

**Minutes Of The Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Tuesday, January 22, 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 7:06 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	Absent (arrived @7:12)
	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 Restaurant Manager Pam Jackson, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Executive Liaison Johnna Townsend, Cable Studio Manager Eddie Pearson, Public Works Foreman Ross Burgess, 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 Oscar Brown moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion that the Board table minutes of the regular meetings held November 13, 2012; December 11, 2012; Special Joint Meeting held December 18, 2012 and January 8, 2013.

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

***Motion To Table Carried.***

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

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

Village Manager Linear reported that the search for a temporary Finance Director is on schedule and he should have someone in place in early February; new street light project along University Parkway is nearly complete, and the Auditors are looking at open items for 2010.

Trustee Griffin referred to the Annual Treasurer's Report and asked for clarity on payments to Move of God, payment of \$52,131.00 for the Kids Health, and payment to Parks & Recreation, and not the Golf Club.

Trustee Payton asked if the finance committee meeting should be cancelled until there is a finance director. Manager Linear responded that he would advise so.

Trustee Williams asked to know the procedure for mail security, stating that on more than one occasion her mail was opened before it was delivered to her.

Trustee Roudez voiced his concern with the possible violation of State and Local laws with the erection of Stop Signs at Blackhawk & Cody Lane without the Board passing an ordinance to do so.

Attorney Diamond commented that stop signs are not advised without a study, an ordinance and State regulations.

Trustee Larry Brown commented that he too was surprised to see that the stop signs had been erected; however, years ago Will County did a study and did not see the need for the stop sign. But he still feels that there is a need for stop signs at that area to preserve and protect life.

Village Manager Linear responded that the signs were installed prematurely, but he had them bagged when he discovered they had been put up until this issue is appropriately addressed to eliminate problems. He had hoped to have this item on the agenda tonight.

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to know when the traffic study would be done.

Attorney Diamond responded that the Village Board could use its Home Rule Powers to add to an ordinance with reasonable valid needs for the stop sign, such as for health and safety.

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

Mayor Covington reported that she had just returned from Washington D.C. where she attended the inaugural ceremonies for President Obama. She shared her time with University Park Library Director Tracy Duckworth, and a representative from Star Homewood Disposal.

Library Director Tracy Duckworth addressed the Mayor and Board and gave an overview of services and programs offered at the Library including: free use of 10 computers with a valid library card, On-line GED Training, job training, foreign language, E-books, computer 101 training classes is offered on Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., library is available for laptop and wireless printing, and they are installing new Server to allow of an additional ten computers. She urged residents to take advantage of these vital services, and asked the Board to look at working collectively with the library in combining some programs.

Representative from Star Disposal addressed the Mayor and Board and stated that they would like to deliver 65 gallon garbage carts to each household, noting that Star would own the carts and be responsible for all normal repairs. Carts are not limited to one per household, but additional carts would be available at no additional cost. However, they are requesting a three year extension to the current contract.

Mayor Covington asked if Star would be willing to give something back to the Village.

Trustee Griffin asked if there would be an increase in cost with the extension of the contract, and if there is a chance that Star would waive the increase for one year.

Star representative responded that they would be willing to sponsor a light, and that an increase of approximately 3% would be effective once contract is signed, and they would look at a waiver of the increase.

Trustee Williams reported that her neighbor, and long time resident, Mr. Griffin recently passed away, that she submitted his name twice for inclusion on the Veterans Memorial Wall, and wants to make sure that his name is included.

Executive Liaison Townsend commented that she received the name after the ceremony, but there will be re-plating of names and his name will be included.

Mayor Covington stated that she wants all veterans recognized on the memorial wall.

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

Trustee Payton asked Mr. Travis to come forward and make a presentation of events that HSSEC is planning in celebration of Black History Month, and asked residents with Black Art to consider loaning it to the Committee for display at the Global Food Fest.

**Committee and Commission Reports – continued:**

Mr. Robert Travis reported on events 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 He also announced that the next regular meeting of the finance committee is cancelled

Trustee Williams reported on a grant from Prairie State College that will offer free Entrepreneur classes to residents.

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

No reports given.

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

Attorney Diamond stated that he would make comments on certain items later on the agenda.

**F. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Robert Travis commented on his concern with the village spending \$13,000.00 for GED Classes when those services are offered at the Library and at 201 – U School District; asked to know who will be responsible for maintenance of the new street lights; can the Board pass an ordinance to mandate that the tax levy is done and out on time.

Trustee Williams asked Library Director Duckworth if the GED Classes at the library include teachers on site. Because she feels some people learn better with hands on teaching, and she has 30 individuals signed up for this program, and she wants to see it put in place.

Ms. Duckworth responded that teachers are not available on a regular basis, but could be arranged if there were enough participants; however, they are educating residents to use the internet, because that is the wave of the future.

Mayor Covington suggested that the participants that Trustee Williams have could be turned over to the Library.

**General Public Comments – continued:**

Mr. Steve Allen voiced his congratulations to Mayor Covington for the work she has done over the past 19 months; asked Trustees to work with the Mayor and move this village forward; asked why Trustee Roudez had the TV cameras turned off during his comments at a previous meeting; asked to know the location of the vehicle of former Chief Davis; asked to know the number of law suits, and who is responsible for hiring the current attorney.

Mr. Darrin Johnson commented on the unsafe condition of Hickok Bridge; condition of the playground on Circle Drive; dangerous situation at Brittany Woods Apartment due to the lack of proper lighting, and asked if Code Enforcement could ticket PK's Pantry for selling outdated food.

Mayor Covington stated that she would respond to these comments at the next meeting.

Mr. David Sevier addressed the Mayor and Board and commented on promises made by Mayor Covington to bring the Board together and move the village forward; voiced his concern that many things he hoped for are not yet done. Voiced his concern with the welfare of the community and the lack of professionalism in decision making by the current Board.

Mr. Paul Rowe addressed the Board and asked for assistance in getting paid the \$5,000.00 for work that he did at the Aqua Center. He stated that he feels that he is getting the run around, and this has been approximately a year with non-payment.

Village Manager Linear responded that the Village did not contract with Mr. Rowe, and that Aqua Pure is the Contractor we had a contract with, who apparently sub-contracted the work to Mr. Rowe, however, the village paid the contractor. He will however, pull the paperwork together and forward to Attorney Diamond for a legal opinion.

Mrs. Mildred Morgan gave a CD to Trustee Payton and Attorney Diamond and commented that Trustee Payton is hurting the residents of this Village with his objections to signatures on nominating petitions of candidates; that this is costly, and she questions his motives for the allegations.

Ms. Chere`se Williams addressed the Mayor and Board and read from a letter from the Principal of Coretta Scott King Magnet School acknowledging Trustee Williams for sponsoring the Secret Santa during the Christmas Holidays. She read a letter from one of the kids who was helped by her efforts, and noted that twenty kids received gift, and that they are looking for sponsors to make this an annual affair.

**G. DISCUSSION AGENDA**

**G-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**G-1a: Second and Third Readings – Ordinance Amending Chapter 808, Alcoholic Liquor Dealers**

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 O2013 - 01.**

**G-2: NEW BUSINESS**

**G-2a: First, Second and Third Readings – An 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 Griffin moved, Trustee Roudez seconded a motion that the Board approves first, 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 O2013 - 02.**

**G-2b: First Reading - An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution Of A Lease-Purchase Agreement And Other Related Documents For The Purchase Of A Backhoe Loader From John Deere**

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

Trustee Oscar Brown asked to know if this purchase is for a new or used Backhoe Loader, and if three bids were obtained. He stated that if three bids were not obtained he directed the Manager to obtain two more bids.

**G-2b - continued:**

Trustee Payton voiced his concern that this item did not go out for competitive bidding, since he understands that anything over five to ten thousand dollars need to go through the bid process. He asked the cost of a new Backhoe from John Deere; if any investigation with the State for cost of a new Backhoe was done, and if this was a budgeted item.

Trustee Larry Brown asked if this purchase could be part of the State bidding process.

Public Works Ross Burgess responded that the Backhoe is a used 2011 model year; he did not get three bids because John Deere is the most dependable for this type of equipment; the current equipment is a broken down 1999 model, and the cost to repair is excessive, and the monthly cost the Village is paying to rent the equipment, he feels it is more cost effective to purchase this piece of equipment. However, he will get two other bids or quotes.

Attorney Diamond responded that State Bids are for new purchases only, and this is an agreement to purchase a piece of used equipment already in use.

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

***Motion To Approve First Reading Carried.***

**G-2c: First Reading - An Ordinance Approving A Restated And Amended Non-Recourse Note In Connection With TIF Redevelopment Project Area Number V.**

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

Attorney Diamond explained that is to correct a scrivener's error in the legal description of the real estate from which incremental taxes are pledged for payment of the Note, as listed in paragraph 3.

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

***Motion To Approve First Reading Carried.***

**G-2d: Motion To Create A Line Item Entitled GED Classes And Allocate \$13,000 From The Resource Center To The New Line Item**

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Oscar Brown seconded a motion that the Board amends this motion to re-direct the funds from Animal Control line item.

Village Manager Linear stated that there is approximately \$40,000.00 in the animal control budget; however, the funds are not available at this time.

Trustee Payton asked Interim Police Chief Stroud if there would be an impact on animal control if these funds were taken away.

Interim Police Chief Stroud responded that currently there is no animal control, and that if there was one, the enforcement staff member dealing with animal control would be classified as a sworn officer.

Trustee Larry Brown commented that he feels there should be cuts to the current budget, prior to any amendments.

Trustee Oscar Brown commented that he applauds Trustee Williams for her efforts to bring this program to the Village residents, and stated that he feels \$13,000.00 is a small amount to pay for the benefit of our residents, and that he would hate to see our residents with no alternative but the Library and Crete-Monee High Schools.

Trustee Payton voiced his concern with the expenses, noting that in these economic times, allocating funds for services that we are already paying taxes to have at the Library, Crete-Monee High School and Prairie State is not the best use of our funds.

Mayor Covington commented that she does not feel that it speaks well for the Village of University Park that we are advertising for a GED Program when Governors State University is preparing to expand to a four year University, and that she would like to have the participants that Trustee Williams has recruited to go to the Library for the training.

Attorney Diamond stated that this action tonight would only amend the budget, and would need to come back before the Board in ordinance form before funds are expended.

**Motion To Amend Main Motion:**

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

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

**Motion To Table Failed To Carry.**

**Roll Call On Main Motion:**

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

**Motion To Approve Carried.**

**G-2e: Appointments**

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

**Plan Commission:** Mr. Mark Thompson for a three year term.

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

**Motion To Approve Carried.**

**G-2f: Resolution Of Condolence In Memory Of Mrs. Gertrude Johnson.**

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

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

**Motion To Approve Carried**

**Resolution Number R2013 - 04.**

**G-2g: Bills Payables**

Trustee Griffin 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 two (2) weeks from January 9, 2013 to January 22, 2013. The following funds will be charged for these expenses:

General Operation Fund	\$ 322,396.02
Road & Bridge	\$ 872.02
Town Center Fund	\$ 40.75
University Golf Club	\$ 8,935.28
Capital Fund Project	\$ 2,012.03
TIF V Fund	\$ 301,316.25
Payroll Fund	\$ 2,205.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 637,777.73</b>

**Roll Call on Bills Payable:**

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

***Motion To Approve Carried.***

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

**J. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

**K EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

The Board returned from executive session at 11:13 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 11:14 p.m.

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

*Respectfully Submitted*

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*Dorothy R. Jones, CMC  
Village Clerk*