better job of plowing and it clears more for them, so they have less to clear themselves. Thank you to the Board for the Christmas Bonus' – everyone is always happy to see them with their checks.

Village President Report – VP Metzger asks Seth if we are current with any billings regarding Safe Routes to School – Seth states the Village is paid in full. VP Metzger states we had pledged \$17,000 from the TIF for reimbursement with this. Trustee Metzger states when we set up the BDD & TIF we did the resolutions to pay us back for the setup fees. We need to see that this is done. Trustee Buss states both the TIF and BDD were to reimburse the Village for the expense of setting them up. Trustee Cotter states the BDD has \$5,000 yet to pay back to Village. Cotter continues, it takes a few years to build a balance in these funds. The BDD now has \$90,000 thanks to the community buying items in town! Trustee Cotter believes the TIF is at \$46,000, he does not have Fred's last report in front of him.... Trustee Buss adds we are supposed to pay ourselves back for the costs to run the water and sewer out to Dollar General also.

VP Metzger states we need to get more information out regarding odd/even parking. He was a violator of this also... Interim Chief states tickets were only written for vehicles not moved for 40 hours.

New Business – QBS – no new information has been received. This is tabled until the next meeting.

TIF application for STKE LLC/Steve Moring – Trustee Cotter explains this application needed to be submitted prior to ANY work being done at the property. We do not know how much funding we will be able to do. Per Sharon, we could offer ½ of the tax expense back for the next 5 years. Seth states that 50% is a high increment, you may want to look at that more. We will need to set a term and go from there. This is a long-term payment/commitment. Motion is made by

Trustee Cotter to approve the TIF application and is 2nd by Trustee Freeze. On Roll Call, Trustees Toms, Buss, Norris, Cotter, Freeze and Vinnedge all respond with Ayes.

Old Business – Fehr Graham Change Order – Trustee Vinnedge states VP Metzger, Seth, Dan Pepin, and I reviewed this. Most are legit costs; the issue is that work was done, and cost changes were not given to us in a timely manner. Seth states, it is easier to send one change order than several change orders to the state – we just do one. Seth continues, all projects have change orders. Our estimate for the project was 1.388 million. We are \$4,000 over our projection. Trustee Vinnedge asks if there will be any additional out of pocket costs. Seth states no. There is an additional \$130,000 contingency funding and the \$4,000 will come from this. Trustee Vinnedge motions to approve the Change Order. Trustee Freeze states he did not get a copy of the change order. Trustee Vinnedge states it was in the previous packet. VP Metzger also responds stating we wanted more information and answers, so we tabled this item at the last meeting. Some of the charges are due to Fischer's not bidding the line stops properly, saw cutting was also an issue. The motion to approve the change order is 2nd by Trustee Cotter. On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Norris, Cotter, and Vinnedge respond with Ayes. Trustees Freeze and Toms respond with Nays.

Village President Metzger asks if there is any other old business? Trustee Freeze asks if he has heard anything from the attorney regarding paperwork/procedure to sell the Ash Street property. VP Metzger states he has heard nothing from the attorney since before Christmas – on this or the special use permit for Believe in the Children. He will reach out to Rob this week.

Village President Metzger asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting and Trustee Freeze makes the motion. All are in favor and the meeting adjourns at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Drayton