

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on January 26, 2009**

4
5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 26, 2009, at
6 the Olympia Fields Village Hall and was called to order by President Jones at 7:30 P.M.
7 The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll.

8
9 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Ormsby, Oliver, Pennington, Nale, and Meyers-Martin
10 President Linzey Jones
11 Village Clerk, Judi Kay Rangel
12 Village Administrator – David Mekariski

13
14 Absent: None

15
16 President Jones stated that Mr. Haussmann has three matters on the agenda. These
17 matters will be taken up under Communications and Petitions.

18
19 **MINUTES:**

20
21 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Oliver to approve the Minutes of**
22 **January 12, 2009, as amended.**

23 **Voice Vote: All Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

24
25 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

26
27 President Jones stated he has Bills for Approval totaling \$179,886.77. President Jones
28 stated that the bill from Frame Masters listed under "Administration" has to be subtracted
29 from the amount of the total bills for approval. President Jones stated that it is not his
30 intention that the frame is paid out of the taxpayers' funds. President Jones stated that the
31 new amount for the Bills for Approval totals \$178,334.42.

32
33 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Meyers-Martin to approve the**
34 **payment of bills for January 26, 2009, in the total amount of \$178,334.42.**

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

36
37 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

38
39 President Jones opened up Communications and Petitions at 7:33 P.M.

40
41 **Beautification Committee – 2008 Holiday Awards** – Trustee Ormsby stated that Susan
42 Moroney and Beve Sokol were here representing the Beautification Committee. None of
43 the award winners were present. Trustee Ormsby stated there was a bit of a snafu. A letter
44 was sent to the award winners but it had the wrong date of the meeting. The Committee
45 did call the award winners to inform them to be present this evening. Trustee Ormsby
46 stated that there was a wonderful turnout again. The Homeowners Associations

1 recommends houses to the Beautification Committee. The Beautification Committee then
2 goes out to view the homes. The winner this year was Robert Kelly. Trustee Ormsby
3 stated that he does a phenomenal job.

4
5 Mrs. Moroney stated Robert Kelly who resides in Maynegaitte won first place. Michael
6 and Karen McCormack who reside in the original Village took second place. They were
7 the first place winners last year. Leon and Geneva Francisco who reside in Graymoor
8 took third place.

9
10 Mrs. Moroney stated that out of thirteen Homeowners Associations, ten participated in
11 the event. Each homeowners association submitted a minimum of six homes for review
12 by the Beautification Committee. Mrs. Moroney stated that she, along with Beve Sokol,
13 Joe Kunkel, Kay Mangan, Arlene Burke, and Dorthine Brown-Martin drove around one
14 evening to view the homes. Mrs. Moroney reminded everyone that the Summer
15 Landscaping Awards would be presented this year.

16
17 Trustee Ormsby stated that the Francisco family won the Landscaping Award last year.
18 The Holiday Award winners will receive Gift Certificates from Bizios. President Jones
19 thanked Trustee Ormsby and the Beautification Committee for all of their wonderful
20 work. (There was a round of applause for the Beautification Committee and the award
21 winners).

22
23 **Educational Commission** – Beve Sokol thanked the Board for supporting the
24 Educational Commission and, in particular, Administrator Mekarski, who has been
25 invaluable with his support, his help, and his suggestions. Mrs. Sokol provided the Board
26 with a copy of an article that appeared in the Star Newspaper over the weekend by Casey
27 Toner entitled "The Norwood Dynasty." Mrs. Sokol also sent an e-mail to the Board
28 requesting that the Board consider engaging a Public Relations Person on an "as needed"
29 basis to inform the surrounding Villages of what the Educational Commission and the
30 Board has done in the way of taking the Ethics Pledge and how positive this is. She feels
31 it is important that the neighboring Villages are aware of what the Olympia Fields
32 Educational Commission is trying to do in the hope that those Villages will form an
33 Educational Commission. Mrs. Sokol stated the Norwood Dynasty is blooming. She does
34 not think the Village should accept that, because Olympia Fields expects more from the
35 neighboring communities.

36
37 President Jones thanked Mrs. Sokol for bringing this to the Board's attention. He stated
38 that it is a sad day in this region when we have the same kind of patriot politics going on
39 that you see in Cook County and the City of Chicago. He stated that, apparently, the
40 Norwood's have outdone themselves. He stated shame on the taxpayers and the residents
41 of School District 159. President Jones went on to say that we have our own job to do in
42 School District 227. He stated once we know who has filed in District 227, the Village
43 can find a way to support some new faces to that Board, in order to bring about better
44 accountability and transparency to their operations in light of some of the hiring decisions
45 they have made.

1 **Holiday Award Presentation to Leon Francisco** – Susan Moroney from the
2 Beautification Committee presented Mr. Francisco with a Gift Certificate from Bizios for
3 being the third place winner in the 2008 Holiday Award Program. Mr. Francisco thanked
4 the Beautification Committee on behalf of his wife and himself. (There was a round of
5 applause for the Francisco Family).
6

7 **PUBLIC WORKS:**
8

9 **Kedzie/Olympian Way Improvements – 2009 APWA Public Works Project of the**
10 **Year** – Trustee Oliver stated that Trustee Ormsby and Administrator Mekarski attended
11 the Award Ceremony. Trustee Oliver turned this item over to Administrator Mekarski.
12

13 Administrator Mekarski stated that Lou Haussmann is here this evening from Baxter &
14 Woodman. He stated that this is a special honor not only for the Village, but the
15 Beautification Committee. He stated that many men and women poured their hearts into
16 this project. This also represents one of the last projects that Jason Rasmussen worked on
17 with the Village. Administrator Mekarski stated that Mr. Rasmussen gave everything of
18 himself as a father and as a parent. He poured out his love and devotion to his family. He
19 also did the same with his work and his career. Administrator Mekarski stated that this
20 project really stands as a shining award for the Village and for the Rasmussen Family
21 who is here tonight.
22

23 President Jones stated that the Village had the pleasure of working with Mr. Rasmussen
24 for many years. He was an outstanding engineer. His dedication to this project and other
25 projects in the Village, and working with the other fine engineers at Baxter & Woodman
26 always put them in great stead with the Village. They had the opportunity to meet Mr.
27 Rasmussen's wife, Cheryl, his brother, Michael, and his son, Tyler. President Jones stated
28 they are here tonight and he thanked them for coming. (There was a round of applause for
29 Mr. Rasmussen's Family)
30

31 President Jones stated that this Kedzie Avenue/Olympian Way Improvement Project was
32 a real labor of love. It was planned over a couple of years. It was built out over another
33 two or three year period. President Jones asked Lou Haussmann from Baxter &
34 Woodman to take the presentation over from here.
35

36 Mr. Haussmann from Baxter & Woodman stated that the APWA stands for the
37 "American Public Works Association." Every year Municipalities across the country
38 submit projects to the APWA. The project for Olympia Fields was in the division of
39 Transportation Improvements. This year, Olympia Fields was awarded the "Project of the
40 Year" from the Southwest Branch, Chicago Chapter. This project competed against other
41 projects from South Cook County, Will County, and Kankakee County. Mr. Haussmann
42 presented a PowerPoint presentation to highlight some of the features of the project.
43

44 Mr. Haussmann stated that this was a partnership between the Cook County Highway
45 Department and the Village of Olympia Fields. The County had budgeted some monies
46 for resurfacing and patchwork on Kedzie Avenue. The Village saw this as an opportunity

1 not to merely resurface Kedzie Avenue, but to talk to the County about creating a new
2 scenic gateway, a new entrance into the Village on Kedzie Avenue. The Village was able
3 to work out an agreement with the County for a jurisdictional transfer, which means the
4 Village took on Kedzie Avenue in exchange for improvements above and beyond what
5 the County would only offer a Municipality. The Village was able to incorporate a
6 number of different elements into the project that you normally wouldn't see in a County
7 Highway Project. Kedzie Avenue was meant to move vehicles through this area. It was a
8 high-speed roadway. It was rural in nature. The Village was able to do improvements to
9 enhance the aesthetics and beautification of the roadway.

10
11 Mr. Haussmann stated that the project was created in three different parts. The first part
12 was from Route 30 to 203rd Street. It was a four-lane highway with a bridge over
13 Butterfield Creek. A new parapet wall was put in which shrunk down the roadway. There
14 was no need to have four travel lanes on that road. With the new space that was available,
15 a shared path was created for bicycles and pedestrians to gain access to the Metra Station
16 at 211th Street.

17
18 From 203rd Street to Vollmer Road, the Village was able to get the County to help
19 reconstruct the roadway completely and create a new barrier, a landscaped median in the
20 middle with decorative plantings and new street lighting that mirrored the lighting that
21 was in the Metra Station at 203rd Street. There is a landscaped berm on the west side of
22 the street. There is a sight and noise screen for the residents along the west side of the
23 street. Sidewalks were put in on the east side of the street for pedestrian access.

24
25 Mr. Haussmann stated that the final portion of the project is one the County was working
26 on. It was a Capacity Improvement Project at the intersection of Kedzie and Vollmer
27 Road. The existing traffic signals were replaced and a new widened pavement was put in
28 place. Additional turn lanes were added.

29
30 The bridge that was over Butterfield Creek was converted from a four-lane road to a two-
31 lane road. A pedestrian/bicycle path connection was added. They were able to avoid tree
32 removal in that wooded area on the south side of town. They didn't have to expand the
33 bridge at all. They were able to use the existing width of the roadway and not damage any
34 of the environment there. They ground down the rumble strips that the County had on
35 either side of Kedzie Avenue in the wooded area, and they repaved them, and widened
36 them slightly and created bicycle lanes on both sides of the road. Bicycle lanes extend
37 from Vollmer down to U.S. 30, and they connect into the bike path the Village built
38 along 203rd Street. So now there is north, south, east, and west access through town.

39
40 The excavated materials were put back into the project. They used the spoil from the old
41 roadway to design a berm along the west side of the project and to fill-in the landscape
42 median in the center. There was not a lot of waste from this project. Mr. Haussmann
43 congratulated the Village. He stated it is not often that a Village of this size can do a
44 project this big. The project will be considered at the Chicagoland level. He stated maybe
45 it would go to the National Level. Mr. Haussmann stated that it is not easy to win these
46 awards. Mr. Haussmann presented a plaque to President Jones. (There was a round of

1 applause). Mr. Haussmann also presented a picture to President Jones that was created by
2 Baxter & Woodman to thank the Village for allowing them to work on the project. Baxter
3 & Woodman is proud of the way this project turned out. Mr. Haussmann stated that it is
4 the last project that Mr. Rasmussen did for Baxter & Woodman. Mr. Rasmussen poured
5 his heart and soul into this project. (There was a round of applause).

6
7 Trustee Ormsby thanked Mr. Haussmann. She stated that she was at the presentation
8 where the Village received the award. Trustee Ormsby stated that it is thrilling to receive
9 this award. She is happy that Mr. Rasmussen's Family is here to be a part of this. She
10 stated that she sat at every meeting with Mr. Rasmussen. He never wavered on his
11 patience, his concern, and his empathy, and his desire to make this everything that
12 Trustee Ormsby wanted and that he knew the Village wanted. He was wonderful and
13 proud. Every time she drives down Kedzie she thinks of him. Trustee Ormsby stated went
14 on to state that Mr. Rasmussen was wonderful on every project that she worked with him
15 on. She stated that this project he had so much heart in it. The result of the project has
16 made such a change to the Village. Trustee Ormsby stated that the project created what
17 the Village had hoped for, a new entryway into the Village, and it created a gateway. She
18 stated that we now have a neighborhood. It stopped the traffic from route 30 to Vollmer.
19 Trustee Ormsby stated that she spoke to Administrator Mekarski and it isn't ironed out
20 yet, but they want to put a plaque in there for Mr. Rasmussen. He will be remembered as
21 the biggest contributor to the final result. Trustee Ormsby stated that it is wonderful that
22 the project is going to go on to the next level.

23
24 At this time a picture was taken with President Jones, Trustees Ormsby and Oliver, along
25 with Mr. Rasmussen's wife, his son, and his brother and the plaque and the picture from
26 Baxter & Woodman. (There was a round of applause)

27
28 **Resolution #2009-02** – Trustee Oliver stated that this is a Resolution authorizing the
29 expenditure of \$135,310.00 of MFT Funds towards the construction of the fiscal year
30 2009/2010 MFT Maintenance Program MFT Section No. 10-00000-00-GM.

31
32 Mr. Haussmann stated that this is the Resolution for our annual street maintenance. The
33 Village receives Motor Fuel Tax Funds from the State of Illinois for the maintenance of
34 the roadways. The streets to be improved this year are 207th Street from Brookwood
35 Terrace to Corinth Road. This was targeted for a number of years and was finally able to
36 be fit into the Budget. In addition, there is a culvert patch area at 16 Graymoor that needs
37 to be repaired. There is another section in Graymoor from 106 to 119 Graymoor. If the
38 Resolution is approved, the documents will be sent to the State of Illinois for approval so
39 they can seek bids at the end of February or early March. Usually, after Easter the work
40 will be performed.

41
42 President Jones stated that he asked Mr. Haussmann to speak with Cindy Saenz to find
43 out if there is any money left in the Bond Fund. If there is money left in the Bond Fund,
44 and there is some appropriate project on the west side of town he will look at that.

1 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to approve proposed**
2 **Resolution #2009-02.**

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

4
5 President Jones stated attached to the Resolution is the Maintenance Engineering
6 Agreement with the consulting engineer.

7
8 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Pennington to approve the Maintenance**
9 **Engineering Agreement between the Village of Olympia Fields and Baxter &**
10 **Woodman for the fiscal year 2009/2010 MFT Maintenance Program Section No. 10-**
11 **00000-00-GM.**

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

13
14 President Jones thanked Mr. Haussmann.

15
16 **Quilt Dedication to the Village of Olympia Fields** – President Jones stated that our
17 quilter didn't make it to the meeting. He stated we are all going to go out in the hallway
18 and unveil the quilt. President Jones stated that we asked one of our local residents, Joan
19 Crusor, who is a schoolteacher and a quilter to develop this for the Village. It is called
20 "The Light of Arete." The plaque next to the quilt states: "In Greek Culture, the word
21 "Arete" is defined as the fulfillment of purpose and to each one's highest human potential.
22 These values resonate throughout the design of the quilt. The movement within the quilt
23 is reflective of our Village, devoted residents, sound government, and the sheer beauty of
24 Olympia Fields. Presented to the Village of Olympia Fields by Joan Crusor, Quilter,
25 Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 2008." President Jones stated that it brings us all
26 together in the circular pattern of the quilt. He is proud of the work that Joan Crusor did.

27
28 Trustee Ormsby believes that Ms. Crusor would be very proud if she was here to see it.
29 She stated it is very delicate handwork and it will be here for a long time. There were
30 other members of the public present but they did not wish to address the Board. President
31 Jones closed Communications and Petitions at 8:15 P.M.

32
33 **FINANCE:**

34
35 **December 2008 Financial Statements** – Trustee Pennington stated that we are eight
36 months into our Budget. This evening he would be reporting on the revenues and
37 expenses incurred for the period ending December 31, 2008.

38
39 **Corporate Fund** - Trustee Pennington stated that we closed the month of December with
40 a surplus in the amount of \$132,105.36. The Village realized actual revenue in the
41 amount of \$492,675.68. The Village incurred actual expenses in the amount of
42 \$360,570.32. The Village budgeted for a deficit in December, due to the fact it was
43 planned to transfer funds from the Corporate Fund to the Sewer Fund. However, that
44 transfer did not occur in this period. The Sales Tax Revenue increased by 5%. \$72,123.59
45 realized, versus \$68,750.00 budgeted. Although, the Village did not budget for Real
46 Estate Taxes, the Village received and booked \$177,729.00 in Real Estate Tax Revenue.

1 The Village realized a \$39,908.00 increase, or 58% in State Income Tax Revenue during
2 this period. The State Tax Revenue budget was \$29,167.00. The Village realized and
3 booked \$69,075.00 in State Income Tax Revenue. The Village booked \$16,500.00 in
4 Towing Impound Revenue for the month. Trustee Pennington stated that is a new line
5 item and from all appearances, it is performing well. The year to date actual, plus
6 encumbrance for December is a surplus in the amount of \$2,636,306.00.

7
8 **Water Fund** – Trustee Pennington stated that the Water Fund closed with a surplus in
9 the amount of \$67,888.00. The expenses were consistent and in line with prior periods.
10 The year to date actual, plus encumbrance for December is a surplus in the amount of
11 \$90,275.00.

12
13 **Sewer Fund** – Trustee Pennington stated that the Sewer Fund closed out the month of
14 December with a surplus in the amount of \$394,470.00. The Village realized actual
15 revenues in the amount of \$426,674.00, and actual expenses in the amount of \$32,204.00.
16 The Village budgeted for a deficit in this fund due to the fact a transfer of funds was
17 contemplated from the General Fund to the Sewer Fund. This transfer of funds did not
18 occur in December. The year to date actual, plus encumbrance for this period is a surplus
19 in the amount of \$733,655.00.

20
21 **2009/2010 Budget Process Calendar** – Trustee Pennington stated that on January 30,
22 2009, the Finance Committee will be holding its first meeting for the 2009/2010 Budget.
23 In the Board Packet is a Memo from Trustee Pennington outlining the dates that the
24 Finance Committee will be meeting through the months of February, March, and April,
25 culminating with the May 1st, date wherein the Budget goes into effect.

26
27 **Police Pension Fund** – President Jones stated that he, along with Trustee Pennington and
28 the Village Board's representatives to the Police Pension Board are paying increased
29 attention to the performance of the Police Pension Fund. He stated the plus side when you
30 look at the numbers overall, they only suffered a loss of about 10% of their valuation
31 over the terrible times of 2008. President Jones stated that the money that is invested in
32 the Mutual Funds, were suffering a similar loss to what we are seeing in the general
33 market place and we will keep a close eye on those, and working with the advisor and
34 making sure that good judgments are being made about those matters. It will take at least
35 a couple years to see those funds recover in any meaningful way. President Jones stated
36 that they will keep a very close eye on what is going on in that fund to try to ensure better
37 performance as the Village moves forward this fiscal year and into the next fiscal year.

38
39 Trustee Pennington stated that he would be attending the Pension Board Meetings to
40 ensure that the Village is where it should be with respect to that fund because, ultimately,
41 it comes back to the Village when it has to levy for the Police Pension. He wants to make
42 sure that the investment strategies that are being utilized by the investing group is what
43 the Village needs, and wants it to be, given the volatility of the market place.

44
45 President Jones stated that the Board will discuss this again during the Budget Process
46 because there will be a line item in the Budget for the Pension Plan Contribution. That

1 will be based in large part on the levy, and the component of the levy that the Village
2 levied in the prior year. The Village will not be looking to make up these losses in the
3 Police Pension Account out of current taxpayer funds, but the Village knows that the
4 percentage of coverage the Village has is not as good as it would like it to be in terms of
5 the amount of the vested benefits versus what is actually in the fund. The Village will be
6 looking for any opportunities it can to improve the Village's contribution to the fund
7 consistent with the Village's obligations to taxpayers to deliver goods and services to
8 them.

9
10 **BUILDING:**

11
12 Trustee Ormsby stated that she did not have a formal report this evening.

13
14 **PLANNING:**

15
16 Trustee Gibson stated that she did not have a formal report this evening.

17
18 **Steering Committee** - Trustee Gibson stated that the Steering Committee between the
19 Chicago Heights officials and the Olympia Fields officials met on January 21, 2009. She
20 stated that the meeting was very well attended and that it was very productive. The
21 meeting was for Redevelopment Scenarios and Concept Plans for the Lincoln
22 Highway/Western Avenue Retail Corridor. There will be additional meetings of the
23 Steering Committee coming up very soon. President Jones thanked Trustees Gibson,
24 Ormsby and Oliver for covering the Steering Committee Meetings. Trustee Gibson stated
25 that one member of the Plan Commission is on the Steering Committee as well.

26 *****

27
28 President Jones stated that he was going to take another item out of order. Under the
29 Village Administrator's Report he wanted Mr. Ken Budwash to address the Board on
30 where the Village stands with the Sewer Project, and the projected savings in that
31 program, and on any thoughts that the engineer may have as to what the Village might do
32 with the savings in connection with the Sewer Project.

33
34 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

35
36 **Consideration to Advance Projects from Year 2 and Year 3 under the**
37 **Comprehensive Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Program** – Mr. Budwash stated that it
38 was a pleasure for him to be here this evening with the dedication of the quilt, which is
39 phenomenal, and to be here for the presentation by Mr. Lou Haussmann on the Southwest
40 Branch Project of the Year. Mr. Budwash congratulated the Board for receiving the
41 award and to Mr. Rasmussen who can't be here with us.

42
43 Mr. Budwash stated that Robinson Engineering aided the Village Administrator in
44 preparing a spreadsheet indicating where the Village is at on the various projects in the
45 Sewer Rehabilitation Project in year one. He stated that we are close to \$900,000.00 in
46 the positive territory due to the current environment for bidding with the contractors

1 being hungry for work and, also, when Robinson Engineering reviewed the video tapes of
2 the sewers that were prepared by National Power Rodding, Robinson Engineering made a
3 determination that quite a bit of the sewers that they thought might need to be lined were
4 not candidates. They looked at the sewers from the standpoint of high priority through
5 low priority. They also looked to see if the sewers were lined already.

6
7 Mr. Budwash believes that it would be a similar situation on the other projects. The data
8 that they have indicates they will be lower then they expected in Olympia Woods and the
9 Kedzie/Arcadia area. Robinson Engineering will be meeting with the Village to discuss
10 their recommendations, and to obtain input and advice from the Village and come up
11 with a way to effectively take advantage of the time we find ourselves in.

12
13 Administrator Mekarski stated that, initially, the Village had a budget of \$2,621,538.00.
14 There was, approximately, \$83,000.00 in Bond Fees. There was \$13,000.00 in
15 miscellaneous expenses. The Village took the Bond out for 2.8 Million Dollars. The
16 analysis shows a variance for two reasons. 1. The Village doesn't have to do as much
17 work as it originally estimated. 2. There were big savings last week on the Bonds, over a
18 quarter of a Million Dollars. The Village saved money by doing in-house inspections.
19 There were additional savings on the televising and cleaning of the sewers. There is a
20 Million Dollar variance.

21
22 Administrator Mekarski stated that he will be having a meeting tomorrow with Robinson
23 Engineering and Joe Alexa to determine what the One Million Dollars could be applied
24 to. The spreadsheet includes the Bond Fees and the IEPA Litigation. The spreadsheet
25 includes the work that has been completed and/or solid bids. The columns referring to
26 Graymoor and Hawthorne Hills could be subject to change due to Change Orders.

27
28 Mr. Budwash stated that in the cleaning portion of the cleaning and televising of the
29 sewers that was awarded to National Power Rodding, National Power Rodding has
30 alleged that access to the hydrants was restricted. It took them more time and they had to
31 go to hydrants that were off-site to fill up with water. Administrator Mekarski stated there
32 will be a meeting tomorrow regarding that matter. President Jones asked that
33 Administrator Mekarski report back to the Board as to what National Power Rodding is
34 asserting and what the Village's response is.

35
36 President Jones stated before discussing advancing any of the projects in phase 2 or 3, he
37 wants everyone to think about whether or not the Village should use any of these funds to
38 subsidize in some way, the cost to fix the laterals. The laterals are the property of the
39 property owner. Some of the laterals are in poor condition and they need to be relined or
40 replaced. Mr. Budwash stated that has been quantified only through the Smoke Testing
41 process. President Jones requested that Mr. Budwash pull that data out in order for it to
42 be reviewed over the next several weeks. President Jones would like to know how many
43 laterals there are, and what the estimated cost per unit may be to repair those, and
44 whether or not some money could be set aside to subsidize the cost of repair. President
45 Jones stated the Board has to work through this and he doesn't know that it is a good idea
46 to do that, but he believes the Board should evaluate that. He does not know if the Village

1 could afford that. Mr. Budwash stated that he could provide that information to the
2 Board. President Jones stated it is nice to know that there is a significant surplus in the
3 program. It gives the Village the opportunity to look for ways to reduce the overall cost
4 of the project to the Village's taxpayers. President Jones thanked Mr. Budwash for
5 attending the meeting this evening.

6
7 **PUBLIC WORKS: (CONTINUED)**

8
9 **Village Snow Removal Cost Analysis** – Trustee Oliver stated that in the Board Packet is
10 a Memo of the Winter Season Cost Update. From December 1, 2008, up to and including
11 January 15, 2009, the cost of overtime for Public Works is \$14,022.55. This amount
12 includes overtime for snow removal, and to repair water main breaks, and for weekend
13 sewer plant checks. Mr. Alexa was not able to provide the Board with the breakdown of
14 overtime for strictly snow removal in the time frame he was provided. Mr. Alexa will
15 provide that information at a later date.

16
17 Trustee Oliver stated that Public Works is doing a remarkable job maintaining the Village
18 roads. Public Works has, approximately, five loads or roughly 160 tons of salt still on
19 hand. If the snow keeps falling at the rate it has been for the remainder of the winter, the
20 Village may have to look at other cost revenue streams to pay for some salt. That is just
21 something to consider down the road.

22
23 President Jones shares Trustee Oliver's view that the Village has to maintain the streets
24 just like it always has. He went on to state that some communities are trying to extend
25 their salt by mixing it with sand. President Jones stated that the Village would not be
26 doing that because it has an adverse effect on the sewer system. The Village has spent
27 almost \$67,000.00 on salt. The Village budgeted \$84,000.00. There is \$17,000.00 left in
28 the Budget for salt. President Jones stated that when Mr. Alexa feels he has to expend it
29 to do so. He stated if the Village has to buy salt, the actual price of the salt on a per ton
30 basis would be going up. Currently, the cost to the Village is \$98.00 a ton. The Village
31 may have to pay \$150.00 a ton or more. The Village is being cautious with the salt.
32 President Jones stated the Village is well within its overtime budget.

33
34 Trustee Meyers-Martin inquired of President Jones as to whether or not it has been
35 explored where Villages ban together and buy salt. President Jones stated the salt that the
36 Village has currently been purchasing all season comes under the Village's contractual
37 relationship through IDOT. He stated that it has been discussed at the Mayors and
38 Managers Meetings. However, the strength of the buying power is through IDOT. He
39 stated hopefully the Village would know whether the increase in cost would be
40 permanent. Trustee Oliver inquired as to whether or not the Village had heard anything
41 from the Illinois Attorney General's Office regarding the pending lawsuit and
42 investigation as to why the salt prices are so high, and why there is such a disparity in the
43 cost. President Jones stated that the Village has not heard anything from the Illinois
44 Attorney General's Office.

1 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

2
3 Trustee Nale stated that she did not have a formal report this evening. Trustee Nale stated
4 that prior to the meeting she handed out a copy of the letter she received from a resident
5 appreciating the Grand Prairie Choral Artists Group singing at the 203rd Street Metra
6 Station on December 16th, 2008.

7
8 **Emergency Exit Signs** – Trustee Nale stated that the emergency exit signs are ready to
9 be installed. There are four signs to be installed. Trustee Nale thanked Trustee Ormsby
10 for having the signs framed and ready to apply.

11
12 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

13
14 Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have a formal report this evening.

15
16 **Public Safety Committee** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that the Public Safety
17 Committee is meeting January 28th, 2009, to go over their final recommendations for the
18 Public Safety Budget.

19
20 President Jones reminded the Board to review the list of budget items that the Court
21 Reporter prepared to see if any of those items pertain to their committees.

22
23 **RedFlex** – President Jones inquired of Trustee Meyers-Martin as to whether or not
24 RedFlex was up and running. Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that the last report that she
25 received, Chief Chudwin was still talking to RedFlex about making the final repairs for
26 Route 30 and Governors Highway. They are not generating the results they should
27 because they are not getting full information from the cameras. Administrator Mekarski
28 stated that he was at that meeting with RedFlex and they admitted that they miscalculated
29 or misengineered the number of lanes and the angle. They did correct that, but in the
30 evening there is not a clear focus on the photograph to pickup the license plate. They are
31 trying to clear up that focus.

32
33 Trustee Gibson stated she can't understand why there is such a problem with a little
34 section here. She stated every time you go down Lincoln Highway they are working on
35 the pole. Trustee Gibson went on to state that all of those cameras work fine in Chicago.
36 President Jones stated that he made it very clear nothing is coming out of the Village's
37 pocket for this project. He stated that the Village did not budget anything in this year's
38 Budget for this program.

39
40 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR: (CONTINUED)**

41
42 **IEPA Consent Order – Status on request for extension to deadline of Construction**
43 **Projects** – Administrator Mekarski stated that at the last meeting we brought forth the
44 necessities to get an amendment of the IEPA Consent Order to allow the additional time
45 for the construction process to complete. That allowed for a \$270,000.00 savings from
46 the engineer's estimate. In the Board Packet is correspondence from the Village Attorney

1 to the Attorney General, and the Attorney General is seeking consultation with the IEPA.
2 As soon as he knows whether or not the extension has been approved, he will report that
3 to the Board.
4

5 **Resolution #2009-03 – A Resolution of the Village of Olympia Fields, Cook County,**
6 **Illinois, in support of the Southwest Water System Expansion and Rehabilitation**
7 **Project** – Administrator Mekarski stated that Oak Lawn is working vigorously with their
8 new engineering team, Camp Dresser and McKee to assess short-term maintenance of the
9 Southwest Water Transmission System which is shared by Olympia Fields and eight
10 other Municipalities. They have assessed about \$200,000,000.00 of capital improvements
11 that are necessary in the Transmission System. The Resolution asks for consideration in
12 the Federal Surplus Dollars. The House Bill should be coming to a vote this week.
13 Monies in the House Bill would be appropriated per state. The State of Illinois is
14 expected to receive 43 Billion Dollars of discretionary funds. The majority of which will
15 be water, sewer, and road projects. Administrator Mekarski is asking that the Board
16 support this along with the other Municipalities. He stated that this is one of the Stimulus
17 Packages. A copy of the Resolution will be forwarded to the Federal Legislative
18 Delegation and to the State Legislative Delegation.
19

20 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Ormsby to approve proposed**
21 **Resolution #2009-03 – A Resolution of the Village of Olympia Fields, Cook County,**
22 **Illinois, in support of the Southwest Water System Expansion and Rehabilitation**
23 **Project.**
24

25 Trustee Nale stated that several months ago the Board had discussed that Olympia Fields
26 should not have to pay as much money for this expansion or revision as the other
27 communities, because the cost was due to the growth of the other communities that are
28 west of Olympia Fields. Trustee Nale inquired of President Jones as to whether or not the
29 Village was getting any prorated amount on this project, or would the Village be paying
30 the same amount as all the other communities are. President Jones stated that this
31 Resolution is only to support their earmark request into the Federal Stimulus Package.
32 They would like the Federal Government to pay for a big portion of this rather than the
33 local taxpayers. The Resolution does not affect that issue. That issue is still under
34 discussion. Once Oak Lawn takes a final position on that particular matter, it will be
35 brought back to the Board for discussion. That will be several months down the road. The
36 original subscriber communities consisting of the Villages of Olympia Fields, Matteson,
37 and Country Club Hills are on one side of the equation. Tinley Park, New Lenox and
38 Mokena are on the other side. The original subscribers are saying that Tinley Park, New
39 Lenox and Mokena should pay a larger percentage because it is their involvement in the
40 system that caused the new infrastructure improvements, and they should pay a larger
41 portion of the costs to put those improvements in. President Jones stated that issue is still
42 being debated. The Village has to make sure it has a reliable Water Transmission System.
43 These will be long-term Bonds. Whatever the Village's costs are, they will be paid over
44 30, 40, 50 years. The Village is paying on Bonds now that that were put in place to build
45 the system back in the 70s and 80s. The Village's current contract ends in, approximately,
46 2021.

1 **Voice Vote: All Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

2
3 **Freshmen Symposium** – Administrator Mekarski encouraged the Board Members to
4 attend the Freshmen Symposium on January 28th, 2009. Administrator Mekarski stated
5 that the Educational Commission undertook this, particularly, the Marketing Team, and
6 more specifically, Beve Sokol. Beve Sokol has single-handedly pulled this off. It is a
7 remarkable thing. 400 freshmen will break away from the regular classes and they will
8 attend breakout sessions to hear eight professionals. The Village President is one of the
9 speakers. There will be people in Business, Education, and Healthcare. The goal is to
10 inspire the students to new career opportunities. Seth Warren will talk about Healthcare
11 Administration. President Jones will talk about being an attorney and being a mayor.

12
13 Administrator Mekarski stated that on March 4th, 2009, Beve Sokol will launch the
14 Internship Program. 15 to 20 seniors will be placed in work settings throughout the
15 community. Administrator Mekarski stated that Beve Sokol is very humble about her
16 efforts, but he wanted to give special acknowledgement for all her efforts, because this
17 would not be possible if it weren't for her hours, and hours, and hours of dedication to the
18 project. Administrator Mekarski thanked Beve Sokol.

19
20 Mrs. Sokol stated that she is humble and she deserves to be. Mrs. Sokol stated that she
21 wanted to acknowledge Administrator Mekarski's tremendous support as well as Ernie
22 Gibson and Ilene Waite. (There was a round of applause).

23
24 Trustee Gibson inquired as to where the meeting will be held on January 28th.
25 Administrator Mekarski stated the event starts off at 7:15 A.M for breakfast. Mr. Rainey
26 will be making omelets in the Media Center. At 8:30 A.M. the students will be divided
27 into groups in the big gym to listen to the speakers. Administrator Mekarski stated that all
28 citizens are invited. Trustee Gibson inquired of Administrator Mekarski as to how the
29 citizens will know about this event. Administrator Mekarski stated that Rich Central is
30 doing an automatic dialer to all the parents. Mrs. Sokol stated that all the freshmen
31 parents have been invited. The automatic dialer system will be utilized on Tuesday
32 evening. Flyers have been sent home with the freshmen. Announcements were to be in
33 the Southtown Star. Casey Toner from the Southtown Star is to be at the event. Trustee
34 Ormsby stated it is wonderful if the Southtown Star is there because we need to see these
35 positive things. Mrs. Sokol stated that is why she is asking the Board to consider having
36 someone on an "as needed" basis to cover these positive things. Trustee Ormsby stated
37 that she agrees with that. Administrator Mekarski thanked Beve Sokol and Ernie Gibson.

38
39 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

40
41 President Jones stated that he did not have a formal report this evening.

42
43 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

44
45 The Board did not have any unfinished business.

