

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
May 22, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Board of Trustees was held on Monday, May 22, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, River Forest, IL.

President Adduci announced that Trustee Patty Henek will be attending via telephone, due to personal illness.

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 Cargie, Vazquez, Conti, Corsini, and Gibbs
Absent: Trustee Henek
Also Present: Village Clerk Kathleen Brand-White, Village Administrator Eric Palm, Assistant Village Administrator Lisa Scheiner, Management Analyst Jon Pape, Police Chief Greg Weiss, Public Works Director John Anderson, Village Attorney Greg Smith

Trustee Conti made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gibbs to allow Trustee Henek to attend by telephone.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, and Conti
Absent: Trustee Henek
Nays: None
Motion Passes.

Trustee Patty Henek officially joined the meeting via telephone at 7:04 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Adduci led the pledge of allegiance.

3. CITIZENS COMMENTS

None.

4. ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Conti stated that she met with people today who are promoting a welcoming resolution for River Forest regarding their ideas for a resolution.

Trustee Gibbs called attention to two recent tragedies that occurred in the Des Plaines River. He said he was disappointed that other agencies did not notify the River Forest Police Department of these incidents. He said he hoped that the lack of notification was a one-time occurrence and that communication could be improved with other jurisdictions. He noted that once River Forest police were on the scene, it was safer. He questioned whether a communications policy was in place that includes notification of River Forest first responders. Trustee Gibbs said he and Sheriff Tom Dart discussed future communication efforts. Trustee Gibbs said that while

communication could have been better, he commended Sheriff Dart and his personnel for their efforts to investigate these matters and recover the deceased persons.

President Adduci concurred with Trustee Gibbs regarding Sheriff Dart and his department. She stated that her understanding is that if the County or Forest Preserve police need help, they ask Chief Weiss and other municipalities for assistance. Trustee Gibbs clarified that his comments were not directed at the River Forest Police Department and said that he was surprised that the Village was not notified of the presence of six other agencies in River Forest.

Chief Weiss stated that typically if a local municipality is a first responder to an incident the Police Department is notified. He said the State might not notify the Village. Chief Weiss concurred that his department should have been notified but noted that the Village does not get involved unless it is called for or they are requested to do so. He said he would follow up with Chief Roberts at the Cook County Forest Preserve to see why they did not give a courtesy notification. He reiterated that the Village does not get involved without being asked because of jurisdictional issues.

Trustee Corsini clarified that there were two separate issues, one being traffic obstruction which was separate from the search for the young man that jumped from the bridge into the Des Plaines River. She noted there was some confusion on social media regarding whose jurisdiction the search fell under. Chief Weiss stated that the Police Department was on scene after having been notified of the possible location of the deceased. He said the waterway is the jurisdiction of the State of Illinois, Department of Natural Resources, and Cook County. Chief Weiss said the County stepped up and took the reins possibly because the State was not.

Trustee Corsini expressed her condolences to the family of the young man who tragically passed away in that accident. She stated that she was disappointed that Canadian National Railroad representative said nothing will change in regard to the restriction of bridge access. She said no one will excuse personal responsibility. Trustee Corsini asked if the Village could push for some sort of resolution to the railway and work with other agencies for the same. She noted that the railroad is an eyesore and in disrepair. She reported that Canadian National said it has not been abandoned but has not been used for years. President Adduci stated she believes both Commissioner Blake and Danny Davis are looking at the bridge as an unsafe bridge. Trustee Gibbs stated that there are thousands of similar bridges around the country in the same state. He said it may not be unique to River Forest but he is concerned about what is happening in this community. Chief Weiss stated signs may not stop people and reported that the Police Department has been stepping up its enforcement efforts when they see someone trespassing on the railroad property. He said they reached out to Dominican University and requested that the University inform students of the rules. Trustee Corsini stated that it is the parents' responsibility to discuss the danger in these areas with their children.

Trustee Corsini announced that she attended a meeting at Dominican University on May 10th regarding a review of the dispensary program. She commended the multi-agency efforts of public safety personnel and volunteers involved in this program to protect the public in the event of a disaster. She said she attended a meeting on Friday with a group of residents regarding a welcoming resolution. Trustee Corsini reported that the Village was identified in the newspaper as one of the municipalities who opted out of the County's minimum wage requirements. She

said she and Trustee Conti along with the other subgroup members met regarding the Lake and Park project.

Trustee Henek thanked everyone for their well wishes and said she looks forward to attending the next meeting in person.

President Adduci congratulated Officer Glen Czernik for his win on Wheel of Fortune. She said she attended the West Central Municipal Conference Annual Legislative Drive Down in Springfield. She reported that she met with Senator Kimberly Lightford. President Adduci stated that SB 478 property tax freeze bill failed and Senator Lightford voted against it. President Adduci noted that freezing property taxes without freezing unfunded mandates is not reasonable. She stated SB 42 would reduce the Village's local distribution fund by 10% the first year and 5% the next year. She reported that Senator Lightford voted in favor of the bill in an effort to shift funds from local government to the schools for funding purposes. President Adduci stated she believes there are other ways to fix school funding and noted that the bill failed. She announced the upcoming Memorial Day parade and invited all to join them for a free hot dog lunch.

Trustee Conti announced that President Adduci would be inaugurated as president of the West Central Municipal Conference, and the Board congratulated her.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Regular Village Board Meeting Minutes – May 8, 2017
- b. Village Attorney Invoice – April 2017 - \$14,759.76
- c. Waive Formal Bidding and Award Contract to Ferguson Industries, Inc. for \$49,990.24 for the Purchase and Installation of the Second Floor Windows at the Village's Water Pumping Station
- d. Waive Formal Bidding and Ratify Contract Proposal After-the-Fact for Emergency Water Repairs to Suburban General Construction, Inc. for \$28,985
- e. Approve Supplemental IDOT Resolution of \$100,000 for use of Motor Fuel Tax for the Design of the Chicago Avenue Resurfacing Project
- f. Village Administrator's Report

Trustee Corsini made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gibbs, to approve the Consent Agenda items a. through f. as presented.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

In response to a question from Trustee Corsini, Public Works Director Anderson stated that the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) was consulted in regard to the pumping station windows and the windows from Ferguson Industries are the same as those presented to the HPC.

6. BOARD, COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION REPORTS

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- a. Standing Village Board Committee Assignments
- i. Finance & Administration Committee – Trustees Corsini (as the Chair), Conti, and Vazquez
 - ii. Village Services & Development Committee – Trustees Gibbs (as Chair), Cargie, and Henek
 - iii. CERT Representative – Trustee Gibbs
 - iv. Sub Committee on Collaboration Committee – Trustee Cargie
 - v. Sustainability Commission Trustee designee – Trustee Cargie

Trustee Conti made a motion, seconded by Trustee Corsini, to concur with the recommendations of the Village President for appointments 6.a.i. through 6.a.v. for the standing Village Boards committee assignments effective May 1, 2017.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Right-of-Way License and Fiber Optic Cable Agreement between the Village of River Forest and WideOpenWest Illinois, LLC - Resolution

Trustee Gibbs made a motion, seconded by Trustee Corsini, to approve and authorize the execution of a Right-of-Way License and Fiber Optic Cable Agreement between the Village of River Forest and WideOpenWest Illinois, LLC.

Village Administrator Palm described the history of WideOpenWest's (WOW) pursuit of the installation of the materials and the Village's decision to pursue some public benefit for the Village and River Forest School District 90. He indicated that WOW is acting as a subcontractor for Verizon Wireless. He described the negotiations which resulted in WOW agreeing to install dark fiber for the Village (connecting the Public Works Garage, the Pump Station, and Village Hall) and a network connecting Roosevelt, Willard, and Lincoln schools in lieu of paying a fee to the Village. He described the benefits of a dark fiber network for the Village. He stated the networks value to the Village is approximately \$340,000 over ten years.

In response to a question from Trustee Conti, President Adduci stated fiber optics are more reliable but not necessarily more secure.

In response to a question from President Adduci, Village Administrator Palm stated he understands that small cell technology is a series of smaller antennas that providers install in lieu of larger antennas. In response to a question from President Adduci, Village Administrator Palm stated that he is aware there is pending legislation trying to restrict this. In response to another question from President Adduci, Village Administrator Palm stated that after ten years, the Village can request additional compensation and that ten years is a good amount of time relative to the value. He stated that the fiber belongs to and will be deeded to the Village.

In response to a question from Trustee Cargie, Village Administrator Palm stated that after ten years, WOW will need an additional license to use the right-of-way.

In response to a question from President Adduci, Village Administrator Palm stated he believes Verizon's antenna plans at Concordia are separate from this agreement but will double check the plans. He said that he believes the small cell technology is about the data side of the business.

The Village Board congratulated Village Administrator Palm for negotiating this agreement that benefits the Village and on this effort to collaborate with the schools.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Amend Title 8 of the Village Code – Increase of one Class 4 Liquor Licenses (5 Total) for Fresh Thyme Farmers Market – Ordinance

Trustee Gibbs made a motion, seconded by Trustee Conti, to approve an Ordinance increasing the number of Class 4 Liquor Licenses from four to five.

In response to a request from President Adduci, Village Administrator Palm stated that the Village does not have extra liquor licenses on the books in order to provide checks and balances in regard to the issuance of liquor licenses. He noted that applicants coming before the Board for a liquor license have already gone through the application process, police department background checks, have been fingerprinted, and have staff support for authorization.

In response to a question from Trustee Corsini, Village Administrator Palm stated that Noodles and Company holds a Class 2 Liquor License.

Village Administrator Palm introduced Randy Santos from Fresh Thyme.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- b. Adoption of Village Board Policies for Communication and Village Attorney Contact

Trustee Corsini made a motion, seconded by Trustee Conti, to approve the Village Board policies for resident and village attorney communication.

President Adduci stated that the policy formalizes the Village's practice regarding Village Board and village attorney contacts. She indicated that the policy can avoid duplicate calls to the village attorney and avoid incurring charges for redundant communications.

Village Administrator Palm stated that the policy is more of a memorialization and clarification of what the Village already does. He said that the addition of new trustees to the Village Board creates an opportunity for the Village to review these policies and practices. He said the policies will be posted on the Village's website. He stated that the Village Attorney also reviewed the telephonic participation policy and it will be placed on an upcoming Village Board Agenda for approval.

Trustee Gibbs discussed the benefits of using the Village Administrator as a "clearing house" for inquiries.

Trustee Vazquez stated that he was contacted by a resident after being elected and he appreciates the guidance the policy provides. He stated that funneling questions through one individual can help to create clarity and consistency.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

c. OPRF Community Foundation Leadership Lab

President Adduci described the Leadership Lab and noted that Village employees have previously participated in the program. She said that new trustees could benefit from this and suggested that they participate in the program.

In response to a question from Trustee Gibbs, Trustee Vazquez stated that he would like to attend.

Trustee Conti noted that the program had recently been revamped.

President Adduci said there is consensus among the Board for the newly elected trustees to enroll in the program.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Corsini made a motion, seconded by Trustee Gibbs, to recess to Executive Session to discuss personnel and collective bargaining.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

Trustee Corsini made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cargie, to return to the regular session of the Village Board of Trustees meeting.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Gibbs, Corsini, Henek (via telephone), and Conti

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Cargie made a motion seconded by Trustee Gibbs to adjourn the regular Village Board of Trustees Meeting at 9:16 p.m.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Vazquez, Conti, Henek (via telephone), Gibbs, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.



Kathleen Brand-White, Village Clerk