

Minutes of the Village of Forreton Board of Trustees
Village Hall
Monday February 5, 2024, 7:00 PM

President Metzger calls the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all.

On Roll Call by President Metzger, Trustee Cotter, Trustee Vinnedge, Chief Thiel, Maintenance Supervisor Timm, Treasurer Schneiderman, Trustee Buss, Trustee Busker, and Trustee Kalina. Four members from the public.

Consent Agenda:

The Minutes of the January 16, 2024, meeting are reviewed.

Accounts Payable are reviewed.

Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve the consent agenda and is 2nd by Trustee Kalina. All are in favor. Trustee Norris is absent.

Public Comment – Chad Horner introduced himself. He is running for Ogle County Coroner. He is a sixth-generation funeral director. He stated he has had the support and endorsement of several locally elected officials.

Becky Grant stated she lives on 4th avenue. She is requesting a noise ordinance be put into place in Forreton that can be enforced by the police. She stated she has a neighbor that plays their music so loud that her windows vibrate, and she cannot even hear her television. When she calls the police all they can do is go over and tell them to turn it down and five minutes later it is back up. She stated this will go on until 2:00 in the morning. She would like to see the violators receive a citation. She would also like the homeowner to receive a notice if it is a rental.

Shawn Loomis stated this neighbor is across the street from him as well. He stated the music is not only at night but in the afternoon as well. He shared video from his security camera from 10:34 pm. He stated he works a swing shift and one week he is on nights and one week he is on days, so his sleep schedule is already messed up as it is.

Jane Koeller stated there was an article in the Ogle County Life that stated the Ogle County Board had approved \$100,000 in ARPA funds for a program through the economic development corporation. She stated all the villages in Ogle County are participating except for Forreton, Davis Junction, and Stillman Valley. She wanted to know why Forreton was not a part of it, so she contacted the President and he stated he contacted Forreton and never heard anything back. She stated to be part of it the village has to contribute 10% of their ARPA money to the program. That money is used for economic development in Ogle County.

Building Permits – None

Department Reports:

Supt. of Public Works Report – Maintenance Supervisor Timm stated they plowed snow and salted streets. They went and picked up sand and mixed it with the salt. They hauled snow and fixed a broken water main on Chestnut Ave. They had a sewer backup on Ash Ave that they jetted to get it flowing. They also did maintenance work on the backhoe and fixed broken hydraulic hose. They put a new starter on the utility truck and fixed the exhaust leak on the orange dump truck. They washed the plow trucks and cleaned up the shop. Trustee Buss stated he asked Scott and Tanya to get a large map of the town and have it laminated for the future walking path project or any other project.

Chief of Police Report – Chief Thiel stated officers assisted Ogle County with multiple cars in the ditch during the snowstorm. Officers assisted Forreton Fire with a house fire located just outside of Village limits. Officers responded to the BP Gas station regarding a complaint of a theft. The suspect was later reported as an unwanted person at Josh's Saloon. Chief Thiel stated he is looking at IDOT grants that would reimburse the village for hiring back an officer for four hours for seatbelt and electronic device enforcement.

Clerk's Report – Clerk Shenberger is absent. President Metzger stated he talked with her, and she wanted to give an update on Gworks. We are now entering all 654 residents and businesses into the system for utility billing. Clerk Shenberger thought it would be a good idea for the new utility billing clerk to start with doing these entries. He also stated our audit is underway.

Committee Reports:

Streets & Alleys - Trustee Buss stated they met and talked about the budget and got numbers together for Treasurer Schneiderman.

Sewer and Water – Trustee Vinnedge stated he and Scott got numbers together and to Treasurer Schneiderman for the budget as well. He also stated that we received a final bill from the 2021 water main project. This was in the budget for 21/22 but it was not carried forward to the next year. So, resolution 2024-02 will increase the budget for this payment. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve resolution 2024-02 and is 2nd by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Kalina, Busker, Buss, Vinnedge, and Cotter all respond with Yeas.

Finance - Trustee Busker stated they had a meeting on January 19th to discuss the budget and insurance splits. She stated she will have Clerk Shenberger put on the agenda for next meeting to vote on the split. Treasurer Schneiderman

stated he has all the numbers from the different committees for the budget. Trustee Busker proposed a finance committee meeting for Monday the 12th at 6pm to go over the budget prior to the board's approval.

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning - Trustee Cotter stated he passed out the meeting minutes from the last committee meeting. A lot of good things were discussed. They are looking into grants for a couple of ideas. The main project they would like to focus on is getting the bathrooms at Memorial Park redone like the ones at Warnken Park.

Ordinances – Trustee Norris is absent. She reported to President Metzger that she is continuing working on the codification project.

Village President's Report – President Metzger stated he is going to get evaluations done this next week.

Unfinished Business – Old Village Hall – President Metzger stated he does know it has been shown a couple of time but nothing more to report.

Approval of new Utility Billing Clerk Katherine Doxtater. Motion is made by Trustee Busker to approve Katherine as the new Utility Billing Clerk and is 2nd by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, and Kalina all respond with Yeas.

New Business – Approval of Cgi Digital Community Showcase Video Program – President Metzger stated this was brought to his attention by Solutions Bank. This company makes videos of towns and their businesses. A lot of surrounding towns have participated in the program. It is not cost to the village. Motion is made by Trustee Busker to approve moving forward with the program and is 2nd by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Kalina, Busker, Buss, Vinnedge, and Cotter all respond with Yeas.

BDD – Outback Premium Meats – They will be installing a grease trap in the sewer release to prevent sewer backup. Motion is made by Trustee Buss to approve the BDD and is 2nd by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Vinnedge, Busker, Cotter, and Kalina all respond with Yeas.

Trustee Buss asked if the committee meetings can be posted on Facebook.

Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to go into Closed Session and is 2nd by Trustee Buss. All are in favor.

Trustee Buss stated we are looking to purchase a generator and update the electrical and the estimate is \$25,000. He wanted to discuss if we want to take it out of ARPA this fiscal year. The board discussed and agreed to use ARPA but check to see if there are any grants available.

Trustee Vinnedge will entertain a motion for adjournment. Motion is made by Trustee Kalina and is 2nd by Trustee Busker. All are in favor. The Meeting is adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Shenberger