

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, February 10, 2015 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park

A. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Mayor Covington, Trustee Oscar Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and announced that Mayor Covington would not be in attendance at this meeting, and that a Mayor Pro-tem would need to be named.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Absent
Trustees:	Elizabeth Williams	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present
	Milton C. Payton	Present
	Keith J. Griffin	Present
	Joseph E. Roudez, III	Present
	Larry B. Brown	Absent (arrived at 7:27 PM)

Appointment of a Mayor ProTem:

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Williams seconded a motion to appoint Trustee Joseph Roudez as Mayor Pro-tem for this meeting.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

Also present were Village Manager Lafayette Linear, Village Attorney, Finance Director Joe Jones, 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 Pro-tem Roudez led the audience in the Pledge Of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meetings held January 13, 2015 and January 27, 2015 as presented.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

E-1: Unfinished Business

None.

E- 2 NEW BUSINESS

E-2a: First, Second, and Third Readings – An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Proposal For Lobbying Services With Barnes & Thornburg LLP And Authorizing Expenditure Of Funds From The Employer’s Expense Tax Fund

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

Trustee Payton voiced his concern and disapproval with 3 readings of this ordinance without public input, and for the Village to spend in excess of \$110,000 to this lobbying firm, noting that this is the same firm that was terminated for failure to give reports of their lobbying acquisition, .

Village Manager Linear responded that the item is on the agenda for 3 readings because the presenter of the legislation sets the number of readings, and that the cost would be paid using employee tax fund, with no cost to our taxpayer.

Trustee Payton stated that contrary to reports that this firm was responsible for the I -57 Interchange is not correct, because these approvals were given due to GSU being chosen as a possible site for the proposed Olympics. He also referred to the contract and asked for clarity on travel costs and other fees.

Village Manager Linear responded that the agreement is for a fixed fee, and that any other cost would be brought before the Board for approval.

Trustee Larry Brown questioned the payment of \$8000 for the month of February since the item is presented tonight with a portion of the month already over. He stated that this would deplete our reserve, and he questioned the reasons that Barnes and Thornburg were terminated previously.

Motion To Amend To 1st Reading Only:

Trustee Payton made a motion to amend this ordinance to 1st reading only. However, there was no second to this motion, therefore the motion failed to carry.

Roll Call on Main Motion:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Griffin, and Roudez.
Nays: Trustees Payton and Larry Brown.
Absent: Mayor Covington.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2015 – 07.

E-2b: Resolution Approving An Agreement With The Illinois Department of Transportation And The Village Of University Park For The Olmstead Lane & Blackhawk Drive Proposed Sidewalk And Solar Flasher Improvements

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

Trustee Payton noted that the agreement named the previous Public Works Director Burgess and stated that we needed to amend this resolution.

Motion To Amend This Resolution:

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to amend this resolution by removing the name of Director Burgess and replace with Jerry Hunt.

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

Motion To Approve Amendment Carried.

Roll Call on Main Motion:

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R 2015 – 02.

E-2c: Resolution Approving An Agreement With The Illinois Department Of Transportation And The Village Of University Park For The University Parkway Stage III Reconstruction

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

E-2c: continued:

Trustee Larry Brown asked if this project could go forward if we do not have up-to-date financial audits.

Trustee Payton stated that his calculations differ from those listed in this document and asked to know where the funds would come from.

Village Manager Linear responded that the funds would come from road and bridge

Trustee Payton suggested that these funds should be transferred to road and bridge fund, and voiced his concern with the usage of the head tax fund for this project.

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R 2015 – 03.

E-2d: Resolution Accepting And Approving The Annual Audit Report For The FY Ending April 30, 2011

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

Trustee Payton voiced his concern with the depth of problems that were noted in the last two audit reports, and asked the number of items brought forward in the 2010 audit that have been corrected or made standard practice.

Finance Director Joe Jones responded that some of the items were being addressed and other items will be adjusted.

Matt a representative of Lauterbach and Amen commented that he is seeing things in the current audit getting better and thanked the finance department for their work in getting financial records ready for the auditors.

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R 2015 – 04.

E-2e: Motion To Authorize The Village Manager To Seek Bids For Residential Refuse Collection And To Continue With His Negotiations With Homewood Disposal

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to approve this motion.

Trustee Payton referred to page 2 of the document and asked to know why the blanks were not filled in, and if we would be adding the cost of recycling to the residents.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if the Village would add administrative costs for our doing the billing, and if there would be continued negotiations between star disposal during this request for bid process.

Village Manager Linear responded that there would be no negotiations with any scavenger company doing this process.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to amend the main motion and strike the word continue from the motion.

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

Motion To Amend Main Motion Carried.

Roll Call on Main Motion As Amended:

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

E-2f: Bills Payable

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Oscar 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 28, 2015 to February 10, 2015. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

Bills payable continued:

General Operation Fund	\$ 374,091.06
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 2,157.63
Town Center	\$ 3,997.74
Golf Course	\$ 26,523.28
Capital Project Fund	\$ 360.00
Total	\$ 407,129.71

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

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.

Mayor Pro-tem Roudez asked for a brief recess to allow for the exiting of the Attorney and certain appointed staff.

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion that the Board recess from 8:25 PM to 8:29 PM.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

G. REPORTS OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

G-1: Reports of Elected Officials

Village Clerk Dee Jones reminded the public of the importance of their voting on April 7, 2015, noting that in addition to the election of municipal officers there would also be a Referendum on a Public Question on the ballot.

H. General Public Comments

Mrs. Mildred Morgan gave thanks to Trustee Griffin, Village Manager Linear, and public works for the fantastic job that they did with the snow removal during the recent snowstorm. Relating to the audit and information given by Trustee Payton, Mrs. Morgan asked that he use precise numbers when giving out facts.

Ms. Sonia Jenkins asked to know the opposition to the lobbyists which will be at no cost to taxpayers.

Trustee Larry Brown responded that previously we never got reports from Barnes and Thornburg, and that he knows that they had nothing to do with the funding for the I 57 interchange and other issues are questionable.

Trustee Payton stated that he is not opposed to the project, he is opposed to wasting money on the Technical Resource Center, the fact that no other firms were contacted, and that this Board of elected officials have successfully lobbied Springfield.

Mr. Robert Travis commented that he does not agree with the contract for the lobbyists, stating that we need lights at the golf club, and he does not agree with where the placement of general public is on the agenda.

Trustee Oscar Brown commented that there is no cost to the Village residents and that we need someone in Washington DC and in Springfield to lobby on behalf of this Village, and this firm has proven to be able to do this.

Mrs. Bobbie Greer thanked the Police Department and Fire Department personnel for lifesaving measures that they took and saving the life of the Village resident. She also stated that she disagrees with the agenda layout, with restricting public comments to only items on the agenda.

Ms. Gina Williams asked to know the financial status of the Village.

Mrs. Paula Wilson asked to know why the Attorney did not review the lobbyist's contract before it was presented for passage.

Mr. James Young gave thanks to Trustees Payton and Larry Brown, and stated that he does not agree with the contract for the lobbyists.

Mrs. Sandra Heard asked if there would be any reduction in the cost for the lobbyists for the month of February; she noted that the finance committee meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month and there is a need for new members; she asked the projected date of completion for the IDOT Projects that the Engineers from Crawford Murphy and Tilly are still working on, and she asked to know why staff and the Attorney are dismissed after the agenda items portion of the meeting.

Village Manager Linear responded that there is no need for the Attorney or staff to be in attendance during comments section.

Village Treasurer Dilworth commented that the problem with the audits is that the accounting department for the Village is not educationally equipped to complete the books in a timely manner in order for the auditors to complete the audits as they should.

Village Manager Linear voiced his disapproval with the statement of Treasurer Dilworth stating that when he came on Board the last audit was done in 2008, and he explained the auditing process.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Williams seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 9:02 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

/drj