

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Board of Trustees
Village of Forreston
Monday, July 1, 2019

President Metzger calls to order the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Forreston at 7:01 PM on July 1, 2019 and recites the Pledge of Allegiance. On roll call by Courtney Warren the following members are present: Trustees Gary Buss, Ken Toms, Ken Vinnedge, Monty Cotter, and Vickye Norris. Absent: Trustee Jeff Freeze.

The minutes of the regular meeting of Monday, June 17, 2019 are considered for approval. Trustee Toms makes a motion to approve the minutes as presented, second by Trustee Vinnedge. Yeas: Trustees Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, Cotter, and Norris. Motion carries.

Metzger asks for public comment which there is none.

Trustee Toms presents Building/Demolition, Sign, Fence, & Pool Permits:

- Drew and Mary Hill at 504 W Green have applied for a building permit for their front porch, they are adding on to it. Toms states this is an allowable obstruction so long as it remains open air, which it will. They have already paid the fee. Motion by Toms to approve permit application, second by Vinnedge. Yeas: Trustees Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, Cotter, and Norris. Motion carries.

Dan Pepin of Community Funding and Planning Services give the Board an update on the various projects in motion.

- The Safe Routes to School project is moving along. Fehr Graham will complete the design phase of the project, which is the out of pocket expense. Currently they will be working on relocating the proposed crosswalk at the Junior High more to the East of the West Entrance of the school per IDOT's request. This will mean redirecting the traffic flow from vehicles away from busses and foot traffic which the school has already said they are willing to do.
- Pepin reports there has been some news regarding the Water Main project. The IEPA has just recently announced that they have reduced their principal loan forgiveness amount to 60% instead of 75%. They have also reduced the maximum forgiveness from \$1.5 million to \$800,000 as of July 1, 2019. The Board very briefly discusses this and decides they will sit down and have a look at scaling the project back and possibly breaking it up into several phases.
- Pepin asks if anyone has gotten an update on the Lead Services Replacement Project. Metzger states it is currently in Fehr Graham's hands and we should hear more next week. In the mean time we need to start trying to get easements from the property owners.

The Claims list is considered for approval in the amount of \$17,525.41. Motion by Norris to approve, second by Vinnedge. Yeas: Trustees Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, Cotter, and Norris. Motion carries.

Committee Reports:

Streets and Alleys:

- Trustee Buss asks the Board if they are good with the quote for skim coating prior to the seal coat. He states if we approve this part of the project we will be about \$1,000 over the \$50,000 budgeted when you include the bid from Civil for \$32,000 and the \$3,000 for design engineering. The consensus of the Board is to move forward with the skim coating and patching in an effort to get the project done right and make it last.
- Buss presents a revised sidewalk policy. He and Vinnedge found some discrepancies with the current one and came up with a new proposal. Buss would like to make a change to clarify that the homeowner pays for the contractor and the concrete, the verbiage needs to be clarified. Vinnedge would like to add verbiage about pinning. Toms asks if the snow removal section needs to be part of the policy since we already have an ordinance regarding the issue. Motion by

Vinnedge to approve the policy with the changes requested, second by Cotter. Yeas: Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, Cotter, and Norris.

Sewer and Water: none

Finance Committee: none

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning: Buss asks if we are going to start enforcing the provisions that property owners on Hewitt to put sidewalks in. He states the homeowners have 9 months from the end of construction to put in a public sidewalk and there are 3 new homes over there that don't have them. Toms states he will talk to Jon Ludwig about it. He thinks Jon has to enforce the covenants.

Ordinances: none

Animal Control: none

Clerk's Report: Clerk Warren explains there have been issues between some vendors at the Farmers' Market on Fridays. Some of the vendors have come to the Village asking for help with regulating it. Warren states Michelle has put together a contract for the vendors to sign. She reached out to many of the surrounding towns as well as the extension office and read through their contracts to come up with this proposal. There is no fee to set up, it just includes some basic rules and regulations. Metzger states the Village will oversee the market for now and he would like the Board members to have a look at the contract and get back to Warren with any feedback before the next meeting.

The Law Enforcement Update from Police Chief Boomgarden is reviewed for activity from June 18, 2019 to July 1, 2019.

Mark Rust gives a report for Public Works from June 18, 2019 to July 1, 2019.

Village President's Report:

- Metzger reports he received an email from a sales company regarding beacon lights at the crosswalks. He was referred to us by Ogle County because we were awarded the Safe Routes grant. He would like the Board to keep this in mind when construction begins.
- He reminds the Board about the outstanding invoice with Fehr Graham for the design engineering for the Water Main project. He states he spoke with Fehr Graham and they will work with us on the payment, whether we make partial payments or whatever it may be. Metzger just wants this invoice on the radar to make sure it gets paid. Buss asks when we will get money back from the Blower Grant. Vinnedge states he will find out from Seth shortly.
- Metzger also reports on another invoice we received from IMRF regarding an accelerated payment for a recently retired employee. IMRF benefits are calculated by the Final Rate of Earnings which is determined by the highest average rate of pay over 48 consecutive months. Whenever there is a spike in wages earned during that period, the employer is billed for an accelerated payment. Since there was a large wage increase last year for the insurance coverage, the Village is required to make this payment. Metzger asks Warren if she will check with IMRF to see what payment options there are since we did not budget for this.
- Metzger finally reports he spoke with Sheri Smith, the Superintendent of Schools, regarding the Safe Routes to School out of pocket expense. At this time, the school is not able to contribute anything toward that expense due to other projects they have in the works.

New Business: Vinnedge reports we do have a lease agreement for the AT&T tower and it has already been reviewed by the Village Attorney. He is waiting for the design before moving forward. He also states there will need to be a variance for the tower.

Old Business: Buss asks if there has been any news from the folks who applied for the solar panels. He wonders if we might be going too far with the decommissioning plan for solar panels in residential areas.

As of right now, there is no requirement for such a plan for Ogle County and he wonders if this should be looked into. Vinnedge will call the County to find out what their regulations are.

Motion by Vinnedge to adjourn. All are in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Warren, Village Clerk