A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McCowan called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:14 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Village Attorney Forest Miles, Interim Village Manager/Finance Director David Sevier, Village Treasurer James Ellis, IT Director Deryl Bolton, Police Chief Mel Easley, II, Executive Liaison Kari Boykin, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Fire Chief Charles Exner, Parks & Recreations Director Robert Graham, Golf Club Manager/PGA Golf Pro Paul Blockoms, Director of Communications Sherry Williams, Economic & Community Development Director Kimberly Porter, 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 Covington moved, Trustee Young seconded a motion that the Board approved minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held February 10, 2009 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Young, Roudez, and Larry Brown

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion to approve carried.
E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E -1: Village Manager’s Report

Interim Village Manager David Sevier gave the following report: Change is truly difficult at times, but change is always unavoidable, especially it times where an entire nation is changing. With that said, he shared with everyone the financial information that was shared at the Finance Committee on yesterday evening.

Especially within these economic times, some residents are still doubtful about the state of the finances of the Village, let me begin by saying that the General Fund Revenues received are 17% above the current year budget and 9% higher than last year’s actual revenue received. As has been previously stated, the Village is in good financial shape. Of the $8.1 Million received by the General Fund, only $2 Million is related to real estate taxes received from our residents, which means that over 2/3 of the revenues received is from other sources. This only proves that the Village is in good shape as $6.1 Million has been received from other revenue sources. This year’s expenditure budget for the General Fund was expected to be $7.5 Million of the $8.4 Million that we were expected to receive, which meant that we were already in an awareness mode regarding the economy as we submitted a budget with a $900,000 positive reserve. Current expenditures are $6 Million, leaving us to spend approximately $1.5 Million over the next three months. I do not expect us to exceed the $1.5 Million, but remember, we still have the $900,000 that was not expected to be spent and we currently have already received $600,000 of that. This is a true testament to the management team that is currently in place and to the Board for its leadership in allowing us to do the job that has been put before us. Currently, the General Fund is operating $2,221,023 in the positive.

I have supplied you with the report from the lobbyist, but he just informed me that one of the Congresswomen has just replied back on one of our projects that they are moving it forward and she supports the project. In addition to that, he just informed me that he would be submitting another project for University Park to our U.S. Senator: The Village of University Park just received our crime statistic report for the 2008 calendar year. I am proud to announce that our Village has seen a 25% decrease in crime over the previous year. This is another testament to the work of management and the police officers. I say thank you: Mr. Sevier asked the Board to make a decision on the design for the 2010 Village Vehicle Sticker. He also stated that some of the residents have been hearing a lot of information regarding various issues with the Village, but I want to say that the best way to stop or prove a rumor wrong is to provide the data. I challenge anyone who has been putting information out about the state of the Village’s finances and management team to bring forth any data that supports their convictions, as we stand ready and able to supply any and all information to anyone who wants to know the truth regarding the issues of the Village.
Manager’s Report continued:

In addition, I have seen things regarding issues that I have told individuals that they could not talk to elected officials. I have directed a Director to destroy a particular program. I have hired my friends, and I want to say to each and everyone of you, it is not true; and the individuals who continue to spread these rumors, I challenge you to provide the proof, besides providing written emails regarding someone’s character. My door is open, let’s talk, but bring the proof.

Trustee Roudez commented that he wants management to look at securing a different towing company, because the current towing company charges too much for their services to residents, and suggested they look at including minority companies in the search.

Police Chief Easley stated that they would look into the situation.

Trustee Covington commented on the issues referred by Manager Sevier and requests a workshop to deal with policies that the Manager is instituting, and questioned the legislative process. She also requested a joint meeting of the finance committee and the Board of Trustees; she stated that she has been monitoring the website relating to the stimulus bill, and municipalities who have applied for funding and discovered that the Village of University Park is not listed, and stated that she wants Mr. Boykin to personally contact her with an update on funding for the Village of University Park.

Mayor McCowan responded that the Chairman of the Finance Committee Mr. Ellis should contact him if the Committee has a desire for a Joint meeting.

Trustee Larry Brown asked the status of CityScape. Manager Sevier responded that he met with the owners and they informed him that they are in the process of renegotiating their contract with the bank for additional financing, and looking at taking on a new partner.

Trustee McGuire asked for a list of projects given to our Congressmen and Senators, and requested a list of projects given to our Lobbyist Mr. Boykin.

Mr. Sevier responded that some of the projects include Fire Station renovation, bridge repairs and other projects.

E-2: Mayor’s Report

Mayor McCowan reported on his concerns regarding campaign literature of some candidates who are slandering certain employees and the administration of the village. He stated that while he understands that campaigning difficult, he does not feel the information being circulated is true, and asked that it stops.
Mayor’s Report continued:

Mayor McCowan noted that village finances are in the Black; 25% reduction in crime statistics; reported that several projects are shovel ready, such as the I-57 Interchange which would result in approximately 80 jobs, Cicero Corridor improvement which would result in approximately 65 jobs, and once funds are approved these project would begin. He also stated that during these economic difficulties, management has not had to lay off employees. He stated that because an employee of the Village applies for a position with another company does not mean that there is “Pay to Play”, because twenty-seven residents obtained jobs with Reinhart Foods, not thirteen as required by the agreement. He further stated that campaigns should be about issues and not make personal attacks.

Trustee Covington commented on rumors and suggested that a Rumor Board is established where residents can make comments, get answers and say what they want to say. She also stated that she wants more Town Hall meetings where people are allowed to say what they want to say and not be prevented from speaking their minds.

Mayor McCowan stated that ALNAC is pushing forward with plans for construction of the 3rd Airport even though Will County Officials and others are pushing legislation opposing ALNAC, however this project would result in hundreds of jobs. Relating to employees being denied the right to speak with elected officials relating to problems they might be having, he restated his position that employees should be free to come to elected officials without fear of retaliation from management or department heads, and if necessary he would re-distribute that memorandum.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Trustee Roudez reported that the Youth Commission had not been meeting on a regular basis during the severe winter weather, but he has been working with the 100 Men Organization in collaboration with Crete Monee School in developing mentoring programs, and lots of networking will bring forth a dynamic Spring/Summer Agenda. The Code Enforcement Commission is looking at energy saving/going green projects, and announced that the Code Enforcement Department is accepting applications for full-time and part-time Code Inspectors.

Trustee Larry Brown reported that thanks to Director Porter Co-Pal is up and running. This program allows inspectors to write tickets for, and the Village of University Park to collect fines for code violations.

Trustee Covington reported that Family Fling Committee would be meeting soon, and invited residents to join in and help with the event; IT Commission had a good meeting last Thursday, and she would like to have Deryl Bolton and Sherry Williams make a presentation at the next Town Hall Meeting and let the residents see the work that they have done in advancing this Village technologically. She reported that they are working on a Phone Tree that should be rolled out soon, and noted that the IT Commission meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
Committee And Commission Reports – continued:

Trustee McGuire reported that as a member of the League of Women Voters Park Forest Area she volunteered to work on an education initiative, and has scheduled a meeting with Superintendent Rogers to go over the League’s position and see what direction our School System should go. She will also meet with him regarding the Will County Economic Development Council’s Skill training in manufacturing and about bringing a training program to University Park.

Trustee Covington reported that Crete Monee School have monthly meeting and Ms. Kim Sanders is a possible contact.

Trustee Young reported that the Public Service & Utilities Committee has openings for permanent members, and noted that they meet the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Police Chief Mel Easley reported that the Truck Enforcement Program would become active again in the near future, and thanked Ms. Porter for her insight on the adjudication process.

Parks & Recreations Director Robert Graham gave the following report: To help promote tennis in the community we have partnered with USTA to support Youth Registration Night which is a Tennis Night in America Event. At this event which take place at Riegel Farm on Monday March 2, from 5:30p -7:30p you can sign up for our free tennis lessons that will begin in June; Our Introductory Fitness program is set to begin next week Wednesday March 4, and the first session is free!! Classes will be held at 90 Towncenter from 7:30p-8:30p. This is a seven week program; Our Martial Arts classes are set to begin next week Thursday and Saturday March 5 & 7, and it is a family orientated program, so all are welcome to sign up. This program will also be held at 90 Towncenter

Tickets are still available for our Chicago Bulls game on is April 11th when the Bulls host the Charlotte Bobcats at the United Center the cost for the tickets are $20 each. For more information on all these events, please contact our office at 708.534.6456

Executive Liaison Kari Boykin reported that she toured the new PK’s Learning Center and noted that it has a State Of The Arts security system. She extended an invitation to the Mayor and Board to tour the facility.

Economic & Community Development Director Kim Porter reported that as an attempt to conserve energy and reduce the carbon footprint, she is asking that everyone observe 1 hour as “Earth Hour” and shut down cell phone, computers and other carbon producing equipment on March 28, 2009. Additional information is available at her office at (708) 235-4818.
Reports Of Other Officers – continued:

Ms. Porter also expounded on a report from Town Builders Studio (a copy is included in the agenda under Reports of Other Officers.) This report list progress they have made over the last few years including completion of the Transit Oriented Development Master Plan in 2002; From 2002 through 2007, because of his commitment to the Village of University Park and economic potential in this excellent opportunity, he voluntarily and without compensation promoted the Village and the project to multiple developers for several years; In 2005 he recruited a local home builder and prepared the master plan that the Board approved as Resolution 2005-36; In 2007 introduced two developers to the project, and unfortunately due to the economic downturn Neumann Homes went out of business, they intended to develop the Thorn Creek Station development; In 2008 he re-introduced Lakeshore Investors and hired Mr. Mark Hanson of Neumann Homes to work on the project with Lakeshore Investors in negotiating and securing a purchase agreement for the land. He reported that a Land Purchase for 80 acres is under contract and the closing date is determined. He also noted that some of the particulars are confidential, and should only be discussed in executive session at this point. However he continues to work on behalf of the Village of University Park in bringing this project to completion.

Trustee McGuire asked Ms. Porter if she plans on working on energy generating projects in the near future,

Ms. Porter commented on an ordinance that the Village of Skokie adopted that would allow Wind Turbines in the municipality.

Mayor McCowan suggested that Ms. Porter contact State Representative Al Riley to address this matter, because he is very involved in energy conservation.

Village Clerk Dee Jones gave the following report: Early Voting begins March 16th and ends April 2nd. Not February 26th as I mistakenly reported at the last meeting. Voter registration ends March 10th. So, if you turned 18, or will turn 18 on or before April 7, 2009 you are eligible to register to vote; If you moved more than 30 days prior the election, you must register to vote; if you changed your name you must register to vote: and the State of Illinois does allow convicted felons, (who are not incarcerated) to register to vote. So remember, you must register by March 10th to be eligible to vote in the April 7th Election. If you are a student, away at school, or if you know you will be absent from the Village on Election Day, and cannot take advantage of Early Voting, you can contact the Will County Clerks Office at (815) 740-4616 and request an Application for Absentee Voting. The County will mail the application, and once you return the application, they will send the return ballot to you at the address you provide them; In an effort to serve our residents, the Clerks Office will conduct Early Voting beginning March 16th Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. – Noon on Saturdays. Additionally, The league of Women Voters Park Forest Area has scheduled a Candidates Forum for Village Trustees of University Park on March 14th from 2 – 4 p.m. here at #90 Town Center Drive.
F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: First Reading – Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A License And Service Agreement With CivicPlus For The Development Of A Governmental Website

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

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

Motion to approve first reading carried.

F-2b: First, Second, And Third Readings – Ordinance Declaring Certain Personal Property No Longer Necessary Or Useful To The Village And Authorizing The Sale Or Disposal Thereof

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

Trustee Covington asked for clarity on how the Village would be able to sell a leased vehicle.

Manager Sevier responded that to maintain the relationship with the car dealership he decided to purchase the lease and buy it for one dollar over the lease cost of the vehicle.

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board strike the presented ordinance and replace it with the following:

Ordinance Authorizing the Public Display Of a Vehicle Purchased Without Board Authority

WHEREAS, the Village of University Park is a home rule Illinois municipal corporation located in Cook and Will Counties, Illinois (the “Village”); and,
WHEREAS, the polices, practices and procedures of the Village are determined and established by the Village Board of Trustees (the "Board") by and through the adoption of ordinances, resolutions and other official actions; and,

WHEREAS, one (1) Ford Expedition Sport Utility Vehicle, VIN:1FMFU16579LA11043 was purchased using a check, money order or other form of currency from the funds of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the procedures outlined in U.P. Cod. Ord. Chap.222 Sec 222-03 and Chap. 238, et. seq., were not followed for the purchase of the 2009 Ford Expedition; and.

WHEREAS, it is the purpose and function of the Board to act openly and honestly with the people whom the Board represents.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF UNIVERSITY PARK, COOK AND WILL COUNTIES, ILLINOIS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the personal property more specifically described as one (1) 2009 Ford Expedition Sports Utility Vehicle, VIN: 1FMFU16579LA11043 is to be displayed at Village Hall for a period of not less than 6 months in a place of prominence that the Board may direct with the exception of March 7, 2009 where the vehicle will be displayed at 90 Towncenter Dr., University Park Il from the hours of 10:30am to 4:00pm.

2. That the check, money order or other village funds, Federal Reserve Notes excepted, used to purchase the 2009 Ford Expedition be enlarge to a size of three feet by five feet (3’ x 5’) and displayed on the passenger and driver sides of the base of the 2009 Ford Expedition.

3. That at least two signs of not less that three feet by five feet (3’ x 5’) be created to read “This vehicle was an unauthorized purchase and” followed by the two signatories of the check, money order or other funds used to purchase the 2009 Ford Expedition separated by an “&” “signed the check.” This is to be displayed on the roof of the 2009 Ford Expedition and secured in such a manner that they will not fly off.

4. That all signs described in this Ordinance be displayed with the vehicle at all times.

5. That this Ordinance is an exercise of the powers of a home rule unit of local government.

6. That this Ordinance shall become effective upon its passage.

Adopted the _____ day of ________________________________, 2009.

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Approved this _____ day of ________________________________, 2009.

VILLAGE OF UNIVERSITY PARK

By____________________________

Alvin R. McCowan, Mayor
F-2b - continued:

Trustee Larry Brown voiced his concern that if this ordinance is approved, the village would be paying for a vehicle that could not be used.

Trustee Young moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that item F-2b: is tabled.

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

Motion to table carried.

F-2c: Resolution Authorizing The Acquisition Of Two (2) 2010 International 4300 Chassis With Medtec Ad170 Custom Conversion Ambulances

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

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

Motion to approve carried Resolution Number 2009-07.

F-2d: Resolution Authorizing The Acquisition Of A Network-Managed Video System Controller And Digital Video Server Including Engineering, Support And Labor

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Young seconded a motion that the Board approves this resolution.

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

Motion to approve carried Resolution Number 2009-08.

F-2e: Bills Payable

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Young seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park has incurred for the last two (2) weeks from February 11, 2009 to February 24, 2009 in the following funds:
Bills Payable – continued:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Operation Fund</td>
<td>$167,312.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Operation Fund</td>
<td>$33,967.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Road and Bridge Fund</td>
<td>$4,090.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town Center Fund</td>
<td>$3,846.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Golf Club</td>
<td>$46,847.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Project Fund</td>
<td>$7,094.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIF 1 - Town Center Area Fund</td>
<td>$4,637.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$267,796.75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Trustee Larry Brown referred to three payments listed on bills payable of February 10, 2009 which were not approved and stated that since that time he had received information he requested, therefore he would now approve all except check #65187 to Town Builders Studios.

Trustee Covington asked for clarity on payment of $500.00 for Mayor’s Office and asked if it was for postage for mailing for Reinhart Foods.

Manager Sevier stated that he was not sure what the postage was for, and would check into it.

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board consider by paragraph check numbers 65079 – American Express; 65088 – Barnes & Thornburg, LLP, and 65187 - Town Builders Studios.

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

*Motion carried.*

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion that the Board approves payment for check #65079 – American Express.

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

*Motion to approve carried.*

Trustee Young moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion that the Board approves payment for check #65088 – Barnes & Thornburg, LLP.

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

*Motion to approve carried.*
Trustee Young moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion that the Board approves payment for check #65187 - Town Builders Studios.

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

**Motion to approve failed.**

**Roll call on Bills Payable as amended to exclude payment for check # 65187 – Town Builders Studio.**

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

**Motion carried.**

**G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Steven Allen commented on the Mayor’s use of his personal vehicle to take care of village business, and stated that the Board needs to reconsider their decision, and return the vehicle to the Mayor.

Ms. LaVerne Williams commented that 201-U Foundation is hosting a Wine & Cheese Fundraiser on March 14th, and that our neighboring communities have made a donation, and asked why University Park is not listed as a contributor.

Mr. Herman Andrews – 726 Blackhawk and a neighbor at 728 Blackhawk addressed the Board with concerns relating to water filling their yards, flooding basements, and not going into the sewer system. He stated that ever since the development on Wright Road they have been having this problem and asked that the Board looks into the situation and how the problem can be corrected.

Mr. Curtis McMullan commented that he is an executive member of the Illinois 201-U Foundation and noted that they are hosting a Wine & Cheese Fundraiser on March 14th at the University Golf & Conference Center and noted that this fundraiser is the largest that they have and urged residents to come out and support them.

Mr. Bobby Buckley addressed the Board regarding his wrongful termination from employment by the Manager and Public Works Director and asked for an executive session with the Board to further discuss his situation.
General Public Comments continued:

Mr. Keith Griffin asked if Manager Sevier had checked to see if the Village of University Park paid for postage for a job fair that was held by a private company, and if the Mayor’s Secretary was currently working for the Village and Reinhart Foods at the same time. He also stated that the information printed in his campaign literature is correct and he did not slander anyone, and that this “Pay to Play” in his literature was a question, not a statement of fact.

Mrs. Mary Truss addressed the Board and commented that the LWVPFA would be hosting the “University Park Woman of The Year Black & White Gala on March 28th at the University Golf & Conference Center beginning at 5:00 p.m. and invited residents to come out and support this event.

Ms. Sandra Heard addressed the Board and thanked Manager Sevier and the Board of Trustees for the resolution system put into place to inform residents of large purchases before they are made; Mayor McCowan for keeping the 3rd Airport issues alive; Sherry Williams for taping the candidates; Mary Truss and Gloria Brookins for Community Networking Project, and Kari Boykin for her support.

Gloria Barnett-Brookins addressed the Board and commented that a meeting of the University Park Coalition For Change would be held on Saturday, March 7th at #90 Town Center Drive and invited residents to come out and become a part of this organization.

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor McCowan suspended the meeting from 9:50 p.m. to 9:57 p.m. to allow the Board time to caucus. He reconvened the Board meeting and the following responses were given to concerns raised by residents under general comments:

Responding to some of the concerns of Ms. Williams and Mr. McMullen, Manager Sevier stated that the Village gave 201-U Foundation a large price cut on the facility for the Wine & Cheese Fundraiser and that equates to a donation.

Responding to Mr. Andrews and his neighbor regarding the water drainage problem, Mr. Sevier stated that the would have Fire Chief Exner, Public Works Director Townsend and Economic Development Director Porter investigate the problem on Wednesday February 25th and look at a resolve to the problem.

Attorney Miles responded to the concern of Mr. Buckley, and explained that the Board cannot get involved in employee matters, and that Mr. Buckley is a member of a Union that is pursuing the matter, and it will have to go through the legal process. He noted that the Board is not an option for an appeal to the decision of the Manager; Relating to Reinhart Foods hiring more than the minimum number of 13 residents, Mr. Miles stated that the agreement demands that they employ a minimum of 13, but does not put a cap on the number employed.
I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES’ COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board move into executive session for purposes of personnel at 10:29.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:51 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting and took the following action.

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board, in light of information received, amends bills payable to include approval of check #65187 to Town Builders Studio.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion carried.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 10:55 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk