

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, February 11, 2014 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park

A. CALL TO ORDER

Village Clerk Dee Jones announced that Mayor Covington informed her that she would be unable to attend this meeting due to the death of a family member. Therefore, the Board would have to appoint a temporary chairperson for this meeting. She did a roll call as listed below to ascertain that a quorum of the Village Board was present. Trustee Oscar Brown called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:10 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Appointment Of A Temporary Chair For This Meeting

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve the appointment of Trustee Roudez as Temporary Chair for this meeting.

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

Motion To Approve carried.

Also present were Village Manager Linear, Village Attorney Steward Diamond, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Police Chief Ed Bradley, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Finance Director Joe Jones, Golf Club General Manager/PGA Pro Paul Blockoms, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Community Relations Manager James Bell, and Village Clerk Dorothy R Jones.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Roudez led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of regular meetings held September 24, 2013, November 26, 2013, and January 14, 2014.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

E. REPORTS OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS

E-1a: Elected Officials Report

Trustee Larry Brown reported on a meeting of the Board Of Directors of the Eastern Will County 911 Board noting that at their last meeting they passed a budget of approximately \$4 million; the approved measures for communication equipment; they agreed to add other communities to the Board. He also noted that there are job for the position of dispatcher at the Eastern Will County Communication Center, additional information is available by calling 672 – 1561.

Trustee Griffin reported on the status of acquiring Right Of Way for 2 parcels of land needed for the I-57 Interchange, and that the project is moving on schedule.

E-1b: Village Manager's Report

Village Manager Linear relinquished his report in favor of Mr. Matt Beran of the Auditing Firm of Lauterbach & Amen.

Mr. Matt Beran gave an overview of the process of the 2009 audit report and expounded on the management letter included with their report. Some Of The Points That He Explained Were: TIF Funds Must State Specific Uses, And That The Village Needs To Put Policies In Place Within The Next 3 To 6 Months; Relating To The Fund Balance He Stated Implementation Of Policies And Procedures Should Be Done Within 2 To 3 Year, and that they would provide templates for the capital assets, policies and procedures, and fund balance.

Trustee Griffin asked when the 2010 and 2011 audits would be completed, and if they would give a better picture of the Villages financial condition.

Mr. Beran responded that he could not give a specific date because the books were kept in such poor shape previously, but the current staff is rebuilding the system, he noted that there had been no bank reconciliation for several years.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he feels this information should have been in a workshop format, not at a regular Board meeting to allow questions and input from the residents.

Village Manager Linear responded that his objective was to have the auditors inform the Board of their findings for 2009, because that data is old and would not provide answers to a lot of questions that the Board and public might have.

Mr. Beran agreed to hold a workshop at a convenient time for their firm and the Board.

Trustee Payton stated that he would like the finance committee to be involved in this workshop so they could better understand the financial status of the Village. He also noted that the finance committee meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday.

E - 2: Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington was absent therefore, no report was given.

Swearing In All Of Firefighter/Paramedic:

Accompanied by Temporary Chair Roudez, Deputy Fire Chief Chellios, And Trustee Larry Brown, Village Clerk Dee Jones administered the Oath Of Office to Firefighter/Paramedic Alainn Carlin.

Proclamation - Black History Month:

Trustee Oscar Brown read a proclamation designating the month of February 2014 as Black History Month in the Village of University Park.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Mr. Robert Travis reported that the Human Services And Special Events Committee had completed their events agenda for the upcoming year that would include the continuation of such events as the Job Fair, Thanksgiving Dinner, the Carnival and the Coat Drive, and stated that the committee is looking to buy the tent, rather than continue to lease the tent at such high cost. He feels that the tent could be for multiple uses at various municipal sites. He also reported that they are looking at other Carnival Companies for the 2014 event, and that he hopes the Village Board will allocate necessary funds to continue these projects.

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Assessor and Village resident reported that she was recently elected as chairperson for the finance committee. She thanked the committee for allowing her the opportunity to serve in this capacity, and that they are in need temporary help in getting the minutes of the finance committee today. She also asked that the Board and finance committee review the budgets at least 3 times annually.

Ms. Debra Stroud, Senior Citizens Committee Chair reported that now that the winter break is over, the Senior Citizens Committee would again be holding its regular meetings on Wednesdays beginning February 12, 2014 at 2 PM at the University Park library. She invited all University Park residents 55 and older to come join this committee.

E-4: Reports of Other Officers

Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress reported on the upcoming college tours that they would be taking the kids on, and noted that a parent's meeting for the college tour would be held on March 27, 2014; she also reported that the garden program is on track and invited those residents interested in fresh vegetables to contact the Parks and Recreation's Department and take advantage of this program. She thanked Mrs. Truss and Robert Alexander for their commitment, dedication, and hard work that helped make this program a success last year. Ms. Childress relinquished the remainder of her report to Ms. Juanita Vance.

Ms. Juanita Vance addressed the Board and gave a brief background on their organization, Summer Track Team and College Tour, noting that their focus is on education and fitness for our kids, and that they work with kids from the age of four. They are currently selling discount coupons that are good in many stores as a fund raiser for their organization, and thanked the Board and Village for its support.

Police Chief Bradley and Commander Stroud commented on their collaboration between the Police Department and Fire Department for a competition to determine the Annual Top Gun Shooter Award noting that they strive for the highest proficiency in firearms, combat, and tactical situations. Commander Stroud was unable to participate due to his professional rating is a national competitor, presented the 2014 1st Place Top Gun to Ustad Jaco (Police Department); 2nd Place to Shawn Richards (Fire Department), and 3rd place to Ben Bryant (Police Department). The Board and the audience congratulated these dedicated employees.

E-5: Attorney's Report

No report at this time.

E-6: Department Updates

None

F. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Attorney Diamond reminded the public of the 30 minutes maximum allowed for public comments, and asked that they be mindful of the time limit. However, anyone who has signed in and not allowed to speak tonight would be 1st on the list for comments at the next meeting.

Mr. Keith Rouse reflected on the shooting death of his son in Craig Park, and stated that he is voicing the concerns of the Concerned Citizens Committee and noted that there is a need for cameras and better lighting in Craig Park, on Burnham and Blackhawk Drive, and to have both parks with more lights at night for the safety of our children.

Mr. Larry Wayne distributed a copy of the response he received from his FOIA request relating to outstanding bills owed by elected officials, and asked to know who is responsible for paying the bill for a fundraiser for Jacob Roudez that was held at the golf course last September and stated that if the bill is not paid he will take this to the State's Attorney.

Village Manager Linear responded that when this was brought to his attention the bill was submitted to the sponsors of the event, and that he would follow up on the status.

Ms. Sandra Warren commented that she was appalled with the report from the auditor relating to the finances as indicated 2009 audit report, and again and voiced her concerns with the expenditure of funds for the GED program here in the Village, She stated that she has requested information on the number of participants and other data under the Illinois FOIA and did not get a response from Clerk. She also stated that the Village needs to reevaluate the garbage collection program.

Village Clerk Dee Jones responded to Ms. Warren relating to her comments about the lack of a FOIA response, and stated that she did in fact respond to Ms. Warren on January 10th, and informed her that the Village had no records relating to the GED Program or participants, and that those records were in the sole possession of Prairie State College. Therefore she could not supply her with the requested information. However, she stated that she would reach out to Prairie State. To which Ms. Warren responded that she would be going to Prairie State College on January 11, 2014 and she would inquire there.

Mrs. Mary Truss commented on a meeting she attended with State Representative DeLucca and the Rotary Club that was held at the University Golf Club and voiced her concern with the lack of representation from our elected officials. She also commented that as a resident she should be allowed to voice her opinions, and that she will be sponsoring A Step Up Event where she will be asking volunteers to step up in support of the GED program.

General Public Comments – Continued:

Ms. Patti Guinn commented on the lack of heat and the problems they encountered at Thornwood House. She thanked those Trustees, Police Chief Bradley and Fire Chief Exner for their assistance and for checking up on them.

Mrs. Doretha Franklin made a request for a meeting with the Legislative and Operations Committee at their March 4, 2014 meeting relating to the furtherance of youth program and collaboration with the Village Board and their organization. She thanked Ms. Keely Childress for her support of their endeavors and all the work that she does with our children.

Mrs. Bernadette Franklin voiced her concerns with the recent robberies, drive-by shootings, and lack of information relating to the dangers that lurk in our streets. She noted that she has a lot of respect for our police officers, however, she sees a lot of time with them sitting in parking lots in their squad cars and not patrolling our streets. She also voiced her opinion with the lack of snow removal and unplowed streets and sidewalks.

Ms. Sandra Heard thanked the Board for the progress in financial reporting, and stated that she would like to see the Board come together to make decisions in the best interest of the Village. She also invited residents to come out to upcoming finance committee meetings, and noted that the Assessor's Office would begin work on the senior freeze, and that additional information is available by calling her office at 534-6024.

Police Chief Bradley responded to a concern of Mrs. Franklin and stated that the armed robber at the Speedway gas station was arrested almost instantly, and that the shooter that she referred to has possibly been identified.

G-1 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

G-1a: Motion Approving The 2014 Calendar Year Meeting Schedule

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to approve this meeting schedule.

Trustee Payton noted that all dates for the finance committee for 2014 were incorrect in the corrected dates: January 15, February 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, and December 17.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

G-2: NEW BUSINESS

G-2a: First, Second, and Third Readings - Ordinance Amending Chapter 808 Of The Business Regulation And Taxation Code, Alcoholic Liquor Dealers, Section 808.14 (b), Permitted Hours Of Sale

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

Trustee Payton commented that he would like first reading only on this and all ordinances unless it was an emergency.

Village Attorney Diamond responded that normally in most communities there is only one reading to approve legislation.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to amend this item to 1st reading only.

Ayes: Trustees Payton, and Larry Brown.
Nays: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Griffin, and Roudez.
Absent: Mayor Covington.

Motion To Amend Failed To Carry.

Roll Call On Main Motion:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Griffin, and Roudez.
Nays: Trustee Payton.
Absent: Mayor Covington.
Abstained: Trustee Larry Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried . Ordinance Number O 2014 -04.

G-2b: First, Second And Third Readings - Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Lease-Purchase Agreement And Other Related Documents For The Purchase Of A Backhoe Loader From West Side Tractor Sales Company

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to approve this ordinance.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if we had received three bids for this item.

G-2b continued:

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O 2014 – 05.

Attorney Diamond stated he wants to see the document before it is executed & signed.

G-2c: Resolution Approving The 2014 Official Zoning Map For The Village Of University Park

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

Attorney Diamond explained that this resolution approving the zoning map is procedural, and when there are no changes it is just a technicality.

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R 2014 –03..

G-2d: Motion To Select The Chairperson Of The Liaison Committee With Governors State University

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to appoint Trustee Oscar Brown as Chairperson of this committee.

Trustee Payton renewed his objection to this piece of legislation, stating that he feels it is disrespectful to the Mayor, and if anyone should be appointed as Chair it should be the Mayor. He also stated that according to our standing rules the Mayor makes appointments.

Village Attorney Diamond noted that this is an alternate method in dealing with Governors State University. Additionally the Board passed an ordinance that amended how appointments are made.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if this action is mandatory, or if the Village was asked by GSU to take these measures, and if this was done by invitation.

Roll call on G-2d:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Griffin, and Roudez.
Nays: Trustees Payton, and Larry Brown.
Absent: Mayor Covington.

Motion To Approve Carried

G-2e: Action By Committee Chairperson To Name The Members Of The Board Committee

Trustee Oscar Brown, newly appointed chair of the liaison committee between the Village And Governors State University appointed Trustees Elizabeth Williams, Keith Griffin, and Joseph Roudez as members of this committee.

G2f: Bills Payable

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park as incurred for the last four (4) weeks from January 15, 2014 to January 28, 2014. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| General Operation Fund | \$180,829.08 |
| Road & Bridge Fund | \$829.98 |
| Town Center | \$1882.93 |
| Golf Course Fund | \$14,256.11 |
| Motor Fuel Tax | <u>\$9923.21</u> |
| TIF V | |
| Total | \$207,721.31 |

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

G-2g: Bills Payable

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park as incurred for the last two (2) weeks from January 29, 2014 to February 11, 2014. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| General Operation Fund | \$578,921.67 |
| Road & Bridge Fund | \$5988 .27 |
| Town Center | \$8513.16 |
| Golf Course Fund | \$8650.56 |
| Motor Fuel Tax | \$4350.52 |
| Capital Project Fund | \$9614.40 |
| Total | \$616,038.58 |

There were several questions relating to payments to Davis Staffing, and Trustee Larry Brown asked to know how much is still owed to that company.

Finance Director Joe Jones responded that there is approximately \$100,000 in approved checks yet to be released due to cash flow problems.

Trustee Roudez asked that Village Manager Linear and Finance Director Jones to look at evaluating the pros and cons of using temporary agency for this temporary help.

Village Treasurer Dilworth commented that when he was signing checks he noticed double payments to this company.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: Mayor Covington.

Motion To Approve Carried.

H. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MANAGER COMMENTS

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board move into executive session for purposes of collective bargaining at 9:59 PM.

The Board returned from executive session at 11:05 with nothing to report out to the public.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to adjourn this meeting at 11:06 pm.

Motion to adjourn carried by unanimous voice vote. Trustee Roudez, Larry Brown and Mayor Covington were absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

/drj