

**Minutes of the Meeting  
Of the Village Board of Forreston  
Monday October 5, 2020**

Village President Metzger calls the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. On Roll Call by Clerk Drayton Trustees Gary Buss, Vickye Norris, Monty Cotter, Jeff Freeze, and Ken Toms are present. Also, in attendance are Budget Officer Christine Klipping, Village Clerk Michelle Drayton and from the community Kathy Bickford, Jeremy Glick, and Jane Koeller are present. Trustee Vinnedge is absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all.

The Minutes from September 21, 2020 Meeting are reviewed. Trustee Freeze motions to approve the minutes and the motion is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Toms. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Freeze, Toms, and Buss respond with Yeas.

There is no Public Comment.

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

Trustee Toms presents a permit for demolition and replacement of front deck steps at 305 S Walnut. This is a no change, no fee replacement of aging stairs. Motion is made by Trustee Toms to approve the permit and it is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Norris. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Freeze, Toms, Buss, and Norris reply with Yeas.

Next is a fence permit for 606 S Walnut. Booth's submitted a permit for a fence several years ago, but never put the fence up. They are proposing a smaller fenced area and have paid an additional \$25 to bring the paid permit fee up to \$50. Trustee Toms states the fence type requested is no longer allowed. Trustee Toms states he would like to approve the permit, pending approval of acceptable fence material. Trustee Freeze 2nds the motion. On Roll Call, Trustees Freeze, Toms, Buss, Norris, and Cotter all respond with Yeas.

Recommendation from the Planning Commission is to allow for a Variance for the fence at 98 Magnolia for Caitlin Fiene. Trustee Buss requested minutes from the meeting. These are not approved by the Planning Commission so they cannot be released. Motion is made by Trustee Toms to table the decision and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Freeze. On Roll Call, Trustees Toms, Buss, Norris, Cotter and Freeze all respond with Yeas.

Next, the Accounts Payable are reviewed. Trustee Buss questions the fuel bill for the Burn Curtain. Supt Rust explains we had to supply the fuel – most of which was not used and will be used by the Village since the burning of debris from the storm is done and the burn curtain has been removed. Trustee Buss also questions the charges for Forreston Hardware. He would like to see every receipt from Koeller Hardware, Dollar General, Farm & Fleet, etc. Clerk Drayton feels this is an additional burden on her time. Jane Koeller states she will send a detailed invoice to him each month. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the Accounts Payable and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Norris. On Roll Call, Trustees Toms, Buss, Norris, Cotter and Freeze all respond with Yeas.

**Committee Reports:**

Streets & Alleys - Trustee Buss has nothing to report. VP Metzger states he will send a list of the sidewalks that were not tore out as expected with the watermain replacement project. Fischer's would like to widen roads a bit with the extra funding. Previously, Fischer's stated the cost would be the same, however now it is an additional \$9,980.00 asks if this can be a project cost? Aren't there extra funds in the loan? Clerk Drayton states there is over \$35,000 in the contingency fund, but this would have to be approved. Trustee Buss asks what roads and where do they want to widen? VP Metzger states he will talk with Jeff Mackey and get a list. We will need to do a change order and decide SAAP. Trustee Freeze asks who is doing the asphalt? Supt Rust states it is subcontracted out to Martin. Trustee Toms states 'at the last meeting I talked about the pothole and rough area at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Cherry and no one has done anything yet'. Supt Rust states he will put some rock in it this week.

Sewer and Water - Trustee Vinnedge is not in attendance. Supt Rust will address items under his report.

Finance - Trustee Norris has no report

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning - Trustee Toms states he received information in his packet about a new scoreboard. Clerk Drayton states the scoreboard at Warnken Park is damaged and she put information in the packets of those on the committee. Trustee Buss asks if insurance will pay for this. Supt Rust states it is insured so it should be covered. Trustee Buss asks if we need a new post – Yes, the 8x8 posts broke off at the ground. Trustee Buss states they have been setting steel I-beams.

The sign below stating thank you Lions can be painted by someone at the school. Trustee Toms motions to approve the ordering of the new scoreboard and protective digital display cover and Trustee Buss 2nds the motion. On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Norris, Cotter Freeze, and Toms all respond with Yeas.

Ordinances - Trustee Toms comments on the house at 310 S 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. The owners are making this a youth shelter with a house parent. This is zoned R-2 single family, and this use does not comply. They should get a special use permit like they did for their other business. Discussion is held as to what type of notice the neighbors should be given as to who is would be staying next door. Trustee Toms continues, he has no problem with what they are trying to do he is trying to head off problems down the road. VP Metzger states the ordinance is not clear on this. Trustee Toms states he will speak with Patti Jennings about a special use permit

Animal Control Trustee Norris has nothing to report.

Clerk's Report - Clerk Drayton states she has still not heard anything from the Pine Street property owner. Four QBS packets have been submitted to Village Hall for the Safe Routes to School program. Clerk Drayton also states she will be out of the office October 9-12. With Sonia still out on medical leave, the office will be closed for a 4-day weekend. Lastly, IML insurance payment is due next month. This is a levied, budgeted item. Paying in full by Nov 20<sup>th</sup> is the most cost effective for the Village but she also reviews the 2 other payment options with the board. Trustee Buss states, since it is budgeted, pay it in full. Clerk Drayton thanks the board for their input and states it will be on the AP for the next Board Meeting.

The Police Report is reviewed by the Board Members. VP Metzger states he has heard about crazy drivers in town. Chief Boomgarden states he had adult witness sign complaints on a teen. His license was taken. Last Thursday there was an incident at Subway with some teens and a toy gun. The States Attorney is reviewing the reports. Political signs have been disappearing from yards – for both parties. Lastly, a collared and tagged cat had to be put down after an altercation with a dog – in the dog's fenced yard. VP Metzger states the Department of Public Health and Ogle County Health Department are making recommendations to social distance and wear a face mask (not Halloween mask or in addition to). We will not cancel trick or treating, but think that if people have their lights on, it is ok to participate. Chief states common sense goes along way. We will stay with the same hours of 5-7 PM.

Supt. Of Public Works Report - Supt. Rust reports that Scott has taken some time off this week and will be in class for training on Thursday. The Hydrants are flushed, and the guys will start with the leaf vac on Monday. They will continue picking up leaves on Monday's and Thursday of each week. They have gotten 4 manholes concreated and have 7 more to go. The posts were also set at Warnken Park for the basketball hoops. Well #2 has a breaker issue, residual problems from storm damage and we are waiting on a new breaker. Also, the dialer at the WWTP was fried – it will be \$4,000 for a new dialer. We had to do some rewiring at the lift station as mice chewed thru wires on the pole. Kevin has passed his written exam for his CDL license and we will start practicing with him in the truck. The last boil order will be this week, then Fischer's will be finishing up road repairs, ditches, seeding, etc. It will be a week or two before they lay asphalt.

Trustee Buss asks when they are looking at doing the final grade work at the North Locust property. The dirt needs to be moved this fall, so it has time to settle. Supt Rust states he will ask, but it will be after they are done with the road work probably. Trustee Buss also asks about the storm sewer work to be done by the old cheese factory. Supt Rust states that is a project for next year.

Village President's Report – Village President Metzger states Dan Pepin with Community Funding and Planning joined the meeting a little while ago. VP Metzger states he will have Dan speak next. Dan states the QBS packets will be picked up and they will create the score sheet. This process will be completely blind as to who the proposal is from, so it is based solely on qualification. He will get information to the Committee next week.

Village President Metzger states he spoke with Rob regarding the Ash Street property and he will relay more information to us. We are looking at a 6-month time frame. We need to publish notice of the intent to sell property 3 times. Rob will walk us thru it. VP Metzger also informs the Board, and those in attendance, that election forms for Trustees are available at Village Hall. He states his term is up as well as the terms for Trustees Freeze, Norris, and Toms. The Village Clerk position is up for election also.

Trustee Freeze asks – if someone owns more than 1 business in town, can they receive BDD funding for both business in the same year? VP Metzger states this is something we will have to look into. Trustee Toms asks if we have received anything back from the CARES fund yet. Clerk Drayton states she has begun entering receipts but has not submitted anything yet.

New Business - Resolution #2020-02 Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code is presented to the Board. This is for the Safe Routes to School project for funding. Motion is made by Trustee Toms to approve the Resolution and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Cotter. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Freeze, Toms, and Buss all respond with Yeas. There is no other New Business.

Old Business -

Ash Street Property – an Executive Session was held last week regarding putting this property up for sale. There is no question or discussion from the Board, so VP Metzger asks for a motion regarding the selling of the Ash Street property. Trustee Freeze motions 1<sup>st</sup> and it is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Toms. Trustee Cotter asks that the motion from the Meeting be read. Clerk Drayton states this was closed session and the minutes have not been released yet. Essentially, she states, we would agree to sell the property but not be up for sale for a while, or it is sold with a minimum bid and a 12-month contingency of use. The new building will be in next year's budget. Trustee Cotter motions to approve the sale of the Ash Street Property and it is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Freeze. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Freeze, Toms, Buss, and Norris all respond with Yeas.

Trustee Buss asks who will be working on the design for the new building. Trustee Cotter states it was discussed that Supt Rust, Scott, Trustees Freeze and Buss, along with anyone else who know what we need to work on the design. Trustee Buss asks if there is a dry erase board we can use somewhere. Clerk Drayton states we purchased one last year, but she does not know where is at.

Motion is made to adjourn the meeting, and all are in favor. The meeting is adjourned at 8:24PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Drayton