

**Minutes Of A Regular Meeting The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, April 27, 2010 At #90 Town Center Drive, In The Village Of University Park.**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor McCowan called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:15 pm.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Mayor:	Alvin R. McCowan	Present
Trustees:	Sharon A. McGuire	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Present
	Vivian E. Covington	Present
	Keith J. Griffin	Present
	Joseph E. Roudez, III	Present
	Larry B. Brown	Present

Also present were Interim Village Manager/Finance Director David Sevier, Village Attorney Forest Miles, Village Treasurer James Ellis, Police Chief Mel Easley, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Parks & Receptions Director Robert Graham, Economic & Community Development Director Kimberly Porter, Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms, Cable Studio Manager Christel Allen, Fire Lt. Brian Chellios, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor McCowan led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

**D. READING OF MINUTES**

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held April 13, 2010.

Trustee Covington asked to have the minutes reflect that she would be handing out flower seeds, since she did not get approval to mail the seeds out.

**Roll Call – Minutes:**

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and  
Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

**E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**E -1: Village Manager's Report**

Interim Village Manager David Sevier reported that he is meeting with the South Suburban Mayors & Managers Association in an attempt to secure additional funding for additional road work.

Trustee Covington asked for the status of reducing the 150% repair escrow; labeling of village vehicles; responses to citizen complaints; and her request for an updated copy of industrial park businesses.

Trustee Griffin referred to funds from SSMMA, and stated that he went on line and found out that these funds had been available for some time and asked Manager Sevier why he waited until now to put the resolution on the agenda as item F-2g. He also asked the status of repairs to Hickok Bridge.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked for the status of dedication of Regent Road, and status of Village Stickers.

Public Works Director Jerry Townsend responded that he has attempted to reach the developer of the Regent Road Development, and left messages for him, but has not received a return call. Relating to repairs to Hickok Bridge he stated that he is in contact with the Engineer who is putting together a design, and replacement is expected by next spring.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if condolences were sent to the family of the young lady who was killed by the train in University Park.

Trustee Roudez asked for the date of the pool opening.

Parks & Recreation Director Robert Graham stated that the pool would open on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Covington stated she wants on the next agenda for approval that she would be passing out flower seeds to the community.

## **E-2: Mayor's Report**

Mayor McCowan deferred his report until after a presentation by members of the Park Forest Rotary Club.

Daniel & Tiffany Graham gave a brief summary of the work of the Rotary Club, presented an award to Christel Allen for her work with kids behind the scene, and noted that Christel was inducted into the Park Forest Rotary Club on December 8, 2008.

Mayor McCowan reported on a meeting he had with residents and owners of the Fairway Club Estates relating to a possible misunderstanding of Phase III of the development relating to a brick front on those homes that the Village agreed to administer. He noted that residents whose homes are in Phase I and Phase II are concerned with competing value of their homes compared with homes with brick fronts. He also reported that many of the homes have not had their first year inspection, and stated that we should hold the developers accountable for doing their due diligence, commenting that proper truth in taxation laws have not been followed by builders and they are giving misinformation regarding tax rates to prospective buyers.

Mayor McCowan reported on a meeting he had with the Mayor of Homewood who continues to commend our Fire Department personnel for all the assistance that they rendered after the loss of one of their firefighters. Mayor McCowan also commends our Firefighters and Police Officers for the professional response and handling of the situation after the train accident in University Park. He noted that according to investigators, it appears that human error relating to the gates at the railroad crossing is responsible for the accident that took the life of a young lady. He noted his concern about the gates and signals working properly, and requested that everyone Stop, Look, Listen and make sure there is clearance before entering upon railroad tracks, even if the gates are not down. He also stated that he will continue to work with railroad officials to improve safety at that location, and will look at the possibility of installing synchronized lights. He also asked Trustees to be sure that they speak the truth when talking to reporters and the news media, and suggested that reporters are directed to the appropriate individual(s).

Trustee Covington asked who should make statements.

Mayor McCowan responded that the Public Information Officer for this tragedy is Sgt. Dan Murphy, and that he and the Village Manager should be able to answer questions.

### **E-3: Committee & Commission Reports**

Trustee McGuire reported on the importance of residents mailing back the 2010 Census forms, and noted that beginning May 1, 2010 Census takers will visit households that did not return a form by mail. She also noted that some of our residents are enumerators and will be visiting homes in this area; to date only 67% of University Park households have returned the forms, and the fewer the count, the less representation in congress and funds we will receive. She also congratulated Trustee Larry Brown for his creation of the vehicle sticker logo which depicts Census 2010.

Mayor McCowan stated that we need 100% of households to return the census form so we don't lose funding. He also commended the Census Committee in University Park for the excellent job they have done in getting the message out. He also commented that he was informed that some residents in the new subdivisions did not get census forms, and suggested that they go online to the census website and request forms.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if the Census Bureau could use volunteers.

Trustee McGuire responded that since there is confidentiality in the process only those individuals employed by the Census Bureau will be allowed to participate in getting the information.

Mr. Robert Travis suggested that residents who did not get census forms contact Joliet and let them know the areas that did not receive the forms.

Trustee Covington reported that Ms. Tracy Duckworth is the new Director at the University Park Library, and she urged residents to attend and support the School Board.

### **E-4: Reports Of Other Officers**

Parks & Recreation Director Robert Graham gave the following report: University Park Youth Baseball season has begun; please come out and support your favorite team and remember that May 8 is Parade Day and it will begin at 10am. Volunteers are needed for Pool Clean Up Day, May 15, beginning at 10am at the Hickok Aquatic Center; and we are also still looking to fill a few Lifeguard spots for the summer. The next training class begins on May 19 and will continue through June 3. Classes take place at Governors State University. For more details on these updates and any other concerns, please contact our office at 708.534.6456

**Reports Of Other Officers – continued:**

Economic & Community Development Director Kimberly Porter reported that there is 22% contamination under the ground as a result of leaking oil from vehicles, and that the Code Enforcement Department would be enforcing the abandoned vehicle ordinance with tickets issued beginning May 3<sup>rd</sup>. There is no provision for an extension in the ordinance, but vehicle owners can request a public hearing. She thanked Governors State University for the award she received for speaking at one of their forums.

Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms reported that Mother's Day Brunch is planned at the Golf Club & Conference on May 9<sup>th</sup>, and the cost is \$24.95 per person; Golf instructions for beginners and ladies will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, and Junior Golf Camp will be held Monday through Thursday; He also noted that live entertainment is at the Golf Club, with Blues on Mondays and Jazz on Thursdays. He noted that a University Park resident performs on Mondays.

Cable Studio Manager Christel Allen reported that she is establishing a partnership with the schools; last Saturday they filmed the J.E.W.E.L.S. Program, and that her Intern has completed 150 hours and will be leaving the studio.

Public Works Director Jerry Townsend reported that repaving of University Parkway will begin next month, and noted that the bid was awarded to PT Ferro whose bid was \$323,000.00, Engineering cost is \$48,466.00 for a total cost of \$371,466.00. The estimated cost for this project was \$754,000.00 which shows that with the market where it is, now is the time for construction; Resurfacing of Cicero Avenue from north of Steger Road to Cicero/Governors Highway begins next month, this is a \$2.5 Million project; He is still waiting for a letter to proceed with the Cicero Avenue Lighting Project; Cicero Avenue Mixed Use Path is being sequenced with the University Parkway Project; Relating to the Will-Center Road Project, he reported that the contractor is preparing contracts and insurance, and that our Engineers from CMT are coordinating this project with the School Board Engineers.

Mr. Townsend stressed the importance of the Board passing the 2010 MFT Program that is on the agenda tonight, noting that this is a \$350,000.00 project. He also reported that since all of the SSMMA Stimulus projects came in well below the estimated cost, there was a call for new projects with a two week window to apply, which he did apply, noting that he submitted a request for funds for roadway lighting on University Parkway from Western Avenue to Steger/Monee Road and, if approved, will be covered 100% at a cost of approximately \$2.5 Million. Additionally, IDOT has committed to complete the project development report by end of this summer. He noted that the aforementioned projects do not include the \$13. million dollar road widening project.

**Reports Of Other Officers – continued:**

Police Chief Mel Easley reported that the Bike Patrol is being deployed again this Spring and Summer and that enforcement of the ordinance relating to youth walking in streets would begin once the ordinance is passed.

Trustee Oscar Brown reported on his efforts relating to a water study, noting the efforts of Senator Toi Hutchinson, and that she is asking for water samples, complaints, and cost incurred due to quality of water from village residents in an effort for her to get support from other legislators. Trustee Brown stated that the hot-line number is (708) 235-4826.

**F. DISCUSSION AGENDA**

***F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS***

***F-1a: Third Readings – An Ordinance Adopting The Budget For All Corporate Purposes Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois, In Lieu Of The Appropriation Ordinance For The Fiscal Year Commencing On The First Day Of May, 2010, And Ending On The Thirtieth Day Of April, 2011***

Trustee McGuire moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves third reading of this ordinance.

Trustee Covington stated that she would like to see a table of this ordinance until the Board has had an opportunity to meet and discuss the budget in detail. She stated that she does not feel that the public forum of one hour was enough time for review of this budget.

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves a table of third reading of this ordinance.

**Roll Call on Table**

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

***Motion To Table Carried.***

Mayor McCowan voiced his disappointment that the budget was tabled, noting that the finance committee, staff and Board have been working on this budget for months, not one hour. He further stated that to go into another year without a budget because some of the Trustees did not do due diligence is despicable, and they need to bring forth specific items, and not take swipes at the budget. He noted that the Village of University Park has the lowest tax rate probably in the history of the village and a substantial surplus in the budget.

***F-1b: Second Reading - Ordinance Authorizing The Sale Of A Vacant Parcel Of Real Estate Consisting Of 16.23 +/- Acres Generally Located At The Northeast Corner Of Hamilton And Palmer Avenues In The Governor's Gateway Industrial Park (TIF 2) Redevelopment Project Area [Pins: 21-14-17-403-001-0000 And 21-14-17-403-005-0000]***

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves second reading of this ordinance.

Trustee Griffin asked for clarity on this ordinance, and clarity on a related resolution that is also on the agenda later tonight.

Attorney Miles explained that the prospective owners want access to the property to begin their due diligence, and also this would indemnify the village from any injuries or damages on the property.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Second Reading Carried.***

***F-2: NEW BUSINESS***

***F-2a: First, Second And Third Readings – An Ordinance Amending Appendix “A” To Title 10 Of The Administration Code To Add Section 404-01(A)(5)(M)(11-1007) Of The Village Traffic Code (Which Adopts By Reference, Section 5/11-1007 Of The Illinois Vehicle Code Entitled “Pedestrians Walking On Highways”)***

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves first, second and third readings of this ordinance.

**F-2a: continued:**

Trustee Larry Brown asked if signs would be posted informing people of the new law, and noted what he feels is a loophole that refers to walking on highways, and asked if the language should also contain the word "streets."

Attorney Miles responded that we have already adopted the Illinois Code to address kids walking in the streets, and this ordinance would allow us to handle these cases administratively, and not file State charges against young people that could in the future have an adverse affect on them getting employment, or into certain colleges or universities. He further stated that the overall objective is to prevent injuries to kids and adults who choose to walk three and four deep in the streets, and sometimes are playing chicken with cars. Relating to the language of "highways" and "streets," Attorney Miles stated that he took the language directly from the Illinois Statue of Rules of the Road, and feels that we are legally okay to take this action.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Ordinance Number 2010 - 20.**

***F-2b: First, Second, And Third Readings - Ordinance Approving Gabe's Peculiar Cut for Mowing and Trimming of Privately Owned Non-Compliant Properties in the Village***

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

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Ordinance Number 2010 – 21.**

***F-2c: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Approving PTL Landscaping for Mowing and Fertilizing of Village Owned Properties***

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

**Roll call on F-2c:**

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and  
Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Ordinance Number 2010 – 22.**

***F-2d: First, Second And Third Readings – Ordinance Establishing  
Cable Studio Access User Fees and Public Service  
Announcement Fees***

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves a table of this item.

Trustee Covington stated that the IT Commission needs an opportunity to discuss this item before it is brought back before the Board.

Trustee McGuire asked Cable Manager Allen if she had presented this proposal to the IT/Cable Commission.

Mrs. Allen responded that the commission had not met since this issue came up. However, she did discuss it with Manager Sevier.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and  
Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Table Carried.***

***F-2e: Resolution Authorizing The Publication Of A Notice Of Intent  
To Sell Village Property And Request For Alternative  
Proposals Regarding Wireless Communications Leases And  
Grant Of Easement Or Lease Of Real Estate***

Trustee Covington moved that the Board approves a table of this resolution stating that the IT Director and Commission needs to take a close look at the terms indicated (there was no second).

**F-2e – continued:**

Manager Sevier explained the essences of this resolution noting that the intent is for the Board to give them the authority to publish for alternative offers to the proposal received. He expounded on the amount of money the village would receive under this proposal compared to what we receive now, and is projected for the future.

Economic Director Porter stated that we have until approximately the third week in May to accept or reject this offer.

Trustee Covington withdrew her motion to table this item.

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves this resolution.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, Griffin, Roudez, and  
Larry Brown.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Resolution Number 2010 – 13.**

***F-2f: Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Property Access Agreement In Connection With The Proposed Sale Of A Vacant Parcel Of Real Estate Consisting Of 16.23 +/- Acres Generally Located At The Northeast Corner Of Hamilton And Palmer Avenues In The Governors Gateway Industrial Park TIF 2 Redevelopment Project Area***

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

Ayes: Trustees Larry Brown, Roudez, Griffin, Covington, Oscar Brown,  
and McGuire.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Carried***

**Resolution Number 2010 – 14.**

***F-2g: Resolution Ceding The Aggregate Remaining Unused Allocation Of 2010 Private Activity Bond Volume Cap Of The Village of University Park Of \$735,390.00 To The Illinois Finance Authority For Use By Projects In The Chicago Southland Area***

**F-2g: continued:**

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

Trustee Griffin asked if the Board has the authority, if we do not use the money and collect the 1% interest.

Ayes: Trustees McGuire, Oscar Brown, Covington, and Roudez.  
Nays: Trustees Griffin, and Larry Brown.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**Resolution Number 2010 – 15.**

**F-2h: Resolution Approving The Expenditure Of Funds For 2010 MFT Projects**

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

Ayes: Trustees Larry Brown, Roudez, Griffin, Covington, Oscar Brown, and McGuire.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**Resolution Number 2010 – 16.**

**F-2i (a): Appointments To The Parks & Recreation Committee And The Board Of Fire & Police Commissioners**

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to amend the agenda to consider separately appointments to the Parks & Recreation Committee and The Board Of Fire & Police Commissioners.

Ayes: Trustees Larry Brown, Roudez, Griffin, Covington, Oscar Brown, and McGuire.  
Nays: None.  
Absent: None.

**Motion To Approve Carried.**

**(b)** Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion to approve the appointments of Linda Roudez and Ashanti Tyson to the Parks & Recreation Committee.

**F-2i – continued:**

Trustee Covington stated that names she submitted were not included, and asked what she has to do to get her recommendations on the agenda.

Mayor McCowan responded that she needs to call him and address the recommendations with him.

Ayes: Trustees Larry Brown, Roudez, Griffin, Covington, Oscar Brown, and McGuire.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

***Motion To Approve Appointments to Parks & Recreation Committee Carried.***

**(c) Appointment To The Board Of Fire & Police Commissioners**

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves to postpone indefinitely the appointment of Jerry Crockett, or until the Mayor brings it back on the agenda.

Trustee McGuire asked Board members to discuss and explain why they do not want Mr. Crockett on the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, and since this is not an item that can be discussed in executive session, she wants to know, so we can move forward.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he knows of three other individuals interested in serving as commissioners. They are relatively new residents and want to become involved, but they were not considered, and he feels that new blood might be good.

Trustee Oscar Brown stated that he feels all residents who want to should be allowed to serve the village. However, the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners is a different and sensitive commission dealing with the hiring, firing and discipline of fire and police personnel, and since Mr. Crockett left the employment of the village because of problems he had dealing with employees, he does not feel he would be the best person for the position.

Mayor McCowan stated that while he agrees that all residents should be allowed to serve the village, he will be very careful who he appoints to certain commissions and the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners is one of those commissions. He also stated that Mr. Crockett served as a member of the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners for approximately ten years, and is qualified and dedicated to this community.

**Roll Call on Motion:**

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

***Motion To Postpone Indefinitely Carried.***

***F-2h: Bills Payable***

Trustee McGuire moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park has incurred for the three (3) weeks from April 14, 2010 to April 27, 2010. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$	216,185.21
Road and Bridge Fund	\$	25,638.41
Town center Operations	\$	1,781.73
University Golf Club	\$	65,436.80
Capital Project Fund	\$	12,707.15
TIF I - Town Center Area Fund	\$	67.50
TIF II – Industrial Park Fund	\$	840.00
TIF III – Cicero Industrial Fund	\$	13.50
TIF IV – Governors East Fund	\$	<u>5,927.50</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>328,597.80</b>

Trustee Griffin questioned payments related to check numbers 69652; 69654-57; 69646; and 69698.

Manager Sevier responded that check number 69652 to Diversity Inc, is for annual membership for the Village; 69654-57 are for ID Scanners for the Police Department; 69646 to CMT is for engineering fees for several projects they are working on; and 69698 McCarthy Duffy is for attorney fees for services provided by Attorney Miles.

Attorney Forest Miles gave a breakdown on his charges, and noted that he was able to recover \$120,000.00 from BP Amoco for a portion of his fees and engineers fees; \$50,000.00 from a Fidelity Bond; closed on Lot #3 for \$50,000.00; reimbursed \$15,000.00 from Clorox; Relating to law suit regarding golf carts, he reported that the Courts dismissed the case against the Village Manager, but he is still negotiating the case against the Village. He also stated that his invoices are detailed to the finest detail.

**Bills Payable – continued:**

Trustee Griffin referred to check numbers 69737, 69740 and 69748 for escrow payments and asked when would the issue relating to the amount charged for repair escrow be addressed. He also referred to the amount of money paid for gasoline purchases and suggested that all vehicles are returned and parked at Village hall when shift ends.

Trustee Larry Brown referred to check number 69664 which included late fees and asked to know the problem with paying bills on time and avoiding these late fees.

Manager Sevier responded that we are at the end of the fiscal year, and sometimes run short of working cash, therefore sometimes he holds payments until funds are released.

Trustee Griffin referred to check number 69628 – Barnes & Thornburg and asked to vote on it separately.

***Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board approves to consider separately check number 69628 – Barnes & Thornburg.***

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

***Motion Failed To Carry.***

**Roll Call On Main Bills Payable Motion:**

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

***Motion Carried.***

**G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Patti Guinn commented on the need for cleanup of trash on the east side of Thornwood House, and that tops need to be put on the garbage cans and repairs need to be made to potholes in the parking lot at Thornwood House.

**General Public Comments – continued:**

Ms. Jones commented on the passage of an ordinance addressing walking in the streets, and renewed her request that the Board consider an ordinance that addresses removal of snow from sidewalks by residents. She also asked the Board to take a look at providing jobs for 14 and 15 year old students, and eliminate hiring the same youth every year.

Mr. Steven Allen congratulated Police Chief Mel Easley and Deputy Chief Box on the great job they are doing with the kids, and asked residents to join him in protesting at BP Amoco on Western Avenue from May 10<sup>th</sup> thru May 17<sup>th</sup>. He stated that the protest is to encourage BP Amoco to annex into the Village of University Park.

Mr. Eugene Lawson, President of the Baseball Association, commented on the baseball program and noted that last week was the kickoff for the baseball program, and that on May 7, 8, & 9<sup>th</sup> great things are happening to kick off for the baseball program in University Park, beginning with the appearance of Radio Personality Daryl King at PK's Christian Restaurant, parade on Saturday, and two games. He invited everyone out to be a part of these events. He also noted that last year University Park brought back a championship, and this year they plan to do the same.

Mr. Robert Travis commented on entertainment at the Golf Club on Mondays and Thursdays, and asked residents to support the efforts at the Golf Club. He also inquired about the status of the Bulletin Board he requested several months ago, if other communities have been contacted to be part of the water study, and what targets are we looking at relating to the water study.

Ms. Rosemary Nettles commented that she commends the Board for tabling third reading of the budget ordinance, and asked if there would be another public hearing that included a power point presentation of the line item budget; she stated that she wished the Board would give as much publicity to the budget as is given to the Senior Prom; and relating to the issue of sidewalks, she asked the Board to take a look along Western Avenue and on Olmstead Lane, leading to the Middle School, because there is no place other than the streets for our kids to walk.

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Assessor, asked if the Village had a Truth in Taxation Ordinance; if the Finance Committee would have input in the budget before the next reading; and asked how can the village run short of money when it is reported that there is a surplus of money. She also announced that summer jobs for youth between the ages of 15 thru 17 years old are available, and that applications are available at the Assessors Office at #46 Town Center Drive. Additional information is available by calling her office at (708) 534-6023.

**General Public Comments – continued:**

Mr. Zach Cameron commented on the need for an ordinance that addresses Real Estate Companies relating to securing and maintaining vacant properties. He noted that there are at least ten vacant homes in Rosedale that are being broken into, animals are running rampant and he has concern with the health and safety of the kids and the community.

Mary Truss commented that if her time would be cut short, she would not make any comments, she would write her comments in her perspective.

Mrs. Marilyn Crockett thanked the Mayor and Board for the positive things they are doing; asked the status of hiring a Village Manager; asked the status of the Cityscape property; and asked the Board to tour Hickok Road, west of Burnham to see the condition of that road. She stated that she has lived there for 18 years, and no road repairs have been done since they built their home.

Village Treasurer James Ellis reported on the success of the Tuskegee Airmen Event he attended, and noted that 14 of the original Tuskegee Airmen were in attendance.

## **H. BOARD CAUCUS**

Mayor McCowan suspended the meeting from 10:30 to 10:45 pm to allow the Board an opportunity to caucus. The following responses were given relating to public comments:

Relating to the trash and potholes at Thornwood House, Manager Sevier stated that he would have the Public Works Director and the Director of Code Enforcement to check into the situations, determine where the liability lies, and address the problem; Relating to summer jobs for 14 & 15 year old youth, he stated that approximately 20 jobs were available at the Parks & Recreation Department, and that the same youth do not return every year. There is an application and hiring process that is conducted by the Parks & Recreation Director And Program Supervisor. However, he is looking at other jobs for youth and more information is forthcoming; Relating to the issue regarding BP Amoco, he stated that he would have Ms. Porter contact the owners of BP Amoco to ascertain reasons they have not annexed into the village and see what can be done to entice that business to annex into the Village of University Park; Relating to the Bulletin Board, Mr. Sevier stated that once the budget is passed, he would take care of acquiring the board.

**Board Caucus/Responses**

Relating to the water study and targets, Trustee Oscar Brown stated that he is working on efforts to get funding from our State and Federal Legislators and have not at this point included any other communities, and have not set a monetary target for damages from the water, and asked residents to continue to bring in water samples and a list of expenses incurred to Village Hall, or contact him at the water hotline.

Relating to scheduling another public hearing with a line item power point presentation, Mr. Sevier stated that if the Board directs him he will do it. However, the budget process has been ongoing for four months with department heads and the finance committee, and the public hearing was held, as required by Statute.

Mayor McCowan commented that there is a process in place to review the Budget, and he has a problem with scheduling another public hearing because only 10 residents attended the scheduled one; he feels that to do so could set a precedent; Relating to communications and the Senior Prom, he stated that he feels that was an unfair comparison because the Senior Prom is paid for with private funds, and advertised by his political action committee; regarding the sidewalks, he stated that they are looking for funds to address the sidewalk problems. Regarding the search for a new Village Manager, Mayor McCowan stated that he plans to schedule a Board Retreat within the next few weeks, and noted the legal reasons why the Board Retreat had been deferred.

Attorney Miles responded to the question relating to the Truth in Taxation Ordinance stating he believes the village passed an ordinance; however, there is a law that requires Realtors to truthfully disclose all terms of the agreement, including accurately disclosing taxes associated with the purchase of the property. He also responded to concerns relating to the walking in the street ordinance and a request for a sidewalk snow removal ordinance by residents. He stated that the intent of the walking in the street ordinance is to prevent injuries and to address it on a local, rather than State level. Relating to sidewalk snow removal ordinance by residents he stated that some other communities have adopted a Good Samaritan Law to address the issue, and that he would check into the legalities and report back to the Board.

Interim Manager Sevier responded to the question relating to late fees and explained the difference between cash flow and surplus funds. Relating to Cityscape Development, he stated that currently there is no buyer for the property; however, the Police Department does check around the property to make sure it is secure and for safety reasons, and he would have Public Works survey Hickok Road and make recommendations.

**I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

**J. TRUSTEES COMMENTS**

**K. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board move into executive session for purposes of personnel and litigation at 11:25 p.m.

Ayes: Trustees Covington, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.  
Nays: Trustee McGuire.  
Abstained: Trustee Oscar Brown.  
Absent: None.

***Motion carried.***

The Board returned from executive session at 12:19 a.m., April 28, 2010, and resumed the regular meeting.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting at 12:20 a.m. April 28, 2010

***Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.***

Respectfully Submitted,

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Dorothy R. Jones, CMC  
Village Clerk