

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on February 11, 2013**

4
5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, February 11, 2013,
6 at the Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President
7 Debra Meyers-Martin at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
8 Administrator Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll.

9
10 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Ormsby, Oliver, Pennington, Nale and Waite
11 Village President Debra Meyers-Martin
12 Village Administrator/Village Clerk, David Mekarski

13
14 Absent: None.

15
16 **MINUTES:**

17
18 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Gibson to suspend with the reading of**
19 **the Minutes of January 28th, 2013.**

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

21
22 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to approve the Minutes of**
23 **January 28th, 2013, as presented.**

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

25
26 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

27
28 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has Bills for Approval in the amount of
29 \$163,461.70. She stated that there is a Cover Memo in the Board Packet designating the
30 more significant payouts.

31
32 Trustee Oliver stated that on the first page we have the 10 Mini Grant Awardees listed.
33 He stated that on Page 1 of the “Summary” we show all 11.

34
35 Administrator Mekarski stated that we are doing 11 Awards. The Educational
36 Commission amended their Budget to increase it by \$313.03. He stated that Reginald
37 Ford will explain in his presentation the rationale for the 11 Mini Grants rather than the
38 10 Mini Grants.

39
40 Trustee Ormsby stated that she is waiting for an update from Robinson Engineering on
41 what is actual and where we are to date.

42
43 Administrator Mekarski stated that we had a detailed presentation not at the last Board
44 Meeting but the one prior to that. A representative from Robinson Engineering was here.
45 He stated that he can provide a copy of the report and the Minutes to Trustee Ormsby.
46 They updated the percentage completed on all of the projects.

1 Trustee Ormsby stated that what she is looking for is what we have actually budgeted and
2 where we are with that money. She inquired whether or not in that Fiscal Year is the
3 Village on Budget, or are we over Budget. She stated that she is looking for a little
4 different kind of reporting.

5
6 Administrator Mekarski stated that the report was modified to meet Trustee Ormsby's
7 expectations. Trustee Ormsby stated thank you.

8 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Pennington to approve the payment of**
9 **Bills for February 11th, 2013, in the total amount of \$163,461.70.**

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

11
12 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

13
14 Village President Meyers-Martin opened up Communications and Petitions at 7:02 P.M.

15
16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have a full Agenda in Communications
17 and Petitions. She is very happy to see the Board Room filled with residents and guests.
18 She stated that usually we don't have this many people attending the Board Meetings.
19 She stated that it is very pleasant and very exciting. Village President Meyers-Martin
20 welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting. She stated that she has the pleasure of being in
21 the position to swear-in a new Sergeant and two, new full-time officers. She stated that
22 the Board is very pleased and very excited about that. She stated that the Board has
23 deliberated on this for quite some time.

24
25 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to recognize some of the family
26 members who are here in the audience. She stated that we have Mrs. Laverne
27 Blasingame. (There was a round of applause). We have Sergeant Blasingame's father,
28 Willie Blasingame, Sr. (There was a round of applause). Willie Blasingame, Jr. is
29 Sergeant Blasingame's brother. (There was a round of applause). Kathy Martin, Marion
30 Blasingame, and Angela Blasingame are Sergeant Blasingame's sisters. (There was a
31 round of applause). She stated that we are very happy to have one of our own residents
32 Pastor Andrew Singleton, Jr. from Victory Apostolic Church. (There was a round of
33 applause).

34
35 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Patrol Officer Miguel Ayala's uncle and aunt
36 are present this evening, Esteben and Rehana Lopez. (There was a round of applause).
37 Officer Ayala's mother, Letticia Nunez, is present. (There was a round of applause).
38 Officer Ayala's brother, Sergio Ayala, is here. (There was a round of applause). Officer
39 Ayala's sister, Modesta Mancill, is here. (There was a round of applause). Angel and
40 Anthony are Officer Ayala's nephews. (There was a round of applause). Lisa Conwill is
41 Officer Ayala's girlfriend. (There was a round of applause). Larry and Mary Conwill the
42 parents of Lisa Conwill are also present. (There was a round of applause).

43
44 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Patrol Officer Michael Smith's mother,
45 Shelia Smith, is here this evening. (There was a round of applause). Officer Smith's son,
46 Michael Cain Smith, is here. (There was a round of applause). Pat Stickle. (There was a

1 round of applause). Jessica Johnson. (There was a round of applause). Mark Twilley.
2 (There was a round of applause). Laila Potts. (There was a round of applause). Village
3 President Meyers-Martin welcomed everyone. She stated that she is glad that all of you
4 could be here tonight. She asked Officer Miguel Ayala to step forward. She also asked
5 Trustee Gibson who is the Trustee Liaison to the Public Safety Committee to step
6 forward as well as Chief Krull.

7
8 **Swearing-In of Sergeant Derrick Blasingame, Officer Miguel Ayala and Officer**
9 **Michael Smith** – Village President Meyers-Martin administered the oath to Officer
10 Miguel Ayala as follows: “I, Miguel Ayala, having been appointed to the position of
11 Police Officer, in the Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook aforesaid, do
12 solemnly swear or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the
13 Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the
14 Office of Police Officer to the best of my ability.” Village President Meyers-Martin
15 stated congratulations. (There was a round of applause).

16
17 Village President Meyers-Martin administered the oath to Officer Michael Smith as
18 follows: “I, Michael Smith, having been appointed to the position of Police Officer, in the
19 Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook aforesaid, do solemnly swear or affirm,
20 that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State
21 of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the Office of Police Officer to
22 the best of my ability.” Village President Meyers-Martin stated congratulations. (There
23 was a round of applause).

24
25 Village President Meyers-Martin administered the oath to Sergeant Derrick Blasingame
26 as follows: “I, Derrick Blasingame, having been appointed to the position of Sergeant of
27 Police, in the Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook aforesaid, do solemnly
28 swear or affirm, that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the
29 Constitution of the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the
30 Office of Sergeant of Police to the best of my ability.” Village President Meyers-Martin
31 stated congratulations. (There was a round of applause). (There was a standing ovation
32 for Officer Ayala, Officer Smith, and Sergeant Blasingame).

33
34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to take this opportunity to once
35 again congratulate Sergeant Blasingame, Officer Ayala and Officer Smith. She stated that
36 Olympia Fields has the best, the brightest, and the most professional officers in the entire
37 region, if not the State. (There was a round of applause). She stated that we are so happy
38 to have Sergeant Blasingame as a new Sergeant on our force. He has been with the
39 department for many, many years. We are so happy that he has taken this position. We
40 are very proud of him. She stated that we are looking forward to good things from
41 Sergeant Blasingame as well as Officer Ayala and Officer Smith. She stated that we are
42 so thrilled that we are able to swear them in as full-time officers and as Sergeant. She
43 thanked everyone for coming tonight and sharing in this celebration as we move forward
44 to a whole new era in the Village of Olympia Fields. She stated that we are glad that you
45 could join us and celebrate with us. She stated that we are proud of not only our new

1 officers, but all of the officers that are here tonight. (There was a round of applause and a
2 standing ovation).

3
4 Trustee Gibson stated that as the Liaison for the Public Safety Committee and the Police
5 Department, it gives her great pleasure in welcoming these officers into new positions.
6 Trustee Gibson stated that she has watched them grow. She stated that they are a good
7 part of our program. She stated that we expect your best and we know that we will get it.
8 Trustee Gibson congratulated the officers. (There was a round of applause).

9
10 **Holiday Awards Presentation – Beautification Committee** – Village President
11 Meyers-Martin stated that we would like to take the opportunity to award our Holiday
12 Awards. Village President Meyers-Martin turned the presentation over to Trustee
13 Ormsby.

14
15 Trustee Ormsby stated that the Beautification Committee has Landscaping Awards in the
16 summer and the Holiday Awards in the winter. She stated that the Chairman of the
17 Beautification Committee, Arlene Burke, is here this evening. Also present from the
18 Beautification Committee is Susan Moroney and Kay Mangan. (There was a round of
19 applause). Trustee Ormsby stated that this is a very hard working, wonderful Committee.
20 (There was a round of applause). Trustee Ormsby stated that she hopes we have
21 representatives from the families here this evening.

22
23 Mrs. Burke stated that this year, as every year, they were surprised at how beautiful the
24 Village was again. She stated that this year was very special during the holidays. The
25 Committee had a really hard time selecting the top three. She believes that they had 10
26 First Place Winners, 10 Second Place Winners, and 10 Third Place Winners in the
27 Village, because everybody did such a wonderful job at decorating. Mrs. Burke stated
28 that tonight we will be recognizing three-families. They will receive Visa Gift Cards in
29 the amount of \$100.00 for first place; \$75.00 for second place, and \$50.00 for third place.

30
31 Mrs. Burke stated that our Third Place Winner is the Dildy Family at 533 Brookwood.
32 (There was no family representative present).

33
34 Trustee Ormsby stated that they are a new winner this year. They love to see new people
35 win. She stated that they did a wonderful job. Mrs. Burke stated that they have made
36 some very nice improvements on the property too.

37
38 Mrs. Burke stated that the Second Place Winner is from The Greens. It is the Bradshaw
39 Family. (There was no family representative present).

40
41 Mrs. Burke stated that the First Place Winner is the Francisco Family. They live at 97
42 Graymoor. (There was no family representative present).

43
44 Trustee Ormsby stated that the house at 97 Graymoor was spectacular. Mrs. Burke stated
45 that it was spectacular. Trustee Ormsby stated that they have won before. They like to
46 spread the winners around but his house was spectacular.

1 Mrs. Burke stated that everyone that was nominated received a Certificate from the
2 Village recognizing their efforts. The Homeowners Associations nominates as many
3 houses as they want to, but they pick their top three. A sign is placed in the yard of the
4 top three. The Beautification Committee spends an evening looking at the top three
5 homes in each subdivision to select the three winners. She stated that we will be looking
6 forward to the Landscaping Awards as soon as it warms up. Trustee Ormsby thanked
7 Mrs. Burke and the other members of the Beautification Committee. (There was a round
8 of applause).

9
10 **Educational Commission Mini Grant Awards Presentation** – Village President
11 Meyers-Martin stated that the next item under Communication and Petitions is the
12 Educational Commission Mini Grant Awards Presentation. This is the second year for
13 this Awards Presentation. Village President Meyers-Martin turned the presentation over
14 to Reginald Ford who is a member of the Educational Commission.

15
16 Mr. Ford stated that this is the Educational Commission’s second year doing the Mini
17 Grants. It has been an overwhelming success. Last year the Commission received 16 or
18 17 Applicants. This year the Commission received 27 Applicants. It also received two
19 Applicants from our high schools that serve Olympia Fields. The Commission changed
20 the Application process this year. He stated that from a Federal standpoint they are
21 moving to Common Core Standards. The Commission wanted to make sure that the
22 monies the Applicants received would be enhancing not just the school as a whole, but it
23 was meeting the curriculum that the Federal Government has set. The Commission didn’t
24 want to send a letter to the Superintendent or to the Principal and let them decide where
25 they thought the money should go and come up with ideas. The letters were sent to the
26 Superintendents and the Principals to be given to the teachers. The Commission wanted
27 the monies to get into the classroom and touch as many students as it possibly could. A
28 rubric was created. It was sent out to the Superintendents and the Principals to be
29 distributed to the teachers. After the Commission received the applications, the
30 Subcommittee reviewed them to make sure that they met the Common Core Standards, as
31 well as meeting the goal of the Commission, to make a difference and try to enhance our
32 community.

33
34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Administrator Mekarski is the Chairman Pro
35 Tem of the Educational Commission.

36
37 Administrator Mekarski stated that he wanted to emphasize that this year the Awards are
38 really unique because they are directed to the teachers. He believes that is one of the
39 greatest things that the Educational Commission has been able to do is to inspire great
40 things from the teachers. The Mini Grant is going to the individual teacher to do
41 something that they otherwise would not be able to do. It was a real tough competition
42 and a difficult decision. There were 27 applications. The Commission has 11-Awards.
43 There are seven School Districts that serve our District. There are three Elementary
44 Districts, three High School Districts, and one Charter School. Unfortunately, the
45 Commission did not receive any applications from District 227 which is our High School
46 District. This is the second year that the Commission has not received any applications

1 from District 227. It is the hope of the Commission that in future years, the primary high
2 school for Olympia Fields would respond to this challenge.

3
4 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Educational Commission was given an annual
5 Budget of \$22,500.00. It is a single line item Budget. In our Budget Workshop we
6 indicated that we would award Mini Grants to an allocation of \$10,000.00. The
7 Commission unanimously recommended 11-Awards totaling \$10,313.03. That is \$313.03
8 above what the Commission estimated. The Commission felt very strongly that the
9 eleventh Award should be granted by the Board. The Motion is to take the \$313.03 out of
10 the proportionate amount for Marketing. He stated that we have looked at the Budget and
11 we will be able to achieve that prior to the end of the year.

12
13 Mr. Ford stated that he was fortunate to be the Chair of the Subcommittee for the Mini
14 Grants. Mr. Ford's other two colleagues on the Subcommittee are Dr. Doris Langon and
15 Dr. Ethel Collier. He stated that Dr. Langon and Dr. Collier are the backbones of the
16 Subcommittee. They are the two educators on the Subcommittee. They make sure that we
17 are meeting the goals and objectives that we set. We have 10-Awardees. They had an
18 extra one because they knew that they were going to have discussion at the Educational
19 Commission Meeting and perhaps there would be some discussion about one that was
20 more worthy than the other. The Commission liked the 10-Awardees that the
21 Subcommittee recommended and they also liked the extra one that they had
22 recommended also. Some of the applications were for less than \$1,000.00. That is how
23 the Commission got to the point where they had 11-Awardees and were slightly above
24 Budget.

25 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to award eleven**
26 **Educational Grants totaling \$10,313.03, to the District/School/ and Instructors as**
27 **listed in the attached and recommended by the Village of Olympia Fields**
28 **Educational Commission in their meeting of February 5th, 2013.**

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

30
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Dr. Ernie Gibson and Ilene Waite are present
32 from the Educational Commission. Dr. Blondean Davis the Superintendent from District
33 162 is here.

34
35 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Village of Olympia Fields felt that
36 education was so important to the residents of this Village, the children, as well as the
37 parents, that this Educational Commission was established. The Commission has worked
38 extremely hard to further the relationship between the Village and our School Districts.
39 She is very proud of their work, their diligence, their commitment, and their dedication.
40 The Mini Grant Program was one of their ideas. They brought it to the Board and the
41 Board approved it. The Board is very proud of the work that the Commission has done.
42 This is the second year for the Mini Grants. She stated that we hope that they continue to
43 grow in popularity and that the rest of the District will become involved. She stated that
44 we are very excited about this. We believe that it benefits the children as well as the
45 Districts. Village President Meyers-Martin thanked the Educational Commission. She
46 stated that she appreciates their hard work.

1 Administrator Mekarski asked Trustee Oliver who is the Trustee Liaison to the
2 Educational Commission to come forward.

3
4 Mr. Ford stated that he didn't know whether or not the Superintendent from Bloom
5 Township is here, Dr. Lenell Navarre. The Principal of Bloom is Michael Campbell. The
6 Applicant is Michael White. (There was a round of applause). Mr. Ford stated that at a
7 time when many of our young people are looking for guidance, Bloom Township High
8 School has invoked a College Readiness/Citizenship Program targeting 829 of their
9 students' ages 13 to 19 years old. The program's mission is to expose them to topics and
10 information that are critical to their cognitive development for careers, college
11 preparation, and to show them their role in improving our community.

12
13 Mr. White stated that he wanted to thank the Board as well as Madam President. He
14 thanked the Educational Commission for their vision. They look forward to giving data
15 back to the Commission relative to the students who are participating and show the
16 worthiness of your mission and vision for this Educational Grant. He stated thank you
17 very much. (There was a round of applause).

18
19 Mr. Ford stated that next is Dr. Blondean Davis and Principal Andrea Kidd. The
20 Applicant is Brian Wales. (There was a round of applause). Dr. Davis and Mr. Wales
21 were present. This is for the Southland College Preparatory Charter High School. The
22 Grant will be used to purchase six of the TI-Nspire CX calculators. The calculators are a
23 top-rated tool that high school students visualize complex trigonometric functions and
24 situations. The calculators will challenge sophomores and juniors by giving them the
25 ability to work on more complex mathematical concepts. (There was a round of
26 applause).

27
28 Mr. Wales stated that he wanted to thank the Commission. This is his first time in
29 Olympia Fields. He lives in Oak Lawn and he is from Wisconsin. He stated that these
30 calculators are vital to what they are trying to do at Southland in the Math Department.
31 He taught at Brother Rice High School for the last six years where they had classroom
32 sets of TI-Nspire's. There are a lot of Geometry topics that he can do on his TI-Nspire
33 that is on his computer but the students are just watching. Now that the Grant is here they
34 will be able to get some of the calculators in the hands of the students. He stated thank
35 you very much. (There was a round of applause).

36
37 Mr. Ford stated next we have Illinois School. The Principal is Carl Cogar. The Applicants
38 are: Katherine Bowers, Stephanie Newman-Healy and Roderick Stewart. This particular
39 Grant is targeted at 400 students at Illinois School. The Grant is looking to counteract the
40 growing problem of childhood obesity. These teachers will be implementing a program
41 entitled "Tumble into a Healthy Lifestyle." It will encourage inactive students to get
42 active through gymnastics to alleviate such illnesses as Diabetes and Heart Disease.
43 (There was a round of applause).

44
45 Mrs. Healy stated that about a month ago, their cheerleaders came to them and stated that
46 they love cheering and they love tumbling and they would like to extend this to their

1 younger students and help other students. They pushed her with the help of Miss Bowers
2 and Mr. Stewart to help write a Grant that would give them the mats so that they can do
3 their pyramids and things like that and make it safe. Not only will they get to use the mat
4 for their competition team, the students in the P.E. Classes will get to use it for tumbling
5 as well. She stated thank you so much. (There was a round of applause).

6
7 Dr. Davis stated that Stephanie was extremely modest. The Illinois Cheerleaders are the
8 Number 1 Team in the whole southwest suburban area. They went downstate to represent
9 us all the way from Orland. (There was a round of applause).

10
11 Mr. Ford stated that once again the school is the Illinois School. The Applicant is Martha
12 Banevich. This particular Grant was a request to purchase musical equipment. It will
13 enhance the students' ability to identify sounds and develop technical skills to read and
14 interpret music. (There was a round of applause).

15
16 Mrs. Banevich stated that she wanted to thank you very much for this Grant. The kids
17 will thank you too because they are looking forward to playing the instruments that they
18 are going to purchase. She stated thank you very much. (There was a round of applause).

19
20 Mr. Ford stated that next is Indiana Elementary School. The Principal is Robert Tomic.
21 The Applicant is Amanda Godin. (There was a round of applause). Assistant Principal
22 Brenda Calvin. Mr. Ford stated that this particular Grant will be used to cover the costs of
23 taking students out and studying the valuable resources of the wetlands in the area,
24 working closely with local naturalists. Students will become familiar with plants and
25 animals native to the wetlands. (There was a round of applause).

26
27 Mrs. Calvin stated thank you so very much on behalf of Mr. Tomic and Miss Godin who
28 could not be here, but especially on behalf of the students that will benefit from this
29 Grant. She stated that we thank you for your support as we continue to explore the
30 wetlands and the grasslands of this region. (There was a round of applause).

31
32 Mr. Ford stated that the next school is Richton Square. The Principal is Dr. Janiece
33 Jackson. The Applicant is Barbara Chirillo. (There was a round of applause). Mr. Ford
34 stated that this particular Grant is targeted at over 100-boys and girls. It is called "Jolly
35 Phonics." It is a software program that will enhance the existing Jolly Phonics materials
36 that provide interactive practice on classroom Smart Boards.

37
38 Mrs. Chirillo thanked the Board and the Educational Commission. They have already
39 been using the Jolly Phonics Book and the CD that goes with the book. The children are
40 doing marvelously at learning their letter names and letter sounds and a little motion to
41 go with it. Mrs. Chirillo stated that she was looking around and saw that there was some
42 marvelous software for our Smart Boards. The children will get to go up and touch it and
43 interact with it. That is one more layer to have the children really learn their letters and
44 sounds, and internalize it so that they can become better readers. Mrs. Chirillo is very
45 excited. She stated that it is a Site License that she is going to purchase. All of the
46 Kindergarten children will be using it. She believes that the Pre-K Classes could also use

1 it. They are both regular education and special education children. She stated that she is
2 really excited and thank you so much. (There was a round of applause).

3
4 Mr. Ford stated that once again the school is Richton Square. The Applicant is Barbara
5 Rada. This Grant is for a “Life Cycles.” The students will be learning about the life
6 cycles of chicks and butterflies through fiction and non-fiction literature, as well as
7 experiencing the hatching of chicks and the emergence of butterflies. Mr. Ford stated that
8 he did this when he was in school but it wasn’t Pre-K. He stated that this is a Pre-K
9 Program to show you how quickly and how early we are trying to reach our students.

10
11 Mrs. Rada stated thank you so much for giving us the money to buy these incubators and
12 Butterfly Gardens. Each of the Pre-K Classrooms will have a Butterfly Garden. They will
13 all have butterflies emerging in their classroom. Two of the classrooms will be able to
14 have incubators. She stated that all of the children will enjoy it. The Kindergarten
15 children will be able to come and visit them. She stated that she knows that they are all
16 looking forward to it. She stated thank you very much. (There was a round of applause).

17
18 Mr. Ford stated that once again this is Richton Square. The Applicant is Heather
19 Vuckovich. (There was a round of applause). Mr. Ford stated that this particular Grant is
20 going to a rotating library. He stated that many of the preschool literacy sections are fairy
21 tales and fiction based. The new appropriate non-fiction preschool books are needed to
22 educate children in accordance with the new Common Core Standards. This will target
23 roughly 140 students. (There was a round of applause).

24
25 Mrs. Vuckovich thanked the Board and the Educational Commission. She is very excited
26 because preschool and special education preschool is always about expanding
27 experiences, to explore our world, and to expand their vocabulary. It is well-known that
28 the bigger the vocabulary, the easier it will be for them to read in the future because they
29 will have a basis to hook their own knowledge. In the past they have always concentrated
30 on non-fiction books like fairy tales. She stated that with the new Common Core
31 Standards they are encouraging us to expand into non-fiction. She stated that we chose
32 five different areas. We have selected books that are non-fiction with very large pictures
33 so that the children can relate to all of them. They can use their document cameras to
34 show them onto the Smart Board so that they can see them in a bigger format. The
35 children will be able to do activities within their thematic unit. She stated that she greatly
36 appreciates this opportunity. It will not only serve the classroom that she teaches, which
37 is special education of three, four, and five-year olds, but they will have a rotating library
38 so that all five preschool classes will get to enjoy them. Mrs. Vuckovich thanked
39 everyone. (There was a round of applause).

40
41 Mr. Ford stated that the next school is O.W. Huth Middle School. The Principal is Corey
42 Levy. The Applicant is Michele Ogletree. Dr. Lyke is the Associate Principal. Mr. Ford
43 stated that Grant is on the same accord as the Bloom Grant. When the Subcommittee
44 looked at it they thought it was another Mentoring Type Program. He stated that we know
45 that students cannot fully concentrate on instruction or meeting standards if they have
46 social issues on their minds. There will be group time, or one-on-one, or two-on-two type

1 of talks. It is geared to have better relationships between the teachers and the students.
2 (There was a round of applause).

3
4 Dr. Lyke thanked the Board and the representatives of the Educational Commission. She
5 stated that the reason that they came up with this program is because a lot of the kids are
6 referred to the Student Services Office in their building for issues dealing with their lack
7 of ability to function in the classroom because of maybe some personal issue, or they are
8 struggling academically. A lot of times they just need someone to cry with them and talk
9 with them. We do some problem solving. We do some reflecting. She stated that
10 afterwards they don't want to go back to class. She stated that what they really want is
11 some nurturing and someone to spend some quality time with them. After they get
12 through talking she has found that maybe they just need additional time that perhaps they
13 don't get at home. The program is not setup as a counseling program. It gives students the
14 opportunity to develop some conversation skills and to talk about things that are universal
15 to teens or preteens, and for them to mentor each other, as well as the adult staff that
16 wants to volunteer their time to talk with children and spend that quality time in place of
17 their parents or family members who don't have that time. The girls will learn some
18 conversation skills dealing with girl issues in the teen world and to develop those
19 relationships. They can learn that they all share some common issues and they can talk
20 about it openly. It is about universal teen issues. (There was a round of applause).

21
22 Mr. Ford stated that once again we have O.W. Huth. The Applicant is Lathica Long. She
23 is not here. This particular Grant is targeting over 600 students. It is called the
24 "Buckle Down Series." This particular series targets mathematics. It maps out the
25 Common Core Standards, the Illinois Learning Standards, and the assessments through
26 mathematics.

27
28 Dr. Lyke stated that on behalf of Mrs. Long she would like to thank the Educational
29 Commission. It is a great pleasure that we accept the Award. We are aggressively moving
30 to Common Core Standards in District 162. This series will help us a great deal and make
31 sure that we meet the standards effectively and efficiently. (There was a round of
32 applause).

33
34 Mr. Ford stated the next one is also O.W. Huth. The Applicant is Marisa Banowski.
35 These are the Schlessinger DVD's. He stated that this one kind of hit home with him and
36 he did kind of fight for this one. Some students are primarily auditory learners where they
37 hear instruction and they get it. Others are primarily kinesthetic learners that need to
38 manipulate physical items to see representations of the content being taught. Others are
39 more visual learners. Mr. Ford stated that they didn't find out until later in his educational
40 career that he was a visual learner. He stated that this one hit home with him.

41
42 Mrs. Banowski thanked the Village of Olympia Fields. She thanked Dr. Davis and Dr.
43 Lyke. She stated that we appreciate this Award so much because out of our 608-students
44 every single one of them gets to use it. The short clips or short videos will add to the
45 classroom. She stated that Dr. Lyke is pushing her teachers to have some variety of
46 teaching styles in the classroom so that students aren't getting bored or off-target. This

1 will add to the students learning. She stated that instead of having the teacher talk the
2 whole time, it will keep the students on task with their objectives for that day. She stated
3 thank you so much. (There was a round of applause).

4
5 Mr. Ford stated that the Subcommittee will be receiving updates and feedback from the
6 Grant winners. The next feedback date is May 14th. He stated that we will also go out and
7 see some of these things occurring throughout the year. Mr. Ford stated that these are the
8 2012/2013 Mini Grant winners. (There was a round of applause).

9
10 Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated all of the Awardees. She thanked them
11 for participating with the Educational Commission and submitting all of their wonderful
12 ideas. She is amazed at all of the things that are going on in the schools and the projects
13 that they have brought forth to the Educational Commission. She stated keep up the good
14 work. She stated that we look forward to you participating next year.

15
16 Trustee Waite stated that for \$10,000.00 worth of seed money, it feels like we got
17 \$150,000.00 worth of results. He believes that is a mark of a real success.

18
19 Trustee Oliver stated that another project within the Educational Commission is the
20 College and Career Readiness Workshop. The Subcommittee discovered that there is a
21 need to provide some additional remedies for the kids who are in the sixth, seventh, and
22 eighth grade, and preparing them not only for high school but college as well. He stated
23 that it took us a long time to get to that notion. The Commission tried to put on a
24 conference for the parents as well as the children. He stated that we discovered it was
25 way over our head to do it as a Commission.

26
27 Trustee Oliver stated that we met with Dr. Davis and Dr. Lyke. They took this ball and
28 ran with it. He stated that we want to make sure that we put a face with the names of
29 those people who are now championing this on behalf of the Educational Commission.
30 He asked Dr. Davis and Dr. Lyke to stand up. (There was a round of applause).

31
32 Trustee Oliver stated that we will provide you with some additional information
33 regarding the specifics of when that conference is going to take place. The project is well
34 underway. Dr. Lyke stated that the conference will take place on April 19th. Trustee
35 Oliver thanked Dr. Davis and Dr. Lyke.

36
37 **Respond Now Second Annual Run/Walk** – Mr. McKenley Wilson stated that he is a
38 Senior Vice President at Wells Fargo. He has been a resident of the Village for about 17
39 years. He has been active in the community. He was on the Olympia Fields Finance
40 Committee for a number of years under State Representative Al Riley. He is a Board
41 Member with Respond Now. He stated that Respond Now is a non-for-profit organization
42 that services the south suburban area. They provide services such as food, clothing,
43 transportation, rental assistance, prescription drugs, utility assistance, etcetera. They
44 provide clothing and toys for children at Christmas. They provide turkeys for
45 Thanksgiving.

1 Mr. Wilson stated that last year they had their first 5K Run/Walk in the Village. They
2 raised approximately \$15,000.00. The funds went to serving the needs of the residents in
3 the south suburban community. This year they will be holding their Second Annual Run
4 and Walk. It will be on Saturday, June 8th in Bicentennial Park. They will use the same
5 route as they did last year. Mr. Wilson is here tonight to ask the Village for their support
6 in this event. It was very successful last year. He stated that over 150-people showed up.
7 He stated that Trustee Waite is on our Board. Trustee Oliver came and participated last
8 year. He stated that they would like to make a proposal to the Board to once again
9 provide some police assistance. He stated that nothing much has changed from last year.
10 They will have emergency services. They will have insurance. They have contacted
11 members of that particular Homeowners Association and they are 100% in support of the
12 event.

13
14 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it will be the same process as before in terms
15 of talking to our Police Chief regarding the services that you will need during the event.
16 She stated that the Board will need information in order to go forward. She stated that last
17 year it was a very successful event. Everyone was excited and happy that it was held in
18 Olympia Fields. She stated that we look forward to working with you.

19
20 Mr. Wilson stated that one of the reasons why they chose Olympia Fields last year and
21 again this year, they think it gives a great opportunity to showcase our Village, showcase
22 our beautiful tree-lined streets, our beautiful homes, and bring a positive communication
23 to the Village. He stated that we will have some radio advertising. They are working on
24 that. They are trying to get some people out from the local radio stations to support them.
25 He stated that last year they had Miss Illinois at the event as one of their guests and as an
26 Awards presenter. They are looking forward to that and they are real excited about it.
27 They like the support of the Village. They will provide the Village with any information
28 that it needs like they did last year.

29
30 Administrator Mekarski stated that there is one item we have to check. This year the
31 Village is doing a comprehensive repaving of a large portion of our streets. It is
32 authorized by a \$1,700,000.00 Bond initiative that is being funded without the use of
33 local property tax. It is encumbering our State Motor Fuel Tax and Sales Tax. He stated
34 that we have to double-check with the engineer's schedule of the construction and how
35 that affects the race. It is early enough that we could probably schedule that so that there
36 is not a conflict.

37
38 Mr. Wilson stated that he will get the route to the police department and to the Village
39 sometime this week.

40
41 Village President Meyers-Martin introduced Mr. Wilson to Chief Krull.

42
43 Mr. Wilson stated that we want to thank the Village for your support. They believe that
44 the work they do is very much needed in the area. They service around 1,000 people per
45 month in terms of providing food, shelter, and other types of emergency services.

46

1 Trustee Waite inquired of Mr. Wilson how many families Respond Now serviced at the
2 Christmas Store. Mr. Wilson stated that he wasn't sure but he believes it was around 200
3 or 300. He stated that it might be a little more. They have a Christmas Store. They work
4 with some of the local churches. Respond Now provides toys and clothing to children
5 during that time of year. They also have a Food Pantry located in Sauk Village. They
6 provided around 500 turkeys for Thanksgiving. Throughout the course of the year they
7 provide food on a daily basis as well as other means of assistance. He invited everyone to
8 stop by Respond Now and visit their facility. He asked everyone to feel free to stop by
9 and donate any clothing that you do not need. Respond Now is located on Emerald
10 Avenue in Chicago Heights.

11

12 Trustee Waite stated that the website for Respond Now is respondnow.org.

13

14 **Comments by Mrs. Burleson** - Mrs. Helen Burleson stated that she resides at 56
15 Graymoor Lane. She has been a resident of the Village for 43-years. She is very pleased
16 to see that Sergeant Blasingame was promoted. It has been a long time coming and long
17 overdue. She considers that a first step. She expects to see the Village's minority officers'
18 advance beyond that rank. She hopes that it doesn't take as long as it took this time.

19

20 Mrs. Burleson stated that the second issue she wanted to discuss was affirmative action in
21 the rewarding of contracts. She stated that this is a very appropriate time since the Village
22 is planning a \$1,700,000.00 contract for road improvements. She hopes that at the next
23 meeting the Board will be prepared to inform the community as to what its Affirmative
24 Action Plan is for hiring contractors for that project. She stated that this is an issue that I
25 have discussed before. She had told the Board that she would bring it up again.

26

27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have broached that subject with our
28 engineers who actually take charge of that bidding process. They are aware of those
29 concerns as well.

30

31 Mrs. Burleson stated very good, thank you.

32

33 **Thank you to the Police Department** - Mr. George Chandler stated that he is with the
34 Vienna Woods Homeowners Association. He wanted to thank the Police Department.
35 They came out to a vacant house and they searched it. One of the neighbor's had seen a
36 back door open and the police were out there in a very quick response time. It was not an
37 emergency. They came out and inspected the house and went through the property. He
38 thanked the Police Department.

39

40 **Thank you to the Public Works Department** - Mr. George Chandler stated that on
41 January 31st, one of the coldest nights of the year, we had a water main break. The Public
42 Works Department came out at midnight and worked until three or four in the morning.
43 He stated that they did a heck of a job and they got the water back on for us. He thanked
44 the Public Works Department.

45

1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have the best staff in the entire region.
2 She thanked Mr. Chandler for that compliment.

3
4 **Thank you to Officer Smith, Officer Kickert, Officer Metzger, and Lars** - Trustee
5 Waite stated that a lot of people probably didn't see the article about the lady with
6 Alzheimer's that got out of the house in her nightgown. He stated that a couple of officers
7 responded and Lars tracked the lady down about a half a mile away.

8
9 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the article was in the Southtown Star. The
10 Board Members have a copy of the article if anyone would like to see it. Village
11 President Meyers-Martin stated that the Board commends Officer Smith, Officer Kickert,
12 Officer Metzger and Lars who were involved in that search. They were able to find our
13 resident and bring her back home safely. She stated that we are very proud of our Police
14 Department. She thanked Trustee Waite for bringing that up to the Board. Village
15 President Meyers-Martin closed Communications and Petitions at 8:00 P.M.

16
17 **FINANCE:**

18
19 Trustee Pennington stated that he did not have a Formal Report this evening. He stated
20 that the Finance Committee should be receiving the first round of projected numbers on
21 February 21st for review.

22
23 **BUILDING:**

24
25 **Family Dollar Update** – Trustee Ormsby stated that she has three quick reports. The
26 Family Dollar Store on Lincoln Highway is well on their way with renovations. She
27 spoke with Mr. McDonnell today. The biggest process they have right now is working on
28 their lot where there was a lot of work. They have a Grand Opening date in mind. She is
29 hoping that they meet it. The lot may push them back a little bit. This is the first new
30 business that the Village has had. She stated that we are excited to have them. They have
31 been very cooperative. They have agreed to almost everything that the Village has asked
32 them to do. She stated that it is good news for the Village to have them come here.

33
34 **All Nations Assembly, formerly Tolentine Monastery** – Trustee Ormsby stated that All
35 Nations Assembly purchased the Tolentine Monastery. They had to put a Fire
36 Suppression System throughout the building. It is required by the Village and the Fire
37 Department. The Village has not inspected it yet.

38
39 **St. James Hospital** – Trustee Ormsby stated that St. James Hospital has seven different
40 renovation projects going on at this time for a total cost of \$35,000,000.00. She stated
41 that is a significant investment in our Village. She is happy that they want to continue to
42 serve the Village. Trustee Ormsby stated that this is a very busy time for Mr. McDonnell
43 who reviews all of the projects. She stated that everything is in order.

1 Trustee Pennington stated that he toured the Tolentine Monastery last week. The
2 sprinkler system is complete throughout the entire building. He stated that it was a task
3 that they did not anticipate, but it is complete and it is ready for final inspection.

4
5 Trustee Ormsby stated that the Tolentine building is old. It is a magnificent building. She
6 stated that it was a monumental project to put the Fire Suppression System in there. She
7 stated that it would be offsetting to most people but they did it. She is so happy to have
8 the Tolentine Monastery in the Village. She is happy that Trustee Pennington got to see
9 the Tolentine Monastery.

10
11 Trustee Oliver inquired of Trustee Ormsby whether or not we have any timeframe on
12 when the Family Dollar Store might be opening. Trustee Ormsby stated that she doesn't.
13 She would be guessing at this point in time. She stated that perhaps by the next meeting
14 she would know.

15
16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she met with the gentleman that is going to
17 be one of the leasee's of the Tolentine property. It is a Home Health Care Training
18 Nursing Program.

19
20 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that St. James is in the middle of relocating all of
21 the Wellness Groups from Chicago Heights to the St. James Campus. She stated that we
22 are very happy to have them as well.

23
24 Trustee Ormsby stated that at some point she would like to have a representative from St.
25 James come in and speak to us at one of our Board Meetings. She would like someone to
26 come in and talk to us about the renovations and the Wellness Group moving over here.
27 She stated that perhaps we could send that invitation in the future.

28
29 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she believes that they are open to that. She
30 just spoke with a representative from St. James. She stated that as part of the relocation of
31 the Wellness Group they are moving 300-employees to the Village of Olympia Fields.
32 She believes that the Village should be able to capitalize on that in terms of all of that
33 traffic coming into the Village and getting them to frequent our businesses. She stated
34 that is a plan that we should already be thinking about. She stated that is quite a few
35 people moving in and out of our Village. She stated that she is excited about that.

36
37 Trustee Ormsby stated adding on to that, and as she always points out, the Village
38 doesn't have a restaurant. She stated that with that good news and those numbers, it will
39 be good PR when we go to people and say, "Come to the Village."

40
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the restaurant has not been for a lack of
42 trying. Trustee Ormsby stated we are trying.

1 **PLANNING:**

2
3 **Educational Commission Newsletter** – Trustee Oliver stated that it gives him great
4 pleasure and a sense of pride in talking about the efforts and the work that the
5 Educational Commission has been doing. He stated that this has to do with the Village of
6 Olympia Fields Educational Commission’s Report on Student Achievement for 2012. A
7 copy of the report is in the Board Packet. It was put together by a Subcommittee of the
8 Educational Commission. Dr. Ernie Gibson and Ilene Waite are in the audience this
9 evening. They are some of the members of that Subcommittee.

10 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to suspend the rules so**
11 **that we can hear a Report on Student Achievement 2012.**

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

13
14 Trustee Oliver stated that there was a lot of work that was put into the report.

15
16 Mrs. Ilene Waite stated that this is just something to inform the people in the Village.
17 There are some graphs that show where our School System stands compared to other
18 School Systems in the region. She stated that we tell them where we got our information
19 and they can go and find out more about what is going on. It is an attempt to get people to
20 pay attention to the Educational System, which desperately needs attention. On the back
21 is a plea for people to vote on April 9th. She stated that if you need any information on
22 candidates to please let her know.

23
24 Dr. Ernie Gibson stated that we have worked with the grade schools and the high schools
25 in any number of our programs. He stated that one thing we are lacking in, we have not
26 communicated with the general public that is the community of Olympia Fields. He
27 stated that this is our effort to communicate directly with each household in the Village
28 and this will be an Annual Report.

29
30 Mrs. Waite stated that Fred Veazey is the person who was heading this up and did a lot of
31 the work. He is out of town and couldn’t be here tonight.

32
33 Trustee Waite stated that if more of the residents saw the presentation that was made here
34 tonight to these recipients; he sees that as creating a lot of enthusiasm for what we are
35 doing with a small amount of money. He stated that with that kind of result we should
36 figure out ways to get more money into that project.

37
38 Trustee Oliver stated that he was glad to hear Trustee Waite say that. Trustee Ormsby
39 inquired whether or not an article on the Mini Grant Awards could go into the Village’s
40 Newsletter. She stated that the press wasn’t here tonight which is too bad. Administrator
41 Mekarski stated that would be a great idea to put an article in the Village’s Newsletter.

42
43 Trustee Ormsby stated that this report is very interesting and very informative. She stated
44 that she appreciates it.

1 Trustee Pennington stated that it states clearly where we stand. He stated that it is a well-
2 written report. He stated kudos to the Subcommittee who put this together.

3
4 Trustee Gibson stated that after she read the Minutes from the last Board Meeting, she
5 had some questions concerning some of the things that were discussed regarding the
6 Educational Commission. She felt that most of the Board did not understand what was
7 going on. Trustee Gibson had a phone meeting today with Cindy and Administrator
8 Mekarski to try to bring some accountability to what is happening in the Educational
9 Commission so that it will be better understood. She is very happy with what
10 Administrator Mekarski prepared for the Board to see and for everyone to understand.
11 She believes that transparency is very important. She stated that even though the
12 Commission is doing a very fine job, we need to know what is going on, and where the
13 money is going, and how it is being spent. Trustee Gibson thanked Administrator
14 Mekarski for preparing the “Educational Commission Expenditures for Fiscal Year
15 2013.”

16
17 Trustee Waite stated that if he had children in high school and saw the presentation that
18 we had here tonight, he would have some real concern about the high schools. They had
19 every opportunity to participate in the program and they chose not to for the second year
20 in a row.

21
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she agrees. Trustee Gibson stated that it is
23 what it is and we can’t do anything about it except to continue to do what we do right,
24 and hopefully they will find out it is right.

25
26 Trustee Nale inquired whether or not anyone has personally contacted the high school.
27 Trustee Gibson stated not any more personal than all the rest. Trustee Ormsby stated that
28 she thought that last year there were a couple of reminder calls made to the high school.
29 She stated that she had asked Trustee Oliver whether or not Arcadia had applied for a
30 Mini Grant and he stated that they had. She understands that not everyone can receive a
31 Grant, but she stated that it is good that they applied.

32
33 **Rich Township District 227 Candidates Forum** – Trustee Oliver stated that there is a
34 Rich Township District 227 Candidates Forum. It will be held on March 2nd at 11 o’clock
35 A.M. at Rich South High School which is in Richton Park.

36
37 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

38
39 Trustee Waite stated that he did not have a Formal Report this evening.

40
41 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

42
43 **Executive Safety Committee Planning Update** – Trustee Nale stated that she met with
44 Administrator Mekarski and Cindy Saenz, the Director of Finance and Administration on
45 February 1st, 2013. Mrs. Saenz will distribute the proposed IRMA Policies to the
46 Department Heads for their review. Mrs. Saenz will also request goals from each

1 department according to the last recommendations that were suggested by IRMA. Trustee
2 Nale stated that an Executive Safety Committee Meeting will be set soon after those
3 objectives have been met.

4
5 Trustee Nale stated that at the meeting on February 1st, they discussed employee
6 incentives and possible in-services for the coming Fiscal Year. They discussed the
7 Horton Health Group. It is an organization that provides incentives for employee health
8 maintenance. Trustee Nale stated that she, along with Administrator Mekarski, Cindy
9 Saenz, the Department Heads, and Robinson Engineering will be meeting on February
10 15th at 9:00 A.M. with a representative from the Horton Health Group to discuss the
11 possibility of joining the Horton Health Group incentives for the employees in the near
12 future. This would be for the employees that want to join. It would not be mandatory.
13 They want to see specifically what the Horton Health Group has to offer.

14
15 Trustee Nale stated that on the table next to the Agenda is the flyer regarding Heart
16 Health. Everyone is welcome to a copy of the flyer. The flyer has been delivered to each
17 department for posting.

18
19 **Olympia Fields Library Board Meeting Update** – Trustee Nale stated that the Olympia
20 Fields Library Board met in January. The library is in the process of developing the
21 “Teen Zone” to correspond with their “Kids Zone.” The Teen Zone would also be used to
22 offer meeting spaces for the general public.

23
24 Trustee Nale stated that the library is in the process of celebrating “Black History
25 Month.” The library received a Grant from the Museum of Science and Industry. That is
26 going to the fourth-graders in the five grade schools within the District. Each grade
27 school will recommend five students. The students will be chosen by the teachers. She
28 stated that hopefully she will receive the names of those students as time progresses. She
29 stated that is really exciting.

30
31 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

32
33 **Action Item to Follow Executive Session** – Trustee Gibson stated that she does not have
34 a report at this time. Trustee Gibson stated that she will have an action item right after the
35 Executive Session. She stated that after Executive Session we will return to Open Session
36 immediately thereafter.

37
38 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

39
40 Administrator Mekarski stated that he did not have a Formal Report this evening.

41
42 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

43
44 **Report on Field Expectation of the 2013 Phase I Road Bond Project** – Village
45 President Meyers-Martin stated that her first item is the Report on the Field Expectation
46 of the 2013 Phase I Road Project. She mentioned at the last Board Meeting that we were

1 scheduled to go out and drive all of the streets that were scheduled for Phase I of the
2 Road Project. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she, along with Joe Alexa,
3 Administrator Mekarski, and Jeff Koza from Robinson Engineering went out and drove
4 the streets that were scheduled for Phase I of the Road Project. She stated that the roads
5 that are scheduled in Phase I really need to be done. They are in bad condition and that is
6 just driving them. She believes that the Village made the right decision to move ahead
7 with those streets that are listed in Phase I. She stated that to the naked eye they look as
8 though if they were not taken care of this year, that they would be candidates for total
9 reconstruction. She stated that total reconstruction doubles or triples the amount of
10 money that the Village has to spend for maintenance of those roads. She stated that it was
11 a very informative drive. They made some adjustments to the streets. There were streets
12 where it was pretty choppy in one section, but they could skip another section of the road.
13 There were a couple of incidents where they needed to continue the resurfacing of the
14 Road Project. The Village's Engineering Firm will go out to bid in the spring for the
15 Road Project.

16

17 **Proclamation to Recognize the Month of February as Boy Scouts of America**
18 **Month** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that her second item is to recognize the
19 month of February as Boy Scouts of America Month. February 8th is the anniversary of
20 the founding of the scouting movement. Scouting includes Cub Scouts, Webelos Scouts,
21 Boy Scouts, and co-ed Venturers and Explorers. Over 8,000 young people enjoy the
22 benefits of their involvement in Scouting in the Calumet Council area, which includes a
23 major portion of the Chicago South Suburbs.

24

25 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is proud to bring before you a
26 Proclamation from the Village of Olympia Fields Recognizing the Month of February as
27 Boy Scouts of America Month. The Proclamation reads as follows:

28

29 “WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America has been at the forefront of instilling the
30 timeless values of leadership, achievement, patriotism, community service, character, and
31 environmental stewardship in youth since its founding in 1910; and

32

33 WHEREAS, this national youth movement has made serving others through its values-
34 based program its mission; and

35

36 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America is committed to helping millions of youth
37 succeed by providing the support, friendship, and mentoring necessary to live a happy
38 and fulfilling life; and

39

40 WHEREAS, there are more than 525 community organizations that make Scouting
41 available for more than 14,000 youth members in our State who participate in the
42 Scouting Program as a means of character building, citizenship training, and personal
43 fitness; and

44

45 WHEREAS, the Boy Scouts of America celebrates the anniversary of the founding of the
46 Scouting movement during the entire month of February; and

1 THEREFORE, BE IT, proclaimed by the Village President and the Board of Trustees of
2 the Village of Olympia Fields that February, 2013, be proclaimed as the Boy Scouts of
3 America Month throughout the Village of Olympia Fields, and urge all citizens to
4 recognize this observance.”

5
6 Trustee Nale inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin that when she was talking
7 about the roads, she noticed that it involves a great deal of the road system that is west of
8 the I.C. and she wondered whether or not that was correct.

9
10 Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes, there are a lot, but she doesn't have the list
11 of those roads with her this evening. Trustee Nale stated that we appreciate that. Village
12 President Meyers-Martin stated that mostly every subdivision has some roads that are
13 included in that project. She stated that it is well overdo in terms of having those roads
14 repaved. She stated that there is one issue where we have to look a little closer where
15 there may be a water main involved that we might have to move in order to provide
16 repairs to that road. She stated that is still unclear and Robinson Engineering is looking
17 into that.

18
19 **Town Hall Meetings** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she asked
20 Administrator Mekarski to put together two Town Hall Meetings. The purpose of the
21 Town Hall Meetings is to introduce Chief Krull to the residents. They did outreach
22 through the Homeowners Associations to find out if it was possible to come to their
23 Homeowners Association Meetings. She stated that not every Homeowners Association
24 meets on a regular basis. Some of them meet once a year. Some of them meet quarterly.
25 Some of them meet every other month. She stated that in order to accommodate all of the
26 Homeowners Associations that were not meeting in the near future, or they already had
27 their major meeting, we decided to have two Town Hall Meetings.

28
29 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the first Town Hall Meeting is scheduled for
30 Wednesday, February 27th, 2013, at the Arcadia Elementary School from 7:00 P.M. to
31 8:00 P.M.

32
33 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the second Town Hall Meeting will be on
34 Saturday, March 2nd, 2013, at the Cathedral of Joy located at 20401 Western Avenue,
35 where we held our Town Hall Meeting for the Fire Service to introduce the new Fire
36 Chief. It will be from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. She stated that not everyone can make it
37 on a week night. And not everyone can make a weekend meeting. She stated that we have
38 a combination of both allowing the most accessibility for the residents to come out and
39 meet Chief Krull. She believes that it is important to introduce him to the community and
40 for the residents to get to know him so that they have a sense of comfort level as they did
41 with Chief Chudwin. Chief Krull will have the opportunity to let the residents know that
42 he is just as community minded, and community spirited as anyone. The residents should
43 not feel that they don't have access to him. She is looking forward to the Town Hall
44 Meetings. She is hoping that everyone will be able to attend one, if not both of those
45 Town Hall Meetings.

1 Trustee Gibson inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin whether or not she and
2 Chief Krull would be attending the Homeowners Association Meetings due to the fact
3 there will be two Town Hall Meetings.

4
5 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are attending the Homeowners
6 Association Meetings as well. She stated that we are already on the books to visit them.

7
8 Trustee Gibson stated that they already told the residents in Wysteria to attend their
9 Homeowners Association Meeting. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will
10 definitely be there. Chief Krull has put those dates on his calendar.

11
12 **UNFINI SHED BUSINESS:**

13
14 **Kudos to the Wysteria Homeowners Association** – Trustee Oliver stated that he
15 wanted to make an acknowledgement to the Wysteria Homeowners Association. He
16 drove down Joe Orr Road this past weekend and he saw how beautiful that fencing looks.
17 He stated that it is really beautiful. He stated that it adds such luxury and such a look
18 along that street. Trustee Gibson thanked Trustee Oliver for his comments.

19
20 **NEW BUSINESS:**

21
22 **Public Hearing by the Sign Commission** – Trustee Gibson stated that tomorrow
23 evening, February 12th, at 7:00 P.M. the Sign Commission will conduct a Public Hearing
24 to consider the Petition of Parkwood Enterprises for a variance to construct a double-
25 sided sign on the property at 2555 Lincoln Highway. It is on the corner of Route 30 and
26 Brookwood Drive. It is the building on the southeast side. The Public Hearing is open to
27 everyone.

28
29 **The Center for Multicultural Communities 15th Annual Community Celebration** –
30 Trustee Gibson stated that we received an invitation from The Center for Multicultural
31 Communities 15th Annual Community Celebration. It will be on Saturday, March 9th, at
32 the Ravisloe Country Club in Homewood. The Guest Speaker will be Robin Kelly. There
33 will be two individuals that will be honored with Awards that evening. Cocktails will be
34 at 6:30 P.M. and dinner will be at 7:30 P.M. Trustee Gibson stated that if you are
35 interested in attending, please contact Gladys. We have a table of 10. They will be giving
36 first choice to the Trustees. If there are Trustees that cannot attend, they will fill the table
37 with spouses, significant others, or residents.

38
39 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that if all of the Trustees would like to attend
40 along with their spouses, she will be happy to supplement whatever it takes to get an
41 additional table.

42
43 Trustee Gibson stated that the price per person is \$75.00. She stated that if you have a
44 corporation or a Municipality, you can get a table of 10 for \$600.00. Trustee Gibson
45 stated that we have already budgeted for that in the Public Representation Budget, which

1 is in Trustee Gibson's Budget. She stated that if we have more than that, Gladys can send
2 in the information for more tables.

3
4 Village President Meyers-Martin asked Trustee Gibson to let her know what the response
5 is for that event.

6
7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that with regard to the two Town Hall Meetings,
8 she understands that due to everybody's busy schedules not every Trustee may be able to
9 make both meetings. They may only be able to attend one, or they may not be able to
10 attend any of the meetings. She stated that certainly we would love for you to be there if
11 you can make it. It is to merely introduce Chief Krull to the residents.

12
13 Trustee Waite inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin whether or not a mailing was
14 being sent out to the entire Village on the two Town Hall Meetings. Village President
15 Meyers-Martin stated that the mass mailing has gone out.

16
17 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

18
19 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have any Resignations or
20 Appointments this evening.

21
22 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

23
24 **To Discuss Matters of Personnel – Open Meetings Act Section 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) –**
25 **With a need to Reconvene -**
26 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to go into Executive Session**
27 **at 8:35 P.M. to Discuss Matters of Personnel according to the Open Meetings Act**
28 **Section 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) with a need to Reconvene.**

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

30
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Board will be taking action once it comes
32 back into Open Session.

33
34 **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

35
36 **Motion to Reconvene to Open Meeting – Public Safety Trustee Gibson –**
37 **Appointment of the Deputy Chief -**
38 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Pennington to go into Open Session at**
39 **8:55 P.M.**

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

41
42 Administrator Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll. Village President Meyers-Martin
43 stated that Trustee Gibson from our Public Safety Committee has an action item on our
44 Agenda.

1 Trustee Gibson stated that as the Public Safety Liaison she, along with Chief Krull held a
2 Public Safety Committee Meeting on January 23rd to review some of the requests made
3 by Chief Krull in the appointment of two, full-time Patrol Officers who you saw inducted
4 into office this evening, and the promotion of Corporal Blasingame to Sergeant. The third
5 item at that particular meeting was to promote Commander Frey to Deputy Chief. Trustee
6 Gibson stated that she had a meeting with Commander Frey. Chief Krull had a meeting
7 with Commander Frey. Village President Meyers-Martin had a meeting with Commander
8 Frey to be sure that Commander Frey knew his responsibilities. She stated that
9 Commander Frey is very happy about it and so are we. Chief Krull does need that kind of
10 assistance. She stated that under Chief Krull's leadership, he would like to have a person
11 who is the boss always in the police department working along with the police officers.
12 She stated that to her that is a plus.

13 **Motion by Trustee Ormsby, second by Trustee Pennington to promote Commander**
14 **Frey to the position of Deputy Chief with a starting salary of \$102,000.00; Upon**
15 **successful completion of Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of**
16 **Police Staff and Command, and National Incident Management System Classes,**
17 **which is the N.I.M.S. compliance, NCIS 300 and 400 classes, and after that is done**
18 **to increase his salary to \$104,000.00. Those classes will probably start in the fall, but**
19 **they are very, very important to the success of our department, so that each person**
20 **that is working in the department knows exactly what they do. And in the event of a**
21 **catastrophic occasion, they will be talking and speaking on the same page as any**
22 **other police officer in the area would be.**

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

24
25 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Chief Krull if he would give the audience a
26 little bit of his philosophy about Command Staff and how you perceive them going
27 forward in training.

28
29 Chief Krull stated that there is no greater compliment to any Chief of Police or any leader
30 than to be able to mentor the people that serve you and ultimately serve the Village. The
31 reason that he requested that Commander Frey be promoted to Deputy Chief and to
32 ultimately go to school at The Center for Public Safety, School of Police Staff and
33 Command, is it will allow your elected officials and me to set a strong leadership
34 foundation for your police department. As soon as Commander Frey is done with the 10-
35 week class, there are two-weeks on and two-weeks off; the plan with regard to the Budget
36 is to send all the Patrol Sergeants as well. The leadership foundation in the police
37 department will be operating on the same page. It will give the other officers in the police
38 department something to strive for. They will know when they get promoted to Sergeant
39 that they will be attending this class. It is incredibly prestigious not only for the officers,
40 but for the community as well. Chief Krull stated that he didn't think of this idea himself.
41 He had a very good mentor at Riverside and that was one of the first things that he did as
42 well. He thought that if he ever got into the position of Chief of Police that that is one of
43 the first things that he would do. He would like to create a cradle of Chiefs, so to speak,
44 with regard to the training, knowledge, and experience. He stated that regardless of who
45 is standing here as your Chief of Police, he would like to see somebody come internally

1 from the department, because the Village has already invested the time, resources, and
2 money in these people so they can step forward when the time comes.

3
4 **ADJOURNMENT:**

5
6 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to adjourn at 9:05 P.M.**

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

8 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

9
10