

Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, February 14, 2012 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 7:12 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Village Manager Lafayette Linear, Village Attorney Ivan Tomic, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Police Chief Melvin Davis, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Finance Director Gloria Gibson, Public Works Director Jerry Townsend, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Golf Club General Manager/PGA Paul Blockoms, IT Sherry Williams, 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. READING OF MINUTES

Trustee Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the Board of Trustees held January 24, 2012 as presented.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion to Approve Carried.

E. NON-DISCUSSION AGENDA

E-1: Village Manager's Report

Village Manager Lafayette Linear reported that meetings with the Mayor and adherence to her management directives are beginning to yield tangible and quantifiable results. Some of the more notable accomplishments since the beginning of the year include: a tentative agreement with a business in the industrial park to contribute \$200,000.00 in job training funds and return a payment in error of over \$300,000.00; CMAP has increased their share of funding for the University Parkway project by \$580,000.00; He received a letter from the Illinois Department of Employment Security informing him that our new contribution rate is 4.35%, which is down from 100%. He stated that if this rate had been in effect during the prior year we would have paid \$8,300.00 as opposed to \$191,000.00.

Manager Linear reported that the aforementioned items exceed \$1.5 million savings and additional funding since this administration has taken office. He also reported that there have been several meetings with the receiver for Fairway Estates and they have agreed to make various improvements to their development including: Erecting a fence around our Public Works facility; removing dirt stock piles, and deeding a park to the Village including play ground equipment. He gave special thanks to Directors Jerry Townsend and Keely Childress for their hard work in obtaining \$249,000.00 from the Safer School Routes that was part of the \$21.7 million grant that Governor Quinn announced.

Trustee Griffin commented on the number of public works vehicles on the streets without emergency flashers, and asked why these flashers are not in working order.

Public Works Director Townsend responded that all vehicles are equipped with emergency flashers which are to be checked daily. However, he would check to see if the flasher bulbs burned out.

Trustee Williams asked if any work is being done to find funding for an Overpass or Underpass that she has been asking for, and asked how the funds from CMAP would be used.

Manager Linear responded that currently they have not been working on that issue. However, the increase in the CMAP Grant is to assist with phase I of the University Parkway project from Central to Cicero.

Mayor Covington commented that a meeting with IDOT and INDOT officials would be held on February 23, 2012 at the Matteson Hotel to address that issue, and that part of the plan is to put a bridge in as part of that project.

E-2: Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington began her report with a Proclamation designating February as Black History Month in the Village of University Park. Trustee Payton read the proclamation.

Mayor Covington reported that as a result of communications with Mr. Silverman, owner of the old Drive-in Theater the Village now has permission to use his property for advertising, and that she is working on building positive relationships. She also reported on meetings that she has attended in an effort to continue this relationship building, noting that she continues to meet with GSU President on a regular basis. She reported on the Thorn Creek Economic Development project and the workshop held on Saturday with Town Builders Studio and other interested parties wishing to locate in the Village. She stated that she called to workshop because she wants to educate and inform the Board before projects begins; she commented on an upcoming Town Hall meeting that would include presentation by our Emergency Medical Services; She also reported on meetings she attended including a caucus held at the Olympic Field Country Club with other State and federal officials. Relating to Congressman Jesse Jackson she stated that contrary to rumors, she had conference calls with him and invited him to University Park and has been waiting for a response from his for two weeks.

Mayor Covington reported that she had invited a very interesting individual to the Board meeting who had good news for the village, and she introduced Mr. Russell Rydin.

Mr. Russell Rydin commented that he is Development and Program Director for a Non Profit Development Company and that they had purchased eight homes in University Park that they would bring jobs to University Park residents, because there are repairs needed, and they would need contractors and management team members. He also stated that they are looking for office space in the village. He noted that these are single family rental homes, with the desire to eventually lease with the option to purchase, thereby moving renters into home ownership.

Mayor Covington stated that this project was brought forward through SSMMA, and stated that Mr. Rydin would be hiring from within this village.

E-3: Committee & Commission Reports

Trustee Payton reported on the great job that the HSSEC is doing to bring events of celebration of Black History Month to University Park. He thanked Mrs. Vernita Martin and Mrs. Bobbi Greer for their leadership, Mr. Robert Travis for taking over as Vice chair during the absence of Chair Gaston, and commented on the success of the empowering seminars and events held earlier this month; gave a synopsis of up-coming events and programs, including Black Women In American History and Culture on Saturday February 25th and noted that he was sure our Mayor Covington would be honored. He invited residents out for the remaining programs and events. It was noted

that the calendar of events for Black History Month are posted on the website and available at Village Hall and other locations throughout the Village.

Committee & Commission Report – continued:

Village Treasurer Dilworth reported that the next Finance Committee meeting would be held on February 27, 2012 at 7:00 pm at #90 Town Center Drive, and asked that anyone with items for the agenda to send them to Finance Director Gibson this week.

E-4: Reports Of Other Officers

Police Chief Melvin Davis reported that the Police Department received 639 calls for service over the last two weeks and 30 incident reports were taken. He also reported that a suspect in the murder of Johnny Rouse was taken into custody, and had been charged. He stated that it took time and careful investigations to make sure that the right person was arrested. Chief Davis congratulated the following members of the Police Department for accomplishment: Sergeant Daniel Murphy for his efforts in investigating and solving the 2011 Homicide of Johnny “Dukes” Rouse; Officer Donald Piwowarski for going above and beyond after a burglary to locate the stolen Urn that carried the ashes of the owners Mary Brown`s deceased daughter; Sergeant Deborah Wilson for her response time to a potentially dangerous burglar alarm call; Officer Geneka Whitaker for her quick actions on a traffic stop where she noticed a senior was not driving impaired but actually ill, officer Whitaker was able to get medics to the scene and she possibly saved the drivers life. “ ATTA GIRL” certificate given to Officer Whitaker. Sergeant Darryl Stroud for his completion & graduation of Police School of Staff & Command

Chief Davis stated that these are outstanding achievements and all officers were congratulated, and presented their certificates during roll call and praised for the efforts to make a difference in our community.

Mayor Covington commented that some of these awards were recommended by residents who had been assisted by the Officers. She stated that Officer Whitaker noticed erratic driving, followed the vehicle and pulled the driver over and discovered that the driver was ill, and then summoned medical help. This she stated is what she wants to see, Officers Friendly, serving and protecting, not just thinking someone is impaired, but checking out the situation.

Public Works Director Jerry Townsend reported that he continues to meet with representatives of MB Financial regarding the construction at Fairway Estates, and that they are working to resolve putting together plans for the play lot; He continues to meet with IDOT relating to the Cicero Avenue Project which will include lighting and landscaping. He noted that the project would be let June, 2013, and that they are moving aggressively.

Cable Studio Manager Eddie Pearson reported on events that WUPC Tv4 covered during this month including HSSEC Black History Events - State of Minority Business,

and Black on Black Love, and noted that other Black History programs are running on WUPC Tv4.

Reports Of Other Officers – continued:

Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress reported that as part of the Grant for Safe Route for Kids they would also be able to repair the Hickok Bridge as a link to Hickok Aquatic Center; that a sidewalk would be put in from Crete-Monee Middle School to Palmer Park, and that improvements around Blackhawk and Hickok would also be made. She reported on the big basketball game at Crete Monee High School and announced that baseball registration is currently being held, and Family Night continues Friday nights from 6 – 9 pm, and that volunteers are always welcome. She thanked the Mayor, Clerk and Clerk for their support, and reported that on March 3, 2012 the Parent & Child Dance would be held at the Golf Club; and that she will begin working with Thornwood House and bringing programs to that facility. She thanked Patti Guinn for her initiating the contact with management and for her diligence.

Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios reported that the Fire Department received 73 calls for service since last meeting with 30 calls EMS related, and that Will County would be hosting a free severe weather seminar on March 22, 2012 at Crete Monee Middle School. Additional information is available by calling (815) 723-1455.

IT Staff member Sherry Williams reported that the IT Department is looking for more participation in the data bank to receive messages to keep residents informed of happenings in the village. To be included in the data bank please call 534-4825 or 534-8356.

Manager Linear reported that the University Park Currency Exchange moved out in the middle of the night without giving any notice to the Village. He noted that their rent was paid.

Village Clerk Dee Jones reported that February 21, 2012 is the last day to register to vote before the March 20th Primary, and noted that residents can register at Village Hall and at other locations throughout the village with six members of the Senior Citizens Committee who have been deputized by Will County as Deputy Registrars. She also reported that Early Voting begins in her Office on February 28, 2012 and stressed the importance of residents exercising the rights to vote.

Mayor Covington called Senior Citizen Committee Chair Debbie Stroud up to report on the registration efforts of the Senior Citizen Committee.

Ms. Stroud reported that she has contacted three businesses in the Village who have agreed to allow voter registration at their locations, and to offer a one-time 10% discount to those individuals showing a voter registration receipt during the registration period. This would introduce some residents to the businesses and hopefully enhance the business. This registration drive will continue until the November General Election.

Reports Of Other Officers – continued:

Trustee Larry Brown reported on meetings he attended including a Recycle Workshop, and one relating to electrical outages and ComEd's desire to erect a call center in this area for reporting of those power outages.

Manager Linear commented that he was aware of a proposed joint effort between the Village and ComEd for a Call Center when outages reach 20%.

F. DISCUSSION AGENDA

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

F-1a: Second and Third Readings - An Ordinance Approving An Annexation Agreement With The Owner Of A Tract Of Land Consisting Of 154.68+/- Acres At The Northwest Corner Of Stuenkel Road And I-57 [154.68 +/- Acres On The Northwest Corner Of Stuenkel Road And I-57 In Unincorporated Monee Township, Will County, Illinois, Pin: 14-05-300-003-0000]

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

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion to Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2012-03.

F-1b: Second and Third Readings - Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory To The Village Of University Park [154.68 +/- Acres On The Northwest Corner Of Stuenkel Road And I-57 In Unincorporated Monee Township, Will County, Illinois Pin: 14-05-300-003-0000]

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

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.

Nays: None.

Absent: None.

Motion to Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2012 - 04.

F-1c: Second and Third Readings - Ordinance Zoning Land Newly Annexed To The Village Of University Park [154.68 +/- Acres On The Northwest Corner Of Stuenkel Road And I-57 In Unincorporated Monee Township, Will County, Illinois Pin: 14-05-300-003-0000]

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

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion to Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2012 - 05.

F-1d: Third Reading – An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of An Agreement Between The Village Of University Park, Pace, And The Suburban Bus Division Of The RTA For The Leasing Of Vehicles To Meet The Public Transportation Needs Of The Village Of University Park

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

Trustee Roudez commented that he thought as a result of concerns noted at the workshop, that a survey would be done on the need prior to passage of this item.

Manager Linear stated that the survey was to determine routes and hours of operations.

Trustee Oscar Brown stated that before these vehicles are purchased that there is need for input from residents before proceeding relating to routes and hours of operation.

Mayor Covington stated that PACE is to work with scheduling of bus routes, and would conduct the survey within the next two weeks.

Manager Linear stated that the vehicles would not be purchased, but leased with a \$1,000.00 deposit plus \$100.00 per vehicle, and that as part of the agreement, the contract must clearly define intended uses before the vehicles could be delivered.

Trustee Payton commented that during the last election, elected officials noticed the need for transportation, and he stated that \$75,000.00 was put into the current budget for transportation needs.

F-1d – continued:

Trustee Oscar Brown stated that other communities had detailed plans for operating their transportation system; noted that there are still blank spaces in the contract; need to address issue of drivers to determine if they be current employees; and that he feels that we should wait until shelters are built with revenue coming in, because he does not want to see the vehicles set idle.

Mayor Covington responded that the vehicles will be used, and not set idle because she already has a coordinator in place.

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

Motion to Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2012 – 06.

F-1e: First Reading – Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of An Option To Purchase Agreement Between The Village Of University Park And Community Supportive Living Systems, Inc., An Illinois Not-For-Profit Corporation

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves to Postpone Indefinitely

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion to Postpone Indefinitely Carried.

F-1f: Third Reading – Ordinance Amending Chapter 292 Of The Administration Code Entitled Human Services And Special Events Committee

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

Trustee Roudez asked to know what changes had occurred since last reading.

Trustee Payton stated that some of the programs were returned to the Parks & Recreation Department such as the Easter Egg Hunt.

Roll Call On F-1f:

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

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2012-07.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: Motion Approving A 2012 Calendar Year Meeting Schedule

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves this item.

Motion To Amend Main Motion:

Trustee Payton commented that there were several errors in the document, and made a motion to table this item. Trustee Roudez seconded that motion.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion to Table Carried.

F-2b: Appointments

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board approves the appointments of Sandra Heard to the Finance Committee, Donna Gaston to the Economic Development Commission, and Deborah Young to the Public Service & Utilities Committee.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustee Roudez.

Motion Carried to Approve.

F-2c: Bills Payable

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry 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 last four (4) weeks from January 25, 2012 to February 12, 2012. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 190,364.12
Road & Bridge	\$ 34,777.00
Towncenter Operations	\$ 275.80
University Golf Club	\$ 31,778.81
Capital Project Fund	\$ 7,992.60
Motor Fuel Tax Fund	\$ 16,199.40
TIF II – Industrial Park Fund	\$ 122.50
TIF II - Construction Project	\$ 5.00
Total	\$ 281,515.23

Trustee Larry Brown commented that the new format makes bills payable more readable.

Trustee Griffin referred to check numbers 75828, and 75846 and requested clarity.

Finance Director Gibson responded that check number 75846 is for lease payments on copy machines; and Director Townsend responded that check number 75828 is for repairs to University Parkway east of Cicero.

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Oscar Brown, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Larry Brown.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

Motion To Approve Carried.

G. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Robert Travis commented on the proposed Thorn Creek Development with Town Builders Studio and asked what would be different this time from the last time, noting that the Village paid approximately a million dollars and got nothing; asked to know where the financing for the Community Supportive Housing come from, since he had done some research on the website, and discovered that they do not have adequate funding for such a project; and he asked residents support the banquet facility at the Golf Club by booking specials events there, and asked why residents do not get discount for booking parties.

Mr. Oscar Warren, 2807 W. 183rd Street stated that he is the producer of a show, that he completed the training and is now told that he cannot take the video cameras out of the Village, and asked to know why.

Ms. Amber Coates – 707 Blackhawk Drive commented that she is now an Ordained Deacon at First Baptist Church, and asked if the Village has a Resource Guide available for the residents, because they would like to be able to work with and refer members of their congregation to needed services in the area.

Ms. Donna Miller addressed the Board and audience and stated that she is a candidate for the State Senate from the 15th District and asked for support.

Ms. Sandra Heard, Monee Township Assessor commented that the Assessor's Office would be hosting a Workshop on Thursday, February 23, 2012 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. and would be dealing with tax exemptions, tax bills, assessments and circuit breaker; Will County Assessor's Office would be coming to University Park in April, and that Additional information is available on their website at www.moneeassessor.com or by call (708) 534-6023. She also asked to know the last day to register to vote, and for clarity on the 7 million dollar project.

H. BOARD CAUCUS 1

Mayor Covington suspended the meeting from 8:50 to 9:5 to allow the Board an opportunity to caucus. The Board returned and the following responses were given to general public comments.

Trustee Payton responded to a portion of the concern of Mr. Travis relating to the Thorn Creek Project noting that the difference now is that Jim Louthen and Town Builders Studio are the Developer on this project, and worked for the developer on the last project. That the previous developer wanted to build high density residential units with 1,000 units where this Developer wants to build upscale homes with amenities. Additionally, he stated that Town Builders Studio have an option to purchase the land, that otherwise would be donated to GSU. He also stated that the Village would have control over the project.; Relating to financing for the Community Living Project he noted that the presenter stated that he would have to obtain additional funding for the project, however that project has been postponed indefinitely. He also commented that residents do get discounts on meals.

Golf Club Manager Blockoms responded that residents get a discount on the room cost for special events and get discounts on daily meals.

Village Manager Linear responded to the concerns of Mr. Warren relating to refusal to allow him to take Village equipment from the village and stated that they are in the process of revising that policy to include that cameras would not be allowed to go outside the Village of University Park.

Cable Studio Manager Pearson commented that the cost of the camera is \$2500.00 or more, and that participants in the classes pay \$225.00 for training and certification, but that does not include unlimited use of the equipment outside the studio.

Village Manager Linear responded to the concerns of Ms. Heard relating to the 7 million dollar project stating that the funds are for the University Parkway Project.

Village Clerk Dee Jones responded that February 21, 2012 is the last day to register to vote for the March 20th General Primary Election.

I. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

J. TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board move into executive session for purposes of personnel at 9:27 p.m.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:13 p.m. and resumed the regular meeting.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 10:14 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried By Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC
Village Clerk*

/drj