

**Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, April 14, 2015 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Covington called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Present
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

Also present were Village Manager Lafayette Linear , Attorney Leslie for Attorney Felicia Frazier, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Interim Finance Director Sharon Floyd, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress, Cable Studio Manager Christel Allen, Police Chief Ed Bradley, Golf Club General Manager/PGA Pro Paul Blockoms, Community Relations Manager James Bell, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Covington led the audience in the Pledge Of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 10, 2015.

Trustee Payton noted a typo on page 6.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

**E-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**None.**

**E- 2 NEW BUSINESS**

**E-2a: First, Second and Third Readings An Ordinance Amending Section 230-09 (c), Towed Vehicle Release Fee, Of The Codified Ordinances**

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Payton explained the increase in the towing fees as he saw it, and stated that he feels the increase is unwarranted, he asked Chief Bradley for clarity on the need for this action.

Police Chief Bradley responded that the proposed fees are lower than in most communities, and this is to help generate funds for the Police Department, and most of the tows are related to vehicles involved in illegal activities.

**Motion to Table:**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to table this item.

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

**Motion To Table Failed To Carry.**

Mayor Covington commented on a call that she received from a resident whose vehicle had been towed and due to unusual circumstances she could not afford to pay the towing fees and asked if these fees could be waived.

Police Chief Bradley and Village Manager Linear stated that they frequently waive fees for residents on this and other minor violations.

Trustee Payton asked if this increase in fees is intended as a deterrent to crime. He stated that he feels the increase is wrong and he is opposed to it. He also stated that he disagrees with selective prosecution.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked Police Chief Bradley if the University Park Police Department tows vehicles for violation of Village ordinances such as no Village sticker, or if towing is done for violations such as DUI, driving without a license, etc.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he feels that the towing for individuals involved in criminal activity should be more than \$50 per tow.

Mayor Covington asked if the University Park Police Department tows for illegally parked vehicles on Village streets.

**Roll Call on Main Motion:**

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

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**Ordinance Number O 2015 – 11.**

**E-2b: First, Second and Third Readings -- An Ordinance Amending Section 230-08 Of University Park Code Of Ordinances Entitled Part-Time Police Unit**

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Larry Brown asked Manager Linear if he is okay with this ordinance that gives the authority to hire and fire part-time police officers to the Police Chief.

Village Manager Linear responded that yes he is okay with it because part-time police officers are represented by the AFSCME Union when it comes to disciplinary action. Additionally, this is not a change in the current ordinance.

Trustee Payton referred to section 3 (g) and asked if this is an addition to the current ordinance relating to the discipline.

Police Chief Bradley stated that currently there are no part time police officers, because the ones on the books were unproductive. He also stated that they are in the process of qualifying new part-time police officers.

**Motion to Table:**

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

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

**Motion to Table Carried.**

**E-2c: Resolution Authorizing The Improvement Of Greenbriar Lane And The Appropriation Of Funds From The Village Of University Park's Employer's Expense Tax Fund To Pay For Said Improvements**

Trustee Payton stated that he feels this is an inappropriate use of funds from the employer's expense tax fund, and that it seems to have political influences. He also asked if this road improvement is part of the Village's 5 year plans, and that he wants to make sure that this piece of road is Village responsibility and not that of the Home Owners Association. He also asked Manager Linear to explain how this street was brought to his attention.

Village Manager Linear responded that the Village does not have a 5 year road plan, and work on the roads has been done on an as needed basis.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if we were sure that this road for improvement is not the Homeowner's responsibility.

Trustee Williams explained that the Village pays for the road improvement, and the Association pays for the parking lot improvements.

Trustee Oscar Brown commented that he brought this item and four other roads that needed improvement to the attention of the Village Manager, and that there are a lot of happy residents because of the road improvements. He further stated that repairing roads from the employer's expense fund is an intended use, and at no cost to the Village residents.

Mayor Covington asked to know the amount remaining in the Employer's Expense Fund, and asked if there were funds for improvements on Abbot, Thornwood House, and other streets in need of repair. She also stated that there is a definite need for a 5 Year Road Plan.

Responding to Mayor Covington, Finance Director Floyd responded that she did not have those figures with her but would make them available tomorrow morning.

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

**Motion to Approve Carried**

**Resolution Number R 2015 – 08.**

**E-2d: 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**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

**E – 2D continued:**

Mayor Covington explained that the use of the Hidden Meadows Golf Course is at a cost of \$1100 per month.

Trustee Payton stated that this contract is for a 12 month period, and not just the golf season; he asked to know the amount of revenues generated, and stated that as he sees it University Golf Club is losing money. He further stated that he supports golf but does not support the losses.

Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms responded that the contract is for the golf season only, and that last year they generated over \$8500 at the driving range, and that the driving range is also an amenity for golfers.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if the price of the use of the driving range is included in the cost for golf; he asked if everyone that golfed used the driving range, and if not, why not include the cost for the balls with a round of golf.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

***Motion to Approve Carried***

**Resolution Number R 2015 – 09.**

***E-2e: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Approving The Site Plan And Plat Of Subdivision For 2101 Dralle Road, University Park, Will County, Illinois***

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings on this ordinance.

Village Manager Linear explained that this is the Kloeckner property that they want to subdivide, and the Village basically agreed to support.

Plan Commission Chair Laverne Williams explained that there is required documentation that needs to be signed by the owner, and to date the owner has refused to sign off on the title. Therefore, the plan commission cannot proceed without the owner's approval and sign off.

**E- 2e - continued:**

**Motion To Table:**

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

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

***Motion To Table Carried.***

**E – 2f: Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Construction Management Agreement Between TheCREATORSTool, Inc. And The Village Of University Park**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

Mayor Covington stated that she has a problem with this action and asked why we need a consultant when we have a Village Manager and Staff.

Trustee Payton commented that he has the same concern of spending money on the town center without Board approval.

**Motion to Table:**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to table this resolution.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

***Motion To Table Carried.***

**E – 2g: Resolution Accepting And Approving The Annual Audit Report For The Fiscal Year 2011-12**

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Resolution Number R 2015 – 10.**

**E – 2h: First Reading – An Ordinance Adopting The Budget For All Corporate Purposes Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois. In Little Of The Appropriations Ordinance For The Fiscal Year Commencing On The 1<sup>st</sup> Day Of May, 2015, And Ending On The 30<sup>th</sup> Day Of April, 2016**

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> reading of this ordinance.

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

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

**E – 2 I: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Accepting The Proposal Of Terry's Ford For The Purchase Of A 2015 Ford Explorer For The IT Department**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to table this item.

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

***Motion To Table Carried.***

**E – 2J: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Accepting The Lowest Proposal For Refuse Collection With Homewood Disposal Co. Inc.**

Trustee Payton moved, Roudez seconded a motion to approve 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Payton asked if this agreement would include large trash containers for multi-family buildings, or if the multi-family developments could negotiate independently.

Village Manager Linear responded that they could negotiate independently.

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

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Ordinance Number O 2015 – 12.**

**E – 2k: Bills Payable**

Roudez moved, Larry Brown seconded a motion seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park as incurred March 11, 2015 to March 24, 2015. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 262,743.14
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 2,373.12
Town Center	\$ 3,844.80
Golf Course	\$ 21,321.93
MFT Fund	\$ 8,377.20
Capital Project Fund	\$ 3,830.52
TIF IV	<u>\$ 100,670.91</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$403,161.63</b>

And that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park has incurred from March 25, 2015 to April 14, 2015. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 154,222.19
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 1,160.14
MB Financial Special Purpose	\$ 11,588.00
Town Center	\$ 63,744.33
Golf Course	\$ 30,041.30
MFT Fund	\$ 12,173.70
Capital Project Fund	\$ 7,279.63
TIF II	\$ 15,518.80
After Payroll Expenses	<u>\$ 6,701.99</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$302,430.08</b>

Trustee Payton asked for clarity on check numbers 4250, 4230, 4264, and referred to check number 4192 for Ancel Glink in the amount of \$39,000 and asked to know the period that this payment covered. He also stated that he wants copies of all invoices from Ancel Glink. He also referred to check #4317 to DJ Phantom; 8440, and 8441 to Will County Treasurer and asked for clarity.

Finance Director Floyd responded that the check to Ancel Glink covers the period of July and August, 2014, and that this should be the final bill.

Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress responded that the check to DJ Phantom is for the Village Festival, and the celebrity acts that he will be bringing such as Herb Kent, and entertainment for all age groups.



**Bills payable continued:**

Village Manager Linear responded that the check to the Will County Treasurer is for that portion of property taxes at the Town Center that is not tax-exempt. He explained that according to Will County only that portion that is used for commercial occupancy is tax-exempt, and that for some time the Village has been fighting with the Will County Treasurer over this matter.

Mayor Covington asked if we had received any reports from the Lobbyist.

Village Manager Linear responded that they are to make quarterly reports.

**Trustee Griffin left the meeting at 8:50 pm and did not return.**

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

***Motion to Approve Carried.***

**F. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Litigation - Pending Litigation Against, Affecting, Or On Behalf Of Public Body; And Personnel - Appointment/Employment/Compensation/Discipline/Dismissal Of An Employee/Review of Closed Session Minutes)**

No executive session called.

At this point Mayor Covington requested a recess to allow for the exiting of the attorney and certain appointed staff..

**Motion For Recess**

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez Seconded a motion that the Board recess at 8:55 PM.

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

***Motion to Approve Carried.***

***The Board returned from recess at 9:01 PM and resumed the regular meeting.***

## **G. REPORTS OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

### **G-1: Reports of Elected and Appointed Officials**

Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress reported on the recent College Tour, which included a tour of the campus of Ole Miss University where University Park resident LaQuon Treadwell is a student. She also shared an Instagram message from LaQuon where he shared his feelings of blessings to be a role model for kids in his neighborhood, and that University Park students and leaders came to visit him. He stated that he is bounded by Unity, Love the life he lives, and his message to the students is "Dream about the life you want and never forget where you come from. She also reported that April 25<sup>th</sup> is Community Clean-up Day with May 8<sup>th</sup> as an alternate date if rained out.

Finance Director reported that the Auditors would be in late April to complete the 2013 financial audit.

### **G-2: Village Manager's Report:**

Village Manager Linear congratulated the newly and re-elected municipal officials. He reported that the Local Roads and Street Status Sheets for Federal Aid Projects were released today, and University Park has two projects. The two projects are: (1) The University Parkway reconstruction project from the Metra entrance to Crawford. The cost of this project is \$4 million dollars with the Village's share of \$400,000. The bids to perform this work will be let June 12<sup>th</sup>, and the federal government will advance \$2,472,983... (2) The second project is the Cicero Avenue Street Lighting project from University Parkway to Steger Road, and the cost of this project is \$1,100,000. The Village share is 20%, and the engineering is in process.

Manager Linear also reported on the negotiations with AFSCME Local 3837, Council 31, and stated that they have met twice and are making reasonable process.

Mayor Covington commended Finance Director Floyd for the diligence in getting the audits completed, and asked Manager Linear if catering is available at the Golf Club.

Manager Linear responded that catering was not available at the golf club.

### **G-3: Elected Officials Report**

Trustee Williams congratulated Chere'se Williams on her election to the will County Board of Education and all other candidates who were elected on April 7, 2015.

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that official results of the election would be available from the Will and Cook County Clerk's Office April 28<sup>th</sup> and once they are received we could move forward with the Swearing in of the elected officials anytime after May 1, 2015.

**G- 4: Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Covington congratulated all of those individuals elected as Village officials, and reported on meetings and events she has attended since her last report, which included meetings with the Will County Mayors, Governor Rauner, and Will County Executive Larry Walsh in Crest Hill; a meetings in downtown Chicago with 82 Mayors from the Metropolitan Mayors Association, and South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association and Governor Rauner. She gave an update on the budget negotiations relating to the fiscal year 2015 LGDF (local government distribution fund) and stated that if this proposal is adopted it would mean that there would be no LGDF reductions for the current state fiscal year which ends June 30, 2015. However, we would still need to be alert as negotiations begin for the fiscal year 2016 budget.

Mayor Covington also reported that she represented the Village at Prairie State College 2 weeks ago where she was on a panel with State Representatives Al Riley, Anthony DeLucca, State Senators Napoleon Harris, Toi Hutchinson relating to reforms and other legislation that the Governor is requiring them to vote on. She also reported that she attended a HealthCare Disparities Committee hearing hosted by State Representative Will Davis relating to the need for a trauma center in the Southland area; she also attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Film Festival International at 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of University Park. She also asked the status of union negotiations, and the results of the investigation of Theft of gas at the public works department.

**H. General Public Comments**

Mrs. Mary Ellen Griffin addressed the Mayor and the Board and commented on issues of concern that she had relating to pace bus scheduling at the Metra station during evening hours and lack of security at the Metra station during evening hours, and asked to know who is responsible for security at the Metra station. She also commented on the tree stumps that are throughout the Village.

Mayor Covington responded that there will be a new scheduling of pace buses for University Park and they will run on a 24 hour schedule.

Village Manager Linear responded that Metra is required to provide security at the Metra station. However, he will have the University Park Police Department patrol at night.

**General Public – continued:**

Ms. Gina Williams offered her congratulations to those elected, and congratulated Coach Tutu for a good job of campaigning. She also commended residents for being involved in Board of Trustee meetings, and asked if the Home Owners Association's would get new containers with the new contract with Homewood Disposal.

Village Manager Linear responded that the trash containers would only be given to single-family homes.

Ms. Mary Smith congratulated those officials elected, and commented that with the hike taxes within the Village she is against an increase in the towing fees, and stated that she wants the Village Board to monitor the enforcement of that ordinance closely.

Mrs. Vanessa Lawson congratulated elected officials and stated she is excited to see that our Mayor was reelected; she would like to see a repeal of the pay raises for elected officials; relating to the Police Chief she wants to have him do his job at all times, she wants to see the lobbyist released from contract; she wants education of residents on items on the agenda, and she questioned a \$4500 payment to DJ Phantom when our baseball fields needs fixing. She also asked for status on golf club operations

Pastor Dr. Brenda Mitchell congratulated all elected officials and commented on the recent unrest at School District 201U. She referenced a 1998 lawsuit filed by the late Village President Ed Palmer and other residents which is now threatened to be overturned. She asked that we as residents of University Park present a united University Park and commit to working for the betterment of this community and region.

Mr. Stephen Allen asked that this elected body work together to move the Village forward.

201-U School Board President Dr. Nikita Hall, and School Board Secretary Mrs. Kimberly Sanders made a plea to University Park residents on the necessity of attending the school Board meetings and need for mentors to push for change. They saluted Maurice "MO" Brown on his re-election to represent University Park, and asked residents to stand with them as they have picked up the fight for our children. They noted that a special meeting of the School Board would be held on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

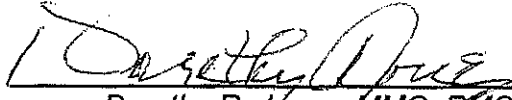
## **I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Williams seconded a motion to adjourn this meeting at 9:40 PM.

***Motion to adjourn carried by unanimous voice vote.***

*Respectfully Submitted,*

  
Dorothy R. Jones, MMC, RMC  
Village Clerk