

VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES
July 9, 2018

A special meeting of the Village of River Forest Board of Trustees was held on Monday, July 9, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue, River Forest, IL.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: President Adduci, Trustees Cargie, Conti, Vazquez, Henek, Gibbs, and Corsini

Absent: None

Also Present: Village Clerk Kathleen Brand-White, Village Administrator Eric Palm, Assistant Village Administrator Lisa Scheiner, Management Analyst Jon Pape, Police Chief James O'Shea, Deputy Police Chief Dan Dhooghe, Fire Chief Kurt Bohlmann, Finance Director Joan Rock, Public Works Director John Anderson, Village Attorney Greg Smith

2. CITIZENS COMMENTS

Carla Sloan, of 612 Ashland Avenue noted that she is a thirty-year resident of River Forest and also serves as the River Forest Township Supervisor. She spoke about the Youth Interventionist Program, which is a long standing community partnership across eleven Oak Park and River Forest taxing bodies. Ms. Sloan reported that the program takes a proactive approach to mentoring youth, including working towards high school graduation, mental wellness and other healthy decisions, and away from gangs, crime, drugs, and bullying. The fundamental premise of the program has been the shared responsibility of all taxing bodies for the safety and wellbeing of youth and their families. She further stated that although the program is managed out of the Oak Park Township, the program was never designed to be funded by one or two Townships as everyone has a stake in the youth of the community. Ms. Sloan communicated that the River Forest Township is grateful to the River Forest Public Library, the River Forest Park District, and School Districts 90 and 200 for voting to renew their commitment to the Youth Interventionist Program, as well as thanking the Village of River Forest for its past years of support for the program. Ms. Sloan added that they were disappointed to learn that the Village of River Forest will no longer fund the Youth Interventionist Program, and surprised that this is an administrative decision and not one of public record. Ms. Sloan stated that the River Forest Township and the Youth Interventionist Program will continue to work closely with the River Forest Police and also remains committed to the ISearch Program believing that partnerships are the most effective way to fund programs to keep youth safe. Ms. Sloan concluded by thanking everyone present and stating that she is happy to answer any questions and discuss this issue should anyone wish to do so.

Richard Barrett of 900 Franklin shared that he has been a resident of River Forest since 1986, and that he serves as a River Forest representative on the Township Youth Committee. Mr. Barrett agrees with Ms. Sloan's comments and added that it is a good program, and that specifically the Youth Interventionist Program is moving in some very interesting directions including assistance in addressing high levels of stress for kids who have experienced violence. Mr. Barrett reported that the Youth Interventionist Program was established in the early 1990's

in response to a large increase in gang violence. Mr. Barrett stated that there is a similar increase in gang violence on the west side of Chicago now, and that this is a bad time to cut services and programs like this.

President Adduci thanked both Carla Sloan and Richard Barrett for their comments.

3. ELECTED OFFICIALS COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Corsini stated she attended the June 28, 2018 public hearing for the Lake and Lathrop project. She stated she is hopeful they can work through a process and have a project that everyone can agree on that will be a positive addition to the community. She pledged her support to make sure that happens, and noted that she appreciated everyone's passion and attendance at the meetings. She encouraged residents to continue to provide feedback so that Village Board of Trustees will be aware of all comments and concerns as they deliberate on this project.

Trustee Corsini stated that there has been more solicitor activity recently and asked Chief O'Shea to discuss the matter. She also reminded everyone that there are "no solicitors" stickers available at Village Hall. Chief O'Shea reviewed the registration, permitting and identification requirements outlined in the Village's Ordinance. He stated that solicitors who do not follow the requirements may receive a local ordinance citation which requires a court appearance. He also encouraged residents to call 9-1-1 if they feel threatened or intimidated by a solicitor. He stated the Police Department is looking into a recent Facebook post regarding an incident with a solicitor.

Trustee Cargie discussed an interaction with a solicitor who was attempting to sell a product for a rate that was not listed on the literature. Trustee Brand-White stated she experienced something similar and noted that the solicitor presented a Village permit but that she did not know whether or not it was valid. In response to a request from President Adduci, Chief O'Shea discussed how to identify a legitimate solicitor.

Trustee Corsini stated that there is a solicitor in the community who has been asking residents to show their electric bills. Chief O'Shea cautioned that for safety, residents should not step away from an open door to retrieve documents while there is a solicitor present. In response to a follow-up question from Trustee Corsini, Chief O'Shea stated he would have to verify how long a solicitor's permit is valid.

Chief O'Shea responded to discussion regarding putting a copy of the permit online, stating that he would investigate that possibility, and that the Police Department will be posting the name of the groups that do currently hold River Forest Solicitation Permits.

Trustee Cargie reported that his son's bike was stolen in Forest Park, and complimented Officer Czernik's professionalism and kindness in taking the report and addressing the matter. Chief O'Shea thanked him for his comments.

Trustee Vazquez reported on his work with the Imagine OPRF work group, and shared that the committee has narrowed down the designs to two, and presented those to the District 200 board.

Trustee Vazquez stated that the next goal of the group will be to narrow the choices down to one design and then begin working on a budget by mid-August.

Trustee Henek stated she also attended the Lake and Lathrop public hearing and thanked residents for their comments. She said she is looking forward to a development that works for and is a benefit to the community.

Trustee Gibbs stated one of his friends was involved in a car break-in earlier this summer. He said the victim and his family complimented the River Forest Police Officer who was dispatched to help the family. Chief O'Shea thanked him for his comments.

President Adduci stated that she and Trustee Corsini met with Heidi Voorhees of GovHR who is working to recruit the next Finance Director as a result of Joan Rock's pending retirement.

President Adduci also reported that she and Village Administrator Palm also met with Eric Wagner, the new President and CEO of Visit Oak Park, which serves as a regional office for the Illinois Office of Tourism. She said it actually includes many western suburbs including River Forest, although Oak Park provides a significant amount of funds for the agency. She stated that Mr. Wagner will make a presentation to the Village Board of Trustees at a future meeting regarding how the organization can benefit River Forest.

A. Presentation from West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center (WSCDC)

Brian Staunton, Executive Director of the West Suburban Consolidated Dispatch Center, reviewed the history of the public safety dispatch center. He stated WSCDC currently dispatches for the communities of Elmwood Park, Forest Park, Oak Park, Park Ridge police department, and River Forest, and reviewed their staffing levels. He stated they answered over 150,000 calls in 2017, over 65,000 of which were 9-1-1 calls. Of those calls 83% were wireless and 17% were landline calls.

In response to a question from President Adduci, Mr. Staunton described the purpose of WEDGE, as WSCDC also dispatches for them. Chief O'Shea reported that WEDGE stands for the West Suburban Enhanced Drug and Gang Enforcement.

Mr. Staunton continued to describe the professional licensing required of his staff. He discussed the certifications of the telecommunicators at the agency and the additional training they receive. He also described the quality assurance that the Center performs. He invited everyone to call him with any questions they might have, and welcomed anyone who wishes to tour the facility to make an appointment to do so.

In response to a question from Trustee Cargie, Mr. Staunton reviewed the events surrounding a call WSCDC received regarding 100 people who had gathered in the Forest Preserve and the subsequent training and process modifications the Center has conducted to ensure that proper notifications are made to the River Forest Police Department in the future.

In response to a question from Trustee Conti, Mr. Staunton discussed improvements in cellular technology, and the Center's systems to improve their ability to identify the location of a caller.

In response to a question from Trustee Corsini, Mr. Staunton discussed his future vision for the Center. Mr. Staunton stated that he is open to the idea of adding communities and discussed recent and possible future state laws that have driven and could drive consolidation. He stated expansion of the agency would require additional space needs.

President Adduci stated that the Village would like to see expansion into another facility and Mr. Staunton agreed. In response to a follow-up question from President Adduci, Mr. Staunton described the initial training and ongoing retraining programs WSCDC utilizes and the quality assurance his supervisory staff are required to conduct.

In response to a question from Trustee Corsini, Mr. Staunton described how telecommunicators are assigned to member communities.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Regular Village Board Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2018
- b. Executive Session Meeting Minutes – June 11, 2018
- c. Right-of-Way Encroachment Waiver and License Agreement – 315 Ashland – Lawn Sprinkler System
- d. Right-of-Way Encroachment Waiver and License Agreement – 847 Clinton Place – Lawn Sprinkler System
- e. Award Bid and Contract for 2018 Street Maintenance Program (Pavement Crack Sealing) to A.C. Pavement Striping, Co. for \$45,828.00
- f. Request for Minor Amendment to the Planned Development Permit for 1101-1111 Bonnie Brae – Construction Commencement Deadline – March 30, 2019 – Ordinance
- g. Extension of Lease through August 15, 2018 with Lutheran Child and Family Services for the property located at 7620 Madison, River Forest – Resolution
- h. Accounts Payable – May 2018 - \$1,632,962.08
- i. Financial Report – May 2018
- j. Village Administrator's Report

Trustee Gibbs made a motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to approve the Consent Agenda.

In response to a question from Trustee Cargie, Village Administrator Palm stated that they can discuss the future of the Lutheran Child and Family Services property in a future Executive Session.

Village Administrator Palm stated that they need to remove item G from the Consent Agenda as Trustee Vazquez will abstain from voting on that item due to a common law conflict of interest.

Trustee Gibbs amended his motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to approve the Consent Agenda items a-f and h-j.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Henek, Vazquez, Gibbs, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

5. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE CONSIDERATION

- a. Accounts Payable – May 2018 – TIF-Madison Street Fund (\$1,242.67) and TIF-North Avenue Fund (\$5,770.00)
- g. Extension of Lease through August 15, 2018 with Lutheran Child and Family Services for the property located at 7620 Madison, River Forest – Resolution

Trustee Corsini made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cargie, to approve payments to the TIF-Madison Street Fund (\$1,242.67) and TIF-North Avenue Fund (\$5,770.00).

Trustee Vazquez stated that he is abstaining from the vote due to a common law conflict of interest.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Corsini, Gibbs, and Henek

Absent: None

Nays: None

Abstain: Trustee Vazquez

Motion Passes.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS OF BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

- a. Development Review Board – Amendment to Concordia University Chicago Planned Unit Development Permit – Verizon Wireless/Garage Height – Ordinance

Trustee Gibbs made a motion, seconded by Trustee Cargie, to pass an Ordinance Granting a Major Amendment to Planned Development Permit for 7400 Augusta Street (Concordia University Cellular Antenna Sites on Parking Garage).

Glen Steiner, Assistant Vice President for Administration at Concordia University, stated the purpose of the requested amendment is to improve Verizon cellular service in the area which will benefit not only students and faculty, but also the entire community. He said addition of the stealth enclosure will increase the height of the southeast corner of the parking structure on Concordia's campus from 44' to approximately 54'. Mr. Steiner presented renderings of the parking structure with the new enclosure, and stated that the new antenna and enclosure will result in the elimination of one parking place in the structure but that it will be replaced with another parking place elsewhere on campus. Mr. Steiner stated that the project will not adversely impact surrounding property values, it will not increase demand on Village services, will improve Police Department communications, and that Verizon has the financial capacity to complete the project.

Trustee Cargie stated that as a Concordia neighbor and Verizon customer he hopes they get this done sooner rather than later.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Henek, Vazquez, Gibbs, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion passes.

- b. Development Review Board – Amendment to Concordia University Chicago Planned Unit Development Permit – West Annex/Christopher Center Link – Ordinance

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee Vazquez, to pass an Ordinance Granting a Major Amendment to Planned Development Permit for 7400 Augusta Street (Concordia University Covered Pedestrian Walkway).

Mr. Steiner stated that they recently renovated the West Annex and a donor stepped forward to fund a covered pedestrian walkway connecting the West Annex and Christopher Center. He reviewed the benefits of the covered walkway, described its size and the building materials that will be used to construct it. He stated that the link is approximately 300' from the street and is interior to the campus. He stated it will require the removal of one tree and the tree will be replaced in kind on campus. He presented a rendering of the link.

In response to a question from Trustee Corsini regarding ADA accessibility, Mr. Steiner said the connection does not accommodate ADA for either structure. However, there are other ADA accessible entryways for each building and this structure cannot accommodate them. In response to President Adduci's concern regarding the need for ADA accessibility, Mr. Steiner stated that he does not disagree that it is needed, but that for this project it is cost prohibitive. Trustee Corsini stated that she is disappointed that ADA accessibility cannot be accommodated. Trustee Gibbs discussed the construction requirements, and that a 48' ramp would be needed.

President Adduci asked that the Village look at its code to require enhanced accessibility for people with disabilities. There was a brief discussion regarding other possible ways to introduce accessible amenities at this project location.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Henek, Vazquez, and Gibbs

Absent: None

Nays: Corsini

Motion passes.

- c. Appointment to the Sustainability Commission – Andrew Basney (Vacancy Due to Resignation of Mary Masella) – Term ending April 30, 2019

Trustee Gibbs made a motion, seconded by Trustee Henek, to concur with the recommendation of the Village President for the appointment of Andrew Basney to the Sustainability Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2019.

President Adduci and Trustee Gibbs both thanked Mr. Basney and his family for attending the meeting.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Henek, Vazquez, Gibbs, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

- d. Appointment to the Historic Preservation Commission – Owen Dowling (Vacancy due to resignation of Tom Zurowski) – Term

Trustee Cargie made a motion, seconded by Trustee Conti, to concur with the recommendation of the Village President for the appointment of Owen Dowling to the Historic Preservation Commission for a term expiring April 30, 2019.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Henek, Vazquez, Gibbs, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Amend Title 8 of the Village Code Relative to the Permitting, Regulation and Deployment of Small Cell Wireless Facilities – Ordinance

Trustee Corsini made a motion, seconded by Trustee Conti, to pass an ordinance amending the Village Code of the Village of River Forest relative to the permitting, regulation and deployment of small wireless facilities; and, authorize the Village Administrator to file an application for a zoning text amendment to make small wireless technology as a special use on all properties not in the C-1 zoning district.

President Adduci read the following statement into the record.

On tonight's agenda is an item relating to small cell regulations. This ordinance, that the Village Board of Trustees will consider tonight, is another regulation, another unfunded mandate foisted upon us by the legislature in Springfield. It is the direct result of the lobbying efforts of AT&T to ensure that they are able to carry out, to their for-profit business plan, with as much case and little regulation as possible, at the tax payers' expense. Now the Village of River Forest supports new and emerging technologies. We always will. We want our residences and businesses to be on the forefront of these innovative efforts. But not at the tax payers expense. The Bill, SB (Senate Bill) 1451, which required us to adopt this ordinance in a mere matter of months, does not look out for the interests of the tax payers, but rather companies like AT&T. AT&T could have worked with groups like the Illinois Municipal League, and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to negotiate a better model ordinance or templates that benefit both parties. AT&T could have also negotiated individual agreements that provide mutual benefits to both their company and the municipality. Instead, they pushed through a bill in Springfield that benefits their company first and puts the tax payers second. As a non-home rule community, and this is important, as a non-home rule community, we have no choice but to accept this or look for alternative solutions; a bitter pill to swallow. This bill, Senate Bill 1451, provides the Village with few regulations on where small cell

antennas can actually be placed. While we have some ability to regulate the design of the antenna, the majority of these regulations benefit AT&T. So it is important that our residents know that we are limited, and this is really important, that we are limited in what we can do with small cells. They will end up on our light poles and our utility poles, and if you are not happy with small cells being all over our community on our light poles and in our parkways, then I encourage you to contact our state legislature and our Governor. Now I will tell you this. Our State Representative here in River Forest, Chis Welch, voted “no”, so he listened to all of you, the tax payers, and all of us, the Trustees and I, about how bad this bill was for us, and he voted “no”. Unfortunately, our Senator did not. She voted “yes”. So, as we go about in making this decision tonight I just want to let you know that we’re doing the fight here at the table and we need good people in the state legislature to fight for all of us as well.

President Adduci then opened up the discussion for comments from the Trustees.

Trustee Cargie stated his understanding was that the bill only exempted the City of Chicago and that it would affect all home rule and non-home rule Villages. President Adduci replied it might be a constitutional issue because of the way in which it was voted. Village Attorney Smith stated that the state law was not passed by 3/5 of both houses. President Adduci emphasized that as a non-home rule community we have very little say, whereas if we were home ruled we would have more influence on how this will work.

President Adduci stated that she wants River Forest residents to understand that this is coming in the near future.

In response to a comment from Trustee Corsini, Village Administrator Palm stated that design standards will be on the agenda for the August Village Board of Trustees meeting and that the Board is also authorizing the Village Administrator to proceed with a hearing on a zoning amendment to identify small cell technology as a special use in all zoning districts except the C-1 District where the Village is required to allow it as a permitted use.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Henek, Conti, Gibbs, Vazquez, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Gibbs made a motion seconded by Trustee Conti, to adjourn the Special Village Board of Trustees Meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Roll call:

Ayes: Trustees Cargie, Conti, Henek, Gibbs, Vazquez, and Corsini

Absent: None

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

Kathleen Brand-White, Village Clerk