

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

Village Hall

Board Room 7:00 p.m.

February 2, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE: Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Erin Slone, Trustee Maya Hardy, 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 Leslie Kennedy, Director of Finance Mark Pries, Director of Economic Development and Planning Sandra Zoellner, Director of Recreation, Parks, and Community Health Kevin Adams, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, IT Coordinator Mark Geising, Communication Coordinator Joshua Vinson, Sustainability Coordinator Carrie Malfeo, and Code Enforcement Manager Eshe McGee

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Jerry Shnay, reporter; approximately 40 members, family, and friends of the Sustainability Committee

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 Woods said there were a number of ceremonial items to begin the meeting. Sustainability Coordinator Malfeo introduced members of the Environment Commission to award the Katie Armstrong Sustainability Awards. Chairperson Baker named the award winners in the areas of residential, cooperatives, and community projects and presented them with their awards. Mayor Woods and each of the Trustees congratulated the winners noting that their work impacts the community. They are good examples of living sustainable lives.

Mayor

Mayor Woods read a proclamation noting February is Black History Month. He noted the many contributions to our nation's history, including federal and local governments, school boards, and volunteer boards. He encouraged residents to participate in some of the Village's events to celebrate Black History Month.

Mayor Woods read a statement regarding Autumn Ridge saying the Village is trying to make things right but the owners are not cooperating. The Village hopes to work with the new owners and residents. While there is some progress, the Village continues to look for options for housing and will continue to offer assistance.

Mayor Woods congratulated the winners of the 2026 Park Forest Community Oscars. He also offered his condolences to the family and community of Harvey on the passing of Mayor Christopher Clark.

Village Attorney

No report

Village Manager

Manager Kindseth reminder residents to take the time to winterize their properties to avoid freezing pipes.

Village Clerk

No report

Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons

Each of the Trustees offered their sincerest condolences to the family of Harvey's Mayor Christopher Clark. He will be missed.

Trustee Settles congratulated those who received a Park Forest Oscar Award. Evelyn Randle made it a very special night.

Trustee Graham enjoyed Oscar Night as well and congratulated Trustee White on his Oscar.

Trustee Slone said the Environment Commission will meet Thursday, February, 5th; EDAG will meet Wednesday, February 11th.

Trustee White thanked the committee for their support. He thanked the trustees for all they do.

Trustee Moore said the Planning and Zoning Commission will Tuesday, February 10. He will pray for the community of Harvey.

Mayor Woods added that he had worked with Mayor Clark on the property tax issues in the South Suburbs. Working together with the other communities gave some strength to the collaboration. They will continue to work together.

Trustee Hardy said Mayor Clark worked hard to cut corruption in his town when he first took office. He wanted to be sure those who were picking up their checks were on the payroll.

Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions

None

Motion: Approval of Consent

CONSENT:

1. A Motion to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2026 Regular meeting

2. A Motion approving a Resolution appointing an Authorized Agent to the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF)

Approval of the consent agenda was moved by Trustee Moore and seconded by Trustee Graham. 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. First Reading and discussion of an Ordinance Related to Chapter 42 (“Fire Preventions & Protection”), Article II (“General”), Section 14 (“Rates and levels of fire service”), (2) emergency fire services and of the Code of Ordinances, Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois.

Manager Kindseth said items #3 and #4 on the agenda are similar regarding the collection of fees of services that the Fire Department currently provides. Chief Cotrano explained how item #3 will allow the Village to collect revenue directly from the insurance companies and recover some of their costs. The Village would like to enter into a contract with Fire Recovery USA. He explained how it would be beneficial to the Village which would require an ordinance language change. Mayor Woods asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. Hearing none, the Mayor asked Chief Cotrano to continue with item #4 on the agenda.

4. First Reading and discussion of an Ordinance Related to Chapter 42 (“Fire Preventions & Protection”), Article II (“General”), Section 14 (“Rates and levels of fire service”), (3) unincorporated billing of the Code of Ordinances, Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois.

Chief Cotrano continued with item #4. He said the Fire Department recommends some changes to the ordinance relating to language and costs occurring in unincorporated areas. Trustee Slone asked for clarification regarding billing homeowners and auto insurance companies. Manager Kindseth explained item #3 language refers to billing the insurance company, not the resident directly. If the claim is for somewhere outside of Park Forest, the bill would be higher as they do not pay Park Forest property tax. When trustee Slone asked how much the company would receive, Chief Cotrano said the company would receive about 20%. Chief Cotrano said it would not know impact on the fire department’s budget until we go through a cycle. The income would be approximately \$10,000-20,000 after fees. Manager Kindseth said two readings are required for ordinances changes. This item to be on the agenda on the 16th for a second reading. The

Village will hear feedback regarding the changes and then produce education/information packets for both residents and nonresidents. When Trustee Slone asked if other nearby communities have similar programs, Chief Cotrano said some communities have similar programs in place, i.e. Flossmoor, Homewood, and Tinley Park. There were no other questions or comments by the Board.

Mayor Woods shared that a Park Forest resident, Joe Fryer, wished to share this with the Board and the community. Mr. Fryer appreciated the assistance he received from the Park Forest Fire Department before the recent passing of his wife.

Adjournment

This concluded the Special Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

There being no further business. Mayor Woods called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee Hardy, seconded by Trustee Settles and passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned unanimously with a voice vote with the following results:

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Mayor Woods adjourned the Special Regular Meeting at 7:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheila McGann
Village Clerk