

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2024**

A meeting of the Village of River Forest Economic Development Commission was held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in the 1st Floor Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, River Forest, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chairman Cuyler Brown, Commissioners Katie Lowes, Tim Brangle, Carr Preston, and Raj Chiplunkar arrived at 6:07pm. Robert Graham joined via Zoom.

Absent: Commissioner Walter Wahlfeldt

Also Present: Assistant Village Administrator Jessica Spencer and Deputy Clerk Luke Masella

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Preston and SECONDED by Commissioner Brangle to allow Commissioner Graham to attend the meeting via Zoom.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 10, 2024

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Preston and SECONDED by Chairman Brown to approve the minutes of the January 10 meeting. MOTION PASSED by unanimous voice vote.

**4. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING BUSINESS COMMUNITY RETENTION/
SUPPORT STRATEGIES AND COMMUNICATION**

Assistant Administrator Spencer noted that an invitation had been extended to Executive Director Marion-Burton of the Chamber, but that they had a conflict this evening. She is hopeful they will be able to attend next month. Chairman Brown stated that he had no update at this time.

5. NORTH AVE/MADISON ST/LAKE & LATHROP UPDATE

Assistant Administrator Spencer updated the committee with regards to each location:

- North Ave: the engineers working on the North Ave Streetscape project updated staff that they should have the initial designs ready for staff review in the next few weeks. Thereafter, public meetings would be scheduled to present the drafts to the public for input. The meetings are anticipated to occur in Summer 2024.
- Madison Street: there is no update at this time.
- Lake & Lathrop: In the January 25, 2024 newsletter, the Village President updated the public that a Motion to Reconsider was entered by the current developer on January 24th. The judge didn't issue a ruling and instead set another hearing date for March 18. On February 27, the receiver's report is due to be filed, at which time the hope is to see the result from the bid sale.

Commissioners Lowes and Brangle offered to help staff continue to work on a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Broker Services for Madison Street.

Commissioner Brangle asked for an update on the TIF fund balances. Assistant Administrator Spencer offered to send an update out to the commissioners after the meeting.

Chairman Brown asked if there are priorities slowing down the process on the RFP for Broker Services. Assistant Administrator Spencer stated yes, there is a significant interest in seeing the zoning amendments that are currently under discussion with the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Commissioner Preston asked about the next steps for Mosaic Montessori School at this time. Assistant Administrator Spencer advised that she has reached out to the applicant and the school to inform them of the process and documents needed to move forward. Chairman Brown expressed his appreciation for the discussion held last week regarding the text amendment for the special use allowance in the C3 district.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Commissioner Graham and SECONDED by Chairman Chiplunkar to adjourn the February 7, 2024, meeting of the Economic Development Commission at 6:17 p.m. MOTION PASSED by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jessica Spencer, Assistant Village Administrator

Date: _____

Cuyler Brown, Chairman Economic Development Commission