

**Minutes of the Village of Forreton Board of Trustees**  
**Village Hall**  
**Monday August 7, 2023, 7:00 PM**

President Metzger calls the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited by all.

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

The Minutes of the July 17, 2023, meeting are reviewed. Motion is made by Trustee Vinnedge to approve the minutes and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, and Kalina all respond with Yeas.

Public Comment – Susan Engelkens thanked President Metzger for the phone call. She stated what she heard from the call is that the village would not be following their own ordinances. She said at the last meeting President Metzger stated the sign was not under the billboard ordinance. However, the definition the billboard ordinance reads the term billboard is hereby defined to mean and the purpose of this chapter any sign, board, or similar structure that the sole or primary purpose is used for the display or advertisements or notices. So, this is indeed a sign, and this is an ordinance whether it is 50 years old or not. So, you are saying that the village doesn't have to follow the ordinance, but the villagers do. Though, you asked for suggestions, and we stated that we are not happy with the placement you will be moving forward. We are asking the village to once again consider our thoughts on this. President Metzger stated if we need to make a text amendment to the ordinance to satisfy that we can, as far as allowing a sign for the municipality. He understands that the ordinances don't always coincide and that is why we are doing a recodification of our ordinances. He stated he respectfully hears their concerns and going forward the sign is dimmable, and we can turn it off during certain hours. We can definitely work with the public on that.

Matt Paul stated he is puzzled even further now on how going back and changing the rule now that it has already been broken makes it better. To go back and rewrite something to fit what you guys did, how does that make it right? What if I had come and asked to put a sign up in my front yard would you guys have allowed it had I not got all the permission from the neighbors. President Metzger suspended the public comment rules to answer. He stated the way it is written is the municipality sets the ordinances and the rules. When we do the sign, it is for the municipality. It is not for a business; we are not selling anything. Technically a permit does not need to be filled out because it is for the village. Matt Paul asked if anyone on the board would want that sign this close to their house? He stated he is just disappointed that villagers have to follow the rules, but the village doesn't, that just doesn't seem fair.

Jane Koeller stated she would like to thank Scott and Chris for this weekend. Ken, Monty, Kaite, and Brittany were all there helping set up. We had a few minor issues at the beer garden and Chris was right there and so was Blake. She appreciates all the work that Scott, Kevin, and Brian did. She feels like it was a really great event. She also stated that she thinks what these people want is for you guys to say you are sorry. That you didn't abide by your ordinance. It's like you're not even listening to them. Just tell them you hear them and that you're sorry. It's a \$27,000 sign and it's not even installed yet so it's much more than a \$27,000 sign.

Don Cook stated he doesn't know a lot about the sign but when I had to put my fence up, I had to get a variance. Don't you have to get a variance for this sign? Or do you just do what you want to do?

Building Permits – 702 S. Walnut Ave – Fence Permit – Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the permit upon payment and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, Kalina, and Norris all respond with Yeas.

110 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave – Steps Permit – The steps will be built off of the side of the existing ramp. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter to approve the permit and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, Kalina, Norris, and Cotter all respond with Yeas.

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

**Committee Reports:**

Streets & Alleys - Trustee Buss nothing to report.

Sewer and Water – Trustee Vinnedge stated he will be having a committee meeting on Monday August 14, 2023, at 6pm.

Finance - Trustee Busker stated they had committee meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup>. They discussed the budget timeline and insurance timeline. Treasurer Schneiderman discussed getting a 6-month CD through Solutions Bank. Motion is made by Trustee Busker to move \$1,250,000 into a 6-month CD at Solutions Bank with the signers being Mark Metzger, Fred

Schneiderman, and Tanya Shenberger and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Busker, Kalina, Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, and Buss all respond with Yeas.

Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, Planning - Trustee Cotter stated they had a committee meeting on July 31<sup>st</sup>. They discussed what can be done for next year's budget and try to get some new equipment. They also discussed how the concession stand at Warnken park can be used more. He also stated he had a question from a realtor that has a property listed for sale on Willow Street. He would like to know if the board would consider a change of the zoning of the property after purchase. He also asked if the city would extend Ash to Willow at the request of the new owner. Trustee Cotter explained that he told the realtor that the new owner would have to present a plan to the board and the zoning and planning commission.

Ordinances – Ordinance 2023-06 General Health Regulations – Motion is made by Trustee Norris to approve ordinance 2023-06 and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Cotter. On Roll Call, Trustees Kalina, Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, and Busker all respond with Yeas.

Ordinance 2023-07 Parking Regulations ordinance – Motion is made by Trustee Norris to send the ordinance to Rob and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Kalina. On Roll Call, Trustees Norris, Cotter, Vinnedge, Buss, Busker, and Kalina all respond with Yeas. Trustee Norris also discussed the meeting ordinance. She provided some changes that she is looking to change and clean up. This is just for review and will be discussed at a later date. She also provided some information on what a consent agenda is. There will be some changes made to the layout of our agenda.

Clerk's Report – Clerk Shenberger stated Gworks software is now installed on the computers.

Chief of Police Report – Chief Thiel stated officers responded to an unresponsive male and performed CPR until the ambulance arrived. Officers took a report of an underage female taking and sending inappropriate photographs. They also responded to an address where an underage female took too many pills and was transported.

Supt. of Public Works Report – Maintenance Supervisor Timm stated they painted the bleachers and bathrooms at the parks. They took bricks out and poured new sidewalk at Memorial Park. They also formed up sidewalk on White Oak Rd and hauled brush out from the pile in town. They jetted and checked a sewer main on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue with a camera. They also prepared Memorial Park and helped set up for Sauerkraut days. They have continued mowing and trimming and weed control. They put a new breather canister on the backhoe and washed the mowers and trucks. They also started cold patching street edges for seal coating.

Village President's Report – President Metzger stated he received a letter from Vertical Bridge. They are asking to discuss the lease for the property where the tower is. They are not offering to purchase the property, just a cash offer to buy out the lease. President Metzger stated anything that they offer or bring to the table he will let the board know.

Trustee Vinnedge stated he thought the festival this week was really good!

President Metzger asked about the water bill drop box if we have a plan to get that up. Trustee Vinnedge stated they would talk about it and get a plan together.

New Business – BDD – Village of Forreston – V gutter on Ash Avenue – Motion is made by Trustee Norris to approve the BDD application and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On Roll Call, Trustees Cotter, Vinnedge, Busker, Kalina, and Norris all respond with Yeas. Trustee Buss abstains from the vote.

Old Business – Nothing to report.

President Metzger will entertain a motion for adjournment. Motion is made by Trustee Cotter and is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Kalina. All are in favor. The Meeting is adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Shenberger