

**Minutes of the Village of Forreston  
Board Meeting  
Monday, January 18, 2021**

Village President Mark Metzger Called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Village President Metzger recited all in attendance for the Roll Call. Trustees Jeff Freeze, Monty Cotter, Ken Toms, Vickye Norris, Ken Vinnedge, and Gary Buss were all in attendance. Also in attendance for the Village is Village President Metzger, Clerk Drayton, Treasurer and Budget Officer Fred Schneiderman, Interim Police Chief Chris Thiel, and Supt of Public Works Mark Rust. From the public, Katie Kalina, Jane Koeller, Brittany Busker, Aaron Anderson, Seth Groenewold (Fehr & Graham) and Christine Klipping are also in attendance.

The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all. Village President Metzger states that while we are moving to category 2 for restrictions, this meeting is being held via ZOOM only as that is how it was scheduled. We will begin having the Library open for meetings next month.

The Minutes of the January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting are reviewed. Motion is made by Trustee Freeze to approve the minutes as presented and it is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Toms. On Roll Call, Trustees Freeze, Vinnedge, Toms, Buss, Norris, and Cotter all respond with Ayes.

Public Comment – Aaron Anderson from 111 S Prairie Ct, Forreston states he is an Eagle Scout looking to do his project in the Village of Forreston. He would like to construct a 40x80 foot ice skating rink for the winter at Warnken Park. He needs a level area and will place 2x4's for support so it doesn't collapse. Discussion is held regarding liability and location. VP Metzger asks Aaron to select a location and we will look into insurance and liability issues on our end. There is no other Public Comment.

Building/Demolition, Sign, Fence & Pool Permits Trustee Toms presents a solar permit for Dollar General at 13004 W Rt 26 & 72. This will be a roof top panel set up. There is no one from Dollar General or the Solar Company in attendance. The permit is tabled citing the applicant is listed as the solar company, not property owner, property signature required, and permit fee not paid. When these items are received/documented properly, there is no issue. Motion is made to table the permit citing application name, signature, and fee by Trustee Toms and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustee Vinnedge, Toms Buss, Norris, Cotter and Freeze all respond with Ayes.

Treasurer's Report for month ending 12-31-2020-Treasurer Schneiderman reviews the account balances through December 31, 2020 along with the receipts and disbursements. The revenue is recorded, and Treasurer Schneiderman states we will not see any more property tax disbursements unless late payments are made. Motion is made by Trustee Norris to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2020 and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Buss. On Roll Call, Trustees Toms, Buss, Norris, Cotter, Freeze, and Vinnedge all respond with Ayes.

The Accounts Payable are reviewed. Trustee Buss is frustrated due to the report not being by account code. Clerk Drayton explained she is quarantined. I printed the document from my computer at home and did not see what came out in the office. I was unaware the report printed by vendor and not account code. There are no questions on the payments scheduled to be made and Trustee Toms motions to approve the accounts payable as listed and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Norris. On Roll Call, Trustee Buss responds Nay due to the report presented. Trustees Norris, Cotter, Freeze, Vinnedge, and Toms all respond with Ayes.

**Committee Reports:**

Streets & Alleys -Trustee Buss states he will schedule a committee meeting for next week to look at the 2021-22 Budget and has nothing else to report.

Sewer and Water - Trustee Vinnedge states he is working on the Sewer Ordinance and will have it for the next meeting. The ordinance will be for a 3% cost of living increase on the sewer rates.

Finance - Trustee Norris states she would like a 2PM meeting on Tuesday for the Finance Committee

Budget Officer Report for month ending 12-31-2020 Budget Officer Schneiderman Clerk Drayton did not receive this report, so it was not included in the packet. Fred will resend the report to Clerk Drayton and she will email it to the Board.

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning - Trustee Toms states he has already scheduled a budget meeting for 6PM on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup> he would like to have the Ordinance Committee meet immediately after also.

Ordinances - Trustee Toms has nothing else to report.

Animal Control - Trustee Norris states she has spoken with New Hope Veterinary Clinic and they will respond to any emergency calls we may have.

Clerk's Report - Clerk Drayton explains she has been quarantined since last Thursday due to a positive Covid test. She is asymptomatic and has had no problems. Her scheduled date back to work is January 22 as long as no symptoms appear. Clerk Drayton states she has been working daily from home. She also states the Casey's permit fee has been paid and that CURES funding has approved another \$3,646.

Chief of Police Report - Interim Chief Thiel states the department is making progress on the snow ordinance parking issues and have gotten all tagged sidewalks cleared except 1. It is noted the Pearl Valley Egg Building on S Walnut is not shoveled and Thiel states he will look into that. Interim Chief Thiel states we have a tow ordinance in place. Trustee Vinnedge asks how many officers we lost this week due to the new legislation enacted? I.C. Thiel responds – 2. Thiel also states that body cams will be required in 2024/25. Obtaining and using the body cams are only part of the issue. Every minute must be recorded during every interaction during a workday and stored on the cloud – not a hard drive or thumb drive. This will be a huge expense for the department.

Supt of Public Works Report - Supt. Rust reports the wastewater and well numbers for the month. He also attached numbers for electric usage from 2020 to 2017 & 18. With the new blowers our electric usage was been cut in half from 2017. This is a huge savings for the Village.

Village President's Report - President Metzger states that Gov. Pritzker is moving us to phase 2 so we will go back to library meeting with a ZOOM link being available. Trustee Vinnedge states he will continue to ZOOM until he has the vaccine. VP Metzger then states we will ZOOM only for February 1, 2021 meeting. Trustee Cotter asks if the disaster fund money has been deposited. Clerk Drayton states it has not, she has not been given direction for the funds. VP Metzger states it will be taken care of when Clerk Drayton is back in the office.

New Business - Loan request #5 for IEPA Loan #2197 in the amount of \$17,334.50 including Fehr Graham Invoice #98351 and CFPS, Inc Loan Administration invoice #3 is reviewed. Trustee Buss asks if this is the final payment. It is not, Fishers have not submitted the final payroll. We will still be in budget. This bill is just CFPS and Fehr Graham. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve Loan request #3 and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Cotter. On roll call, Trustee Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Toms and Buss respond with Ayes. Trustee Freeze responds with Nay.

Old Business nothing for the QBS project has been received. The Soliciting or Peddling 5-4-2-5 Ordinance is simply a change in fee, the Ordinance will not need to be voted on. The Parking Regulations 6-7-1 No Parking Restrictions are still being review so there is no discussion or vote on any of these 3 items.

VP Metzger states the text amendment for Believe in the Children is still being worked on, Rob needs more information from Patti. Trustee Cotter states we need a plan for the Moring TIF regarding funding, Seth states that the business typically has their attorney propose funding and it is presented to the Village. Then the Village can either accept or counter the offer. Often, it is 30-40% of the real estate taxes paid annual for a set number of years.

There is no other old business.

VP Metzger states since there is no other old business, next on the agenda is Executive Session. The Board will NOT vote on anything after the Executive Session. When we come out of closed session the meeting will be adjourned and we will vote at the next meeting. Motion is made by Trustee Toms and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. All are in favor. At 8:24 the Board convened Executive Session - per ILCS 120/1 Sec. 2 (c)(1) for Personnel.

Out of Executive Session at 8:50 PM

Motion to adjourn the meeting is made by Trustee Toms and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Freeze. All are in favor. The meeting is adjourned at 8:51