

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, December 12, 2017 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 7:14 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Present
Trustees:	Elizabeth Williams	Present
	Paula C. Wilson	Present
	Theaplise Brooks	Present
	Curtis McMullan II	Present
	Milton C. Payton	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present

Also present were Village Attorney John Wise, Interim Village Manager/Police Chief John Pate, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress, Public Works Director Gary Richardson, 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 Brown moved, Trustee Brooks seconded a motion to approve minutes of the special meeting held Saturday, November 18, 2017, and minutes of the regular meeting held Tuesday, November 28, 2017.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.
Abstained: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried.

E: General Public Comments

Mr. Keith Griffin voiced his concerns with the appointment of the Village Manager and asked if a search was done; he questioned the loan from the TIF District and asked why the Village did not get a revolving line of credit instead noting that previously the Village kept a 2 ½ million dollars line of credit; he also questioned the amount of increase in the tax Levy.

Village Manager Pate responded that the Levy amount is less than \$200,000 over the previous tax Levy; the Village line of credit was not an option by the bank because our audits were not up to date.

Mr. Emmett Rawl representing the Thornwood House Tenants Association voiced his concern with the road leading to the building noting that there are several potholes and no lights from Family Dollar to Thornwood House. He also invited the board support their efforts at their annual Christmas party on December 22nd, and promised that they would remember what officials supported them at election time.

Mrs. Star Lawson voiced her concern with the 4.99% increase in the tax Levy, her concern with the appointment of the Village manager and the \$1.8 million loan from the TIF. She also stated that she is disheartened with the corruption that is going with our leaders, and asked to know what happened to the 18 Applicants for Village manager.

Trustee Payton refuted the corruption allegations made by Mrs. Lawson and stated that a subcommittee of the board brought back four applicants from the pool of applicants and decided that Pate was doing a great job, and appointing him would be less costly and save approximately \$150,000.00.

Mayor Covington stated that she resents being called corrupt stating that Mrs. Lawson has been with her when she took records to the Office of the Better Government Association and the Attorney General. She further stated that new development is coming to the Village, and the Town Center is filling up with applicants.

Ms. Phyllis Sanders commented that the block club had a terrific Christmas party and she thanked Chief Pate for attending the Meeting of the Minds giving his input.

Ms. Gina Williams congratulated all those who were appointed, and stated that Manager Pate is doing a great job. She also voiced her concern with the group called meeting of the mind, and having the former Mayors and former Trustees discussing Village business.

Trustee Brown responded that he disagrees with Ms. Williams relating to the meeting of the minds, noting that there is nothing wrong with any community group meeting.

Mrs. Debra Taylor thanked the board for providing data driven information to residents and thanked Manager Pate for doing a great job she also noted that she is proud of Trustee Brown.

Mrs. Sonja Jenkins thanked Chief Pate for attending the meeting and informing them of what's going on in the community, and asked that information is made available for all residents especially our senior population.

Mayor Covington stated that WPCTv4 should be up and operational before Christmas.

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: First, Second, and Third Readings – Ordinance Levying Taxes For Corporate Purposes Of The Village Of University Park, Illinois, For The Fiscal Year Commencing On The First Day Of May 2017, And Ending On The Thirtieth Day Of April 2018

Trustee Brown moved, Trustee Brooks seconded the motion to approve first, second, and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Oscar Brown, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: Trustee Williams.

Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017 – 26.

F-2b: First, Second, and Third Readings – Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Lease Of Commercial Property By And Between The Village Of University Park, Will and Cook Counties, Illinois and Primp And Paint Beauty Inc. for Unit 8 In The Town Center.

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee McMullan seconded the motion to approve first, second, and 3rd readings of this ordinance.

Ms. Denesa Scott and Osha Harris addressed the Mayor and Board of Trustees and stated that they were the owners of Pimp and Paint Beauty Lounge and they are here seeking approval to occupy unit 8 in the Town Center Mall.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Oscar Brown,
and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Abstained: Trustee Williams.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017 – 27.

F-2c: First, Second and Third Readings Ordinance Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois, Amending Section 228-01 Of Chapter 228 Of Title Six, Of Part Two Of The Codified Ordinances Of The Village Of University Park With Regard To The Director Of Public Safety

Trustee Brown moved, Trustee McMullan seconded the motion to approve first, second and third readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Brooks voiced his concerns with this piece of legislation which he feels does nothing more than changes the language of the duties that the Village Manager currently holds, and creates a different title for the police chief. He stated that he feels the positions and titles should remain as they currently are, and that there is no need for this position.

Trustee Wilson stated that she agrees with the concerns of Trustee Brooks, but is also concerned that until this position is filled, if the Village Manager would hold the position of police chief and fire chief. She also asked Attorney Wise for clarity on the criteria for the position of Director of Public Safety, and asked if the ordinance allows for someone other than a sworn officer to hold that position.

Attorney Wise responded stating that the ordinance passed in 1983 created the command and control position of the director of public safety which was not necessarily a sworn officer.

Motion To Table:

Trustee Brooks made a motion to table this item, for lack of a second, motion failed.

Roll Call On Main Motion:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor
Covington.
Nays: Trustee Brooks.
Absent: None.

Abstained: Trustee Wilson.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017 – 28.

F-2d: First, Second and Third Readings Ordinance Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois Appointing John E. Pate As Village Manager.

Trustee McMullan moved, Trustee Payton seconded motion to approve first, second, and third readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Brooks stated he would like this item tabled to finish what was discussed in executive session.

Trustee Wilson voiced her concerns that personally she has a major problem with the lack of TIF experience that Chief Pate possesses.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Brooks seconded motion to amend this to first, and second readings tonight and bring back after further discussion.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, and Brooks,
Nays: Trustees Williams, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor
Covington.
Absent: None.

Motion To Amend Failed To Carry.

Roll Call On Main Motion:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Oscar Brown,
and Mayor Covington.
Nays: Trustee Wilson.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-29.

F-2e: Resolution Accepting The Treasurer's Report for 2016-17.

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Brooks seconded a motion to table this item to a Special meeting on December 19, 2017.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Oscar Brown, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Table Carried.

F-2f: Resolution of the Village of University Park, Will and Cook Providing For A \$1,800,000 Interfund Loan From The Special Tax Allocation Fund Of TIF District V To The General Corporate Fund Secured By The 2017 Tax Levy Of The Village Of University Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee Brown seconded motion to approve this resolution.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried Resolution Number R2017-29

F-2g: Motion - Appointing Mr. Edward J. Lovelace To The Board of Fire & Police Commissioners for a full term – Term To Expire December 31, 2020

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Brooks seconded a motion to approve this item.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

F-2h: Motion - Appointing Mr. Robert Travis To The Human Service & Special Events Committee (HSSEC) For a Full Term.

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Brooks seconded motion to approve this item.

The Board discussed the length of the term and whether it would be a 2 or 3 year Term.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Brown moved, Trustee McMullan seconded a motion to set the term for Mr. Travis for two years, expiring December 31, 2019.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,
and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

Roll Call On Main Motion As Amended:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,
and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

**F-2i: Motion - Appointing Mr. Sasha Douyon, and Mr. Warren Hunter
To The Finance Committee.**

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee McMullan seconded motion to approve this item.

The Board discussed the length of the terms and whether they would be for 2 or 3 Year terms.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Brown moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to set the terms for Mr. Douyon, and Mr. Hunter for two years, expiring December 31, 2019.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,
and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

Roll Call On Main Motion As Amended:

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown,
and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

F-2j: Bills Payable (Paid & Payable)

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee McMullan seconded a motion to approve the following bills payable list of critical general operating expenses that the Village has occurred from November 29, 2017 through December 12, 2017. The following funds will be charged:

General Fund Account	\$` 172,838.92
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 12,802.89
Town Center Fund	\$ 2,182.72
Bond Fund	\$ 500.00
Payroll	\$ 148.00
Total	\$ 188,472.53

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Brooks, McMullan, Payton, Brown, and
Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustee Williams.

Motion To Approve Carried.

**G. Reports of the Mayor, Board of Trustees, Clerk,
Manager, Appointed Officials, And
Committees\Commissions**

G-1: Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington introduced Ms. Jonel Bensonrock of Serenity Treatment Center, who informed the Board of their desire to open a Clinic in the Town Center for treatment of Opioids and medically managed drug treatment.

Reports of Appointed Officials

Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress reported that the annual tree lights celebration on Sunday, December 10, 2017 at University Golf Club And Conference Center was quite a success, and thanked everyone who assisted and participated, noting that the Crete Monee Middle School Choir performed beautifully, and they would be partnering with them for more activities; Parks and Recreation would be bringing back "Kids Got Talent" and announced that Catholic Charities of Joliet held a rent/mortgage/utility assistance daybreak center earlier today here in #90 Town Center Drive, and that the SNAP Program is still taking applications for assistance.

IT Director Deryl Bolton gave an update on the progress of updating our website where he will be removing old information and putting up new more user friendly version.

Village Manager Pate reported that effective December 18, 2017, Neva Jenkins would take over operation of the Cable Studio. They are working with Comcast, and hopefully by the January Board meeting the meetings will begin airing. He also stated that he is working on transparency and bringing these things to past. He further stated that the Police Department is need of updated equipment; Public Works is using MFT Funds properly, and that his objective is to do the best job that he can to move the Village forward, noting that previous mismanagement put us where we are today, and that when the Cable Studio re-opens we will once again get franchise fee from Comcast.

Mayor Covington commented that Mr. Green went with her to Palos Heights, and is working with GSU to get used equipment donated to the Village.

Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios reported that December 13, 2017 is the last day for the Dispatch Center in Crete, it will be fully functional at the new location.

Public Works Director Richardson reported that the Public Works system will be through the new dispatch center, and that they have seven snow trucks ready for snow removal. He urged residents not to park of street during snow and allow snow trucks to get through to plow streets.

G-2: Presentation - Rob Gaylord Of Connor & Gallagher One Source.

Mr. Rob Gaylord made a presentation to the Board noting that they are brokers for our medical insurance, and that we were at risk of losing insurance because we did not have a 3rd Party Administrator, nor did we make insurance payments. He stated that we had insurance when we were told by the previous Acting Village Manager that we did not, and that we went for a 1 ½ year gap without insurance coverage.

Report Of The Village Manager

Village Manager Pate reported on his meeting with Treasurer Dilworth, noting that they made great strides, and that the Treasurer's report was tabled because Treasurer Dilworth had refused to sign it; Industrial Park business is hosting a job fair on December 21, 2017 that will be posted on our website, and to obtain priority consideration just use his name.

Trustee Brooks reported that a letter relating to the Aqua rate increase will go out to residents within the next two weeks, and he urged residents to log on to the ICC website and note their concerns.

H. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

None noted.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Brooks moved, Trustee Wilson seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 10:19 pm.

Motion to Adjourn Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, MMC
Village Clerk*