

**Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees
For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties
Illinois, Held Tuesday, February 22, 2011 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 8:10 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, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Deputy Police Chief Gregory Box, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Golf Club General Manager Paul Blockoms, Economic & Community Development Director Kimberly Porter, 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 Covington moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees held Tuesday, February 8, 2011 as presented.

D. Reading Of Minutes – continued:

Trustee Larry Brown questioned the validity of the minutes since there was a Scribner's error that referred to the wrong ordinance number of one of the approved agenda items.

Mayor McCowan commented that the comments of Trustee Larry Brown did not reflect that the content of the minutes were not as recorded at the meeting of February 8, 2011.

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

Motion To Approve Carried.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E-1: Village Manager's Report

In the absence of Village Manager Sevier no report was given.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor McCowan reported that Manager Sevier was attending a meeting with the 201-U School District to discuss the issue relating to the fact that it appears that with all the time and efforts to repair Will/Center Road to make it accessible for our residents to get to the school in Monee, the School District is throwing up road blocks and do not want to honor their part of the agreement.

Mayor McCowan also reported on the awards ceremony for the Boy Scouts that he attended at Pilgrimage Church this past weekend. He thanked and commended those individual adults that give back through the Boy Scout program, and expounded on the positive impact that these young men and ladies will have on society as leaders, and the discipline and code of ethics that they learn in a positive environment. Special thanks to Jim Ellis, Robert Blount, Pastor Jamison and all others for their dedication to the boy scout program. He also reported that he would give his Outgoing State of the Village address on March 19, 2011 at 10:00 a.m., the location is to be announced at a later date, and at that meeting he will answer questions relating to the projects that he has been working on to move this village forward.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

No verbal reports given.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Deputy Chief of Police Greg Box reported that three suspects were apprehended by University Park Police after an armed home invasion in the 600 block of Gordon Terrace last weekend. He noted that the suspects included one female black, and two male black brothers from Chicago Heights who are being held in Will County Jail.

Parks & Recreations Director Childress reported that the Parent & Child Dance would be held on March 5th at the University Golf Club & Conference Center from 7 – 10 pm.; Seasonal positions will be available at Parks & Recreations for the summer, with applications period March 1st thru March 11, 2011; Lifeguard pre-training would begin at Governors State University on March 7, 2011. The training is free, however the test is \$175.00. Additional information is available by contacting the office @ 534-6456.

Golf Club Paul Blockoms reported that there will be several positions available at the Golf Club for the spring and summer season. Applications for those positions are available at Village Hall or the golf club.

Economic & Community Development Director Kim Porter reported on an economic development conference she attended and that a New Jersey Company is moving their business from Harvey to University Park in the near future. They will be leasing space in one of the sites in the industrial park.

Trustee Covington asked Ms. Porter to schedule a meeting with the company officials and the Village Board. She also reported that the deadline for voter registration is March 8, 2011.

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that Early Voting begins March 14, 2011 through March 31, 2011 at Village Hall for Will County residents of University Park, and at Matteson Village Hall for Cook County residents. The hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday – Friday, and 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon on Saturday.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Second and Third Readings - Ordinance Amending Chapter 220, Section 220-02 Of The Codified Ordinances Relating To The Process For Selecting And Appointing A Village Manager

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve second and third readings of this ordinance.

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion to amend the main motion to second reading only and motion to strike, replace, add and amend as follows:

F-1a – continued:

Strike from paragraph 1 in italics the word “replacing” and replace with “selecting a replacement of”

Strike from paragraph 1 in italics the entire second paragraph and replace with “Upon the decision of the majority of the Board of Trustee’s to select a replacement of the Village Manager, including but not limited to, good cause shown, the expiration of the Village Manager’s contract with a board decision not to renew, or poor performance as defined by the Board of Trustee’s; A selection committee shall be appointed as defined in this section, and an Interim Village Manager shall be named as defined in this section. In this event the selection committee and Interim Village Manager shall be named in no longer than eight weeks time.

In the event of a vacancy of the Village Manager’s position due to resignation, death, or permanent injury that will permanently impair the Village Manager from performing his duties; a selection committee shall be appointed as defined in this section, and an Interim Village Manager shall be named as defined in this section. In this event an Interim Village Manager shall be named in no longer than one weeks time and the selection committee shall be named in no longer than two weeks time.

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection committee shall consist of the Mayor and two Trustees, one of whom should be the most senior if the Mayor so decides, however the selection of the Trustees shall rest solely with the Mayor. The selection committee shall meet and define the process of hiring the Village Manager in writing, including the key requirements of the Village Manager candidates, the process of advertising, the process interviewing potential Village Manager candidates, the process of selecting a final candidate, the process of negotiating a contract with the potential Village Manager candidate, and a timeline of the entire process. These meetings may be closed to the public, if the Open Meetings Act so permits. The final process shall be submitted to the Board within four weeks and require approval by a majority of the Board. If the process is not approved each Board member will submit in writing their recommendation to the selection committee for modification, the selection committee may make some or all of the modifications and then resubmit the plan for approval in no longer than two weeks time.

Upon approval the selection committee shall carry out the approved plan upon the approve timeline, however the approved timeline maybe modified for good cause shown by the selection committee in writing and reported to the Board. Regular reports will be given to the Board by the selection committee and will be apart of the approved plan.

F-1a – continued:

Interim Village Manager Selection

The position of Interim Village Manager shall be temporary. The Interim Village Manager shall be the Assistant Village Manager, if a person is so named, otherwise the Interim Village Manager shall be one of the several directors currently employed by the Village of University Park, selected by the majority of the Board of Trustees, and shall be so titled. In any event the Interim Village Manager shall serve no longer than one year in the capacity of Interim Village Manager, unless approved by the board annually.

In the event there is a need for an Interim Village Manager, for longer than one year, an Interim Village Manager shall be selected from one of the several directors currently employed by the Village of University Park, selected by the majority of the Board of Trustees, and may include the person appointed Interim Village Manager.

The person appointed Interim Village Manager shall revert to and have the same title and substantial duties he or she had when he or she was appointed Interim Village Manager, when a new Village Manager is named or when a new Interim Village Manager is selected.”

In paragraph 4 strike from the word “upon” to the end of sentence and replace “on June 1, 2011 or upon the selection of a Village Manager whichever is sooner.”

Trustee Covington asked Trustee Oscar Brown the reasons for this amendment.

Trustee Oscar Brown responded that it is to address the total process for selecting a village manager.

Ms. Sandra Heard asked if this would slow up the process now going on for a new village manager.

Trustee Oscar Brown responded no it would not, this for going forward.

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

Motion To Approve Amendment Carried

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: *First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Providing For The Recapture Or Reimbursement Of Certain Public Expenditures Made For Improvements To Will Center Road [Affecting Certain Privately Owned Property Fronting On Will-Center Road And Located Generally South Of Dralle Road In University Park]*

Village Attorney Forest Miles stated that this ordinance deals with School District 201-U who now claims that they did not approve this agreement for the road repair, even though they put up a half million dollars in escrow for the project. Additionally, he does not feel that we are prepared to do three readings this evening and suggested that the Board consider first reading only this meeting until we are sure what property 201-U wants to re-capture.

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves first reading only of this item tonight.

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

Motion To Approve First Reading Carried.

F-2b: *Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Preparation Of An Analysis Concerning Alternative Financing Resources For The Rehabilitation And Renovation Of The University Park Towncenter*

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

Trustee Griffin commented that Mayor McCowan assigned Trustee Larry Brown to the Town Center project and asked him to find alternate funding for renovating, and asked to know why Trustees Roudez and Oscar Brown have taken over this project.

Trustee Larry Brown commented that he has been in contact with US Senator Dick Durbin's office and Will County Executive Larry Walsh working on funding, and that Mr. Camden Burnett, a representative of Senator Durbin's Office has promised to come to University Park in the near future to tour the Town Center. He asked what portion of the Enterprise & Rehabilitation Act would put us where we want to go with the renovation.

Trustee McGuire asked Trustee Oscar Brown if he had contacted and discussed his ideas and plans with Trustee Larry Brown.

Trustee Oscar Brown stated that he had spoken with Trustee Larry Brown.

F-2b – continued:

Mayor McCowan stated that he does not see a conflict in the projects, which is in the best interest of the Village.

Trustee Covington asked if the Board could not collaborate and work together on this project, and stated that she feels that this item should be brought to the public in a Public Hearing.

Mayor McCowan stated that this is not the process we follow, and this is a resolution to see the benefits of whether or not to proceed.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he would continue to pursue funding to renovate the town center, and asked to know what cost are involved in this project. He also stated that realizing the amount of money Senator Durbin had made available for the Fire Department, he decided to contact him, and corresponds with him regularly, and that copies of those communications are available in the Mayor and Trustees office for review by anyone desiring to see them.

Ms. Drueda Henry asked when would the public be informed of what is being done.

Attorney Miles commented that this is to lay the ground rules for an enterprise zone that would include all the projects that the Board is working on, and that he would put together a report that would detail what is involved in this project, that would not require hiring a consultant.

Ms. Sandra Heard asked if both Trustee Larry Brown and Oscar Brown could work together on this project, and asked if it would be an enterprise zone or business zone.

Amendment To Main Motion

Trustee McGuire moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to change the Cover Sheet to include Trustee Larry Brown as Co-Author of this Resolution.

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

Motion to Approve Carried.

Roll Call on Main Motion:

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

Motion to Approve As Amended Carried

Resolution Number R2011-06.

F-2c: Appointments To Fire Pension Board

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves the appointments of Fire Chief Charles Exner, and Village Treasurer James Ellis to the Fire Pension Board. Both terms for three (3) years.

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

Motion to Approve Carried.

G-2d: Bills Payable

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves the listing of the General Operating Expenses that the Village of University Park has incurred for the last two (2) weeks from February 9, 2011 to February 22, 2011. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 323,271.20
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 14,784.30
Town Center Operations	\$ 4,768.01
University Golf Club	\$ 20,947.43
Capital Project Fund	\$ 33.52
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 24,263.16
TIF II – Industrial Park Fund	\$ 345.00
Total	<u>\$388,412.62</u>

Trustee Larry Brown referred to check payable to Verizon and asked if this is for one month, and for clarity on who is Baxter & Woodman.

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

Motion to Approve Carried.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Elizabeth Williams, TROHA President commented that the State of Illinois was declared a disaster area from the last snow storm, and asked if Russet Oaks would get a portion of the funds.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan commented on the academic credentials of Interim Manager Sevier, and his contributions to the school system and our children, and asked Trustees Covington, Griffin and Larry Brown to tell the public why they are trying to terminate him. She asked Trustee Covington how could she be trusted to be a good mayor when she cannot be trusted to respect the seat of the position that she is seeking to occupy; referring to the town center, she asked what has Trustee Larry Brown done to improve it since he was given that assignment.

Ms. Druuada Henry addressed the Chair and Board and commented that she had gone shopping at the new store Food 4 Less in Chicago Heights and made contact with the Director and discussed the possibility of them coming to University Park, and asked to know who she should give the information to when she receives it. She also stated that she is disappointed with all the fighting between Board members, and stated that they need to learn how to compromise and not lose sight of our goals for this community.

Mrs. Brenda Mitchell addressed the Board and commented that Mrs. Morgan spoke as a resident of this community, and was not speaking on her behalf, and her comments did not reflect or represent her position.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan commented that Trustee Griffin is an embarrassment to the community, and asked him to step down from his seat as Trustee.

Ms. Patti Guinn, Thornwood House Tenant Association President responded that Trustee Griffin is doing a great job.

Mrs. Gloria Barnett-Brookins commented that the Board meeting of February 8th was deplorable, and stated that although she would not call out the officials, they knew who they are, and that a line needs to be drawn in the sand, because these actions are not political, but personal attacks on individuals. She asked why the Mayor would threaten to have a Board member removed from a meeting.

Mr. James Bell asked if there is any collaboration between the Board and the Police Department to quell some of the criminal activity and violence in the community.

Mr. Curtis McMullen asked what the Board could do to quell some of the outspoken comments.

General Public Comments Continued:

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Assessor commented that she was not re-appointed to the finance committee but attends most of the meetings; relating to the representative to ALNAC, she stated that the ordinance referred to in the ordinance that was passed on February 8, 2011 does not reflect the correct ordinance; she asked if the village has any type of ordinance that dictates the transition of Mayors, and stated that contrary to what has been stated, a vote against the budget does not mean that the rates are going down.

Mrs. Mary Truss, LWVPFA President addressed the Chair and Board of Trustees and announced that the League of Women Voters of the Park Forest Area had a successful Mayoral and Trustee Forum on February 19, 2011, and that the forum for the Village Clerk candidates, and the 201-U School Board Candidates forum would be held February 26, 2011 beginning at 10:00 am. She also announced that the League of Women Voters of the Park Forest Area, and the Homewood – Flossmoor League would co-host the Prairie State College Candidate Forum on March 15th beginning at 7: 00 p.m. at Prairie State College.

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor McCowan suspended the meeting from 9:43 p.m. to 9:51 p.m. to allow the Board to caucus.

The Mayor reconvened the Board meeting and the following responses were given to concerns raised by residents under general comments:

Public Works Director Townsend responded to concern relating to disaster relief stating that he had applied for funding, but the funds would be for the entire village as needed once we are approved.

Responding to the issue of replacing Interim Manager Sevier, Trustee Larry Brown stated that this was a Board decision. Trustee Griffin stated that this was discussed in executive session, and he agrees with Trustee Larry Brown. Trustee Covington stated that the position was interim, and issues were discussed in executive session.

Responding to concerns relating to renovation of the Town Center property, Trustee Larry Brown stated that he made several request for painting, but to date that has not happened.

Responding to contacts for a grocery store, Mayor McCowan stated they should contact Kim Porter, Director of Economic & Community Development; Relating to fighting among Board members Mayor McCowan commented that they try, but each seems to want to work individually, and not as a group; responding to threats to have a member removed from the Board meeting, he stated that it is his duty to chair the meetings and keep order same as a Judge in a courtroom.

Deputy Police Chief Greg Box responded to concerns raised by Mr. Bell, and stated that he has spoken with him and they are working on a program.

Mayor McCowan responded to concerns raised relating to his being a representative for ALNAC he stated that he has been Chair of this Commission since the inception of this project, and it is important to continue to have someone at the table with the interest of this community and region, because if not the airport will be taken over by the County.

Attorney Miles responded to concern relating to a Scribner's error in the ordinance number referred to in legislation passed February 8, 2011, and stated that he would correct the error, but that the Scribner's error does not invalidate the ordinance that was passed.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Covington seconded a motion that the Board moves into executive session for purposes of personnel and to review closed session minutes at 10:25 p.m.

The Board returned from executive session at 11:05 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 11:05 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk*

/drj