

VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST

**Village Board Regular Meeting
Monday, March 21, 2016
Village Hall 7:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor John Ostenburg, Trustee Mae Brandon, Trustee JeRome Brown, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Robert McCray, Trustee Georgia O'Neill, and Trustee Theresa Settles

ASBENT: None

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Pete Green, Fire Chief Bruce Ziegler, Deputy Village Manager/Finance Director Mary Dankowski, Assistant to Village Manager Denyse Carreras, Director of Recreation and Parks Rob Gunther, Director of Economic Development and Planning Hildy Kingma, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Director of Health Jenise Ervin, IT Coordinator Craig Kaufman, Director of Communications Jason Miller, Assistant Director of Economic Development Sandra Zoellner, Deputy Clerk Sandra Black, Director of Community Development Larrie Kerestes, Assistant Finance Director Stephanie Masson and Code Enforcement Officer Jerry Martin

RECORDER: Village Clerk Sheila McGann

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Pauline Hawkins, Department of Community Development; Friends and family of Pauline Hawkins; Doug Price, Christopher Williams and Kim Perkins, Environment Commissioner Joanna Tassin, Plan Commission; Gary Kopycinski, eNews; Leah Smith, Rich East Student, and Dr. Elmer Washington

Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Ostenburg. Roll was called by Clerk McGann.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ostenburg led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reports of Village Officers

Mayor

Mayor Ostenburg talked about the vigil held at St. Irenaeus Church where the community showed much support of the fire and police departments. Prayers and thoughts are with Officer Tim Jones and his family. Mayor Ostenburg recently returned from the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D. C. He also read a proclamation naming March Women's History Month which recognized and honored women who contributed to our country and our community in various ways.

Village Attorney

None present

Village Manager

Manager Mick also commented on the program at St. Irenaeus in support of Officer Tim Jones. He also thanked Pauline Hawkins for her service to Park Forest in her various roles. Mayor Ostenburg read the resolution recognizing and thanking Pauline Hawkins for her fifteen years of service to the Board, staff, and the citizens of Park Forest. Ms. Hawkins thanked her coworkers for fifteen wonderful years and said she will miss them. Manager Mick asked Leah Smith to talk about the Dogpatch Olympics at Rich East High School. She said Key Club and the Kiwanis are working together on the Annual Dogpatch Olympics for students with special needs to be held March 24. Dr. Elmer Washington invited everyone to see the Northern Illinois University Steel Drum Band who will perform at Faith United Protestant Church on April 8.

Vice Chairman of the Plan Commission Doug Price, along with two other members, Christopher Williams and Kim Perkins, reported on the Commission’s activities during the past year which included a revision of zoning ordinances. He noted their objectives and timelines for each of their goals that would provide a clear path for future developers. Mayor Ostenburg and Trustee Brandon thanked the Plan Commission and Director Kingma for their report to the Board.

Manager Mick noted that the Youth Commission and Teen Zone are planning a Youth Job Fair on April 16. Information regarding Park Forest College Scholarships are available online. Vehicle stickers must be displayed by April 30.

Village Clerk

No report

Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons

Trustee O’Neill reported that the next EDAG meeting is scheduled for March 30. She also noted how moving the prayer service at St. Irenaeus for Officer Tim Jones was and thanked the police and fire for their service.

Trustee Brandon was proud of the community in the support for Officer Jones. She also thanked Pauline Hawkins for her years of dedicated service to the Village. The Plan Commission met last week and will continue to work on their goals. The Youth Commission will meet March 22 for a job preparation workshop. Deadline for the various scholarships is April 15.

Trustee Settles thanked the Police and Fire Departments and all first responders. Thoughts and prayers are with the Jones Family.

Trustee Brown reported on his attendance at the South Suburban Mayors and Managers meeting and learned more about the many recreational things to do in the area. He also noted the strength, compassion, and trust in God that he sees in the Jones’ family.

Mayor Ostenburg talked about the outpouring of support from other neighboring communities on behalf of Officer Jones’ recovery.

Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions

None

Motion: Approval of Consent

Mayor Ostenburg called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the following items:

CONSENT:

1. Approve the Minutes of the Special Rules/Strategic Planning Minutes of February 27, 2016, the Saturday Rules Meeting of March 5, 2016

2. Approve a Resolution Thanking Pauline Hawkins for her Dedicated Service to the Village of Park Forest

3. Approve a Resolution Adopting Fiscal Policies for the 2016/2017 Fiscal Year Budget

4. Approve the Motor Fuel Tax Resolution for Maintenance of Streets and Highways by Municipality under the Illinois Highway Code

Approve the Maintenance Estimate of Maintenance Costs in the amount of \$524,537.35 to appropriate Motor Fuel Tax funds for eligible maintenance costs for Fiscal Year 2017.

5. Approve a Resolution Endorsing the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact 2

6. Authorize the Manager to renew the FY2014-2015 Motor Fuel Tax Street Sweeping Maintenance Contract with Central Sweeping LLC of Blue Island, IL in the amount of \$48,186 with a 25% contingency for additional work as determined by the Village Engineer, for a total cost not to exceed \$60,232.50.

7. Authorize the Manager to contract for maintenance of Well No. 4 in the amount of \$39,234 to Great Lakes Water plus a contingency of \$20,766 for a total not to exceed \$60,000.00.

Approval of the consent agenda was moved by Trustee Brandon and seconded by Trustee McCray. Mayor Ostenburg asked if anyone wished any items be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. Trustee Brown asked that item 7 be moved to the debatable agenda. Mayor Ostenburg noted that item 7 from the consent agenda be the only item on the debatable agenda.

The consent agenda was approved with the following results:

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

The consent agenda was adopted with seven (7) ayes, no (0) nays and no (0) absent.

DEBATABLE:

8. Authorize the Manager to contract for maintenance of Well No. 4 in the amount of \$39,234 to Great Lakes Water plus a contingency of \$20,766 for a total not to exceed \$60,000.00.

Mayor Ostenburg said Trustee Brown had asked this item be removed to the Debatable Agenda. Trustee Brown moved to table item number 8. Trustee Graham seconded. Mayor Ostenburg asked for a roll call vote on this motion to table.

The motion to table failed with the following results:

Ayes: 3 (Trustee Brown, Trustee Graham, Trustee McCray)

Nays: 4 (Mayor Ostenburg, Trustee Brandon, Trustee O'Neill, Trustee Settles)

Absent: 0

The motion to table failed three (3) ayes, four (4) nays and no (0) absent.

Mayor Ostenburg returned to the main motion to discuss item number 8 on the debatable agenda.

Trustee Brown understood that there are two sides to this item but feels that money would be saved to taxpayers if we take the low bid as most of the work to be done would be done in Illinois with prevailing wages paid.

Trustee McCray asked if the Village had history with both companies and felt that the Village should take the lowest bid although they too may find other problems and raise their price to the \$60,000 ceiling.

Mayor Ostenburg explained that after the last job by Peerless Midwest was completed, staff discovered that a portion of the job was performed by Peerless out of state and they did not pay prevailing wage for that portion.

Mayor Ostenburg added that a cap of \$60,000 no matter the bidder as there always may be unforeseen problems.

Trustee Settles noted that Attorney Frazier had previously explained to the Board that the company was taking part of the job into Indiana and not paying prevailing wages. Mayor Ostenburg added that 50% of the work is estimated be done in Indiana.

Trustee Brandon said that the reason Peerless has a lower bid because it pays less money because the work is done in Indiana and doesn't have to pay prevailing wage. This is an unfair bid. She does not want to start a practice of accepting a lower bid simply because it is lower and not fair to others due to this unfair advantage that is also unfair to our Illinois workers.

Trustee Graham explained that she was elected by the taxpayers of Park Forest and wants to save them money, not the state of Illinois.

Trustee O'Neill said we should look after our Village but also we have to be good decision makers. There are pros and cons but not enough in her opinion to be in favor of accepting the lower bid.

Mayor Ostenburg explained, historically, the Board has decided not to take the lowest bid due to certain situations. The best judgment is to be made, but, it is not always based simply on money.

He explained that Illinois businesses pay income and property taxes to Illinois. The Indiana company can pay the prevailing wage but chooses not to. He added that he personally believes in prevailing wages. When staff discovered this after the first bid that approximately 50% of the work was to be done out of state, staff asked the attorney if we had to accept the bid. She said no. He asked if anyone wished to comment.

Trustee Brown explained that the vote for Peerless Midwest is not just because they are the lowest bidder, but a company that has done satisfactory work in Park Forest in the past. He did not see how more than 50% of the work would be done in Indiana based on the description in the bid. He added that the attorney said the company was not doing anything wrong; they were following the law.

Mayor Ostenburg asked if there were any other comments and asked Manager Mick for clarification about the amount of work done in Indiana. Manager Mick explained that upwards of 50% would be done in Indiana and any contingency work on the motor and for repairs probably would be performed outside of Illinois.

Mayor Ostenburg asked Clerk McGann to call the roll to accept the bid from Great Lakes Water.

The one item on the debatable agenda was approved with the following results:

Ayes: 5

Nays: 1

Present: 1

Absent: 0

The motion was approved with five (5) ayes, one (1) nays, one (1) present, and no (0) absent.

Adjournment

This concluded the Regular Board meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Ostenburg called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee McCray, seconded by Trustee Brandon and passed unanimously.

Mayor Ostenburg adjourned the regular meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila McGann
Village Clerk