

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, January 27, 2015 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Covington called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

Village Clerk Dee Jones informed the Mayor and Board of Trustees that Trustee Elizabeth Williams had requested to attend the Board meeting electronically. With no objections to her electronic attendance, Clerk Jones connected her to the meeting by telephone.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Present
Trustees:	Elizabeth Williams	Present (electronically)
	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 Felicia Frazier, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Police Chief Ed Bradley, Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress, Finance Director Joe Jones, Public Works Interim Director Jerry Hunt, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, 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 Griffin seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 12, 2014.

Ayes: Trustees Williams (electronically), Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, Larry Brown, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

Approval Of The Minutes Continued:

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held November 12, 2014.

Ayes: Trustees Williams (electronically), Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, Larry Brown, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

E-1: Unfinished Business

E-1a: Motion Approving The 2015 Meeting Schedule

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve The 2015 Meeting Schedule

Trustee Payton noted that the finance committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month, not the 3rd Monday at 90 Town Center Drive, and gave the corrected dates.

Motion To Amend Meeting Schedule:

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to amend the 2015 meeting schedule to reflect that the finance committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 90 Town Center Drive.

Ayes: Trustees Williams (electronically), Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, Larry Brown, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

Mayor Covington commented that the date of the finance committee meeting conflicts with the previously scheduled meeting dates of the Public Services and Utilities Committee.

Roll Call on Main Motion As Amended:

Ayes: Trustees Williams (electronically), Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, Larry Brown, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve As Amended Carried.

E-1b: Appointment/Reappointment

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to approve the reappointment of Mrs. Deborah Young to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners, term will expire on December 31, 2017.

Mayor Covington commented that another appointment to The Board Of Fire And Police Commissioners would be brought forward shortly; that she is waiting on information from Police Chief Bradley.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

E- 2 NEW BUSINESS

E-2a: First, Second, and Third Readings – An Ordinance Of The Village Of University Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois Approving An Agreement By And Between The Village Of University Park And Holland, LP

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve 1st 2nd and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Payton voiced his concern with last minute changes and documents given to them at the meeting, and referred to page 2; section 5, and asked for clarity.

Attorney Frazier responded that the language as referred to by Trustee Payton is standard language that she uses for this type of agreement, and that the changes presented tonight are basically grammatical changes with no changes in any of the terms of the agreement. She noted that references to TIF benefits were taken out because TIF II has expired.

Mayor Covington read the new revised agreement.

Manager Linear stated that he would propose deleting Section 5 from the ordinance.

Trustee Payton thanked the Holland Group for the employment opportunities for Village residents but asked if there were provisions for record keeping of their attempts to hire University Park residents, and he questioned their decision to donate 2% of the rebate to the technical resource center and not for our kids.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if Holland will go through an employment agency to fill their vacancies, or if it would be done on-site.

Representative from Holland responded that they would post employment opportunities online at their website with a link to University Park website.

Village Manager Linear stated that Holland has agreed to train forklift operators.

Motion to Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to eliminate Section 5 from the ordinance.

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

Motion To Approve Amendment Carried.

Roll Call On Main Motion As Amended:

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2015 – 04.

E-2b: First, Second and Third Readings - Ordinance Approving A Consulting Agreement (Phase II – Golf Club Restaurant Reorganization) Between Creative Hospitality Associates And The Village Of University Park And Authorizing Expenditure Of Funds From The Employer's Expense Tax Fund

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve 1st 2nd and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Oscar Brown noted his objections to the use of the employee expense tax for the entire cost of this project, noting that there were specific designations for these funds which included Street repairs and the purchasing of necessary equipment. He stated that he would like to amend the main motion to reflect necessary changes. He further stated that this tax was never intended to be permanent, or to solve every social ill. That this was and is a temporary measure to buy needed equipment, make necessary road repairs, to secure additional revenue streams to replenish our reserves and as a way to induce business to hire locally, and that we should stick with the intended uses

E – 2b- continued:

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to amend the main motion to accept the agreement, that the 1st payment of \$11,500 come from the employee expense tax fund, that any subsequent payments to Creative Hospitality Associates be brought before the Board before any other expenditures come from the employee expense tax fund for our approval, and that the Village Manager and the finance director are instructed to find other funding source to fund this needed project.

Trustee Payton questioned the need for 3 readings of this ordinance tonight stating that he agrees that the golf club is the largest drain on the resources of the Village with losses of approximately \$10 million to date; that Creative Hospitality recommends that we do not move forward at this time. So he would like a table of this item to allow our residents to be a part of a full Town Hall meeting. However, he has no problem with the consultant company.

Trustee Griffin stated that Creative Hospitality has presented at the Legislative and Operations Committee meeting and that other than the appointed members of that committee none of the other Trustees or the Mayor attended those meetings, and that Mayor Covington intervened and delayed the process. However, he feels that we should move forward.

Trustee Oscar Brown stated that the Board has had these documents for more than 3 months and that we should not wait any longer.

Mayor Covington stated that on several occasions she asked the Board members for dates that the Board could do a workshop to review these documents, and with the exception of Trustee Payton no one responded to her.

Motion To Table:

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

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

Motion To Table Failed To Carry.

E – 2b- continued:

Motion To Amend To First Reading:

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded motion to amend this item to 1st reading only tonight.

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

Motion To Amend Failed To Carry.

Roll Call On Main Motion As Amended:

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2015 – 05.

E-2c: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Accepting The Proposal Of Sutton Ford For The Purchase Of One 2015 Ford Escape And Approving The Purchase Of This Vehicle From A Forfeiture Fund

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve 1st 2nd and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to know why only two bids were submitted.

Police Chief Bradley responded that the window of opportunity to secure this vehicle at this low cost was very limited. However, if the Board insists, he will get the necessary 3rd bid, but he is worried that we might lose this opportunity.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he does not feel that with a 3rd bid we could get a better price.

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2015 – 06.

E-2d: Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Sign And Directing The Village Clerk To Attest To Starcom21 User Agreement Between The Village Of University Park And Motorola Solutions, Incorporated

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

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

Motion To Approve Carried **Resolution Number R 2015 – 01.**

E-2e: Motion To Approve The Revision Of Agenda Item H (General Public)

Mayor Covington stated that she wants the public to be able to speak on any subject at the general public portion of any meeting, and not just on items on the agenda.

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to table this item indefinitely.

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

Motion To Table Approved.

E-2f: 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 as incurred for the last two (2) weeks from January 14, 2015 to January 27, 2015. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 362,379.95
Payroll Fund	\$ 12,663.26
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 2,107.96
Town Center	\$ 7,966.10
Golf Course	\$ 29,177.29
Capital Project Fund	\$ 1,367.47
TIF 5 Dralle Industrial Fund	\$ 300,000.00

Total **\$ 715,662.03**

Bills Payable - continued:

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Litigation - Pending Litigation Against, Affecting, Or On Behalf Of Public Body; And Personnel - Appointment/Employment/Compensation/Discipline/Dismissal Of An Employee/Review of Closed Session Minutes)

No executive session called.

Trustee Oscar Brown stated that He had an emergency situation, and left the meeting at 8:20 PM and did not return.

G. REPORTS OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

G-1: Reports of Elected Officials

Mayor Covington asked for reports of committees and commissions.

Village Manager Linear reported that The Parks and Recreation Department would be hosting Their annual college tour 2015 entitled Southern Exposure, and taking the students to the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Southern Arkansas University, Mississippi Valley State University, and the University of Mississippi. The cost of the trip is \$300 per student and the dates are Sunday, April 5, 2015 through Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Additional information can be obtained by calling the Parks and Recreation department at 708-534-6456.

Trustee Williams left the meeting electronically at 8:25 PM, and the Attorney and all Department Heads and staff were excused from the meeting at 8:25, and did not return.

H. General Public Comments

Ms. Rose Mary Nettles addressed the Board and asked to know how an individual can get an item on the agenda without going through the legislative and operations committee.

Mayor Covington advised that they should contact her office.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan commented that residents could come to the legislative and operations committee meeting to discuss items of concern, and that the Board needs to work with Creative Hospitality to get the golf course on track.

Mrs. Mary Williams addressed the Board and stated that she feels it was an insult not to allow residents to speak on any topic that they want to.

Mrs. Sonia Jenkins addressed the Board and stated that she attended the Legislative And Operations Committee Meetings when Creative Hospitality presented and found that these meeting are open to the public, and very informative.

Mr. Gary Richardson addressed the Board and stated that it is a disgrace what he is watching on local TV and how our officials are conducting themselves. Relating to the golf course he stated that there is a need to stop the bleeding and asked if the reason for the losses has anything to do with the lack of proper leadership or is it lack of participation from Village residents. He asked the Board to come together and treat each other with respect.

G-1: Reports of Elected Officials

Village Clerk Jones reported that the filing period for the April 7, 2015 Consolidated General Election has concluded and that the positions for Mayor, Clerk, and 3 Village Trustee are all challenged, and that a referendum of a public question will also be on the ballot. She urged residents to exercise their moral obligation and vote in this next election.

Trustee Payton commented on a letter distributed by the concerned citizens committee relating to a bid process for the technical resource center, and his investigation online of the contractor who was awarded the bid, which he stated is not as represented by Trustee Griffin. He also voiced his concerns with fabrication and misrepresentation of the facts relating to that contract. He stated that he considers the legislative and operations committee as a separate government designed to take away the powers of the Mayor.

Trustee Griffin refuted the comments of Trustee Payton and thanked the Police Department for catching criminals in our town last weekend. He also stated that he feels that the public should speak only on items on the agenda.

Trustee Roudez stated that he disagrees with the placement on the agenda for general public comments and feels that it should be moved up on the agenda.

Trustee Griffin left the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington reported on meetings that she has attended or participated in since the last meeting and a letter from Midwest High-Speed Rail, and noted that our rails have not been done for quite some time but that they will now be included; the Pine Lake OSLAD Grant has been approved for \$450,000; and Metra and RTA for an additional \$10,000.

G-2: Village Manager's Report

Village Manager Linear stated that he had no report.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 9:10 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Unanimous Voice Vote. Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, and Griffin absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

/drj