

**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.**

**January 3, 2023**

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

**ABSENT:** none

**STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:** Village Manager Tom Mick, Police Chief Paul Winfrey, Fire Chief Tracy Natyshok, Village Attorney Leslie Kennedy, Director of Finance Mark Pries, Director of Human Resources Jason Miller, Director of Parks, Recreation, and Community Health Kevin Adams, Code Enforcement Manager Jerry Martin, Director of Community Development Larrie Kerestes, Director of Economic Director of Public Works Roderick Ysaguirre, Heather Jones, Downtown Manager, Mark Giesing, IT Coordinator, and Andrew Brown, Village Planner

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Harold Rice, CEDA President and CEO; John Pady, CEDA Chief Expansion Officer; Glen Ofenlock, CEDA Chief Financial and Operations Officer C; Dan Maksymiw, CEDA; Channel 4

Mayor Vanderbilt called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. which was held remotely due to the statewide disaster declaration and in compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Mayor Vanderbilt read the proclamation recognizing Kaden Jones of Boy Scout Troup 185 who has completed his Eagle Scout Project. Mayor Vanderbilt acknowledge his many years in numerous roles as a Cub Scout and Boy Scout. His project was the instillation of a monarch butterfly preservation garden at Grace United Protestant Church. The Village congratulates Kaden Jones on obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout. He is an asset to the Village of Park Forest.

**1. An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale of 200 Allegheny, 269 Allegheny and 236 Arcadia to CEDA**

Manager Mick said item is out of Economic Development and Planning Department. The Village has had numerous partnerships with organizations that assisted in the revitalization of distressed properties in Park Forest. CEDA has an interest in these properties. Mr. Brown explained the process that allowed the Village to use State Funding to begin to do some repairs, i.e. roofing and driveways. Now the Village would like to sell the properties to CEDA to recover the costs to Park Forest. He added that a new program with CEDA may include more properties in Eastgate in the future. Mr. Brown introduced four members of CEDA: Mr. Rice, Mr. Pady, Mr. Ofenlock, and Mr. Maksymiw, who were available to answer any questions the Board may have. Mayor Vanderbilt asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. Trustee Settles

asked what was the process to bring home ownership to residents. Mr. Rice said it is a new initiative focusing on moving people from poverty to home ownership. They have had successes over the past twenty years helping to reinvigorate communities. Mr. Pady said weatherization is an important part adding they have a strong partner in Park Forest doing extensive construction. When Trustee Slone asked about them coming to our community, Mr. Maksymiw said they have worked with Park Forest on two other homes in other programs including South Suburban Tech Institute and want to continue this type of program. Mr. Rice added that it was the CEDA Board's decision to earmark funds for strictly for the development in affordable housing only. When asked about contractors by Trustee Woods, Mr. Maksymiw noted that local contractors and others partnerships will be used to do work on these projects. They also partner with a union general contractor who has apprentice programs in place. There were no other questions or comments from the Board.

## **2. Vehicle Exhaust Removal System**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Fire Department. Chief Natyshok said the Fire Department received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to cover this item with the Village's portion to be \$5,875. He noted there were three bids and recommends awarding the contract to MagneGrip Exhaust Removal Systems. When asked by Trustee Slone about the funds from the Training Center/Capital Improvement, Chief Natyshok said the funds were for tuck pointing noting that the contractor said it could wait one year. It was better to complete this project to improve the air quality with in apparatus bay. Hearing no questions by the Board, this item will be on the agenda for action at the next regular meeting.

## **3. Approval of contract for purchase and installation of small restaurant hood**

Manager Mick said this item is out of the Economic and Planning Department and the Downtown Offices with build out plans to allow for future leasing. Ms. Jones explained that a Park Forest resident would like to expand their food truck business to a brick and mortar location. This is a prime location for Downtown events. The Village has been working with them for months; the resident has invested funds for other equipment. Ms. Jones detailed the scope of the work to be done adding that two quotes were received. Staff recommended G & G Hood Cleaning Inc., of Blue Island. Mayor Vanderbilt asked the Board if there were any questions or comments. When Trustee Slone asked who is responsible for the maintenance of the hood, Ms. Jones said the lease states that the tenants are responsible for cleaning and repairs. Trustee Woods said this is a win-win. Ms. Jones added that the main door would be on Lester and the rear door would be on the south side of the building. Hearing no other questions, this item will be on the agenda for action at the next regular meeting.

## **4. Purchase of stairway covers for Village Hall**

Manager Mick said this item comes out of the Department of Recreation, Parks, and Community Health, under Buildings and Grounds. Director Adams stated that the stair coverings of both stairways in Village Hall are unsafe. As they are original to the converting of Village Hall, they are thirty years old with numerous areas of concern. Three quotes were received and staff recommends awarding the contract to S & S Construction Solutions, Inc., of Matteson. Hearing no questions or comments from the Board, this item will be on the agenda for action at the next regular meeting.

## **5. Resolution authorizing disposal of Village owned vehicles**

Manager Mick stated that this is a housekeeping matter. Two vehicles will be disposed, a pick-up truck from Public Works and a Police Department van. The resolution allows one vehicle to be sold at auction and the other to be sold to a separate vender. Chief Winfrey said that one of their vendors would offer more than the auction price for the police van. Mayor Vanderbilt asked if the Board had any questions or comments. Trustee Slone commented that this was an innovative idea. Chief Winfrey said it would offset future costs for future vehicles. Hearing no other questions, this item will be on the agenda for action at the next regular meeting.

### **Mayor's Comments**

The Mayor and Staff recently met with Senator Joyce regarding the need of a grocery store in Park Forest. Congratulations to Huth and Illinois Schools on their Winter Concert at GSU. Condolences to the Bob Bower Family of A-1 Towing.

### **Manager's Comments**

Manager Mick said the Saturday Morning Rules Meeting of January 7 will be canceled and the Regular Meeting of January 17 will be held remotely due to public health concerns. The 2023 Board Calendar is on the Village's website. Holiday lights can be recycled in Village Hall till the end of January. Live holiday trees can be recycled at the Aqua Center. Village Hall will be closed Monday, January 16 in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. The Regular Board Meeting will be held Tuesday, January 17. The Park Forest Recreation and Parks Department will hold its annual Pars Pavilion Permit Lottery on Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 a.m.

### **Trustee's Comments**

All of the Trustees offered their condolences to the family of Richton Park Trustee Joseph Canady. They also offered condolences to the family of Yvonne Robinson who were the first Black family in Park Forest. Condolences were also offered to the family of Robert Bower.

Trustee Settles offered condolences to the family of Irene Hickey, 99, a long time Park Forest resident.

Trustee Graham noted that the Robinson Family are memorialized in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C.

Trustee Woods attended the memorial for Ms. Robinson and noted that it was uplifting and celebration of life.

Trustee Hardy gave her condolences to all the families on their losses and will continue to pray for them.

Trustee Herron extended her condolences as well.

Trustee Slone offered condolences to the family of Fred Bugg who was a longtime resident of Park Forest and a veteran. He will be missed.

Each of the Trustees wished Park Forest residents a happy and healthy new year.

**Attorney's Comments**

Attorney Kennedy did not make any comments.

**Clerk Comments**

No report

**Audience to Visitors**

No comments received via email to [tmick@vopf.com](mailto:tmick@vopf.com) as per the note below.

**Adjournment**

This concluded the Rules Board meeting.

There being no further business. Mayor Vanderbilt called for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Trustee Herron, seconded by Trustee Settles 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 Rules Meeting at 7:47 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 99 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)**

**NOTE: Copies of Agenda Items are Available on the Village website at [www.villageofparkforest.com](http://www.villageofparkforest.com)**