

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustee For The Village Of University park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, December 14, 2010 At #90 Town Center Drive, In The Village Of University Park.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McCowan called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:08 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Alvin R. McCowan	Present
Trustees:	Sharon A. McGuire	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present
	Vivian E. Covington	Present
	Keith J. Griffin	Present
	Joseph E. Roudez, III	Present
	Larry B. Brown	Present

Also present were Interim Village Manager/Finance Director David Sevier, Village Attorney Forest Miles, Village Treasurer James Ellis, Deputy Police Chief Gregory Box, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Cable Studio Manager Christel Allen, Interim Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, General Manager Golf Professional Paul Blockoms, Economic Development & Code Enforcement Director Kimberly Porter, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend and Deputy Village Clerk Kellye Kidd.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McCowan led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

D. READING OF MINUTES

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held Tuesday, November 23, 2010 as presented.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to correct the minutes (page 6 of 9) to reflect he moved to approve item #F-2-d instead of Trustee Griffin.

Roll call for approval of minutes

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Abstained: Trustee Covington

Motion to approve carried.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E-1: Village Manager's Report

Interim Village Manager Sevier reported that the tree lighting ceremony was successful. The event was attended by over 60 residents and several Board members.

Trustee Covington asked the Village Manager if letters were sent to the employees clarifying when it was appropriate for employees to sign candidate petitions. Manager Sevier responded that a letter had not been sent yet. Trustee Oscar Brown asked when it was appropriate. Trustee Covington replied employees can only sign petitions when they are "off the clock".

Trustee Covington also wanted to know when the sign will be updated at the Towncenter, when the village vehicles will be labeled and are complaint forms forwarded to the Board. Director Townsend of Public Works responded that with the change in weather, updating the sign is questionable. Manager Sevier replied that there are two (2) functioning unmarked vehicles and the vehicles would be labeled when the cash flow allows for the expense. He also stated that all complaints concerning the Board are forwarded to him, the Board and suitable department head.

Trustee Covington expressed need of using Public Service Announcements (PSA) to inform residents of emergencies and water issues. Manager Sevier requested a meeting with Trustee Covington to discuss this idea and others.

Trustee Griffin voiced his concern regarding the pipe bursting situation in the Vistas and the lack of action taken by the Fire and Code Enforcement Departments. Code Enforcement Director Porter responded that since the water company (Aqua IL) was the responsible party, there was very little Code Enforcement could have done. Code Enforcement Investigators evaluated the situation. The effected units were habitable and the contractors were licensed and permitted - as required by Village ordinance. After further investigation, it was founded that the contractors were not receiving timely payments and the corrected work was stalled.

Trustee Griffin was also concerned about the snow plowing of a cul-de-sac in town. Director Townsend apologized for the neglect, but described the snow removal process to the Board and public.

Village Manager's Report continued

Trustee McGuire asked of the validity of the insurance Aqua IL was offering. Manager Sevier was not aware of the offer, but he would investigate and report on his findings.

Trustee Roudez wanted to know if the Village had information regarding heating assistance and senior safety due to the extreme weather conditions. Manager Sevier asked that those with heating issues contact the Fire and Police Departments for local heating centers and encouraged neighbors to check on senior residents.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor McCowan acknowledged the Young Broadcaster students. Awards were presented and the Board congratulated the students of their success.

E-2a: Proclamation – Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month

Mayor McCowan read the proclamation.

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves this proclamation.

Ayes:	Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.
Nays:	None.

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor McCowan continued with his report by discussing the benefits and the needed residential support of the development of a local airport (Abraham Lincoln National Airport Commission). The project is currently supported by local regional pastors and there will be weekly visuals at the Thompson Center in Chicago, IL. The Mayor encouraged Governor Quinn to sign the land lease for the project now that he is in office.

Trustee McGuire encouraged the public to hold *all* officials as accountable as they hold local officials for progress and promises made during campaign session.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Trustee Oscar Brown promoted the petition drive in support of ALNAC. Petitions can be signed at most of the local business in the Village.

Police Deputy Chief Box requested residents to support the Village call center. This will aide in the efforts of keeping residents informed community events and emergencies. He also reported on his attendance of the Russet Oaks Association Meeting. Manager Sevier announced the receipt of the personal scholarship donations from Atty. Miles and McCarthy Duffy, LLP Attorneys & Counselors.

Director Townsend reported on the Cicero Project. Mayor McCowan required that all lighting and landscaping be presented to the Board for approval. Trustee Roudez asked if LTD lighting was a possibility and Trustee Covington asked if the lighting research completed by the Public Utilities Committee would be considered. Director Townsend responded that IDOT has not approved LTD lighting and he was not sure if the lighting research was still current.

Director Childress announced the following upcoming programs:

- Basketball -Clinic, Sat. 12/18 at 2 pm – 6 pm, co-ed ages 6 – 13, free at Crete-Monee Field House
- Four Winds Casino Trip, Fri. 1/31, ages 21 and older, \$15/pp bus departs from 90 Towncenter.

Director Porter reported on the Com-Ed payment assistance program for residents that can prove financial hardship. Residents can call (815) 722-0722.

Trustee Covington requested that all departments monitor voicemail boxes so messages can be left.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Comments were made during the above agenda item.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Second and Third Readings – An Ordinance Levying Taxes For Corporate Purposes Of The Village of University Park, Illinois, For The Fiscal Year Commencing On The First Day Of May 2011 and Ending On The Thirtieth Day Of April 2012

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves second and third readings of this ordinance.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington and Roudez
Nays: Trustees Griffin and Larry Brown

Motion to approve carried

Ordinance Number 2010-46

F-1b: Third Reading – Ordinance Amending Title Six Of The Building And Housing Code To Add New Chapter 1471 Requiring The Registration And Maintenance Of Abandoned Or Distressed Residential Properties

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves third reading of this ordinance.

Trustee Covington asked if the Plan Commission reviewed the amendment.

Mayor McCowan answered that the amended is for registration purposes only.

Trustee Oscar Brown voiced his concern regarding the maintenance of vacant homes.

Atty. Miles and Director Porter discussed the amendment allows the Village to track ownership of the property and enforce maintenance responsibility to the owner.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if this included the abandoned farm south of Hickory Creek Apartments.

Atty. Miles replied the property is not within the jurisdiction of the Village. Director Porter has been in contact with Cook County regarding this property.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown
Nays: None

Motion to approve carried

Ordinance Number 2010-47

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: Resolution Approving A Professional Service Proposal With JMA Architects For Architectural And Engineering Services In Connection With The Renovation Of Approximately 6,000 Square Feet Of Space In The University Park Towncenter.

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves this resolution.

Trustee Griffin asked if this expense was going bring the project over budget. Trustee Covington asked if this proposal should have gone out to bid, if the IT Committee could be part of the bid process, if the Finance Committee reviewed this proposal and if the fee could be explained further.

Manager Sevier answered that the expense would not exceed the approved budget for the project. He also stated that professional services are not required to be bid. The Finance Committee will review the proposal and the initial fee is a retainer along with a percentage of the completed project – adjustments can be made to meet the budget parameters.

Mayor McCowan encouraged the IT Committee to prepare a bid.

Mr. Robert Travis asked if the budget would be monitored and Ms. Sandra Heard asked if the architect is aware of the budget restraints.

Mayor McCowan answered yes to both questions.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, and Roudez
Nays: Trustees Covington and Griffin
Abstained: Trustee Larry Brown

Motion to approve carried

Resolution Number 2010-39

F-2b: Motion To Approve The Switch From Illinois Municipal League Risk Management Association To Illinois Counties Risk Management Trust

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves this motion.

Trustee Covington asked if this expense was budgeted, if surrounding communities used the same company and did the employees agreed with the coverage.

Manager Sevier replied that the expense is budgeted (there is a cost savings of \$144,000), nearby communities are not utilizing this company but other are and employees do not need to review or approve this type of coverage.

Roll call for item F-2b.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown
Nays: None.

F-2c: Appointments of the following:

NAME	COMMITTEE/COMMISSION	TERM
Kenyetta Neal	Youth & Recreation Advisory Committee	2 years
Francis Washington	Public Service & Utilities IT / Cable Communications Advisory Commission	4 years 4 years
LaVerne Williams	Finance Committee Advisory Member Youth & Recreation Advisory Committee Plan Commission Public Safety Committee	3 years 2 years 2 years 2 years
Taurance Mitchell	Police & Fire Commissioner	2 years
Richard Moore	Police & Fire Commissioner	2 years
Danny Sigers	IT / Cable Communications Advisory Commission	2 years
Chere'se Williams	Code Enforcement Plan Commission	2 years 2 years

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves the appointments.

Trustee Larry Brown motioned to approve appointments individually versus as a group. Trustee Griffin seconded this motion. Trustee Larry Brown expressed his objection to approving the appointments as a group. Trustees Oscar Brown and Covington voiced their support of the original motion.

Ayes: Trustee Griffin
Nays: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Roudez and Larry Brown

Motion failed

Roll call for original motion

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, and Roudez
Nays: Trustee Griffin
Abstained: Trustee Larry Brown

Motion to approve carried

F-2d: Bills Payable

Trustee McGuire moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park has incurred for the last three (3) weeks from November 24, 2010 to December 14, 2010 in the following funds:

General Operation Fund	\$ 344,126.54
Debt Service – 1998 Bond	\$ 500.00
Debt Service – 2002 Bond	\$ 339,879.92
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 59,916.83
Towncenter Operations	\$ 3,014.91
University Golf Club	\$ 122,436.71
Capital Project Fund	\$ 7,308.61
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 10,645.05
TIF II – Industrial Park Fund	\$2,337,476.31
TIF III – Cicero Industrial Fund	\$ 803,130.88
TIF V – Dralle Industrial Fund	<u>\$ 681,928.02</u>
	<u>\$4,710,363.78</u>

Trustee Covington requested copies of all TIF Agreements.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Roudez, Griffin, and Larry Brown
Nays: None.

Motion to approve carried.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Renee Flowers stated her gratitude for the Young Broadcasters Program. Her son was a participant and graduate of the program. He is currently a successful student at Eastern Illinois University majoring in Broadcasting. He is a recipient of the University Park scholarship and continues to volunteer at the Cable Studio every summer.

Ms. Liz Williams, President of Russet Oaks Townhome Assoc., thanked Deputy Chief Box for attending the recent association meeting to discuss safety. She also thanked Director Townsend for removing the ice on the streets of the development.

Ms. Patty Samuelson reported on her account of the pipe breaking which occurred in her sub-division October 30, 2010. She described the extreme water damage to her home, furnishings and appliances. Ms. Samuelson wanted to thank the Trustees who offered assistance and her displeasure of the response from the Fire and Code Enforcement Departments.

General Comments Continued

Pastor Brenda Mitchell reported on her discontentment with the reaction she received from a Police Officer when she attempted to obtain information about a family member involved in an accident. She filed a complaint with the Police Department and has not received a response as of yet.

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Tax Assessor, invited the public and Board to the Monee Assessor Office Christmas Open House. The event will take place Wed., Dec. 22 from 9 am – 7 pm. She thanked Director Townsend for diligently working to rectify the heating situation of the Assessor Office. Ms. Heard voiced her disapproval of the golf course resources not being included in the levy since it is an Enterprise Fund. She also requested a copy of the TIF. She then mentioned that the EAV has increased in the last five (5) years and should be decreasing.

Mr. Williams, member of the neighborhood watch program, asked why members of the program were not notified before literature regarding the program was circulated.

Ms. Mary Truss complained about the street and cul-de-sac snow plowing within the Village.

Mr. Cleo Taylor gave his condolences to Trustee Covington losing her daughter; then described his concern regarding the business practices of another business in the Village.

Mr. Quentin Montgomery, resident on Regent Rd., reported that his block is being neglected by the snow plows.

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor McCowan suspended the meeting from 10:18 p.m. to 10:25 p.m. to call for the Board to caucus.

The Mayor reconvened the Board meeting and the following responses were given to concerns raised by residents under general comments:

The Mayor sympathized with the endeavors Ms. Samuelson had to endure with the water damage. Manager Sevier will meet with the Fire & Code Enforcement Departments to discuss if the situation could have been handled differently.

Mayor McCowan also apologized for the conduct of the Police Officer to Pastor Mitchell. He asked Deputy Chief Box to give this his full attention to resolve.

Director Townsend explained the snow plowing process and he would have the plows out in the morning to clear any neglected streets.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee McGuire moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 10:46 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk*

/drj