

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
March 11th, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: President Adduci, Trustees Vazquez, Brennan, O'Connell (Virtual), Gillis, Bachner, Johnson and Village Clerk Keller

Absent: None

Also Present: Fire Chief Thomas Gaertner, Deputy Fire Chief Bochenek, Police Chief James O'Shea, Deputy Chief Greenwood, Police Commander Mike Swierczynski, Finance Director Rosemary McAdams, Village Attorney Lance Malina, Human Resources Manager Trish Ivansek, Village Administrator Matt Walsh, Assistant Village Administrator Jessica Spencer.

MOTION by Trustee Vazquez to allow Trustee O'Connell to participate virtually due to employment matters. Seconded by Trustee Johnson.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Vazquez, Bachner, Gillis, Johnson, Brennan.

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Adduci led the pledge of allegiance.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Margie Cekander made a public comment regarding statements made in the March 8th, Village Newsletter. Ms. Cekander also stated that some statements the Village has made about the Lake and Lathrop property and the proposed zoning text amendments were not accurate. Ms. Cekander stated that zoning codes are supposed to be safeguards to protect the quality of life of residents and the proposed changes will not do that.

4.ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Bachner gave a land acknowledgement and then had no further comments.

Trustee Vazquez reported attending a Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Age Friendly event with Village President Adduci. He suggested the Village investigate some of the transportation materials provided at the event.

Village Clerk Keller had no comments for the record.

Trustee Brennan announced the River Forest Library will be hosting their Juneteenth event on June 17th at 11:00am at the River Forest Public Library. She also asked Village Administrator Walsh to address some of the comments raised by Ms. Cekander.

Administrator Walsh reported that the official No Further Remediation (NFR) letter will not be granted until the construction of a property on the Lake and Lathrop Development site is completed and noted that this situation is not atypical. He also reported that the Village has correspondence with the Environmental Protection Agency confirming this as well.

Trustee Johnson had no comments.

Trustee O'Connell thanked Administrator Walsh for his comments on the concerns Ms. Cekander raised. He also commented on some of the statements Ms. Cekander made about Lake and Lathrop and the proposed zoning changes.

Trustee Gillis commented that on April 13th, the River Forest Bike Exchange event will be taking place at Roosevelt Middle School. She reported that the event starts around 9am and goes on until 1pm.

Trustee Bachner asked if the Village has any policies surrounding electric bike registration.

Village Administrator Walsh stated that those vehicles can be registered as bikes with the Village Police Department.

Village President Adduci took to the podium and gave the 2024 State of the Village Presentation. She noted it was an honor to work with the Village Board and Village Staff for River Forest and highlighted their commitment to the Villages main guiding goals of public safety, stabilizing property taxes, and increasing property values through improving quality of life.

Trustee Vazquez requested to add a few comments and noted being proud of many of the accomplishments President Adduci highlighted in her presentation. He also thanked Village staff for their work. He then thanked the residents for their comments

and suggestions and noted that while he is proud of the work done, he knows the Village could still improve. Finally, Trustee Vazquez thanked President Adduci for her work.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a) Village Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – February 26th, 2024
- b) Village Board of Trustees Executive Meeting Minutes – February 26th, 2024
- c) Accounts Payable – February 2024 – \$1,697,198.98.
- d) February Financial Report
- e) Administration Department Report
- f) Monthly Department Reports
- g) Women's History Month – Proclamation
- h) Purchase Approval – Automated License Plate Reader System – Minuteman Technologies – \$55,275.00
- i) SafeBuilt Contract Renewal – Plan Review and Inspection Services
- j) Accessible Parking Space Request – 1417 Bonnie Brae – Ordinance
- k) Award of Contract – 2024 Permeable Paver Maintenance Project – Old World Brick Paving – \$52,992.50
- l) Approval of Zoning Map – Ordinance

MOTION by Trustee Johnson to approve Consent Agenda Items A-L. Seconded by Trustee Brennan.

Trustee O'Connell asked if accessible parking spaces, as mentioned in Item J, are forever tied to the property, or do the spots go away if they are no longer needed.

Administrator Walsh stated he does not know but reported the Village does keep track of the spaces and will look further into the question.

Trustee Bachner asked if there have been any complaints regarding these handicap spots.

Administrator Walsh stated no complaints have been received that he is aware of.

Trustee Bachner suggested the Village be careful when removing any potential spots in the future.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Vazquez, Bachner, Gillis, Johnson, Brennan, O'Connell.

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

Trustee Gillis stated the Bike Exchange event she mentioned in her comments will take place from 10am-1pm.

6.UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

7. NEW BUSINESS

None

8.EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by Trustee Vazquez. Seconded by Trustee Johnson.

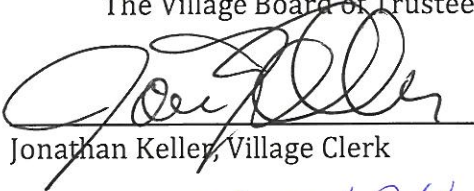
Roll call:

Ayes: President Adduci, Trustees Vazquez, O'Connell, Bachner, Johnson, Gillis, Brennan

Absent: None

Nays: None

The Village Board of Trustees Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.


Jonathan Keller, Village Clerk

Date: 03/25/24