

**VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS  
RESOLUTION 2022-030**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CEMETERY EXPANSION AT FT. SHERIDAN, LAKE  
COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**WHEREAS**, The Village of Vernon Hills has a history of supporting members of the U.S. Armed Forces and veterans who have served, and the Board was approached by resident and Commander of American Legion Post 1247 in which a request was made for the Village Board to consider giving support to proposed expansion of the cemetery at Fort Sheridan; and

**WHEREAS**, the cemetery was established in 1889 and includes remains of veterans beginning with the Civil War. In 1995, approximately 250 acres of land from the former Ft. Sheridan Army base was transferred to the Lake County Forest Preserve; and

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is seeking 4.7 acres from the Lake County Forest Preserve District that adjoin the cemetery as the additional land is needed to increase burial capacity, as it is estimated the current remaining burial space will be depleted within the next 15 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed transfer of land would provide more than 50 additional years of capacity to accommodate future burial needs of veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, The Forest Preserve district received direction at the August 29<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee to work on an MOU with Veterans Affairs. Next steps include Legislative Committee meetings in which proposed 2023 Legislative Agenda items will be discussed, followed by approval at the County level, approval by amendment to the Downstate Forest Preserve Act, followed by the Governor agreeing to sign and transfer this land; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Vernon Hills, as we approach Veterans Day, the Village supports veterans, veteran service organizations to include the American Legion, Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission, Department of Veterans Affairs and National Cemetery Administration; along with the Lake County Forest Preserves and is supportive of a transfer of land that will allow the existing seven acre Fort Sheridan National Cemetery to provide decades of continued service to the veteran community.

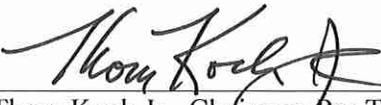
Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November 2022

Adopted by roll call vote as follows:

AYES: 5 – Marquardt, Takaoka, Forster, Schenk, Koch

NAYS: 0 – None

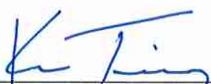
ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 2 – Oppenheim, Byrne

  
Thom Koch Jr., Chairman Pro Tem

PASSED: 11/01/2022

APPROVED: 11/01/2022

ATTEST: 11/01/2022

  
Kevin Timony, Village Clerk

