

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS SPECIAL**
2 **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on January 9, 2017**

4
5 The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 9th, 2017, at the
6 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Debra Meyers-
7 Martin at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrator
8 Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll.

9
10 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Robinson, Pennington, Hudson and Byrd
11 Village President Debra Meyers-Martin
12 Village Administrator/Village Clerk, David Mekarski

13
14 Absent: None.

15
16 **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR TRUSTEE WAITE:**

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you probably all have heard by now that Trustee
19 Waite passed away last week. It was a shock to all of us and certainly unexpected. She stated that
20 while Trustee Waite certainly was passionate about a lot of things that went on in the Village, we
21 certainly will miss his input. He was quite intuitive. He was very financially adept at a lot of
22 projects that we were involved in. He was a Liaison to Public Works. He was very committed
23 and passionate about Public Works. He assisted us in our endeavors to find solutions for our
24 water supply issues having been involved in that. He certainly was involved with the whole
25 replacement of LED lighting in the Village. We will miss him. Village President Meyers-Martin
26 asked for a moment of silence for the loss of Trustee Waite. There will be a Memorial Service
27 for Trustee Waite on February 4th at Prairie State College at 1 o'clock P.M. for anyone that
28 would like to attend.

29
30 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that from now until the Election which is about four-
31 months, she will be bringing a Nomination to the Board for the Appointment of a replacement
32 for Bob Waite's unexpired term. That person would only serve until May 1st. She is sending out
33 a letter now. There are candidates that are running for Trustee. She will be speaking to those
34 candidates that she has not previously interviewed for the replacement of that seat. All of the
35 Trustee candidates will receive a letter. The candidates that she has not interviewed previously,
36 we will be setting up an appointment to do that.

37
38 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

39
40 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you have Bills for Approval tonight in the amount of
41 \$123,564.01. You have a cover Memo designating the more significant payouts.

42 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Pennington to approve the payment of Bills**
43 **for January 9th, 2017, in the total amount of \$123,564.01.**

44 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**

45
46

1 **Consideration of a Motion to Cancel the Joint Review Board Meeting for TIF #3 and TIF**
2 **#4 Scheduled for January 13, 2017 and Cancellation of the Public Hearing for TIF #3 and**
3 **TIF #4 Scheduled for February 23, 2017.** Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Item 3
4 on the Agenda is Consideration for a Motion to Cancel the Joint Review Board Meeting for TIF
5 #3 and TIF #4. On Friday, Village President Meyers-Martin met in John Murphey's Office with
6 Joe Salamone who is the Developer who has the option on the Olympia Corners Plaza at Route
7 30 and Western, formerly known as "The Jewel Plaza." He has had that option since mid to late
8 summer. During that period of time he and his broker Todd Cabanban, have been reaching out to
9 tenants in order to develop Olympia Corners. As a result of his efforts, we wanted to put in place
10 any kind of incentive that could assist him in attracting Class "A" Retail to that corner, not
11 Payday Loan Stores, not Check Cashing Stores, not Nail Shops, not Burlington Coat Factory, but
12 Class "A" Retail. She made a commitment to him that the Village would assist him in his tenant
13 outreach. She has offered to go with him when he is speaking to tenants to say that the Village
14 was onboard with any Economic Development efforts that he was proposing. As you know in
15 this market, in this particular region, Economic Development, business attraction, business
16 retention, is quite challenging. Macy's is closing a store in Bloomingdale of all places and other
17 stores because online shopping is having a great affect on not only department stores, but a lot of
18 small specialty shops.

19
20 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that in meeting with Joe Salamone he made it clear to
21 her that at this point he has no one that he wants to present to the Village in terms of Economic
22 Development. In an effort to create attractiveness for that corner we extended the TIF from the
23 northwestern corner to the Jewel Plaza which is the southwest corner, namely TIF #4. TIFs run a
24 certain period of time. In talking with Mr. Salamone we determined that it didn't make sense to
25 extend that TIF and start that clock running for those 23-years when he has no one to present.
26 She stated that School Districts are affected as well. We are quite mindful of our School Districts
27 and their interests in what we do related to TIFs. Village President Meyers-Martin and Mr.
28 Salamone determined that it did not make sense for this Board at this time to reset that TIF. She
29 is asking tonight for approval to cancel the Joint Review Board Meeting for TIF #3 and TIF #4
30 that was scheduled for January 13th, 2017, and the cancellation of the Public Hearing for TIF #3
31 and TIF #4 scheduled for February 23rd, 2017. We will proceed cautiously regarding any
32 extensions of those TIFs based on what tenants are available, interested, and ready to sit down at
33 the table with the Village.

34 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Gibson to Cancel the Joint Review Board**
35 **Meeting for TIF #3 and TIF #4 Scheduled for January 13th, 2017, and the Cancellation of**
36 **the Public Hearing for TIF #3 and TIF #4 Scheduled for February 23rd, 2017.**

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there will be a Notice to go out once that has been
39 voted on and approved.

40
41 Trustee Pennington inquired whether or not we have a Plan B in affect given what Joe Salamone
42 has advised you that he has no one coming in. Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes.
43 Trustee Pennington inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin whether or not she can disclose
44 what Plan B is. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that over this period of time that Joe
45 Salamone has been in control of that property, he has begun outreach. She believes that she
46 talked a couple of times about some of the tenants that he has reached out to. She stated Home
47 Goods which is still interested. Lowe's has now kind of taken a step back once again from

1 expanding their commercial presence in the south suburbs, Menards. His plan was to have an
 2 anchor that would attract other businesses. He is going to review those tenants that he once
 3 reached out to along with additional restaurants. He is talking about Pompanos. He is talking
 4 about some other chain restaurants. He is not ceasing all outreach. He just doesn't have anyone
 5 onboard. He will be attending the ICSC. We will be meeting with him and his broker in the next
 6 30 to 45-days. He is coming to a Board Meeting to do a PowerPoint Presentation on some of the
 7 companies that he wants to reach out to.
 8

9 Trustee Pennington inquired whether or not that would be the next Board Meeting. Village
 10 President Meyers-Martin stated that it won't be the next Board Meeting because he is out of
 11 town. She stated it may be the first meeting in February. Trustee Pennington inquired how long
 12 his option is on this property. He inquired whether or not his option is sun setting any time soon.
 13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she believes that it sunsets in a year. Trustee
 14 Pennington stated so he had a two-year option. Administrator Mekarski stated that he had a year
 15 and a half with an option to extend it another six-months. It is up to two-years. It is a year and a
 16 half without a formal request. Trustee Pennington inquired whether or not there has been any
 17 discussion with the previous owner, the estate, or are they out of the picture now and it is all in
 18 the Land Bank and Joe Salamone. Administrator Mekarski stated that Mr. Whichard's son
 19 contacts Mr. Salamone and the Village regularly and offers their assistance. He has a mutual
 20 interest.

21 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**

22
 23 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

24
 25 Village President Meyers-Martin opened Communications & Petitions at 7:13 P.M.
 26

27 **Proposed Drug Rehab Facility** - Dr. Delores Woods stated that she had a question for the
 28 Trustees. She would like to know what the disposition is for a proposed Drug Rehab Facility
 29 across from Rich Central. She inquired where the Board is with their contemplations or
 30 considerations for that.
 31

32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there was a Joint Session between the Planning and
 33 Zoning Commission, the Developer of the Rehab Center, and Franciscan Health Hospital, and
 34 the Board of Trustees. There was discussion about the center. The hospital was fairly enthusiastic
 35 about it. She doesn't believe that Planning and Zoning was enthusiastic. She is not sure about the
 36 Board. We didn't have any further discussion. The Developer has not had any further discussion.
 37 They have not approached the Village regarding any proceeding activities. At this point it is in
 38 limbo.
 39

40 Dr. Woods stated that she is wondering why it is even considered. Have you no concern for the
 41 fact that it will be located across the street from a high school?
 42

43 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that yes that was a concern. That is why they had the
 44 Joint Meeting of all of the principals that would be deciding that who would have some input on
 45 whether or not that was something that would be of value to the Village. It came up the fact that
 46 it is across from the high school. That was of concern. She believes that is why there was less
 47 than ecstatic enthusiasm about it. It's not something that as a Municipality, if in fact someone

1 approaches that you can immediately deny them without their ability to make a presentation. A
2 presentation does not mean activity. It does not mean that it is going to occur. It doesn't mean
3 that we are going to approve it. It is merely a discussion. She stated when you don't have
4 discussion then that is when you get into trouble legally, because constitutionally people have the
5 ability to make that approach. It doesn't mean we have to accept it. They have that constitutional
6 right in a capitalistic society.

7
8 Dr. Woods stated personal opinion, if you consider this Rehab Facility coming into our
9 community; it is her opinion that you will have done irreparable damage to our community.

10
11 Trustee Pennington stated that is a valid point. However, remember no one has come back to us
12 for any further discussions. As far as that is concerned, that is a moot point right now. That's not
13 to say they will not come back in the future in order to raise the issue. Trustee Pennington stated
14 that he can state from the perspective of the Planning Commission, we were not in favor of it.
15 They would have to come to us first in order to advance it to the Board of Trustees for final
16 approval.

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there is a process that has to be in place. If, in fact,
19 you eliminate the process, you cause more harm than good because then you are faced with
20 sometimes legal action. As Trustee Pennington said, there was a lack of enthusiasm on the part
21 of the Planning and Zoning Commission which is where that Developer would have to begin in
22 order to start any kind of process. She doesn't believe that the Trustees were excited about it as
23 well. The point was to have that discussion. Village President Meyers-Martin closed
24 Communications & Petitions at 7:20 P.M.

25
26 **Ordinance #2017-01 – An Ordinance Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authorizing**
27 **its Sale and Disposition (2011 Ford Crown Victoria Sedan) [First and Second Reading] –**

28 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that brings us to Ordinance #2017-01- An Ordinance
29 Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and Disposition.

30
31 Chief Krull stated that you have a work product dated January 9th, 2017 in your Board Packet. It
32 fully summarizes why we are asking this squad to be disposed of. The squad was involved in a
33 very serious single vehicle crash when there was an ice and snow storm the first week of
34 December 2016.

35
36 The cost to repair the vehicle is estimated at \$14,000.00 which exceeds the value of that
37 particular vehicle. That squad has 97,000 miles on it.

38
39 Thankfully, the officer involved was not hurt. It was a single vehicle crash. The officer was on
40 Crawford trying to assist with another accident scene. The squad started to slide off in a ditch. It
41 is a rear wheel drive older Ford Crown Victoria. He tried to overcorrect. The wheels caught. He
42 went across the two lanes of roadway and struck the guardrail in a spin. The officer has been
43 disciplined accordingly. He did have a very good driving record prior to this.

44
45 Chief Krull stated that the vehicle in question should have been replaced in probably May of
46 2017 as part of the two-year squad rotation schedule. The vehicle was on its way out anyway.
47 Thankfully, it was not one of our brand new squads that was involved in the accident. We have

1 been working closely with IRMA. He stated that IRMA has checked the vehicle over. They said
2 they will not fix it. It is scrap. All of the useable equipment in the vehicle has been removed, the
3 radios, lighting, and all of the rest of it. All we have now is the carcass and we just need to
4 dispose of it.

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin asked Chief Krull to elaborate a little bit on the two-year
7 replacement strategy that the Police Department has.

8
9 Chief Krull stated that we have been very fortunate. You have a fleet of vehicles that you want
10 on the street. We are trying to keep the town safe. Rather than try to take every squad in the fleet
11 and go hat in hand to you and ask for every squad to be replaced after eight or 10-years is not
12 cost efficient. He stated that with the fleet they have currently, it works out to about two vehicles
13 per year, per Budget Cycle to be replaced.

14
15 Village President Meyers-Martin thought that the benchmark was 80,000 miles. Chief Krull
16 stated that there are quite a few factors that will go into that. It is usually based on the year of the
17 vehicle, the average amount of miles, and the repair history. Some vehicles are way better than
18 others just like any other car. A lot of it has to do with the idling time on the cars. Typically, with
19 a fire or police vehicle you take the odometer reading and times that by three. That squad has
20 been running for quite a bit of time. It takes a lot of wear and tear on the transmission and the
21 motor.

22
23 Trustee Byrd inquired of Chief Krull whether or not we will be replacing this soon. Chief Krull
24 stated that was his plan. As things worked out, this vehicle was one of the two vehicles that were
25 scheduled to be looked at in this next cycle of the Budget.

26 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Pennington to Waive on First Reading and**
27 **Adopt on Second Reading Ordinance #2017-01 – An Ordinance Declaring Certain**
28 **Property Surplus and Authorizing its Sale and Disposition.**

29 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

30
31 **Resolution #2017-01 – A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Northern Illinois**
32 **Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC) and Authorizing the Village Administrator to**
33 **Approve A Contract with the Lowest Cost Electricity Provider for a Period up to 36**
34 **Months, to Energize the Village Water/Sewer Pumping Station** – Village President Meyers-
35 Martin stated that the next item is Resolution #2017-01, A Resolution Authorizing the
36 Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative and Authorizing the
37 Village Administrator to Approve a Contract with the Lowest Cost Electricity Provider. We have
38 participated in electrical aggregation over the years. Initially, we were saving residents quite a bit
39 of money. The next time that we participated the rate between ComEd and the electrical
40 aggregation were pennies in terms of difference.

41
42 Administrator Mekarski stated that in this electrical aggregation we run two contracts. We have a
43 Municipal/Residential electrical aggregation bidding process. We have a separate one for our
44 public utilities. The electricity that runs our pumping facilities, both our water pumping facilities
45 bringing water from Oak Lawn and distributing it to the towers and then throughout the Village,
46 and our Sanitary Sewer Lift Stations, that one is about to expire. We issue that for 36-months.
47 The next few months between now and the end of March, we are going to be going back out on

1 bid for the lowest price energy for those pumping facilities. He stated that NIMEC who we work
2 with is a consortium of Municipalities, Park Districts, Water Districts, and Libraries. They
3 represent over 170-members. He stated that 123 of those members are Municipalities. We work
4 together to get the lowest price of electrical energy utilizing the economies of scale of the
5 membership that we have.

6
7 Administrator Mekarski stated that this is the standard process that we go through all the time.
8 David Hoover who is our representative from NIMEC will let us know the peak time of the
9 market between now and sometime in March to go and open up bids. We receive bids early in
10 the morning. The bids have to be accepted at the close of business. The Resolution prepared by
11 NIMEC authorizes the Village Administrator to act on the Village's behalf to accept a bid. We
12 don't do that in isolation. Customarily, we always have an Ad Hoc Committee established. That
13 Committee consists of the Finance Committee Chair, and Trustee Waite, and our Public Works
14 Director, and Administrator Mekarski. He stated that with the unforeseen death of Trustee Waite
15 there is a Motion to recommend Trustee Willis Pennington who previously sat on the Electrical
16 Aggregation Committee to work with us when the bids are received. After the review by the
17 Special Trustee Committee, they would give direction to Administrator Mekarski's Office and
18 we would sign the requisite contracts and send them in. At the next Board Meeting we would
19 take the action and have that ratified by the entire Board.

20 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Robinson to Appoint Trustee Willis**
21 **Pennington to the Electrical Aggregation Ad Hoc Committee Replacing the Vacancy**
22 **Created by Trustee Robert Waite.**

23 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

24
25 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to Approve Resolution #2017-01-**
26 **A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric**
27 **Collaborative (NIMEC) and Authorizing the Village Administrator to Approve a Contract**
28 **with the Lowest Cost Electricity Provider for a Period up to 36 Months, to Energize the**
29 **Village Water/Sewer Pumping Station.**

30
31 Trustee Hudson inquired whether or not it is mandatory that we have 36-months. Village
32 President Meyers-Martin stated that it is up to 36-months. Administrator Mekarski stated that it
33 all depends on how the bids are received from David Hoover. Some bidders will only give an
34 option for 36 or nothing. In other cases we have had situations where we could take less than 36-
35 months, like 24. Trustee Hudson was thinking that there may be a better situation than what you
36 would do here. Three-years is quite a while. Administrator Mekarski stated that typically when
37 there is an option for less than three-years the rate is higher for the shorter period. There would
38 be one rate if they are giving a 12-month allowance, and another rate for a 24-month allowance,
39 and the cheapest rate for 36.

40 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**

41
42 **Resolution #2017-02 – An Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Study**
43 **of Regional Water Supply – Alternative –** Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the next
44 item is Resolution #2017-02. It is an Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement for the
45 Study of the Regional Water Supply Alternative. Olympia Fields has been working with 10 other
46 communities in order to explore the possibilities of creating our own Water Authority which
47 would allow us to take control of water rates as opposed to always being at the mercy of Oak

1 Lawn our provider from the City of Chicago. Those 10 Municipalities are quite enthusiastic
2 about this. We do need to do a Cost Benefit Analysis to find out if, in fact, our rates would be
3 stabilized. She stated if, in fact, we are going to create this Water Authority, how the pipeline
4 would logistically be settled upon. Based on the City of Hammond, the further you are away
5 from Hammond it is going to affect your water rates. There needs to be a Cost Benefit Analysis
6 for that.

7
8 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that all of the towns have signed on. Now there are some
9 Amendments to the original Agreement. If you look on Page 2, under Item 2, they are adding
10 “non-refundable.” Item 3, they are taking out “No Party shall be entitled to any compensation for
11 their efforts, support or resources provided under this agreement.” She stated that under Item 5,
12 as the “Lead Agency” they are adding under the name “Southland Water Commission Study
13 Group.” On Page 3, Item 9, adding to “Withdrawal,” “shall not be entitled to any refund of
14 deposited funds...” And Item 10 under “Distribution of Remaining Funds,” the word
15 “proportionate” is replacing “equal.”

16
17 Administrator Mekarski stated that on Page 2, Item 3, the sentence that you read is staying in the
18 paragraph. It was previously approved in our first series of Amendments. We have already had
19 the first approval by the Board of Trustees on this. Then we had a first series of Amendments.
20 That was just reflecting a previous approval of the Board.

21
22 Trustee Pennington stated that the “non-refundable” under Paragraph 2, “Contracting Parties,”
23 refers to the \$10,000.00 financial contribution made by each one of the 11 Municipalities. That
24 \$10,000.00 is a non-refundable advance fee in order to initiate this Cost Benefit Analysis.

25
26 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she was just referring to that because it was an
27 addition to that paragraph. Those towns are: The Village of Calumet Park, the Village of Hazel
28 Crest, City of Country Club Hills, Village of Homewood, Village of East Hazel Crest, City of
29 Markham, Village of Flossmoor, Village of Matteson, Village of South Holland, and the Village
30 of Thornton. She stated that to her knowledge all of them agreed to these changes to the original
31 proposed Agreement.

32 **Motion by Trustee Hudson, second by Trustee Pennington to Approve Resolution**
33 **#2017-02 – A Resolution Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement, as Amended, for**
34 **the Study of Regional Water Supply Alternatives.**

35
36 Trustee Robinson inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin what the overall timeline is for
37 this Cost Benefit Analysis. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she doesn’t believe that
38 they gave specific parameters. Once all of the towns are in place, the Engineering Firm will be
39 providing them with an update. She doesn’t have a scheduled next meeting for the towns. They
40 have been meeting here. She believes the original timeline was the next six-months. She stated
41 for 10 towns to be logistically put on that mapping, they have to figure out a lot of pipelines to
42 where they are going.

43
44 Trustee Pennington inquired whether or not we received any additional cost figures other than
45 the initial \$10,000.00 contribution. Administrator Mekarski stated that there have been some
46 preliminary estimates of what the entire system would cost. It’s anticipated that the big savings
47 would be maintaining probably an escalation rate on an annual basis of 3% versus what we have

1 currently been averaging between Chicago and Oak Lawn of 6%. It won't dramatically reduce
2 water rates. There's no alternative that's going to drastically reduce water rates. It's going to
3 allow us to manage the increase to water rates and take us from under the auspices of the City of
4 Chicago who has clearly made a public statement to put the cost of upgrading the Chicago
5 System on the suburban communities. It gives an opportunity for the 11 Villages to be
6 entrepreneurial. If we can extend to other communities above and beyond the 20 million gallons
7 that they are trying to target, like Oak Lawn, we could actually reduce our costs and not just have
8 the savings of managing the escalation but actually reduce the cost of entrepreneurial sales to the
9 non-chartered members. That's the significance of being a charter member.

10

11 Trustee Pennington stated that he was thinking more in terms of the overall cost of the analysis.
12 We are advancing \$10,000.00 per Municipality. What is the overall cost? Do we have a
13 projection of the overall cost that it is going to cost the Municipalities in respect to its
14 proportionate share?

15

16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this is our proportionate share. Trustee Pennington
17 stated that this is our proportionate share, yes. What is the overall cost?

18

19 Administrator Mekarski stated that is precisely what this Study is going to do. It is going to look
20 at the actual cost. Trustee Pennington inquired what is the Study going to cost us. Village
21 President Meyers-Martin stated \$110,000.00. Administrator Mekarski stated that this is not the
22 only Study to accomplish this. It is estimated to be a \$350 Million Capital Improvement Project.
23 There will be all kinds of preliminary engineering, and then detailed engineering, and then
24 bidding and construction. This is going to provide the ability for the 11 communities to negotiate
25 a fixed price with the City of Hammond, Indiana. It is going to look at each of the communities
26 water allocation and determine what Olympia Fields actual cost would be versus Flossmoor,
27 versus Homewood, and from there we can do the Cost Benefit Analysis with this option and the
28 option presented by Mayor Gonzalez from the City of Chicago Heights, and the option that is
29 being presented by Oak Lawn. This is precisely to get at the actual cost to our rate payers so we
30 can demonstrate and complete our Benefit Cost Analysis. Ultimately, nobody is committing to
31 one option or another.

32

33 Trustee Pennington stated that's partly true. However, what he is concerned about is Robinson
34 Engineering is the chief engineering company that is doing this. What is their cost for this
35 project?

36

37 Administrator Mekarski stated that is what the 11 communities are trying to determine. Trustee
38 Pennington inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not they gave him a projection as to
39 what it would cost to do this type of project. Administrator Mekarski stated that we have a
40 projection to do the capital construction. There hasn't been any kind of detailed breakout in
41 terms of the engineering, legal, administrative, operating, and the right-of-way acquisition. This
42 is to get some preliminary numbers. This is not just for engineering. This is for legal services as
43 well and the billing is negotiable.

44

45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has been involved with the Task Force from the
46 very beginning and now the Water Supply Commission. The \$10,000.00 per town is to
47 determine if, in fact, this would be of any benefit to the individual communities based on the

1 Cost Analysis. This pipeline is originating in Hammond. We are almost the furthest away.
2 Country Club Hills, Matteson is in the same boat. In order to go forward to say this would be of
3 benefit to our Village, we need that initial Cost Analysis. If it comes back and says that the cost
4 is going to be prohibitive just because of the distance that is something that we know we would
5 not move forward with. She believes that whether or not Olympia Fields goes forward or not, the
6 other towns are so enthusiastic about it that they probably will go ahead without us if we decide
7 not to. Once that analysis is in place, Robinson will then be providing more finite numbers about
8 the cost of the project. Right now we are just trying to determine if this is even worthwhile. It
9 certainly has the ability to flatten out these rate increases so that we are not at the mercy of
10 Chicago which has increased rates anywhere from 5% to 14% and 15% at certain times. We have
11 no control over that. If we are our own authority then we are not at that mercy. If it is not a
12 valuable project to go forward with, we will know that after this Cost Analysis. And also using
13 that to compare what the City of Chicago Heights has offered us as well. We are now comparing
14 their offer to Oak Lawn's offer, to this offer. We have no detailed information to determine if
15 this is going to be better than the other two.

16
17 Trustee Pennington inquired whether or not at one time we considered negotiating directly with
18 Hammond. He stated the discussion of the 11 communities dealing with Hammond vis-a-vis
19 Chicago Heights.

20
21 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Olympia Fields, Homewood, and South Holland met
22 directly with the Mayor of Hammond. We wanted to know if he was still onboard with this
23 whole process, and if the parameters that were originally part of the original Joint Access to
24 water supply, if that was still a doable deal. He guaranteed, his attorney, and his Public Works
25 Department that it was doable if Olympia Fields was at the table, and if Homewood and South
26 Holland were at the table. If not, they were not going forward. We met with him directly and it
27 was a good meeting. Flossmoor was sort of a quasi-member too because Flossmoor will always
28 do what Homewood does.

29
30 Administrator Mekarski stated that the three communities always represented the 11. Olympia
31 Fields was at the table because this was the Mayor's Legacy Project as President of the South
32 Suburban Mayors and Managers Association. She initiated this regional concept. She got the 11
33 communities together and has been the driving force.

34 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**

35
36 **Resolution #2017-03 – A Resolution Authorizing the Extension of the Village's Agreement**
37 **with the City of Chicago Heights for Fire and Paramedic Service** – Village President
38 Meyers-Martin stated that the last item is Resolution #2017-03. It is a Resolution Authorizing the
39 Extension of the Village's Agreement with the City of Chicago Heights for Fire and Paramedic
40 Service. As you can see from the Memo, our contract with the City of Chicago Heights
41 previously the cost was \$270,608.00. Our new contract with a slight rate increase would be
42 \$276,000.00 for the first 12-months with the 2% escalator which has always been a function of
43 that contract. We have always said that because we don't have our own fire department that this
44 was a cost savings to the Village in terms of fire service. She stated that for the \$276,000.00
45 potentially in the new contract you get EMS Service, Fire Service, and Fire Inspections. In terms
46 of our relationship with the City of Chicago Heights, we increase personnel by using the City of
47 Chicago Heights. We increase the number of fire stations. As an added support system to the

1 City of Chicago Heights, any fire calls that are west of the viaduct at Kedzie and Vollmer Road,
2 we have an agreement with Flossmoor's Fire Station as well. They answer calls for the west side
3 of town. She believes that this is a very good contract.

4
5 Trustee Gibson stated that compared to what we were going to have to pay for the Matteson Fire
6 Department, this is at least 75% less than what they were going to charge.

7
8 Village President Meyers-Martin stated absolutely. The new Fire Chief was here at our last
9 meeting. He is anxious, enthusiastic, and willing to come out and meet with residents just as the
10 former Fire Chief, Jamie Angell, had done. If there are any homeowners groups that want the
11 Fire Chief to come out and speak to your group she would recommend that you let us know and
12 we will get the Fire Chief there.

13
14 Trustee Byrd inquired whether or not there were any comments on services from any of the
15 residents about Chicago Heights Fire Department compared to what was happening with
16 Matteson.

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she knows that the firemen love the Olympia Fields
19 residents. She stated that in terms of service she hasn't heard.

20
21 Trustee Byrd stated that we saved \$750,000.00. There is a lot of difference right there money
22 wise. He was wondering how the service was.

23
24 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is a great regional approach, which is where all
25 these kinds of services are moving in terms of in the future where there are collaborative
26 agreements between Municipalities as opposed to each town having their own Fire Department.
27 That is quite costly. She knows of many Villages that are doing exactly what we have done
28 which is contracting with other Villages to provide fire service. It is a great deal.

29
30 Administrator Mekarski stated that one additional benefit that is unique to Chicago Heights, we
31 get almost the value of two Fire Departments for one because the Village of Flossmoor has a
32 Formal Agreement to respond on its fire calls. He stated where the one portion of our Village is
33 further away from Chicago Heights, which would be the west side of the Village that is
34 traditionally picked up even before Chicago Heights gets there by the Village of Flossmoor.
35 Trustee Byrd stated that most of Brookdale would be picked up by the Village of Flossmoor.
36 Administrator Mekarski stated that they both respond. That insures we have a good response
37 time for both east and west of the railroad. That is not just on a Mutual Box Alarm Agreement.
38 This is a binding agreement between the two companies.

39
40 Trustee Hudson stated that the people at Brookdale love Chicago Heights. Village President
41 Meyers-Martin stated that they go there a lot.

42 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Robinson to Approve Resolution #2017-03 -**
43 **A Resolution Authorizing the Extension of the Village's Agreement with the City of**
44 **Chicago Heights for Fire and Paramedic Service.**

45 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**

46
47

1 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

2

3 **Resignation of Randy Conn from the Economic Development Committee** – Village President
4 Meyers-Martin stated that she has before you tonight a Resignation from Randy Conn from the
5 Economic Development Committee. She appreciates and thanks Mr. Conn for his four-years of
6 service on the Economic Development Committee. Randy is the owner and operator of the
7 Rock and Roll McDonald's at Route 30 and Western Avenue. He was a tremendous asset to the
8 Committee. He always provided the breakfast when we had our Business Connections
9 Networking Events. She thanked Mr. Conn for his service.

10 **Motion by Trustee Robinson, second by Trustee Gibson to Accept the Resignation of**
11 **Randy Conn from the Economic Development Committee, and Further Authorize the**
12 **Village Administrator to Send a Letter of Appreciation on Behalf of the Village President**
13 **and the Board of Trustees for Service to our Village.**

14 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

15

16 **ADJOURNMENT:**

17

18 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Hudson to adjourn this Special Meeting**
19 **of the Board of Trustees at 7:55 P.M.**

20 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

21

22 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

23

24