

**Minutes of the  
Board of Trustees for the  
Village of Forreston  
Monday, February 17, 2020  
7:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Village President Metzger. The Pledge of Allegiance is recited. On roll call by Clerk Drayton, Trustees Cotter, Norris, Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, and Freeze are all in attendance.

The Minutes from of February 3, 2020 are reviewed. Trustee Freeze motions to approve the minutes as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Cotter. On roll call: Trustees Cotter, Norris, Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, and Freeze all respond with Yea's.

Public Comment is opened and Wilma Akins of 505 N Maple Avenue speaks regarding skateboards. Her grandchildren and their friends enjoy riding their skateboards when they are in town. She has been told they are not allowed anywhere in town. What can they do? Other communities have skate parks. Why can't we have a place for kids to ride their skateboards? Officer Thiel is in attendance and explains skateboards ARE allowed on all side streets and sidewalks. They are NOT allowed on the highways through town, downtown sidewalks, or at businesses – for example the library steps or the bank parking lot, Village President Metzger thinks a place at one of the parks for kids to skate could be looked into. Mrs. Akins states she will talk with the other towns with skate parks and see how they handle liability and building costs.

Mrs. Akins then also asks about removing dead trees. She was told by a tree trimmer they could not remove them because of the ash borers. Mrs. Akins was reassured the trees could be removed from their property and deposited at the Municipal Lot on North Locust Street. There is no other Public Comment.

Village President Metzger then states Chief Boomgarden is out of town and Officer Thiel is presenting the Police Report. Officer Thiel reviews the Devan Joens press release and discusses other issues from the past two weeks.

Trustee Toms states he has no Building/Demolition, Sign, Fence or Pool Permits to present.

Treasurer Schneiderman reviews the Treasurer's Report for month ending 1/31/2020

The Accounts Payable are reviewed. Discussion is brought up regarding receipts from employees. Clerk Drayton will contact FSB to see about a credit or debit card for the Superintendent of Public Works Trustee Freeze motions to approve the Accounts Payable 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Norris. On roll call trustees Cotter, Norris, Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, and Freeze all respond with Yea's.

**Committee Reports:**

Streets & Alleys: Trustee Buss states they have had their first budget meeting and will schedule another meeting after the Finance Committee meets

Sewer and Water: Trustee Vinnedge also states they have begun budget meetings and are waiting additional information from the finance committee after their meetings.

Finance Committee: Trustee Norris states they are working on budget income information and will be meeting again soon.

The Budget Officer Report for the month ending 1/31/2020 is presented by Budget Officer Klipping. She states some of the numbers are off due to budgeting issues from last year. This will be cleared up with the audit and new budget.

The Buildings, Grounds, Parks, Zoning, & planning committee have met and have a proposed budget set.

Ordinance Committee has no report at this time.

Animal Control has no report at this time either.

Clerk Drayton reports Scott Timm has received his Class C Public Operator Supply License. Also, a reminder is given to the Board and audience present that beginning in March the Village board Meetings will be held in the Community Room at the Forreston Public Library. However, Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> is not available at the library. After some discussion the Board chooses to hold the September 8, 2020 Village Board Meeting at Village Hall.

Sup't of Public Works Rust presents his report to the Board. He states the water loss amount has dropped substantially since the leak on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue was repaired. There is still 10 days of that leak on this report, so it will drop a bit more next month. Trustee Freeze asks what the IEPA wants to see for a water rate loss rate. SPW Rust replies "under 15%. With leaks we have found and fixed so far, we have dropped from 31% to 19.1%". We are showing excellent progress in working that percentage down.

Village President's Report: President Metzger begins with a copy of a letter written to the Superintendent Smith regarding the Safe Routes to School project. In the letter, Village President Metzger requests the School Board to choose one of 2 options for the cross walk to be put in at the High School. The Village has received grant monies to do this and the project will be done. The school has two choices for where the cross walk could be placed. It is noted there should be a deadline for the schools decision so bids can go out. VP Metzger states he will amend the letter and request a decision by March 20, 2020.

March 4 there will be a Pre-Bid meeting at Village Hall at 10:00am. Fehr Graham will be on hand to answer any questions of the contractors before bids are submitted. Trustee Vinnedge will set a meeting with Seth before then for a final review of the water main replacement plans before the March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting.

VP Metzger also states he has continued to speak with our Attorney regarding the sump pump issue on North Walnut Avenue.

#### Old Business

BDD Guidelines – the Guidelines discussed at the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting have been typed up and presented to the Board in their packets. VP Metzger states these guidelines provide information to the businesses as to what is available to them. Trustee Freeze questions having a business owner, who has a business within the BDD, on the committee. Would it be a conflict of interest? Metzger states the Committee is being formed to ensure applications are complete, follow the guidelines, and are ready to be presented to the Board. The Committee will have no vote in approving funds. Trustee Freeze remains concerned over the perception it may have. Trustee Buss questions the 25% possibility over \$5,000 to be funded. VP Metzger states funds over \$5,000 MAY BE awarded. If it is a project that may bring in substantial tax revenue why would we not help to fund the project if we had money in the BDD Fund? It is not guaranteed funding, it is a possibility. Trustee Vinnedge motions to approve the guidelines as written, Trustee Cotter 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. On roll call, Trustees Cotter, Norris, Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, and Freeze all respond with Yea's.

VP Metzger then brings the BDD Application for FABAs to the Boards attention. The board voted to HOLD action on the application at the January 20, 2020 Board Meeting until the guidelines were agreed upon. Trustee Cotter explains they are looking at 4 different prints for the banners (9 banners of each print, 36 in total). Set up fees will vary depending on the artwork for each banner. Trustee Cotter motions to approve the application for BDD funds for FABAs. The motion is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Vinnedge. On roll call, Trustees Cotter, Norris, Buss, Toms, Vinnedge, and Freeze all respond with Yea's. Clerk Drayton will have an Ordinance written to allow the distribution of funds when the final bill is presented.

New Business: Village President Metzger presents the amended UTV Ordinance to the Board for approval. Officer Thiel reviewed the changes to be made at the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Board Meeting and Attorney LaSage has updated made the requested changes and brought the code into compliance with Illinois State regulations. Trustee Tom's states he is happy with the new ordinance. They are required to have a valid driver's license, carry insurance on the UTV, 1<sup>st</sup> offense would be a \$75 to \$500 fine. If there is a second offense they would lose their UTV permit for three years. Trustee Vinnedge motions to approve ordinance 2020-02 and Trustee Norris seconds the motion. On roll call, Trustees Cotter, Norris, Toms, Vinnedge, and Freeze all respond with Yea's. Trustee Buss abstains from the vote.

Village President Metzger briefly shares information left by Paul White from the County Board regarding a review of their solar regulations. He will meet with Paul to see if this affects the Village in any way.

At 8:04 Trustee Toms motions to adjourn the meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Freeze. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Drayton