



1 receive awards. They sent out letters regarding the entryways to some of the subdivisions that  
2 were really beautiful this year. She stated that some don't have entryways.  
3  
4 Village President Meyers-Martin asked Mrs. Moroney to give a brief overview to the audience of  
5 how they chose the winners.  
6  
7 Mrs. Susan Moroney stated that she has been on the Beautification Committee for about 12  
8 years. The Holiday Awards Program has been a part of the Beautification Committee since she  
9 has been on the Beautification Committee. The process begins with a notification to the  
10 Presidents of the Homeowners Associations. It allows them to review their area to nominate up  
11 to six-homes for recognition under the Holiday Award Program. The top three homes of each  
12 subdivision are then judged under the same guidelines by the Beautification Committee. The  
13 judging takes place around December 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>. The Beautification Committee then selects  
14 three winners for first, second and third place. She stated that it is a fun, enjoyable time to see  
15 everyone's decorations.  
16  
17 Mrs. Moroney stated that our First Place Winner is the Whitman Family. They reside at 20877  
18 Greenwood. She inquired whether or not Mr. Chuck Winer the President of the Homeowners  
19 Association was present. No member of the Whitman Family was present and Mr. Winer was not  
20 present. First Prize is a \$100.00 Bizios Gift Certificate. Mrs. Moroney stated that our Second  
21 Place Winner is the Hogan Family. They reside at 20615 Hellenic Drive. (There was a round of  
22 applause). Second Prize is a \$75.00 Bizios Gift Certificate. Mrs. Moroney stated that our Third  
23 Place Winner is the Jacob Family. They reside at 2470 Glen Eagle Drive. Third Prize is a \$50.00  
24 Bizios Gift Certificate. She inquired whether or not Anthony Mace was here. He is the President  
25 of The Greens Homeowners Association. Mrs. Shirley Johnson stated that she is the Vice  
26 President of The Greens Homeowners Association. (There was a round of applause). Mrs.  
27 Johnson stated that she lives across the street from the beautiful Jacob's home. Mrs. Johnson  
28 stated that she will give the award to the Jacob's Family.  
29  
30 Mrs. Moroney stated that in addition to the homes, there were three subdivisions that went all out  
31 this year on their decorations for their entryways. The Beautification Committee wanted to  
32 recognize the following: The Maynegaite Subdivision, Wysteria, and Olympia Club. They all did  
33 an excellent job in decorating their entryways for the Holiday Awards Program. (There was a  
34 round of applause).  
35  
36 Mrs. Moroney stated that if anyone has any suggestions or ideas for the Holiday Awards  
37 Program they welcome them. All you have to do is call the Village Office and talk to Karen  
38 Pascarella or one of the Staff Members and leave the ideas for them. The Beautification  
39 Committee will be sure to make a note of them. She thanked everyone for participating this year.  
40  
41 Trustee Hudson stated that as they went around looking at the homes that were nominated, if  
42 they saw someone that did a good job they recognized them as well. She stated that just because  
43 the President of your Homeowners Association may not have submitted your name, the  
44 Beautification Committee does recognize that there are some homes that are beautiful as well  
45 and they do recognize that.  
46

1 Mrs. Moroney stated that we send certificates in recognition of every home that was nominated.  
2 She stated that no one is left out.

3  
4 Village President Meyers-Martin expressed congratulations to all of the winners. (There was a  
5 round of applause).  
6

7 **Thank you to the Village President, the Village Board and the Department of Public**  
8 **Works** – Dr. Ernie Gibson stated that he resides at 208 Wysteria Drive. He stated that on behalf  
9 of the residents, the Board of Directors of Wysteria would like to thank the Village President and  
10 the Board because they feel that they are at the root of this cause. They really appreciate the  
11 snow removal process during the heavy snow storms that we recently had. Dr. Gibson stated that  
12 he called Joe Alexa on Friday, January 10<sup>th</sup> to thank him and to convey their feelings towards his  
13 staff. He stated that we really appreciate it. They felt that they should bring it before the Board to  
14 let the Board know that they are very pleased.

15  
16 Village President Meyers-Martin thanked Dr. Gibson for the compliment. She stated that Public  
17 Works did a wonderful job. Village President Meyers-Martin along with Administrator Mekarski  
18 went to the Public Works Department on Monday. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that  
19 those guys plowed for 24-hours straight. They literally had red eyes. They were exhausted. They  
20 took Pizzas over to them. She believes that they were probably too exhausted to enjoy them. She  
21 thanked Dr. Gibson again for the compliment. She stated that they do an excellent job every  
22 year. (There was a round of applause for the Department of Public Works).  
23

24 Trustee Waite stated that he had received the same report from The Greens about how much they  
25 appreciated the good job that Mr. Alexa and his staff had done.  
26

27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they are totally committed to doing a fabulous job.  
28 She stated that we thank Public Works and Joe Alexa. Village President Meyers-Martin closed  
29 Communications and Petitions at 7:15 P.M.  
30

31 **CONSENT AGENDA:**  
32

33 **5(A) Recommendation for Final Waiver of Lien and Payment of Invoice #939C11C241 to**  
34 **National Power Rodding Corp. for work completed in connection with the Traditions**  
35 **Subdivision Storm Sewer Cleaning and Televising – IKE Community Stabilization**  
36 **Program Grant #08-357006 in the amount of \$52,608.30.**

37 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will move to the Consent Agenda. The Consent  
38 Agenda consists of items that are considered to be routine by the Village. It allows the Board to  
39 approve and vote upon them without discussion. She stated that this evening we have on the  
40 Consent Agenda item 5(A). None of the Trustees wished to remove the item from the Consent  
41 Agenda.

42 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Gibson to approve Item 5(A) under the**  
43 **Consent Agenda.**

44 **Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion Carried.**  
45

46  
47

1 **FINANCE:**

2  
3 **Treasurer’s Report of Cash Balances** – Trustee Byrd stated that if you look at the Cash  
4 Balances of the Treasurer’s Report, the first Report shows your cash on hand in the nine  
5 Financial Institutions that the Village has money in. He stated that we have a total of  
6 \$7,084,952.37.

7  
8 The second page shows the cash and Interfunds for a total of \$7,359,124.62. The third page  
9 shows the Interfund to the different funds. The General Fund has \$2,261,405.00. The total of the  
10 funds is \$7,359,125.00.

11  
12 **November 2013 Financial Statements** – Trustee Byrd stated that the November Report shows  
13 that the revenue for the General Fund, the Water Fund, and the Sewer Fund were all lower than  
14 what we budgeted for the month of November. The Village budgeted \$253,762.00 in revenue for  
15 the General Fund. The Village actually received \$234,055.00. The Village budgeted \$284,445.00  
16 in revenue for the Water Fund. The Village actually received \$241,410.00. The Village  
17 budgeted \$94,236.00 in revenue for the Sewer Fund. The Village actually received \$79,798.00.

18  
19 Trustee Byrd stated that the expenses were higher than what the Village had budgeted for the  
20 month of November. The Village budgeted \$367,692.00 in expenses for the General Fund. The  
21 Village actually spent \$389,591.00. The Village budgeted \$108,202.00 in expenses for the Water  
22 Fund. The Village actually spent \$109,332.00. The Village budgeted \$154,384.00 in expenses  
23 for the Sewer Fund. The Village actually spent \$170,827.00.

24  
25 Trustee Byrd stated that the next page shows the “Current Month Surplus/Deficit.” It is revenue  
26 minus expenses for the month of November. He stated that these were lower than what we  
27 expected due to the fact that the Village had low revenues and higher expenses for the month of  
28 November. Trustee Byrd stated that it is not a big concern right now due to the fact that we were  
29 pretty much online for the Budget even with that November amount.

30  
31 Trustee Byrd stated that down below it shows the “Year to Date Surplus/Deficit.” This is what  
32 we are paying attention to at this time. This shows you from April up until November. In the  
33 General Fund the Village budgeted to have a \$416,891.00 deficit. The Village actually has a  
34 \$481,023.00 deficit. The Village budgeted to have a \$487,192.00 surplus in the Water Fund. The  
35 Village actually has a \$532,368.00 surplus. The Village budgeted to have a \$4,122.00 deficit in  
36 the Sewer Fund. The Village has a \$3,902.00 surplus in the Sewer Fund.

37  
38 Trustee Byrd stated that the General Fund is still down. There is no concern. He believes that  
39 \$30,000.00 was paid out for Carl Frey. Trustee Byrd spoke with Cindy Saenz. The Village did  
40 receive approximately \$105,000.00 in Asset Forfeiture. He stated that is a good thing. Trustee  
41 Byrd stated that Real Estate Taxes are due sometime in February to offset some of that.

42  
43 Trustee Byrd stated that the last page has the graph. The Water Fund continues to be strong. The  
44 Sewer Fund is pretty much on target. We show a little decrease in the General Fund. He stated  
45 that on the whole the Village is pretty much on Budget.

1 **BUILDING:**

2  
3 **Tree City** - Trustee Hudson stated that she has no written report. The Beautification Committee  
4 is working to make sure that we maintain our Village as a Tree City. They are working on the  
5 paperwork and some other things that they need in order to maintain that status.

6  
7 Trustee Hudson stated that they are still trying to make sure that we have a beautiful Village  
8 including beautiful trees. That is what she is working on at the present time.

9  
10 **PLANNING:**

11  
12 There was no Report in Trustee Oliver's absence.

13  
14 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

15  
16 **2014 Water Rate Increase from the Village of Oak Lawn** – Trustee Waite stated that we have  
17 been notified by Oak Lawn that we are going to have a water rate increase. It was announced last  
18 year. It is about a 9.06% increase to the residents at the retail price. The percentage was higher  
19 than that at the wholesale price. He stated that what matters most to the residents is how much  
20 they will be paying.

21  
22 Trustee Waite stated that the Village has been trying to get better information from Oak Lawn as  
23 far as how they have arrived at what they have proposed going forward for the updating of the  
24 Water System. Trustee Waite stated that it is his understanding that the Village has not received  
25 the answers to its questions on how they arrived at that. Administrator Mekarski stated that is  
26 correct. Trustee Waite stated that he would insist that before the Village comes back with any  
27 kind of suggestions to Oak Lawn, that Oak Lawn provides us with the information that we have  
28 asked for. He believes that the Village has close to 10-years to run on the contract. It may be  
29 longer depending how you interpret it. The contract says that there is a pass through of any  
30 increases that come from the City of Chicago right straight down the line.

31  
32 Administrator Mekarski stated that for our new members he wanted to elaborate on something  
33 that Trustee Waite had said. Administrator Mekarski stated that Trustee Waite is talking about  
34 one of the most critical decisions this governing authority is going to be faced with probably in  
35 the next 50 to 100-years. He stated that is where we get our permanent water supply for this  
36 Village. Currently, the Village is under contract with the Village of Oak Lawn until 2024. The  
37 City of Chicago has imposed major increases in the sale of water to Oak Lawn. Those costs go  
38 back to the Village and the other Villages that contract with Oak Lawn. The first year was a 25%  
39 increase in the purchase of water. There are three, 15% increases for a total of 70%. He stated  
40 that is huge.

41  
42 Administrator Mekarski stated that this question came up with the "Coffee with the Village  
43 President," that the Village must be paying a lot of middleman costs because we get it from  
44 Chicago to Oak Lawn. He stated not actually. The cost that is being charged by Oak Lawn, 82%  
45 is the price of water from Chicago. There is 2.5% for Electricity; 4.0% for Pump Station  
46 Maintenance; 4.4% for Transmission Main Maintenance; 2.3% System Operating Cost; 2% O  
47 &M Reserve; 1.6% Renewal, Repair, & Replacement Account; and 1.2% Equitable Return; and

1 a Total Wholesale Rate of 100%. The Village never had this kind of information before. It is  
2 refreshing that Oak Lawn is giving the Village a detailed Financial Analysis. The Equitable  
3 Return is only 1.2%. The rest is billed back into the system to maintain it.

4  
5 Administrator Mekarski stated that Oak Lawn is asking the Village to be part and parcel of a  
6 \$160,000,000.00 to a \$180,000,000.00 water rebuild. The Village's share of that is about 3.5%.  
7 Plus there is a \$22,000,000.00 cost between three communities to provide a redundant or a loop  
8 supply. If the Village signs that contract the rates would double on top of what Mayor Emanuel  
9 has provided. He stated that it is 3.5% of \$160,000,000.00 to \$180,000,000.00, plus  
10 \$22,000,000.00. The Board is looking at alternatives. They have been in discussion with Chicago  
11 Heights to look at an alternative supply. The Board will be weighing one of three decisions this  
12 year. 1. Going 100% with the Village of Oak Lawn. That is for the supply of water and the  
13 redundant supply or the emergency supply; 2. The Village could go 100% with Chicago Heights  
14 for both its regular supply and for the looped or redundant supply; 3. The Village could have a  
15 blended solution where the Village gets its primary water from Oak Lawn and the Village gets its  
16 emergency or redundant supply from Chicago Heights.

17  
18 Trustee Waite stated or the reverse of that where the primary supply would be from Chicago  
19 Heights and the redundancy could be with Oak Lawn. Administrator Mekarski stated right.  
20 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Village did an Engineering and a Financial Analysis. This  
21 is a highly complex Financial Analysis that they are performing for delivering of water to their  
22 eight Municipal clients on the southwest transmission system plus their additional clients. They  
23 are trying to do this all on an equitable basis. They have to look at your water allocation; the  
24 amount of customers; the future capacity of your customer base; and they have to spread the  
25 operation maintenance cost. The Village did the Engineering and Financial Analysis. The Village  
26 asked Oak Lawn a series of questions to be answered, both financial and engineering. The  
27 Village is still waiting for that response. As soon as the Village receives that response the Village  
28 will review it with a Special Committee. The Village President and Trustee Waite are on that  
29 Committee. He stated that we will probably have a full Work Session with the Board in the early  
30 part of this year. The Village will probably be asked to go in one direction or the other of those  
31 three or four alternatives.

32  
33 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that part of the complexity to this issue is that if you go  
34 with one source or the other, there is always a pro, a con, a plus, a minus to those deliberations.  
35 She stated that we have already discovered if we start considering getting our water from  
36 Hammond as opposed to Chicago, because Chicago is going up, the minute that Hammond sees  
37 that Chicago is charging higher rates for their water, then they start raising their rates for water.  
38 The Village doesn't want to rush into any decision until it has done its due diligence and  
39 weighed all of the possibilities. She stated that at this point where water has become almost as  
40 important as oil or gas, you are hearing all kinds of crazy theories. They have had people  
41 approach them about getting Kankakee water from the river. She doesn't believe that would be a  
42 smart idea for the Village. Those are the types of suggestions that are being presented to the  
43 Village. She wanted to assure everyone that the Village will do its due diligence. She stated that  
44 redundancy is an extremely important piece to this picture. The last time there was a water main  
45 break in Oak Lawn, the Village had to rely on its water tanks. There are three-days of water in  
46 those tanks. The Village certainly needs an alternative source and the Village knows that. The

1 Village will be looking at that with due diligence, just as it did with the fire service, to make sure  
2 that it has gotten the best deal.

3  
4 Trustee Waite stated that Hammond gets their water from Lake Michigan too. They are governed  
5 by the laws of Indiana. The laws of Indiana limit the amount that Hammond can charge their  
6 customers. Since we are not in Indiana and Chicago Heights is not in Indiana, they can raise their  
7 prices to whatever level they think the market will bear. But as Oak Lawn and Chicago are about  
8 to see, when you raise prices, the unintended consequences sometimes is that you lose  
9 customers. He stated that if the Village doesn't participate with Oak Lawn that is going to raise  
10 the cost to their other customers because the Village won't be there to help support those costs  
11 that they are passing onto others. There are all kinds of things that complicate the whole issue.

12  
13 Administrator Mekarski stated that it is important to note, and the Village President brought this  
14 up at her "Coffee with the Village President," that everybody knows what they pay for a gallon  
15 of milk at the grocery store. You know what you pay for a gallon of gasoline at the pump. If you  
16 buy a gallon of spring water you know what you pay for it. People don't realize when they pay  
17 the water rate that we are getting high quality water from Lake Michigan, transmitted by a series  
18 of complicated infrastructure, all the way to your tap. It is maintained by the City of Chicago, the  
19 Village of Oak Lawn, and the Village of Olympia Fields. You are getting that for less than a  
20 penny a gallon. He stated that when you think in today's economy and the price of commodities  
21 that is just unbelievable. It is less than a penny. Administrator Mekarski stated that if there is  
22 ever any concern that we are paying too much for our water, compare what other people around  
23 the country are paying for a gallon of water delivered. We have one of the richest, fresh, water  
24 supplies in the world and some of the highest quality, and for all the processing, protection, and  
25 delivery, you are still paying less than a penny.

26  
27 Trustee Waite stated that Chicago was foresighted a number of years ago to build a very high  
28 tech, efficient method of cleaning up the water and disbursing it. They have visitors that come  
29 from all over the world, engineers and so forth, to look at what they have done. It is really pretty  
30 spectacular.

31  
32 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

33  
34 **Rewards for Top Three Steppers** - Trustee Nale stated that she has four items on the Agenda.  
35 The first item is a program that was initiated in October of last year with the employees called  
36 "The Horton Health Program." The program was initiated by the Human Resource Committee to  
37 encourage the employees to take better care of their health through walking. The Horton Health  
38 Group takes the individual employees as they wish to join, and they record the number of steps  
39 they take on a daily basis. That information is given to the Village at certain points during the  
40 year. There are 21-employees that are part of the program.

41  
42 Trustee Nale stated that during the Holiday Season to honor the employees that have participated  
43 the most and have taken the most steps, we were able to provide initial incentives for those  
44 employees as was predetermined by the Board. The three receivers of the rewards were  
45 encouraged to contact their fellow employees and get 100% participation. The rewards that they  
46 gave at the Employees Christmas Party were given as an encouragement for more people to join.  
47 This was a one-time effort. She stated that hopefully, we will be more successful as time goes on.

1 **Health Care Postings** - Trustee Nale stated that the second item on her Agenda is an initiative to  
2 further the new Health Care Program. Cindy Saenz, the Director of Finance, has volunteered to  
3 put Health Notices in each department on a monthly basis. The posters will be checked by  
4 Trustee Nale. Trustee Nale will be in contact with all of the Department Heads to verify that their  
5 employees know all of the answers and the questions to the program that is involved. She is  
6 hoping that we can get 100% compliance in the near future.

7  
8 **New Public Works Employees** – Trustee Nale stated that the third item on her Agenda is that  
9 the Village did hire two, new employees in the Public Works Department. The Public Works  
10 Department has a full complement of staff. Trustee Nale is sure that helped out during the recent  
11 snowfall that we had.

12  
13 **Thank you to the Public Works Department** - Trustee Nale stated that she was on her way  
14 home from Wisconsin during that snow storm. They didn't hit snow until they got to Milwaukee.  
15 It was horrible. People were sliding all over. They got off at the Lincoln Oasis Exit so that they  
16 wouldn't have to go up a ramp. As soon as they hit Olympia Fields the streets were perfect. They  
17 got on Scott Drive/207<sup>th</sup> Street and went down to her home on Greenwood Drive without any  
18 problem. Trustee Nale stated that Public Works did a fantastic job.

19  
20 **CPR Seminar** – Trustee Nale stated that her last item on the Agenda is regarding in-services.  
21 She received notification from Mark Lueder of the Chicago Heights Fire Department that they  
22 will be performing CPR in-service for all of the employees on January 30<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 P.M. to  
23 3:00 P.M. Trustee Nale is going to encourage all of the Department Heads to have as many of  
24 their employees attend as possible.

25  
26 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

27  
28 **Information Only: South Suburban Emergency Response Team Membership (SSERT) -**  
29 Trustee Gibson stated that she has one item on the Agenda. She would like to give a report on the  
30 Sign Commission as well. It doesn't need a Motion.

31  
32 Trustee Gibson stated that her first report is on the South Suburban Emergency Response Team  
33 Membership. Trustee Gibson stated that Chief Krull always looks for many things that we can do  
34 in order to make this Village the First Class Village that it is and protect the citizens. In an effort  
35 to increase the level of service and protection to the residents, the Olympia Fields Police  
36 Department recently completed an Application for membership to the South Suburban  
37 Emergency Response Team. The South Suburban Emergency Response Team is a  
38 multijurisdictional emergency response team comprised of 32 Municipalities in the south  
39 suburbs.

40  
41 Membership in the South Suburban Emergency Response Team or “SSERT” as it is named is  
42 designed to provide member agencies with a tactical response to high risk critical incidents.  
43 Membership in SSERT provides access to specialized equipment, highly trained and properly  
44 equipped personnel and resources which no one department could afford to maintain all on its  
45 own.

46



1 Given the increased level of violence in society today, membership in “SSERT” provides an  
2 inexpensive insurance policy to further protect our residents in the event of a critical incident.  
3 She stated that requires no Motion. It is for information only to the Board and to the residents.  
4

5 **Report on the Sign Commission** – Trustee Gibson stated that she wanted to give a short report  
6 on the Sign Commission. She stated that we have talked about the new Sign Ordinance being  
7 ready. The Building Commissioner has looked at the new Sign Ordinance and discovered that  
8 some of the notations and some of the numbers that relate to signs do not work. We talked about  
9 it over the last year. The requirements were not street-friendly. The Building Commissioner has  
10 been working on resetting many of those. Mr. McDonnell has sent it back to the Village Attorney  
11 so that we can get their approval. The three members of the Sign Commission will review the  
12 new Sign Ordinance once it is approved by the Village Attorney. The Sign Commission will then  
13 bring it before the Board. Trustee Gibson believes that they will be bringing it before the Board  
14 very soon.  
15

16 **Temporary Banner Sign for John’s American Bar & Grill** – Trustee Gibson stated that as of  
17 January 14<sup>th</sup>, the Sign Commission will be issuing a Temporary Banner Sign for John’s  
18 American Bar & Grill. Mr. McDonnell will issue the Temporary Sign Permit tomorrow as soon  
19 as he hears from the other two members of the Sign Commission that they are in agreement with  
20 it.  
21

22 Trustee Gibson stated that we do have a mock-up of what the permanent sign will look like.  
23 They have to look at the design and the size. The design and the size will be similar to what is  
24 already there.  
25

26 Trustee Gibson stated that she wanted to make note of the fact that Mr. McDonnell has  
27 forwarded all of the changes that he feels are street-friendly, along with the typos that were  
28 included in the last report that he has on the new Sign Ordinance to Judy Kolman. Mr.  
29 McDonnell is waiting for her to review the changes that we all went through a while back. One  
30 of the things is the “Dimensions” Section of the new Ordinance was not working out in the field.  
31 As Mr. McDonnell went through and actually went to the places, he had to modify it. It is going  
32 to read somewhat like the Sign Ordinance that Frankfort has, because he found that out of all the  
33 ones that we looked at, that one has been field proven. She stated that as soon as we get it back  
34 from Judy Kolman we will read through it and see if there are any other typos before it is passed  
35 onto the Planning and Zoning Commission. After that it will be passed onto the Board for  
36 approval.  
37

38 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**  
39

40 **Lincoln/Western TIF #2 Eligibility Report** – Administrator Mekarski stated that he is very  
41 pleased to provide the Board with a Draft Copy of the Lincoln Highway/Western Avenue Tax  
42 Incremental Financing District #2 Redevelopment Plan and Program. This document was  
43 forwarded to the Board electronically on January 7<sup>th</sup>, a day after its final production by Teska  
44 Associates. The document will allow this community to initiate the TIF #2 Creation. It calls for  
45 the redevelopment of the 18-acre intersection, which is the northwestern quadrant of Lincoln  
46 Highway and Western Avenue. He stated that takes the nine-acres that were formerly owned by

1 Chrysler Motors; the Harold Mazda Chrysler Jeep Property; and it combines it with the Currie  
2 Motors Property and provides a redevelopment strategy to attract Class “A” Retail.

3  
4 Administrator Mekarski stated that this TIF has been extended to take the plaza to the south, the  
5 former Jewel-Osco Plaza commonly known as “Olympia Corners.” He stated that in  
6 combination, the whole strategy is designed to provide some major economic incentives to  
7 attract new retail to both of these corridors. The Plan is being presented to the Board tonight  
8 publicly. The “Final Draft” needs to be presented to the public and available on Thursday,  
9 January 16<sup>th</sup>. He stated that he would be happy to take any questions or comments that the Board  
10 may have. He could also arrange for a conference call with Mike Hoffman from Teska  
11 Associates and Judy Kolman our Legal Advisor to answer some of the finer nuances that the  
12 Board may have in the report. Once the comments are received from the Board of Trustees a  
13 “Final Draft” would be available for the public for a public inspection. At the next Board  
14 Meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, an Ordinance would be introduced. If the Ordinance is passed, a Public  
15 Hearing date will be set for the public to make official comment on it. The Report would also be  
16 forwarded to all of the taxing bodies that could be affected by the TIF, as well as any interested  
17 parties that have filed with our registry. He stated that we have one Homeowners Association  
18 that has done that.

19  
20 **Task Schedule for TIF #2 Adoption** - Administrator Mekarski stated that we have modified the  
21 schedule and the tasks that have to take us from October when we started this all the way through  
22 June 22<sup>nd</sup>, which would be the final adoption of the TIF Ordinance. He stated that as we go  
23 through the completion of the tasks we will be making minor amendments. The Board should  
24 keep the schedule handy in their portfolios so that they can follow along with the role of this  
25 body and also of the Joint Review Board that will be set up of the taxing bodies to review the  
26 TIF.

27  
28 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

29  
30 **Dates Reminder – Wednesday, January 22, 2014 – Work Session to Discuss Tolentine**  
31 **Park** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that on the Agenda are a couple of reminders of  
32 dates of upcoming Work Sessions. The first one is the Work Session to discuss the All Nations  
33 Assembly Church’s proposed Veterans Housing. That is scheduled for Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>  
34 at 7:00 P.M. in the Village Hall Board Room with Pastor Oliver and his consulting team. It is a  
35 Joint Session with the Planning and Zoning Commission as well as the Board of Trustees. She  
36 hopes that will bring some clarity to this project and we can vet it thoroughly but yet in fairness.

37  
38 **Thursday, January 23, 2014 – Business Connections Breakfast** – Village President Meyers-  
39 Martin stated that the next date reminder is for the second Economic Development Committee’s  
40 Business Connections Networking Breakfast. That will be held on Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30  
41 A.M. in the Village Hall Board Room. There will be a Panel Discussion on resources available  
42 for the businesses, in particular small businesses located in the Village of Olympia Fields. One of  
43 the panelist’s is Art Williams from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. He  
44 will talk about the Small Business Advantage Program through the DCEO. That is a Loan  
45 Program and a Grant Program. Another panelist is Carol Harris from the Small Business  
46 Administration. She will be talking about the resources that are available working through the  
47 SBA. The final panelist will be an individual from Accion Chicago. They are a micro lender.

1 They do thousands and thousands of Small Business Loans every day. They are under the  
2 umbrella of the Small Business Administration. They are a very good resource. The moderator  
3 for the Panel Discussion is Ron Bean. Mr. Bean is a resident of the Village. Mr. Bean is on the  
4 District 162 School Board.

5  
6 Village President Meyers-Martin believes that the Panel Discussion will be quite informative.  
7 She encouraged everyone in the audience to attend if they are available. The reason it is held  
8 early in the morning, is so that the businesses can come and have time to get to their place of  
9 business prior to the time they open. There are flyers on the counter in the lobby regarding the  
10 Business Connections Breakfast scheduled for Thursday. The food is supplied by Randy Conn  
11 from McDonald's. He provides breakfast sandwiches. There are also pastries available. She  
12 stated that it is a wonderful experience.

13  
14 **Meeting with IDOT Today** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she, along with  
15 Administrator Mekarski, Joe Alexa, the Director of Public Works, and our two engineers Pat  
16 Barker and Jeff Koza from Robinson Engineering had a meeting with IDOT today in  
17 Schaumburg. They met with seven of IDOT's engineers. There was the Engineer of Program  
18 Development; the Design Squad Engineer, and the Interim Bureau Chief of Design in addition to  
19 four other individuals. The reason that they went there is because the Village is scheduled for  
20 intersection improvements at Route 30 and Western Avenue. It is Federal Dollars to be used to  
21 improve the safety at that intersection. There was a fatality there in 2008. Anytime that there is a  
22 fatality, IDOT steps in and tries to resolve whatever safety issues are in place.

23  
24 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they met with them because the Village has a  
25 Redevelopment Project going on at Route 30 and Western Avenue. The Village feels that they  
26 are going to require intersection improvements as well to facilitate the traffic that will be coming  
27 in and out of the northwest corner of Route 30 and Western Avenue. They wanted to make sure  
28 that the work that IDOT is going to do is not going to interfere or have to duplicate work that is  
29 going to be done in the future. This is a \$1,000,000.00 Project with Federal Funds. She stated  
30 that we wanted to meet with them to make sure that maybe we could integrate the work that is  
31 going to be done. IDOT is going to let that project on January 24<sup>th</sup> with work beginning in March  
32 and lasting through September. IDOT assured the Village that the work that they are doing is not  
33 going to interfere with the Redevelopment Project that the Village has scheduled for that corner.  
34 However, that Redevelopment Group will be providing to them a Traffic Study. They will  
35 compare and contrast what the Redevelopment Group wants as opposed to what they will be  
36 doing over the course of those five or six-months.

37  
38 **Red Light Camera at Route 30 and Orchard Drive** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated  
39 that the other thing that the Village is excited about is the Village just has to make a request for  
40 the Red Light Camera to come back which has been down because of the work at Route 30 and  
41 Orchard Drive. She wanted to explain about the Red Light Cameras. She is aware that a lot of  
42 people feel that they are only in place as revenue generation for towns. Village President  
43 Meyers-Martin stated that she is not saying that that is not a side benefit of that. She stated that is  
44 not the major motivation when you look at Red Light Cameras. Literally, the culture of drivers  
45 has been changed since Red Light Cameras came into place. She stated that until they were  
46 installed, people were driving through yellow lights. They were driving through red lights. It was  
47 as if yellow lights, green lights and red lights meant nothing. It has been a subtle change.

1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she and her husband were in Los Angeles over  
2 Christmas. They have very few Red Light Cameras. When they approached an intersection and  
3 the light was changing they would stop. There were people that were 40-feet behind them that  
4 were zooming past them and going through the light. She stated that is a dangerous thing. She  
5 found out today that there had been a fatality at the intersection of Route 30 and Western  
6 Avenue. She stated that literally it has changed the culture of drivers so that we are safer. We are  
7 more vigilant. We are more sensitive to traffic patterns. She believes that is a good thing. The  
8 Village will not have to go through another three-year study for that light since it was already in  
9 place. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it was a positive meeting with IDOT today.

10  
11 **Permitting Process** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have talked about this  
12 project for quite a while and we have been under confidentiality from the very beginning. The  
13 Village never wanted to do anything to jeopardize that. The Village feels that based on its  
14 conversation with IDOT today, the permitting process will be much shorter. IDOT assured the  
15 Village that rather than taking a year and a half, they would expedite it so that the Village could  
16 possibly have those permits in place in six-months. When the permits are in place, the Village  
17 will be able to announce who is coming, and when they are coming, and what the project is  
18 going to look like. She stated that it is very exciting for the Village. The Village has been  
19 working on this for a long time. Everyone that attended the meeting with IDOT today was  
20 encouraged. IDOT was very positive. They seem to understand the Village’s position in needing  
21 to get this done, not only for the Village of Olympia Fields but for the region. Economic  
22 Development does not keep up pace with the west side of I-57, Mokena, Orland, and Tinley  
23 Park. She stated that we have not been keeping up with them. This is giving us a step in the right  
24 direction and she is very excited about that.

25  
26 **“Coffee with the Village President” the Second Saturday of Every Month** – Village  
27 President Meyers-Martin stated “Coffee with the Village President” was held this past Saturday  
28 at the Village Hall from 8:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. It was a huge success. Some of the residents  
29 that attended are here this evening. There were 16-residents. She stated that we all had coffee and  
30 rolls and we sat in a semi-circle. We had very good dialog and conversation. It was productive. It  
31 was valuable to all of the citizens that were here. She believes that the Village brought some  
32 clarity to the process that the Village must maintain for our Village services. The residents had  
33 an opportunity to express concerns about Economic Development. The subject matter covered  
34 the gamut. They talked about Economic Development. They talked about the water rates and  
35 why the rates are going up. They talked about sewer rates. They talked about the schools. It was  
36 a lively discussion. It was enjoyable to the Village President. She is looking forward to going  
37 forward with the “Coffee with the Village President.”

38  
39 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Administrator Mekarski was there on Saturday.  
40 Each month there will be a different Department Head with the Village President. They will  
41 publicize who the Department Head will be on the Village’s Website as well as on NIXLE in the  
42 event that the residents want to speak with the Department Head one-on-one. She is looking  
43 forward to a very positive experience. The residents will have the ability to speak with the  
44 Village President one-on-one if they wish. Due to the fact it was the inaugural “Coffee with the  
45 Village President,” everyone just chatted. She enjoyed it very, very much. She looks forward to  
46 seeing more residents there. “Coffee with the Village President” takes place the second Saturday  
47 of every month.

1 **John’s American Bar & Grill** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is very  
2 excited. She has been talking about this for a long time. Bizios, John’s American Bar & Grill is  
3 finally ready to open. The hours will be 11:00 A.M. to 11:00 P.M. He will be opening next week.  
4 Village President Meyers-Martin is going to get a date from him for the Grand Opening. She  
5 stated that we will literally cut the ribbon and finally be able to say, “Open for Business.” She is  
6 very thrilled and excited that John Bizios decided to invest in the community. Village President  
7 Meyers-Martin believes that the residents of the Village deserve to have a high quality restaurant  
8 which John’s American Bar & Grill will be. It is a gorgeous space. He has invested over  
9 \$400,000.00 in this restaurant to bring it to the residents. She encouraged everyone to frequent  
10 the restaurant and to tell their neighbors about it and to support him. She stated that the worst  
11 thing that can happen is if you don’t support your local businesses in your community. It takes  
12 away from our ability to improve services because we are not supporting our businesses.

13

14 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

15

16 **Parking on the Sidewalk on Hellenic Drive** – Trustee Nale stated that at the last Board Meeting  
17 a resident was very upset, due to the fact that she had not been informed concerning the Village’s  
18 stand regarding parking on lawns and sidewalks. She stated that since this has been such a long,  
19 outstanding problem mainly on the west side of the Village, she recommended that in the  
20 Village’s Spring Newsletter that an article be included to inform all of the residents of the  
21 appropriate protocol. Trustee Nale stated that if the Village President would like, she would be  
22 happy to work with Chief Krull to provide that information.

23

24 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Nale whether or not she wanted to write the  
25 article. Trustee Nale stated that it all depends on what Chief Krull wants.

26

27 **Water Main Break on South Western Avenue and Route 30** – Trustee Waite stated that he  
28 forgot to mention that last week the Village had a water main break on south Western Avenue at  
29 Route 30. Western Avenue had to be shut down for half a day or so. It was right at the height of  
30 the lowest temperature. It was pretty difficult.

31

32 **NEW BUSINESS:**

33

34 **Enhancement Organization “Getting to Know You”** – Trustee Hudson stated that annually  
35 the Enhancement Organization puts on a gathering called “Getting to Know You.” It will be held  
36 on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. at the Barn at Sergeant Means Park  
37 located at 207<sup>th</sup> and Western Avenue. There will be food, punch and wine. There will be door  
38 prizes and other prizes given out for different things. It will be fun. It is an opportunity to meet  
39 new residents. The Enhancement Organization invited all of the new residents. The members of  
40 the Enhancement Organization will be in attendance as well. Everyone in the Village is invited to  
41 attend. Applications will be available if you wish to join the Enhancement Organization. The  
42 cost to join the Enhancement Organization is \$15.00. Trustee Hudson stated that there is no  
43 pressure to join the Enhancement Organization.

44

45 Trustee Gibson stated that we have several members on the Board of Trustees that are on the  
46 Board of the Enhancement Organization as well. She stated that we make it known that we  
47 would like for residents to come. It is a fun time. The Enhancement Organization of Olympia

1 Fields takes the funds that they have and help with educational purposes, Scholarships, and any  
2 other things that might be helpful for the residents of the Village.

3

4 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

5

6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have any Resignations or Appointments  
7 this evening.

8

9 **ADJOURNMENT:**

10

11 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Hudson to adjourn at 8:12 P.M.**

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

13 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

14

15