

**SPECIAL RULES MEETING/BUDGET REVIEW OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS**

Village Hall

6:00 p.m.

May 10, 2023

PRESENT: Mayor Joseph A. Woods; Trustees: Theresa Settles, Tiffani Graham, Maya Hardy, Erin I. Slone, John V. Moore

ABSENT: Trustee Randall White

STAFF PRESENT: Village Manager Tom Mick; Director of Finance/Deputy Village Manager Mark Pries; Assistant Finance Director Sharon Floyd; Director of Economic Development Sandra Zoellner; DownTown Facility Manager Heather Jones; Planner Andrew Brown; Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok; Shift Commander Mark Cotrano; Director of Community Development Larrie Kerestes; Code Enforcement Manager Jerry Martin; Executive Housing Director Tiffany Perry

Document Reviewed: Village of Park Forest, Illinois 2023/2024 Budget

Mayor Woods called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Director of Economic Development Sandra Zoellner began her summary highlighting the department's function (sect. 8-1). She mention there is a developer that has submitted an application for a Special Use Permit to develop a 44 unit multifamily homes. Juancho's Tacos is interested in opening a small restaurant in Park Forest and has started land to build on.

Planner Andrew Brown discussed the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan and said the 5th house to be completed by the South Suburban Trades Initiative (SSTI) will be done this year and the 6th house has already been selected for 2023/2024. He also talked about the Capital Projects Fund (Sect. 18-1) and in the Eastgate neighborhood the Village owns 78 vacant properties and 13 properties with homes on them.

DownTown Facility Manager Heather Jones highlighted the department's function (sect. 17-1). She said this year the focus on curb appeal with no major updates until or with the DownTown Master Plan. There was conversation regarding the Bad Debt line item and Mrs. Jones explained two years ago a deposit is required for new DownTown businesses in case the fall behind on rent.

Director Pries reviewed the TIF Funds (sect. 23-1). He stated there has been no activity in the Norwood TIF since 2014. In the DownTown TIF Capital Outlay, the Village is looking to install public washrooms and storage in the DownTown area.

Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok began the Fire Department Summary (sect. 5-1) by reviewing the charts on pages 5-2 & 5-3, acknowledging the increase in calls. Chief noted residents can see a snapshot of their budget on page 5-12. There are two Firefighter/Paramedics in the department that are still funded through the SAFER grant through the end of 2023.

Director of Community Development Larrie Kerestes reviewed Community Development (sect. 9-1). He started by stating the number of foreclosed houses has dropped to 99 in 2022 compared to 490 in 2018. Mr. Kerestes stated the Village has, to date, received \$48,000,000 in grants, this includes a \$2,900,000 grant received this year. He moved on to Housing Voucher Program Data (sect. 20-2) and said the number of portables down to 108 as of January 2023 compared to 473 in June of 2016.

Manager Mick gave a brief overview of upcoming Board meetings including the public hearing, First Reading of the Ordinance scheduled for June 12th and Final Reading scheduled for June 20th.

Trustee Hardy motioned to adjourn at 8:26 p.m.; second by Trustee Slone.

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Thurston, Recorder