

**RULES MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST, 350 VICTORY DRIVE, PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS  
COOK AND WILL COUNTIES**

**Village Hall**

**Boardroom 7:00 p.m.**

**July 10, 2023**

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

**ABSENT:** Trustee Theresa Settles

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Paul Winfrey, Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok, Village Attorney Leslie Kennedy, Assistant Director of Finance Sharon Floyd, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Kevin Adams, Director of Community Relations Larrie Kerestes, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Village Planner Andrew Brown, and Mark Geising, IT Coordinator

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Verdia Allen, Resident; Gary Kopycinski, eNews Park Forest; and two other residents

**Roll Call**

Mayor Woods called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**1. Approval of a Local Agency Agreement and Funding Resolution for federal participation for road improvements to Westwood Drive/Norwood Blvd (FAU 2007)**  
Manager Mick said these are the beginning plans for road improvement that will begin down the road. Director Ysaguirre explained the improvements for 2026 with preliminary engineering plans to be approved by the Board to allow for eligibility of federal funds. This Local Agency Agreement and Funding Resolution is between the State of Illinois and the Village for Phase One only. Staff recommends approval by the Village and the Mayor of this agreement. Mayor Woods asked the Board if there were any questions. Hearing none, this item will be the agenda for action at the next Regular Meeting.

**2. Resolution Authorizing the sale of personal property owned by the Village of Park Forest**  
Manager Mick explained that two police vehicles, a vehicle from the Fire Department, and one from Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Department were no longer necessary and useful and should go up for sale. He added that fund received from their sale will go into the Vehicle Services Fund. Mayor Woods asked the Board if there were any questions. Hearing none, this item will be the agenda for action at the next Regular Meeting.

**3. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, 14, 22, 34, 58, 66 and 102 of the Municipal Code of the Village of Park Forest**  
Manager Mick said this ordinance allows for consistency in Park Forest’s Municipal Code and the Illinois State Code. It cleans up language, brings items up to date and updates fee structures. Chief Winfrey stated a number of the changes on various fees after reviewing the Code. Others not itemized are listed in the agenda briefing memo. Mayor Woods asked the Board if there were any questions or comments. Trustee Moore noted the Municipal Code for poultry has been updated. Mayor Woods noted how tedious it is to update and Municipal Code to State Statute.

When Trustee Slone asked how animal impounding works, Chief Winfrey explained the animal is captured, checked for chips, and then taken to the Humane Society. It is costly due to the increased number of animals involved. When asked by Trustee Hardy if the \$20 alarm fee was similar to our neighboring communities, Chief Winfrey said he did not know and would find out. Hearing no other questions or comments, this item will be on the agenda for action at the next Regular Meeting.

#### **4. Purchase of New Toro Mower**

Manager Mick said this item comes out of the Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Department. As it is above his spending authority, it must be approved by the Board. Director Adams added that big mowers like this one are usually replaced every ten years. Currently, there are two mowers with the older purchased in 2011. Toro mowers are preferred as they are reliable and replacement parts are available. The new mower has been on backorder for a year. Staff recommends ordering the Toro mower. Mayor Woods asked the Board if there were any questions. Hearing none, this item will be the agenda for action at the next Regular Meeting.

#### **5. Urban Forestry Tree Removal and Tree Pruning Contracts**

Manager Mick said this item is out of Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Department. Director Adams said the Village has been satisfied with the work performed by Winkler Tree & Lawn Care and Homer Tree Service. Both companies have agreed to extend their respective contracts for one more year at the same rates as 2022-2023. Staff recommends approval of these extensions. Mayor Woods asked the Board if there were any questions. Hearing none, this item will be the agenda for action at the next Regular Meeting.

#### **Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Woods attended and enjoyed the summer band concert of District 194 of Columbia Central. He attended the Veterans Commission met as they discussed the next Veterans' Day Ceremony services and community resources for Veterans. He thanked them for their service. He congratulated the Staff on implementing a Safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and festivities. Last week, the Mayor met with Senator Joyce and Representative Deluca individually to discuss collaborative efforts to serve the community including food deserts and additional local funding. The Park Forest Library offers more accessible services to their patrons with a drive-up window opening on July 5.

#### **Manager's Comments**

Manager Mick gave information on upcoming events.

#### **Trustee's Comments**

Each of the Trustees thanked all who attended the Fourth of July Parade, concert, and parade. A special thanks to staff who put together the programs and made them so successful. The Trustees also had birthday wishes for Trustee Slone and Trustee White.

Trustee Graham reported that the Human Relations Commission will meet Tuesday, July 11. The Youth Commission will meet Thursday, July 13 to take the final steps for Youth Day on August 12.

Trustee Hardy noted that the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board will meet on July 18.

Trustee Slone said she and the Board attended a ribbon cutting for a new business in Park Forest, Nabada Massage. The Sustainability homepage has ideas for July as a plastic-free month. Recyclefest is scheduled for July 29. Questions are directed to the Sustainability Office.

Trustee White noted that First Baptist Church of Park Forest had their first Annual Safe Summer Festival which included many giveaways and a petting zoo. He thanked them for their support.

Trustee Moore had a personal thank you to Chief Natyshok and the Fire Department for quick action regarding his father's medical emergency. Due to their quick action, he is home and recovering. He noted the Park Forest's Public Library's drive up window is open. They want to make changes to make library usage easier and to engage people. There is a joint meeting in August with EDAG and the Planning and Zoning Commission to discuss short term rentals.

Mayor Woods added that he has responded to residents when they are concerned about the comments by the Board. While they often sound similar, the two times when each trustee shows themselves as an individual is during the comments section of the meeting and when they vote.

**Attorney's Comments**

None

**Clerk Comments**

No report

**Audience to Visitors**

Verdia Allen voiced her concerns about the owners without insurance of stray and unleashed dogs. She also asked if the Village was planning on community meetings in various areas of the Park Forest. Mayor Woods explained that comments may be made by citizens during the meeting without a dialogue. Her questions may be addressed to the Mayor and the Police Chief after the meeting.

**Adjournment**

This concluded the Rules Meeting of the Board of Trustees Meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Woods called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Moore and passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned unanimously with a voice vote with the following results:

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

Mayor Woods adjourned the Rules Meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila McGann  
Village Clerk