

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustee For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, January 25, 2011 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park.

A. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Mayor McCowan, Trustee Oscar Brown called this regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 8:04 p.m. and deferred to the Village Clerk.

Village Clerk Dorothy Jones noted that a physical quorum was present, and she informed the Board that she had received notification from Mayor McCowan that he was out of town, and unable to physically attend this meeting tonight. Therefore, the Board of Trustees would have to select a Mayor Pro-tem to preside over this meeting. Additionally, Mayor McCowan had requested to attend the meeting electronically. Clerk Jones asked if there were objections to the Mayor attending the meeting electronically. There were no objections noted, and Clerk Jones connected Mayor McCowan to the meeting electronically.

Motion To Appoint Mayor Pro-Tem For This Meeting

Trustee McGuire moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves the appointment of Trustee Larry Brown as Mayor Pro-tem for this meeting.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Covington

Motion to approve carried.

B. ROLL CALL

Mayor: Alvin R. McCowan Present (Electronically)

Trustees: Sharon A. McGuire Present
Oscar H. Brown, Jr. Present
Vivian E. Covington Absent (arrived @ 8:12)
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, Fire Chief Charles Exner, Deputy Police Chief Gregory Box, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Interim Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Golf Club Representative Pamela Jackson, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Brown led the audience in the pledge of allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

D. READING OF MINUTES

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the regular meeting, and the special meeting/public hearing of the Board of Trustees held Tuesday, December 14, 2010; and the special meetings of the Board of Trustees held Wednesday, December 15, 2010, and Wednesday, December 29, 2010 as presented.

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

Motion to approve carried.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E-1: Village Manager's Report

Interim Village Manager Sevier gave the following report: We have started performance evaluations on all staff members within all departments and that process should be completed by February 15, 2011; the budget process for 2012 has begun, and all Department Heads will have their recommendations in to the Village Manager by the end of this month. I am requesting from the Board, a list of any additional items that they would like to see included in the 2012 budget by Friday, February 4, 2011. I will be recommending to the Finance Committee that we begin to review the 2012 Budget on the following dates: Wednesdays, February 9th, & 16th, and Wednesday, February 23rd – Final Review prior to Board's review, Regular Meeting on Monday, February 28th, submit to Board for Review Tuesday, March 1; Public Hearing on the 2012 Budget March 8th, submit for Board Approval March 22, 2010.

Village Manager's Report continued:

We have submitted via our Economic Development Department the following funding requests: Via the Chicago Southland Economic Development Co a request to be included in the Phase 2 Transit Region Initiative for the following: Transit Oriented Development around our Metra Station. Also, for our Cicero and Street Projects as well via the Chicago metropolitan Agency on Planning Assistance with our Comprehensive Plan.

The League of Women Voters – Park Forest Area has secured two dates February 19th and 26th for Candidate Forums for the Village of University Park and Crete Monee School District 201U. Additional Information will be coming soon.

We have received formal notice for Demand to Bargain for a new Police Union Contract, as the current one expires on 4/30/2011.

The American Red Cross is looking for local Heroes to honor from your community. Pleas call 630-378-0344 for additional information.

Commonwealth Edison has asked that we inform our residents that it is the responsibility of ComEd customers to maintain proper electrical clearance and provides detail information at www.comed.com/sites/customerservice/Pages/Construction.aspx

Finally, we met with IDOT about a week ago regarding the update on the widening of University Park. The Board should be aware that within the next three to four months, you will have to approve expenditures for right-of-way acquisitions for this project. If these right-of-ways are not acquired by September of 2011, we will lose the \$10 Million allocated for this project.

University Park Baseball/Softball Clinic starting Saturday, February 5, 2011 for 6 Saturdays in a row. The cost will be \$20.00 for the entire six sessions and a registration form for the season must accompany your payment for the clinic.

Bill Busters and University Park are having a Financial Survival Revival, Thursday, February 10, 6:00 – 9:00 P.M. at Crete-Monee Middle School.

Trustee Roudez asked to know the amount of money University Park contributed to the MLK Celebration at GSU. Mr. Sevier responded that we contributed \$3,500.00 this year.

Trustee McGuire asked to know what the Village's share to widen University Parkway would be, and to know what happened to the Transit Oriented Development Study that was previously done, and asked if the public is invited to attend the finance committee

meetings and be allowed to ask questions.

Village Manager's Report continued:

Manager Sevier responded to Trustee McGuire, stating that the village share is between one hundred and two hundred thousand dollars. However, the funding is not the problem, timing is what is most important; the TODD plans and projects must be updated; and he invites residents to attend all committee meetings and ask questions, and have their input in the process. However, the finance committee makes the recommendations to the Manager who forwards the budget to the Board.

Trustee Griffin asked the status of acquiring a new firm to do the 2010 audits; referring to meetings relating to the widening of University Parkway, he asked if he had missed a meeting that he was not aware of, and asked if we put up the funds for widening University Parkway, could we save the chance of losing the ten million dollars for this project. He also requested that Code Enforcement is put back under the Fire Department as it was previously.

Manager Sevier responded to Trustee Griffin stating that the current auditors are working on the 2008 audit and will begin work on 2009 with an expectation to be completed by October, and whether or not to replace them is a decision for the Board of Trustees; relating to meetings, he stated that he did not attend the last meeting, but sent representatives, but did not know whether or not Trustee Griffin had missed a meeting that he should have attended. He re-stated that funding is not the problem, timing is what is most important; relating to restructuring Code Enforcement he noted several concerns relating to Code Enforcement being a stand alone department, however, that is a decision for the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Covington asked the status of putting the name of Governors State University on the Metra Station Sign; asked if Village funds should be used to advertise ALNAC, and if the Village of University Park would be reimbursed for the Robo Calls made for PUSH Organization meetings to advertise ALNAC; relating to jobs in the Industrial Park, she asked if there are any jobs available.

Manager Sevier responded to Trustee Covington noting that dialog is vital between the Board of Trustees and Governors State University officials; relating to jobs, he stated that neither the Mayor's Office, nor the Village of University Park is a hiring agent for Industrial Park businesses. However, when the Village is notified when job vacancies occur in companies with TIF District employment agreements with the village, that information is passed on to residents.

Mayor McCowan responded to Trustee Covington relating to Robo calls made relating

to ALNAC and the third airport, noting that that is very important Village business, and the Village of University Park holds the agreement with the developers of the third airport. However, public funds were used to advertise a political campaign as a MLK Celebration at PK'S Restaurant, which he stated that he would address at a later date.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to know if we had adequate salt supply for the winter.

Village Manager's Report continued:

Public Works Director Townsend responded that we are in good shape, 1900 tons allocated, with only 700 tons used to date.

Trustee Griffin referred to the flooding in the Vistas, and asked to know the condition of the pipes in that area, and the status of handicapped parking signs.

Manager Sevier responded to Trustee Griffin noting that the entire infrastructure in the Village of University Park is old and deteriorating, and Mr. Townsend had begun a survey of all signs in the village, and adjustments would be made, as appropriate.

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Brown asked the status of maintenance of repairs of the farmhouse on Cicero. Mr. Sevier responded that Code Enforcement is attempting to find out the legal owners of that property.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor McCowan stated that he would make his report at the next regular meeting when he is physically present.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Trustee Covington stated that there were not enough members for a meeting of the IT & Cable Commissions, but they held a workshop and are working on having the Board meetings Streaming Live.

Manager Sevier stated that he and the IT Director would be meeting with representatives of AT&T to discuss U-Verse in this area, and the possibilities of including our local cable station in the services.

Trustee Oscar Brown thanked several business owners and residents for their support and involvement in the petition drive in support of ALNAC. He stated that those Petitions would be forwarded to Governor Quinn.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Director Townsend reported on a new federal government mandate that dictates specific signage, and the village must be in compliance by 2012. He noted that there are over 400 signs in the village that must be replaced, which is an additional unfunded mandate; regarding broken pipes in the Vistas, he noted that Aqua Water Company has been working with residents affected by the flooding from broken water pipes, and that Aqua Water Company is also recommending additional insurance for residents, because of the decaying pipes.

Reports Of Other Officers – continued:

Trustee McGuire asked to know what portion of the pipes are the responsibility of the property owner, the Village and Aqua.

Parks & Recreations Director Childress reported that the trip to Four Winds Casino was successful with fifty-seven people participating; currently there are eighty-five kids registered in the Basketball Program; the Department of Natural Resources this year will be stocking Pine Lake with fish. She announced the following upcoming activities: Senior Valentine's Luncheon – 2/9/11 at University Golf Club, reservations must be made by 2/4/11; Peer Leaders College Tour March 28 – 29, 2011. Colleges to be toured are Eastern Illinois, Fisk University, and Tennessee State.

Fire Chief Charles Exner reported that contrary to some calls that have been made in the name of the Fire Department, the University Park Fire Department does not solicit funds over the telephone. He advised residents who receive calls for contributions to get as much information as possible, and contact him so this can be investigated; Federal Grants for aerial ladder money is being forwarded to the village soon; EastCom and the University Park Fire Department are working together to streamline warning system; and allegations that the fire department failed to respond to residents in the Vistas is unfounded. He noted that they responded to concerns of residents in the Vistas, however, the fire department cannot pump out water in every basement, but if residents feel uneasy with safety they should call the fire department.

Manager Sevier reported that Thornwood House is under new management, and that the village has received \$130,000.00 in building fees for renovation of that facility.

Trustee Covington asked the status of the \$1,000.00 funding for the Thornwood House Tenant Association.

Parks & Recreations Director Childress responded that she would be meeting with representatives of the Thornwood House Tenant Association to attempt to develop programs for all residents, since that building is not just for seniors.

Manager Sevier reported that Monee Township had approached him to see if the Village could secure transportation for our senior residents, since that service is no longer available through Southland Senior Services.

Trustee Griffin asked if the Village of University Park could purchase a bus that is handicapped accessible.

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that the filing period for nominating petitions for the April 5, 2011 Consolidated Election has ended and that with no objections to any petitions, they have been certified to the County Clerks. She noted that there are three candidates for Mayor; two candidates for Village Clerk, and twelve candidates for the three trustee seats.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None listed for this agenda.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Declaring Certain Division Of Fire Emergency Equipment No Longer Necessary Or Useful To The Village And Authorizing The Sale Or Disposal Of Said Emergency Equipment [Used Fire Hose]

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

Trustee Covington asked to know why some items were being donated, as opposed to the sale of this equipment.

Fire Chief Charles Exner responded that guidelines from FEMA mandate that our old hoses must be donated since FEMA gave us a grant to purchase new ones.

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2011 – 01.

F-2b: First, Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of An Intergovernmental Agreement Between The Village Of University Park And The Will County 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System Board For The Funding Of A 9-1-1 Surcharge Reallocation

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

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Brown asked if there would be additional benefits in upgrades to the current system in University Park.

Fire Chief Charles Exner responded that every three years this Intergovernmental Agreement must be reviewed and approved, and we get a large portion of the funds. He also noted that this is not East-Com.

Roll Call on F-2b:

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2011 – 02.

F-2c: Resolution Acknowledging Receipt Of Original Maps, Plats, Topographical Surveys And Related Documents From Dr. Thomas Powell

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

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to know where these documents are stored. Manager Sevier responded that they are in the Department of Economic Development.

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2011 – 01.

F-2d: Resolution Approving Will-Center Road Storm Sewer Outfall Contractor Payout Request No. 2

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

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2011 – 02.

F-2e: Motion To Approve 2011 Meeting Dates For Committees, Commissions and Boards

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves these meeting dates.

F-2e: continued:

Manager Sevier noted that the **Finance Committee does not schedule a regular meeting during the month of December**, and Trustee Covington noted the **Information Technology/Cable Advisory Commission's** meeting dates have been changed to the **3rd Wednesday of each month at Village Hall.**

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

Motion to Approved Carried as amended to reflect aforementioned changes.

F-2f: Bills Payable

Trustee Oscar Brown 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 six (6) weeks from December 15, 2010 to January 25, 2011 in the following funds:

General Operation Fund	\$ 365,195.89
Road and Bridge Fund	\$ 49,881.24
Towncenter Operations	\$ 6,547.49
University Golf Club	\$ 88,289.43

Capital Project Fund	\$ 41,686.01
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 25,517.53
TIF II – Industrial Park Fund	\$ 564,343.12
TIF II – Construction Project Fund	\$ 5,750.00
TIF IV – Governors East Fund	\$ 392.34
TIF V – Dralle Industrial Fund	<u>\$ 2,308,754.06</u>
	\$3,456,357.11

Trustee Oscar Brown asked for clarity on check #72266. Attorney Miles responded that the payment is for the attorney for the Fire & Police Commissioners, since as Village Attorney he cannot represent the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners.

Trustee Covington asked if any bills were paid during the six weeks, and how delinquent are we, and what impact would this have on our credit ratings.

Manager Sevier responded that the delay in paying bills would have a small impact on our credit, and new 1099 forms for TIF businesses must be issued, because the ones previously prepared were dated in 2010.

Bills Payable continued:

Trustee Griffin questioned payment of check #72030 – Barnes & Thornburg and stated that he wants to discontinue that service.

Trustee Griffin made a motion to discontinue the services of Barnes & Thornburg because he wants to discuss continuing a service that does nothing for the Village of University Park.

Mayor McCowan stated that he would not object to a workshop to discuss this request.

Trustee Griffin withdrew his motion.

Trustee Covington moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to consider separately check #72030 – Barnes & Thornburg.

Trustee Roudez commented that he does not see who the Board expects to help with the funding that is needed on these major projects we have in place, if we discontinue the services of the Lobbyist.

A lengthy discussion ensued between Board members regarding the need for the services of Barnes & Thornburg.

Trustee McGuire called the Previous Question, seconded by Trustee Oscar Brown.

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Brown called for the roll call on this amendment:

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

Motion Failed to Carry.

Roll Call On Main Bills Payable Motion:

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

Trustee Covington originally voted in the affirmative to approve bills payable, then changed her vote to Nay.

Motion Carried to Approve.

F-2g: Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Mayor To Negotiate The Terms Of A Contract With The Selected Candidate For The Office Of Village Manager

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

Trustee Griffin voiced his concern that the Mayor would be the designated person to negotiate this contract, and stated that he wanted to fine tune the language.

Mayor McCowan responded that this is only to discuss with the final candidate terms of an employment agreement, but would be brought back to the Board prior to any binding commitment.

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Resolution Number R2011-03.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

****Note*** Mayor McCowan disconnected from the phone at approximately 9:43 pm, and was absent for the remainder of the meeting.

Mr. Robert Travis addressed the Chair and Board of Trustees, and voiced his concern with the lack of a sprinkler system at Riegel Barn; requested a status on the water study, noted his concept of violations of our sign ordinance; requested a status of the CityScape properties, and stated that he hopes to have village Board meetings streaming live by March, 2011.

Ms. Mary Williams addressed the Chair and Board of Trustees, and voiced her concern with the amount of crime in the village, and stated that we need protection in the form of burglar alarms, and introduced a friend of hers who operates an alarm company.

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Brown noted that this was not the forum for advertising alarm systems and suggested that information be left with the Executive Liaison.

Ms. Rosemary Nettles asked to know where available jobs are posted, and asked if it is the responsibility of the Village or Aqua Water Company to maintain the infrastructure.

General Comments Continued:

Ms. Jackie Ramondo, representing University Crossings, LLC, Site 3a in TIF IV asked to know when the TIF checks would be signed and available. She asked to be notified when they are available.

Ms. Drueada Henry addressed the Chair and Board and commented on the needs of the community that prompted her to run for the office of Trustee; she thanked Deputy Chief Box for the work they are doing in combating crime, and commented on the sentence handed down to the individuals who burglarized her home, and asked if the Village has an ordinance to address Menace to Community that would prevent them from returning to the community; commenting on the need for a lobbyist, she stated that she feels the funds could be better spent on bringing a grocery store into the village; commenting on the trip to Four Winds, she stated that the trip concerns her because seniors need transportation.

Mr. Abdullah, President of Precision Hodge commented on a training program for individuals interested in learning the trade of cleaning and snow removal that he would like to institute in the Village of University Park.

Mr. Curtis McMullen commented on the lack of the Police Blotter for newspapers to report on crimes in our community.

Pastor Brenda Mitchell commented on concerns voiced by another resident and gave a brief history of attempts to bring grocery stores to the village, and what caused three or four failed grocery stores. She also stated that efforts need to be focused on bringing in the type of stores that the community would support.

Mrs. Nicole Moore, Owner of Uncle Dub's Video store commented that the store had been closed due to illness, but is now ready to re-open. She thanked Trustee Roudez for his insight and assistance. She also apologized for displaying a political sign in her window if it violated village ordinance.

A resident commented on tickets issued to vehicles to her and others for parking on the streets, when there were no available parking spaces. She asked why warning tickets were not issued. She also commented on the volatile decorum displayed by certain members of the Board of Trustee, and asked them to attempt to get along and take care of village business

H. BOARD CAUCUS

Mayor Pro-tem Larry Brown suspended the meeting from 10:08 p.m. to 10:19 p.m. to allow the Board to caucus.

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

Village Manager Sevier responded to Mr. Travis relating to the installation of a sprinkler system at Riegel Barn, and noted that the cost would be approximately sixty to one hundred thousand dollars.

Trustee Oscar Brown responded to Mr. Travis relating to status of the Water Study, and noted that there had been no additional progress since his last report. However, he is still working trying to secure funds for the study.

Village Clerk Dee Jones responded to Mr. Travis relating to political signs and stated that effective January 1, 2011 the State of Illinois had passed new legislation that prohibits municipalities from imposing time limits on residential properties when political signs may be displayed. Therefore, as advised by legal counsel, our current sign ordinance that deals with the time limits would not be enforced. However, all other

portions of the ordinance, not inconsistent with State Statute would be enforced.

Mayor Pro-tem Brown responded to concerns relating to the lack of a grocery store and informed the public of previous failures, and of his attempts and contacts with grocers in an attempt to bring a grocery store back to the community. Relating to the his decorum, he stated that sometimes there may be a difference of opinions by members of the Board that may seem hostile, but he is working on his delivery, and his objective is to serve the residents of this village.

Deputy Police Chief Box responded to the concern relating to parking tickets opposed to warning tickets and stated that the tickets were issued as a result of complaints from neighbors.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee McGuire seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 11:08 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk*