

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, September 23, 2014 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 7:08 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Village Manager Lafayette Linear, Village Attorney Stewart Diamond, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Police Chief Ed Bradley, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Finance Director Joe Jones, Public Works Interim Director Jerry Hunt, Cable Studio Christel Allen, Community Relations Manager James Bell, 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 Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded motion to approve the minutes of the special meetings held August 22, 2014, and September 16, 2014.

Mayor Covington referred to page 3 of the minutes of September 16 and commented that at some point, she made a statement that to sign off on all the requested applicants would be a win/win situation for all.

Roll Call On Minutes:

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

Motion To Approve Carried

E. REPORTS OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

E-1: Manager's Report

Village Manager Linear stated that he had no report at this time.

Mayor Covington asked Manager Linear to inform the public of what is being done to deal with the dead trees.

Village Manager Linear responded that as a result of the beetle infestation there are several trees that look bad, and public works is removing those trees that are dead, or trimming the dead branches. He also stated that a lot of the trees are not as bad as they appear.

Other Elected Officials Report

Trustee Roudez reported on the football classic that was held this past Saturday at soldier Field in Chicago; he thanked all of those individuals who assisted with transportation for some of our kids to attend this game.

Trustee Griffin reported on an item that is appearing on the agenda later this evening for road improvement that would be very beneficial to the growth of this community, and upon approval by The South Suburban Mayors And Managers Association the letting would be in 2016 and would encompass 1.6 miles, and the Village's match would only be 20% of the cost which is approximately \$66,000. He urged his fellow colleagues to support this legislation. He also reported on the status of the I-57 Interchange noting that AT&T should be completed with moving the wiring at that site, and K Five Construction can begin their work.

Trustee Payton asked Trustee Griffin if the information he had just given came from our engineers, or where did he get that information, because he knows that the cost for one road construction was approximately \$4 million.

Village Manager Linear responded that this project is basically a resurfacing and the approximate cost is \$200,000.

Village Clerk Jones reported that October 7, 2014 is the last day to register voters for the November 4, 2014 General Election, and that nominating petitions for the General Consolidated Election to be held on April 7, 2015 are available in her office. She stressed the need for all registered voters to exercise their rights and vote, and urged those not registered to contact her office and arrange a convenient time for them to register.

E- 2: Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington reported on her most recent meetings which included the transportation committee that she is a part of, a meeting with State Of Illinois Comptroller Judy Barr Topinka, the EPA relating to water losses in University Park and other areas throughout the State. She reported on a fact sheet on Governor Quinn relating to possible available loans to help with clean water initiative where the Village would pay a 10% match; the Illiana Toll Way Building Task Force continues to meet; the high-speed rail and the 3rd airport reportedly are going well. She also reported that CMAP is considering pulling out of the Illiana Tollway project, and she referred to Senate Bill 3507 regarding capital line items, including pensions and revenue-generating projects that the State is considering, and she reported on a meeting that she had with Governor Quinn, US Senator Durbin, US Congresswoman Robin Kelly, and State Senator Toi Hutchinson.

Trustee Roudez asked Mayor Covington if she would notify the Board and public on the next meeting that involved minority contractors. Mayor Covington responded that the next meeting is October 12, 2014, but she would get more definite information and pass it on.

E- 3: Commission And Committee Reports:

No reports given.

E- 4: Reports Of Other Officers:

Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress reported that rentals at Reigel Farm and Pine Lake are still available for those wanting to hold activities; the program Reach is going well and it is for students 4th through 8th grade. She shared an inspirational story of a student who was not doing well in school, but after he joined the program he is now excelling in school.

Community Relations Manager James Bell thanked Trustee Roudez for tickets to attend the football classic. He noted that his son attends Morehouse College and he was very thankful to be able to attend the football game at Soldiers Field. He also thanked Trustee Roudez for his insight into the "You Can Program" that could be extended after October 6th, noting that there was one intern at the cable studio from this program.

Mayor Covington congratulated our cable studio intern Kevin who went with her to U.S. Senator Durbin's office, and from that meeting, he now has a job in the Senator's office.

G: General Public Comments:

Ms. Sandra Warren renewed her concerns with the GED program, stating that she feels it is a mis-management of taxpayers' money. She stated that statistics show that 95.8% of University Park residents have a high school diploma or higher, so a GED program is not warranted. Additionally, she stated that at the last GED session there were 18 enrolled, but only four people were there the last day, and that the previous GED session had 18 enrolled with 0 receiving GED certification, and that the Village spent \$29,321.00 and no one received a GED. She further stated that she feels another approach needs to be done if this program is to continue.

Ms. Gina Williams commented that it is very important that University Park residents register and vote. She stated that the Board meeting held September 16, 2014 was hard to watch, and she urged the Board to stop playing games and take care of business because we are on the brink of greatness. She commented on a senior building that was voted down by some members of the Board that could have brought business and dignity to this community and our seniors.

Mrs. Mary Pruitt commented that the concerned citizens committee would be hosting A Men and Women's Health Fair on October 25, 2014, 10 AM until 4 PM here at number 90 Town Center Drive. She also announced that CCC meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 10 AM.

Mr. Victor Griffin addressed the Board and commented on problems that they are experiencing in his area in the Vistas. He distributed to the Board information on the conditions of a building in his area noting that he feels there are public health concerns with the property and that the backyard has 3 to 4 feet foliage and the litter could become a habitat for wild animals. He stated that this has been an ongoing problem for approximately 3 years, and that he recently shared his concerns with our code enforcement Department, and the inspector has been extremely cooperative and informative doing this period.

Mayor Covington voiced her concerns that this problem has existed for years and asked why nothing has been done by the Village to address the problem.

Village Manager Linear responded that action is being taken by our Code Enforcement Department, where tickets and summons have been issued to the owners, and once the court process is over then the Village will know how to proceed further. He further stated that this was only brought to the Village's attention less than 90 days ago, and complaints were not filed prior to this.

Trustee Payton asked if the Village could have the property condemned as a safety hazard, and tear down after given proper notice to the property owner.

General Public Comments Continued:

Village Attorney Diamond commented that he feels the process that is being followed at this time is what should be done, noting that a court date has been issued, and at the hearing the owners may be fined and/or given a time frame in which to correct violations, and that he feels if the case is properly presented positive results will follow.

Mr. Victor Griffin stated that due to his work schedule he would be unable to appear in court and he wanted the Board to know that the property is occupied. However, inspector Dixon and our prosecutor are expected to appear.

Trustee Payton stated that at the court hearing the Village should push for the property to be condemned or cleaned up.

Ms. Debbie Stroud, representing the senior citizens committee thanked those individuals who participated in the success of Senior Fun Day noting that Kevin Flowers of WUPC TV 4 did a fantastic job in covering the event. Thanks to Tafney Kelly, one of our youth who donated her creation of fresh baked cupcakes for the event. She noted that Ms. Kelly would be pursuing her education in culinary arts.

A gentleman addressed the Board and stated that there are vehicles stored at CJ's Auto that he would like to make an offer to buy.

Trustee Roudez responded to Ms. Gina Williams relating to her comment that certain members of the Board voted down a senior development. He stated that if she checked the reports of February and March, 2014 she will find that Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart stated that those developers were the worst he had ever seen. So, the Board acted in the best interest of the community in the decision relating to that developer.

Mayor Covington thanked the Fire Department for their email thanking her for recognizing them and for what she does with them on 911 every year.

G-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G-1a: Resolution Regarding The Improvement Of University Parkway From Steger Monee Road To Western Avenue

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

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

Resolution Number R2014-20

G-2: NEW BUSINESS

G-2a: First, Second and Third Readings – An Ordinance Accepting Sutton Ford's Proposal For The Leasing Of Two 2015 Explorers To The University Park Police Department

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

Trustee Payton asked if these vehicles were budgeted for the 2014 – 15 year, and if the price difference reflects marked or unmarked vehicles. He also stated that his calculations do not match the calculations in the document.

Finance Director Joe Jones responded that yes they are in the current budget to purchase the vehicles.

Police Chief Bradley responded that this would be for one marked and one unmarked vehicle, and that we currently have 13 vehicles in the fleet.

Village Manager Linear stated that there may be dealer prep and underwriter fees that are not listed. However, he feels that the calculations are correct.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves to amend this ordinance to read "12 quarterly payments"

Mayor Covington stated that she would like to see these vehicles left at the station, and not used as personal vehicles.

Ayes: Trustees Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustees Williams and Larry Brown.

Motion To Approve Amendment Carried.

Roll Call On Main Motion As Amended:

Ayes: Trustees Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustees Williams and Larry Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number 0 2014 – 42.

G-2b: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Accepting The Lowest Responsible Proposal For Road Salt For The 2014-15 Season

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approve 1st, 2nd and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

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

Motion To Approve Carried Ordinance Number 0 2014 – 43.

G-2c: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Declaring Certain Personal Property No Longer Necessary Or Useful To The Village And Authorizing The Sale Or Disposal Of Inoperable Vehicles At The Public Works Department

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves 1st 2nd and 3rd reading of this ordinance

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

Motion To Approve Carried Ordinance Number 0 2014 – 44.

G-2d: Resolution Regarding Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking Proceedings “Hazardous Materials: Enhanced Tank Car Standards And Operational Controls For High-Hazard Flammable Trains” Before The Pipelines And Hazardous Materials Safety Administration In Docket No. PHMSA-2012-0082 (HM-251)

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

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

Motion To Approve Carried Resolution Number R 2014 – 21.

G-2e: Resolution Ratifying A Collective Bargaining Agreement By, And Between, The Village Of University Park, And The University Park Professional Firefighters Association I.A.F.F./A.F.F.I (Local 3661)

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

Ayes: Trustees Oscar Brown, Payton, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: Trustee Griffin.

Absent: Trustees Williams and Larry Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R 2014 – 22.

G – 2f: First, Second, and Third Readings – An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Agreement

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion that the Board approves this ordinance.

Trustee Payton asked for an explanation on the need for this action where the chief executes the document.

Police Chief Bradley responded that to get assistance when needed from other jurisdictions, using the chief as the contact will get a quicker response. Additionally, the Village gets a lot of free training and experience in troubled areas, such as in the Englewood district in Chicago

Attorney Diamond commented that the Village has complete discretion on when and where to deplore assistance, and that he feels there are 2 areas of language that can be used. Additionally, he stated that if we need others we are not responsible for their injuries or salaries.

Mayor Covington asked if we are a part SSRT, and how this agreement works with East Com, and stated that we need a memorandum of understanding with Governors State University, and that she feels the agreement should bear the signature of the manager or the mayor.

Ayes: Trustees Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustees Williams and Larry Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2014 – 45.

G-2e. Bills Payable

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park as incurred for the last two (2) weeks from September 10, 2014 to September 23, 2014. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 170,554.29
Road & Bridge	\$ 9,849.56
Town Center	\$ 2,220.44
Golf Course	\$ 29,032.84
Governors East Fund	\$ 97.50
TIF V	\$ 97.50
Total	\$ 211,852.13

Trustee Griffin questioned check numbers 82922 -23.

Trustee Payton questioned check numbers 82959, 83055, and 83006.

The Finance Director and Village Manager responded to the questions that were raised.

Ayes: Trustees Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustees Williams and Larry Brown.

Motion to approve carried.

H. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MANAGER COMMENTS

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

K. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 9:20 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, MMC, RMC
Village Clerk*

/drj