Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, May 24, 2016 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 7:09 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Acting Village Manager Johnna Townsend, Police Chief John Pate, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Public Works Director Gary Richardson, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, 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 Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to approve minutes of the regular meeting held May 10, 2016.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.
E: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ollie Conner commented on the lack of grass cutting in their area, and lack of response from the public works department, stating that calls have been made to the Mayor and the Public Works Director but have received no response.

Mr. Randy Bennett Of Landmark Sign Company addressed the Board and voiced his concerns that no movement had been taken on his application for a sign variance. He stated that he applied for the variance in April, and his check for one thousand dollars had been cashed. Therefore he would like a status of his application.

Acting Village Manager Townsend responded that she would check into the matter and have it resolved.

Mr. Tim Jenkins of Budrick Truck Lines voiced his concern with the lack of street lighting and the road conditions on industrial Drive, and asked if that street is on the list for repairs.

Public Works Director Richardson responded that they are working in that area and should be finished by next week. However, they are waiting for ComEd to get back to them on the lights.

Mayor Covington commented that she would give them direct contact to ComEd.

Ms. Gina Williams voiced her concern that no one answers the Village phones anymore; that she wants the Police Chief to begin a police blotter and list all criminal activity. She thanked Mayor Covington for the Town Hall Meeting that she sponsored and the companies that she brought in. She also stated that she wants Aqua Water Company to come out again and address the water concerns of the resident. She also voiced her complaints about the Monee Township Assessor’s Office.

Mayor Covington responded that she is planning another town hall meeting in the near future.

Police Chief Pate responded that he is planning to initiate a global system for reporting of criminal activity. However, currently the Village is not in financial condition to do so, but he will be working with the Will County Sheriff’s Department to prepare a condensed reports of crime activities in the community. He also stated that he plans to hold a community forum in late June or early July and asked Ms. Williams to contact him for more information.

Ms. Kari Boykins asked if the police crime blotter could be published in the newspaper for free; she also commented that the flags have been removed from around the deep potholes in her area, and stated that she would like to have Greenbriar Lane put on the road repair list.
F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Motion To Appoint LaVerne Williams as Plan Commission Chair – One (1) Year Term.

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Wilson seconded a motion to approve this appointment.

Mayor Covington commented that she spoke with members of the plan commission and none of them had objections to this appointment, nor did they desire to hold that position.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

Accompanied by Mayor Covington and Plan Commission Members Gina Williams, Martin, and Wayne, Village Clerk Dee Jones administered the Oath Of Office to Ms. Williams.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: Resolution Approving An Intergovernmental Agreement With The Village Of Park Forest, Illinois And The Village Of University Park For The University Parkway Stage 111 Reconstruction

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

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

Motion To Approve Carried Resolution Number R2016-16.

F-2b: Resolution Authorizing The Acquisition Of One (1) 2016 E-ONE Fire Engine Demonstration Model XRSS-TYPH; Shop Order #140029 for the Fire Department.

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to approve this resolution.
Ayes: Trustees Larry Brown, Wilson, Oscar Brown and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Payton, Griffin, and Roudez.

Motion To Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2016-17.

F-2c: Appointment – Finance Committee

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to approve the appointment of Mr. Demetrious Ford to fill the un-expired term of Mr. Charles Floyd (term to expire December 31, 2017).

Mayor Covington stated that Mr. Ford was a relatively new resident of this Village, who came highly recommended and with extensive financial background. She read his letter of reference and his resume.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

G- 1: MAYOR’S REPORT:

a) Proclamation – Motorcycle Awareness Month

Trustee Wilson read the proclamation.

b) Proclamation - South Suburban Chicago Chapter of The Links

Trustee Oscar Brown read this proclamation.

G – 2: REPORTS OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS

Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios congratulated everyone who came out and took part in restoring Craig Park last Saturday; thanks to the Board of Trustees for approving the resolution authorizing the purchase of a new fire truck. He also thanked the Police Department, the Public Works Department and Trustee Larry Brown and for all their assistance.

Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress reported that the Summer Day Camp begins June 14, 2016; on behalf of Program Supervisor Neva Jenkins and herself, she thanked all those involved in, and participated in the Restore And Rebuild Craig Park last Saturday, noting that it was a big success.
Director Childress asked the residents to become watchmen for the parks and help keep the park nice and neat, and report any vandalism to the police.

**G-3: REPORTS OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Trustee Wilson asked Public Works Director Richardson if the Nets for the Fairway Estates playground had come in. She also stressed the need for more courtesy and safety for motorcycle riders by vehicle driver, and congratulated all graduates.

Trustee Larry Brown thanked our Fire Department for their efforts and Keely Childress for a great job last Saturday in restoring and rebuilding Craig Park where more than one hundred and fifty volunteers were registered, and the job was finished long before expected.

**G-4: REPORT OF VILLAGE CLERK**

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that Will County Clerk Nancy Voots asked her to convey to the residents that they will now be able to request a ballot to vote early, and to register to vote online. She encouraged the residents to take advantage of the procedures, and to spend time getting to know about the people who are running for the offices in the upcoming general election in November.

**MAYOR’S REPORT – CONTINUED:**

Mayor Covington introduced Mr. Derrick Jones, and stated that he is a volunteer for the Human Services and Special Events Committee who has a background in entertainment and organizing Festival; she reported on her recent trip to Washington DC and stated that she was nominated as a candidate for National President of the Black Mayors Association; she expounded on the Security Technologies Summit where she was a panelist with several other Mayors, and that she wants to bring in an incubator program called STEM to the Village of University Park.

Mayor Covington also reported that she has secured a grant that will allow Internet service in every home for nine dollars per month for those who can’t afford regular Internet service, and that the retreat was good.

**H. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

**I. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.
J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 8:10 PM.

Motion to Adjourn Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

________________________
Dorothy R. Jones, MMC, RMC
Village Clerk