

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW
September 22, 2026**

BOARD MEETING:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The regular board meeting of the Village of Forest View was called to order by Village President Liska at 7:00 P.M.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Liska led the Board Trustees and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

The Roll Call of Board Trustees by Clerk McGuffey is as follows:

Present: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez
Absent: Trustee Hubacek

4. PRESENTATIONS – NA

5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

That the minutes of the regular board meeting of September 8, 2026 to be approved as read:

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Castanuela
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Castanuela, Sudkamp, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi
No: NA
Motion Carried.

6. REPORTS OF EXPENDITURES

To approve the village payroll and accounts payable expenditures as of September 30, 2026:

1) Payroll - FT / PT / Officials	\$ 121,111.08
2) Check Register 09-14-26	\$ 45,345.00

3) Check Register 09-16-26	\$ 2,741.10
4) Bills Payable	\$ 90,557.81
5) Total Expenditures:	\$ 259,754.99

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Nitka

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi, Castaneula

No: NA

Motion Carried.

7. TREASURERS REPORT FOR AUGUST 2026:

1) Revenues:	\$ 374,658.23
2) Expenses:	\$ 588,576.68

Action Requested: None, informational only.

8. DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE:

Agenda Item # 1 – Administrator Creer is requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 26-29, Amending Title 3, Chapter 19 regarding a Parking Lot Excise Tax changing the flat fee per day to a flat percentage fee on revenue as this is what the state and county are currently charging and changes would take effect January 1, 2027 to give the operators time to adjust their pricing.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-29,
Amending Title 3, Chapter 19 regarding a Parking Lot Excise Tax.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez, Sudkamp

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 2 – Administrator Creer is requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 26-30, Amending Title 3, Chapter 17 regarding Simplified Telecommunications Tax. The rate imposed by this ordinance increases the rate of six percent (6%) effective July of 2027.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-30,
Amending Title 3, Chapter 17 regarding a Simplified Telecommunications
Tax.

Motion: Trustee Nitka
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Nitka, Sudkamp, Castanuela, Nevarez, Grossi

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 3 – Administrator Creer and Office Manager Vogt are requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 26-31, amending Title 8, Chapter 2, Section 2, regarding water bill payments, implementing a 25% late fee as discussed at the previous board meeting. The proposed revision would update the Village’s protocol and schedule for sending late water bill reminders which would include one Friendly Reminder Notice followed with the Final Shut Off Letter sent one week later and will include a \$75.00 Shut Off Notice Posting Fee added to the water account balance effective January 1, 2027.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-31,
Amending Title 8, Chapter 2, Section 2 regarding billing and payment of
Water Bills.

Motion: Trustee Grossi

Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez, Sudkamp

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 4 – Administrator Creer and Police Chief Ritz are requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 26-32 Amending Title 6, Chapter 5, Section 35 regarding Cannabis Regulations and Repealing Ordinance 25-05 regarding THC Products that will include regulations on public consumption of cannabis allowing for local ordinance tickets to be written for those offenses.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-32
Amending Title 6, Chapter 5, Section 35 regarding Cannabis Regulations
and Repealing Ordinance 25-05 regarding THC Products.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp

Second: Trustee Nitka

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi, Castanuela

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 5 – Administrator Creer and Police Chief Ritz are requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 26-33, Amending Title 6, Chapter 5, Section 26 regarding Concealed Carry and would be in full force and effective immediately.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-33,
Amending Title 6, Chapter 5, Section 26 regarding Concealed Carry.

Motion: Trustee Castanuela
Second: Trustee Nitka

Yes: Trustees Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi, Sudkamp
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 6 – Administrator Creer and Police Chief Ritz are requesting the Board approve Ordinance No. 26-34, Amending Title 6, Chapter 5, Section 26 regarding Breach of Peace and would be in full force and effective immediately.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Ordinance No. 26-34,
Amending Title 6, Chapter 5, Section 4 regarding Breach of Peace.

Motion: Trustee Nitka
Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Nitka, Castanuela, Nevarez, Grossi, Sudkamp
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 7 – Memo from Administrator Creer seeking direction from the board regarding drafting of an ordinance establishing contractor licensing and registration requirements within the village.

In the meeting Administrator Creer mentioned that several towns in the surrounding area are charging a registration fee to license contractors who do business in their municipal limits. The annual fee pays for their staffs time tracking down certificates of insurance and bond information and the village keeps the contractors information on file. Currently we do not register license contractors in town. This would be a benefit to our residents if residents have a complaint about a contractor doing a bad job, working without a license; the village can decide if the contractor's license would be renewed or revoked. Trustee Castaneula stated that sometimes a resident may hire a contractor for one time. Trustees Grossi and Castanuela stated that they were concerned that if the village requires contractors to register the contractor will charge the fees to the residents. It was mentioned that Licensed Contractors can choose to renew annually or wait until they have work lined up in the village. The board consensus was to table the idea for now.

Action Requested: None, discussion only. Direction whether to draft an ordinance for contractor licenses.

Tabled.

Agenda Item # 8 – Administrator Creer and Office Manager Vogt are requesting the board consider approving a business license to Majdi Liqa, owner of Harlem Tobacco, Inc. at 4537 Harlem Avenue that will sell electronic cigarettes, cigars, and perfume.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Liqa, owner of the strip center at 4529-4559, was present to discuss with the board his plans to renovate the strip center keeping the Tool Store, adding a Tire Shop, and stated that he has owned the Vape Store for the past 10 years but wanted to reopen with a new business "Harlem Tobacco, Inc." to sell Electronic Cigarettes and cartridges, cigars, and a small section for perfume products. Discussion ensued and it was stated that a business license for a Vape Shop should not have been issued because it is not in our ordinances. Administrator Creer stated that he would look into this further.

The Board raised concerns about the tire shop noise and asked Creer to review that project as well. In conclusion project will be continued to the next meeting.

Action Requested: Motion to approve a business license to Majdi Liqa, owner of Harlem Tobacco, Inc. at 4537 Harlem Avenue that will sell electronic cigarettes, cigars, and perfume.

Agenda Item #9– Superintendent of Public Works Miller is requesting the board approve a quote from PACE Systems to install three (3) cameras in the PD Interrogation room, PD Evidence Room and the Village Board Room and replace two (2) existing cameras in the PD Front Lobby and the FD garage at a cost not to exceed \$6,652.74.

Action Requested: Motion to approve a quote from PACE Systems to install three (3) cameras and replace two (2) existing cameras at a cost not to exceed \$6,652.74.

Motion: Trustee Nevarez
Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Nevarez, Castanuela, Grossi, Sudkamp, Nitka
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 10 - Superintendent of Public Works Miller is requesting the board approve a quote from PACE Systems to renew the Milestone Support License for one year and update our software version at a cost not to exceed \$1,830.00.

Action Requested: Motion to approve a quote from PACE Systems to renew the Milestone Support License and update our software version at a cost not to exceed \$1,830.00.

Motion: Trustee Nevarez
Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Nevarez, Nitka, Grossi, Sudkamp, Castanuela
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 11 - Superintendent of Public Works Miller is requesting the board approve a quote from Bluder's Tree Service for tree trimming and removal of fourteen (14) trees at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.

Superintendent Miller stated that he requested quotes from Bluder's, Sinnott, and Brookfield tree services but only received a proposal from Bluder's Tree Service. 'He stated the Village has used Bluder's Tree Service in the past and they have a certified arborist that is required.

Action Requested: Motion to approve a quote from Bluder's Tree Service for tree trimming and removal of fourteen (14) trees at a cost not to exceed \$50,000.

Motion: Trustee Nitka
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Nitka, Sudkamp, Castanuela, Nevarez, Grossi

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 12 – Fire Chief Stewart is recommending that the Village continue its contracted firefighter/paramedic services with Metro Paramedic Services after the current contract expires on October 31, 2026, subject to Village Board approval and final contract terms. Metros proposed three (3) year renewal cost is \$1,639,620.29, compared to a proposal submitted by Paramedic Services of Illinois at a cost of \$1,728,000.00.

Chief Stewart discussed that both Metro Paramedic Services and Paramedic Services of Illinois both have contracted firefighter/paramedics staffing services, where other staffing companies only provide paramedic-only staffing rather than cross-trained firefighter/paramedics. Metro personnel know the village, response area, department procedures, apparatus, mutual aid environment, and day to day operations. Continuing with Metro reduces transition time and operation disruption and the renewal proposal is \$88,379.71 less per year than the only competing proposal received from Paramedic Services of Illinois.

Action Requested: Motion to approve the proposal and authorized Fire Chief Stewart to sign the proposal extending the firefighter/paramedic services with Metro Paramedic Services.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp
Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 13 – Police Chief Ritz is requesting the board's approval to hire one full-time Police Officer to fill a current vacancy in the department.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Police Chief Ritz hiring one full-time Police Officer to fill a current vacancy in the department.

Motion: Trustee Nitka
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Nitka, Sudkamp, Nevarez, Grossi, Castanuela
No: NA
Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 14- Police Chief Ritz is requesting the board's approval to appoint Police Officer Jonathan Rodriguez as a new Patrol Shift Corporal with the Forest View Police Department. He will be responsible for all shift operations, providing guidance and direction to the officers on their assigned shift while supporting the department's mission, policies, and operational priorities.

Action Requested: Motion to appoint Jonathan Rodriguez as a new Patrol Shift Corporal with the Forest View Police Department.

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Grossi, Sudkamp, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez
No: NA
Motion Carried.

9. APPLICATION FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDING PERMIT: NA

10. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Village Administrator Zachery Creer:

- Introduced the Civic Plus representative Austin Frank in the board meeting. Administrator Creer stated that he asked if they could lock in a price for ADA, but the company could not lock in a price. Discussion ensued and the board agreed to approve the Civic Plus Contract that was approved at the previous meeting and hold off on adding the ADA until a later time.
- Mentioned that a letter was sent to Auburn Cemetery regarding the overgrown weeds on the fence on Oak Park Ave. As of the meeting, piles of brush were cleaned up.
- Reported that the board would be going into executive session to discuss the purchase or sale of property and to discuss personnel issues including appointment, performance or discipline of an employee.

11. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Public Works Superintendent Miller:

- Reported that IT has completed the Arctic Wolf deployment.
- Met with the contractors from Leopardo this morning to discuss renovating the Art Treckler Room and the restroom in the Police Department and should receive a quote before the next meeting.
- Reported that the Lead samples have been delivered to the lab and he is waiting on results.
- Public Works are almost finished with the cleanup from the Village Picnic.
- Reported that sewer and water connections will be done this week for the new house at being built at 4515 Clinton Ave.
- Reported that the Village sign was ran over by a car on Saturday night/early Sunday morning.
- Reported that the sewers in the PD and the Village Hall were televised and he has footage on a USB drive. They did not find any issues, and they were in good condition considering the age.
- Next week he will be ordering a stove for the Kitchen upstairs.

It was mentioned that when they order floor tile for the Art Treckler room, they should order enough to redo the kitchen floor and that Midalia could pick it out.

Police Chief Ritz:

- Reported that National Child Safety Week is September 20-26. The department put in for four (4) new child safety seats to install and stated that they had received a 25,000 ORG Grant.
- In the meeting he said it was a pleasure working to work with Village Administrator Creer and Fire Chief Stewart and thanked them for putting together the Emergency Plan and that with it they will be able to apply for Grants for ICS training. His Staff enjoyed working at the picnic and met a lot of nice people.

Fire Chief Stewart:

- Reported that approximately 60 people have expressed interest in the Fire Departments CPR certification program. His Department is working on setting up class dates and will contact those who signed up with additional information.
- Announced that the department will now carry oxygen masks designed for animals rescued from fires and reported that his personnel recently assisted a dog rescued during a fire in Stickney. This equipment will improve his departments ability to provide oxygen and assist with per resuscitation efforts.
- Discussed in the meeting that Project Fire Buddies announced on Facebook that Forest View was welcomed as a new Illinois chapter. The Forest View Chapter consists of Firefighters Casey Lundsteen, Jimmy Thompson and Daniel Fleming and look forward to supporting children facing serious illnesses and their families.
- Reported that the Fire Department members will wear special shirts during October and will be selling shirts at the Fire Department Open House, with proceeds supporting breast cancer research treatments efforts. More information will be available before the event.

- Thanked everyone who came out and joined the Fire Department for the September 11th with the flag-lowering and remembrance ceremony at the Village Hall to honor those lost lives, those who responded and those who continue to be affected by September 11, 2001.

12. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE TRUSTEES:

- Trustee Sudkamp reported that there are residents on 46th Street and some who have landscapers who are still cutting grass and blowing in the streets, which causes the sewers to back up.
- In the meeting Trustee Grossi thanked Fire Department staff and all the Volunteers for cooking and cleaning. He tried not to bother Public Works because they were so busy setting up the picnic and everyone figured out Scheduling cooks and bartenders.
- Trustee Castanuela thanked everyone.
- Trustee Nevarez thanked Police for helping out.

13. REPORTS FROM THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT LISK:

- Reported that Forest View Ambassador Tom Cichon did a great job selling the raffle tickets.

14. REPORTS FROM FOREST VIEW VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE:

- Veterans Committee Secretary Laura McGuffey reported that they are still raffling off tickets for two bicycles that were donated by the Chicagoland Motorcycle Toys for Tots. Tickets will be sold at the Lions Club and Park District Bingo Night on October 23rd, and winners will be announced at the end of the event. Winner does not need to be present.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT, ANNOUNCEMENTS OR QUESTIONS:

- Mr. Palumbo asked what the Concealed Carry Ordinance was regarding. Chief Ritz stated that they are not allowed on Municipal property.
- Dawn from the Park District stated that they are still looking of at least 10 more chefs for the Taste of Forest View for Friday October 10, 2026.
- Mrs. Hyzny thanked both Chiefs for their response regarding her husband.

16. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:00 P.M.:

Motion: Trustee Nitka
Second: Trustee Castanuela

Yes: Trustees Nitka, Castanuela, Grossi, Sudkamp, Nevarez
No: NA
Motion Carried

18. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:

- a.) The setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body." 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6). (Discussion only)
- b.) To consider individual employee personnel matter, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/(c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act. (Discussion only)

19. MOTION TO RETURN TO REGUAR SESSION:

Board returned to regular session at 8:53 P.M.

17. ROLL CALL:

Present: Trustees Mike Grossi, Jim Sudkamp, Trustees Maria Castanuela, Jim Nitka, Midalia Nevarez
Absent: Trustee Richard Hubacek

20. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:

- None

21. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Motion: Trustee Grossi
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

VOICE VOTE: AYES: ALL NAYS: NONE Motion Carried.

22. ADJOURMENT:

To adjourn at 8:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura D. McGuffey
Village Clerk