

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, January 12, 2016 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 7:14 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Acting Village Manager Johnna Townsend, Attorney Loran Glennon, Finance Director Sharon Floyd, Police Chief John Pate, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, 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 minutes of the regular meetings held November 25, 2015; December 8, 2015, and a special meeting held December 29, 2015.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Larry Brown, and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried.

E: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Mildred Morgan voiced her concerns relating to the inconsistencies in the Village of University Park. She stated that over the last four years this Village has had four different Village Managers, four different Attorney Firms, and four different Finance Directors. She commented that this Village government needs to work together with the Directors and staff. She also asked if there is an additional charge when there are changes in the Village Attorneys.

Mr. Quentin Platt, representing the University Park Baseball Association announced that the University Park baseball season will start the last week in April and requested assistance from the Village to make sure that the ball fields are prepared and ready for the season, because if they use University Park, they would also want to participate in and host the nationals.

Mr. Worthington also with the baseball Association thanked Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress, and Greg Murray for their help with the program. He also stated that they are requesting the Village's participation in help with paying the fees, which includes insurance, baseball and empire fees.

Former Trustee Ms. Elizabeth Williams thanked Trustees Griffin, Chief Pate and Public Works Director Gary Richardson for their resolution of the problem they had in that area. She also stated that even though she's no longer a Trustee she will continue to work to see that an overpass or underpass at Governors Highway comes to fruition.

Pastor Brenda Mitchell addressed the Mayor and Board of Trustees and thanked Mayor Covington for allowing her an opportunity to make a presentation at this meeting. She commented on a project that she is working with dealing with mothers who have lost children to violence, and as a response to the call of President Obama relating to a symbol to represent that the lives of love ones continue to travel, she stated that the Gold Shoe represents the soul of our departed, and that she would like to present to Director Keely Childress, the Village of University Park and the Baseball Association a beautiful gold shoe.

Ms. Gina Williams stated that the Village is in a ball of confusion regarding the absence of Bola Delano, and she questioned why the Acting Village Manager Johnna Townsend took the job after resigning her employment with the Village in August for personal reasons. She further stated that she feels this Village wants someone who can take us to the next level, and Bola was that person.

Ms. Chereese Williams greeted the Mayor, Board of Trustees and general public and complimented the public works Department for the efficient and rapid snow removal. She stated that she is running for Trustee of the Will County Board.

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: Motion Approving The 2016 Calendar Year Meeting Schedule.

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve the meeting schedule.

Mayor Covington commented that The Human Services and Special Events Committee, the Education Advisory Committee, and The Code Enforcement Committee were reinstated and should be added to the meetings schedule.

Trustee Payton commented that a joint meeting of the finance committee and The Board Of Trustee's for quarterly meetings should also be included, as agreed, to be held on the third Wednesday in the months of March, August and November, 2016.

Motion to Amend Main Motion

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Wilson seconded a motion to amend the meeting schedule to include Human Services and Special Events Committee, the Education Advisory Committee, and The Code Enforcement Committee, dates and times to be determined later. However, the joint meetings of the finance committee and Board of Trustees would be scheduled for the third Wednesday in the month of March, August and November, 2016.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

Roll Call On Main Motion As Amended

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

F-2b: Resolution – of Condolences for Mrs. Doris V. Riley

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

Mayor Covington commented that Mrs. Doris Riley was the mother of our State Representative Al Riley.

Trustee Wilson read the resolution

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None

Absent: Trustees Larry Brown, and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R 2016 – 01.

F-2c: Bills Payable, (accounts payable aging report)

Finance Director Sharon Floyd explained the problems with the AP System which resulted in the inability to prepare the bills payable list for this period.

No action taken on this item.

G REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK, MANAGER, APPOINTED OFFICIALS, and COMMITTEES

G-1 Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington reported on a conference call with the White House that Police Chief Pate also attended relating to 21st-century policing; she reported that the Village of University Park has been approved as an Enterprise Zone; that the Will County Board is still looking to locate the court system here in University Park at number 90 Town Center Drive. However, there are specific areas that need to be addressed; she has been in communication with a company named DOT, who is looking to locate where the Reinhart Food Company once was. She further stated that the Attorney General's Office is currently looking at a violation of the open meeting act involving the meeting of September 25, 2015.

Mayor Covington also reported that the Village of University Park has been awarded a \$4.9 million grant for stage III reconstruction, and she is looking at the Metra station for needed repairs, and the Village has also been awarded a 1 million grant for the 2017 lighting project. She also announced that the Grand Opening for American Bagel located on University Parkway in Cicero Avenue would be held on January 16, 2016.

G-2: REPORT OF TRUSTEES

Trustee Roudez reported on the potential of the closing of St. James Hospital in Chicago Heights, and he urged the residents to get behind our Representative De Lucca, and Chicago Heights Mayor Gonzales in trying to stop the closing of this hospital which is so vital to residents in the South suburban region.

H. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to move into Executive Session for purposes of litigation (eminent or pending), and personnel at 7:59 p.m.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

The Board returned from executive session at 9:47 pm and discussed the need for an emergency Board meeting to deal with financial matters.

With the concurrence of the Board of Trustees, Mayor Covington called an Emergency Meeting for Thursday, January 14, 2016 at 7:30 PM.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Wilson seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9:50 PM.

Motion to Adjourn Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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