# *Minutes Of The Committee Of The Whole Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, January 15, 2019 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park*

# *1. CALL TO ORDER*

Mayor Covington called this committee of the whole meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:02 p.m.

***2. ROLL CALL***

Mayor: Vivian E. Covington Present

Trustees: Elizabeth Williams Present

Paula C. Wilson Present

Theaplise Brooks Present

Curtis McMullan II Present

Milton C. Payton Present

Oscar H. Brown, Jr. Absent

Also present were Village Manager John Pate, Village Attorney Rick Bruen, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Communications Specialist Neva Jenkins, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

**3. *PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

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

**4.  *GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS***

Ms. Amina Parks addressed the Board and voiced her concerns that large trucks are parking on streets between 2 and 6 a.m.

Ms. Debbie Stroud addressed the Mayor and Board regarding the utilization of Riegel Farm. She stated that petitions had been circulated and asked what plans the Village have for utilization of that property. She also asked if the Village had any plans to assist the federal workers who have been impacted by the shutdown.

***General Public Comments – continued:***

Mayor Covington responded that some of the federal workers are being compensated during the shutdown. She also responded that the Riegel Farm facilities have not been maintained for many years, and that the architectural firm JMA is in the process of designing a youth recreational center to be built in the Town Center.

Mrs. Mary Truss addressed the Mayor and Board and stated that she feels it is advantageous for the Board to consider what residents wants Riegel Farm used for, which is to allow a community center for all ages including seniors.

Mayor Covington responded that she plans to hold a Town Hall meeting to discuss these issues.

***5- 1: DISCUSSION ITEMS:***

***5-a1: Discussion ––Resolution of the Village of University Park, Will and Cook Counties, Illinois, Authorizing a Moratorium on Personnel Hiring and Replacement.***

Trustee Payton questioned the legitimacy of this item being placed on the agenda, stating that it is the responsibility of the Village Manager for hiring and firing of personnel, and that he feels this is a political move that is not in the best interest of the Village.

Trustee McMullan stated that he does not want the Board to tie the hands of the Village Manager and he would not support it.

Trustee Williams questioned the lack of staff.

Trustee Wilson stated that she supports section 4 of the ordinance.

The Board briefly discussed this item, and the consensus of the Mayor and Board was not to move this item to the next regular meeting agenda.

***5-a2: Discussion – Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Consulting Services Agreement By And Between The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois, And NJN Consulting Services, Inc. For Accounting Services***

Manager Pate explained that he was directed by the Board to go out and find an accounting services because the contract with IRH expired December 31, 2018.

Mr. Nicholas J. Narducci, Owner of NJN Consulting gave a presentation of the services that his firm was prepared to do, and a background of his experiences which included his current firm, City of Crest Hill, Village Of Beach Park, Village Of Elmwood, Village of Minooka, Village of Winfield, and the City of Wilmington. He stated that he has 40 years of financial experience.

Trustee Payton asked about staffing needs, and whether or not Mr. Narducci would use our current staff, or bring his own staff.

Mr. Narducci responded that initially he would work with the current staff and see how they would fit into his program, and he would be paying strict attention to the front office personnel.

Trustee Wilson referred to a portion of the contract that referred to additional services and asked if these additional services would be included in his $65.00 hourly rate and not to exceed $60,000.00, she further stated that she wants stipulations that set limits on the amount of additional duty and wants the Board to discuss hiring a finance director.

Trustee Payton expounded on the work done by IRH, and the fact that they pointed out the Village’s financial difficulties.

The Board discussed pros and cons of this item. After the discussion, the consensus of Mayor Covington and the Board was to place this item on the next regular agenda for action.

***5-a3: Discussion – An Ordinance Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Amending Title 6, Of Part 14 Of The Codified Ordinances Of The Village Of University Park Implementing A Crime Free Housing Program***

Trustee Payton commented that the Board agreed to meet with rental property owners and hold a workshop before bringing this back before the Board.

The Board briefly discussed this item, and the consensus of the Mayor and Board was not to move this item to the agenda, and place on hold until the aforementioned had happened.

***5-a4: An Ordinance Rescinding Chapter 1450 Of Title Fourteen of the Codified Ordinances of the Village of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois, Pertaining To Flood Damage Prevention, And Adopting Chapter 1452, Pertaining To Stormwater Management, As Its Replacement***

***5-a4 continued:***

The Board briefly discussed this item, and the consensus of the Mayor and Board was to move this item to the next regular meeting agenda for action.

**5-a5) *Discussion – Solid Waste Collection Agreement***

The Board briefly discussed this item, and the consensus of the Mayor and Board was not to move this item to the agenda, and place on hold until further notice.

***5-a6) Discussion – Utilization of Riegel Farm Property***

Village Manager Pate stated that there is no money to renovate the farm, and it would need several thousands of dollars for that project, and he wants to sale.

Mayor Covington commented that the facility could be used for before and after school programs with other communities.

The Board briefly discussed this item, and the consensus of the Mayor and Board was to hold a workshop before making a decision.

**6. *Executive Session – Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; Sale/Lease Municipal Properties.***

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Brooks seconded a motion to move into executive session for purposes of Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; Sale/Lease Municipal Properties at 8:38 p.m.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Brown.

***Motion to approve carried.***

The Board returned from executive session at 11:38 p.m. and resumed the Committee Of The Whole meeting, and noted that there was nothing to report out.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee McMullan seconded a motion to adjourn the Committee Of The Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees at 11:40 pm.

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

*Respectfully Submitted,*

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*Dorothy R. Jones, MMC*

*Village Clerk*