

***Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, January 8, 2013 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 7:08 p.m.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Mayor:	Vivian E. Covington	Present
Trustees:	Elizabeth Williams	Present
	Oscar H. Brown, Jr.	Absent
	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 Stewart Diamond, Village Treasurer Devon Dilworth, Police Commander, Interim Chief Darryl Stroud, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Golf Club General Manager/PGA Paul Blockoms, Fire Chief Charles Exner, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Cable Studio Manager Eddie Pearson, and Village Clerk Dorothy R. Jones.

**C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves minutes of the regular meeting held November 13, 2012.

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board table minutes of the regular meeting held November 13, 2012.

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

***Motion To Table Carried.***

## **E. REPORTS OF ELECTED & APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

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

Village Manager Linear stated that he had no report other than he and the Mayor have begun work on 2013 issues.

Trustee Griffin referred to an incident at PK's Christian Catering where reportedly there were more than two hundred occupants in the building which violated the occupancy limit. He asked Manager Linear if the owners were fined and if they were aware of the occupancy limit.

Manager Linear responded that they were not fined; it was the first offense.

Fire Chief Exner responded that the occupancy limit should have been posted, but they did not issue tickets or fine the owner because it was the first offense; however, if directed by the Village Manager to ticket or fine the owner he would do so, but their normal procedure is to give a warning for first offenses. He explained that the fire department was notified and that they emptied the building and only allowed the allowable number of patrons to return. He also explained how occupancy limits are determined and differs depending on the room layout.

Trustee Payton commented that with people coming and going he can see how the occupancy limit could be comprised.

Mayor Covington commented on times that she has been at the Golf Club during a Steppers Set and that facility was over the occupancy limit. She stated that in the future she wants patrons counted so the village will be in compliance with the occupancy limits.

Trustee Williams referred to her concerns relating to the widening of University Parkway, and asked Manager Linear if we still had the funds for that project. She stated that previously there was an 80/20 match from IDOT. She also asked Trustee Griffin and former Village Manager Sevier if the village previously had funds for the project, where are those funds now, and if the Village has budgeted for the match.

Manager Linear responded by explaining the road re-construction project from I-57 to Cicero, noting that the work would be done in three phases; however, as previously stated, he was not aware of a road widening project for University Parkway east of Governors State University.

Mr. Sevier commented that those funds from CMAP may have been lost. However, Manager Linear commented that the CMAP funds are not lost, and that the village budgets for match as the project moves forward.

**Manager's Report – continued:**

Mayor Covington commented that at an upcoming meeting she would have a representative from CMAP in attendance to explain the project and how funding is done.

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

Mayor Covington wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that she hopes this year the Board can come together and work to move the village forward.

**E-3: Committee and Commission Reports**

Mr. Robert Travis reported on issues that HSSEC is working on, including a Global Food Fest using local vendors; Black History Month events to include a trip to Freedom Hall in Park Forest for a play. He stated that there are fifty free tickets available on a first come basis, and that there are plans for a trip to the DuSable Museum in Chicago. He also announced that the HSSEC would be meeting this Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Trustee Payton reported that there could possibly be a second coat give-away, because there were coat left over from the initial give-away.

**E-4: Reports of Other Officers:**

Trustee Williams reported that she is working to get discount prescription cards for those residents who needed them, more information is forthcoming; she is still working to get the GED classes up and running.

Mayor Covington commented that Will County also has a discount prescription card program that is available for residents of University Park.

Trustee Larry Brown reported on his efforts and attempts for years to get stop signs on University Parkway at Blackhawk near Rosedale Subdivision after several denials from Will County, finally we will now have stop signs erected at those locations.

Public Works Foreman Ross Burgess reported that 36' Red Flashing signs had been ordered along with Stop Ahead signs to warn motorists to slow down because they are approaching a stop sign.

Village Clerk Dorothy Jones reported that the filing period for nominating petitions for the April 9, 2013 Consolidated Election had ended and that are nine residents who filed nominating petitions.

**Reports of Other Officers – continued:**

Trustee Roudez asked the percentage of minorities involved in the Family Dollar Project; asked Manager Linear if he is following up to make sure local contractors are given an opportunity for some of these jobs. He indicated that he is holding Manager Linear accountable for following up on his request.

Manager Linear responded that he will follow the directive of the Board, but is now aware of an ordinance or set aside.

Interim Police Chief Stroud reported that he received information from Will County 9-1-1 that University Park Police Department would be receiving a grant of \$10,000.00 and that the Fire Department is also receiving a grant from Will County.

Fire Chief Exner reported that the Fire Department would be receiving a grant from Will County for \$13,000.00, and urged the Board to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement so they can access these funds.

Mayor Covington asked if there are grants for leasing of police vehicles.

**E-5: Attorney's Report**

Attorney Diamond stated that there are some issues regarding litigation that he would like to discuss with the Board in a closed session tonight.

**F. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Covington announced that general public comments would be held to three minutes per person with thirty minutes total allowed. Those who are not called on tonight would be called first at the next meeting, or they could put their comments in writing and if it is the desire of the Board they would be responded to in writing.

Mr. William Smith commented that as a resident he would like clarity on why Trustee Roudez is still challenging Mayor Covington in the Courts for her seat that she was elected to by the voters; he also stated that it was he who brought the Family Dollar Store Project to the Village through Trustee Larry Brown, and that he agrees with Trustee Roudez that there should be allowances for local and minority contractors on the Family Dollar Store project.

Trustee Roudez responded to Mr. Smith noting that his challenge is not against the Mayor, but to help disenfranchised voter to have the right of the people to have their votes count, and according to representatives of Family Dollar Store, they are building stores all over the region and University Park was one of the targeted areas; however, it does not matter who brought the project, because it is a great thing for our community.

**General Public Comments – continued:**

Mr. David Sevier addressed the Mayor and Board and commented on statements made by Trustee Payton on certain issues that he feels are untrue; he commented on the situation relating to Pk's Catering and Daycare noting that he hates the situation that the owners are facing due to decisions of previous administration not to collect rent.

Mr. Arthur Mooring addressed the Mayor and Board regarding his termination as the insurance broker for the Village's health insurance and asked the Board to review the reason for his replacement, and deal with the situation fairly.

Ms. Chere`se Williams addressed the Mayor and Board and responded to questions raised by Mrs. Star Lawson at a previous Board meeting relating to her attendance at the National League of Cities Conference in Boston, and stated that her request for airfare and tuition to attend that conference was approved by the Plan Commission, and that she learned a lot especially about how we can tighten up our codes and on the variance process.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan commented on information that she stated was placed in her mailbox relating to credit card usage by the Mayor, Manager and IT Director which showed payments for such items as hotels, rental cars, tuition and book fees, and asked for clarity. She also noted that she had requested this information under FOIA, but had not yet received the detailed report.

Village Manager Linear responded that all expenses are charged to those three credit cards; he explained the process for credit cards usage.

Mayor Covington commented that she will find out who in the finance department is putting information out to the public.

Ms. Paula Wilson commented on the conditions at Fairway Estates and the agreement for them to construct a park in that subdivision. She asked to know what is holding up the process, and how long has it been since the attorney informed the Board and requested a workshop on this issue.

Attorney Diamond responded that MB Financial has asked the Board to give up a four million dollar letter of credit and release them from the original obligations; however, the Board needs to move forward and take action.

Mayor Covington commented that she wants a workshop on this matter.

**G. DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**G-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**G-1a: First Reading – Ordinance Amending Chapter 808, Alcoholic Liquor Dealers**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board approves first reading of this ordinance

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

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

**G-1b: First Reading – An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Lease Extension And Resolution Of Disputed Items For Space No. 22 and 26 At The University Park Town Center**

**G-1c: First Reading – An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Lease Extension And Resolution Of Disputed Items For Space No. 82 At The University Park Town Center**

Trustee Larry Brown moved, but for lack of a second these two items were referred to a workshop.

**G-2: NEW BUSINESS**

**G-2a: First Reading – An Ordinance Amending Section 818.05 (D), Miscellaneous Regulations, Of Chapter 818 Coin Operated Amusement Devises Of The Codified Ordinances.**

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

Trustee Roudez asked for clarity on this item.

Village Manager Linear responded that this is to amend the ordinance that prohibits gaming machines.

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to table reading of this ordinance.

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

***Motion To Table Carried.***

**G-2b: Motion To Approve Renewal Of The Village's Health Insurance Plan  
With Blue Cross/Blue Shield**

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

Mr. Jerry McCullough addressed the Board and gave a brief history of AmeriFlex and the services offered. He stated that he was previously the Broker for the Village on Health insurance, and gave the benefits of the village going with this plan. He also commented on his meeting with the Village Manager and the Village Insurance Committee. He stated that the village would see a savings of from fifty to sixty thousand dollars in claims experience.

Trustee Larry Brown stated that he would like a workshop on this item.

Manager Linear stated that if a workshop is scheduled, he would like to include Mr. Mooring in that meeting with the Insurance Committee and the Board of Trustees.

Trustee Payton moved, Trustee Larry Brown seconded a motion to table this item to a workshop.

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

***Motion To Table Carried.***

**G-2c: Appointments**

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves the following appointments:

**Plan Commission:** Mrs. Bettie Wayne and Ms. Paula Wilson, both for a three year term.

**Human Services & Special Events Committee:** Julius Crockett - three year term.

**Senior Citizens Committee:** Angelique Crockett - three year term.

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

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

**G-2d: Bills Payables**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Payton 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 December 12, 2012 to January 4, 2013. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 585,486.13
Debt Service	\$ 500.00
Road & Bridge	\$ 1,030.90
Town Center Fund	\$ 4,377.93
University Golf Club	\$ 75,354.62
TIF III Fund	\$ 2,827.50
TIF V Fund	\$ 341.25
Payroll Fund	\$ 100.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 670,018.33</b>

Trustee Griffin referred to checks for CMT and Davis Staffing and asked how much longer would see bills for these vendors.

Golf Club Manager Blockoms responded that some of the bills go back to August.

Trustee Larry Brown referred to payments to Ancel Glink and stated that he feels that \$82,000.00 is high for us to pay the attorney, and that he feels that the Village should enter into a contract with this firm. She stated that the firm is fantastic, but if the village is fiscally responsible we will find a way to reduce those attorneys cost.

Trustee Roudez stated that he wants an itemized list of who is costing the charges with frequent calls.

Attorney Diamond responded that he is not being contacted by any one person; but the village has serious issues, and that he is trying his best to work economically and help save the village.

Mayor Covington commented that she agrees that we need to be able to work within our budget.

Trustee Payton commented that there is no question about the abilities of Ancel Glink; however, previous Attorney Tomic got \$200,000.000 from Smuckers and worked on tax exempt status for village properties, and was looking at other cuts

Ayes: Trustees Williams, Payton, Griffin and Roudez.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

Abstained: Trustee Larry Brown.

**Motion To Approve Carried.**

**G-2e: Motion To Approve A 2013 Calendar Year Meeting Schedule**

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

Fire & Police Chair Gloria Brookins noted that the time for that commission is 7:00 p.m.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

***Motion To Approve With Changes As Noted Carried.***

**G-2f: Resolution Of Condolences In Memory Of Mrs. Norma Murry**

**G-2g: Resolution Of Condolences In Memory Of Norman Raymel McCaster**

**G-2h: Resolution Of Condolences In Memory Of Mr. Lester Murray.**

Trustee Larry Brown moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves these resolutions of condolences.

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

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustee Oscar Brown.

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

**I. BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND MANAGER COMMENTS**

**J. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

**K EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion that the Board move into executive session for purposes of probable or eminent litigation and personnel at 9:17 p.m.

The Board returned from executive session at 10:15 p.m. and took no further action.

**L. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Roudez moved, Payton seconded a motion that the Board adjourns the meeting of the Board of Trustee at 10:16 p.m.

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

*Respectfully Submitted*

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*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC  
Village Clerk*