

**Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, September 25, 2018 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Covington called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:15 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Present
Trustees:	Elizabeth Williams	Present
	Paula C. Wilson	Present
	Theaplise Brooks	Present
	Curtis McMullan II	Absent (arrived @7:18)
	Milton C. Payton	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present

Also present were Village Manager/Police Chief John Pate, Village Attorney John Wise, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Village Communications & Community Engagement Specialist Neva Jenkins, Public Works Director Gary Richardson, Deputy Police Chief Deborah Wilson, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Covington led the audience in the Pledge Of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Brown seconded a motion to table minutes of June, July and August, 2018.

Ayes:	Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, Payton, Brown and Mayor Covington.
Nays:	None.
Absent:	Trustee McMullan

***Motion To Table Carried.***

**E: General Public Comments**

Mr. Elbert Shaw addressed the Mayor and Board of Trustees and stated that like the prodigal son he has returned home, residing on Wright Road, and asked the Board to consider bringing him back as the Economic Development Specialist.

Mr. Johnny Rice voiced his concerns with the plans of Crete-Monee School District 201-U and their proposed closing of Coretta Scott King Magnet School, stating that they should consider building a new school in Crete to accommodate kids that live east of I-394.

Ms. Deborah Stroud commented on voter registration, noting that it has been her mission to attempt to register at least 1 voter per day. She gave a list of locations where she will be until end of voter registration.

**F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

**F-2: NEW BUSINESS**

**F-2a: First, Second, and Third Readings – Ordinance Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois, Terminating The Designation Of The TIF III Tax Increment Finance District And Redevelopment Project Area And Dissolving The Special Tax Allocation Fund Related Thereto**

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee McMullan seconded a motion to approve first, second, and third reading of this ordinance

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**Ordinance Number O2018 – 32.**

**F-2b: Motion to Approve the Settlement in Case No. 2017 CH 1809 with the Board of Trustees and the University Park Police Pension Fund**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Brown seconded a motion to table this item.

**Roll call on F-2b:**

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,  
and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Table Carried.**

**F-2c: Motion to Approve the April 27, 2018, Certificate of Reimbursable Project Costs for 500 Crossings Drive Subject to Striking any reference to Interest accrued on a Redevelopment Project Cost, and Approve Payment to Exeter 500 Crossings, LLC in the Amount of \$476,041.22 for reimbursement pursuant to its Redevelopment Agreement and aforesaid Certificate for the 2015 Calendar Year (2014 Tax Year) in the amount of \$238,557.87 and for the 2016 Calendar Year (2015 Tax Year) in the amount of \$237,483.35, with no payment being made for any claimed interest.**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee McMullan seconded the motion to approve this Item.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,  
and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried.**

**F-2d: Resolution Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois, Authorizing And Approving The Acquisition Of An Eleven Foot Reversible Snowplow From Henke Manufacturing Corporation**

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee McMullan seconded the motion to approve this resolution.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,  
and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**Resolution Number R2018-37.**

**F-2e: Resolution Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois Authorizing The Execution Of an Annual Lake Management Contract by and between the Village of University Park, Will and Cook Counties, Illinois and Solitude Lake Management for the Maintenance of the Western Avenue Pond.**

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee McMullan seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried Resolution Number R2018-38.**

**F-2f: Resolution Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois Supporting Local Schools in the Village of University Park**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Wilson seconded the motion to approve this resolution.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried Resolution Number R2018-39.**

**F-2g: Bills Payable**

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee Payton seconded the motion to approve the following Bills payable from August 15, 2018 through September 25, 2018. The funds will be charged to the following Accounts:

General Fund Account	\$218,798.25
Road and Bridge Fund	\$21,433.06
Town Center Fund	\$22,495.36
Payroll Fund	\$7,013.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$269,740.42</b>

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**G. Reports of the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Clerk, Manager, Appointed Officials, And Committees\Commissions**

***G-1: Reports Of Appointed Officials***

Public Works Director Gary Richardson reported that they have used 300 tons of asphalt repairing streets, and hope to finish before plants close on October 1, 2018.

Fire Chief Chellios reported that October plans to be a big month for fire safety at local Schools, and informed the Board of the retirement of Lieutenants Tim Roche and Jeff Duhoski and asked the Board to have them back for presentation of a resolution and Badge retirement in the near future. He also noted that currently the fire department is down by four people.

Deputy Police Chief Deborah Wilson reported on a rash of vacant homes being damaged, and that the police department has been involved in training and drills for active shooters at local schools, and they have been requested to hold that training at some businesses.

Mayor Covington commented that the South Suburban Black Mayors formed a training Initiative where Deputy Police Chief Wilson and Manager Pate attended.

***G-2: Report Of Board of Trustees***

Trustee Williams reported on sessions that she attended at the IML which included a session on TIF Districts, where they predicts that it is better to extend the life of a TIF rather than create new TIFs. She also stated that getting an over/under pass at Governors Highway/University Parkway is still her passion, and voiced her desire of being included in village planning meetings.

Trustee Wilson reported that the Sole Shero Race is cancelled, and HSSEC have planned a fall festival on October 27, 2018. She also reported on session she attended at the Congressional Black Caucus relating to events and activities for youth.

***G-3: Report Of Village Clerk***

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that nominating petitions for the April 2, 2019 Consolidated Election can be circulated through December 17, 2018 for the offices of Mayor, Village Clerk and 3 Trustee. She also reported on sessions that she attended at the IML which included: FOIA in the age of the internet, Effective public comment and citizen engagement at Village meetings, Municipal Elections and the responsibility of candidates. She noted that while she made nominating petitions packages available, she urged potential candidates to seek legal counsel, and obtain their own forms and information from the State Board of Elections and the County Clerks.

**G-4: Report Of Village Manager**

Village Manager Pate reported that fifty-five trees will be planted beginning October 27, 2018 as part of a tree grant. He also reported on sessions he attended at the IML which included 3-2-1 Drones, Sister Cities and the benefits to each. He expounded on a newspaper article published in the Chicago Tribune/Daily Southtown relating to the financial report of the Forensic TIF Audit, noting that according to the report nearly \$40 million from tax increment finance accounts were transferred into general and payroll funds. He stated that while a majority of transfers appears to have been made for legitimate TIF related expenses IRH determined that approximately 34 percent is questionable. He further stated that while the forensic audit looked only at TIF transfers from 2012 – 2016, he believes the practice likely went back decades, and that his office is in the process of working with the State Comptroller to get the village's financial reporting requirements up to date by early 2019, and that he continues to share information with the FBI on their investigation, noting that there have been no charges filed against any employee or officials.

**G-5: Report Of Mayor**

Mayor Covington reported on her attendance at the National Black Caucus where they participated in an Open Mic with renown entertainer Common; her meeting in Matteson relating to Chapter I-57 where University Park received an award, and notice of funding for a 100% disaster grant with 0 matching for the Village.

**H. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

None.

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Williams seconded a motion to move into executive session for purposes of litigation, pending or probable at 8:45 p.m.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,  
and Mayor Covington.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried.**

The Board returned from executive session at 9:10 p.m. with nothing to report out.

## **J. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Williams moved, Trustee Wilson seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9:11 pm.

***Motion to Adjourn Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.***

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Dorothy R. Jones, MMC  
Village Clerk*