

Minutes Of The Re-scheduled Regular Meeting Of The Board Of Trustees For The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties Illinois, Held Thursday, March 16, 2017 At #90 Town Center Drive In The Village Of University Park

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Covington called this re-scheduled regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:08 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

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

Also present were Acting Village Manager Johnna Townsend, Village Attorney Loren Glennon, Police Commander Deborah Wilson, Parks & Recreation Director Keely Childress, Deputy Fire Chief Brian Chellios, Public Works Director Gary Richardson, 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 Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to approve minutes of the regular meeting held January 24, 2017

Trustee Payton noted grammatical and/or spelling errors on page 2 of 9 last paragraph changing Special to Specialist; page 5 of 9 before last paragraph changing provided to Provider; page 7 of 9 under Mayor's Report under dates of her meetings changing Easton to EastCom, next paragraph changing give to given; next paragraph changing U>P> Library to UP Library, and coloration to collaboration. Page 8 of 9 Under Reports of Trustees 1st paragraph strike the word been.

Roll Call On Minutes of January 24, 2017 As Amended

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried.

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Payton seconded motion to approve minutes of the special meeting held Monday, January 30, 2017 and a regular meeting held Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Mayor Covington referred to minutes of February 14, 2017, paragraph 3 and commented that she asked "if", not commented "that" we received reimbursement; 1st paragraph under her report change "we are eligible" to read "we may be eligible", and change AMA to AAMA.

Trustee Payton noted that Pinewood should read Pine Woods.

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

Motion To Approve As Amended Carried.

E: GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mrs. Debra Taylor addressed the Mayor and Board of Trustees and apologized to the audience for showing out at the last Board meeting. She thanked IRH for the financial information that they provided at the last meeting; she asked for clarity on the TIF Districts, and asked when a forensic audit would be done. She further stated that she does not understanding why a majority of the Board left the last meeting, thereby taking away her opportunity to make her comments at that meeting. She thanked Acting Manager Townsend, Mayor Covington, Trustee Wilson and Roudez for staying through the meeting. She also stated that she understands why Trustee Payton left the meeting

Trustee Griffin responded to Mrs. Taylor stating that he left the meeting because Mr. Dilworth disrespected the Board. Relating to the forensic audit he stated that he feels there is a need for a forensic audit to be done.

Mayor Covington responded that six years ago she requested a forensic audit but Former Village Manager Linear told her it was too expensive.

Ms. Tonnie Adams asked the status of the Hookah Shop.

Acting Village Manager Townsend responded that the Board approved an ordinance that approved the sale of authorized paraphernalia for medical purposes and tobacco products.

Mayor Covington stated that she does not want to see that type of business in our community, and that they should go before the plan commission, because they are not zoned for this type of business.

Village Clerk Jones responded that the area is zoned commercial.

Ms. Gina Williams addressed the Board and stated that respect goes both ways, and that Mr. Dilworth gave them good information about our finances but he was removed as Treasurer. She further stated that the Board allowed one individual to disrespect the Mayor and she does not appreciate this type of treatment. She apologized to Mr. Rogers of IRH for comments she made about that firm being associated with Mr. Moses Mays; she stated that she does not want information whited out on information that she requests under the freedom of information act with the exception their Social Security number. She also asked if we had a surplus of funds, and why are we paying two different attorneys. She also asked to know who was responsible to see that heat is on at number 90 Town Center Drive for a candidates' forum recently held, and why no one is available before and after the before and after school programs.

Mr. Devon Dilworth apologized for his lashing out at the last Board meeting and stated that his reason is that the Village is in \$41 million liability and the budget includes salary increases for elected official.

Trustee Griffin responded that there is no increase in the budget for them.

Trustee Payton responded that salary increases for elected officials is done by ordinance. He also stated that in all his years of Corporate America and the School Board he has never been in a meeting that was so disruptive, and he wants rules of procedures for public comments brought back before the Board, and all comments should be directed to the Mayor and Board of Trustees. He further stated that when Mrs. Morgan was disruptive, a restraining order against her was taken out by Mayor Covington and he feels if it was okay for her why not Mr. Dilworth. Relating to the TIF'S he stated that once again wrong information is being given and that we need to pass tax anticipation warrant to keep us afloat.

Mayor Covington commented that she was the victim of abuse by Mrs. Morgan that led to the restraining order. She also stated that she tried to repeal the increase ordinance, but was voted down and the attorney had it so tightly written there was nothing she could do.

Village Clerk Dee Jones responded to Mrs. Williams relating to information she received under the FOIA and stated that the Act allows for the redaction of more than the Social Security number but also personal and private information and other privileged information. However, since she was not aware of what FOIA Mrs. Williams referenced she could not further explain the complaint. Relating to salary increases for elected officials she stated that State Statute does not allow for increase or decrease in the salary of elected official during their term of office, and that in 2014 the Board approved an ordinance that increased the salary of certain elected officials, if elected in 2015 that included the Mayor/Liquor Commissioner, Clerk, and Trustees Wilson, Payton, and Oscar Brown effective with the election 2015 with a 3% annual increase during their term. After the election of 2015 the Board approved an ordinance repealing those increases beginning with the election in 2017, therefore the salary for the Trustees would remain at \$12,000 per year.

F-1: UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

F-2: NEW BUSINESS

F-2a: First, Second & Third Readings – Ordinance Authorizing Revisions And Amendments To Part 10 – Streets, Utilities, And Public Service Code, Title 6 – Other Public Utilities, Chapter 1062 – Alarm Monitoring Service

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

Trustee Payton asked how this ordinance would be enforced relating to false alarms.

Deputy Fire Chief Chellios responded that calls would be coded to determine when the alarms were due to faulty equipment and lack of maintenance by the alarm companies, and that the 90 day period can reset. This monitoring would also allow them to go after the alarm company.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustees Larry Brown, and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-04.

F-2b: First, Second, and Third Readings -- An Ordinance Of The Village Of University Park, Will And Cook Counties, Illinois Approving The Renewal Of A Lease For The Fire Alarm Monitoring System

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

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown, and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-05.

F-2c: First, Second, and Third Readings - An Ordinance Prohibiting Nuisances Within The Village Of University Park, A Home Rule Unit Of Government, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois

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

Motion To Amend:

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to amend this ordinance to first and second readings tonight.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: Trustee Roudez.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Amend Carried.

Motion To Approve First And Second Readings

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to approve first, and second readings of this ordinance

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez, and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried.

F-2d: First, Second, and Third Readings - An Ordinance Authorizing And Providing For A \$3,200,000 General Obligation Tax Anticipation Warrant For Tax Year 2016 Of The Village Of University Park, Cook And Will Counties, Illinois

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

Trustee Wilson commented that she wants to know what the \$2.5 million was used for before voting on this ordinance.

Mayor Covington stated that she is not comfortable with this, and that she thought The previous \$2.5 million Tax Anticipation Warrant would get us out of debt.

Acting Village Manager Townsend explained the letter from Attorney Cainkar that Detailed the essence of this ordinance and stated that in the past TIF Funds were used to pay bills without Board approval.

Mr. Andre Covington stated that he wants documentation to show what the previous Tax Anticipation Warrant paid.

Acting Village Manager Townsend responded that that information would be made available, and reminded the public that the Board attempted to get a loan of \$2.5 million from Old Plank Bank but was denied.

Ayes: Trustees Payton, Griffin, and Roudez
Nays: Trustee Wilson, and Mayor Covington.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-06.

F-2e: First, Second, and Third Readings - An Ordinance Approving a Revised Lease For Johnny's At #30 Town Center Drive

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Wilson seconded the motion to approve first, second, and third readings of this ordinance.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-07.

F-2f: Bills Payable

No Bills Payable Available.

F-2g(1): First, Second, and Third Readings An Ordinance Approving Lease Agreement For America Smiles At #70 Town Center Drive

Trustee Wilson moved, Trustee Roudez seconded the motion to approve first second and third readings of this ordinance.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-08

F-2g(2): First, Second, and Third Readings An Ordinance Approving Lease Agreement For America Smiles At #80 Town Center Drive

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded the motion to approve first, second, and third readings of this ordinance.

Ayes: Trustees Wilson, Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Mayor Covington.
Nays: None.
Absent: Trustees Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried

Ordinance Number O2017-09.

Trustee Wilson left the meeting at 8:28 PM and did not return

G. Mayor's Report

Mayor Covington submitted the following report:

Employee Engagement Women's History Month



Women's history was a part of a larger movement that transformed the study of history in the United States. "History" had traditionally meant political history—a chronicle of the key political events and of the leaders, primarily men, who influenced them. By the 1970s "the new social history" began replacing the older style. Emphasis shifted to a broader spectrum of American life, including such topics as the history of urban life, public health, ethnicity, the media, and poverty. The public celebration of women's history in this country began in 1978 as "Women's History Week" in Sonoma County, California. In February 2015, a Presidential [Proclamation](#) was signed recognizing March as Women's History Month.

This month, we will feature Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Please check our [Intranet](#) page for Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor's achievements.

February 16, 2017 – Attended SSRBM’s second meeting on Peace with a Purpose including Senator Totter, along with several of our Judges (Bates and Johnson), and many companies were in attendance. During the business part of the meeting, we were provided updates of the other companies that are interested in the Southland area and the announcement of Wednesday’s meeting.

February 18, 2017 – Attended and served as one of the presenters of the Annual Black Women Rock red carpet events. This is an honor for University Park to annually participate and support the Honorees.

February 22, 2017 – Attended the meeting at Bult Field to receive updates on the third Airport from Congresswoman Kelly and the Mayor of Monee. The updates were indicating that Tier1 and Tier2 will have 12,000 jobs in place, along with other interested parties. There is a website that will be sent to everyone to post. Monee’s mayor spoke on Amazon’s opening and hiring of a few thousand people and Moto freights is in development within the Village of Crete; these are digital rail cargos.

The Congresswoman asked me to support her in introducing her new Bill, “Act of Kindness “, to the Press and students at GSU. Myself and other organizations that were there from training companies. The Congressman from California was present and later a Q&A panel for GSU college students to ask questions about how the student loans are affecting their lives. Also, how safe do they feel about the current Village administration in office? All information can be found on GSU website live stream.

March 7, 2017 SSMMA Transportation/Planning Committee – Attended my regular monthly Committee meeting. I made a request/status for funding of our Village Projects for lights, standard road improvements and other highway improvements. I also questioned the status of the Cicero Phase II (because I noticed it was placed in an exemption status). This is something that we levied and I ask that they investigate why the project status changed and give an update at the next meeting. Especially, since Cook County has developed a new program that could assist in Southland projects. I will make sure to follow up at the next meeting.

The Will County freight study? The Illinois Department of Transportation gave a \$750,000 grant to Will County to develop a comprehensive freight mobility study to support the growing freight economy, while managing the effects on communities. This was published in the Chicago Tribune.

Mayor's Report – continued:

CMAP Report – The program called my block My Hood, My City which takes teens on explorations of Chicago featuring CMAP 's recent video of experiences in Bonneville of a student while in High School, prior to earning her bachelor's degree in Sociology and master's in planning and policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Ms. Raby-Henry was casted. I have some hand- outs today to offer our youth the opportunity to participate in a program with CMAP. It will give you the once in a life time experience as well.

March 8, 2017 – Webinar with Washington DC Director of Planned Parenthood and the affects they will have on our Communities if their cuts are made.

March 10, 2017 – Met with IHR to discuss their roles and get updates on Village financial reports. Met with the Government Affairs Director of Com-Ed regarding LED lighting project and the digital meters that are upcoming for next year and possibly this year. We currently have the GRIDS that are installed. If there are any areas that need replacements now they can correct them.

March 11, 2017 – Trustee Wilson and I met with America Smiles. He gave us a tour of his facility and explained his business.

REPORTS OF TRUSTEES

No reports given.

REPORTS OF APPOINTED OFFICIALS, and COMMITTEES

Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress reported on the following items: Teens Preparing for the Future was held on Saturday, March 4, 2017, she gave Special thanks to Governors State University, Prairie State College, Tinley Park Amphitheatre, Mayor Vivian Covington, Trustee Keith Griffin, and Trustee Milton Payton for their support. She noted that students received information on: resume, job application, and college readiness; she reported that on Thursday, April 6, 2017 Village of University Park Parks and Recreation Department would have its Basketball and Pom-Pom Awards Celebration at Crete-Monee Middle School from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. with a Coaches Vs Parents Game at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, May, 11, 2017 - Senior Citizens Prom 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at University Golf Club and Conference Center.

Mrs. Childress shared the results of Grant Opportunities notification she received which is as follows: Thank you for applying for an Out-of-School Time Programs grant from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) in partnership with the Wal-Mart Foundation. I am pleased to inform you that your agency has been selected to receive grant funding in the amount of \$35,000 to support your agency's out-of-school time programs. Congratulations – we look forward to working with you to ensure as many children as possible receive nutritious meals and healthy enrichment activity during out-of-school times. She also informed the public that she had submitted a grant application for KaBoom to rebuild Palmer Park, and awaiting the results. She also thanked Mrs. Mary Truss for her assistance with use of her 301.c.

She also reported that in conjunction with the University Park Golf Club, Junior Golf would be held this year beginning Tuesday, June 13-Thursday, June 22, 2017 Deadline: June 6, 2017

Tuesday, June 27-Thursday, July 16, 2017 deadline: June 20, 2017, Tuesday, July 11-Thursday, July 20, 2017 Deadline: June 27, 2017

Tuesday, July 25-Thursday, August 3, 2017
Deadline: July 18, 2017

Tuesday, August 8-Thursday, August 17, 2017
Deadline: August 1, 2017

Ages: 9 to 15 years old.
Time: 9:00am to 1:00pm
Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays.

Public Works Director Gary Richardson reported that he would be testing the light for The new traffic signals at Governors State University at 6:00 p.m. on Friday.

Report of Village Manager:

Acting Village Manager Townsend relinquished her time to the Golf Club General Manager Bob Geffert. Who reported that the golf course is in excellent condition and that they spent \$150,000 to get things back in shape. He also reported that the budget is ahead of the anticipated loss; that they have a wonderful event planner, and there have been no problems at the Friday night Steppers Sets, with a profit of \$7,300 dollars, and that there were 130 people at last Sunday's brunch. He thanked Parks and Recreation Director Keely Childress for her help with the Junior golf program this year.

H. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

None noted.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Roudez moved, Trustee Griffin seconded a motion to move into executive session for purposes of litigation and 8:44 PM.

Ayes: Trustees Payton, Griffin, Roudez and Mayor Covington.

Nays: None.

Absent: Trustees Wilson, Larry Brown and Oscar Brown.

Motion To Approve Carried.

The Board returned from executive session at 9:46 PM with nothing to report out.

J. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Griffin moved, Trustee Payton seconded a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustee at 9:47 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn Carried by Unanimous Voice Vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorothy R. Jones

**Dorothy R. Jones, MMC
Village Clerk**