

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW  
November 11, 2025**

**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 Miller 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, Hubacek, Castanuela, Nitka, Nevarez  
Absent: None

**4. PRESENTATION**

Jim Ritz was sworn in as Interim Police Chief by Village Clerk Laura McGuffey.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

That the minutes of the regular board meeting of October 28, 2025 to be approved as read:

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp  
Second: Trustee Nitka

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

**6. REPORTS OF EXPENDITURES**

To approve the village payroll and accounts payable expenditures November 1 – November 15, 2025:

Payroll- FT /PT/Officials	\$	110,225.16
Bills Payable	\$	<u>43,016.26</u>
Total Expenditures:	\$	153,241.42

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

Motion: Trustee Hubacek  
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

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

No: NA

Motion Carried.

#### **7. REPORTS OF REVENUES AS OF October 31, 2025:**

Cash Receipts:	\$	477,541.57
Sales Tax:	\$	50,958.67
Home Rule Sales Tax:	\$	41,836.33
Local Gas Tax:	\$	53,659.76
Video Gaming Tax:	\$	37,649.86
Interest:	\$	<u>8,326.72</u>
Total Revenue:	\$	669,977.91

Action Requested: Motion to approve.

#### **8. DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE:**

Agenda Item # 1 – Village Clerk McGuffey is requesting the board approve the cancellation of the board meeting on November 25, 2025.

Action Requested: Motion to approve the cancelation of the Tuesday, November 25, 2025 meeting.

Motion: Trustee Nevarez  
Second: Trustee Castaneula

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

No: Trustee Sudkamp

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 2 – Administrator Wiak to discuss with the board the Real Estate Tax Referendum Resolution to be paid by the buyer of non-residential real estate transfers and is requesting the board approve Resolution No R25-02 calling for the submission of a binding public policy question to the electors of the Village of Forest View at the March 17, 2026 General Primary Election.

Action Requested: Motion to approve Resolution No. 25-02 for a Real Estate Tax Referendum Resolution submitting a binding public policy questions to be placed on the General Primary Election on March 17, 2026.

*Administrator Wiak stated this would be the final step and once the resolution is passed the question will go on the ballot for the March 17, 2025 General Primary Election. It was emphasized that the transfer tax would only apply to commercial properties in the village.*

Motion: Trustee Castanuela  
Second: Trustee Nitka

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

Agenda Item # 3 – Administrator Wiak to discuss the authorization to obligate (1) Rebuild Illinois (RBI) and (2) Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds and is requesting the board:

(1) Authorize the obligation of Rebuild Illinois (RBI) funds to the 46<sup>th</sup> Street Resurfacing Project and approve the Resolution for Improvement under the Illinois Highway Code.

Action Requested: Motion to Authorize the obligation of  
(1) Rebuild Illinois (RBI) funds to the 46<sup>th</sup> Street Resurfacing  
Project and approve the Resolution for Improvement under the  
Illinois Highway Code

*Administrator Wiak stated this would be the final step once the resolution is passed the question will go the ballot for the March 17, 2025 General Primary Election. It was emphasized that the transfer tax would only apply to commercial properties in the village.*

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp  
Second: Trustee Castanuela

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

(2) Approve the use of Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds in the amount of \$60,000 for catch basin cleaning and crack filling of Village Streets and the Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code.

Action Requested: Motion to approve the use of (2) Motor Fuel  
Tax (MFT) funds in the amount of \$60,000 for catch basin  
cleaning and crack filling of Village Streets and the Resolution  
for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp  
Second: Trustee Hubacek

Yes: Trustees Sudkamp, Hubacek, Castaneula, Nitka, Nevarez, Grossi  
No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 4 – Administrator Wiak is requesting authorization from the Village Board to allow the Village Administrator Wiak, to direct Joy Conklin, Village Accountant to transfer \$42,833.99 from the Motor Fuel Tax (Rebuild IL Funds) account ending with (2009) at Old National Bank to The Illinois Funds account ending with (4445). This action will result in the closure of the Motor Fuel Tax account ending in 2009 at Old National Bank.

Action Requested: Motion to approve and authorize Village Administrator Wiak, to direct Joy Conklin, Village Accountant to transfer \$42,833.99 from the Motor Fuel Tax (Rebuild IL Funds) account ending with (2009) at Old National Bank to The Illinois Funds account ending with (4445).

Motion: Trustee Castaneula  
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

Yes: Trustees Castaneula, Sudkamp, Grossi, Nitka, Nevarez, Hubacek  
No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 5 - Letter from Village Administrator Wiak to discuss with the board the 2025 Tax Levy and is proposing a 4/5% increase for the 2025 levy. This increase would produce a General Fund Levy of \$1,761,554.41, representing an increase of \$75,856.41 over the prior year.

*Discussion ensued. Administrator Wiak highly recommended the 4.5% increase and will work with Attorney Murphey to draft the tax levy for the Dec 9<sup>th</sup> board meeting.*

Action requested: None, discussion, and information only.

Agenda Item # 6 - Administrator Wiak is requesting the board to approve the American Legal Publishing Codification Proposal in the amount of \$20,330 which includes shipping and handling of the 20 copies of the revised code.

*Discussion ensued. Trustee Grossi stated that he is concerned that if this item is passed before the E Bike Ordinance is put in place the village will be charged \$125.00 and wants the E Bike ordinance put in place before the board votes on this proposal.*

Tabled until next meeting.

Agenda Item # 7 (A) – Letter from Administrator Wiak with a proposal from Hub International to renew the Environmental liability/pollution insurance policy that is required on all MWRD easements and leases. She is requesting the Board approve renewing the three-year insurance policy with Hub International at a premium cost of \$ 22,005 effective from 11/01/2025 – 11/1/2028.

Action Requested: Motion to approve renewing the three-year insurance policy with Hub International at a premium cost of \$ 22,005.00 effective from 11/01/2025 – 11/1/2028.

Motion: Trustee Castaneula  
Second: Trustee Sudkamp

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

Agenda Item # 7 (B) – Letter from Village Accountant Joy Conklin requesting the board approve renewing the Employee Health Insurance Plan with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for Calendar Year 2026 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Action requested: Motion to approve renewing the Employee Health Insurance Plan with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for Calendar Year 2026 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Motion: Trustee Hubacek  
Second: Trustee Castaneula

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

Agenda Item # 7 (C) – Letter from Village Accountant Joy Conklin requesting the board approve renewing the Liability, Workers' Compensation, Cyber Insurance Policy through Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT) at a cost not to exceed \$ 282,000 for the period of December 1, 2025 thru December 1, 2026 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Action requested: Motion to approve renewing the Liability, Workers' Compensation, Cyber Insurance Policy through Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust (ICRMT) at a cost not to exceed \$ 282,000 for the period of December 1, 2025 thru December 1, 2026 and authorize the Village Administrator to execute the renewal application.

Motion: Trustee Castaneula  
Second: Trustee Nevarez

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

No: NA

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item # 8- Interim Police Chief to discuss with the Board that the Police Department that on October 14, 2025 that the Forest View Police Department was awarded the “Less than Lethal Alternative for Law Enforcement” grant in the amount of \$21,600.00. This grant will fund the purchase of six new Taser10 handles, along with all necessary training and live cartridges required for early Taser recertification. If approved, the initial \$21,600.00 will be covered by the grant in the first year, with the remaining balance spread evenly across the remaining years and is requesting the board approve the purchase of a five-year subscription for 6 Taser10handles, with total expenditures not to exceed \$60,000.00 over the five-year term.

Action Requested: Motion to purchase a five-year subscription for 6 Taser10handles, with total expenditures not to exceed \$60,000.00 over the five-year terms.

Motion: Trustee Grossi

Second: Trustee Sudkamp

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

No: NA

Motion Carried.

*Discussion ensued. In the meeting Police Chief Ritz stated it was an honor to be considered and appointed to this position. He is looking forward to working with everyone and has an opendoor policy and looks forward to meeting everybody and expanding our community outreach programs. He stated that the department had applied for this grant and was approve for 21k. Trustee Grossi asked Administrator Wiak if this was in the budget. She stated that it is in the budget is under the Safety Act for all departments. It was also mentioned that they will need to purchase new body cameras next year.*

## **9. APPLICATION FOR NEW BUSINESS LICENSE:**

Agenda Item # 9 - Letter from Administrator Wiak requesting the board approve and issue a Business License to Therese Guzman, owner of Therese Guzman Taxes, to operate Home Office at 4524 Grove Ave. This business is seasonal, lasting approximately 12 weeks and involves tax preparations.

*Discussion ensued. It was discussed in the meeting that the village does not have a Business License code defining Tax Preparer. Trustee Grossi asked Administrator Wiak to find out if the applicant is an accountant which is in the village code.*

Tabled until next meeting.

## **10. ART TRECKLER ROOM RENTAL REQUEST:**

Agenda Item # 10 – Letter from Administrator Wiak regarding a request approval from the board on behalf of the Stickney-Forest View Lions Club to hold a meeting for approximately 20 guests on Saturday, November 8, 2025 from 9:00 am to Noon and waive the fee.

Discussion ensued.

Action Requested: Motion to approve the Stickney-Forest View Lions Club rent the room on Saturday, November 8, 2025 from 9:00 am to Noon and waive the fee.

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp  
Second: Trustee Hubacek

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

## **11. REPORTS OF OFFICERS:**

Village Administrator Wiak:

- Discussed her ICMS conference sessions and looking forward to utilizing in the office what she learned.
- Reported that the ComEd Easement agreement was signed and submitted to them. She stated that the village should get the \$70,000 next year and as of the meeting they have not installed the pole.

## **12. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS:**

Public Works Superintendent Miller:

- Reported that he has completed the preparations for the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of EPA Lead Samples. Bottles will be delivered to houses on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> and the residents need to return them to the village hall by Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Stated that he submitted required reports for Lead Notification violation.
- Completed an extra set of water samples that was required and due for our Special Exemption Permit (SEP) with the EPA.
- - This included another lead sample at 4519 Maple since that was the house that came back with a higher lead sample during that last round of testing in June.
  - Also needed to take a sample for PH, Alkalinity, and Orthophosphates at another house on the same block as the house with the lead sample.
  - He stated that he should have the results in a week or two.
    - If the lead sample is high again they may require additional testing and possibly demand that we promptly change the service line.
- Reported that Public Works part-time employee Carlos is being trained on the Bobcat for the winter season.

- Reported that he is meeting with engineers working on the BNSF bridge project on Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> to mark out our water lines and to find out more about the scope of the project.
- Reported that Tom the engineer from Novotny and he met with the first contractor for the elevator project and discussed the elevator upgrade. It needs to be ADA compliant. Discovered that the door width is over the required width. To modernize the elevator it will cost between 100k – 150k.– 150,000 which would include changing the controls. He mentioned that the work was done about 10 years ago on the piston.
- Reported that the temperature in the Art Treckler Room was 99 degrees. Kevin from Air Comfort was out to fix the fan that was stuck on heat and would not shut off and discovered that the circuit board was fried. Looking at a 5-year plan to replace or rehab.

Interim Police Chief Ritz:

- Reported that he will be meeting with the officers that work the midnight shifts.
- He is learning the operations and talking with the departments to stay positive and move forward.
- Plans on Setting up a Senior Safety Program and an Autism Awareness Program.
- Reviewing the technology and reporting system.
- Commented that everyone is welcome to stop by to talk with him.
- Plans on looking into more grants for the department.
- Working on a Community Outreach Program.

Fire Chief Jones:

- No reports.

**13. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE TRUSTEES:**

- Trustee asked about the stove upstairs.

*Discussion ensued. It was replaced with what we had.*

**14. REPORTS FROM VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

- Mentioned that he attended an engineering meeting last week
- Commented that the village got the grant money to repave Oak Park Ave and will move forward next year on this project.
- Reported that we met with Mcook regarding the McCook Water Supply and will be scheduling a special meeting for a presentation with the engineers in December.
- Reported that due to the weather our Veterans Day ceremony was moved inside the building in the Art Treckler room. He stated that it worked out great. We had a good speaker, Brookfield VFW IL District 4 Color Guard, presented the flags. Home School choir sang the National Anthem, and the students recited the pledge of Allegiance and recited two poems.
- Announced in the meeting that Teawona our mail carrier for 10 years and has worked with the post office for 30 years is retiring at the end of the year. We are planning to give her a send-off and requested that if the residents have any pictures with her send them to Lucy.



## **15. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Park District Recreational Director Walzak commented that the Very Merry Craft Show was a success and mentioned that she spoke with the Chief regarding the parking when they have events and mentioned that senior coffee is tomorrow.
- She also mentioned that the Tree decorating and ornament event at the zoo was a wonderful event and thanked the village for co-sponsoring this happy event.

*President Liska announced that the board we will be going into executive session and told the audience that they were welcome to go into the Art Treckler room and come back later when we go back into open session.*

## **16. MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:52 P.M.**

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp

Second: Trustee Nevarez

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

No: NA

Motion Carried.

## **17. ROLL CALL**

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

Present: Trustees

Absent: None

## **18. PURPOSE OF THE MEETING**

Agenda Item # 11 – To review with the board employee personnel matters, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/ (c) (1) and 5 ILCS 120/ (c) (3) of the Open Meetings Act.

## **19. MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Motion: Trustee Sudkamp

Second: Trustee Hubacek

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

No: NA

Motion Carried.

## **20. ROLL CALL**

Agenda Item # 11 – To review with the board employee personnel matters, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/ (c) (1) and 5 ILCS 120/ (c) (3) of the Open Meetings Act.

*Police Chief Ritz made a request to promote Officer Erik Kulaga to Sergeant. He stated that Sergeant Zarate's duties will be handling operations and Sergeant Kulaga will handle the administrative duties.*

Action requested: Motion to approve as discussed in  
closed session promoting Erik Kulaga to Police Sergeant.

Motion: Trustee Nevarez  
Second: Trustee Grossi

Yes: Trustees Nevarez, Grossi, Nitka, President Liska  
No: Trustees Sudkamp, Hubacek, Castaneula  
Motion Carried.

## **21. MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Motion: Trustee Grossi  
Second: Trustee Nevarez

## **22. ROLL CALL:**

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

## **23. ADJOURMENT:**

To adjourn at 8:39 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura D. McGuffey  
Village Clerk