

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
January 10, 2020**

A meeting of the Village of River Forest Economic Development Commission was held on Friday, January 10, 2020, at 7:30 a.m. in the 1st Floor Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, River Forest, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 a.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Lee Neubecker, Timothy Brangle, Donna Slepicka, Robert Graham, Nena Maas

Absent: Cuyler Brown, Carr Preston

Also Present: Village Administrator Eric Palm, Lisa Scheiner, Assistant Village Administrator, Jonathan Pape, Assistant to the Village Manager, and Liz Holt OPRF Chamber of Commerce Executive Director

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – MOTION made by Mr. Graham to approve the regular and executive session meeting minutes from September 13, 2019 and October 4, 2019. Seconded by Ms. Maas. Motion carried.

4. UPDATE ON PROJECTS –

Village Administrator Eric Palm introduced Lisa Scheiner, Assistant Village Administrator, and Jonathan Pape, Assistant to the Village Manager, who would discuss the update on recreation marijuana and the status of the women's club, respectively.

- a. Recreational Marijuana – Ms. Scheiner stated the details around the approval of recreational marijuana in River Forest. It was approved as a special use which would require additional review including a public hearing. There are no pending applications for a facility in River Forest. There was some discussion on what revenue could be brought in by a store. Ms. Scheiner cited the University of Illinois study by the State as a reference point which would suggest approximately \$400,000 a year, but it is too early to tell what a firm projection at this point. Location of a dispensary will influence whether a facility is located in River Forest based on rules in place required minimum distances between stores.
- b. SSA #11 – Chicago and Harlem – Administrator Palm indicated that a backup SSA was put in place at Chicago and Harlem regarding the ambulance impact fee. In the event the developer/operator does not pay the fee (if it is triggered), the Village would be able to pass those fees along to the operator through the property tax bill. It is not anticipated that this would be triggered, but is a best practice to have in place.
- c. RFCCA Project – An update was provided on the River Forest Community Center Authority building project. The Village has engaged a consultant that is producing a space needs study that would determine the needs of the stakeholder users, and create a budget to build that new facility. There was a question on whether or not such a facility could be built on the former Bushwood site. Village Administrator Palm indicated the site is a former garbage dump which could provide challenges moving forward (and not being in the corporate limits).
- d. YMCA Project at Menard's Site – Mr. Palm also provided an update on the YMCA project that they are pursuing on the Menard's site. There is a thought that emergency dispatch could be moved there as well as the possibility of public works being relocated there as well.
- e. Update on Women's Club – ATTVM Jonathan Pape gave an overview of the current status of the Women's Club on Ashland. Chairman Neubecker thought there may be potential for other

professional clubs as a satellite club space. The Historic Preservation Commission has been engaged on the issue as well.

- 5. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – MOTION made by Mr. Graham to enter into Executive Session for purposes of Acquisition of Real Property and Sale/Lease of Real Property. Seconded by Mr. Brangle.

Motion approved unanimously on roll call vote. The EDC went into Executive Session at 8:27 AM

The EDC reconvened in regular session at 9:08 AM.

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Lee Neubecker, Timothy Brangle, Donna Slepicka, Robert Graham, Nena Maas

Absent: Cuyler Brown, Carr Preston

Also Present: Village Administrator Eric Palm

- 6. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Brangle made a MOTION to adjourn the Economic Development Commission meeting at 9:09 a.m. Seconded by Ms. Graham.

MOTION PASSED by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.