

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that more than likely it is by the population of the group, but there
2 is probably a differential between the police which would expose the Village to potentially more
3 liability than say “Administration.”

4
5 Village President Meyers-Martin suggested checking with Cindy for the specific breakdown.
6 Administrator Mekarski stated to Trustee Oliver that that was a good question.

7 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Gibson to approve the payment of Bills for**
8 **January 12th, 2015, in the total amount of \$388,830.79.**

9 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

10
11 **Resolution #2015-01 – A Resolution Formally Censuring Trustee Robert Waite** – Village
12 President Meyers-Martin stated that the next item on the Agenda is Item 4, Resolution
13 #2015-01 – A Resolution Formally Censuring Trustee Robert Waite. She stated that this gives
14 her no pleasure to have this on our Agenda tonight. A communication came to her attention over
15 the past week. After much counsel, much deliberation, she deemed that the appropriate action in
16 order to disavow the Village from any connection, or condoning of this communication, was to
17 introduce a Resolution of Censure. She stated that she will read the Resolution. If the Board
18 wishes to move forward with the Resolution there needs to be a Motion to approve the
19 Resolution and a Second. There will be discussion. Trustee Waite will have the opportunity to
20 speak as well as any other Trustees before a vote is taken.

21
22 Village President Meyers-Martin read the Resolution as follows: **“Resolution No. 2015-01- A**
23 **Resolution Formally Censuring Trustee Robert Waite.**

24
25 **WHEREAS**, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Olympia Fields have
26 consistently endeavored to conduct themselves in a professional manner which reflects the
27 values of the community of Olympia Fields, and

28
29 **WHEREAS**, the President and Board of Trustees have governed in a manner committed
30 to the values of multicultural, racial, ethnic and religious diversity and strong support for equity,
31 inclusiveness and opportunity among other Human and Community relations values; and

32
33 **WHEREAS**, a hallmark of the Board’s philosophy has been maintaining respect for the
34 Village Board itself as leaders of the community; and

35
36 **WHEREAS**, over the past several months, the Board has become concerned that Trustee
37 Robert Waite has engaged in conduct and activities which are unprofessional and which do not
38 reflect the values of our community; and

39
40 **WHEREAS**, on January 4, 2015, Trustee Waite disseminated a highly inflammatory
41 communication to certain members of the community; and

42
43 **WHEREAS**, the President and Board of Trustees have become aware of this racially
44 insensitive communication; and

45
46 **WHEREAS**, the President and Board of Trustees believe it is reasonable and appropriate
47 for the Board to formally condemn these activities of Trustee Waite by way of a formal censure;
48

1 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF
2 TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS as
3 follows:
4

5 **Section 1: Censure.** The President and Board of Trustees hereby publicly censure
6 Trustee Robert Waite for his unprofessional and irresponsible communication which is
7 completely contrary to the values of the President or Board of Trustees of the Village of Olympia
8 Fields and the values of the Olympia Fields community at large.
9

10 **Section 2: Disavowal.** The President and Board of Trustees firmly disavow the
11 conduct and statements of Trustee Waite as described in this Resolution.
12

13 **Section 3: Public Posting.** A copy of this Resolution shall be publicly posted at the
14 public posting message board at Village Hall for a period of thirty (30) days. In addition, a copy
15 of this Resolution shall be posted on the Village’s website for a period of thirty (30) days.
16

17 **Section 4: Effective Date.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect
18 immediately upon its passage by the Village Board of Trustees.”

19 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Gibson to approve Resolution**
20 **#2015-01 – A Resolution Formally Censuring Trustee Robert Waite.**
21

22 Trustee Waite stated point of order Madam President. The communication that is attached to this
23 Resolution is not the communication that he sent. It has been changed.
24

25 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Waite which Section he was referring to.
26 Trustee Waite stated that one whole section that started at the beginning was removed. This was
27 not something that went out to all, or was widely distributed, no. Trustee Waite stated that it was
28 really dumb of him to send it to begin with. He sent part of it. There was a communication
29 between him and Lee Langon. Lee Langon sent Trustee Waite a reply which is there, and then
30 Trustee Waite replied to Lee Langon which isn’t there. This was all done within half a day or
31 something. If anyone else got a copy of this, it didn’t come from him. He doesn’t know where
32 the Village President got her copy.
33

34 Trustee Waite stated that when Mr. Langon sent something to him saying, “You know, this is
35 racism, and bullshit, and it’s whatever. I don’t know where this nonsense comes from.” Trustee
36 Waite replied, “Sorry, Lee. If you click on the link “Solving the Police Problem” below, it takes
37 you to the jerks who are distributing it. It is coming from an idiot in Mexico. And you don’t need
38 to wonder about me being racist. I’m not. Never have been. And have resonating prove it.”
39 Trustee Waite was telling Mr. Langon to go down where it says “Solving the Police Problem.”
40 That is a link to a website that somebody else put together. This had some relevance to an
41 activity engaged in by Mr. Langon which was to put together a Committee to select people for
42 election to the new School Board. It was after another meeting that he had was over. And he then
43 started talking about what they were doing with the School Board. There were still other people
44 there from the Holiday Party Committee. And it said we have a Committee of seven black men
45 who are going to try to do something about this 227 problem. Trustee Waite stated, “Wait a
46 minute, seven black men? What do you mean, seven black men?” We have worked hard to try to
47 be inclusive in our Village. Mr. Langon got some criticism from several other women on that
48 group and said also, “No women? Why no women?” He was being criticized by them. This other

1 thing that Trustee Waite had received, he didn't write any part of this. It just went on. And it was
2 just really stupid. Trustee Waite thought that he would send that to Mr. Langon to show him that
3 racist on either side is stupid, whether it is on Trustee Waite's side or Mr. Langon's side. Mr.
4 Langon is the one that brought it up and said, "Well, I've been racist. I've selected seven black
5 men to select candidates for the 227 School Board." That's when it kind of turned into a little bit
6 of a donnybrook among all of the women that were there because they didn't like it. Trustee
7 Waite didn't like it. Trustee Waite stated but then he was stupid enough to go home and find this
8 email and then forward it onto him, to give him an opportunity to respond and give you the
9 opportunity to make a mistake and select the wrong communication from which to censure him.
10 Trustee Waite would still like to know where she got that.

11
12 Trustee Oliver stated that when he brought this matter to the Village President's attention he
13 expressed his great concern. Trustee Oliver felt some comfort that this matter would be attended
14 to. And obviously tonight is an indication of your resolve. Trustee Oliver stated that he doesn't
15 believe that this censuring goes far enough.

16
17 Trustee Oliver stated that as mentioned in the Resolution, over the past several months, Trustee
18 Robert Waite has engaged in conduct and activities which are surely unprofessional, damaging,
19 and Trustee Oliver would add does not reflect the time honored sanctity of the Office of Olympia
20 Fields Village Trustee, nor the values of our community.

21
22 **Trustee Oliver stated that he hereby requests a Motion of the Resignation of Trustee**
23 **Robert Waite effective immediately.**

24
25 Trustee Waite stated that you can request that all you want, Trustee. Trustee Oliver stated that
26 there is a Motion on the floor. Trustee Waite stated that your Motion has no validity. He stated
27 that he cannot be removed. Trustee Oliver stated that there is a Motion on the floor, and if there
28 is not a second that is fine. He wants to make sure for the record there is a Motion on the floor.

29
30 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there is a Motion on the floor. Trustee Waite stated
31 that there was a Motion before this Motion. Trustee Oliver stated that there hadn't been a Motion
32 until now, not yet. This is the Motion. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there was a
33 Motion for the Resolution and we had not voted on that yet. That is why she said that there is a
34 Motion on the floor. When we finish this discussion, we will tend to your Motion. Trustee Oliver
35 stated okay.

36
37 Trustee Waite stated that there is nothing in the By-Laws of the Village that allows you to
38 expunge him from the role of Trustee. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she doesn't
39 believe that is what Trustee Oliver is attempting to do. He has put a Motion that he is asking for
40 Trustee Waite to resign. That is beyond the current Motion.

41
42 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is not clear which communication Trustee Waite
43 is indicating is not the right communication. She stated that we are not talking about the email
44 stream between Trustee Waite and Mr. Langon, and what Trustee Waite sent to Mr. Langon in
45 terms of his own written word. She stated that we are talking about the piece that Trustee Waite
46 copied from somewhere else that someone else wrote, and Trustee Waite passed it onto Mr.
47 Langon. Trustee Waite seems to indicate by his previous conversation here that he did send Mr.
48 Langon a communication "Solving the Police Problem." That is what the censure is about, not

1 what Mr. Langon said to Trustee Waite, or what Trustee Waite said to Mr. Langon back and
2 forth.
3
4 Trustee Waite stated that a million and a half Frenchmen just went out and demonstrated all over
5 Paris and France about free speech. There's nothing that anybody can do about free speech. The
6 Supreme Court last year said that every speech comes under the free speech part of the
7 Constitution, whether it's somebody coming in here and cussing out the police officers or the
8 Trustees, or using bad language, or doing whatever, those are all protected free speech.
9
10 Trustee Oliver stated point of order. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she would like
11 to answer that and then Trustee Oliver can certainly speak to that. Village President Meyers-
12 Martin stated that Trustee Waite is correct. She stated that we are not saying that Trustee Waite
13 does not have the right to send out any communication he wants. But our free speech right allows
14 us to condemn the communication that you do send. We don't have to like it. This is what the
15 censure does. We are stepping away and disavowing that this Board is in agreement with what
16 you sent.
17
18 Trustee Waite stated that it is not the total communication. The total communication indicates
19 that this was sent to Mr. Langon for a different reason and Trustee Waite acknowledges that.
20 Trustee Waite stated that his counsel says that we have an Officers and Directors Liability Policy
21 and anything we do comes under that Policy, and if you do something that damages his
22 reputation.
23
24 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Trustee Waite has damaged the reputation of this
25 Board. Trustee Waite stated no he has not. Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes, you have.
26 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she believes that Trustee Oliver had a point of order.
27
28 Trustee Oliver stated a point of order to call the Motion. Village President Meyers-Martin stated
29 that she is going to disallow that point of order. She stated that we will move back to your point.
30
31 Trustee Gibson stated that if Trustee Waite does not agree with the ridiculous statement that he
32 found somewhere to send onto Lee, she cannot see why he would have forwarded it onto
33 anybody unless Trustee Waite felt the same way. Trustee Waite stated that he didn't. Trustee
34 Gibson stated that the other thing is she believes that Trustee Waite is combining two different
35 issues, maybe more than two different issues. Now he has gone to France. It has nothing to do
36 with this that we are talking about today. She stated that Trustee Waite is combining something
37 that he had a conversation with Mr. Langon about, because Trustee Waite was concerned that he
38 did not know about this group of men that were trying to do something to improve 227, and
39 because he didn't, it seemed like it wasn't worth anything. That is the way Trustee Waite's
40 emails to people from time to time reflect. She stated that we all can read. We all take the paper.
41 So many times if there is something in the paper that Trustee Waite really agrees with, he has to
42 send it as if they can't read, we are not intelligent, and we don't know what is up. Trustee Gibson
43 stated we have talked to you. We have had meetings with you time, and time, and time again.
44 She doesn't think that Trustee Waite understands what the right procedure is to follow as a
45 Trustee of any organization. Because he said, "Well, I'll do what you say I can do." That is not
46 what they are asking him to do. They are asking him to be respectful and he hasn't been. She
47 stated that I think we need to stop combining issues because then it gets all flustered.
48

1 Trustee Hudson stated that she agrees that if you are in a position where people are looking for
2 you to be respectable to everyone that that is what you should try and strive to do. But when you
3 do things that are what you call “your right,” and it’s not respectable in the sense that people can
4 receive it in that way, then that is why something has to be done. You can’t continue that process
5 because you are hurting people when you do that. She doesn’t think that is being respectable. She
6 agrees that the censure is definitely a first step.

7
8 Trustee Byrd stated that Trustee Waite has done a few things since the time that Trustee Byrd
9 has been on the Board, and the time that he has not been on the Board Trustee Waite has said
10 things. Those things Trustee Byrd believes that Trustee Waite probably should have been
11 censured for. He does have a little problem with this letter. His problem is that censuring Trustee
12 Waite for this email based on what he said, and what is in the email he said is missing. This is a
13 personal email between Trustee Waite and Mr. Langon. Trustee Byrd stated that he has no idea
14 what the conversation was between Trustee Waite and Mr. Langon. He doesn’t believe that Mr.
15 Langon is around to speak on the email. Yes, the email is offensive. Trustee Byrd stated that he
16 has no idea what his intent was when he sent it to him. Was it to get discussion about what is in
17 this email? He doesn’t know. So his problem with this whole thing of censuring him over this
18 email bothers him, because he doesn’t know the conversation between the two, except the two
19 lines that he sees here and why it was done. Trustee Byrd stated that he would have loved to have
20 had Mr. Langon here to speak, but he is not.

21
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated if she could speak to that. She stated that she deliberated
23 over this for quite some time, and actually had counsel. She spoke with the Village Attorney,
24 John Murphey. It is John Murphey’s opinion, and she is following his recommendation that any
25 time that you send a communication in this day and age, first of all, it is no longer private. It is
26 on the Internet as they say. So therefore, it could be in anyone’s hands by the end of the day, by
27 the time you hit the send button.

28
29 Village President Meyers-Martin stated secondly, it is her understanding that Mr. Langon, just
30 from the emails that were forwarded, that he did forward Trustee Waite’s email, which is
31 “Solving the Police Problem” to others. And therefore, it is no longer private. Your expectation
32 of privacy ends when you send something via email. That is the end of your expectation of
33 privacy. This censure does not speak to Trustee Waite’s right to send that email. He certainly has
34 that right. But as a Village Board, she believes we have the right in the form of censure to
35 disavow that action, to let it be known publicly that we do not agree with that communication.
36 She stated that to do nothing would sort of be in the mode of condoning the substance of that
37 communication. That is how it was relayed and discussed in terms of her conversations with the
38 Village Attorney.

39
40 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that to Trustee Waite in terms of harm, a censure
41 basically is just a formal action upon the Board to say we do not like, do not condone, do not
42 agree with the communication that you sent. In terms of free speech that is our right. She stated
43 that certainly when Trustee Waite sent it to others he had no issue with what they were going to
44 think of him or what the end conclusion would be about his communication. That is her position.

45
46 Trustee Waite stated that the Village Attorney has his opinion, but he didn’t have the entire
47 exchange between him and Lee Langon. So he was making an opinion with a certain amount of

1 knowledge missing. Since Mr. Murphey is not a Constitutional Scholar, he may not know that
2 the Supreme Court has taken up the issue of free speech.
3
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we spoke on the Supreme Court and free speech.
5 Trustee Waite stated that the free speech issue that is being taken up by the Supreme Court this
6 year has to do with everybody has a right to assume that whatever somebody says over the
7 telephone, or over the Internet, they have the right to assume that that is protected speech. It is
8 because of things like this that the Supreme Court is taking it up.
9
10 Trustee Waite stated that his response to Mr. Langon has to do with, “Okay, Lee, you went ahead
11 and you setup this Committee.” Trustee Waite was happy that Mr. Langon setup the Committee.
12 What Trustee Waite was unhappy with, was he only accepted seven, black males and didn’t open
13 it up to white women, black women, Hispanics and all the rest of it. I say, you should be more
14 concerned with that than this thing. He didn’t write this. He would never write something like
15 that.
16
17 Trustee Gibson stated but you sent it. Trustee Waite stated that he was angry with Mr. Langon
18 because Lee didn’t think about what he was doing. Trustee Oliver stated apparently, neither did
19 you. Trustee Gibson stated that you may have been angry with Lee, but that doesn’t have
20 anything to do with this Board in general. That’s a personal thing with you and Lee that you have
21 to work out. Trustee Waite stated that if that is what it is, then it has nothing to do with the Board
22 in the second place. Trustee Gibson stated yes, it does, because you have embarrassed all of us.
23 Trustee Waite stated that you are going to embarrass me, and perhaps cause damage to my
24 reputation and whatever by posting it out there. When you censure him, and then you say you are
25 going to advertise that censure ship, you are going beyond where your authority might lie.
26
27 Trustee Gibson stated that Trustee Waite has been advertising it. Ever since he has been on this
28 Board he has been advertising crap. Trustee Waite stated that he has not been advertising
29 anything. Trustee Waite inquired what. Trustee Gibson stated don’t ask her what. We have
30 talked to him so many times. Trustee Waite inquired this email. Trustee Gibson stated that she is
31 not talking about that. She is talking about his attitude and his disposition in general. Trustee
32 Waite inquired if she meant about the emails about the LED Lights that he was trying to get
33 through. Trustee Gibson stated that she is not talking about that. Trustee Waite stated that most
34 of you didn’t know what an LED Light was. Trustee Gibson stated that she is talking about all of
35 the different things that we have talked to him about, and had meetings with him about to have
36 him understand that it’s not just the proper way for a Trustee to behave with a group of people.
37 Trustee Oliver stated that he thinks this is going downhill.
38
39 Trustee Waite stated right in the beginning that he made a mistake. He apologizes for the
40 mistake. He wish he hadn’t of done it, but it is too late now. What he had in mind in doing it he
41 believes, was fair and honest in terms of if we are going to have a Selection Committee for 227
42 School Board it ought to be made up of a group of people that reflect the community.
43
44 Trustee Hudson stated can we put that on something else? We are not discussing that today.
45 Trustee Waite stated no, no. Who gave you the floor? Trustee Hudson stated that she took it.
46 Trustee Waite stated you took it. He stated that he is not going to take it.
47

1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will take a roll call vote on the Resolution. Then
2 we will address Trustee Oliver's Motion, because it has not been moved or seconded as of yet.
3 Trustee Waite stated point of order. Trustee Oliver's Motion is not a legal Motion. He can make
4 it. It doesn't follow the Rules of Order, or the Rules of Government or anything else.

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it certainly cannot force you to resign. Trustee Waite
7 stated no. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that he is just asking for that Motion. Trustee
8 Waite stated that he just wants to embarrass me, and that's fine, but it leaves a lot of people open
9 to a liability in doing that. Trustee Waite stated that he is not sure you want to accept that.

10 **Roll Call: Ayes (5) No (1) Trustee Waite voted No. Motion Carried.**

11
12 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Gibson that the Resolution Formally**
13 **Censuring Trustee Robert Waite be amended, and request the Resignation of Trustee**
14 **Robert Waite effective immediately.**

15
16 Trustee Byrd stated that he doesn't think that the Motion is legal. It doesn't make sense. If he
17 doesn't resign, it is in the Motion. It doesn't make sense.

18
19 Trustee Oliver stated that it will still be on Mr. Waite to make a decision. But the Board has to
20 say something strong, not only to Bob Waite, but anyone who wishes to aspire to become a
21 Village Trustee. There are certain behaviors that just are expected of us. And there are a number
22 of areas that this Board has met privately and otherwise about these types of behaviors and other
23 activities. Trustee Oliver stated that he warned folks that this is not the end, that there is more to
24 come. And this is just one of those items since we last had a meeting. When you talk about
25 liabilities, if we don't take a strong action tonight, we are begging problems to continue to
26 happen. In his opinion, this is just not quite strong enough. Trustee Oliver stated that if it does
27 nothing else tonight, we are letting Mr. Waite and anyone else who wishes to become a Board
28 Member to know the expectations of the Board.

29
30 Trustee Waite stated that is where a problem lies. Trustee Byrd stated that he has the floor. He
31 doesn't think the Motion is in order by Roberts Rules of Order. We just passed a Motion. You
32 cannot amend a Motion that you just passed.

33
34 Trustee Oliver stated that we could if those who sponsored the Motion would be willing. Isn't
35 that right? Trustee Byrd stated that he is just going by Roberts Rules of Order. Trustee Oliver
36 inquired whether or not that is right by Roberts Rules of Order. Trustee Byrd stated that you
37 should have done that before the Motion was voted on. That should have been done before the
38 Motion was voted on, not after the Motion was voted on if you are going to amend the Motion.

39
40 Administrator Mekarski stated that he believes that by Roberts Rules of Order, if the person who
41 made the Motion and who seconds the Motion agrees to the amendment the Motion can be
42 amended.

43
44 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of the Recording Secretary who made the Motion and
45 who made the second of the Resolution. The Recording Secretary, Faith, stated that it was
46 Trustee Nale and Trustee Gibson.

47

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that Trustee Nale and Trustee Gibson would have to agree to the
2 amendment. Trustee Oliver stated that he does. Trustee Gibson stated that she second that
3 amendment so she does. She made the second on the first one and she second Trustee Oliver's
4 Motion.

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have not heard from Trustee Nale in terms of her
7 agreement to amend that Resolution. Trustee Gibson stated that Trustee Nale is the maker of it.
8 She moved it.

9
10 Trustee Nale stated that as the Motion is stated, we can ask for his Resignation? Administrator
11 Mekarski stated that it is simply asking for his Resignation. There is no legal authority to that
12 request. There's no legal process in the State of Illinois to remove an Elected Official. There is
13 no Recall Petition. The only one that can remove an Elected Official is the State Attorney
14 General and after the conviction of a felony.

15
16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is just a statement in essence in terms of the
17 Motion. It has no enforcement policy. Administrator Mekarski stated that is correct. It is
18 basically asking for a Voluntary Resignation. Trustee Gibson stated and it is in the records.

19
20 Trustee Nale inquired whether or not it is asking for a Voluntary Resignation. Administrator
21 Mekarski stated that essentially that is what it is. It is not formally worded that way, but
22 essentially that is what it is. Trustee Nale stated that she has to say something first.

23
24 Trustee Nale stated that Trustee Waite is a very intelligent person. She feels that he has abilities
25 that can be brought to this Board. However, the way he uses those abilities is what is so
26 repugnant. She doesn't feel that she wants to go into absolutely declaring him to submit his
27 Resignation to the Board. She believes that when we take this first step of censuring Trustee
28 Waite, that that's what we need to accomplish at this meeting.

29
30 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you do not agree to amend your moving of the
31 Resolution Motion. Trustee Nale stated if that is what you are saying, yes.

32
33 Trustee Byrd stated for the record, that he still says that this is a Resolution here. The
34 parliamentarian is not here, unless David is acting as that parliamentarian. You voted on a
35 Resolution. He stated to ask him to resign is not in this Resolution. That is a whole different
36 Motion. It cannot be part of this Motion.

37
38 Trustee Gibson stated yes, it can. Trustee Nale stated that she would rather be safe than sorry,
39 let's put it that way.

40
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is a moot point at this point. The Resolution has
42 passed. The Motion to ask for Trustee Waite's Resignation failed for the reasons given
43 beforehand about our Resolution.

44
45 Administrator Mekarski stated lack of support of the maker of the Motion of Resolution #2015-
46 01.

47
48

1 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

2
3 Village President Meyers-Martin opened Communications & Petitions at 7:45 P.M.

4
5 **Concern about Plowing in Graymoor** – Mr. Bill Pennington stated that he resides at 93
6 Graymoor Lane. In this last snowfall he noticed when the Public Works trucks were out, some of
7 the trucks did not have their plows on them. They did not plow the streets. They just salted which
8 exacerbated the entire problem when the second snowfall came. He was wondering if that is a
9 new process that Public Works is invoking now.

10
11 Administrator Mekarski stated that he spoke with Jim Landini the new Public Works Director.
12 Their response to the storm was to pre-salt before they plowed. It was traditional of what Mr.
13 Alexa would ask of his crew. He doesn't believe that there was any kind of change in procedure.

14
15 Mr. Pennington stated that it is recollection that when Mr. Alexa dispatched his team they did in
16 fact, in a pre-salting manner they did, in fact, plow. They plowed and salted simultaneously. That
17 is the point that he wanted to make.

18
19 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we certainly will check with Jim Landini in terms of
20 that process. She recalls speaking to Joe Alexa previously when trucks did not go out when there
21 was snow. There is a certain level in terms of the amount of snow that will determine whether or
22 not they actually have their full plows out. She will certainly follow-up with that and determine
23 what their policy and procedure was for this particular snow event. She knows that they know
24 their business. Mr. Pennington thanked Village President Meyers-Martin. Village President
25 Meyers-Martin closed Communications & Petitions at 7:48 P.M.

26
27 **FINANCE:**

28
29 **October 2014 Financial Statements** – Trustee Byrd stated that he will give the October Report
30 for Revenue and Expenses. He stated that the Treasurer, Don Theobald, is in the audience. He
31 will provide the Second Quarter Report and the Treasurer's Report.

32
33 Trustee Byrd stated that on the Revenue side for October, in the General Fund, Water Fund, and
34 the Sewer Fund, they all out performed the Budget for the month of October. In the General
35 Fund the Village had a Budget of \$286,886.00. The Village actually received Revenue of
36 \$351,246.00. It is approximately \$65,000.00 more than what the Village expected for October. In
37 the Water Fund there was \$186,616.00 budgeted. The Village actually received \$262,336.00. It
38 is approximately \$77,000.00 over the budgeted Revenue for the month of October. In the Sewer
39 Fund there was \$116,687.00 budgeted. The Village received \$157,617.00. It is approximately
40 \$41,000.00 more than what was expected. A lot of that was the State Income Tax was higher
41 than what was budgeted for the month of October. Building Permits were up. RedFlex was up for
42 the month. The RedFlex collection is going great. Those are some of the major things that were
43 the cause of the increase of the Budget for October for the Revenue side.

44
45 Trustee Byrd stated that on the Expense side, Expenses were a little above what was budgeted
46 for, but not as much as what they thought they might be for the month. The Village had budgeted
47 \$426,861.00 in the General Fund. The Village actually spent \$443,041.00. In the Water Fund the
48 Village budgeted \$137,334.00. The actual expenditure for that month was \$138,205.00. In the

1 Sewer Fund the Village budgeted \$47,244.00. The Village actually spent \$63,125.00. There was
2 a \$17,000.00 actual expenditure above what was budgeted for in the General Fund. There was
3 \$1,000.00 in the Water Fund, and approximately \$16,000.00 in the Sewer Fund.
4

5 Trustee Byrd stated that the “Current Month Surplus/Deficit,” in the General Fund for the month
6 of October the Village had budgeted to have a \$139,975.00 deficit for the month. The actual
7 deficit was \$91,795.00. That was caused by the increase in Revenue for that month. In the Water
8 Fund the Village had budgeted for a \$49,282.00 surplus. The actual surplus was \$124,130.00. In
9 the Sewer Fund the Village had budgeted a \$69,444.00 surplus. The actual surplus was
10 \$94,492.00.
11

12 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will be monitoring the new Governor who was
13 inaugurated today, on whether or not he will be restoring the State Income Tax back to the
14 Municipalities at its former level. That was just a temporary cut and it is expiring. They will be
15 monitoring what the new Governor will be doing in terms of the Village’s share.
16

17 **Quarterly Budget Report Summary** – Mr. Theobald passed out a Quarterly Report to the
18 Board. He calls it a “Flash Report” in a sense. His intentions are to try to give the Board a brief,
19 encapsulated report on the status of the major three funds of the Village. He pulled the data from
20 the same detailed report that is in the Board Packet. The report provides an assessment on a
21 semi-annual basis of how the Village is doing. The report provides information on the General
22 Fund, the Water Fund, and the Sewer Fund. The attempt is to go across the columns and give the
23 Board the Budget for the year. The report provides the Budget for the six-months that the report
24 covers. Next to that column are the actual Expenses and Revenues. The final column is a
25 Favorable Budget Variance or an Unfavorable Budget Variance.
26

27 Mr. Theobald stated that you are expecting the General Fund to exceed the Budget Revenues.
28 Budget Revenues should exceed Budget Expenditures by \$71,153.00. That is the total in the first
29 column. The Budget for the six-months is anticipating a deficiency of \$446,000.00. The actual is
30 only a deficiency through six-months of \$185,000.00. That is a favorable variance. He stated that
31 from a Revenue perspective, we certainly have some positive variances in Towing, RedFlex, and
32 State Income Tax for the month of October as well. He stated that from a year to date perspective
33 Income Tax and Sales Tax are both in excess of the budgeted anticipated Revenues. That is
34 approximately in total \$100,000.00 that makes up that favorable variance. There are two other
35 items that were unbudgeted, but did affect the results. Some of the Bond proceeds came in of
36 \$55,000.00 as well as some Grants came in, about \$16,000.00.
37

38 Mr. Theobald stated that on the expenditure side, we have the departments of the Village:
39 Administration, Clerks Office, Collector, and etcetera. The Administration is approximately
40 \$8,000.00 over Budget, but within the expenditures there was a \$47,716.00 Bond Issue Expense
41 related to those Bond proceeds. That brings that department into a positive variance. The Police
42 expenditures are under the budgeted expenditures due to some full time equivalents which are
43 understaffed in a sense. He stated that Public Works is \$47,000.00 to the negative. Their
44 expenditures exceed the Budget. A significant item within that is \$54,000.00 unbudgeted storm
45 disaster expenses. Village Management is seeking reimbursement for that. Should that
46 reimbursement come through, then that department would be a positive as well.
47

1 Mr. Theobald stated that the General Fund for six-months, halfway through, is trailing ahead.
2 Some of the major reconciling items that he just addressed are noteworthy to keep in mind as the
3 Village keeps post on the activities in the General Fund through the balance of the second half.
4

5 Trustee Oliver inquired of Mr. Theobald that if the Village doesn't get reimbursement from the
6 state for the emergency disaster, what impact will it have. Mr. Theobald stated that impact is
7 already baked into these numbers right now. The potential reimbursement would enhance it and
8 counteract that.
9

10 Administrator Mekarski stated that it doesn't look like we would be able to get the FEMA
11 reimbursement. The County did not declare our area a Natural Disaster Area. We think there
12 may be a potential of getting an insurance claim from our Risk Management Insurance. We will
13 be processing that request. He doesn't know what proportion.
14

15 Trustee Waite stated that in the box it says, "LED Street Light \$22,000.00." Trustee Waite
16 inquired of Mr. Theobald what that pertains to. Mr. Theobald stated that is drilling down into the
17 detail. That says that particular line item "Street Light" was \$22,000.00. Trustee Waite stated
18 under Budget. Mr. Theobald stated that is what he wants to clarify before he says that.
19

20 Administrator Mekarski stated that he believes that the Village received the reimbursement
21 check from DCEO for the street lighting. It was a \$25,000.00 Grant. It was in the neighborhood
22 of 80/20 or something like that. \$25,000.00 was expended for that.
23

24 Mr. Theobald stated that in the Water Fund it is showing a deficiency of \$94,000.00 in Revenue
25 compared to Budget for the first six-months. The Agenda tonight is addressing a Water Rate
26 Increase. That increase is expected to negate that negative and bring that back closer to break
27 even in terms of Budget versus actual.
28

29 Administrator Mekarski stated that he wanted to clarify it for the Public Record. It is a rate
30 increase that is not being imposed by this Board. It is by the Village of Oak Lawn which is an
31 automatic pass through to the rate payers here.
32

33 Mr. Theobald stated that within the Public Works Expenses, it shows that the expenditures are
34 \$142,000.00 under Budget. He wants to point out there is a payment for the sixth month of the
35 year for water, which is around \$75,000.00 to \$80,000.00 that is not recorded. You want to take
36 a look at that Water Fund result and impact that for an additional \$75,000.00 to \$80,000.00 in
37 water purchases. In the far bottom right-hand corner we say there is a \$27,806.00 positive
38 favorable variance. If you take into affect that one cash payment that didn't get made within the
39 six-months that would then take that to a negative \$47,000.00.
40

41 Mr. Theobald stated that there isn't anything of significance to point out in the Sewer Fund other
42 than it is trailing ahead of the Revenues and Expenditures. He stated that any feedback from the
43 Board is always welcome.
44

45 **Treasurer's Report – 6 Month Financial Update – Don Theobald Village Treasurer – Mr.**
46 Theobald stated that the Treasurer's Report starts off with a pie chart telling you where the
47 Village's Funds are located in which Financial Institutions. At October 31st, you have
48 \$7,023,781.00 in the bank. The next Exhibit tells you where the funds that we just talked about

1 in those various institutions are within the Village Fund structure. The General Fund has
2 approximately 2.2 Million Dollars. You go down the list and you can see where the funds are
3 allocated by Fund. The last page of the report attempts to say the same thing in a graphic
4 presentation by showing where dollars are by Fund.

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she knows that Administrator Mekarski had a
7 discussion with Mr. Theobald that the Village will be putting together some numbers for the
8 Village's Financial Town Hall Meeting. They will be doing a lot of the pie charts and
9 illustrations to demonstrate where those dollars go. She stated hopefully for the month of
10 February.

11
12 Administrator Mekarski stated that he, along with Mr. Theobald, Jenni and Cindy are starting the
13 process on Wednesday.

14
15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she looks forward to that. She thanked Mr.
16 Theobald.

17
18 **Finance Committee Meeting** - Trustee Byrd reminded everyone that the Budget is coming up
19 for 2015/2016. The Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, January 20th. They will be
20 setting up guidelines and dates for the meetings going forward with regard to the upcoming
21 Budget.

22
23 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Byrd whether or not they have the
24 Department Heads scheduled for meetings. Trustee Byrd stated that they will have that schedule
25 after the Finance Committee Meeting on January 20th.

26
27 **BUILDING:**

28
29 **Holiday Decorating Awards** - Trustee Hudson stated that she did not have a written report. The
30 Beautification Committee has picked the first, second and third place winners to receive a
31 Certificate for the Holiday Decorating Awards. At the next Board Meeting the Certificates will
32 be presented to the winners. If anyone wants to know who won, she can give you that
33 information.

34
35 Trustee Hudson wants to make sure that each of the Presidents of the Homeowners Associations
36 provides the Beautification Committee with at least three people in their area that they consider
37 to have done a good job in their decorations. That way each area will not feel that they are being
38 denied the opportunity to receive a Certificate. She did get comments from some people that said
39 no one in their area was nominated. She stated that if we can make sure that the Presidents are
40 nominating someone that would be good, so that each person will be equally considered.

41
42 **PLANNING:**

43
44 **Recommendation from the Olympia Fields Educational Commission to Recognize the**
45 **Expiration of the Term and Membership of Four (4) Existing Members; and Request the**
46 **Village President to Appoint Four New Members** – Trustee Oliver stated that in the Board
47 Packet there is a letter from the Educational Commission Chair, David Mekarski, that outlines
48 our annual issue regarding the number of attendees at our regularly scheduled Educational

1 public to let them know what kinds of programs they offer. He will make sure from time to time
2 if there is something that might be of interest to the public he will broadcast it.

3
4 **Chicago-Style Stepping Class at the Park District** - Trustee Oliver stated that this month there
5 is a Stepping Class. There is someone that can teach stepping and we can all do this like Fred
6 Astaire. It doesn't matter the age of anyone in here. He stated that you can be Fred Astaire on a
7 cane and still do this well. They are offering these kinds of classes at the Park District this
8 month. You may want to take a look at that online.

9
10 **Cell Phone Tower at Irons Oaks** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated the Park District has
11 stepped away from the Cell Tower issue. They have decided against it. They are not moving
12 forward with it. She stated that we are very happy to hear that.

13
14 **Park District Needs to Promote Their Programs/Activities** - Village President Meyers-Martin
15 stated that she would like the Park District to be more proactive as well in promoting their
16 programs. We invite them to our New Residents Reception in order to give them the opportunity
17 to talk about what they do, and what kind of programs they have, and who they reach out to. At
18 the last New Residents Reception there was no one here from the Park District. They have to do
19 better. They have to do better in terms of promoting their own programs and their own activities.
20 We certainly will help them as much as we possibly can. They have a wonderful Nature Center
21 in Irons Oaks. Flossmoor gets more attention in terms of Irons Oaks than we do. All of the
22 activity happens in Olympia Fields. She stated that is something that the Park District should be
23 taking the lead on in terms of promoting that, and promoting the specifics of their programs.
24 They have a wonderful Art Show where the people that are in the Art Classes do an exhibit.
25 They have wine. They have music. How many people know that? We certainly have the ability
26 to promote some of that on our Channel 4 if they would get that information to us in enough
27 time. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she would encourage Trustee Oliver to
28 encourage them.

29
30 Trustee Oliver stated that this is a nice segue into something that he was going to mention under
31 “Unfinished Business.” Trustee Oliver stated that as we move towards the Budget Cycle, there
32 had been a request, or some mentioning that maybe the two Governing Bodies should meet to
33 look at what are some of these issues that we collectively can maybe work on together, so that
34 when he goes to a Park District Meeting he can come back to the Board with things that we have
35 agreed upon, rather than simply making announcements about the Dance Classes or things like
36 that.

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we started that process. She stated that we met with
39 their Executive Director and the President of the Park Board, Tim Bradford. That was supposed
40 to be one in many meetings. We have not had any follow-up meetings to that one. She stated that
41 if Trustee Oliver wants to help facilitate that she would love to do it, and maybe meet with their
42 entire Board. At the time she was not met with a lot of enthusiasm in terms of their entire Board.
43 But they may have moved away from that now.

44
45 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

46
47 **2015 Water Rate Increase from the Village of Oak Lawn** – Trustee Waite stated that we get
48 our water from Oak Lawn who gets it from Chicago. Chicago has been raising their prices and

1 they pass them on. He stated that under this next billing period, Under Ordinance Number 2000-
2 14 we will be raising the residential water rate 5.1%, and the commercial water rate 4.1%. Those
3 are the percentages of the retail price. The wholesale prices continue to go up more. We should
4 be cognizant that we are probably not increasing the rates enough to reflect the increase in costs.
5 Village President Meyers-Martins stated that on Saturday at “Coffee with the Village President,”
6 we talked a lot about water rates. The rate increases that the Village passes along to the users are
7 because Oak Lawn raises the Village’s rates. They raise their rates because Chicago raises their
8 rates. Everybody has to pass it onto the end user. We are in the process of investigating some
9 other sources. As she stated on Saturday, she doesn’t think that anybody is going to be thrilled
10 with the contract that we probably end up with, just because water is becoming as precious as
11 gold, oil, or gas for the entire region.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are doing our due diligence to find a happy
14 medium so that we are not being “extorted” as some might say from our providers, but that we
15 are still maintaining quality water. The Village has had several discussions with Mayor
16 Gonzalez. She stated that Mayor Gonzalez is looking at Kankakee for water. She doesn’t believe
17 that the Village wants river water. She doesn’t believe that the Village wants to be on the well
18 again. She doesn’t believe that the Village wants to be rash in working with Indiana. Chicago
19 Heights gets their water from Hammond. Hammond is another state. Their regulations for their
20 residents would be different than the regulations for their Illinois users. We need to be very
21 mindful of that. Hammond has raised their prices. They see Chicago raising their prices for Lake
22 Michigan water. She stated that we have some time to make those decisions. Just as the Village
23 did with the fire service, it is going to be very, very careful about what type of contract the
24 Village ends up with and that the water service, water delivery, and the water supply would have
25 the redundancy that it needs as well as the quality of the water.

26
27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that water is not cheap. She knows that Homewood and
28 Flossmoor get their water from Harvey. Harvey doesn’t even pay their water bills. So they are in
29 trouble. Everybody is looking for that right service. We are trying to work with our neighbors,
30 Matteson and Country Club Hills, because the three of us are the end users from Oak Lawn. We
31 think that perhaps if we approach them as a collaborative, as opposed to individual towns we
32 may get their ear more so and they may be more reasonable. That is all yet to be seen. That is
33 something that is ongoing in terms of our research, ongoing in terms of our negotiations, and
34 always on our mind to make sure that we do our due diligence.

35
36 Trustee Waite stated that there have been all kinds of improvements in technology and chemistry
37 and so forth over the years. He doesn’t believe that he would take anything off the table, whether
38 it is Kankakee River, wells, or whatever. We owe it to ourselves, and to our constituents to look
39 at all possibilities when it comes to where we can possibly get our water.

40
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that certainly we have heard those arguments and we
42 heard those discussions. She is just saying that is not her first choice. Trustee Waite stated that he
43 agrees.

44
45 **Woods Pumping Station** – Trustee Waite stated that we had a brief breakdown in the Woods
46 Pumping Station. When the Pumping Station is pumping correctly, it relies on two pumps to
47 relieve the sewage from the east side of town. A few weeks ago one of those pumps had failed. It
48 is currently in the process of getting rebuilt at a cost of \$38,000.00. Once that pump went offline

1 the entire pumping process was done by the remaining pump. About a month ago the remaining
2 pump blew its seal but was still able to pump, but just not as sufficiently as previously.

3
4 Trustee Waite stated that shortly after the seal was blown, the pump started to slow down and
5 vibrate more than normal. This is an indication that the pump was getting ready to fail. Public
6 Works decided to put temporary bypass pumping in, in order to avoid any catastrophic failure at
7 the Woods Pumping Station. If you had a catastrophic failure, we would have something
8 upwards of 500-homes whose basements would be filled with sewage. It is something to be
9 aware of. The bypass pumps are currently operating while we are waiting for the repair of the
10 first pump which is scheduled to be done at the end of January or early February. Fortunately, we
11 are at that time of the year that unless we have a thaw and a rainstorm on top of it, we probably
12 are not going to get enough water to impair the ability to pump. The cost for the bypass pumping
13 will be around \$15,000.00 for the month. It's absolutely necessary. We cannot afford to not have
14 the backup prepared. We are doing everything that we can to avoid any major problem.

15
16 **State Inspection of LED Lights** – Trustee Waite stated that the state sent an inspector out last
17 Friday to tour all the LED Lights. The inspector was satisfied. Trustee Waite stated that in total
18 sunshine, if you look up at the LED Lights they are blinding. He stated that he has driven around
19 at night and looked at them and they really look terrific.

20
21 **Plowing at Metra Station** - Trustee Oliver stated that as a consumer of being a rider of the
22 Metra Train, those who have shoveled the parking lot at the 211th Street Metra Lot has done a
23 great job for the most part, but not nearly as good as the person or contractor that we now have
24 plowing at 203rd. That person is doing the parking lot, the whole sidewalk, and those arteries. It
25 is still early. But they are off to a really good start. The woman and her son are doing a great job.
26 They are off to a good start.

27
28 Trustee Waite stated that we were concerned about that because they were the low bidder. We
29 were afraid it may not be up to our standards. All of the references they had were impeccable.

30
31 Trustee Oliver stated that it is still early, but right now it looks very good. He believes that
32 message should get out to them so that they can continue.

33
34 **Water Rates** - Trustee Gibson stated that she had a question regarding the water rates. She
35 stated that we got all this information concerning the increase in the water rates. She inquired
36 whether or not it is because Olympia Fields is at the end of the line that our water rates seem to
37 be higher.

38
39 Administrator Mekarski stated that the rate schedule is based on the distance the water has to go
40 through their physical facilities, their main pumps, and their ancillary pumps. He stated that he,
41 along with Trustee Waite, Don Theobald, the Engineers, and the Village President will be
42 reviewing the \$160,000,000.00 Capital Improvement Project that Oak Lawn is proposing. Even
43 though the Village is 3% of the share of that cost, plus or minus, our maintenance costs, our
44 electrical costs, and our other rates are the highest amongst all of Tinley Park and Orland Park,
45 because of the distance the Village is at the end of the line.

46
47 Trustee Gibson stated that she thought it had a lot to do with the population. But it has nothing to
48 do with the population. Village President Meyers-Martin stated no. Trustee Waite stated that the

1 Village uses 3% of the water. Administrator Mekarski stated that it is based on water allocation.
2 Trustee Waite stated that they want us to contribute more than the 3% in water that we share.
3 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they sure do. Administrator Mekarski stated not
4 primarily on the distribution of the Capital Projects, but clearly in the electrical costs and the
5 operation and maintenance costs we have the higher rates, just like we have the higher rates for
6 the distribution of the water.

7
8 Trustee Waite stated that what some of the other Villages do is subsidize the water rate. We
9 don't do that. Administrator Mekarski stated that they subsidize it through selling. Tinley Park
10 was able by contract to sell it to New Lenox and Mokena. We are prohibited by the contract. The
11 new universal contract that Oak Lawn is trying to encourage its seven members to adopt
12 prohibits the subordinate sale.

13
14 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

15
16 Trustee Nale stated that she did not have a Formal Report this evening. She will be asking the
17 Department Heads to submit to her possible dates for the Executive Safety Committee Meeting
18 next month.

19
20 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

21
22 **Thank You Letter from Matteson Police Department** – Trustee Gibson stated that she has one
23 Memorandum that she wants to share with the Board as well as the residents.

24
25 The Police Department received a thank you letter from the Matteson Police Department
26 acknowledging the efforts of multiple Olympia Fields Police personnel for their assistance in
27 resolving an incident that began in Matteson on November 14th in the area of 20618 Greenwood
28 Drive in Matteson, which involved a large fight in progress where one of the offenders was
29 reported to have threatened the victim with a handgun.

30
31 Responding officers reported that the offender had fled the area on foot and was last seen
32 running through a wooded area towards Olympia Fields. The offender ran to his residence at
33 20838 Greenwood in Olympia Fields and once inside the residence refused to come out.

34
35 Olympia Fields police personnel secured the scene at 20838 Greenwood, set up a perimeter to
36 prevent the offender from escaping and to safeguard residents in the immediate area. Working
37 with the offender's grandfather, Olympia Fields police personnel were able to convince the
38 offender to peacefully exit the residence averting a potential barricade situation and a prolonged
39 stand-off. The offender was taken into custody without incident and the weapon used during the
40 initial incident was recovered after a search warrant was obtained. Olympia Fields police
41 personnel who assisted with this incident are:

42
43 Sergeant Scott Metzger; Detective Corporal Mark Akiyama; Corporal Don Dean; Officer Mark
44 Twilley; Officer John Pearson; Officer Miguel Ayala; Officer Riley Mayer; and Officer Gabriel
45 Alvarado.

1 All of these officers should be recognized and commended. Trustee Gibson and the Village
2 President have returned a Commendation to the Chief for their exemplary skills and their
3 dedication to duty and professionalism during this incident.

4
5 There is a copy of a letter from Matteson indicating their sincere thanks for the help. A letter is
6 being written to acknowledge their outstanding work and efforts put forth by our officers as they
7 responded to a disturbance.

8
9 **January 9th, LEAD Day** – Trustee Gibson stated that last Friday was Law Enforcement
10 Appreciation Day. As the Liaison to the Police Department she felt the need to be sure that we
11 honored them on that day. Trustee Gibson arranged for the Police Department as a whole to get
12 lunch sandwiches so they would know that we are thinking of them. We know that they do a
13 good job. We appreciate how much work they do. In her opinion, they are absolutely wonderful
14 servants to this Village.

15
16 **Citizens Police Academy** – Village President Meyers-Martin encouraged everyone to take
17 advantage of the Citizens Police Academy if they have not already done so. That is held once a
18 year. All of the graduates of the program rave about how wonderful it is, and what a new
19 understanding they get in terms of police policy, procedure, and just some of the things that our
20 officers go through as police. They go on ride-alongs. They go to the gun range. They go to our
21 Dispatch Center. It's a wonderful Academy. She encouraged everyone to sign-up for it.

22
23 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

24
25 **Resolution #2015-02 – A Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Northern Illinois**
26 **Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC), to Secure Competitive Pricing for Energy**
27 **Rates to Operate the Village's Water and Sewer Pumping Facilities; And Authorize the**
28 **Village Administrator to Negotiate and Sign Contracts with the Most Optimal Bidder** –
29 Administrator Mekarski stated that the first item on his Report is Resolution #2015-02 - A
30 Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative
31 (NIMEC), to Secure Competitive Pricing for Energy Rates to Operate the Village's Water and
32 Sewer Pumping Facilities; And Authorize the Village Administrator to Negotiate and Sign
33 Contracts with the Most Optimal Bidder. Every two-years we go out on competitive bidding with
34 a number of Municipalities to get the best electrical rates for our public facilities. The Village
35 has 13 pumping facilities and various infrastructure pumping operations associated with the
36 delivery of water. In order to facilitate that process, we are asking the Board to recognize the
37 formulation of the Ad-Hoc Committee consisting of the following: Trustee Byrd, Trustee Waite,
38 Administrator Mekarski and James Landini, Director of Public Works.

39
40 Administrator Mekarski stated that Bids would go out somewhere between February 1st and
41 April 1st. NIMEC is monitoring market conditions. They will be given just a few days notice.
42 Once the Committee convenes they will listen to the Bids on the phone, and within hours after
43 that phone call they will have to enter into the contract. The Resolution authorizes the Ad-Hoc
44 Committee to meet, to assist in the evaluation of the Bids, and then to allow Administrator
45 Mekarski to close negotiations and sign the contracts on behalf of the Board.

46
47 Trustee Gibson inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not the Village is still in the
48 aggregate position with Flossmoor. Administrator Mekarski stated that the Village is not with

1 Flossmoor. The Village has a separate Bid with electrical aggregation. In the past few months we
2 have been paying a slightly larger rate than the Commonwealth Edison rate. We have the right to
3 opt out Village wide, or to call for new Bids. Administrator Mekarski asked David Hoover from
4 NIMEC to order a new account inventory which we did the end of December. He is going to be
5 giving the Village the opportunity to rebid. We are going to reconvene the Ad-Hoc Committee
6 and review the market. A lot of communities found themselves in this situation. He stated that it
7 just so happens that the Commonwealth Edison rate because of some regulatory changes at the
8 state level have actually gone lower than the aggregation rate. Over the years we have saved
9 hundreds of thousands of dollars for the first few years of operation. The rates are such that it is
10 prudent to reexamine. The Committee will have two initiatives when it meets. It will have
11 discussions with David Hoover on rebidding.

12 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Nale to approve Resolution #2015-02 – A**
13 **Resolution authorizing the participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric**
14 **Collaborative (NIMEC), to secure competitive pricing for energy rates to operate the**
15 **Village’s Water and Sewer Pumping Facilities; and authorize the Ad-Hoc Committee**
16 **which includes Trustee Byrd, Trustee Waite, Public Works Director & Village**
17 **Administrator to evaluate the Bids; and further authorize the Village Administrator to**
18 **negotiate and sign contracts with the most optimal Bidder.**

19 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

20

21 **Authorization for the Village President to Execute the Memorandum of Understanding**
22 **between the Village of Olympia Fields and Franciscan St. James Health Hospital –**

23 Administrator Mekarski stated that the second item is the authorization for the Village President
24 to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Village of Olympia Fields and
25 Franciscan St. James Health. This came down to the last wire on Friday. This Agreement was
26 normally executed between the hospital and the City of Chicago Heights. We are going through a
27 consolidation process and all acute care is going to be moving over to Olympia Fields. St. James
28 Hospital will be repurposed for pre-care, post care, hospice care, and other kinds of wellness
29 activities. They are extending the resolution to us. It is a win-win. This allows the facility to
30 participate in the 340B Program which is a discount Pharmaceutical Program allowing the
31 hospital to get a major discount helping their bottom line. In exchange for that they are required
32 by Federal Law to extend free hospital services for individuals that are underinsured, or
33 uninsured, or unavailable to get Medicaid or Medicare. They are offering that to our residents as
34 well as other residents in Illinois. This is a positive thing for some of the residents in our
35 community that have some difficulty in paying. They can get full quality health services
36 regardless of their situation. It allows us to help them in their bottom line.

37

38 Administrator Mekarski stated that the new CEO is making a dramatic change. They were going
39 through a \$15,000,000.00 loss annually. They have turned that around through strategic changes
40 of the business and now they have a \$15,000,000.00 surplus. They are moving in the right
41 direction. This did go through approval of John Murphey. Administrator Mekarski stated that
42 Mr. Murphey stated that it is good to execute as is, with the exception that the title needs to be
43 changed to include the full name of the hospital, “Franciscan St. James Health.” He would ask
44 that the Village President make that acknowledgement prior to execution that this be amended to
45 include not just the word “hospital,” but the full name of the hospital in the title.

46

47

1 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Nale to authorize the amended authorization**
2 **of the Village President to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), dated**
3 **January 1, 2015, between the Village of Olympia Fields and Franciscan St. James Health;**
4 **permitting Franciscan St. James Health to participate in Section 340B of the Public Health**
5 **Service Act and further provide a commitment to the Village to provide indigent care to**
6 **the uninsured and the underinsured residents of Illinois, providing the name Franciscan St.**
7 **James Health be added to the Memorandum.**

8 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

9
10 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

11
12 **Ratification of the Village President’s Execution of a Preliminary Construction**
13 **Engineering Service Agreement for Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Funds BLR 052323,**
14 **\$310,000.00 – Olympia Fields/Vollmer Road Early Warning System –** Village President
15 Meyers-Martin stated that it has been close to a year that we have been talking about a solution
16 to the Vollmer Road Bridge problems where you have vehicles, trucks in particular, not clearing
17 the bridge and hitting the bridge and traffic being tied up for hours and hours on end. There was
18 a meeting with all of the stakeholders. Due to the fact Vollmer Road is a Cook County Road the
19 Village called in IDOT. The Village of Flossmoor was in attendance as well as Metra, CN
20 Railroad, Senator Durbin’s Office, Senator Kirk’s Office, and Robinson Engineering to talk
21 about how we could come to a solution to resolve that issue once and for all. After that meeting,
22 it was determined that there needed to be a lowering of the road and a widening of the bridge.
23 The Village was awarded from the Transportation Committee of the South Suburban Mayors &
24 Managers Association \$1,000,000.00 in Engineering to finally have that resolution to the
25 problem. We knew that was years down the road in terms of that project being completed. We
26 asked for an Early Warning System. The question was where are we going to get the money.
27 Who is going to fund it? It was going to cost around \$310,000.00.

28
29 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is happy to say that through the State of Illinois
30 the Village received authorization for the \$310,000.00 to do the Early Warning System. Now we
31 have to figure out what that is. Robinson Engineering is looking at the project and trying to
32 figure out what is going to best resolve that issue on the short-term, while we are waiting to
33 complete the engineering for the final resolution.

34 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Oliver to ratify the Village President’s**
35 **execution of a Preliminary Construction Engineering Service Agreement with (IDOT the**
36 **Local Agency Agreement for State Participation Construction #C91-211-15 and**
37 **Engineering/Row #D91-211-15) for Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Funds BLR 052323, in the**
38 **amount of \$310,000.00 for the Olympia Fields/Vollmer Road Early Warning System.**

39
40 Trustee Hudson stated that the new Governor had mentioned any contracts signed after
41 November. She inquired whether or not this would fall under that category.

42
43 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we were concerned about that too. Administrator
44 Mekarski stated that he doesn’t know what will be impacted by the Executive Order of the
45 Governor. This appears to be encumbered dollars in the Motor Fuel Tax Account and has
46 specific project discretion. That is one reason why it is coming to the Board today ratified and
47 executed rather than asking the Board to authorize the Village President to execute it. When we
48 first got the announcement on the award, we got a call back from the State saying, “Can your

1 for the residents. She looks forward to the second Saturday in February. Village President
2 Meyers-Martin encouraged everyone to join her every second Saturday for “Coffee with the
3 Village President.”
4

5 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
6

7 Trustee Oliver stated that he wanted to follow-up on a presentation that was made about six-
8 weeks ago on a company that wanted to do a Utility Audit. The Village wanted the attorneys to
9 take a look at what was being offered. He inquired what the current status is.
10

11 Administrator Mekarski stated that we should have that at the next meeting. There were some
12 substantive issues that were in the contract that the Village had a disagreement with. The Village
13 Attorney is forwarding it to the consultant’s attorney. He stated that we don’t know if they will
14 find it acceptable.
15

16 Administrator Mekarski stated that there is no cost to the Village to enter into the contract. He
17 stated that for the first two to three-years whatever savings they find, they extract 50%. The
18 Village gets 50% of the savings. They get 50%. After the contract period the Village keeps 100%
19 of the savings. There is a provision in the contract that says if down the pike, four-years from
20 now, five-years from now; the Administration finds its own savings through readjustment of a
21 tariff or something else, that this consultant group is still entitled to those savings. The Village
22 Attorney thought that was objectionable. If we have our own initiative and we find our own
23 savings on a utility rate or a tariff, and they are not responsible for that, we shouldn’t share the
24 savings. That is issue Number 1. He stated that issue Number 2 was they are indicating under
25 FOIA that any requests of their contract and their activities is proprietary and not subject to
26 FOIA. In terms of openness and transparency, we have a disagreement with that. He stated that
27 any contract that this governing body signs is an open, public document, and should be reviewed
28 for inspection. They may have some proprietary rights under the Freedom of Information Act but
29 we don’t think it pertains broadly as written in the contract. Judy Kolman will present those to
30 the attorney and we will wait for their response.
31

32 **Jewel Plaza Sold** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we just got word that on
33 December 30th, the Jewel Plaza was sold by a developer from North Carolina. He has contracted
34 with a broker, Matanky, in order to reach out for tenants. We are pretty excited that that finally
35 sold. He seems to be extremely interested in marketing the plaza as opposed to just holding on to
36 it as previous owners have without being very proactive in their outreach. It is her intention to
37 meet with Matanky as soon as possible to find out what their plan is, and how they plan to
38 market it, and what types of tenants they want to reach out to, as well as some recommendations
39 from us in terms of whom they reach out to.
40

41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the developer that showed a great deal of interest in
42 it out of Boston is still interested in it. There may be some negotiating going on between the two
43 of them. They have spoken. It looks as though he is looking at putting in tenants before
44 Wal-Mart gets here. His belief is that Wal-Mart will be attractive to his potential tenants.
45
46
47
48

1 **NEW BUSINESS:**

2
3 **2015 Public Meeting Schedule** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have the 2015
4 Public Meeting Schedule. She stated that the Board of Trustees Meeting which would have been
5 on May 25th is Memorial Day. That has been changed to Tuesday, May 26th. The Board Meeting
6 scheduled for October 12th is Columbus Day. That has been changed to Tuesday, October 13th.
7 The Board Meeting scheduled for November 23rd is the week of Thanksgiving. She stated that
8 you may want to reschedule that for the week prior to Thanksgiving, or you might want to leave
9 it as November 23rd. Last year our Board Meeting was the week of Thanksgiving. She didn't
10 think that it caused any problems.

11
12 Administrator Mekarski stated that it would just be moving it up a week if anybody needs to
13 travel out of town.

14
15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that if we move it from the 23rd, then our Board
16 Meetings would be November 9th and November 16th. Right now it is scheduled for November
17 9th and the 23rd.

18
19 Trustee Gibson stated that it is far enough from Thanksgiving which is on Thursday for it not to
20 be a problem. None of the Trustees indicated that it was a problem.

21
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will leave it at the 23rd.

23
24 Trustee Gibson stated that under the "Police Pension Board" on the third Page, it has the months
25 that it meets but it doesn't have the dates. That is the third Monday of those months at 5 o'clock
26 at Village Hall.

27
28 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Trustee Gibson whether or not she would like to offer an
29 amendment.

30
31 Trustee Gibson stated that you just have to say that "The Regular Meetings of the Police Pension
32 Board are held on the third Monday of the following months."

33 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Nale to approve, publish and distribute the**
34 **2015 Public Meeting Schedule as amended, to include under "Police Pension Board" the**
35 **third Monday of each of the following months, for all Boards, Commissions and**
36 **Committees.**

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

38
39 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

40
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have any Resignations or Appointments
42 this evening.

43
44 **ADJOURNMENT:**

45
46 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Nale to adjourn at 9:05 P.M.**

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

48 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**