

**LEAGUE of WOMEN  
VOTERS™ OAK PARK / RIVER FOREST**



**River Forest Village Board of Trustees  
March 9, 2009**

*Kathy Balk, Observer*

Attending: President Paris, Trustees Dudek, O'Brien, Dillon, Conti, Nummer, Hoke; Village Administrator Gutierrez, Village Attorney Malina, Village Clerk Adduci

Also present: public, press

The meeting began at 7:35 p.m. Village Clerk Adduci administered the oath of office to new Deputy Police Chief, Gregory Weiss.

With no one on the agenda for Public Testimony, Trustee Dudek offered to answer questions posed to him in a letter from President Paris. He stated that he would only answer personal questions, and would not address any questions that pertained to another Trustee. He accused President Paris of trying to deflect attention away from himself and the ongoing inquiry into President Paris' relationship with Amalgamated Bank. When Trustee Dudek refused to read aloud the letter in its entirety, President Paris instructed Village Administrator Gutierrez to read the letter. Questions that Trustee Dudek refused to answer were pertaining to whether he had knowledge of Trustee Nummer voting on the pension budget while he was drawing a pension as a retired fire chief. President Paris did state that he did not believe that there was a conflict of interest for Trustee Nummer, but that Trustee Dudek wasn't applying the same standard to the situation with himself and Amalgamated. The exchange was less than civil with President Paris claiming Trustee Dudek was a liar, and Board members talking over each other with their opinions.

A proposal by Trustee Hoke to address an Ethics Ordinance brought about a heated debate. President Paris objected to addressing this item, and asked to table the vote until after the village election. Trustee Hoke stated that this debate is only for the Trustees and that President Paris should not be giving his opinion. Each Trustee had two opportunities to state their opinions. Trustee Conti stated that the Board should have more time to make sure the wording is clear, noting that the Board hadn't even been able to approve the minutes of the meeting on January 27. All the Trustees seemed to agree that ethics reform is a good thing, but not all agreed with the wording of the proposal. Trustee Hoke made a motion that the Board take a vote rather than table the amendment. The motion failed with Trustees Dudek, Hoke, and Nummer voting yes, and Trustees O'Brien, Dillon, and Conti voting no. President Paris cast the deciding vote.

The Board approved the contract for the 2009 Sewer Relining Project to Insituform Technologies in the amount of \$157,381. The Board also passed the pre-approval budget for the pre-ordering of 2009 police vehicles in the amount of \$118,348.

The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session at 10 p.m.

(online minutes: [www.river\\_forest.us/government/agendas\\_minutes.php](http://www.river_forest.us/government/agendas_minutes.php))