

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustee For The Village Of University park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, September 27, 2011 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 7:07 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Present
Trustees:	Elizabeth Williams	Absent (arrived @ 7:25)
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present
	Milton C. Payton	Present
	Keith J. Griffin	Present
	Joseph E. Roudez, III	Present
	Larry B. Brown	Present

Also present were Village Manager Lafayette Linear, Village Attorney Ivan Tomic, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Police Sgt. Lance Ray, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Golf Club Restaurant Manager Pamela Jackson, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Parks & Recreation Programs Supervisor Gregory Murray, Cable Studio Manager Eddie Pearson, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Economic & Community Development Director Kim Porter, 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. READING OF MINUTES

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves to postpone reading of minutes to October 11, 2011.

Ayes: Trustees Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustee Williams.

Motion Carried to Approve.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E-1: Village Manager's Report

Village Manager Lafayette Linear reported that the interview process to fill the positions for Police Chief and Finance Director is concluded, and he now awaits results of the investigative process; that he is looking at #34 Town Center Drive as the location to house the Kids Health Club, and he is looking at revising the plans of #70 – 80 Town Center; He and Jerry Townsend met with Bud Fleming of IDOT at a meeting in Schaumburg last Thursday in an attempt to revive the widening of University Parkway road project, because the funding for that project is now in jeopardy.

Trustee Roudez asked for clarity on the revisions to #70 – 80 Town Center, and asked if this conversation had been had in private, and asked the Board to take another look at the Resource Center. He stated that he was glad to see ethic on the agenda, and thinks it should have been applied in the hiring of the new police chief, because he feels the selection process was unethical, and soiled because the Mayor and Trustee Larry Brown were part of the selection process. Therefore, he would like to see the process revisited, and the process reopened.

Manager Linear stated that he did not know any of the candidates prior to the interview, and that he compiled a panel of willing individuals and they reviewed approximately 40 applications, and choose 10 applicants to move forward with. He commented that he reached out to former police chiefs but to no avail

Mayor Covington stated that she was glad to hear the concerns of Trustee Roudez, because in the past people were hired because they were friends of the previous administration.

Trustee Oscar Brown voiced his concerns with the proposed use of #70 – 80 Town Center as the Kids Health Club; asked the number of vacant spaces in the Town Center; what is the cost for the architect to revise the plans, and asked if TIF funds can be used to build out the Kids Health Club, if not what happens to the \$210,000.00 TIF funds approved for the Resource Center.

Manager Linear stated that TIF funds could not be used for the Kids Health Club.

Trustee Griffin voiced his concerns with the lack of finance committee meetings, and asked the status of village finances; and suggested that the manager taker a look at a system for tracking training.

Village Treasurer Dilworth responded that the finance committee meeting he scheduled for September 26th had to be canceled because he did not post the meeting notice within the required time.

Village Manager's Report – continued:

Manager Linear responded that at this time he cannot give a full analysis of finances, but that we are solvent, however he wants to wait until the new finance director is in place, and has had an opportunity to review the financial situation.

Trustee Larry Brown voiced his concern and disappointment that another winter is approaching and the front of the closed Co-Op store has not been painted. He noted that this has been an ongoing concern and request for two years, and stated that he now wants specific a date for completion of the process. Manager Linear stated that he would check into the matter and report back.

Trustee Roudez commented on the possibilities that the cable studio has been asked to delete or edit portions of certain Board meeting tapes, and stated that he wants assurances that tapes will not be edited or changed in any form, and the meetings will be shown in their entirety.

Mayor Covington stated that in the past that was done, but would not be tolerated under her watch. She asked Mr. Pearson if he had been asked to make changes to any meeting tapes.

Cable Studio Manager Pearson responded that he has not been asked to alter any tapes, and according to FCC regulations he cannot and will not alter any tapes.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington reported on the numerous meetings and events she has attended with various board members and staff since the last meeting, including the meeting of School District 201-U budget hearing. She noted that the Village of University Park gave 201-U approximately two million dollars from TIF Funds from TIF II, however, there will be a 2.7% increase in school taxes with a two million deficit in their budget.

Mayor Covington introduced Ms. Jewon Olewugye, a University of Illinois Political Science Student who was observing the board meeting as part of her studies; She commented on the Congressional Black Caucus Conference she attended along with Trustees Larry Brown, Griffin, Clerk Jones, Executive Liaison Townsend, and Marketing Consultant Walter Perkins, and voiced her pleasure at the attendance of youth from other states at the conference and her desire to start a Student In Political Training project, and take at least twenty young people to the CBC next year. She also commented on the newly elected officials training at the IML that Trustees Payton and Williams attended. And also reported that the Village of University Park will begin a yellow and gold pages directory for local businesses; She invited the residents out for a residential meet and greet on Thursday September 29th at the University Golf Club & Conference Center, and stated that she is looking forward for the Board Retreat.

Mayor's Report – Continued:

PROCLAMATIONS: Mayor Covington read the following proclamations:

- 1) Annual Muslim Convention – Celebrating The Tradition, Legacy And Forward Vision Of W.D. Muhammad And Honoring Imam W. D. Muhammad, II that she presented on September 4th.
- 2) Gold Star Mother's Week – Proclaiming September 19 through September 25, 2011 as Gold Star Mother's Week in the Village of University Park.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Trustee Payton reported that the HSSEC committee is winding down from the family fling/back to school festivities, and is now celebrating Senior Wellness Month with health fair for seniors and other activities. He noted that in October they will kick off the coat and food drive with barrels located in various locations in the village for collection. He stated that he is attempting to coordinate with Coretta Scott-King Magnet School for students to paint the collection barrels. Additionally, the drive is being extended to churches to participate, and he reported that the Human Services & Special Events Committee would like to meet with Mayor Covington and Manager Linear this upcoming Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Trustee Larry Brown reported that for the first time in nearly six years, the Public Safety Committee would meet on October 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Griffin reported on a transportation seminar that he attended with the Secretary of Transportation.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Public Works Director Jerry Townsend reported that he recently attended a meeting with Illiana Planning Commission where discussion included the proposed 3rd Airport; met with Robinson Engineers regarding village storm sewers, and reviewed submitted grant proposal for Hickok Bridge and Safe Route for Schools, including sidewalks, and noted that the State will accept Hickok Bridge and Safe Route for Schools.

Parks & Recreation Programs Supervisor Greg Murray reported on football activities scheduled for October 15th with October 22nd as the rain date. The activities will include a Putt, Pass & Kick contest on October 16th. He also reported that there are new additions of 3 baby goats at Riegel Farm and that the horse is pregnant.

Mayor Covington asked if there are funds for those kids who cannot pay the fee for participation.

Reports Of Other Officers – continued:

Manager Linear responded that the revised budget submitted by Trustee Payton included avenues for assisting those who cannot pay.

Golf Club Restaurant Manager Pam Jackson reported that there is live jazz every Thursday night at the golf club; Saturday and Sunday Brunch menus have been enhanced; and hooked on golf for kids is on-going.

Director of Economic & Community Development Kim Porter reported that a Team Building networking Speed type Breakfast is scheduled for October 18, 2011 at Chicago Southland, fee is \$20.00 for members and \$35.00 for non members, and that Uncle Bubba's Rib House on Cicero & Stuenkel Road opened this past Monday.

Mayor Covington commented that food vendors are to contact Ms. Porter regarding decorating ideas for the holidays.

Trustee Griffin asked if there is any training for minority contractors and businesses.

Trustee Larry Brown reported that during the Congressional Black Caucus, and the meeting with Senator Kirk he addressed the concerns of Trustee Williams relating to the prospect for funding for an underpass in conjunction with the I-57 proposed Interchange.

Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth reported on his attendance at the IML and the contacts he made and knowledge he gained relating to TIF process and revenues.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Accepting A Letter Of Agreement Between The Village Of University Park And MBA Services For The Performance Of Auditing Services

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

Trustee Larry Brown asked if this would include the audit for 2009 – 2010, and if this is a recapture ordinance.

Manager Linear responded that this will be an internal audit to establish our financial status.

Trustee Griffin asked that the Board is kept informed of the outcome of this auditing process.

Roll Call on F-1a:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2010-28.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: First, Second, and Third Readings - Ordinance Accepting The Bid By Currie Motors Fleet For A 2011 Ford F-350 Truck With Salt Spreader For The Public Works Department

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves to table this item and refer it to the finance committee.

Mayor Covington stated that she wants a date to workshop this item prior to the Board Retreat.

Trustee Larry Brown requested that the workshop is held on a Saturday to allow adequate time to review and to allow for public participation, and suggested October 8th at 9:00 a.m.

Trustee Payton stated that the finance committee is charged with reviewing cost over \$10,000.00 and he wants it brought before the finance committee before any decision is made.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Table And Refer To Finance Committee Approved.

F-2b: First Reading - Ordinance Amending Chapter 299.14 Of The Administration Code Entitled "Ethics Commission"

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves to table this ordinance and refer to workshop.

Mayor Covington asked that the original ordinance is attached for next review.

Trustee Oscar Brown suggested that the membership consists of a five member Board.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Table And Refer To Workshop Approved.

F-2c: Bills Payable

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown 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 two (2) weeks from September 14, 2011 to September 27, 2011. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 213,133.47
Road & Bridge	\$ 7,959.14
Towncenter Operations	\$ 1,913.85
University Golf Club	\$ 56,078.11
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 30,166.26
TIF II Industrial Park Fund	<u>\$ 975.00</u>
Total	\$ 310,225.83

Trustee Griffin asked for clarity on the following check numbers: 74289 – 93 Cargill and asked if the salt would be covered; 74303 ComEd; 74306 Website Host, and asked why the IT Department cannot take over this function; 74329; 74333 Labor Attorney; 74357 – 59 Electrical inspections at Thornwood House; 74372 and 74373.

Manager Linear responded that check numbers 74289 – 93 Cargill is for road salt, and Director Townsend stated that the salt would be covered to prevent damage from inclement weather; 74303 ComEd is for service for #80 Towncenter; 74306 is for the Host for the website, and there is a need for an outside vendor to do that work; 74329 is a payment on the golf cart settlement agreement; 74333 fees for the Labor Attorney, that he and Attorney Tomic are reviewing bills; 74357 – 59 Electrical inspections at Thornwood House, that these fees are included in the permit cost, at no cost to the village; and 74373 is for delinquent payroll fees.

Trustee Larry Brown commented that he was under the impression that Mr. Linear had halted the services of the labor attorney.

Manager Linear responded that we have not halted those services, but he informed Staff not to contact the attorney without his specific approval.

Bills Payable – continued:

Trustee Payton commented that in the future he wants the village to look at cooperative purchasing of road salt, and some other supplies that we use; he referred to check number 74345 cost for rental of portable potties at Pine Lake, and suggested that we make sure that the plumbing and the washrooms are operable and eliminate the use of those portable potties.

Trustee Griffin referred to check number 74362 and asked for clarity. Golf Club Pam Jackson responded that the cost is for grilling at the outside tent at the golf club.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

F-2d: Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A General Release In Favor Of Information Technologies, Inc.

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

Trustee Griffin questioned the limited number of records included, and asked if the agreement should include all records.

Manager Linear responded that this covers records that are held by Will County for payment, and is for Information Technologies, Inc. to provide the village with PDF copies of specific records, and after long negotiations with the attorneys, they have agreed to do so, but they want a release of any claims against them.

Attorney Tomic stated that he would review the agreement and give his legal opinion.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion that the Board approves to table this item for legal opinion.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion To Table Carried.

F-2e: Resolution Supporting Governors State University's Four Year Initiative And Plans For Campus Housing

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

Mayor Covington stated that she has been working with GSU President, and has suggested that the Village of University Park become a college town.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2011-25.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Travis commented on actions taken and recommendations from the Cable/IT Commission, noting that they are looking at streaming live the Board meetings beginning in January, 2012; looking at purchasing needed cable studio equipment in November and December, 2011; He asked the status of the 2009 – 2010 audits, and stated that he feels it is a waste of residents time to go check by check on bills payment the night of the meetings.

Ms. Druuada Henry commented on a letter she received from IDOT of information posted on their website, and voiced her concern with the amount of personal information detailed in the report. She reported on information she obtained from the IDOT website relevant to how small businesses can participate in IDOT Projects and the certification process. She noted that she spoke with Mr. Joiner of IDOT, who suggested that he would be open to come out to University Park and hold a workshop on the process, she noted that she did not represent herself as a village official, but as a concerned citizen. Additionally, she stated that IDOT have funds available through the Illinois College Fund to train individuals, and that she has been in contact with individuals who can bring a training program to the Village of University Park without cost to the village. She introduced Mr. B. Keith Bobo, Director of Supportive Services, and Mr. LaJobie Mosley, CEO of PHPCOP (Pembroke Hopkins Park Construction Outreach Program.)

Mr. LaJobie Mosley gave a brief overview of PHPCOP noting that their firm has worked on major road projects for the state including the Dan Ryan Road Project in 2008, and that they will train individuals eighteen years and older in the construction field with an initial four week boot camp. He also stated that they work with ex-offenders in helping them get re-established in the workforce.

General Public Comments – continued:

Mrs. Maryann Griffin commented on the need for the technical resource center for training our residents, being an agent for change to help keep them out of trouble, and urged the Mayor and Board not to abandon the resource center.

Ms. Patti Quinn asked that questions from the Board are submitted to the Manager for answers prior to the meetings, and that Board members refrain from trips to the bathroom during the meetings.

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor Covington suspended the meeting from 9:00 p.m. to 9:10 p.m. to allow the Board to caucus. The following responses were given to concerns raised under general public:

Responding to concerns relating to the audits, Manager Linear stated that the 2008 audit is complete, but the 2009 needs additional information.

Trustee Griffin responded to concerns relating to his questioning certain items on the bills payable list stating that his obligation is to ask questions of where taxpayer's money goes, and he does not feel that it is a waste of time.

Mayor Covington asked that Board members submit questions prior to the meeting in an effort to reduce the length of the meetings. Relating to the Resource Center, she stated that she could not see spending eight thousand dollars a month for services that are available at the library, and at GSU. However, she will re-visit the issue and look at reducing the cost, and that she will look at a pilot program.

Trustee Payton stated that Trustees Roudez, Oscar Brown, and Williams, who supported the former Mayor worked at getting jobs for residents, but the Resource Center is less than desirable by his standards, and that there are different types of ideas to benefit the community, and that two thirds of the village population are children. He further stated that half a million dollars is too much for the resource center, and that Prairie State College, University Park Library, and GSU have computers and services that are not being used by residents. He also stated that Mayor Covington who is an IT Expert, nor the IT Director were not contacted for input prior to this project being presented.

Trustee Roudez responded to Trustee Payton stating that Trustee Payton was not part of the two year process, and that the IT Director was in-tune with every step of the process, that GSU and Prairie State were partners in this project, and that some industrial park businesses expressed an interest in being part of this training project.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 10:29 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk*

/drj