

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, October 27, 2015 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Covington called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:12 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Acting Village Manager Johnna Townsend, Attorney Felicia Frazier, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Finance Director Sharon Floyd, Police Chief John Pate, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Deputy Fire Chief Brain Chellios, HR Director Maxine Jackson, 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.

Minister Charles Floyd offered prayer for the Board and community.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve minutes of a regular meeting held September 22, 2015; minutes of a special meeting held September 25, 2015; minutes of a regular meeting held October 13, 2015

Mayor Covington referred to page 4, under general public and stated that Mr. Paul Dixon stated that he discovered that there were numerous ghost payroll employees at the golf club.

Trustee Wilson noted that the minutes were received on Monday, and did feel that the Board had enough time to review them.

Motion To Table:

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to table the minutes of the regular meeting held September 22, 2015; minutes of a special meeting held September 25, 2015; minutes of a regular meeting held October 13, 2015

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

Motion To Table Carried.

E: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Mari Lois Green voiced her concerns relating to the amount of money that is being lost at the golf club, and asked to know why the Village would employ a Company that had filed bankruptcy and put them in charge of our golf club, and how are they operating without a contract. She also stated that she wants a copy of the qualifications of Acting Village Manager Johnna Townsend that would include her resume', and she wants to know why Bola was removed.

Mayor Covington responded that some items are personnel issues that cannot be discussed in public, but Michael Realty had been removed from the golf club, because they were working without a contract.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan voiced her concerns relating to how purchases are being made on the credit card that belongs to Vivian Covington, and questioned why Mayor Covington would charges extra amounts for travel expenses that are in addition to the daily per-diem that is allowed. She questioned a list of credit card purchases, with emphasis on charges to Jiffy Lube in 2012.

Mayor Covington responded that there are only three credit cards to be used for all officials, and Mrs. Morgan should get confirmation with signature of who made purchases before accusing her. Relating to Jiffy Lube, she stated that she has had maintenance done on the vehicle that she drives.

Mr. Antonio Towns voiced his concerns relating to crime in the area, specifically in the area of Sandra & Blackhawk, where there have been numerous gun shots involving two specific homes in that area, and that he would like to see a Crime Free Ordinance for the Village. He commented that he feels that the police are doing as good a job as they can, but it seems that their hands are tied.

General Public Comments – continued:

Mayor Covington responded that she is aware of the calls, and that Chief Pate is addressing the issue. She also stated that she had a phone conference with President Obama relating to this type crime, and that the problem stems from the relocation of individuals from Chicago Public Housing. She also asked to know who how the removal of graffiti is being handled.

Police Chief Pate responded that the police department is investing a massive amount of overtime for coverage in that area: that the owner of one location has stated that they are in the process of evicting tenants. He asked residents to continue to call when they see something, and that he is working on a crime free ordinance that he will be presenting to the Board shortly.

Ms. Gina Williams stated that there seems to be no allegiance to the Village; no answer to why Bola Delano, who was doing a great to and brought order was removed, while the Board is out of order, and she is going to do something about it. She further stated that residents have a right to know what the educational background of the Acting Village Manager is, and that for now we are stuck with Trustee Oscar Brown, but she plans to PUSH.

Trustee Griffin stated that they are looking to bring management to the golf club to lessen the burden on taxpayers, and asked Ms. Williams to leave his wife out of her comments and criticism of him.

Ms. Barbara Guararro addressed the Mayor and Board and announced that she is a candidate for Will County Circuit Clerk, and gave a brief bio of her family's background and her qualification for the position.

Mrs. Star Lawson greeted the Board and stated that the Fall Edition of the Library Newsletter is out; she thanked Trustee Griffin for coming out and speaking with them, since the Town Hall meeting was canceled, because it is important that residents work to move this Village forward. She stated that with or without Bola Delano, this Village will move forward, because there are many residents who have visions and the desire to move forward. She also voiced her concerns in engaging our young people in positive activities. She asked where is the 100 Men Organization, and what happened to the mentoring of our young girls.

Mayor Covington responded that the Town Hall meeting was something that Bola put together, but they are working on a new date. She also stated that there is a need for working with our youth, and that she was a guest speaker with President Obama on a program MYTT (Mentoring Youth Through Technology), and that she was elected President of the National Women's Organization, so she represents the Village well and puts the name of the Board and village out there, and that she is proud of what she does.

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Second and Third Readings – An Ordinance of the Village of University Park, Will and Cook Counties, Illinois, Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Board of Education of Crete-Monee Community School District 201-U and the Village of University Park Establishing a Reciprocal Reporting System.

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve 2nd and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Griffin asked if the concerns of Trustee Wilson relating to reported differential treatment of black students were answered.

Trustee Wilson stated that her concern was that the school is a prison pipeline, she wants to see alternatives to incarceration, and that her questions had been answered by Chief Pate.

Police Chief Pate responded that he and the school district have begun communications and plans to address those concerns.

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

Motion To Approve Carried Ordinance Number O2015-42.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance – Authorizing The Execution Of An Investment Banking Services Agreement with Stern Brothers Company as Bond Underwriter for the Village of University Park, Will & Cook Counties, Illinois

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve first, second and third readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Wilson stated that the Board had just received some of these documents, and the agenda stated Stern Brothers as Bond Underwriter, but tonight they received a Letter of Engagement and ordinance listing Louis Cainkar as Bond Counsel. Therefore, she needs clarity.

Village Clerk Dee Jones stated that she received these document late this afternoon, and had questions because she was waiting for an ordinance to support the documents.

Attorney Frazier stated that she was not involved in this bond process, and Attorney Cainkar was to prepare the documents.

Motion To Table:

Trustee Wilson made a motion to table this item. For lack of a second the motion failed.

Trustee Wilson stated that the Board had not had an opportunity to review these documents.

Mr. Wayne Pierce of Stern Brothers addressed the Board and stated that they sent a letter of engagement, and that they are an Investment Banking Services and the Agreement with Stern Brothers Company should be as Bond Underwriter, not Bond Counsel. He explained how approval of the 2015A Bond would refund current bonds of 1998, 2002 and 2003 at a much lower rate with a savings to the Village. He also stated that there would be no cost to the Village for their services.

Finance Director Floyd commented that approval of these items would lower the interest of the current bonds and allow \$2,000,000 of new money, and this would not affect taxpayers.

Mayor Covington stated that she needs clarity on the percentages, rate of pay, and how this would increase our budget.

Mr. Wayne Pierce responded that 2015A Bond is for re-funding of three current bonds, and 2015B Bond is for new projects with no burden on taxpayers for the first three years, after that the projects should be up and running and should pay for itself.

Mayor Covington asked Mr. Pierce if any member(s) of the Board would profit from, or involved with their company.

Mr. Pierce responded that no one on the Board was involved with their company, or would profit from this action.

Finance Director Floyd explained the capital improvements that would be included in the new bonds.

Trustee Payton stated that this is nothing new to Mayor Covington or the Board. That three weeks ago Mayor Covington agreed to hold a special meeting to address these items then canceled the meeting. He explained why funds for the needed capitals improvements could not come out general funds, and why these bond issues are needed, and he noted that \$950,000 was put in the budget.

Trustee Wilson stated that she never received a list of those referenced capital projects.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to amend the main motion to consolidate items G-2a; G-2b; and G-2c into one motion and approve first and second readings tonight.

- a) First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of An Investment Banking Services Agreement with Stern Brothers Company as Bond Counsel for the Village of University Park, Will & Cook Counties, Illinois
- b) First, Second and Third Readings –An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance Of Not To Exceed \$9,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015a, Of The Village Of University Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois, And For The Levy Of A Direct Annual Tax Sufficient To Pay The Principal And Interest On Said Bonds
- c) First, Second And Third Readings –An Ordinance Providing For The Issuance Of Not To Exceed \$10,000,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2015b, Of The Village Of University Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois, And For The Levy Of A Direct Annual Tax Sufficient To Pay The Principal And Interest On Said Bonds

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

Nays: Trustee Wilson and Mayor Covington.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Motion To Amend To First And Second Readings Carried.

F-2d: A Resolution Approving and Authorizing Execution Of An Employment Agreement For University Park Chief Of Police John E. Pate

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to table this item to executive session.

Ayes: Trustees Griffin, and Roudez.

Nays: Trustee Wilson, Larry Brown, Payton, and Mayor Covington.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Motion To Table Failed to Carry.

F-2d – continued:

Trustee Larry Brown commented that he agrees with the contract because with a psychologically unstable Board, and due to the facts surrounding this social climate, contracts are now needed; that we have a working Chief who was put through an extensive hiring process and was deemed number two and later advanced to number one.

Trustee Roudez commented that he wanted clarity on some issues, and wanted to give the Acting Village Manager an opportunity to work with, and be able to evaluate his performance.

Mayor Covington stated that Bola started the process, and we should move forward.

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to approve this resolution.

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2015-22.

F-2e: Appointments

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve the appointments of Mr. Chester Herring, Larry Wayne, Wilton Martin, Scott Woods and Ms. Shirley Spruiel to the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee (Terms to expire December 31, 2018)

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

F-2f: Bills Payable

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to approve a listing of general operating funds for the Village of University Park from October 14, 2015 to October 27, 2015. The following is a list of funds charged for those expenses.

General Operation Fund	\$ 71,719.02
Road & Bridge	\$ 1,546.18
Town Center	\$ 3,922.03
Golf Course	\$ 1,257.80
Total	\$ 78,445.03

Bills Payable – continued:

Finance Director Floyd informed the Board that this bills listings does not include payments for golf club employees, or approximately \$10,000 in legal bills that will be included on the next bills payable list.

Trustee Griffin questioned check numbers: 85791, and 85772. He also commented on the cost of approximately \$20,000 for tires and missing vehicles that mysteriously re-appeared.

Director Floyd responded that 1 check was for various parts for Public Works, and 1 for tires for the Police Department.

Police Chief Pate stated that he is attempting to establish an account with Discount tires for rotation, maintenance and disposal of tires. He noted that most of the squad cars did not have spare tires.

Mayor Covington questioned payment for Porta-Pottys, and animal removal.

Parks & Recreation Director Childress responded that there has been a problem with residents vandalizing the porta-pottys, and one of the Lama's passed away.

Trustee Wilson questioned payment of \$781.00 for travel by Trustee Roudez to the National League of Cities.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

H. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK, MANAGER, APPOINTED OFFICIALS, and COMMITTEES

REPORTS OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Director Floyd thanked members of the finance department, Jacelia Kelly, Loria Versher, Tamara Cannon, and Claudia Webb for the great work of a team of great workers who together they were able to get back to back audits done that will bring the audits up-to-date.

Village Treasurer Dilworth thanked Director Floyd for the wonderful job she is doing with finances and communication with him as Treasurer.

Parks & Recreation Director Childress reported that the Crete-Monee Warriors would play against Rock Island this weekend, and the University Park Lions would also be in competition this weekend.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Covington reported on events that she attended since the last meeting, and that she sent a letter on October 21st relating to a Letter of Engagement for a partnership; I-57 Interchange at University Parkway/Stuenkel Road opens on Friday, and she stated that once she became Mayor, with the help of Bola Delano they were able to get this project re-started. She also reported that a retailer has pledged \$100,000.00 to open a grocery store, and that American Bagel will be opening a facility on Cicero soon.

REPORTS OF ELECTED OFFICIALS:

Trustee Roudez reported that the long awaited I-57 Interchange at University Parkway will open on Friday, and he asked everyone to be careful on Halloween.

Trustee Payton reported that the Trimester Joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees is scheduled for November 18, 2015. He gave kudo's to Finance Director Floyd for her efforts with getting the audits done, and for the financial upgrades. He also noted that this Saturday the Parks & Recreation Department is hosting a Trunk or Treat Celebration at #90 Town Center, and volunteers are needed.

Trustee Larry Brown reported that our Pee Wee Football Team will be playing in the Super bowl this Saturday and Sunday at Hillcrest School, and the Cheerleaders will be competing in the Cheerleaders Championship.

H. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to move into Executive Session for purposes of personnel at 9:12 p.m.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:30 p.m. with nothing to report out.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 10:31 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

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