

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
350 VICTORY DRIVE
PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

Village Hall

Board Room 7:00 p.m.

January 20, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE: Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Maya Hardy, Trustee Erin Slone, Trustee Randall White, Trustee John Moore, and Mayor Joseph Woods

ABSENT: none

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE: Village Manager Jon Kindseth, Police Chief Brian Rzycki, Fire Chief Mark Cotrano, Village Attorney Kelly Krauchun, Assistant Village Manager Jason Miller, Director of Recreation, Parks, and Community Health Kevin Adams, Director of Finance Mark Pries, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Director of Community Development Jerry Martin, Assistant Director of Economic Development and Planning Andrew Brown, IT Coordinator Mark Geising, and Communications Coordinator Joshua Vinson

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Two representatives from Blake-Lamb Funeral Home; Kris Bell, resident, and 2 other residents

Roll Call

Mayor Woods called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and asked Clerk McGann to call the roll.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Reports of Village Officers

Mayor

Mayor Woods read a proclamation thanking Blake-Lamb Funeral Home for their compassion and generosity by covering the funeral expenses for Officer Tim Jones. Blake-Lamb has a long history in caring for families in their time of need. The Village thanks Blake-Lamb Funeral Home for ensuring Officer Jones was laid to rest with the dignity and honor he greatly deserved. Two representatives from Blake-Lamb were there to accept the proclamation and thank the Village. The Mayor, Board, staff, and audience showed their appreciation with a standing ovation.

Mayor Woods noted there was another proclamation for resident Doug Price. As he was absent from the meeting, Mayor Woods postponed reading it, hoping Mr. Price was available to receive it in person at a future meeting.

Mayor Woods attended a Dr. Martin Luther King luncheon to accept a plaque on behalf of the Village and the Jones Family. Officer Jones has touched so many people's lives. He also attended a recent SSMMA meeting where they discussed their legislative agenda which includes protection of Tier 2 pensions, sustainability, and property taxes.

Village Attorney

None

Village Manager

None

Village Clerk

None

Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons

Trustee Settles asked residents to check on their neighbors during the frigid days.

Trustee Graham noted that the Commission on Human Relations met last week where they are working on an upcoming auction. The Youth Commission also met last week and continued to plan a glow party in April.

Trustee Hardy has no report.

Trustee Slone said the Environment Commission met at the Tool Library last week. She encouraged residents to check it out adding that there are many items offered to borrow free of charge. She also talked about household batteries being recycled at the police station and village hall. The Environment Commission will have their annual report at the February 2nd board meeting. EDAG had their scheduled meeting last Wednesday. Trustee Slone wanted to personally thank the police officers and EMTS who recently helped her 95 year old grandmother. She noted their professionalism and was very grateful for their assistance.

Trustee White said he continued to pray for residents of Autumn Ridge, some of whom are without heat and hopes it will be repaired soon.

Trustee Moore reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission met recently and went over their 2025 goals which were met and are working on a set of new goals for 2026. He encouraged residents to consider joining the Planning and Zoning Commission as there is a vacancy.

Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions

Kris Bell, resident, shared her opinions on the cost of resting and renters' recourse. She offered her condolences to the family and friends of Officer Jones and two the missing women of Park Forest.

One resident commented on problems he has had with neighbors and higher property taxes. Mayor Woods suggested he talk to any department heads or to the mayor himself after the meeting regarding his concerns.

Motion: Approval of Consent

CONSENT:

1. A Motion approving the minutes of the Rules and Special Regular meetings of Monday, January 5, 2026

2. A Resolution to appoint Mayor Joseph Woods and Carrie Malfeo to SSMMA's Environmental Justice Committee to represent the Village of Park Forest

Approval of the consent agenda was moved by Trustee Slone and seconded by Trustee Moore. Mayor Woods 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 Woods 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:

3. An Ordinance Establishing a Foreclosure Registry Program (Final Reading)

4. A Motion approving a Professional Service Agreement with HERA Property Registry, LLC

Mayor Woods asked for a motion. Moved by Trustee Hardy and seconded by Trustee Slone. Manager Kindseth said items 3 and 4 will be taken together. Currently, Park Forest does not have to be notified where there is a foreclosure. It is similar to the Vacant Property Registration Ordinance that was approved in 2008. Upon approval this agreement will have banks that are starting foreclosures must notify and register with the Village so there will be a known responsible party for maintenance and allows the Village to be notified when the property is being foreclosed upon. Mayor Woods asked if there were any questions or comments by the Board. Trustee Moore asked if the list would be public or private. Manager Kindseth said the registry of these properties are on a publicly available data base. Item 4 allows a third party to manage the registry for the Village which will be a new consolidated data base. Trustee Slone asked for clarification regarding the bank being named as the owner/responsible party. Manager Kindseth said the bank would provide the information and be identified as the responsible party, not the person.

Hearing no other questions or comments, Mayor Woods asked for a roll call vote relating to item four. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: seven (7) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 0 (0).

5. A Motion approving the 2026 Water Main Improvement Contract

Mayor Woods asked for a motion. Motion made by Trustee Graham and seconded by Trustee Settles.

Manager Kindseth asked Director Ysaguirre to provide details on this item. Director Ysaguirre said explained the Village received two low interest loans in 2025 which allowed for the water main improvement to go out for bid. He explained the bid procedure for this project. Four bids were opened on December 17th, 2025 and staff recommends Iroquois Paving in Oswego, Illinois be awarded the contract. The Village has been satisfied with their prior work in the Village. Mayor Woods asked if the Board had any questions or comments. Hearing none, he asked the roll be called with the following results: seven (7) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 0 (0) absent.

6. A Motion approving an Engineering Services Agreement for construction engineering for the 2026 Water Main Improvement project

Mayor Woods asked for a motion. Motion was made by Trustee Hardy and seconded by Trustee Graham. Manager Kindseth asked Director Ysaguirre to provide details on this item. Director Ysaguirre explained the water main improvement project specifications and requirements noting that Baxter and Woodman was the project design firm and are familiar with the project. Staff recommends approval of this contract with Baxter and Woodman. Mayor Woods asked the Board if there were any questions or comments. Hearing none, he asked the roll be called with the following results: seven (7) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 0 (0) absent.

7. A Motion approving the bid of S&S Construction for the buildout of 346 Victory Drive in an amount not to exceed \$29,056.50

Mayor Woods asked for a motion. Motion was made by Trustee Slone and seconded by Trustee Moore. Manager Kindseth noted that this is a success of story of one of the downtown businesses. They wish to expand to allow for more barber chairs and expand their business. Manager Kindseth asked Assistant Director Brown to provide details on this item. Mr. Brown gave details the cost of the expansion, the Village's cost, and the tenant's obligation. Their costs would be spread over the next three years with amounts included in their new lease. Mayor Woods asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. When Trustee Slone asked if S & S Construction has done any work in the DownTown area, Mr. Brown said, yes, they have previously worked in the DownTown area. Hearing no other questions or comments, Mayor Woods asked for the roll. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: seven (7) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 0 (0).

Adjournment to Executive Session –

Mayor Woods asked for a motion to adjourn into executive session as permitted by the Open Meetings Act by 5 ILCS 120/2 section 2(c) (1) to discuss personnel, (11) litigation, and (12) discussion of claims. Motion was moved by Trustee Hardy and seconded by Trustee Settles. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: seven (7) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 0 (0) absent at 7:40 p.m.

Trustee Settles called to return to open session. Mayor Woods and Trustee Graham are absent. Motion made by Trustee Slone at 10:04 seconded by Trustee Hardy. Roll call was taken with the following results: five (5) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and two (2) absent.

A Motion appointing Trustee Settles as Mayor Pro tem was made by Trustee Slone at 10:04 seconded by Trustee White. Roll call was called was taken with the following results: five (5) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 2 (2) absent.

8. A Motion authorizing the Village Manager to hire Special Counsel for specific Village litigation

Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked for a motion. Motion made by Trustee Hardy and seconded by Trustee Moore. Roll call was called was taken with the following results: five (5) ayes, 0 (0) nays, and 2 (2) absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked for a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion made by Trustee Hardy and seconded by Trustee Slone. Meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila McGann
Village Clerk