

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Board of Trustees
Village of Forreston
Tuesday, August 6, 2019

President Metzger calls to order the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Forreston at 7:00 PM on August 6, 2019 and recites the Pledge of Allegiance. On roll call by Courtney Warren the following members are present: Trustees Ken Toms, Ken Vinnedge, Jeff Freeze, Monty Cotter, Vickye Norris and Gary Buss.

The minutes of the regular meeting of Monday, July 15, 2019 are considered for approval. Trustee Toms makes a motion to approve the minutes as presented, second by Trustee Freeze. Yeas: Trustees Toms, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Vinnedge abstains due to absence. Motion carries.

Metzger asks for public comment which there is none.

President Metzger introduces Hank Ritts from Mission Zero Hundred Hours. Ritts explains the concept of MZHH and how it was created. As part of their mission they are having a BBQ cooking competition where professional BBQ teams partner with a veteran. The very first event will be in Yorkville on November 9. There will be more than 40 teams competing in that event. Before that event takes off, they would like to do a trial run with 5 teams here in Forreston. It will take place in Memorial Park on August 17 at 12:30. Mr. Ritts will meet with Vinnedge at Village Hall to work out the logistics of the weekend.

Building/Demolition, Sign, Fence, & Pool Permits:

- Trustee Vinnedge presents Ordinance #2019-06 Granting a Variance to Chapter 9-4 Residential Districts of the Comprehensive Amendment of the Zoning Ordinance to Loran Greenfield. Vinnedge explains the Planning Commission met last night and recommended approval of the variance with a vote of 4-2. Metzger states he does not agree with the decision of the Planning Commission. He feels that this would set a precedent for other empty lots to erect accessory buildings without a primary structure. Vinnedge states Mr. Greenfield is open to the idea of de-annexing as well as other alternatives. Metzger replies he called the County this afternoon and was told that even if they de-annex from the Village, they will still have to follow Village building codes because they are within a mile and half of the Village limits. Motion by Freeze to deny the variance request, second by Vinnedge. Yeas: Trustees Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, Buss, and Metzger. Motion carries. Variance is denied.
- Trustee Cotter presents a fence permit application for Eileen Anderson at 110 N Locust St. He explains it will be a wooden fence on the south side of the property. It will go right on the lot line. Cotter explains that the fence cannot go forward of the house. Metzger asks how tall it will be. Anderson replies 6 feet. Motion by Cotter to approve application, second by Vinnedge. Yeas: Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Motion carries.
- Cotter presents a building permit application for Ken & Tam Vinnedge at 305 S 2nd Ave. They plan to replace a shingled overhang on the shed with a steel metal roof. They are replacing what is existing and not changing the footprint so there should be no charge. Motion by Cotter to approve the application at no charge, second by Freeze. Yeas: Toms, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Vinnedge abstains. Motion carries.
- Cotter presents a building permit application for William Davis at 501 W Green St. He would like to put solar panels producing 10 kW on the west and south side of the house. They will be the owners of the panels eventually according to the submitted plan. Cotter would like to table this application until the decommissioning plan and bond is received.

The Claims list is considered for approval in the amount of \$17,214.19. Metzger states he would like to make a payment of \$12,000 to Fehr Graham toward the outstanding invoices for the Water Main project. He would like to see this on the Claims list at the next meeting. Motion by Freeze to approve the Claims as presented, second by Cotter. Yeas: Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Motion carries.

Committee Reports:

Streets and Alleys:

- Trustee Buss asks Mark Rust if he has gotten any quotes for mud jacking. Rust replies he is still waiting to hear back on a couple of quotes. Rust also states he has received some quotes for painting the curbs and one was considerably lower than the other so he would like to get started on that soon.

Sewer and Water: none

Finance Committee: Trustee Norris states she would like to have a Finance meeting in early September to discuss TIF and BDD funds as well as insurance and Long Range Planning. She and Cotter ask that the Chairs of each committee report to them with some updates on long range planning before that meeting.

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning: Toms reports that the parks looked great for Sauerkraut Days this past weekend.

Ordinances: none

Animal Control: none

Clerk's Report: none

The Law Enforcement Update from Police Chief Boomgarden is reviewed for activity from July 16, 2019 to August 6, 2019. Chief Boomgarden reports there is now one camera up at Warnken Park. The second one will be installed soon.

Mark Rust gives a report for Public Works from July 16, 2019 to August 6, 2019.

Village President's Report:

- Metzger reports there is a customer appreciation dinner for Carroll Service on August 13 at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. If anyone is interested in going, please let him know.
- He also reports IML is hosting their annual conference at the Chicago Hilton from September 19-21. He encourages anyone who is interested to have a look at the schedule and decide if they would like to go. Trustee Toms comments that years ago the Village President and another trustee would attend and it is a very valuable conference with a lot of good information.
- There was a meeting with Dan Pepin and Seth Gronewold a couple of weeks ago regarding the Water Main project. He states the principal forgiveness amount went down from 75% to 60%. He still would like to see the Village move forward with the original scope because scaling back may end up costing more in the future as more and more municipalities catch on to the program and submit applications. There is a little bit of discussion about moving forward. Metzger thinks it is best to schedule an informational meeting about the project with Dan and Seth and discuss it further there.
- Metzger met with someone at the Forreston State Bank regarding use of their notaries. They are willing to cooperate with the Village in getting the easement agreements for the Lead Service Replacement project notarized. Rust states we will work on getting letters out for the next billing.
- Metzger reports the guy outside of town who approached him about the solar farm last month has requested the Village put together a letter of intent that we would buy the energy from him if it was a lesser rate than what ComEd has. Metzger states he does not feel comfortable doing this at this moment. He would like to see them do the legwork since it is their project and also have it a little further along. It is still too early to be signing anything.
- Metzger intends to schedule a meeting with the school regarding the Safe Routes to School project to get some of their input. He would hate to see us move forward with this project without some of their suggestions and input and see it not get used or have it done improperly.

Motion by Freeze to go into Closed Session per ILCS 120/1 Sec. 2(c)(1) for Personnel, second by Toms. Yeas: Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Motion carries. Enter Closed Session at 8:20 PM. Return to Open Session at 8:44 PM.

Motion by Norris to hire Valarie Woods as a part time assistant clerk at the wage and hours discussed in closed session, second by Cotter. Yeas: Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Motion carries.

Motion by Freeze to appoint Mark Rust as the Superintendent of Public Works at the wage discussed in a previous closed session, second by Vinnedge. Yeas: Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Cotter, Norris, and Buss. Motion carries.

Motion by Freeze to approve Resolution 2019-02 to Release Closed Session minutes from March 7, 2016 to April 1, 2019, second by Buss. Yeas: Toms, Vinnedge, Freeze, Norris, and Buss. Cotter abstains as he was not on the Board at that time. Motion carries.

New Business: Norris states she has been looking into employee handbooks and she would like to start putting something together for the Village. Metzger thanks her since it is in dire need of updating.

Old Business: Metzger states he would like to have another look at the TIF/BDD application for reimbursement. He states he had a conversation with Sharon Pepin about how best to distribute the monies. She explained that the Village has discretion on how to go about doing that and 25% reimbursement is a general rule of thumb but all municipalities have a

different way of doing it. Some of them will grant a greater percentage at the end of the fiscal year if there is still money left in the fund. Metzger would like to explore this a little more.

Motion by Vinnedge to adjourn. All are in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Warren, Village Clerk