

**AGENDA**  
**SPECIAL RULES MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**HELD REMOTELY**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE POSTED AT THE VILLAGE HALL**  
**350 VICTORY DRIVE**  
**PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

**Conference Call**

**7:00 p.m.**

**January 19, 2021**

**Roll Call**

1. Award Fiscal 2021 Residential Water Shut Off Valve Replacement Contract
2. A Resolution Authorizing the Sale by Public Auction of Personal Property owned by the Village of Park Forest

Mayor's Comments

Manager's Comments

Trustee's Comments

Attorney's Comments

Clerk Comments

Audience to Visitors\*

Adjournment

**NOTE – DUE TO COVID-19,**  
**THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

**\*Public comment can be sent prior to the phone conference Board Meeting via email to [tmick@vopf.com](mailto:tmick@vopf.com) by 3 pm the day of the meeting and public comments will be read during the public meeting**

**\*\*A record of all action (if any) taken during the Board Meeting will be made available upon request. Copies of Agenda Items are Available on the Village website at [www.villageofparkforest.com](http://www.villageofparkforest.com)**

## **AGENDA BRIEFING**

**DATE:** January 11, 2021

**TO:** Mayor Vanderbilt  
Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Nicholas Christie – Assistant Village Engineer - DPW

**RE:** Amended Award for Fiscal 2021 Residential Water Shut Off Valve Replacement Contract

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

Often, DPW is required to turn of water to residential homes by using the water valve on the outside service line, commonly referred to as a b-box. However, as the Village ages, these valves will occasionally not function for a variety of reasons including seizure from non-use and ground shift. In these cases, DPW will need to replace the valves.

For many years, there was an excessive list of b-boxes needing replacement that staff could not keep up with. So, in the spring of 2016, it was decided to start to contract out some of this work. In May 2020, the Village entered into a contract with Calumet City Plumbing to replace b-boxes in approximately 65 locations. This work was projected to take the entire fiscal year. However, as of this briefing, this projected volume of work has been completed.

Recently, staff went through a thorough review of our records. The contractual work, as well as work done by staff, has dropped the volume of required b-box replacements dramatically. At the current time, only 80 locations still need to be replaced. This is hundreds less than where we were at in 2016 and shows the progress that this program has had. Please note that the locations remaining represent only what is known today. DPW will continually find new boxes that need to be replaced when the valves need to be turned.

However, we are only 6 months into the fiscal year, and our contract authorization has been almost entirely expensed. With the known 80 locations still remaining, DPW would like to continue to replace b-boxes through the spring. It is believed that the Contractor could replace approximately 52 more locations in Fiscal 2021 and we seek the additional authorization for this work.

On Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 2:30 p.m., the Department of Public Works opened 3 bids for the Fiscal 2021 Residential Water Shut off Valve Replacement Contract. Invitations to bid were published in the Daily Southtown Newspaper and on our website. A total of 10 qualified bidders requested access to view the Bid documents. Calumet City Plumbing., located in Calumet City, IL, was the lowest bidder. See attached Bid Tab. The additional authorization will utilize the previously awarded bid unit prices.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Amend the Award of 2021 Residential Water Shut off Valve Replacement contract to Calumet City Plumbing, located in Calumet City, IL, to total cost not to exceed \$226,380. This is \$88,880 more than the previous authorization of \$137,500. DPW believes that enough savings exist in the Fiscal 2021 water fund budget to enable this expense without the need of a budget amendment.

**SCHEDULE FOR CONSIDERATION:** This item will appear on the Agenda of the Special Rules meeting of January 19th for your discussion.

			Gino's Heating/ Plumbing 2840 South 12th Ave. Broadview, IL 60155		Calumet City Plumbing 281 River Oaks Drive Calumet City, IL 60409		M & J Underground 26603 S. Governors Hwy. Monee, IL 60449	
	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price	Unit Price	Total Price
Single Water Shut Replacement	25	EA.	\$5,168.00	\$129,200.00	\$1,890.00	\$47,250.00	\$2,100.00	\$52,500.00
Duel Water Shut Replacement	40	EA.	\$5,944.00	\$237,760.00	\$1,995.00	\$79,800.00	\$2,225.00	\$89,000.00
			Total	\$366,960.00	Total	\$127,050.00	Total	\$141,500.00

**Addition to Contract**

	Replaced to Date				Approx. Addition to Contract				Approx. Total of Fiscal 2021			
	Quantity	Unit	Contract Price	Total Spent	Approx. Quantity	Unit	Contract Price	Add. Cost	Approx. Quantity	Unit	Contract Price	Total Price
Single Water Shut Replacement	36	EA.	\$1,890.00	\$68,040.00	31	EA.	\$1,890.00	\$58,590.00	67	EA.	\$1,890.00	\$126,630.00
Duel Water Shut Replacement	29	EA.	\$1,995.00	\$57,855.00	21	EA.	\$1,995.00	\$41,895.00	50	EA.	\$1,995.00	\$99,750.00
Total Locations	65		Total	\$125,895.00	52		Total	\$100,485.00	117		Total	\$226,380.00

Prior Authorization \$137,500.00

Additional Request \$88,880.00

## **AGENDA BRIEFING**

**DATE:** January 4, 2021

**TO:** Mayor Jonathan Vanderbilt  
Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Tom Mick, Village Manager

**RE:** **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST**

### **BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:**

The attached resolution provides authority for the Village of Park Forest to participate in an upcoming auto auction at which time 9 vehicles or pieces of equipment will be sold. The below listed vehicles/equipment will be auctioned using America's Auto Auction in Crestwood. This organization is a preferred auction vendor as selected by the SSMMA. If America's Auto Auction does not receive ample interest for any of the items being disposed, other on-line auction or sale outlets will be explored.

### **Police Department Vehicles:**

Of the vehicles listed below, three served consecutively as police patrol vehicles, then administrative vehicles, and two of them were most recently utilized by the Building Department for the past several years. The vehicles have exceeded their mechanical limits for Village purposes and include a 2011 Ford Crown Victoria with 130,000 miles, a 2013 Ford Explorer with nearly 103,000 miles and a 2009 Dodge Durango with 134,000 miles.

### **Public Works Vehicles:**

Three vehicles being disposed of served Public Works Department operations. The vehicles were used as either administrative/field supervision, day to day operations and/or regular construction use. There was no trade-in value for these Public Works vehicles upon purchase of their replacements and include a 1994 6-Wheeler (28,300 miles), a 2008 Ford F-250 (121,900 miles) and a 2008 Ford Ranger (138,500 miles).

### **Recreation, Parks & Community Health:**

Dated equipment from parks operations includes a 1987 Ford 6610 tractor/mower with an estimated 54,500 hours of use time, a 1975 Ford F3550 tractor with more than 52,100 hours of use time, and a 1995 Ryan GA-30 aerator.

### **SCHEDULE FOR CONSIDERATION:**

This item will appear on the Special Rules Meeting agenda of January 19, 2021 for Board discussion.

**Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION  
OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST**

- Whereas,** Article VII, Section of the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and Chapter 17/27, paragraph 741-748 of the Illinois Revised Statutes, authorize and encourage intergovernmental cooperation; and
- Whereas,** in the opinion of a majority of the corporate authorities of the Village of Park Forest, it is no longer necessary, useful, or in the best interest of said jurisdiction to retain ownership of the personal property hereinafter described; and
- Whereas,** it has been determined by the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Park Forest; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Mayor and Board of Trustees:

- SECTION ONE:** Pursuant to Chapter 65, Section 5/11-76-4 of the Illinois Compiled Statute the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Park Forest find the personal property described in Attachment A now owned by said jurisdiction would be best served by the property's sale.
- SECTION TWO:** The Village Manager for the Village of Park Forest is hereby authorized to direct the sale of the aforementioned personal property at America's Auto Auction in Crestwood or other on-line auction service providers.
- SECTION THREE:** The Village Manager is hereby authorized to direct the America's Auto Auction to advertise the sale of the aforementioned personal property through area newspapers, direct mailings, and other channels deemed appropriate prior to the date of said auction.
- SECTION FOUR:** No bid shall be accepted for the sale of an item which is less than the minimum value set forth herein, unless the Manager or designees so authorizes at the time of auction.
- SECTION FIVE:** Upon full payment of the auctioned price for the aforesaid items of personal property by the highest bidder, the Manager is authorized to direct America's Auto Auction to convey and transfer the title and ownership of said personal property to the bidder.
- SECTION SIX:** this resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by a vote of a majority of the corporate authorities, and approval in the manner by law.

**PASSED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Clerk

## Attachment A

<u>Year</u>	<u>Vehicle Make/Model</u>	<u>Vehicle Ident. Number</u>	<u>Miles/Hours (approx.)</u>
2011	Ford Crown Victoria	2FABP7BV98X166761	130,000
2013	Ford Explorer	1FM5K8AR20GC16324	102,861
2009	Dodge Durango	1D8HB38P39F715284	134,000
1994	International 6 Wheeler	1HTSHAAR1RH602699	28,307
2008	Ford F250 ¾ Ton	1FTSX20568EA18450	121,963
2008	Ford Ranger XL	1FTYR14U98PB00273	138,589
1987	Ford 6610 tractor/mower		54,500 hours
1975	Ford F3550 tractor		52,100 hours
1995	Ryan GA-30 aerator		



**AGENDA  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HELD REMOTELY  
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTED AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
350 VICTORY DRIVE, PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

**CONFERENCE CALL**

**7:00 p.m.**

**January 19, 2021**

Roll Call

Reports of Village Officers

Mayor

Village Attorney

Village Manager

Village Clerk

Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons

Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions\*

Motion: Approval of Consent

CONSENT:

1. Motion: A Motion to approve the minutes of the Rules meeting of November 23, 2020, the Regular meeting of November 23, 3030, the Rules meeting of December 7, 2020 and the Regular meeting of December 14, 2020

Appointments

DEBATABLE:

Adjournment

**NOTE – DUE TO COVID-19**

**THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

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## MOTIONS

MOVED that the Consent Agenda and each item contained therein be hereby approved:

1. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Rules meeting of November 23, 2020, the Regular meeting of November 23, 2020, the Rules meeting of December 7, 2020 and the Regular meeting of December 14, 2020

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Ann LaFrance, 351 Merrimac Street, to a term on the Veterans Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint David Young, 305 Waldmann Street, to a term on the Veterans Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Michele Johnson, 139 Nashua Street, to a term on the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Harold Peake, 40 Cedar Street, to a term on the Cable Communications Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Lynn Murphy, 20 Bailey Street, to a term on the Cable Communications Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Michael Warren, 101 Monee Road, to a term on the Cable Communications Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Latesha Newson, 14 Bigelow Road, to a term on the Commission on Human Relations to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Cerritha Price, 236 Tampa Street, to a term on the Commission on Human Relations to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Maurae Gilbert McCants, 114 Algonquin, to a term on the Economic Development Advisory Group to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Joanna Tassin, 318 Springfield, to a term on the Environment Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Dennis McMurray, 236 Marquette Street, to a term on the Environment Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Michelle Hoffer, 470 Talala Street, to a term on the Environment Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Anthony Miles, 151 Main Street, to a term on the Housing Authority Board to expire on December 31, 2025.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Denise Moore, 511 Blair Street, to a term on the Housing Authority Board to expire on December 31, 2025.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Cynthia Burton-Prete, 324 Sauk Trail, to a term on the Planning and Zoning Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Marguerite Hutchins, 224 Illinois Street, to a term on the Planning and Zoning Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Samuel Brooks, 19 Abbey Lane, to a term on the Planning and Zoning Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Michael Adami, 345 Winnebago Street, to a term on the Recreation & Parks Advisory Board to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Andre Graham, 364 Oakwood, to a term on the Recreation & Parks Advisory Board to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Robbie Johns, 139 Elm Street, to a term on the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Lenora McWhorter, 69 Park Street, to a term on the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission to expire on December 31, 2023.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Susan Blatchford as Chairperson for the Beautification Awards Committee, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Michele Johnson as Chairperson for the Fire & Police Commission/Personnel Board, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Mamie Rodgers as Vice Chair for the Fire & Police Commission/Personnel Board, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Daniel Karwatka as Chairperson for the Cable Communications Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Rickey Williams as Vice Chair for the Cable Communications Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Marvin Holman, as Chairperson for the Commission on Human Relations, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Monray Larry, as Vice Chair for the Commission on Human Relations, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Phillip Perkins as Chairperson for the Economic Development Advisory Group, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Mike Jordan as Vice Chair for the Economic Development Advisory Group, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Julie Baker as Chairperson for the Environment Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint David Bartlett as Vice Chair for the Environment Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Dr. Gayles Evans as Chairperson for the Housing Authority, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Denise Moore as Vice Chair for the Housing Authority, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Vernita Wickliffe-Lewis as Chairperson for the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Marguerite Hutchins as Vice Chair for the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Michael Adami as Chairperson for the Recreation & Parks Advisory Board, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Andre Graham as Vice Chair for the Recreation & Parks Advisory Board, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Robbie Johns, as Chairperson for the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Theodore Reich, as Vice Chairperson for the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Vernice Warren as Chairperson for the Youth Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Lemekia Davis as Vice Chair for the Youth Commission, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Michelle Broughton-Fountain as Adjudication Hearing Officer, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Felicia Frazier as Adjudication Hearing Officer, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint Marco Resendiz as Adjudication Hearing Officer, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees reappoint John Russell as Adjudication Hearing Officer, for a term ending on December 31, 2021.

January 19, 2021

**VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST**

**RULES MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HELD REMOTELY  
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTED AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
350 VICTORY DRIVE  
PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

**CONFERENCE CALL**

**7:00 p.m.**

**November 23 2020**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Joseph Woods, Trustee Maya Hardy, Trustee Candyce Herron, and Trustee Glenna Hennessy

**ABSENT:** Mayor Jonathan Vanderbilt

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Christopher Mannino, Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok, Village Attorney Ross Secler, Deputy Village Manager Mark Pries, Director of Economic Development and Planning Hildy Kingma, Assistant Director of Recreation and Parks Kevin Adams, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Director of Public Relations Jason Miller, Code Enforcement Manager Jerry Martin, and IT Coordinator Craig Kaufman

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** none

**RECORDER:** Village Clerk Sheila McGann

**Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Roll was called by Clerk McGann. Due to Mayor Vanderbilt's absence, Trustee Settles was appointed Mayor Pro Tem.

**1. An Ordinance of the Village of Park Forest amending an Intergovernmental Agreement with the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority Regarding the Acquisition and Disposition of certain vacant properties through abandonment proceedings**

Manager Mick said this item is out of Economic Development and Planning Department. The existing intergovernmental agreement has to be amended to include additional properties. Director Kingma explained the agreement between the South Suburban Land Bank Development Authority and the Village. This agreement adds the qualified properties where their property tax and/or water bills are in arrears for two years and vacant. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. When Trustee Hennessy asked if all the properties are to be rehabbed or demolished, Director Kingma said one or two may demolished which is the responsibility of the Land Bank. She is working with the Land Bank to rehab as many as possible using grant money to make them more marketable. Director Kingma said the Land Bank are holding 8-10 houses, 3 are owned by Park Forest, and the Land Bank sold 9. Hearing no other questions, this item will be on the agenda at tonight's Regular Meeting.

**2. Contract with KLF Enterprises, Inc. to demolish three vacant houses in the Eastgate**

## **Neighborhood**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Economic Development and Planning Department. Director Kingma explained the bidding process for demolition of three blighted houses in Eastgate. This will be done through the Abandoned Property Program grant which was awarded in 2019. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments. When Trustee Woods asked how many other properties are considered blighted, Director Kingma said eight to ten more but they have to qualify for them to be acquired. Hearing no other questions or comments, this item will be on the agenda for action at the December 14 Regular Meeting.

### **3. A Resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Park Forest and Land Conservancy District of Will County**

Manager Mick said this item is from the Economic Development and Planning Department. Director Kingma explained that the Land Conservancy of Will County and the Conservation Foundation are merging and are disposing of some properties. There are three properties adjacent to properties owned by the Village near to Thorn Creek and are not developable. This resolution allows for them to be conveyed to the Village and will allow better access to Thorn Creek. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments. When Trustee Hardy asked liability, Director Kingma explained that if any trees fell and blocked the creek, the Village would take care of it. Hearing no other questions, this item will be on the agenda for action at the December 14 Regular Meeting.

### **4. A Resolution adopting an estimated 2020 property tax levy**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Finance Department and the Manager's Office. He noted that state law requires that public notice of property tax levy discussions has been given twenty days before the final vote, which is scheduled to be on December 14. Director Pries explained that the first step in the process is to adopt a tax levy estimate. The combined areas that go into the tax levy was discussed in October meeting: salaries, bonds and interest, FICA, IMRF and Police and Fire pensions and the library levy. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions. This item will be on for approval with tonight's regular meeting.

### **5. A Resolution authorizing the donation of personal property owned by the Village of Park Forest**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Police Department. Chief Mannino explained the watch commander's vehicle, a 2011 Ford Expedition, is at the end of its useful life. Usually it would go to auction, but the Police Department would like to donate it to the Rich Township Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management as they assist the Village of Park Forest in many ways. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, this item will be on the agenda for action at the December 14 Regular Meeting.

### **6. Acquisition of Two 2021 Ford Utility SUV Police Interceptors**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Police Department and is part of the annual budget and the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative (SPC). Chief Mannino said the two vehicles will be purchased through Currie Motors. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions. When Trustee Hardy asked what year are the vehicles being replaced, Chief Mannino said they were 2015 with one at 100,000 miles and the other at 102,000 miles. Hearing no other questions

or comments or questions, this item will be on the agenda for action at the December 14 Regular Meeting.

**7. A Resolution authorizing the execution of the 2021 Service Provider Agreement to engage in Public Transportation Services with PACE**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Public Works Department. Director Ysagarrie said this is an annual agreement with PACE and the Jolly Trolley, with no fare increases but some service reductions as PACE subsidy and ridership were lower. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Hearing none, this item will be on the agenda for action at tonight's Regular Meeting.

**8. Fiscal Year 2021 Sewer Cleaning and TV Contract**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Public Works Department regarding annual sewer cleaning. Director Ysagarrie explained the bidding process for this project. Six bids were received and staff recommends awarding the contract to National Power Rodding who was the lowest bidder and has done similar work in Park Forest earlier this year. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Hearing none, this item will be on the agenda for action on the December 14 Regular Meeting.

**9. 2020-2021 Street Salt Purchase**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Public Works Department, road salt purchase. Director Ysaguirre said the Village participates in a program with the State of Illinois that allows for multiple agencies to pool together and purchase a higher volume at a lower unit price. This year the Village's salt provider will continue to be Cargill Inc. of North Olmsted, Ohio. Staff recommends purchasing the maximum of 2,100 tons of road salt for the 2020-2021 winter season. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. When Trustee Herron asked if there was any salt left over from last year, Director Ysaguirre said that there was 1,050 tons of salt left over. Hearing no other questions, this item will be on the agenda for action at the December 14 Regular meeting.

**Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Pro Tem Settles dispensed with the comments section of the agenda until the regular meeting.

**Manager's Comments**

**Trustee's Comments**

**Attorney's Comments**

**Clerk Comments**

**Audience to Visitors**

As per the agenda posting, public comments were to be sent to Manager Mick by 3p.m. of the day of the meeting and would be read at the meeting. None were received. (See below)

## **Adjournment**

This concluded the Rules Board meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Pro Tem Settles called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee Woods, seconded by Trustee Hardy and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting was adjourned following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Absent: 1

The meeting was adjourned with six (6) ayes, no (0) nays, and one (1) absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Settles adjourned the regular meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila McGann  
Village Clerk

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**CONFERENCE CALL**

**7:00 p.m.**

**November 23 2020**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Joseph Woods, Trustee Maya Hardy, Trustee Candyce Herron, and Trustee Glenna Hennessy

**ABSENT:** Mayor Jonathan Vanderbilt

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Christopher Mannino, Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok, Village Attorney Ross Secler, Deputy Village Manager Mark Pries, Director of Economic Development and Planning Hildy Kingma, Assistant Director of Recreation and Parks Kevin Adams, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Director of Public Relations Jason Miller, Code Enforcement Manager Jerry Martin, and IT Coordinator Craig Kaufman

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** None

**RECORDER:** Village Clerk Sheila McGann

**Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:43 pm. Roll was called by Clerk McGann. Due to Mayor Vanderbilt's absence, Trustee Settles was appointed Mayor Pro Tem.

**Reports of Village Officers**

**Mayor**

Mayor was absent.

**Village Attorney**

No report

**Village Manager**

Manager Mick offered condolences to Community Health Coordinator Margaret Lewis and family on the passing of her mother and Public Works Superintendent Brett Millsap and his family on the passing of his father-in-law. He noted that on November 20, Illinois was at Tier 3 with new restrictions now in place. Any complaints of violations will be investigated. All programs from the Recreations and Parks Department have been paused due to Covid restrictions. Although the Holiday Tree Lighting has been canceled, there will be reindeer and several opportunities for holiday selfies on Saturday, December 12, from noon to 3:00 pm. Park Forest was named one of 88 cities in the world named as climate leader by the Carbon

Disclosure Project. Park Forest is proud of this accomplishment due to the Village's sustainability efforts over the past few years. Happy birthday to Trustee Settles.

**Village Clerk**

Clerk McGann reported on petition packets for Village Trustee and Library Board Trustee for the Consolidated Election April 6, 2021. Packets are available in the Manager's Office.

**Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons**

The Trustees offered their condolences to the Lewis Family and the Millsap Family on their losses at the holiday season.

Trustee Herron reported that Recreation and Parks Commission met last week and will meet again Tuesday, December 15.

All the Trustees congratulated the Village on being named on the "A" list for Climate Leader and wished the residents a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions\***

As per the agenda posting, public comments were to be sent to Manager Mick by 3p.m. of the day of the meeting and would be read at the meeting. None were received. (See below)

**Motion: Approval of Consent**

**CONSENT:**

MOVED that the Consent Agenda and each item contained therein be hereby approved:

**1. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve a Resolution adopting an estimated 2020 Property Tax Levy.**

**2. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve a Resolution to enter into a 2021 Para-Transit Service Provider Agreement with PACE.**

Approval of the consent agenda was moved by Trustee Herron and seconded by Trustee Graham. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if anyone wished any items be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, a roll call vote was called by Mayor Pro Tem Settles on the motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda was approved with the following results:

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1

The consent agenda was adopted with six (6) ayes, no (0) nays and one (1) absent.

**DEBATABLE:**

**3. Ordinance: An Ordinance of the Village of Park Forest amending an Intergovernmental Agreement with the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority Regarding the Acquisition and Disposition of certain vacant properties through abandonment proceedings (Final Reading)**

Move for adoption of the ordinance was motioned by Trustee Woods and seconded by Trustee Hardy. The ordinance was moved and seconded to adopt this ordinance at final reading. Mayor Pro Tem Settles asked if there were any questions or comments. None being heard, she called for a roll call vote by Clerk McGann. The ordinance was approved following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1

The ordinance was adopted with six (6) ayes, no (0) nays, and one (1) absent.

**4. Ordinance: An Ordinance Levying taxes for all corporate purposes for the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, for fiscal year beginning on the first day of July, 2021 and ending on the thirtieth of June, 2020 (First Reading)**

This item has had first reading and will be on the agenda for discussion at the December 7<sup>th</sup> Rules Meeting and action at the December 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting.

**5. Ordinance: An Ordinance to Abate a portion of the 2020 Tax Levy for the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois (Tax Levy Abatement Ordinance) (First Reading)**

This item has had first reading and will be on the agenda for discussion at the December 7<sup>th</sup> Rules Meeting and action at the December 14<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting.

**Adjournment**

This concluded the regular Board meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Pro Tem Settles called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee Graham, seconded by Trustee Herron and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

The meeting was adjourned following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 1

The meeting was adjourned with six (6) ayes, no (0) nays, and one (1) absent.

Mayor Pro Tem Settles adjourned the regular meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila McGann  
Village Clerk

**NOTE – DUE TO COVID-19  
THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

**\*Public, in-person attendance of the Meeting has been deemed unfeasible; All public comment can be sent prior to the phone conference Board Meeting, via email to [tmick@vopf.com](mailto:tmick@vopf.com), by 3 pm the day of the meeting; Public comments received via email will be read during the public meeting.**

**\*\*A record (verbatim recording) of all action (if any) taken during the Board Meeting in open session will be made available upon request.**

**\*\*\*This meeting will be broadcast live, and recorded, on the local cable access channels in Park Forest (channel 4 for Comcast subscribers & channel 4 for AT&T U-Verse subscribers) and will be streamed live, and subsequently archived, on the Village website at [www.villageofparkforest.com](http://www.villageofparkforest.com)**

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**VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST**

**RULES MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HELD REMOTELY  
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTED AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
350 VICTORY DRIVE  
PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

**Village Hall- Boardroom**

**7:00 p.m.**

**December 7, 2020**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Jonathan Vanderbilt, Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Joseph Woods, Trustee Maya Hardy, Trustee Candyce Herron, and Trustee Glenna Hennessy

**ABSENT:** none

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Christopher Mannino, Deputy Fire Chief Ryan Roberts, Village Attorney Leslie Kennedy, Finance Director Mark Pries, Director of Economic Development and Planning Department Hildy Kingma, Assistant Director of Economic Development and Planning Department Sandra Zoellner, Director of Recreation and Parks Rob Gunther, Director of Community Development, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Director of Public Relations Jason Miller, IT Coordinator Craig Kaufman, and Downtown Park Forest Property Business Manager Heather Jones

**RECORDER:** Village Clerk Sheila McGann

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Rick and Caryn Nesbitt, Vintrendi Wines; EDAG Chairman Phil Perkins; EDAG Commissioner Maurea Gilbert McCants; EDAG Commissioner Mercedes Gross; and EDAG Commissioner Kreshina Ingram

**Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Vanderbilt. Roll was called by Clerk McGann.

Mayor Vanderbilt began the meeting with the Sam Montello Business Person of the Year Award by introducing Assistant Director Zoellner. She noted that this year's reception would be done differently, virtually and socially distant for those in the Board Room. As board liaison to EDAG, Trustee Woods gave the history of the Business Person of the Year, renamed the Sam Montella Award in 2015. Nominations are accepted in September and the presentation of the award is in December. Rick Nesbitt of Vintrendi Wines, 339 Main Street, is the 2020 Sam Montella Business Person of the year recipient. Trustee Woods said Park Forest is fortunate to have Rick and Caryn Nesbitt as members of the Park Forest family. Chairperson Perkins presented the award and listed his many contributions in support of Park Forest and its businesses. Mr. Nesbitt thanked the Village and EDAG for this honor. While they started with wine and chocolate tasting, they have grown and happy to be here in Park Forest. The Mayor and each of the Trustees congratulated Mr. Nesbitt and thanked him for his dedication to the community. EDAG Commission members Maurea Gilbert McCants, Mercedes Gross, and

Kreshina Ingram were on hand to congratulate Mr. Nesbitt and noted his contributions to the community.

### **PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE TAX LEVY**

Mayor Vanderbilt called the Public Hearing regarding the tax levy to order at 7:22. Neither he nor Manager Mick received any comments from the public regarding the tax levy. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:23.

#### **1. Bid Proposal to Buildout 311 Main Street for new tenant, K Spot Bar & Grill, LLC**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Economic Development and Planning Department and the Downtown Property Management office. He said this was for a new business at 311 Main Street, a sports bar and grill, to do a vanilla boxing buildout prior to lease. After Property Manager Jones contacted the contractor regarding a slightly higher bid than permitted in the budget, he was able to reduce the price to be in line with the budget. Ms. Jones said the Manager had covered the details. Mayor Vanderbilt asked the Board if there were any questions or comments. When Trustee Woods asked if the level of noise from the bar and grill would interfere with Muzicnet, Ms. Jones said that the walls have sound boards and the businesses have different hours of operation. The sound from the new business would be TVs and music, no live bands. There were no other questions or comments from the Board.

#### **2. A Resolution Adopting the Holiday and Meeting Schedule for the Calendar Year 2021**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Manager's Office. He explained the Board's meeting schedule, meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays and the first Saturday of the month. The calendar takes into consideration national holidays, religious holidays, and summer and December meetings. Due to Labor Day and Rosh Hashanah in September 2021, he suggested that the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday meeting in September be moved to the second Monday in September. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Hearing no other questions, this item will be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 14.

#### **3. An Ordinance Levying taxes for all corporate purposes for the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, for fiscal year beginning on the first day of July, 2021 and ending on the thirtieth of June, 2022**

Manager Mick gave the background on the projected property tax levy increase at the financial update which was 3.15%. Options were looked at to reduce the increase as low as possible but still considering the needs of the Village. Director Pries worked through some changes to reduce the levy to .85%. Director Pries detailed where he found some savings, i.e. health insurance, and noted where budget items could not be lowered. He said the annual impact of this year's levy on a \$170,000 home would be a \$50 increase with a \$3-4 increase be \$10,000 value of the home. The levy addresses the operating expenses of the Village and Pension Funds contributions. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Trustees Hardy and Graham thanked Director Pries for his assistance in understanding the Village's financial needs. It was good to reduce the Village's tax levy to .85% to save money for the residents. Hearing no other questions or comments, this item will be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 14.

#### **4. An Ordinance to Abate a portion of the 2020 Tax Levy for the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Finance Department. He explained how the tax levy bonds are issued by the Village. He added that this is a separate ordinance so the County will not tax at the set level. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if there were any questions or comments from the Board. Hearing none, this item will be on the agenda for action at the Regular Board Meeting of December 14.

#### **Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Vanderbilt thanked the Veterans Commission, Trustee Settles, and Manager Mick for the wonderful work they did for the Veterans Day event. He attended a meeting where distribution of the Covid Vaccine, after approval, would be distributed at local hospitals was discussed. It is not a forced vaccine but anyone receiving it must be over 18. He wished Happy Hanukkah to those who celebrate.

#### **Manager's Comments**

Manager Mick provided detail on upcoming events and meetings. He also recognized the 2020 Sustainability Award winners and offered cautionary information about utility service scams and that residents should be mindful to not leave running vehicles unattended as they are attractive nuisances.

#### **Trustee's Comments**

All the Trustees congratulated Judge Nicole Patten as she was sworn in today as judge in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Trustee Settles reported that the Senior Citizen Advisory Commission met Thursday, December 3. They are updating their goals and are partnering with Oak Street Health regarding the needs of our seniors. There are openings on the Commission.

Trustee Hardy reported that the Commission on Human Relations will meet Tuesday, December 8 at 5:30. Also, the Planning and Zoning Commission will meet at 7:00 pm. She congratulated those who received the Sustainability Awards.

Trustee Graham said that the Youth Commission will skip their meeting this month and help the Commission on Human Relations with their deliveries. She said that the Environment Commission renamed the Sustainability Award in honor of former Trustee Katherine Armstrong. She said Joanna Taxon who did garden talks will be stepping down and thanked her for her work over the years. The garden talks will continue with Julie and Kate Baker as the instructors.

Trustee Hennessy said that she was glad Katie Armstrong was being honored with the Sustainability Award.

Trustee Herron reminded residents to wash their hands, wear a mask, and stay safe.

Trustee Woods acknowledged that the Village remembers residents who have served the community by name awards after them which shows a lot about the character of Park Forest.

### **Attorney's Comments**

No report

### **Clerk Comments**

Clerk McGann reported on petition packets for Village Trustee and Library Board Trustee for the Consolidated Election April 6, 2021. Packets are available in the Manager's Office.

### **Audience to Visitors**

As per the agenda posting, public comments were to be sent to Manager Mick by 3p.m. of the day of the meeting and would be read at the meeting. None were received. (See below)

### **Adjournment**

This concluded the Rules Board meeting. Mayor Vanderbilt called for a motion to adjourn and enter into executive session as permitted by 5 ILCS 120/2 Section 2(c) 2: Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representative, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; and Section 11 related to pending litigation against the Village. Motion was made by Trustee Woods, seconded by Trustee Hardy and passed unanimously following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 7

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

The meeting was adjourned with seven (7) ayes, no (0) nays, and no (0) absent.

Mayor Vanderbilt said there would be a one minute break before the executive session and asked that the public be dropped off the zoom call. He adjourned the rules meeting to enter into executive session at 8:15 p.m. Manager Mick said that no action would be taken after the executive session.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila McGann  
Village Clerk

NOTE – DUE TO COVID-19

THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL

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**VILLAGE OF PARK FOREST**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
HELD REMOTELY  
PUBLIC NOTICE POSTED AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
350 VICTORY DRIVE, PARK FOREST, ILLINOIS**

**CONFERENCE CALL**

**7:00 p.m.**

**December 14, 2020**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Jonathan Vanderbilt, Trustee Theresa Settles, Trustee Tiffani Graham, Trustee Joseph Woods, Trustee Maya Hardy, Trustee Candyce Herron, and Trustee Glenna Hennessy

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Christopher Mannino, Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok, Village Attorney Leslie Kennedy, Deputy Village Manager Mark Pries, Director of Economic Development and Planning Hildy Kingma, Director of Community Planning Larrie Kerestes, Director of Recreation and Parks Rob Gunther, Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Director of Public Relations Jason Miller, and IT Coordinator Craig Kaufman

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Matteson Police Chief Michael Jones; South Chicago Heights Police Chief William Joyce; Sergeant Jon Mannino; Officer Karl

**RECORDER:** Village Clerk Sheila McGann

**Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Vanderbilt. Roll was called by Clerk McGann.

Mayor Vanderbilt introduced members of the South Suburban Association Chiefs of Police. Matteson Chief Jones and South Chicago Heights Chief Joyce awarded the South Suburban Association Chiefs of Police Lifesaving Award individually to Park Forest Police Officer Charles Karl, Officer James Jachymiak, and Sergeant Jon Mannino for their meritorious acts during 2020. Chief Joyce said these three officers represent Park Forest well and the Southland community. Mayor Vanderbilt and all the Trustees offered congratulations to the three recipients on their dedication and service to the community while putting their lives on the line to keep us safe.

**Reports of Village Officers**

Mayor Vanderbilt thanked the Trustee Hardy, Marvin Holman, Becky Czmyr, and the Commission on Human Relations who delivered presents and gifts to Park Forest residents and those in need. He also thanks the Park Forest Police for their escort for the delivery.

**Village Attorney**

No report

### **Village Manager**

Manager Mick commended Sergeant Mannino, Officer Karl, and Officer Jachymiak who are first responders that put their lives on the line to save others. These are three heroes among us who don't wear capes. He congratulated the Commission on Human Relations with its Christmas on Main Street and serving over 100 families and 198 children with 51 families being located in Park Forest. He acknowledge all those who contributed toys, clothing, and other items to make this possible. He saluted those who worked timelessly behind the scenes, wrapping and delivering, to make this program such a success. Last Saturday, there was a DIY family photo opportunity on Village Green for family selfies. Thanks to those who coordinated this event. He added that this is the last meeting for 2020. The next Rules Board meeting is scheduled for January 4, 2021. Manager Mick noted that the Village is a complex organization and very transparent. He recommended residents to view the information that has been shared online regarding the tax levy. He also welcomed calls and emails if more explanation is needed.

### **Village Clerk**

Clerk McGann gave the scheduled dates for filling nomination petitions and objections to nominating petitions for the April 6, 2021 Consolidated Election

### **Reports of Commission Liaisons and Committee Chairpersons**

Trustee Hardy thanked the Commission on Human Relations for the Christmas on Main Street event that brought happiness to those in the region. She was grateful for all the work done by all the Commission members. She enjoyed the DIY event with the reindeer and photo ops. She was glad that so many people from the area were able to enjoy it.

Trustee Graham thanked the Commission on Human Relations and was very happy to help out and see others have some joy.

Trustee Settles reported that the Veterans Commission met Tuesday, December 1. The Veterans Closet will be open by appoint only mid-December. The Commission is planning an event to honor women veterans. The Senior Citizen Advisory Commission will not meet in December.

Trustee Woods complimented the Commission on Human Relations on the Christmas on Main Street event. He was happy to participate and see the joy in the kids they visited. He said it has been a pleasure to work with those on the Board and staff members.

Trustee Herron thanked the Recreation and Parks Board for the DIY Photo Op and loved seeing all the photos. She noted that the Recreation and Parks Board will meet Tues, December 15 at 7pm. The Housing Authority will meet Thursday, December 17 at 5pm.

Trustee Hennessy congratulated the Commission on Human Relations for a successful event. She added that it has been a pleasure to work with this Board.

The Mayor, the Manager, and all the Trustees wished the residents of Park Forest Happy Holidays and a healthy New Year.

**Citizens Comments, Observations, Petitions\***

As per the agenda posting, public comments were to be sent to Manager Mick by 3p.m. of the day of the meeting and would be read at the meeting. None were received. (See below)

**Motion: Approval of Consent**

**CONSENT:**

MOVED that the Consent Agenda and each item contained therein be hereby approved:

- 1. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of October 19, 2020, the Special Rules meeting of October 19, 2020, the Rules meeting of October 26, 2020, the Regular meeting of October 26, 2020, and the Regular meeting of November 16, 2020.**
- 2. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve a Resolution adopting the Holiday and Meeting Schedule for calendar year 2021.**
- 3. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve a Resolution to enter into an Agreement between the Village of Park Forest and the Land Conservancy District of Will County.**
- 4. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve a Resolution donating one 2011 Ford Expedition to the Rich Township Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.**
- 5. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve a Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to Enter into an Agreement with the Metropolitan Alliance of Police Chapter #660 regarding the Police labor contract for the duration of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025.**
- 6. MOVED, that the Village Manager is authorized to sign an Agreement for Demolition Services with KLF Enterprises, Inc. to demolish 3 houses in the Eastgate neighborhood.**
- 7. MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees approve the purchase of two (2) 2021 Ford Utility Police Interceptor Vehicles from Currie Motors in Frankfort, IL, at the price of \$34,007 each for a total of \$68,014.**
- 8. MOVED, that the Village Manager is authorized to enter into a contract for Fiscal 2021 Sewer Cleaning and Televising with National Power Rodding, from Chicago, IL in the amount of \$31,856.04 with a 10% contingency for any additional work as determined by the Village Engineer for a total not to exceed \$35,041.65.**

**9. MOVED, that the Village Manager is authorized to approve a purchase to Cargill Salt, for 2020-2021 Street Salt in the amount of \$99,414 for a maximum of 2,100 tons of road salt.**

**10. MOVED, that the Village Manager is authorized to approve the contract with S&S Construction to buildout 311 Main Street, in the amount of \$84,000.**

### **Appointments**

**MOVED, that the Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Mark Kellogg as Chairperson to the Veterans Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.**

**MOVED, that they Mayor and Board of Trustees appoint Barbara Jackson as Vice-Chair to the Veterans Commission for a term to expire on December 31, 2021.**

Approval of the consent agenda was moved by Trustee Settles and seconded by Trustee Graham. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if anyone wished any items be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion. Hearing none, a roll call vote was called by Mayor Vanderbilt on the motion to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda was approved with the following results:

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0

The consent agenda was adopted with seven (7) ayes, no (0) nays and no (0) absent.

### **DEBATABLE:**

**11. Ordinance: An Ordinance Levying taxes for all corporate purposes for the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois, for fiscal year beginning on the first day of July, 2021 and ending on the thirtieth of June, 2022 (Final Reading)**

Mayor Vanderbilt called for a motion to approve the ordinance. Manager Mick suggested and clarified the procedure to include a motion to approve, then a second, the discussion to follow. Move for adoption of the ordinance was motioned by Trustee Settles and seconded by Trustee Graham. The ordinance was moved and seconded to adopt this ordinance at final reading. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if there were any questions or comments.

Trustee Woods said that he had received many emails and saw posts on Social Media regarding raising the tax levy just this weekend. He acknowledged those who contacted him, but didn't have much time to respond. He appreciated their opinions. He was disappointed to see and hear all the things that the Village has done in response to Covid-19 were not mentioned. The Village is sensitive to how residents are struggling and have taken many steps to keep costs down, i.e. put a freeze on new hires, suspended the annual rate increase on resident water bills, implemented a community CARES Fund to help residents with their bills, and suspended capital improvement projects to name a few. He felt it was important to govern by meetings and discussion, not in social media. When information is shared to the public by social media, it should be accurate. As some of the comments on social media were inaccurate, he felt it's

important to find ways to work that out in the future. Some inaccuracies shared on social media included raising the levy means a raise for the trustees or staff and that the Village was responsible for the closing of Rich East, not that it was District 227's decision. A large portion of the tax bill goes to the school districts. He added that there are a number of school districts in our boundaries that contribute to the residents' tax bill. There are six school boards in Park Forest and each has a levy option. He noted that this year's levy has been discussed at Board meetings since October. The Board is mindful of the residents. This is a place for communication and dialogue where the Mayor, Trustees, and staff work together. The Village of Park Forest is transparent and much information is available on the Village's website. When considering this ordinance, he considers what is in the best interest of residents and the Village at large.

Trustee Settles said that any tax levy increase is difficult. Saturday's Facebook posting was misleading. She explained that the increase in for the Police and Fire Departments are due to state pension mandates. She felt that people were misinformed. For example, the Park Forest's portion on a resident's tax bill, the increase for a \$100,000 home would be \$24.00 per year; the increase for a \$150,000 home would be \$42.00, and the increase for a \$200,000 home would be \$61.00. It is difficult to make these decisions and we must take into consideration the interest of all the residents. We do what is for the best for the community and what is dictated by the State.

Trustee Hardy echo the comments already made. She wanted to thank the residents for sending emails and was sorry she has not be able to respond to all of them as yet. She added that this was discussed for several months and noted that any opposition could have been shared during that time or even at last week's meeting. She added that people want the truth and do not want to be misled. Residents are encouraged to follow the facts, check the Village's website or call Manager Mick to find out facts. Ongoing communication among the Board is appropriate. We can agree to disagree; we must be open and honest. The Village has made concessions that have been mentioned earlier. We have to consider earned the Police and Fire pensions and that contributions must be made. She encouraged residents to tune into the meetings so they can be more informed and contact the Trustees and/or Manager Mick with questions.

Trustee Graham said she was blindsided by the Saturday Facebook page but appreciated the feedback from the residents in emails and posts sent to her. She responded to each of them. She added the originally proposed levy was 3.51% and was reduced to .85%. There is no maliciousness when raising taxes. If it is avoided now, it might have to be made up at a later date. We all are residents, too, and have to pay taxes as well. She encouraged residents to check the Village website for information including the budget and board meeting schedules. Every decision made is for the Village.

Trustee Herron said this blindsided her as well with emails. She felt it was hurtful how it was executed. She does not feel that information for the people should be omitted. She has struggled financially and pays the same taxes. These are difficult decisions but we have to make them.

Trustee Hennessy also said there was misinformation but wanted to focus on the messages she heard from residents. Not only were they talking about raising taxes, but the fact that they are too high already. She noted how many students from Rich East and District 163 were on free or

reduced lunch program. People do not want taxes raised during a pandemic. People are out of work, don't have the funds to go the doctor, losing insurance, and losing relatives. The Police and Fire Department and Public Works should have no cuts. But there are places in the budget where money could be saved. I will vote no on the ordinance.

Mayor Vanderbilt addressed the social media post. He has heard for weeks about the burdens people have been having and families in need. He read the social media he posted on Friday evening regarding the proposed tax increase which suggested contacting himself, the Manager, and the Trustees for the residents' voices to be heard. While he felt he was being proactive, he sees how it offended the board members. He echoed the idea that there are ways to cut the budget. He added that a raise was never discussed and Park Forest and the Board were against closing Rich East and stood up to District 227. When the Mayor said the levy would increase water and sewer rates, Manager Mick said those rates are tied to ordinances not the property tax levy. The Mayor suggested that there should be a viable alternative way to offset water costs, perhaps finding a buyer for our produced water. While he felt the social media method was incorrect for his comments, he apologized to the Board and the public. He also appreciates all the messages from the residents, both for and against.

Trustee Hardy said they were put in a precarious position by not sharing his feedback in a timely fashion. Perhaps the residents could have been informed in a better way. She asked him to tell the Board about any feedback he hears in an appropriate way so the Board can deal with it, not two days before a vote.

Trustee Herron thanked the Mayor for the apology and would like him to apply it in the future.

Trustee Woods wanted to add that it was welcoming for all board members to hear what the residents responded. It is unclear what the potential impact this will have on next year. While Park Forest has become the second highest in property tax rate in the state, there are reasons for that and the Board is considering that.

Mayor Vanderbilt asked if there was any more discussion by the Board. Hearing none, a roll call vote was called by Clerk McGann.

During the roll call vote, Trustee Herron lost her internet connection. Attorney Kennedy said she should dial back into the call. She was able to reconnect in the call and her vote was counted.

The ordinance was approved following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 4 (Graham, Hardy, Settles, and Herron)

Nays: 3 (Hennessy, Woods, Vanderbilt)

Absent: 0

The ordinance was adopted with four (4) ayes, three (3) nays, and no (0) absent.

**12. Ordinance: An Ordinance to Abate a portion of the 2020 Tax Levy for the Village of Park Forest, Cook and Will Counties, Illinois (Tax Levy Abatement Ordinance) (Final Reading)**

Move for adoption of the ordinance was motioned by Trustee Settles and seconded by Trustee Graham. The ordinance was moved and seconded to adopt this ordinance at final reading. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if there were any questions or comments. None being heard, he called for a roll call vote by Clerk McGann. The ordinance was approved following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0

The ordinance was adopted with seven (7) ayes, no (0) nays, and no (0) absent.

**Adjournment**

This concluded the regular Board meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Vanderbilt called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee Hardy seconded by Trustee Graham and passed unanimously by roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned following a roll call vote with the following results:

Ayes: 7  
Nays: 0  
Absent: 0

The meeting was adjourned with seven (7) ayes, no (0) nays, and no (0) absent.

Mayor Vanderbilt adjourned the regular meeting at 8:23p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila McGann  
Village Clerk

NOTE – DUE TO COVID-19

THE BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL

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