

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
October 14th, 2024**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Board of Trustees was held on Monday, October 14th, 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 7:02 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: President Adduci, Trustees Brennan, Bachner, Village Clerk Keller

Absent: Trustees Johnson and Gillis.

Also Present: Village Attorney Lance Malina, Village Administrator Matt Walsh, Assistant Village Administrator Jessica Spencer, Village Finance Director Rosemary McAdams Police Chief James O’Shea, , Fire Chief Tom Gaertner, Director of Public Works and Engineering Jack Bielak, Assistant Finance Director Keke Boyer, Deputy Police Chief James Greenwood, Police Commander Michael Swierczynski, Deputy Fire Chief David Bochenek, Human Resources Manager Trish Ivansek, and Deputy Clerk Luke Masella

2.PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Adduci led the pledge of allegiance.

3.CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

4.ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Bachner began her comments with a Land Acknowledgement. She then reported that she will be speaking at an Equality Illinois event. She also highlighted the arrest of a man who murdered a River Forest resident in Wisconsin in 1985.

Trustee Vazquez wished everyone a Happy Columbus and Indigenous Peoples Day. He reminded everyone to have a fun and safe Halloween.

Village Clerk Keller had nothing to add to the record.

Trustee Brennan had nothing to add to the record.

Trustee O'Connell highlighted two new tenants in the River Forest Town Center properties.

President Adduci reported attending a breakfast meeting with the Associations of Oak Park Area Realtors. She then highlighted a recent event where she presented to elementary school students about local government.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Village Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes – September 23rd, 2024
- b. Monthly Department Reports
- c. Accounts Payable – September 2024 – \$2,011,049.10.
- d. September Financial Report
- e. Administration Department Report
- f. Authorization to Donate Surplus Property – Computers – Ordinance
- g. Adoption of the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan – Resolution
- h. Award of Contract – 2024 Public Works Garage Interior Remodel – Futurity 19, Inc – \$112,600.00
- i. Purchase of Ford F550 Pick-Up Truck & Plow Equipment – Sutton Ford of Matteson & Regional Truck Equipment – \$75,910.00

MOTION by Trustee O'Connell to approve Consent Agenda Items A-I. Seconded by Trustee Bachner.

Roll call:

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

Absent: Trustees Johnson and Gillis

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

None

7. RECOMENDATIONS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Introduction of River Forest Tennis Club Planned Development Proposal – No Action

President Adduci invited Elias Yanaki up to the podium to give the presentation on the proposed project. She reminded everyone that this is a preliminary meeting, and no action will be taken.

Mr. Yanaki gave a presentation to the Village Board on the proposed installation of lights at the River Forest Tennis Club and fielded questions from the Board.

Trustee Brennan asked for clarification on what hours the proposed lights will be on.

Mr. Yanaki stated the hours the lights could be used would be from 6am to 10pm. He stressed that the lights will only be on when people are using the courts, thus if no one is using the courts at a particular time, the lights will be off.

Trustee Brennan asked if this item has come before the Village Board before and if so, how is this application different.

Mr. Yanaki stated that a similar project came before the Village Board in 2012. He noted that he reviewed the feedback that project received and incorporated that feedback into this current proposal. He also stressed that modern lighting technology has advanced since then, making light pollution easier to combat.

President Adduci commented that the River Forest Tennis Club has good standing within the Village and with its neighbors in the area.

Trustee O'Connell asked for clarification on the Planned Development Process, Administrator Walsh provided a breakdown.

The Village Board agreed that the required public hearing neighborhood notifications regarding the project should be increased to more than the currently required 500-foot radius and that 1,000-foot radius would be used for this project. Staff confirmed that notices are mailed at the applicant's cost.

Trustee Bachner asked Mr. Yanaki what requirements he would like to have waived from the Planned Development Process.

Mr. Yanaki listed out the requested waivers and then reiterated that the proposed lights have a hard shutdown time of 10pm and cannot be turned back on until 6am.

Trustee Vazquez asked who makes the decision on the waivers and suggested that when the time for public notification comes, that staff make sure to share it on as many media avenues as possible.

Administrator Walsh stated the Development Review Board is the one who makes the decision on the waivers.

President Adduci suggested that the applicants consider the traffic implications.

b. Review and Acceptance of FY2024 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

MOTION by Trustee Vazquez to accept the Village’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended April 30, 2024. Seconded by Trustee O’Connell.

Finance Director McAdams made remarks about the fiscal standing of the Village.

Martha Trotter, of Sikich Accounting, presented the results of the Fiscal Year 2024 Financial Audit.

Trustee Bachner asked why there was a change in insurance deposits.

Ms. Trotter stated the movement was related to insurance liabilities and payments and further conversation occurred about the insurance deposits.

Trustee Brennan asked if the future changes to the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) laws will impact the difficulty of governmental accounting.

Ms. Trotter stated yes and provided an example of how the proposed changes will add more work time.

President Adduci highlighted an increase in revenue from investment income and complimented staff for their financial strategies. She then raised concerns about expenses related to the 911 dispatch center and asked that staff research ways to combat these rising costs.

Roll call:

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

Absent: Trustees Johnson and Gillis

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

9.EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. Executive Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss: Pending Litigation.

MOTION by Trustee Vazquez to enter Executive Session pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss: Pending Litigation and the Village Board will adjourn after Executive Session and will not return to open session. Seconded by Trustee O’Connell.

Ayes: President Adduci, Trustees Bachner, Vazquez, Brennan, O’Connell

Absent: Trustees Johnson and Gillis

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn by Trustee Bachner. Seconded by Trustee O'Connell.

Roll call:

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

Absent: Trustees Johnson and Gillis

Nays: None

The Village Board of Trustees Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Jonathan Keller, Village Clerk

Date:_____