

Minutes Of A Regular Meeting The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, June 8, 2010 At #90 Town Center Drive, In The Village Of University Park.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McCowan called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:11 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Alvin R. McCowan	Present
Trustees:	Sharon A. McGuire	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present
	Vivian E. Covington	Present
	Keith J. Griffin	Present
	Joseph E. Roudez, III	Present
	Larry B. Brown	Present

Also present were Interim Village Manager/Finance Director David Sevier, Village Attorney Forest Miles, Village Treasurer James Ellis, Deputy Police Chief Gregory Box, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Parks & Recreations Program Supervisor Keely Childress, Economic & Community Development Director Kimberly Porter, Golf Club Assistance Manager Greg Evans, Cable Studio Manager Christel Allen, Fire Chief Charles Exner, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor McCowan 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 Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves to postpone definitely until June 22, 2010 reading of the minutes of the regular meetings of the Board of Trustees held May 22, 2010.

Roll Call – Postpone Minutes:

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and
Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion Carried.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E -1: Village Manager's Report

Interim Village Manager David Sevier reported that vehicle village stickers are on sale at Village Hall through the Month of June at the regular fee, and stickers must be displayed by July 1, 2010. Thereafter the fees would double and violators are subject to tickets and fines.

Trustee Covington stated that she wants us to go back to having students design the vehicle stickers and that we use their artwork.

Trustee Griffin asked if it is true that University Park residents have to go through a temp agency for jobs at Reinhart Foods, and since we gave Reinhart Foods a TIF, why can't we have first pick at jobs; if the Village could avoid mediation; and for clarity on what happened when Fire & Police Commissioners attempted to use village credit cards in Peoria. He also commented on the need for displaying flags along the streets for holidays.

Manager Sevier responded that Reinhart Foods, as does many other businesses use an employment agency for hiring, however, University Park residents still get first preference for jobs. Relating to mediation, he stated that the Union and Village are unable to agree on this issue, and both feel that mediation is the way to resolve these issues; and that he will have Director Townsend check into better displays for the Village.

Trustee Roudez asked for a status report on additional summer jobs for our youth that Mr. Sevier stated previously he was working on, and on jobs through Will County.

Trustee Covington asked if a list of kids available to cut grass could be developed and available at Village Hall to assist seniors and others needing grass cutting services.

Manager's Report – continued:

Trustee Larry Brown asked for a report on the Truck Enforcement Program; status of the 2008 Audit; status of the Cityscape Property, and he commented on the condition of the fascia and overall look of the town center property, and asked if Public Works could begin scraping and repainting the town center.

Deputy Chief Box responded that right now the truck is down, needing a transmission, but would be up and running shortly. He reported that to date they have collected \$48,000.00 in overweight fines and \$12,000.00 from the vehicle booting program. He noted that the program operates Monday through Friday.

Trustee Covington asked if we could have more than one operator for those programs.

Deputy Chief Box responded that they have others that they are training, and hopefully will be able to expand the program.

Manager Sevier responded that the Auditors have begun reviewing the 2008 financials; Cityscape is in foreclosure and he is not aware of any prospective buyers; relating to the town center, he stated that after July 1st he hopes to begin work on the town center.

Trustee Oscar Brown commented on the need for repairs of potholes on Burnham Drive near the Monterey Village Complex.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor McCowan reported on a Board Retreat/special meeting held on June 5, 2010 and on the progress of certain projects. He noted that all Trustees have been assigned specific projects to work on and to report back to the Board and public. He asked each Trustee to comment on their projects.

Trustee Larry Brown reported that he will be working on the renovation of the Town Center, and will be in contact with our Legislators, he will also be working on the old Co-Op grocery and with Trustee Roudez on the Resource Center.

Trustee Roudez reported that he will be working on bringing the resource center to fruition and working to improve and increase use of park facilities.

Trustee Griffin reported that he will be working on the road projects, and that he has a lot of funding for his projects.

Mayor's Report – continued:

Trustee Covington reported that she will be working on renovation of Riegel Farm and the Cable Studio. She also stated that she had sent an Issue Log to the Board and Manager to use to track progress of these projects.

Trustee Oscar Brown reported that he will be working on the Water Study and on the ALNAC Commission.

Trustee McGuire reported that she will be working on a new facility for Public Works; assisting our Youth working with the Education Advisory Committee, and she will be working with Trustee Larry Brown on the renovation of the Town Center.

Mayor McCowan reported that he will be working on the I-57 Interchange Project. He reported on a fire at Thornwood House Apartment on March 29, 2010, noting that he had an opportunity to visit with residents who know that without the efforts of our firefighters results could have been more tragic.

Accompanied by Trustee Larry Brown, Fire Chief Charles Exner, and Fire & Police Commissioner Jimmie Young, Mayor McCowan presented Unit Citation Pins to: Deputy Chief Brian Chellios, Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Stegenga, Jose Lopez, and Geoffrey Denison.

Fire Chief Charles Exner stated that the Unit Citation is given to individuals that have demonstrated exceptional skills, proficiency and dedication to duty while operating in a coordinated action with personal risk at an emergency incident. He explained the incident that led to these awards, noting that on Monday, March 29, 2010 at 10:00 am, the University Park Fire Department responded to an activated fire alarm at Thornwood House Apartment. Upon arrival, Deputy Chief Brian Chellios, Firefighter/Paramedics Mike Stegenga, Jose Lopez, and Geoffrey Denison found heavy smoke on the 7th floor of this 14 story high-rise building. The crew located the fire in apartment 711 and while doing a search under heavy smoke, they located an elderly gentleman in the apartment, and immediately removed and carried him down 7 flights of stairs to an awaiting ambulance. The victim, despite suffering second and third degree burns to his lower legs and smoke inhalation was alive in part due to the quick actions of those fire department personnel.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Trustee McGuire reported that on June 18, 2010 the University Park Business Group would hold its 2nd Luncheon Meeting at PK's Christian Catering & Restaurant from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with Special Guest Speakers from Homewood Chambers of Commerce and Southland Chamber of Commerce.

Committee & Commission Reports – cont'd:

Trustee Mcguire gave an update on the 2010 Census stating that to date 70% of University Park households have returned the forms, and that now Census takers are visiting households that did not return a form by mail. She also gave a timeline for the finalization of the Census process; She reported on the trip that she and Director Porter took to the Retailers Convention (ReCon) and noted some of the problems given by retailers on why it is so difficult to bring retailers into the Village of University Park, which includes repairing our image and renovation of the Town Center properties. She also stated that according to how major retailers rate a community, with 4 as highest, University Park rates a 1.

Trustee Roudez reported that there are several vacancies on the Code Enforcement Commission, and extended an invitation to residents with a desire to serve the community to consider joining that commission.

Mayor McCowan reported that there are vacancies on several committees/commissions and asked residents who are interested to complete an application and return to Johnna at the Administrative office. He stated that contrary to what has been stated, there is not a need for a resume' or dissertation.

Trustee Covington reported that meetings for Family Fling would begin shortly, and she needs volunteers.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Public Works Director Jerry Townsend reported that the Chipper broke down and should be up and running next day; shoulder work on the road project was done on Saturday for a major portion of the project; and ComEd would begin tree trimming shortly, and they are obligated to notify resident in areas affected by the trimming.

Trustee McGuire asked Mr. Townsend if, once the chipper is repaired if they could do something about the branches in back of the Town Center, and if anything is being done to address the lighting situation in the village.

Public Works Director Jerry Townsend responded that he has submitted an application for funding for a lighting project, and now must wait for the results.

Cable Studio Manager Christel Allen reported that she would be in New Lenox, with five other communities attending a Cable Workshop looking at ways to enhance our productions and how to Stream Programs Live; Young Broadcasters Cookout would be held on Saturday at Pine Lake from noon until 4:00 p.m.; and she introduced her new Intern, who will be with us until August.

Reports Of Other Officers – continued:

Ms. Rosalind Williams stated that she is a senior at Chicago State University and is pleased, and looks forward to being an intern at WUPC Tv4 with Christel and Eddie.

Parks & Recreation Program Supervisor Keely Childress reported that Day Camp begins June 14th, and to date they have 62 kids registered, with thanks to Illinois Department of Family Services for funding many of these kids; Men's Softball League is taking applications for the summer league, the cost is \$275.00 per team, and to date they have three teams committed.

Fire Chief Charles Exner reported that he was recently re-elected President of MABAS 27, and invited the Board out to Park Forest Fire Department on June 29th at 7:00 p.m. for a showcase of MABAS equipment.

Economic & Community Development Director Kimberly Porter reported on the Retailer's Convention that she attended and thanked the Village of Park Forest for assisting her in getting in to see many of the retailers, that she was unable to get an appointment with. She expounded on the concerns with bringing businesses to the village as detailed by Trustee McGuire.

Golf Club Assistant Manager Greg Evans reported that a Father's Day Celebration is planned at the Golf Club & Conference on June 20th that includes golf and dinner for \$79.95, and that there are plans to utilize Pine Lake with entertainment venues. He also invited resident out for live entertainment with Blues on Mondays, and Jazz on Thursdays.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Second Reading – Ordinance Amending Title Six Of The Building And Housing Code To Add New Chapter 1471 Requiring The Registration And Maintenance Of Abandoned Or Distressed Residential Properties

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves second reading of this ordinance.

Trustee Covington asked for a comparison of fee structures from other communities and that all blank spaces are filled in.

Attorney Miles responded that he would have the requested information by next reading, which he asked be held on the first meeting in July, because he would not be in attendance at the next Board meeting in June.

Roll Call on F-1a:

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and
Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

.F-2: NEW BUSINESS

***F-2a: First, Second And Third Readings – An Ordinance Amending
Chapter 250 Of The Administration Code, Section 250-11
“Health Insurance”***

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

Trustee Covington asked for clarity on the amount employees would be paying.

Manager Sevier responded that as stated in the new language, the village would offer health insurance coverage to employees as covered in their contracts. But would no longer pay 100%.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and
Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number 2010 - 29.

F-2b: Appointment (s) None.

F-2c: Bills Payable

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park has incurred for the three (2) weeks from May 26, 2010 to June 8, 2010. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$	138,583.67
Road and Bridge Fund	\$	19,686.46
Town center Operations	\$	669.23
University Golf Club	\$	29,687.89

Capital Project Fund	\$	24,493.45
TIF I – Dralle Industrial Fund	\$	300,331.78
Total	\$	513,452.48

Bills Payable – continued:

Trustee Griffin questioned payments related to check numbers 70053 and 70091, and asked when final payments for the fire department renovation would be made.

Manager Sevier responded that check number 70053 is for two month payments for the new software for the Golf Club, and check # 70091 is for furniture for the fire department. He also stated that approximately 97% of the bills have come in.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin Roudez, and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion Carried.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Travis commented on cable committee meetings that he attends with other cable studios, and stated that on Wednesday they would be meeting in New Lenox. He invited the Board to attend if possible. He also asked if the cable studio would be re-located.

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Assessor stated that she commends the Board on what was reported as a positive Board Retreat with all members assigned projects; she voiced her concern that TIF Companies in the Industrial Park are offering temporary jobs, and asked if this was allowable under the TIF Agreements; she asked if any new committees would be formed as a result of assigned projects; asked if ALNAC is a village committee; asked if we are looking for retailers to occupy the Town Center; and if the finance committee could get a copy of the bills payable list prior to being approved by the Board, because when they get the bills it is the following month after payments have been made.

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor McCowan suspended the meeting from 9:14 to 9:18 pm to allow the Board an opportunity to caucus. The following responses were given relating to public comments:

Trustee Covington responded to Mr. Travis, stating that plans are to move the cable studio into #90 Town Center Drive.

Board Caucus/Responses

Manager Sevier responded to Ms. Heard relating to temporary jobs in industrial park stating that some of the companies use temporary agencies to hire personnel rather than a human resources department, and that temporary jobs were not discussed; and that a copy of all bills payable is in the packet that the finance committee gets every month.

Mayor McCowan responded to Ms. Heard relating to whether if any new committees would be formed as a result of assigned projects and whether ALNAC is a village committee stating that no new committees would be formed, and that the Village is a member of the ALNAC Board.

Trustee Larry Brown responded to Ms. Heard relating to prospective retailers and tenants to occupy the Town Center stating that he will be looking for as many retailers as possible for the Town Center.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES COMMENTS

K. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting at 9:35 pm.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk