

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD REMOTELY
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTED AT THE VILLAGE HALL
350 VICTORY DRIVE, PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

CONFERENCE CALL

7:00 p.m.

July 20, 2020

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Jonathan Vanderbilt, Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Joseph Woods, Trustee Maya Hardy, Trustee Candyce Herron, and Trustee Glenna Hennessy

ABSENT: none

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Christopher Mannino, Deputy Fire Chief Ryan Roberts, Village Attorney Ross Secler, Assistant Finance Director Sharon Floyd, Director of Personnel Denyse Carreras, Director of Economic Development Hildy Kingma, Director of Recreation and Parks Rob Gunther, and Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre and IT Coordinator Craig Kaufman

RECORDER: Village Clerk Sheila McGann

Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Vanderbilt. Roll was called by Clerk McGann.

Reports of Village Officers

Mayor

Mayor Vanderbilt read the updated Open Meetings Act which allows for board meetings to be held remotely, via teleconferencing, while being compliant and following the Governor's Executive Orders. The Mayor offered his condolences and blessings to the family of Representative John Lewis on his recent passing. He thanked Gary Friedlund, for his food donations with SAFE (Sustainable Agriculture Food Exchange) to St. Irenaeus' Food Pantry. The BMW Championship golf event at Olympia Fields County Club will now be available by television only. If any resident is interested in renting their home out for the seven night event, August 24-30, contact Katherine Rubis at Berkshire Hathaway Home Services. He also noted that Vintrendi Wines was listed in the latest Chicago Southland Visitors Bureau *Cheers and Beers: Chicago Southland Breweries, Distilleries & Wineries* publication. Mayor Vanderbilt added that the Thorn Creek Sanitary District has voted to increase their fees. Watch for the new rates to be issued soon.

Village Attorney

No report.

Mayor Vanderbilt thanked Odelson & Sterk for drafting the updated Open Meetings Act which was read at the beginning of this meeting.

Village Manager

Manager Mick reported that Park Forest's response rate in the 2020 Census is now at 66.4%. He asked residents to watch for pop up events with giveaways in the near future. The Census has ten questions total and if anyone needs assistance in completing the Census or using the internet to complete the questionnaire, they can contact him at Village Hall. The Board is on its relaxed summer meeting schedule, with remaining meetings on August 10th and 17th.

Village Clerk

No report

Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons

All the Trustees expressed their condolences to the family of Representative John Lewis noting his courage, his morals, and his leadership. They shared their feelings of loss and their feelings of responsibility to make things better; his death is a loss to our nation.

Trustee Settles reported on the 2020 Reassessment Appeals for mail dates are Rich Township: 8/22 to 9/27 and Bloom township: 9/16 to 10/20. The last day accepted for Rich Township is September 27 and October 22 for Bloom Township. She commended the students of the ROBO Kids STEM Lab on their community garden at Main and Cunningham. Trustee Settles said that Cook County is taking applications to vote by mail. To get a mail in ballot, applications are available at <https://www.cookcountyclerk.com/agency/vote-mail>. She also asked Manager Mick about early voting in Park Forest for the November election. He said Cook County Clerk's Office has been in contact with Park Forest who is willing to host early voting from October 19 to November 2 in the lower level of Village Hall to ensure security. More details will be shared when there is final confirmation from the Clerk's Office.

Trustee Graham said that nomination applications for the Environment Commission's Sustainability Award are on the Village's website. In lieu of the Beaux Arts Ball, this year there is an online auction for Tall Grass Arts Association with a July 31 deadline.

Trustee Woods said he was honored to have met Representative Lewis in Washington, D.C. He said that it is an honor to serve on this Board all of whom love their community. They are kind even when they disagree.

Trustee Hardy said there is a tentative virtual Job Fair scheduled for August 22. The Commission on Human Relations will meet again August 11th to finalize the Job Fair. The Planning and Zoning Commission did not meet last month but may be August 11. She also thanked staff and Respond Now with establishing the Community Fund which will help residents who are struggling with their water bills. They can apply to Respond Now who will be vetting the applicants. Donations are being accepted or residents may round up when paying their water bills. Trustee Hardy also noted that the Board brings so much to the table; we can agree to disagree.

Trustee Herron reported that Recreation, Parks and Community Health Commission will meet via Zoom July 21. In place of the Great American Campout, the Commission is encouraging residents to camp out in their yard this weekend.

Trustee Hennessy reported that Library met virtually July 16. They are working toward an opening date in August for computers by appointment only. Curbside pickup is currently available for books and crafts. The Beautification Awards Committee is still checking homes till the end of July. Community pride is showing. Their next meeting is August 12. Trustee Hennessy thanked Jen Whitson for setting up a Facebook page, Buy Nothing Park Forest, which allows residents to give away items and others residents to claim them for free. With 309 current members, this idea has brought the community together.

Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions*

As per the agenda posting, public comments were to be sent to Manager Mick by 3p.m. of the day of the meeting and would be read at the meeting. None were received. (See below)

Motion: Approval of Consent

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

CONSENT:

MOVED that the Consent Agenda and each item contained therein be hereby approved:

- 1. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of June 15, 2020, the Rules meeting of June 22, 2020 and the Regular meeting of June 22, 2020**
- 2. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees Approve a Resolution supporting a Cook County Class 8 Tax Assessment Classification for 2250 S. Western Ave, in the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois.**

Approval of the consent agenda was moved by Trustee Woods and seconded by Trustee Hardy. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if anyone wished any item be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, a roll call vote was called by Mayor Vanderbilt on the motion to approve the consent 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:

None

Adjournment

This concluded the regular Board meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Vanderbilt called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee Graham, seconded by Trustee Herron and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting was adjourned following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 7
Nays: 0
Absent: 0

The meeting was adjourned with seven (7) ayes, no (0) nays, and no (0) absent.

Mayor Vanderbilt adjourned the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila McGann
Village Clerk

**NOTE – DUE TO COVID-19
THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

***Public, in-person attendance of the Meeting has been deemed unfeasible; All public comment can be sent prior to the phone conference Board Meeting, via email to tmick@vopf.com, by 3 pm the day of the meeting; Public comments received via email will be read during the public meeting.**

****A record (verbatim recording) of all action (if any) taken during the Board Meeting in open session will be made available upon request.**

*****This meeting will be broadcast live, and recorded, on the local cable access channels in Park Forest (channel 4 for Comcast subscribers & channel 4 for AT&T U-Verse subscribers) and will be streamed live, and subsequently archived, on the Village website at www.villageofparkforest.com**

NOTE: Copies of Agenda Items are Available on the Village website at www.villageofparkforest.com