

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
REGULAR VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
Monday, March 14, 2022**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 14, 2022 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 7:00p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: President Adduci, Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Gillis, Johnson, Vazquez, Village Clerk Keller

Absent: Trustee O’Connell

Also, Present: Village Administrator Brian Murphy, Assistant Village Administrator Lisa Scheiner, Assistant to the Village Administrator Jonathan Pape, Management Analyst/Deputy Clerk Elijah Bebor, Fire Chief Thomas Gaertner, Police Chief James O’Shea, Finance Director Rosemary McAdams, Director of Public Works and Development Services Jeff Loster, Village Attorney Greg Smith

President Adduci asked for a motion to allow Trustees Johnson and Gillis to attend the meeting remotely.

Trustee Vazquez made a motion to allow Trustees Johnson & Gillis to attend the Village Board Meeting remotely. Second by Trustee Brennan

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Bachner, Brennan, Vazquez

Absent: O’Connell

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Adduci led the pledge of allegiance.

3. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

4. ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Trustee Liaison Updates

Trustee Johnson stated that he wishes everyone a safe Spring and upcoming March madness.

Trustee Brennan stated that the community's hearts and minds are with the people in Ukraine. She remarked that there was a nice gathering in front of Village Hall honoring local residents who have Ukrainian connections. She stated that she participated in a bystander training to stop anti-Asian and xenophobic harassment. She commented that she learned about the meeting from the Mayors Metropolitan Caucus. She remarked that anyone can sign up for the training and the training is facilitated by Asian American Advancing Justice in Chicago, CARE Chicago, and Holler Back. The training provided some history on the issue, and how to handle it. She stated that the 11th annual winter film fest was a success.

Village Clerk Keller stated that he had nothing new to add to the permanent record.

Trustee Vazquez stated that on March 3, he and President Adduci attended the Mayors Metropolitan Caucus Age Friendly Communities Collaborative. He remarked that the topic of discussion was the resources available for age friendly communities. He stated that the Village will be applying for a AARP community challenge grant. He commented that he attended the gathering in support for Ukraine and heard stories from the Ukrainian community on what their families are experiencing. He remarked that he encourages everyone to place a Ukraine yard sign on their lawns in support of Ukrainian families. He commented that the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee met on March 9. He remarked that the survey compilation is completed and is stored on survey monkey. He commented that the Committee will perform the analysis themselves and no funds for a consultant are needed. He stated that he would like to wish everyone a safe St. Patrick's day.

Trustee Gillis stated that she attended the Ukrainian Rally for Peace and was very moved. She commented that she urges everyone to take a Ukraine yard sign to show support. She commented that she is participating in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion efforts in her workplace. She stated that an amazing thing about the Village Board is that Trustees work outside the duties of contributing to the community. She remarked there often is synergies that occur that cross both. She commented that she continues to learn more about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the workplace, community, and society. She stated she would like to wish everyone a safe and healthy St. Patrick's Day.

Trustee Bachner began with a land acknowledgment, stating that this land was once and still is inhabited by Indigenous people and that River Forest continues to be a place that people from diverse backgrounds live and gather. She stated that she would like to wish everyone a happy and safe St. Patrick's Day. She commented that she attended the Ukraine rally for peace in front of Village Hall and was moved at the sight of the Ukrainian flag being raised. She remarked that there are many ways to support Ukrainians that residents can find on the Village website. She commented that the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Sub-Committee's met to begin the work they are tasked to accomplish. She commented that the Sub-Committee groups will meet the second meeting of each month to work. She commented that there are seven different Sub-Committees made up of five people. She remarked the Sub-Committees are:

Request for Proposal/Consultant; employment/human resources; purchasing and suppliers; housing; community outreach; intergovernmental relations; and governance/Diversity Equity, and Inclusion framework.

Village President Adduci stated that she wishes everyone a happy International Women's Day, Happy St. Patrick's Day, and happy march madness. She commented that the Ukraine rally was very moving and members of the community spoke very passionately about Ukraine. She commented that she wishes that the conflict can end in a peaceful way. She remarked that a Ukraine resolution will be passed at tonight's Village Board meeting.

b. Recognition of Jonathan Pape

Village President Adduci read the Proclamation recognizing Jonathan Pape.

She commented that Jonathan Pape began his career with the Village of River Forest in July 2015 as a Graduate Intern; and Jonathan's talent and excellent performance were recognized when he was promoted to the position of Management Analyst in 2017. She remarked that after receiving his Master's Degree, Jonathan was again promoted to the position of Assistant to the Village Administrator in 2020. She commented that Jonathan Pape has displayed exceptional professional ability in each role he has held during his tenure with the Village and has made significant contributions to the Village of River Forest. She remarked that among his many contributions are the skillful management of the Village's communications program, design, and launch of a new website and community calendar, oversight of the Village's Information Technology program, and implementation of many technological improvements in support of all Village Departments. She stated that he supported the efforts of the Historic Preservation Commission, Collaboration Committee, and Ethics Commission. She remarked that in 2021, Jonathan was instrumental in supporting the efforts of the Senior Response Team in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic and led the organization in the execution of COVID-19 vaccination clinics in River Forest that resulted in the vaccination of over 750 older adults who were most vulnerable to the COVID-19 virus. She stated that Jonathan is a highly regarded member of the Village's management team, whose leadership, professionalism, dedication, and positive attitude are a credit to his profession. She remarked that she thanks Jonathan Pape for his dedicated service to the Village of River Forest and offer our sincere gratitude and best wishes for future success.

Trustee Brennan commented that it was a pleasure working with Jonathan and he will be missed.

Trustee Vazquez stated that Village residents have always said nice things about Jonathan and that he made a fantastic impact in the Village.

Trustee Bachner stated that Jonathan helped with the population count with the 2020 Census, and was creative with solutions.

President Adduci wished Jonathan the best of luck.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Village Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - February 28, 2022
- b. Support for Ukraine - Resolution
- c. Adopt a Resolution Appointing a Delegate an Alternate Delegate to the Intergovernmental Risk Management Agency (IRMA) - Resolution
- d. Amendment to the Annual Budget for Corporate Purposes for the Current Fiscal Year Commencing on the 1st Day of May 2021 and Ending on the 30th Day of April 2022 for the Village of River Forest, Illinois - Ordinance
- f. Approval of a Payment in the Amount of \$24,719.32 to The Davenport Group USA, Ltd for LAMA Annual Maintenance for the Period from May 1, 2022 – April 30, 2023
- g. Monthly Department Reports - February 2022
- h. Financial Report - February 2022
- i. Accounts Payable - February 2022 - \$1,390,290.85
- j. Village-Wide Performance Measurement Report - February 2022
- k. Village Administrator's Report

Trustees Brennan stated she would like to pull consent agenda item E.

Motion by Trustee Bachner to approve consent agenda items A-D and F-K. Second by Trustee Brennan.

Roll call:

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

Absent: O'Connell

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

e. Ratify a Contract Award to Davis Tree Care & Landscaping for the 2021 Tree Trimming Program in a not-to-exceed Amount of \$50,025.00 and Ratify a Contract Award to Homer Tree Care for the 2021 Tree and Stump Removal Program in a not-to Exceed Amount of \$44,000.00.

Motion by Trustee Bachner to approve agenda item E. Second by Trustee Gillis.

Trustee Brennan commented on the Tree Removal as it relates to the Sustainability Commission so that data can be gathered and include it in the comprehensive plan.

Director Loster commented that the information will be provided.

Trustee Gillis commented that there is a tree database and that she expected this information to be included there.

Trustee Bachner commented that the information was very interesting to read on how detailed the tree trimming is.

Roll call:

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

Absent: O'Connell

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

6. CONSENT ITEMS FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

None.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

a. Board and Commission Appointments

- i. Plan Commission - Appoint Erik Harris (Cragan Vacancy) - Remaining Term Expiring 4/30/2024

Motion by Trustee Vazquez to concur with the recommendation of the Village President to appoint Erik Harris for the remaining term expiring April 30, 2024. Second by Trustee Bachner.

- ii Development Review Board - Appoint Mary Shoemaker (Schubkegel Vacancy) - Remaining Term Expiring 4/30/2022

Motion by Trustee Vazquez to concur with the recommendation of the Village President to appoint Mary Shoemaker for the remaining term expiring on April 30, 2022. Second by Trustee Bachner.

- iii. Zoning Board of Appeals - Appoint Mary Shoemaker (Schubkegel Vacancy) - Remaining Term Expiring 4/30/2025

Motion by Trustee Vazquez to concur with the recommendation of the Village President to appoint Mary Shoemaker for the remaining term expiring on April 30, 2025. Second by Trustee Bachner.

Roll call:

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

Absent: O'Connell

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

9. NEW BUSINESS

None

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Brennan. Second by Trustee Vazquez.

Roll call:

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

Absent: O'Connell

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

The Village Board of Trustees Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Jonathan Keller, Village Clerk