

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, March 8, 2011 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 8:07 pm.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Alvin R. McCowan	Present
Trustees:	Sharon A. McGuire	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Absent (arrived @ 8:09)
	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, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Deputy Police Chief Gregory Box, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, 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 Roudez moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held Tuesday, February 22, 2011 as amended on page 6, paragraph 5 under comments of Trustee Larry Brown to read ***that Mr. Camden Burnett, a representative of Senator Durbin's Office would tour the Village of University Park.***

D. Reading Of Minutes – continued:

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

Nays: Trustees

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve As Amended Carried.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E-1: Village Manager's Report

Village Manager Sevier reported that the Auditors are in the office working on the 2009 audit.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked if we were okay with the salt allocation since the last snow storm. Manager Sevier responded that we did not use all of the salt allocated, and feels that we are in good shape for the remainder of the season.

Trustee Covington asked if the accountant position had been filled. Manager Sevier responded that the accountant that was hired resigned earlier today.

Trustee Griffin referred to the Cityscape property and asked if we could use the money from the bond to fix up the property.

Village Attorney Forest Miles responded that the Developer posted a \$250,000.00 Letter of Credit, and that he filed against the Letter of Credit and that he has received confirmation that the funds have been deposited in the Village account. However, these funds can only be used for specific purposes as stated in the Letter, but should include upkeep of the property. He also stated that he would check the status of the foreclosure of the property.

Trustee McGuire asked what would happen if the property was not sold, and what options would the village have.

Village Attorney Forest Miles responded that we could probably do as we did with the 800 Building, and take them to court and gain ownership of the property and proceed from there.

Trustee Covington asked the status of property taxes on that property.

Mayor McCowan noted that if the project had been done in phases, perhaps some units would have been completed and occupied and this eye sore could have been minimized

Mr. Robert Travis suggested that the new owners be directed to do the project in phases.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor McCowan reported that he would give his Final State of the Village address on March 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at Crete Monee Middle School and at that meeting he will answer questions relating to the projects that he has been working on to move this village forward. He commented that rumors that are being circulated that he is about to be impeached are totally untrue, and that a sitting member of the Board of Trustees is trying to have him prosecuted for his use of the Golf Club for political purposes, and that he hates the fact that the public is being misled, and he would like to see what that Trustee can do to lead this village. He noted that his political action committee has sponsored events at the golf club rather than take those revenues somewhere else, and these events give back to the community.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

No verb reports given.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Golf Club Paul Blockoms reported that there are several seasonal positions available at the Golf Club for the spring and summer season; Concerned Golfers of University Park are hosting a Wine Tasting on May 14, 2011 from 6 – 9:00 p.m.; the Two Seaters Golf Organization will provide Junior Golf Clinics beginning April 9th; and Women Golf League of University Park would begin April 10th at the golf club.

Economic & Community Development Director Kim Porter reported on changes to the Free Ride Program for seniors, noting that beginning in June, the program would only include those seniors who qualify as low income, as with the circuit breaker program. She suggested that those seniors who qualify to re-apply.

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that Early Voting begins March 14, 2011 through March 31, 2011 at Village Hall for Will County residents of University Park, and at Matteson Village Hall for Cook County residents. The hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Third Readings - Ordinance Amending Chapter 220, Section 220-02 Of The Codified Ordinances Relating To The Process For Selecting And Appointing A Village Manager

F-1a – continued:

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion to approve third readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Oscar Brown commented that in reviewing the amendments he has questions relating to ADA Requirements and suggested that he would like to lay this item on the table until those issues are included.

Trustee Griffin stated that since he brought this item forward, he would like to see more of his suggestions included.

Rev. Brenda Mitchell commented that if the Village has a policy relating to ADA compliance, it would include the Village Manager, and all other employees.

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves a motion to table this item.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion To Table Carried.

F-1b: Second Readings – Ordinance Providing For The Recapture Or Reimbursement Of Certain Public Expenditures Made For Improvements To Will Center Road [Affecting Certain Privately Owned Property Fronting On Will-Center Road And Located Generally South Of Dralle Road In University Park]

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

Trustee Covington asked the position of School District 201-U.

Manager Sevier responded that the School Board voted 6 – 1 to approve the resurfacing of the road; and 5 -2 to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement. However they want the re-capture issue resolved before moving forward.

Village Attorney Forest Miles stated that he is still waiting for the School District to identify and give him a description of what portion they want to recapture.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he understood that originally, the road would be re-surfaced with industrial grade material, but now sees that is not included in this agreement. He also asked how heavy trucks could be prevented from traveling on that road.

F-1b: - continued:

Village Attorney Forest Miles responded that the agreement for the road resurfacing was for residential grade, not industrial grade material.

Mayor McCowan stated that we could post signs informing the public that trucks over a specific weight are allowed, and fine those violators.

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 – Ordinance Amending Ordinance Number O2011-03 To Correct A Scrivener's Error

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves first, second and third readings of this item.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked if there was any effect on the content of the ordinance, since the error appeared in the preamble.

Trustee Griffin asked if the original ordinance would be corrected, and asked if member representatives are required to live in University Park and Will County.

Village Attorney Forest Miles stated that this ordinance deals with correcting a typographical error where he listed the wrong ordinance number as a reference only. It does not amend or change any other aspect of ordinance number O2011-03.

Ms. Sandra Heard stated that she feels that residency is an important part of this legislation.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2011 - 05.

F-2b: Resolution Approving An Extension Of The Intergovernmental Agreement With The Village Of Park Forest To Allow The Use And Occupancy Of The Driving Range And Club House At The Hidden Meadows Golf Course

F-2b – continued:

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

Trustee Covington asked how long we have had this agreement, if Park Forest gives us a discount based on the number of years, and if the facility pays for itself.

Golf Club Manager Blockoms responded that this is the third year, we have not received a reduction in leasing cost, but a portion of membership fees goes toward the driving range. He also noted that having a driving range is a big advantage for us and golfers.

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2011-07.

F-2c: Resolution Conditionally Authorizing The Acquisition Of An E-Z-Go Range Picker

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion that the Board approves this resolution.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to know what this equipment would be used for.

Golf Club Manager Blockoms responded that it would be used to pick up golf balls.

Trustee Covington asked to know what was used to collect balls prior to this request. Golf Club Manager Blockoms responded that they converted and used an old beverage cart that was traded in for this with a six month payment lease per year for fifty-four months, and that the company would pick it up November, 2015.

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2011-08.

F-2d: Appointments To University Park Youth & Recreation Association members

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves the following appointments:

Bills Payable – continued:

Trustee Griffin referred to check numbers 72614 and 72588 and asked for clarity.

Manager Sevier responded that check number 72614 was for uniforms, and 72588 is payment due a developer in the industrial park.

Trustee Larry Brown referred to check numbers 72638 – 42 payable to petty cash for the golf club and requested to see all ATM transactions.

Manager Sevier responded that providing the information was not a problem, and noted that the village does not own the ATM machine.

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

Motion to Approve Carried.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Elizabeth Williams, TROHA President commented on the application for disaster relief from the State of Illinois as a result of the last snow storm, and asked if Russet Oaks would get a portion of the funds to pave the roads in that area.

Mr. Robert Travis addressed the Chair and Board and commented that previously he spoke about the number of candidates running in this election and the number of signs that will possibly be placed throughout the Village and asked who is responsible for enforcing the sign ordinance, to prevent the community from looking like a circus. He also invited residents out to support functions and events at the Golf Club, such as Thursday night live jazz, and Saturday and Sunday Brunch Buffet.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan commented that at the meeting of February 22nd, untrue statements were made about her receiving information that was discussed in executive session and stated that no one gave her any information, she got her information from comments made at most Board meetings by Trustees; she asked why reports are not given by Board members as they are done with Department Heads, and asked what are the responsibilities of Trustees stating that she feels they should have been with Manager Sevier at the meeting with the School Board when they were discussing the roads.

General Public Comments Continued:

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Assessor commented that her office at #46 Town Center Drive would host a series of workshops for residents to include maximizing your tax dollars on March 10, 2011, and understanding the TIF process April 14th and May

12, 2011. She also stated that she understands her rights and stated that she declares to be a renewed member to serve on any committee or commission of her choice, and asked if representatives to ALNAC must be residents living in Will County.

Mrs. Marilyn Crockett commented on street lights that have been out for approximately two months in her area of Hickok & Burnham, Hickok & Morningside, and on Hickok near the pool.

Mr. Curtis McMullen asked Mayor McCowan for an update on the meeting he had with representatives from Dominick's, and asked if he took any Trustees with him, if not why not. He also stated that they have several hundred petitions for residents to sign relating to a Food Desert; Relating to the number of burglaries in the area recently, he asked to know what can residents do to help the police department combat this problem, and asked if additional officers and squads would be helpful...

Mr. Andre' Covington commented that the Crete Monee Education Foundation is hosting a Wine & Cheese on April 9, 2011 at Lincolnshire Country Club, and asked for permission to post signs in the village and use our media outlets to advertise the event. Tickets are \$35.00 in advance and \$40.00 at the door.

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor McCowan suspended the meeting from 9:12 p.m. to 9:20 .m. to allow the Board to caucus.

The Mayor reconvened the Board meeting and the following responses were given to concerns raised by residents under general comments:

Public Works Director Townsend responded to concern from Ms. Williams relating to disaster relief stating that the roads in TROHA would be included if the streets have been dedicated to the Village, and that he would check into the matter.

Village Clerk Dee Jones responded to Mr. Travis relating to regulating the number of political signs during this campaign season noting that neither village ordinance nor state statue limits the number of signs, and that Code Enforcement would be the department to monitor and address those issues.

Deputy Chief Box responded to Mr. McMullan relating to an increased police presence, and noted that there are five new officers who should be out of training by mid summer, and that would help with deployment of officers to help combat crime in the area.

Trustee Griffin responded to allegations made by Ms. Morgan that he did not attend the 201 U meeting with Manager Sevier and stated that he and Trustee Larry Brown attended the meeting, but left when they went in closed session and came to our regular Board meeting. He also responded to concerns of Mrs. Crockett noting that he has

been touring the village, but was not aware of the outage of light in the area she referenced, but that Mr. Townsend would be out on Wednesday to survey the area.

Mayor McCowan responded to Ms. Heard relating to her declaring to serve on any committee of commission of her choice stating that new people want to be included, and he will appoint individuals that he feels best fit the program to move the Village forward, but he will not appoint individuals who are disruptive to the process. He stated that it is okay for advertisement for the Crete Monee Education Foundation fundraiser event, and relating to concern raised by Mr. McMullan relating to meeting with Dominick's, he stated that several individuals from different areas of the village attended the meeting, however, to include a majority of a quorum would violate the Opens Meeting Act.

Motion To Add Item To Agenda:

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to add an executive session to the agenda for purposes of personnel.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board moves into executive session for purposes of personnel at 9:45 p.m.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:00 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 10:01 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk*