

**Minutes of the Village of Forreton Board of Trustees**  
**Village Hall**  
**Tuesday June 20, 2023, 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 Clerk Shenberger, President Metzger, Trustee Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Chief Thiel, Maintenance Supervisor Timm, Treasurer Schneiderman, Trustee Buss, and Busker. Five members of the public.

The Minutes of the June 5, 2023, meeting are reviewed. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve the minutes and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Busker. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, and Busker all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Public Comment – Jillian Slick stated it has been about two weeks now since her and her husband shared their concerns about the drain, and she came today for an update. President Metzger stated during public comment as a general rule you just make a comment and there is no discussion. He stated he would give her a call tomorrow to discuss the next steps. Jillian asked if he had tried to get anything in the last two weeks. President Metzger stated he has reached out to our engineers and our legal counsel.

Ken Toms stated he has been reading the chicken ordinance and states that the owner of the property will have to apply for a permit. He did not see anywhere in there that you would have to talk to your neighbors first. He was told it would be in there and now he is hearing that it is not.

Trustee Cotter stated when residents fill out a building permit there has been question about the fence section. He said he thinks it would be extremely helpful if we update our wording about fences on the bottom of page two of the application forms. Currently we have everyone complete a permit application no matter what their project will be so that the village will know that it is meeting the guild lines for material, placement, and restrictions. We do not want to be accused of someone filling out a building permit and others do not need to.

Building Permits – 603 Garden St – Fence Permit – This will be a 6ft wood privacy fence in the back yard. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the permit pending payment and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, and Norris all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

405 S. 4<sup>th</sup> Ave – Decorative Panels – These panels will be at the back of the property. Jane Koeller asked the board if this permit is a no charge? She then asks what are you voting on tonight. Trustee Vinnedge stated it gives us documentation that we looked to see where the panels are being placed. Jane stated there is nothing in the permit that even states she needs a permit. She said if that is what we require then it should be stated in the permit. She said if it were a fence permit then why is she not paying \$50. She stated she understands if Monty has to come out and make sure it meets requirements but why are we taking up the boards time voting on it? President Metzger stated basically what a no charge permit is, is so the village is aware of a project that is going up and making sure that it stays in the same footprint, because staying in the footprint is a no charge. He stated we do the no charge permits to make sure it is compliant. Jane stated she does not understand why we are voting on a no charge permit and if that is how it is going to be then we need to update our permits to say that.

Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the no charge permit and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Vinnedge, Busker, Norris, and Cotter all respond with Yeas. Trustee Buss responds with No. Trustee Kalina is absent.

509 Garden – Fence Replacement – The resident is replacing broken fence. This is a no charge permit. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the permit and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Busker, Norris, Cotter, and Vinnedge all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

402 W. Green St – Fence Permit – This will be a chain link fence around the back yard. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the permit pending payment and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Busker, Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, and Buss all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Trustee Cotter stated that the permit for a fence at 302 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave from last meeting has been denied because the fence cannot be put on the side of the house because it is a corner lot.

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Schneiderman reviewed his report. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the report and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Buss. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, and Busker all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Accounts Payable are reviewed by the Board. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve the accounts payable with a change to the code for remainder of the sign and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Busker. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, and Busker all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Committee Reports:

Streets & Alleys - Trustee Buss stated, seal coat bid opening will be at the end of June.

Sewer and Water – Trustee Vinnedge stated the sand blasting is complete on the water tower and the painting has started. He also stated that the water and sewer increase will be delayed due to software issues.

Finance - Trustee Norris nothing to report.

Budget Officers Report – Budget Officer Schneiderman reviewed his report. Motion is made by Trustee Buss to approve the report and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Busker. On Roll Call, Trustees Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, Norris, and Cotter all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning - Trustee Cotter stated Scott got a deal on mulch for Warnken Park and Rock River Christian group came and helped put it all down. It looks great.

Ordinances – Trustee Vinnedge nothing to report.

Special Committee New Building Committee of the Whole – Approval to run the electric for the sign and flagpole. Motion is made by Trustee Buss to approve the Zettle Brothers quote of \$5060.99 and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Buss, Busker, Norris, Cotter, and Vinnedge all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Clerk's Report –Clerk Shenberger stated she completed all of the questionnaires and submitted all paperwork needed to Gworks for the new software. We are just waiting to hear from them on the next step. She also stated she followed up with RMA on getting something set up for them to come reevaluate the new building now that is complete.

Chief of Police Report – Chief Thiel stated officers responded to Dollar General for a complaint of a counterfeit one-hundred-dollar bill. The employee did mark the bill and it appeared valid. The counterfeit money was caught by the bank. Officers also responded along with Ogle County to the 200 block of S Second Avenue regarding a disturbance. Upon arrival multiple juveniles and adults were located and there were injuries to the head from baseball bats. Reports have been submitted to the State's Attorney's Office for charges. Officers also assisted Ogle and Stephenson County Deputies involving a female Forreston resident who was intoxicated and suicidal and attempting to jump out of a moving vehicle on Illinois Route 26. She was transported to Freeport Memorial Hospital. Officer Thiel also discussed eventually putting cameras up outside at the library.

Supt. of Public Works Report – Maintenance Supervisor Timm reviewed his report. He stated they have been picking up brush, hauling, and burning it. They replaced tires on the 550 Ford. They worked on the storm sewer on maple avenue and moved and trimmed around town. They also mulched the playground at Warnken Park with the help of kids from the Rock River Christian Camp. They sprayed weeds at the WWTP. The water tower project is moving along well.

Village President's Report – President Metzger stated we have the chicken ordinance meeting next Monday. He also stated if there are questions pertaining to the village on other Facebook pages, we as village employees should not answer unless it is on our Village Facebook page.

New Business – IEPA Water Meter Project – Disbursement #3 – Trustee Vinnedge tabled this until next meeting to get more information.

Trustee Norris discussed the new summer hires. She read the section in the handbook that states all hires are to be approved by the board. She is just asking for communication, so all of the board members are aware of new hires so when they are asked by the public they know. She also stated that with being a municipality we should be posting all of our jobs. She stated we have discussed this before. Trustee Buss stated he did not even know we were looking for people and last year we got our hand slapped by our community for not posting the position. President Metzger stated that with the handbook being a living document we can take a look at it and make some changes going forward. Trustee Buss asked President Metzger how many people were hired and what they will be doing. President Metzger stated he does not know. He stated the Maintenance Supervisor has room in his budget to hire part time help for the summer. It is his job to hire for these positions. Trustee Buss stated the board should know what is going on.

Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to move into executive session and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Busker.

Old Business – Old Village Hall – Approval to sell the old village hall building – Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to sell the old village hall and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Busker. On Roll Call, Trustees Busker, Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, and Buss all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Casey's Gaming – Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve Casey's Gaming License and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Buss. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, and Busker all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Approval of Recodification of the ordinances – Motion is made by Trustee Norris to approve the recodification of the ordinances and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, and Norris all respond with Yeas. Trustee Kalina is absent.

Trustee Norris stated she received information from Leslie on the community cats. She is going to go over it and see what she can come up with for a policy.

Committee Assignments – President Metzger stated he send an email with all of the new committees. He asked that everyone help each other in the new transition.

President Metzger will entertain a motion for adjournment. Motion is made by Trustee Norris and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Busker. All are in favor. The Meeting is adjourned at 8:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Shenberger