

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST LOCAL ETHICS COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

A special meeting of the Local Ethics Commission was held on June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the First Floor Community Room at the River Forest Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue.

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chair Daley, Commissioner Ignoffo, and Commissioner Degroff.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Village Administrator Matt Walsh, Deputy Clerk/Management Analyst Luke Masella, Village Attorney Michael Marrs

**II. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Margie Cekander raised concerns about recent changes to the ethics ordinance draft, noted inconsistencies on the Village website, and questioned the current status of commissioner terms. She questioned the Village law firm's role in handling ethics complaints, urged stronger protections for anonymity, and suggested ways to strengthen the ordinance. She thanked the commission for their work.

**III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2025**

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Ignoffo and SECONDED by Chair Daley to approve the meeting minutes of the March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting of the Local Ethics Commission as presented.

AYES: Commissioner Ignoffo, DeGroff and Chair Daley.

NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Discussion and Potential Recommendation on Amendments to the Village's Ethics Ordinance.

Chair Daley, Commissioners Ignoffo and DeGroff, Village Administrator Matt Walsh, and Village Attorney Michael Marrs reviewed the proposed changes to the existing ethics code submitted by members of the Ethics Commission.

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Among other matters, the group revised language in the ethics ordinance and corrected scrivener's errors. Members discussed the scope of the ordinance's jurisdiction and clarified who would be subject to its provisions. The Commission agreed that the chairperson will serve as the designated member to receive ethics complaints. The commission also discussed time limits for filing complaints and considered how far back in time complaints would be accepted under the revised ordinance.

Administrator Walsh asked if there could be a timeline for the initial review of complaints.

Chair Daley and Commissioner Ignoffo stated that they felt the existing language is appropriate.

The commission also discussed time limits for filing complaints and how to address complaints regarding potential ethics violations that occurred in the past.

The commission discussed how to ensure that complaints submitted online are relevant to the Ethics Ordinance and not related to other types of issues or grievances.

The commission concluded further discussion and asked Village Administrator Walsh to incorporate the proposed changes and submit a red-lined version of the document for final review and approval.

Administrator Walsh presented the commission with an updated, red-lined version of the draft ordinance for final review. The group made additional corrections to scrivener's errors and agreed to forward the revised draft to the Village Board for final approval.

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Ignoffo and seconded by Commissioner DeGroff to approve the ethics chapter in its current form and to recommend that the ordinance be submitted to the Village Board for approval.

AYES: Commissioner Ignoffo, DeGroff and Chair Daley.

NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION was made by Chair Daley and SECONDED by Commissioner Degroff to adjourn the June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, meeting of the Local Ethics Commission at 7:10pm.

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AYES: Commissioner Ignoffo, Commissioner Degroff, and Chair Daley.

NAYS: None.

Motion Passes.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luke Masella", written over a horizontal line.

Luke Masella  
Deputy Village Clerk/Management Analyst