

Minutes Of A Special Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Monday, July 29, 2013 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Covington called this special meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:38 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Village Manager Lafayette Linear, Attorney Adam Lasker for Village Attorney Stewart Diamond, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Public Works Director Ross Burgess, Interim Finance Director Joe Jones, Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

C. General Public Comments

Ms. LaVerne Williams asked if this was a continuation of the public hearing that was held last Tuesday, and if adjustments to the budget had been made as suggested at that meeting.

Village Attorney Lasker responded that this is not action on the budget but to pass an appropriations ordinance in lieu the budget ordinance. He stated that according to law this appropriations ordinance must be passed no later than the last day of July, 2013 and filed with the County Clerk, or the village would lose its ability to levy taxes and the County Clerk would be unable to levy taxes for the upcoming year. He further stated that he understands the concerns with the golf club and that he is sure that there would be an ongoing conversation regarding the golf course and its expenditures; however, this appropriations ordinance does not require that the funds listed must be spent, and that before any funds are expended they must come before the board for approval.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan ask if we are doing things in a timely manner and commented that this process should have been started in December 2012 rather than wait until the last minute to take this action.

Mr. Eric Haskell asked if copies of this appropriations ordinance were made available to the public, stating that neither he nor his wife had seen it.

Village Clerk Dee Jones responded that this appropriations ordinance was in the news paper, posted on our website, and copies available at Village Hall.

D. DISCUSSION AGENDA

D-1: First, Second, And Third Readings Of An Ordinance Approving The Fiscal Year 2013 – 14 Appropriation Ordinance For The Village Of University Park

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

Trustee Griffin voiced his concerns with funds in the amount of \$62,431.00 already expended for the Kids Health Club Center, and now a request \$30,000 more. He stated that he wants a better explanation for what is happening at that facility or he may not support passage of this ordinance.

Village Manager Linear stated that the amounts listed in the ordinance does not require the village to spend those dollars; however, it would allow the funds to be available if needed. He explained the three areas in this appropriations ordinance where adjustments were made as a result of the last meeting, and concerns brought forward.

Trustee Payton responded to Trustee Griffin relating to the health club stating that this project has been ongoing for two years and this is not a rush job; that he does not feel that staff hours should be counted as an additional expense at this facility. He stated that one of the intents of this facility was to be used for afterschool program where income would come in from the state, in addition to the benefits to our children to help fight obesity and as a place for seniors to use. He explained the construction that had been done to date and noted that his company donated desks, chairs and a refrigerator. He further stated that he does not feel that \$30,000 is a lot to spend to invest in our kids and seniors along with the facility being used as a heating and cooling center for our residents.

Trustee Larry Brown commented on his request for funding of \$1500.00 for the Board Of Fire And Police Commissioners as a stipend for the time that they spent holding hearings, and that he notice it is not in this appropriations ordinance.

Village Manager Linear responded that there is \$500 put into this ordinance for meals for the commission based on their meeting schedule; however, if it is the board's desire that amount could be adjusted board approval.

Motion To Amend

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves to amend the expenditures from \$500 to \$1500 for the Board of Fire And Police Commissioners as a stipend.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Mayor Covington concurred with the action of the Board.

Motion To Approve The Amendment Carried.

Trustee Larry Brown commented that he does not feel that \$30,000 is too much to invest in our children and our seniors, especially when we look at the amount of money that is lost at the golf club annually. He stated that in the future he will insist that we do quarterly review of the financial situation of this Village.

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to withdraw the original main motion, and moved and seconded a motion to approve first, second, and third readings of this appropriations ordinance as amended.

Mayor Covington stated that we need a Human Resources Director, and that she has concerns that funding for this position was taken out of the budget. She stated that Sue Sanfratello would probably be retiring soon and there would be no one to take over these responsibilities, and that according to law we must have a human resources person. Regarding the late process in getting this started she stated that she too supports and would insist on quarterly reviews of village finances.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.

Nays: Mayor Covington.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2013 – 31.

Mrs. Bobbie Greer addressed the Board and asked what residents can do to assist in moving the Children's Health Center forward and getting it ready for the community to use; referring to the golf club she stated that the amount in dollars that has been lost at that facility for several years is mind-boggling, and she wonders why it took so long to take steps of bringing in a consultant to find out why it is not making money is incredible.

Mr. Milton Might commented that the village needs to get its books in order before spending more money; there is a need to balance the budget and stop spending, because he is tired of seeing his tax dollars go to waste.

D-2: Motion Authorizing The Village Manager To Execute A Settlement Agreement Documents With McGladrey And The Employment Of Lauterbach And Amen To Prepare The 2009 Audit Document At A Price Not To Exceed 25,000.00

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves this action.

Trustee Griffin asked if there is anything in place to cover the village in the event that McGladrey does not follow through.

Village Manager Linear responded that he has reviewed the release documents and find them to be in order, and that these documents would allow Lauterbach and Amen access to those files now in the possession of McGladrey.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Mayor Covington concurred with the action of the Board.

Motion To Approve Carried.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the special meeting of the Board of Trustee at 7:24 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote, Trustee Oscar Brown absent.

Respectfully Submitted

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