

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES  
Tuesday, May 28, 2019**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, May 28, 2019 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 Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O’Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Clerk Kathleen Brand-White, Village Administrator Eric Palm, Assistant Village Administrator Lisa Scheiner, Assistant to the Village Administrator Jonathan Pape, Management Analyst Sara Phyfer, Police Chief James O’Shea, Police Commander James Greenwood, Public Works Director John Anderson, Finance Director Rosemary McAdams, Village Attorney Greg Smith

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Adduci led the pledge of allegiance.

**3. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Gregg Kuenster, 516 Park Avenue, addressed the Board to request a settlement to the pending litigation regarding his property at 516 Park without going to trial. He provided his account of the events thus far and asked that the Board consider a \$50,000 offer to settle the case.

Village Attorney Smith advised the Board not to discuss pending litigation publicly but noted that they could discuss this matter during Executive Session.

President Adduci stated the Board will take the advice of counsel and would provide Mr. Kuenster a response in a timely fashion.

**4. ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chief Bohlmann introduced the new Firefighter/Paramedic Joshua McNabb. Village Clerk Brand-White administered the Oath of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic McNabb.

- a. One Earth Film Festival Young Filmmakers Contest Winners *The Turmoil of Palm Oil* by Andrew Edwards and *Our Water Crisis* by Tori Robinson-Thomas

Sue Crothers, Founding Director of the One Earth Film Festival Young Filmmakers Contest, introduced the winning films and stated there were 157 submissions from across the country.

*The Turmoil of Palm Oil* by Andrew Edwards and *Our Water Crisis* by Tori Robinson-Thomas were screened, and President Adduci presented certificates to Andrew and Tori.

b. Resolution Honoring the Life of Sally Stovall

Trustee Brennan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to approve a Resolution Honoring the life of Sally Stovall.

President Adduci stated that Sally Stovall was an environmental activist and pioneer. She then read the Resolution aloud.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

Trustee O'Connell thanked all involved with the Memorial Day parade.

Trustee Henek echoed the compliments and stated the parade was fun for everyone.

Trustee Brennan announced that the second year of the Community Garden is in full swing, with 22 beds total, which is 10 more than last year. She noted that half the garden beds along Lake Street are native perennials, which do not need as much water. She thanked Sustainability Commissioner Andrew Basney and Emily Okallau from the Morton Arboretum for organizing the River Forest Tree Walk, stating the event was successful. She also noted that Sustainability Commission Chair Julie Moller was interviewed on the Doris Davenport Radio Show by OPRF Environmental Committee Students, and they discussed waste and recycling.

Village Clerk Brand-White mentioned that she had shared with a student the work of the Sustainability Commission. She shared that she lost her husband four years ago, and she was reminded of the first responders who came to her house that day. She thanked the firefighters/paramedics and police officers for being professional and kind, noting the impact they have on people.

Trustee Vazquez echoed Trustee O'Connell's and Henek's remarks about Memorial Day. He announced that on May 7, he and President Adduci attended the Age-Friendly Communities Subcommittee meeting with the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. He noted the attendees discussed the age-friendly initiatives in their communities, and that he is looking forward to working with President Adduci on this. Trustee Vazquez also congratulated Village

Administrator Palm on being selected for the West Central Municipal Conference Award for Intergovernmental Cooperation.

Trustee Cargie thanked everyone involved for organizing the parade and promoting [www.RFHappenings.com](http://www.RFHappenings.com).

Trustee Bachner echoed the sentiments regarding the parade. She recognized President Adduci for being a panelist at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual OPRF Economic Luncheon with the mayors of Oak Park and Forest Park. She stated it was interesting to hear what would be driving the future for the Village and area. She expressed her condolences for Sally Stovall's passing; she stated Sally was a true advocate for immigration rights. She also acknowledged River Forest middle school student Anya Herrman who traveled to Washington DC with ADAPT in support of the Disability Integration Act.

President Adduci congratulated everyone for doing a great job with the parade. She expressed enthusiasm about being on the panel for the Chamber's Economic Luncheon. President Adduci also congratulated Administrator Palm for the award he will be receiving from WCMC, noting that collaboration is needed to move communities forward. She commended Firefighter/Paramedic McNabb and thanked his family, and also applauded all the winners of the film festival noting that it is exciting to know kids are getting involved with the environment.

## 5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Special Village Board Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2019
- b. Regular Village Board Meeting Minutes – May 13, 2019
- c. Resolution Supporting Passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution
- d. Waiver of Formal Bid and Award of Contract to ComEd for \$24,538.59 and to Intren, LLC for \$29,750 for ComEd
- e. Transformer Relocation Project in Pumping Station
- f. Waiver of Formal Bid and Award of Contract to TAPCO, Inc for \$30,155.10 and to Superior Road Striping, Inc.
- g. (through Suburban Purchasing Cooperative) in the amount of \$27,740 to Purchase Signage and for Thermoplastic
- h. Striping for Safe Walking Routes to School Plan
- i. Waiver of Formal Bid and Award of Contract for Engineering and Inspection Services for the Water Tower
- j. Repainting Project to Dixon Engineering, Inc. in a not-to-exceed amount of \$34,200
- k. Right-of-way Encroachment Agreement at 7327-7329 W. North Avenue for a Sprinkler System
- l. Accounts Payable – April 2019 – \$1,930,870.76
- m. Village Administrator's Report

Trustee Bachner made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henek, to remove Item C from the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Vazquez made a motion, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to approve the Consent Agenda items A-B, D-I.

In response to a question from Trustee Henek, Administrator Palm stated the water tower will be painted all white unless Staff is directed otherwise.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

Trustee Bachner, seconded by Trustee Henek, made a motion to approve a Resolution Supporting Passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the United State Constitution.

Trustee Bachner stated she wanted to recognize the importance of this Resolution. She noted that Willard Elementary school is named after suffragette Frances Willard and highlighted that it was not until 1965 that black women and other minorities and immigrants had full access to voting.

Roll call:

Ayes: President Adduci, Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- a. Accounts Payable from the General Fund to McDonald's-Karavites for \$54.37  
*(Trustee O'Connell Common Law Conflict of Interest)*

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to approve payment from the General Fund to McDonald's-Karavites for \$54.37.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, Vazquez

Absent: None

Abstain: Trustee O'Connell

Motion Passes.

- b. Accounts Payable from the Economic Development Fund (\$1,745.77) and Madison Street TIF Fund (\$18,270.55) *(Trustee Vazquez Common Law Conflict of Interest)*

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henek, to approve payment for the Economic Development Fund for \$1,745.77 and payment for the Madison Street TIF Fund for \$18,270.55.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell

Absent: None

Abstain: Trustee Vazquez

Motion Passes.

## **7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES**

- a. Zoning Board of Appeals – Variation for a Secondary Front Yard Setback at 755 William – Ordinance

Trustee Vazquez made a motion, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to approve an Ordinance granting the requested variations to Sections 10-9-7 of the Zoning Ordinance at 755 William.

Administrator Palm summarized the request, stating it received unanimous approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals. He reminded the Board that due to being within a 6-month window of approving an Amended Comprehensive Plan, State law requires a two-thirds approval for all variation requests.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- b. Traffic and Safety – Amend Title 9 of the Village Code – Changes Regarding Resident Permit Parking Zones to 2-Hour Time Limit Parking on 200 Blocks of Linden, Thatcher, Gale, Keystone and Forest – Ordinance

Trustee Brennan made a motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to approve an ordinance to amend Title 9 of the Village Code authorizing the installation of time limit parking restrictions on the requested blocks of Forest, Keystone, Gale, and Thatcher Avenues and Linden Street.

Village Engineer Loster summarized the request, noting that Staff originally recommended modifying this area to be a resident permit zone, however the Board was concerned with requiring resident parking permits. He stated that Staff was asked to re-examine this, and they are now proposing a two-hour parking zone instead.

In response to a concern from Trustee Cargie, President Adduci stated the Board could ask the Traffic & Safety Commission to look at parking from a holistic viewpoint. To further

clarify, Village Engineer Loster noted that the Commission is also apprehensive about pushing the problem farther away but noted that the structure is set up to take requests as they come in.

In response to a follow up question from Trustee Cargie, Village Engineer Loster stated there was no opposition to this proposal during public discussion.

The Board further discussed the impact of pushing parking issues to the next block and the lack of parking for Green Line users. President Adduci summarized the discussion, stating Staff could work with the Traffic & Safety Commission to analyze and complete a plan on commuter parking first near the Green Line then the Village as a whole.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- c. Traffic and Safety – Amend Title 9 of the Village Code – Installation of No Parking Zone on Linden Street Between Thatcher and Gale – Ordinance

Trustee O'Connell made a motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to approve an ordinance to amend Title 9 of the Village Code authorizing the installation of a No Parking Zone on the requested block of Linden Street.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- d. Traffic and Safety – Amend Title 9 of the Village Code – Installation of 2-Hour Time Limit Parking on William Street Between Oak and Quick – Ordinance

Trustee Henek made a motion, seconded by Trustee Bachner, to approve an ordinance to amend Title 9 of the Village Code authorizing the installation of time limit parking restrictions on the requested block of William Street.

In response to a question from Trustee O'Connell, Village Administrator Palm stated the Police Department can issue warnings to vehicles parked there to inform them that a change in parking restrictions has been made prior to enforcement and issuing tickets.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- e. Traffic and Safety – Amend Title 9 of the Village Code – Installation of Resident Permit Parking Zone on Central at Clinton – Ordinance

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee O’Connell to install dedicated scooter/motorcycle parking at the requested block of Central Avenue and to approve an ordinance to amend Title 9 of the Village Code authorizing the installation of Resident Only Parking Zone on the requested block of Central Avenue.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O’Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- f. Traffic and Safety – Amend Title 9 of the Village Code – Removal of No Parking Zone on Central at Clinton – Ordinance

Trustee Vazquez made a motion, seconded by Trustee O’Connell, to approve an ordinance to amend Title 9 of the Village Code authorizing the removal of a No Parking Zone on the requested block of Central Avenue.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O’Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- g. Traffic and Safety - Recommendation to Reengage with Union Pacific Railroad Regarding Third Rail Improvements

Village Administrator Palm updated the Board on his discussions with Union Pacific Railroad, noting that they are working on a date for representatives from Union Pacific to meet with affected residents to discuss the third track going behind their homes.

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. Update to Thatcher/Hawthorne Intersection Improvements

Public Works Director Anderson provided an update to the Board on the intersection improvements, which included new signage. He stated that the nearby residents preferred the current light pole and were in favor of landscaping boulders as a barrier solution. Staff is recommending the boulders because they are low cost and would not require any digging in the parkway, which would be difficult due to underground utilities.

In response to a question from President Adduci, Director Anderson stated the boulders could potentially stop a car but it would depend on the size of the vehicle and the speed at which it is traveling.

In response to a concern raised by Trustee Cargie, Village Attorney Smith stated the Village has tort immunity for improvements put in as safety improvements. Village Attorney Smith further clarified that a driver's negligence would have caused them to leave the roadway, not the Village.

In response to a question from Trustee Bachner, Director Anderson stated the boulders weigh a half ton each and would be unlikely to move into the roadway if struck.

In response to a question from Trustee Cargie, Director Anderson stated the residents were not adamantly against lighting improvements but that ultimately it is difficult to predict whether any of the improvements will make a difference.

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Creation of Village Initiatives and Trustee Assignments**

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henek, to accept the Village initiatives and trustee assignments as presented.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

### **b. Amend Title 1 of the Village Code – Elimination of Standing Committees – Ordinance**

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henek to approve an Ordinance Amending Section 1-6-5 of the Village Code with Regard to Standing Committees.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

### **c. Support of a 2020 United States Census Complete Count Committee – Resolution**

Trustee Vazquez made a motion, seconded by Trustee Brennan, to approve a Resolution establishing a Complete Count Committee for the 2020 US Census and appointing Trustee Bachner as Chairperson.



President Adduci stated this is a wonderful committee and important for community. She thanked Trustee Bachner for agreeing to chair it.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

d. Update on Recent Water Main Repair on 900 Block of Keystone

Public Works Director Anderson addressed the Board and noted that the leak detection equipment discovered the leak in the water line. He explained the extent of the repair work, stating that residents were notified initially and again as the delay continued.

In response to a question from Trustee Vazquez, Director Anderson stated it is difficult to quantify whether the sensors have paid for themselves since they do not know how long the leak had been occurring. Administrator Palm affirmed that the sensors do eventually pay for themselves and that this type of technology is growing.

In response to a question from President Adduci, Director Anderson stated that once they select the right sensor, they will deploy them all over the Village.

**10. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee O'Connell, to go into executive session to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for use of the public body, including discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired; to discuss collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and to discuss pending litigation.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

The Village Board returned to regular session at 10:08 p.m. with the following members:

Present: President Adduci, Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O'Connell, Vazquez

Absent: Village Clerk Brand-White

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Cargie made a motion seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to adjourn the regular Village Board of Trustees Meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Cargie, Henek, O’Connell, Vazquez

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

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Kathleen Brand-White, Village Clerk