

**VILLAGE OF FORD HEIGHTS
COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-04-01-07

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ADOPTION OF THE UPDATE OF THE COOK
COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN**

**ADOPTED BY THE
VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF FORD HEIGHTS**

**ANNIE COULTER, VILLAGE PRESIDENT
NYREE D. FORD, Village Clerk**

**JOHNNY GRIFFIN
SCOTTIE HATTEN
LADELL JONES SR.
ANTOINA T. MICHALES
JAMES MORGAN
JIMMIE WATSON
Trustees**

WHEREAS, the Village of Ford Heights recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within our community; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ford Heights recognizes the importance of reducing or eliminating vulnerability to disasters caused by natural hazards for the overall good and welfare of the community, and

WHEREAS, on October 10, 2000, the U.S. Congress passed the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (“Act”) which provides the legal framework for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) mitigation, planning requirements for state, local, and tribal governments as a condition of mitigation grant assistance emphasizing the need for pre-disaster mitigation of potential hazards; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of future funding for mitigation projects, the Act requires jurisdictions to prepare and adopt a hazard mitigation plan to identify and address certain vulnerabilities that exist prior to prepare and adopt a hazard mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, FEMA supports post-disaster grant funding through the Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant program, which has as a condition of funding eligibility, a requirement for jurisdictions to prepare and adopt a hazard mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, to maintain continued eligibility for FEMA mitigation grant assistance programs the Act requires a hazard mitigation plan be updated every five years; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Act’s requirements, 121 Cook County jurisdictions engaged in the FEMA-prescribed mitigation planning process to prepare the 2019 Plan and its associated local hazard mitigation plan annexes; and

WHEREAS, THE 2019 Plan has been approved by the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region V; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1. The Village of Ford Heights hereby accepts, approves and adopts in its entirety, Volume 1, the Countywide Mitigation Actions in Volume 2; and the Village of Ford Heights Jurisdictional Annex of Volume 2 of the 2019 Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
2. The Village of Ford Heights will continue to participate in the updating and revision of the 2019 Plan with another plan review and revision to occur within a five year cycle, and designated staff will provide annual progress reports on the status of implementation of the 2019 Plan to the president of the City council.

ADOPTED by the Village board of the Village of Ford Heights, Cook County, Illinois on this 1ST day of April 2020, pursuant to a roll call vote, as follows:

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT
Johnny Griffin	X			X
Scottie Hatten			X	
LaDell Jones Sr.	X			X
Antoina T. McMichales	X			X
James Morgan	X			X
Jimmie Watson	X			X
President Annie Coulter				X
TOTAL	5	0	1	6

SO PASSED, ADOPTED, APPROVED AND ENACTED IN AND AT THE VILLAGE OF FORD HEIGHTS, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, THIS 1ST DAY OF April 2020.



APPROVED,

Annie K. Coulter

VILLAGE PRESIDENT

ATTEST:

Nyree R. Ford

Village Clerk

Recorded in the Municipal Records:

Published in Pamphlet Form:

VILLAGE OF FORD HEIGHTS
1343 ELLIS AVENUE, FORD HEIGHTS, IL. 60411
MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
FIRST MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2020
Wednesday, April 1, 2020
5:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Annie R. Coulter on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 5:17 pm.

Clerk Ford called the roll: present and responding are Mayor Annie R. Coulter, Trustees Johnny Griffin, LaDell Jones, and Jimmie Watson. Not present to respond are Trustee Scottie Hatten (he called in sick), Trustee Antoina McMichales (en route), and Trustee James Morgan (en route). Village Attorney's Joe Miller and Jim Wargo of Ottosen Kelly Cooper Law firm attended the meeting by phone. *With a quorum established the meeting began.*

Mayor Coulter asked Pastor Franklin to give the invocation.

Attorney Miller made the board aware that the bill is increasing with the total at \$21,000 and not counting the meeting today including but not limited to pending litigations. He encouraged the board to begin making payments.

PRESENTATIONS:

- No presentations given

MAYOR'S REPORT:

- Wanted to discuss the last meeting
- The vetoes (and irregularities)
- Reported New Foods has not been in compliance with the regulations set by the board.
- Mayor Coulter wants the stores to mark off 6ft apart to keep people safe
- Gurpeet Inc. will be closed for two weeks

Let the record reflect Trustee James Morgan entered the meeting at 5:22 pm and Trustee Antoina McMichales entered the meeting at 5:24 pm.

Trustee Jones stated the Mayor didn't present her veto in writing to the board within 5 days of the March 18, 2020 Board of Trustees meeting

Attorney Miller quoted State Statute regarding the Mayor's veto powers. The Mayor has until the next regular board meeting to veto items, the board can vote to overturn now or at the next board meeting.

There was discussion among the board members whether to overturn the items today or at the next board meeting.

The consensus among the board over-ride items now and at the next board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Finance-Trustee J. Watson

- Trustee Watson stated there will be a plan for payment at the next board meeting

Personnel- Trustee J. Watson

- No report given

Economic Development- Trustee L. Jones

- Trustee Jones stated he did not understand why the village hall is closed but the businesses are still open.
- Trustee Jones would like the Attorney's to write something up and present to the Sheriff's
- Attorney Miller stated to the board that a form was sent to Leslie and the Clerk regarding reimbursement from the State due to COVID-19. He stressed it must be related to the virus and submitted by Sunday, April 12, 2020. Either Leslie or the Clerk could work on the form
- Mayor Coulter stated Ernestine Beck-Fulgham could also lend a hand
- This prompted a discussion among the board regarding Ernestine's employment.
- The board had the understanding that Ernestine would remain with the Village of Ford Heights pending completion of CDBG grant 1806-011 (it has been submitted). Ernestine should no longer be on village payroll.
- Mayor Coulter stated Ernestine would volunteer her time.
- This prompted another discussion among the board to define volunteer. The example given: She-Ta Coulter-Johnson is suspended, but is supposed to be a volunteer. She-Ta is on payroll
- Mayor Coulter stated the OG Gorilla Growers still interested in bringing their business to Ford Heights due to the grant deadline being extended. Mayor Coulter wanted to know if Trustee Jones would be interested in meeting with them? Trustee Jones confirmed that he would.
- Trustee Watson asked the Clerk to pull the old FEMA contract. Trustee Jones stated the village did not have to be a part of FEMA to apply for grants.
- Mayor Coulter would like for the village to apply for all eligible grants.

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Have Ernestine to come before the board to determine an estimated time of employment.
- All volunteers should come before the board.

Health & Sanitation- Trustee J. Griffin

- Trustee Griffin encouraged the residents and businesses to continue to practice social distancing, wash their hands, and to continue to shelter in place.
- Trustee Griffin stated the stores are not complying with the number of customers allowed to be served.

Parks & Recreation- Trustee A. McMichales

- Trustee McMichales wanted an update on the keys to the facilities.
- Mayor Coulter stated all events suspended until further notice, including the village fest.
- Trustee McMichales stated to the board to refund any money used for any upcoming events.

Police & Fire- Trustee J. Morgan

- Trustee Morgan stated a decision regarding the fire truck should be made since the money has been released.
- Trustee Morgan expressed concern the delay may cause the facility to re-attach the late fees that were negotiated off.
- Trustee Morgan would like the \$450,000 should be transferred to the facility that has the truck.
- He would like to appoint Dillard to get the accessories for the truck.
- The facility holding the truck will letter and place reflecting stripes on the fire truck.

MOTION: Trustee LaDell Jones moved to have a cashier's check by Friday, April 3, 2020 to pay for the fire truck in the amount of \$450,000.00.

SECOND: Trustee Johnny Griffin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees Johnny Griffin, Jimmie Watson, LaDell Jones, Antoina McMichales, and James Morgan, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1- Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: *Motion carried to have a cashier's check by Friday, April 3, 2020 to pay for the fire truck in the amount of \$450,000.00.*

- Board members wanted to know who has a copy of the initial contract for the fire truck.
- The Village Attorney's stated they would send a copy of the contract.
- The village has put down \$22,016 towards the fire truck.
- \$465,413 with agreement to trade in 2 or 3 old vehicles from the Village of Ford Heights.
- Trustee Morgan stated the village would trade in 1 vehicle due to title issues. Want to make sure the village is in compliance with the FEMA grant.

Streets & Alleys- Trustee S. Hatten

- No report given

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Item 7a: Consideration with possible action a resolution of the adoption of the update of the Cook County multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan.

DISCUSSION: Trustees wanted to know had all the municipalities adopted the plan. The Village Attorney's stated many of them have, and that the few that have not are just slow in the process.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to approve the resolution for the adoption of the update of the Cook County multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan.

SECOND: Trustee James Morgan

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees Johnny Griffin, James Morgan, Jimmie Watson, LaDell Jones, and Antoina McMichales, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1- Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: *Motion carried to approve the resolution for the adoption of the update of the Cook County multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan.*

Item 7b: Consideration of the Mayor's veto of Amended Resolution No. 2020-03-18-04 a resolution establishing signatory authority for bank accounts held by the Village of Ford Heights.

Item 7c:1 Consideration of the Mayor's veto of village employee's indefinite suspension without pay for Aubrey Adams will be considered at the April 15, 2020 Regular Board of Trustees meeting.

Item 7c: 2 The indefinite suspension without pay for She-Ta Coulter-Johnson will be considered at the April 15, 2020 Regular Board of Trustees meeting.

Item 7c: 3 The indefinite suspension without pay for Jessica Gray will be considered at the April 15, 2020 Regular Board of Trustees meeting.

Item 7c:4 The indefinite suspension without pay for Leslie Jones-Coulter will be considered at the April 15, 2020 Regular Board of Trustees meeting.

Let the record reflect Trustee McMichales stepped out of the Board of Trustees meeting.

Item 7d: Consideration with action the closing of The Ford Heights Food Market (formerly known as Ramsey's) for operating despite a cease and desist order, invalid business, liquor, tobacco licenses, and no running water.

MOTION: Trustee Johnny Griffin moved to close the Ford Heights Food Market (formerly known as Ramsey's) for operating despite a cease and desist order, invalid business, liquor, tobacco licenses, and no running water.

SECOND: Trustee Jimmie Watson

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees LaDell Jones, Jimmie Watson, James Morgan, and Johnny Griffin, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 4

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 2-Trustees Scottie Hatten and Antoina McMichales

ACTION: *Motion carried to close the Ford Heights Food Market (formerly known as Ramsey's) for operating despite a cease and desist order, invalid business, liquor, tobacco licenses, and no running water.*

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 8a: Consideration of a phone poll vote taken on Monday, March 23, 2020 to repeal the Mayor's Emergency Powers.

Let the record reflect Trustee McMichales has returned to the board meeting.

DISCUSSION:

- Board would like to repeal the Mayor's emergency powers, especially attempting to spend \$24,000.00 without the board's consent.
- Board would like to repeal the original ordinance.
- The Village Attorney's stated this does not change the Emergency Disaster Declaration.
- Mayor Coulter stated the Emergency Powers under Chapter 16 are still in effect because the modifications were not approved.

Item 8a:1 Consideration to repeal Chpt. 16 from the village code.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to repeal Chpt. 16 from the village code to remove the Mayor's Emergency Powers.

SECOND: Trustee LaDell Jones

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees James Morgan, LaDell Jones, Johnny Griffin, Jimmie Watson, and Antoina McMichales, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: *Motion carried to repeal Chpt. 16 from the village code to remove the Mayor's Emergency Powers.*

Mayor Coulter stated she would veto the repealing of Chapter 16 from the village code.

Item 8a:2 Consideration to approve \$1000.00 to pay Attorney Dave Cifelli for FOIA requests to be submitted to She-Ta Coulter-Johnson, Leslie Jones-Coulter, and Paychex. The board is also asking the Village Attorney's to not intervene.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to approve \$1000.00 to pay Attorney Dave Cifelli for FOIA requests to be submitted to She-Ta Coulter-Johnson, Leslie Jones-Coulter, and Paychex, with no intervention from the Village Attorney's.

SECOND: Trustee Johnny Griffin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees LaDell Jones, James Morgan, Johnny Griffin, Jimmie Watson, and Antoina McMichales, all sign of aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to pay \$1000.00 to Dave Cifelli for FOIA's to be submitted to She-Ta Coulter-Johnson, Leslie Jones-Coulter, and Paychex, and no intervention from the Village Attorney's.

Mayor Coulter stated she would veto paying \$1000.00 to Dave Cifelli for FOIA's submitted to She-Ta Coulter-Johnson, Leslie Jones-Coulter, and Paychex, with no interference from the Village Attorney's.

DISCUSSION:

- Trustees wanted clarification on the over-ride process.
- Does the over-ride take place at the next meeting or immediately?
- Village Attorney's stated the Mayor can veto at the next regular board meeting (4/15/2020), and the board can over-ride at the following regular board meeting in May (05/06/2020).

Item 8b: Consideration with action to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes for March 27, 2020.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes for March 27, 2020.

SECOND: Trustee Johnny Griffin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees Johnny Griffin, James Morgan, Jimmie Watson, LaDell Jones, and Antoina McMichales, all sign of aye.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes for March 27, 2020.

Item 8c: Consideration with action to approve \$350.00 to Lawrence Love for recording village meetings. The additional \$100.00 is to include the work that Mr. Love performed for this meeting.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to approve \$350.00 to Lawrence Love for recording village meetings including tonight's meeting.

SECOND: Trustee James Morgan

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees LaDell Jones, Johnny Griffin, Antoina McMichales, James Morgan, and Jimmie Watson, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to approve \$350.00 to Lawrence Love for recording village meetings including the meeting tonight.

Item 8d: Consideration to file charges against Mayor Annie R. Coulter as outlined by addendum.

- Village Attorney's advised an individual can make charges against the Mayor; it does not require board action.
- The question was posed to the Village Attorney's, if the board directed the firm to start the process, would they?
- After a lengthy discussion, the board decided to figure out the process without involving the Village Attorney's regarding item 8d.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to defer item 8d until the next Regular board meeting on April 15, 2020.

SECOND: Trustee Johnny Griffin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees Jimmie Watson, Johnny Griffin, James Morgan, LaDell Jones, and Antoina McMichales, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to defer item 8d until the next Regular board meeting on April 15, 2020.

Item 8e: Consideration with action for all village employees to either file for unemployment or return to work.

- Village Attorney advised the board the Family First Corona Act provides paid sick and vacation leave. Unemployment provision subject to Family First Corona Act.
- No action needed to apply.
- Recommendation by the Village Attorney's: to furlough village employees
- Send a letter to employees notifying them they have been furloughed due to COVID-19 for those unable to work remotely.
- The Board directed the Village Manager Ellis Franklin to identify and notate who he has been in contact with.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to furlough all village employees except for Mr. Ellis Franklin, Mr. Charles Woods, and the Fire Department until the "Stay at Home Order" has been lifted.

SECOND: Trustee Johnny Griffin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees Jimmie Watson, Johnny Griffin, LaDell Jones, Antoina McMichales, and James Morgan, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to furlough all village employees except for Mr. Ellis Franklin, Mr. Charles Woods, and the Fire Department until the "Stay at Home Order" has been lifted.

Item 8f: Consideration and possible action to approve one person to collect water bill payments beginning April 8, 2020 until the "Stay at Home Order" has been lifted. Post notice and send to the residents.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to have one person to collect water bill payments beginning April 8, 2020 until the "Stay at Home Order" has been lifted. Post notice and send to the residents.

SECOND: Trustee Johnny Griffin

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees James Morgan, Jimmie Watson, Antoina McMichales, Johnny Griffin, and LaDell Jones, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to have one person to collect water bill payments beginning April 8, 2020 until the "Stay at Home Order" has been lifted.

- The Board questioned the appropriateness of sending out notices with a zero balance and waiving late fees. It sends the wrong message about payment.

Item 8g: Consideration with possible action to approve payment of the fire truck for the amount stated in the original contract.

- This item has already been voted on and approved during the Police and Fire Committee Report.

Item 8h: Consideration with action to have Public Works deep clean the village businesses.

- Public Works employees are concerned about the COVID-19 virus and cleaning the buildings.
- Mayor Coulter is in agreement, Public Works has not been trained to clean this type of virus and bleach won't cut it.
- A special solution must be used.
- Board members stated the building has not been sited for having the virus.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to defer item 8h until the next Regular board meeting on April 15, 2020.

SECOND: Trustee LaDell Jones

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees LaDell Jones, Antoina McMichales, Johnny Griffin, Jimmie Watson, and James Morgan, *all sign of aye.*

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 1-Trustee Scottie Hatten

ACTION: Motion carried to defer item 8h until the next Regular board meeting on April 15, 2020.

CLOSED SESSION:

Mayor Coulter called for a motion to close open session, to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing 2 (c) 11 of the Open Meetings Act.

MOTION: Trustee Johnny Griffin moved to close open session to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing 2 (c) 11 of the Open Meetings Act.

SECOND: Trustee LaDell Jones

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees Jimmie Watson, Antoina McMichales, James Morgan, Johnny Griffin, and LaDell Jones, *all sign of aye.*

ACTION: Motion carried to close open session and go into closed session for the purpose of discussing 2 (c) 11 of the Open Meetings Act.

POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION:

MOTION: Trustee Johnny Griffin moved to return to open session.

SECOND: Trustee James Morgan

ROLL CALL VOTE: Trustees LaDell Jones, Antoina McMichales, Johnny Griffin, Jimmie Watson, and James Morgan, *all sign of aye*.

ACTION:

- The board members would like the board meeting to remain at the village hall.
- The Village Attorney's will still give out the bridge number for those that want to call in.
- Officials wanting to use that option can not be penalized for not participating in public.

Mayor Coulter called for a motion to adjourn the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

MOTION: Trustee Jimmie Watson moved to adjourn the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

SECOND: Trustee Antoina McMichales

VOICE VOTE: All were in favor of adjourning the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2020.

ACTION: Motion carried to adjourn the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 at 8:33 pm. The next Regular Board of Trustees meeting will be held in part at the village hall and remotely on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Clerk Ford