



1 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

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3 Chairman Pro Tem Gibson opened Communications & Petitions at 7:13 P.M. Although  
4 members of the public were in the audience, no one wished to address the Board. Chairman Pro  
5 Tem Gibson closed Communications & Petitions at 7:13 P.M.

6  
7 **FINANCE:**

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9 **December 2014 Financial Statements** – Trustee Byrd stated that we are looking at the Revenue  
10 and Expenses for December. We are eight-months into our Budget as of the end of December.  
11 Revenue for December in all three funds had exceeded projected Revenue. The General Fund  
12 had a Budget of \$517,234.00. The actual amount received was \$538,100.00. The Water Fund had  
13 a Budget of \$323,326.00. The actual amount received was \$343,851.00. In the Sewer Fund the  
14 Budget was \$116,687.00. The actual amount received was \$128,907.00.

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16 Trustee Byrd stated that the Expenses in the General Fund and the Water Fund were lower than  
17 what was projected for the month of December. The Sewer Fund was about \$1,400.00 over the  
18 Budget. The actual Expenses for the General Fund were \$402,212.00. The Village had budgeted  
19 \$437,341.00. The actual Expenses in the Water Fund were \$467,722.00. The Budget for that  
20 month was \$526,563.00. The actual Expenses for the Sewer Fund were \$352,508.00. The Village  
21 had budgeted \$351,161.00.

22 **(At 7:15 P.M. Village President Meyers-Martin arrived and presided over the Board**  
23 **Meeting).**

24  
25 Trustee Byrd stated that on the “Current Month Surplus and Deficit” for December, in the  
26 General Fund the Village budgeted for a \$79,893.00 surplus. The actual surplus was  
27 \$135,888.00. In the Water Fund the Village had budgeted for a deficit of \$203,238.00. The  
28 actual deficit was \$123,871.00. In the Sewer Fund the Village had budgeted for a deficit of  
29 \$234,474.00. The actual deficit was \$223,601.00. The Budget for the General Fund showed a  
30 surplus. It was more than what the Village had expected for that time. All Budgets exceeded their  
31 Budget for the month of December. That was mainly based on the Village’s Revenue for  
32 December.

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34 Trustee Byrd stated that with regard to the “Year to Date Surplus and Deficit,” that concerns the  
35 Village at the moment. In the General Fund the Village had budgeted to have a deficit by the end  
36 of the eighth-month, December, of \$325,533.00. We only have a \$20,454.00 deficit. That is a  
37 plus in the Village’s favor. In the Water Fund the Village had budgeted for a deficit of  
38 \$23,441.00. The Village had a \$40,518.00 surplus. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted for a  
39 deficit for the eight-months of \$227,365.00. The actual deficit was \$208,510.00. At the end of  
40 the eight-months, all three funds are in a positive based on the Budget, although we are seeing  
41 deficits in the General Fund and the Sewer Fund.

42  
43 Trustee Byrd stated that the last page of the report is a graph showing how things are going. He  
44 stated that if you look at the “Year to Date Surplus and Deficit” that tells you exactly what the  
45 Village is doing now.

46  
47 **Treasurer’s Report of Cash Balances** – Trustee Byrd stated that the next item is the  
48 Treasurer’s Report of Cash Balances. Currently, the Village has \$6,304,374.56. The Financial

1 Institutions are listed where that money is located. He stated that the Board has a Detailed  
2 Report. It tells you where the Village is receiving the most Revenue and where the Expenses are  
3 exceeding where they are suppose to be in the Budget.  
4

5 **Fiscal Year 2015 Audit Schedule** – Trustee Byrd stated that you should have the “Village of  
6 Olympia Fields Audit Schedule.” It gives the dates regarding the Audit.  
7

8 **Finance Committee Report Budget Review** – Trustee Byrd stated that in the Board Packet you  
9 should have the “Finance Committee Report Budget Review” with the date and time that you are  
10 suppose to meet with the Finance Committee. The first date is tomorrow at 7 o’clock. The Board  
11 should have received that from Cindy Saenz today.  
12

13 **Governor Rauner’s Proposed Budget** - Trustee Byrd stated that he won’t go into any  
14 discussion about Governor Rauner’s Budget that is proposed. He believes that Administrator  
15 Mekarski is going to talk about that later. He just asked that each Committee be mindful of the  
16 fact that that Budget is going to affect the Village somewhere around \$250,000.00 if it passes.  
17

18 Trustee Oliver inquired of Trustee Byrd whether or not we have always shown the cost of police  
19 services. He stated that on Page 1 of the “Detailed Report” it shows that there was a market  
20 actual for “Police Services” for the month of December. He was just wondering how that came  
21 to be. The Budget was \$1,200.00. The actual was \$4,400.00. Trustee Byrd stated that if it is there  
22 it was budgeted for all the time. It is giving you the Annual Budget for that. It is there all the  
23 time, unless it was missing in one of your sheets.  
24

25 **BUILDING:**  
26

27 **Beautification Committee** – Trustee Hudson stated that she does not have a Formal Report this  
28 evening. She wants to mention some projects that they are going to do this year. Trustee Hudson  
29 stated that some of the residents as well as the Beautification Committee decided that we would  
30 like to have Christmas Lights on 207<sup>th</sup> Street. They would be like the ones that they have on  
31 Kedzie. Trustee Hudson stated that she has enough in her Budget this year to purchase those  
32 Christmas Lights. They will be installed for this Holiday Season. They will be adding some  
33 Christmas Lights to Kedzie that are not currently working.  
34

35 **Kudos to the Public Works Department** – Trustee Hudson stated that she wanted to give  
36 kudos to the Public Works Department. She contacted Mr. Landini. Nobody else knew anything  
37 about the sidewalk, but when she described it to Mr. Landini he found it and he did clear it for  
38 her. Trustee Hudson stated that she appreciates that.  
39

40 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Trustee Hudson whether or not the Beautification  
41 Committee is going to be recommending LED Christmas Decorations and work towards  
42 changing them out. Trustee Hudson stated yes. Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes.  
43

44 **PLANNING:**  
45

46 Trustee Oliver apologized because there were a couple of activities that took place between the  
47 writing of the Minutes and the securing of the Minutes and he was not able to provide any  
48 information at that time. There are a few things that he would like to mention this evening.

1 **Meeting with the Park District Board** - Trustee Oliver stated that he was out ill at the last  
2 meeting. Trustee Oliver inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin whether or not we came up  
3 with a date for our meeting between the two taxing bodies.

4  
5 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have not as of yet. We are trying to make sure  
6 that the Park District is available in full force. Trustee Oliver inquired whether or not it would be  
7 more than just one or two people. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are inviting the  
8 Park District Board because that seems to be what Trustee Oliver was suggesting. Trustee Oliver  
9 stated that just a couple of the Board Members are fine. It may be difficult to get all of our  
10 schedules to coincide. He stated that it may be too late now as we go into our Budget. If it has  
11 anything at all to do with our Budget, it may be a moot point.

12  
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated if we can do it by mid March that would still allow some  
14 time. Trustee Oliver stated that he will contact Denise Will and see what we can do.

15  
16 **Planning and Zoning Commission** – Trustee Oliver stated that the Planning and Zoning  
17 Commission met on February 17<sup>th</sup>. The Commission had an opportunity to further discuss the  
18 Town Center Final Plan. There were still a number of unanswered questions. The Commission  
19 would like to have as much public input to that entire project every step along the way. There are  
20 going to be a couple of Workshops. The first Workshop is scheduled for March 17<sup>th</sup>.

21  
22 Administrator Mekarski stated that is the regular meeting date for the Commission. Trustee  
23 Oliver stated that there are going to be a number of stakeholders invited to that Workshop. There  
24 will be another Workshop in April. He stated by that time we will have something that the  
25 community can provide to the Commission for further discussion.

26  
27 Administrator Mekarski stated that on March 17<sup>th</sup> we will be inviting Camiros, the consultants  
28 that were hired by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency in Planning on the Grant that was provided  
29 by that agency to give a full report on the Town Center Final Report. He stated that Rosa Ortiz of  
30 Enterprise Community Partners will be there. At the last Board Meeting the Board passed a  
31 Memorandum of Understanding. They are willing to assist the Village in due diligence finding  
32 Class “A” developers, and also assisting in Grants up to \$50,000.00 to advance developers to do  
33 Feasibility Studies. There is some discussion about possibly the Land Bank purchasing that land  
34 which would not cost the Village anything, and holding onto key parcels for three to five-years  
35 until the right developer comes along. We will be inviting the residents from the community  
36 surrounding the Town Center. That consists of the following: Olympia Club, Lakes of Olympia,  
37 The Trails, and the Original Village. There will be stakeholders from RTA, Metra, the Park  
38 District, and the Country Club. Administrator Mekarski asked everyone to get the word out to  
39 their Homeowners Associations and your neighbors and come out to the March Meeting.

40  
41 Administrator Mekarski stated that we are in no rush. The goal is to recommend to the Village  
42 Board that the Town Center in its final form, become a section of our Comprehensive Plan which  
43 will guide future development decisions on all the parcels within that area.

44  
45 Trustee Oliver stated that for the members of the public, if you would like to see that Plan it is  
46 suppose to be coming up online on the Village’s Website soon. There are some copies available  
47 at the front office if anyone would care to take a look at it.

48

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that we may not have a downloadable version. We may have a  
2 link to a section. You will be able to digest the entire report and all of its illustrations.

3  
4 **Candidates Forum** – Trustee Oliver stated that yesterday there was a collaborative effort  
5 between the Enhancement Organization of Olympia Fields and the Educational Commission to  
6 put on a Candidates Forum for those running for the Rich 227 School Board. Trustee Oliver  
7 stated that he wanted to publicly thank the members, some of whom are here tonight: Marsha  
8 Martin, Dr. Ernie Gibson, Trustee Carolyn Gibson, and Fred Veazey who was the Chair, as well  
9 as Karen McCray, Ilene Waite, and the President of the Enhancement Organization, Trustee  
10 Willett Hudson. Trustee Oliver stated that we have done this a couple of times. The routine was  
11 somewhat already placed in stone. They have been meeting a couple of times. Trustee Oliver  
12 was able to join them once. It was a very well laid out plan. There was great audience  
13 participation thankfully to Rich 227 who put out a Robo Call to inform people. The Commission  
14 provided 10,000 flyers that went out to the school-age District kids and their parents to inform  
15 them. It was also placed on a number of the Marquees. It was a pretty well-attended and pretty  
16 well-organized event. Comcast recorded the event. In a couple of weeks a DVD will be provided  
17 to other communities, as well as for the Village to post on our local access channel for anyone  
18 who missed it and would like to see it. There are nine candidates running for three positions on  
19 the School Board. They had actual responses from seven candidates. They didn't receive a  
20 response from two of the candidates. The DVD will have responses from six candidates. One of  
21 the candidates that responded had indicated that he wasn't going to be able to attend the Forum.  
22 Trustee Oliver thanked everyone for the great job that they have done. Trustee Oliver thanked  
23 Chief Krull. At the very last minute we had asked for some security. In the final hour Chief Krull  
24 himself provided us with that security. He stated that we hope not to ever provide you with such  
25 short notice.

26  
27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the event was well-organized. The audience was  
28 able to get a very good glimpse, snapshot of the people who are running, including one  
29 incumbent, Cheryl Coleman. She was the only incumbent there. It was beneficial for the people  
30 who were there.

31  
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she believes that there should have been more  
33 consideration given to the candidates that came and could not participate. She stated only  
34 because if, in fact, we want to give our audience a clear view of whose running everybody  
35 should have had an opportunity to at least speak briefly, and then moved on with the Forum as it  
36 was originally planned. That is her feeling on it in trying to be democratic, in trying to be open  
37 and trying to be fair. The Enhancement Organization and the Educational Commission did a  
38 wonderful job. She learned some things about the candidates that are running that she believes  
39 are very beneficial and valuable to that audience.

40  
41 Trustee Byrd stated that he agrees with the Village President. He felt that the Forum was run in a  
42 very professional way. He got a lot out of it himself from the candidates. He was disappointed  
43 that there weren't enough people in the room. It is the general public out there that has this ideal  
44 about what is going on in 227. That was one of the disappointing things that bothered him. He  
45 expected more people to be there in order to hear the candidates and be interested in the  
46 candidates. The Educational Commission and the Enhancement Organization did their job in  
47 trying to get them out there.

1 Trustee Byrd stated that he was also a little disappointed that those two individuals were not  
2 allowed to stay there and say a word. They should have had that opportunity to speak even  
3 though they were told that they didn't get their things in on time. We don't wish to say a  
4 candidate is lying to us about getting their stuff in. We had no proof it got in or not. We should  
5 have let them say something and walk away. He believes that it would have eased a little tension  
6 that was going on with those two candidates that was there. He stated that on a whole the  
7 program was a success to him because whoever was there did get information on those  
8 candidates. He stated the Common Core question was a great question as long as people are  
9 giving information about what Common Core was. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that  
10 question came from the audience.

11  
12 Trustee Oliver stated that there was great audience participation. Anyone who had a question for  
13 any of the candidates, they collected them all and tried to do their best to make sure that each of  
14 those questions was addressed. He stated that he had to applaud the candidates because for two  
15 hours or more they had to field a lot of questions. Some were a lot easier than others.  
16 Commissioner Waite still has a big problem with one of the questions we asked which had to do  
17 with boardsmanship. One candidate did an excellent job in trying to explain what that was about.  
18 He stated that if you didn't hear that and you want to know more about it watch the tape.

19  
20 Trustee Oliver stated for the record, he wanted to finalize the report by saying that the concerns  
21 you raised regarding the candidates who did not have an opportunity to speak, the Commission,  
22 the Enhancement Organization as well as the Educational Commission, met last Thursday. That  
23 question came up. Initially, we were going to provide a name tent because we had not heard from  
24 those folks. They thought if they provided a name tent and they didn't show up that may look  
25 kind of crazy. In the end it was a unanimous decision. Everyone had voted that if they show up  
26 and they didn't have the courtesy to respond to our requests, then there was nothing more that we  
27 could do. We have done our due diligence. And in the interest of fairness, and openness, we used  
28 the addresses that the Clerk's Office had provided for us. If someone says they never got the  
29 information, it may be that they never opened the information. Either way, it was a decision that  
30 our Commission reached and he stands by that decision.

31  
32 Trustee Byrd stated that he doesn't want to beat the horse down, except that it would have been  
33 nice if the people on the Commission had reached out to those two candidates and let them know  
34 that we haven't received your stuff. It was about a democratic process more than it was about the  
35 candidates being there or not being there. It was about a democratic process and making a sound  
36 decision who we want on there. It would have been nice if someone had reached out to that  
37 candidate to say something.

38  
39 Trustee Oliver stated that he supposes that the next time we will probably take those kinds of  
40 things into consideration. Maybe mailing it and making sure that there is a certified mail that  
41 someone has to sign-off saying that they actually received it. He stated maybe follow-up with a  
42 phone call. He stated that there are a couple of other things we might have done a little bit  
43 differently. He still stands by the decision that they made. He thinks that it was a great event.

44  
45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that as you all know, anytime that there is more than two  
46 people in the room there is going to be a difference of opinion and a difference of approach. This  
47 was very valuable in terms of a discussion because now you do have some information to put  
48 into your think tank as you go forward in the future with these Forums. Trustee Oliver stated yes.

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**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**Ratification of NIMEC Bids for Electrical Suppliers Associated with the Village Water and Sewer Pump Facilities** – Trustee Waite stated that this past week we had a meeting with NIMEC about providing electricity for the Lift Stations, and the price of electricity is going up. We looked at it and decided that it was in the best interest of the Village and our constituents that we enter into a two-year Agreement. He stated that none of the electrical rates are passed through directly to the residents. This is for the Lift Stations which runs about \$50,000.00 a year. But it is going to increase about \$9,000.00 a year. We think it was a good decision to enter into the Agreement to setup a two-year contract. Trustee Waite inquired whether or not there is a Motion.

Administrator Mekarski stated that it is actually under the Village Administrator’s section but Trustee Waite is welcome to ask the Chair to advance it.

**Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Oliver to move the Ratification of NIMEC Bids for Electrical Suppliers Associated with the Village Water and Sewer Pump Facilities currently on the Agenda under the Report of the Village Administrator to a Report under Public Works on the Agenda.**

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

**Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Hudson to ratify the Contract Documents with Dynegy Energy to supply alternative energy supply to the Village’s Sewer Lift Stations and the Water Pumping Station Facilities for two years through May 2017 for Accounts 0339171121, 2243086046, 6923137059, and 7723018001 at a two-year rate of 5.82 cents per kWh.**

Trustee Waite stated that the net effect of this will be to raise the cost of supplying those things about \$9,000.00 a year. It is not a disaster, but electrical rates are going up.

Administrator Mekarski stated that today we received a Memorandum from David Hoover from NIMEC. Administrator Mekarski stated that he, along with Trustee Byrd, Trustee Waite and Jim Landini were not alone in making this recommendation. He stated that out of the 200 plus communities, 97% agreed with our Committee’s decision and is passing the same Motion that Trustee Waite is proposing here this evening. There was a lot of due diligence. We participated in a conference call. Well over 200 communities are participating in our decision.

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

**Lighting at Night at the Old Village Hall** – Trustee Waite stated that one of the things that had been brought up previously was the lighting at night at the Old Village Hall. It is difficult this time of the year to do a lot of work, especially if you are considering doing any digging. We thought that we could just change out the bulbs and put in LED Lights in the old fixtures around there which would provide more lighting. When we got on the ladders and started looking at it, those fixtures are very, very old. We are going to have to replace the fixtures that are currently attached to the buildings right now. We have an approximate cost. We have not gotten Bids yet. It will cost about \$3,000.00 to change out the fixtures and put the LED Lights where they are necessary, and redirect where the light is going to better light the surrounding area. We won’t have to do any digging in the parking lot. There is another light pole there that we could utilize if we still need more light. This will not be started until the weather gets better.

1 **Trash Removal** – Trustee Waite stated that we have had a couple of preliminary meetings with  
2 Republic and either Homewood Disposal or Star about having one supplier cover the entire  
3 Village for trash removal which includes recycling and yard waste. One of them suggested that  
4 we could probably do that and have a program where we could save maybe \$100,000.00 a year.  
5 Trustee Waite doesn't believe that is accurate. He stated that Star has 80% of the Village  
6 residents. Republic is the second largest trash-hauler in the country. One of the issues is they  
7 could give you a low ball Bid and then raise it at a later date and it might put Star out of business  
8 and so you have fewer people to Bid. We are working on doing some due diligence to see if  
9 Republic or anybody has done that in the past. It is going to take us a little while to pull that  
10 information together. He doesn't want to say that this \$50,000.00 or \$100,000.00 is important  
11 because it is extraordinary. It is a big savings for a small Village with 1800 residents. We could  
12 bill it with the Water Bill on the same bill. It wouldn't cost the Village anything to do that. We  
13 have the ability to collect in a way that trash-haulers don't, because people usually leave town so  
14 that bad debt experience is quite significant. He stated that if you don't pay the Village, we turn  
15 your water off. Trustee Waite stated that if Republic won the contract, then maybe 80% of our  
16 residents may not be happy with that because they are going to have to change. There are a  
17 number of issues before they can bring it back to the Board. We think that it is serious enough,  
18 and they are interested enough that we should carry it forward and come to a decision. We are  
19 working on it.

20

21 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

22

23 **Human Resource Committee Update** – Trustee Nale stated that under the Human Resource  
24 Committee, the Executive Safety Committee will meet on March 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss updates that  
25 were recommended by IRMA's 2014 Regulatory Assistance Program, and methods to correct  
26 items that were brought to the Village's attention.

27

28 Trustee Nale stated that regarding the Employee Handbook she personally contacted Judy  
29 Kolman, our attorney, to see if she will be able to meet the March 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for her completion  
30 of the recommendations so that it can be reviewed by the Human Resource Committee at our  
31 next meeting.

32

33 **Library Board Update** – Trustee Nale stated that the Library Board met on January 28<sup>th</sup>.  
34 Village President Meyers-Martin was present to swear-in Sherry Demian as the new Trustee to  
35 the Board due to the resignation of Mary Lubertozzi. Trustee Nale stated that was very nice to  
36 see.

37

38 Trustee Nale stated that the Library Board will continue to express safety concerns as far as the  
39 Conference Center is concerned regarding lighting. Trustee Nale stated that she will be happy to  
40 take Trustee Waite's information back to the Library Board. Trustee Nale thanked Trustee Waite  
41 for the information.

42

43 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

44

45 **Thank you to Chief Krull** – Trustee Gibson stated that she has three items this evening. Trustee  
46 Gibson stated that she wanted to recognize and commend our Chief for his continued devotion to  
47 the safety of the Olympia Fields residents. Chief Krull volunteered his time during the District  
48 227 Candidates Forum yesterday which was jointly sponsored by the Educational Commission



1 and the Enhancement Organization. It was the Committee’s vision that a security presence was  
2 necessary. Two-years ago he got a late call from Administrator Mekarski regarding the Forum.  
3 Chief Krull got another late call from Trustee Gibson about this year’s Forum. We had forgotten  
4 about the security process. She thanked Chief Krull for all that he does for the Village.  
5

6 **Ordinance #2015-01 – An Ordinance Declaring Certain Property Surplus and Authorizing**  
7 **its Sale and Disposition (First and Second Reading)** – Trustee Gibson stated that the second  
8 item is an Ordinance. It is Ordinance #2015-01 an Ordinance declaring certain property surplus  
9 and authorizing its sale and disposition. That is surplus emergency lightbars, sale and disposition  
10 on First and Second Reading. The Police Department has four, old Whelan Liberty emergency  
11 lightbars that have been removed from the patrol squads during the changeover process.  
12

13 The Whelan Company is no longer manufacturing these lightbars. All of the lightbars are in  
14 excess of eight-years old and have reached the end of their useful life expectancy. If we try to  
15 repair them, upgrade them, or retrofit them, the cost really outweighs the value of the product.  
16 The lightbars have been in the maintenance garage unused for approximately one-year.  
17

18 Rich Township ESDA group comes to rescue when there is emergencies. They are located in the  
19 Old Village Hall. You see their squad cars there. They have indicated a desire to purchase all  
20 four of the lightbars in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00, and to use these lightbars on their  
21 emergency services vehicles once they have had a chance to attempt to salvage them to the  
22 degree possible.  
23

24 Trustee Gibson would like to make the recommendation to have these lightbars declared surplus  
25 and to sell the lightbars to Rich Township ESDA group as described in this Ordinance.

26 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Byrd to waive in First Reading and adopt in**  
27 **Second Reading Ordinance #2015-01 declaring certain property surplus and authorizing**  
28 **its sale and disposition.**  
29

30 Trustee Waite stated that often times when you are selling something that is not really that good,  
31 you don’t want to sell it to a friend. In this case it feels like Rich Township is like a friend. He  
32 stated that \$1,200.00 isn’t the end of the world. He would rather see the Village donate the  
33 lightbars to Rich Township and not have any feeling of responsibility that there is some hidden  
34 damage or something that might be wrong with them that we didn’t know about. That is his  
35 suggestion.  
36

37 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Chief Krull whether or not he wanted to speak to  
38 that. She inquired of Chief Krull whether or not ESDA has a clear understanding of the condition  
39 of these lights.  
40

41 Chief Krull stated that they have seen all four of those lightbars. We did not make any guarantees  
42 of any kind with regard to those lightbars. He certainly admires and appreciates what ESDA does  
43 for us each and every day. He would not be opposed to trying to donate them to ESDA if the  
44 Board sees fit. The equipment is outside and exposed to the elements. They have been used for  
45 longer than eight-years. It is certainly the Board’s decision at this point.  
46

1 Trustee Waite stated that they might be able to use that \$1,200.00 to bring them back to service  
2 by replacing some parts and some motors or something. Those get pretty rough handling. Chief  
3 Krull stated yes, they do.

4  
5 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of the Board whether or not there were any other  
6 comments regarding donating versus selling to ESDA.

7  
8 Trustee Gibson inquired whether or not we should have to move the Motion that is already on  
9 the floor first.

10  
11 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that at this point we are in discussion. If there is no  
12 consensus to donate versus purchase we just move forward with the original Motion.

13  
14 Administrator Mekarski stated that if there is an interest to donate, he could help the Board by  
15 instructing what to change on the resolution.

16  
17 Trustee Oliver inquired of Chief Krull whether or not the value of the lights is more than  
18 \$1,200.00. Chief Krull stated that with all due respect, those lightbars aren't worth \$1,200.00. It  
19 is probably going to cost them more to try to get them up and running. He suspects that they are  
20 going to cannibalize two of them to try to make two good lightbars out of them. Trustee Oliver  
21 inquired of Chief Krull whether or not it was his recommendation that we sell them. Chief Krull  
22 stated that it was his recommendation. ESDA approached Chief Krull. Chief Krull stated that he  
23 has a bad habit of walking around and cleaning things up. He was in the maintenance garage and  
24 he started asking questions about the rack of equipment that they have sitting there, if it is not  
25 being used and why it was still there. ESDA approached Chief Krull once he started asking  
26 questions about the equipment. They indicated that they would be willing to spend up to  
27 \$1,200.00 for all four of those lightbars. Trustee Oliver stated they offered the \$1,200.00. Chief  
28 Krull stated correct. Trustee Oliver inquired of Chief Krull whether or not it matters to him.  
29 Chief Krull stated that he would like to get something out of the lightbars, although ESDA does  
30 provide a very valued service to us, he would not be opposed to donating the lightbars to ESDA  
31 if the Board sees fit. Chief Krull stated that he is as cheap as the day is long.

32  
33 Trustee Waite inquired whether or not you would have to change the light bulbs in order to use  
34 them on the police vehicles. Chief Krull stated that they would be using them on their vehicles.  
35 They are allowed to use the red, blue and the clear lighting. Those are older lightbars. They draw  
36 a lot of power from the squad. Trustee Waite stated that he thought perhaps they could use them  
37 in Public Works on some of the trucks. He stated when you start thinking about how you have to  
38 change the light bulbs and the color, and so forth, it is more trouble than what it is worth.

39  
40 Administrator Mekarski stated that he would be in support of the Chief's recommendation. He  
41 stated that when we have a flood, a storm, or a catastrophic strike at the bridge ESDA is there. It  
42 is a voluntary army. We have all met them personally at our holiday occasions. In all types of  
43 weather they are giving the backup to the Chief and his men in the field.

44  
45 Trustee Byrd stated that he would like to offer an Amendment to the proposed Motion.

46  
47 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Trustee Byrd made the second to the original  
48 Motion. She inquired of Trustee Gibson whether or not she was in agreement to an Amendment.

1 Trustee Gibson stated that she wanted to make a statement. Rich Township is a tax body. We are  
2 all in Rich Township. When we pay our Tax Bill, Rich Township gets money. Village President  
3 Meyers-Martin stated yes. Trustee Gibson stated they have a Budget just like we do. ESDA isn't  
4 free for us. We are paying for it. She stated that if we can get a minimum amount of money for  
5 used items that we know we can't use but somebody else can, she doesn't think \$1,200.00 is that  
6 much to ask for. She stated that Chief Krull didn't set the price, ESDA did.

7  
8 Trustee Oliver inquired of Chief Krull whether or not they are in working condition right now.  
9 Chief Krull stated that as far as he knows, two of them are working. The other two have been  
10 there since he arrived here a couple of years ago and he has no idea. They will have to power  
11 those up and see what, if anything happens with them.

12  
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated and they know that. Chief Krull stated that is correct.  
14 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there is a Motion on the floor. It was seconded. We  
15 have had our discussion. At this point Trustee Gibson would like it to remain as that original  
16 Motion.

17  
18 Trustee Byrd stated that he would ask our parliamentarian for a ruling on this. A proposed  
19 Amendment takes precedence over the Motion that is on the floor. Village President Meyers-  
20 Martin inquired of Trustee Byrd what his Amendment would be.

21 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Waite to waive in First Reading and adopt in**  
22 **Second Reading Ordinance #2015-01 declaring certain property surplus and authorize its**  
23 **donation to ESDA.**

24  
25 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Byrd whether or not he rescinded his  
26 second. Trustee Byrd stated that he doesn't have to rescind his second. He is asking for an  
27 Amendment to the Motion. The Motion belongs to the floor. The floor can accept the  
28 Amendment. The Amendment is voted on first. If it is voted down, it goes back to Trustee  
29 Gibson's Motion.

30 **Roll Call: Ayes (2) Trustee Waite and Trustee Byrd voted Yes. No (4) Motion Fails.**

31  
32 Administrator Mekarski stated for the record, the original Motion is as follows:

33 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Byrd to waive in First Reading and adopt in**  
34 **Second Reading Ordinance #2015-01 declaring certain property surplus and authorizing**  
35 **its sale and disposition in the amount of \$1,200.00.**

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

37  
38 **Recognition – Officer John Pearson** – Trustee Gibson stated that the next item is Recognition  
39 for several things that have gone on within the police department.

40  
41 On February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Officer John Pearson responded to a report of a vehicle in a ditch near  
42 Vollmer and Western. While assisting the driver of the vehicle, Officer Pearson was advised by a  
43 passerby of a possible structure fire on Vollmer Road.

44  
45 After making arrangements to safeguard the driver and the vehicle in the ditch, Officer Pearson  
46 began checking the immediate area and located heavy black smoke coming from an attached  
47 garage at 1833 Vollmer Road in Flossmoor. Officer Pearson knocked on the front door and

1 spoke with the elderly resident at that address who was unaware that the garage and now the  
2 vehicle in the garage were fully engulfed in fire.

3  
4 Officer Pearson assisted the elderly resident and her sister in evacuating, placed both residents in  
5 the back of his patrol squad and moved them away from the residence while contacting E-Com  
6 and Flossmoor Fire Department of the working fire. The elderly residents were unaware of the  
7 fire because the batteries in their smoke detector had been removed and were non-operational.

8  
9 The Chief of Police received a letter from Flossmoor Chief of Police Michael Pulec on February  
10 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015, recognizing and commending the actions of Officer Pearson. Officer Pearson's actions  
11 undoubtedly saved the lives of the residents and prevented further damage to the residence.

12  
13 A copy of the letter from the Village of Flossmoor is attached for reference and review purposes.

14  
15 Trustee Gibson stated that at anytime you see Officer Pearson we should commend him for his  
16 very forthright duty as a police officer and a safety person.

17  
18 **Recognition of Officers** – Trustee Gibson stated that the next item is about a sexual assault  
19 investigation and arrest. On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, Olympia Fields Police Department personnel,  
20 including Corporal Mayden and others, responded to Olympia Fields St. James Hospital for a  
21 reported criminal sexual assault involving a 13-year old female victim from Park Forest.

22  
23 Corporal Mayden learned from the victim that on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2015, the 13-year old victim was  
24 forced to have sexual contact with a 20-year old man Antonio Ferrer of 20010 Western Avenue  
25 in Olympia Fields where the attack took place.

26  
27 Further investigation revealed that Faro had been having sexual contact with the victim for a  
28 period of one to two-months.

29  
30 We must realize that the investigation team which was Corporal Mayden, Detective Corporal  
31 Mark Akiyama, Corporal Steve Lopez and Officer Dan Kickert continued their investigation and  
32 located the offender who was taken into custody.

33  
34 All of the officers involved in this incident should be recognized and commended for their swift  
35 assist, decisive and professional action while investigating this complex and time consuming  
36 incident.

37  
38 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

39  
40 **Review of the AM Municipal Franchise & Tax Audit Agreement from the Village**  
41 **Attorney** – Administrator Mekarski stated that since we have completed the ratification of the  
42 NIMEC Bids the only item he has on the Agenda is the review of the AM Municipal Franchise &  
43 Tax Audit Agreement from the Village Attorney. There is no action required on this. This is a  
44 follow-up from his previous report indicating the sections of both Agreements which require  
45 legal modification. You can see from Miss Kolman's redline copies the various sections that are  
46 in dispute. We forwarded a copy of the recommended changes to AM Audit who is forwarding it  
47 to their legal advisors. We are waiting for their response.

48

1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that if you recall that's the Energy Audit that we had a  
2 presentation on. That company more or less guarantees that they can come in and find savings  
3 related to your energy costs, and then they split in essence the savings that they find. In  
4 submitting the contract to our attorneys, they took exception to some of the elements of the  
5 contract. We have reviewed it. It has been sent back to AM Audit with the changes that we are  
6 proposing.

7  
8 **NIMEC Committee** – Administrator Mekarski stated that he wanted to do a follow-up to  
9 Trustee Waite's Report on the NIMEC Committee. As the Board recognizes our Municipal  
10 Electrical Aggregation Rate which was passed onto our residents, that rate has been slightly  
11 above the advertised ComEd rate. There are a number of options that this Board can undertake:  
12 1. We can terminate our contract early with our energy supplier and go out and Bid. 2. We can  
13 opt-out as a Village and revert all the customers back to ComEd. 3. The individual citizens can  
14 do that individually. We are exploring all options. He stated that David Hoover of NIMEC is  
15 going to be forwarding us a call next week. We are going to reconvene the Ad Hoc Committee  
16 consisting of myself, Trustee Waite, Trustee Byrd, and Jim Landini. We are going to take advice  
17 from David Hoover. We ordered the billing information from ComEd. That has been received by  
18 NIMEC. He stated that NIMEC is doing some exploratory investigations of what the market  
19 would yield if we terminate our contract early and go out and Bid. Our effort is to get the  
20 residents the lowest price of electricity and that would be through one of the options.

21  
22 Administrator Mekarski stated that if the market yields a better potential for the residents by  
23 rebidding that Committee would come back and ask authorization of this Board to do so. That  
24 will probably be occurring in the next 30-days. We will be coming back to another Board  
25 Meeting.

26  
27 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

28  
29 **Candidates Forum for Village Trustee** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have  
30 been requested to have a Candidates Forum on March 21<sup>st</sup> in the Board Room for our Trustee  
31 Candidates. The Forum is scheduled to begin at 10:30 A.M.

32  
33 **Budget Review by the Board** – Due to a scheduling conflict that Village President Meyers-  
34 Martin has on March 14<sup>th</sup>, she proposed March 7<sup>th</sup> for the Budget Review as an alternative to the  
35 March 14<sup>th</sup> date. The second date of March 28<sup>th</sup> will remain. After a brief discussion by the  
36 Board, it was the consensus of the Board that the Budget Review will take place on Saturday,  
37 March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00 P.M. in the Board Room.

38  
39 **Coffee with the Village President** – Due to a scheduling conflict that Village President Meyers-  
40 Martin has on March 14<sup>th</sup>, "Coffee with the Village President" will be moved from March 14<sup>th</sup> to  
41 March 21<sup>st</sup>, from 8:30 A.M. to 10:30 A.M.

42  
43 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

44  
45 **Wysteria** - Trustee Gibson stated several months ago when the Board passed the additional  
46 Ordinance concerning Wysteria's streets and streetlights, we have been working with ComEd to  
47 try to cull out the bills that we get and the actual account number for the streetlights. That is

1 almost done. She inquired whether or not that could be presented at the first meeting with the  
2 Finance Committee.

3  
4 Administrator Mekarski stated that he believes that the streetlights were part of the dedication to  
5 the roadway. We didn't know what it would cost to convert them to LED. The bills would be the  
6 Village's responsibility.

7  
8 Trustee Gibson stated that we will be providing what is normally the charges that are there for  
9 each one.

10  
11 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Trustee Gibson whether or not she would give him a bill  
12 retroactive to the dedication. Trustee Gibson stated sure. Administrator Mekarski stated that if  
13 you give us a bill retroactive to the dedication, it will be the responsibility of the Village to pay  
14 that bill. It would be from the point of dedication of the street the Village accepts the billing for  
15 the lights. They couldn't forward the lighting bill because they had to work with ComEd to  
16 separate what portion of energy is going to the gate, the sign, and what portion is going to the  
17 Municipal Lights. Once that has been corrected we can forward it to the Finance Committee and  
18 they can recommend it on Bills Payable.

19  
20 Administrator Mekarski stated that we should have Jim Landini look into the possibility of what  
21 it would cost to convert those streetlights to LED. He believes that The Traditions also require  
22 LED, and see if we can budget for that over one or two-years.

23  
24 Trustee Waite stated that he saw something the other day that said the LED Lights will last at  
25 least 15-years.

26  
27 **NEW BUSINESS:**

28  
29 **Governor Rauner's Budget Address Related to the Local Government Distributive**  
30 **(LGDF)** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we have Governor Rauner's Budget  
31 Address related to the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF). The Governor's Address  
32 has caused quite a bit of an uproar in the Municipal Government arena. Village President  
33 Meyers-Martin stated that she has been to three meetings where the main topic of conversation is  
34 the proposed cuts to the LGDF. She stated that in 1969 the Local Government Distributive Fund  
35 (LGDF) was created in order to supply local government with funds from our State Income Tax.  
36 The purpose was to be able to use that to provide services, to maintain services in your Villages  
37 and Municipalities. In 1969 the local government's share was 12%. In 1994 that was decreased  
38 to 11%. In 1995 it went to 10%. In 2011 it went to 6%. That is based on population. The 6% was  
39 supposed to be restored back to 10%. The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association  
40 was lobbying for that in Springfield. Village President Meyers-Martin went to Lobby Day and at  
41 that time they met with Governor Quinn and our Legislatures to see if that could be restored to  
42 the 10%. That was before the election. Governor Rauner is proposing to cut the 6% by 50%. The  
43 Village of Olympia Fields would lose \$250,000.00. That provides a huge hole in our Budget.  
44 The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus provided Governor Rauner with a statement regarding the 273  
45 Municipalities that belong to that organization. "The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus is extremely  
46 disappointed in Governor Rauner's call to reduce the local share of the State income tax by 50  
47 percent which" was announced in the Budget. "The local share has been an important revenue  
48 stream for Municipalities since the income tax was first instituted in Illinois in 1969."

1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the City of Chicago would lose \$135,000,000.00 by  
2 this 50% cut. Sauk Village that has a population of 10,000 would see an annual cut of  
3 \$500,000.00. A community in Batavia of 25,000 would lose 1.25 Million Dollars. The City of  
4 Aurora has a population of 200,000 and they are going to lose 10 Million Dollars. All of the  
5 Mayors and all of the Village Presidents are in an uproar.

6  
7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that when she met with the South Suburban Mayors and  
8 Managers their call is to pull in our Legislatures to let them know that if they support this, that  
9 we will no longer support them. The south suburban Legislative community is extremely small.  
10 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you would be surprised at how many Legislatures  
11 throughout this whole state are actually in agreement with the Governor. They are supporting the  
12 Governor. She stated that it behooves us to find out who those Legislatures are and how effective  
13 their lobbying is going to be in order to get this passed.

14  
15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the other opinion is that Governor Rauner only  
16 suggested 50% with the idea of negotiating that down. It may end up being 25%. She stated that  
17 even with that that is a huge loss to local Municipalities. The Mayor of Orland Park that has a  
18 population of 60,000, they would lose 3 Million Dollars and to them that it will equate to layoffs  
19 for police, layoffs for fire, staff, and Public Works. She stated that if the Village has to live with  
20 this \$250,000.00 cut it is going to be devastating.

21  
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are asking everyone to call your Legislatures and  
23 call the Governor's Office to say that this is unacceptable in terms of a cut. She stated that you  
24 can write letters but you have to make your voices be known. She stated that we are going to  
25 Springfield on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April. We are trying to meet with Governor Rauner. She doesn't know  
26 how receptive the Governor is going to be. There were some Mayors who were thinking that  
27 Governor Rauner was going to be a breath of fresh air. They are now stepping back from that  
28 saying what is this man talking about. It is going to hit everybody's pocketbook. She has the  
29 Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to the Governor's Address. The Village would see a huge loss of  
30 \$250,000.00, which would really affect our ability to provide services, affect staff, and all of  
31 those things. She stated that if you have time, please contact your Legislatures and let them know  
32 that is unacceptable. She stated call the Governor's Office. Village President Meyers-Martin  
33 believes that they are going to try to have an answer by the time that they close session in  
34 Springfield. That is usually in May.

35  
36 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that in the Address for local government it says it  
37 reduces from 8% to 4% the share of income tax provided to local governments and overall that is  
38 a 600 Million Dollar reduction throughout the state. "During the Campaign Governor Rauner  
39 spoke about working in partnership with local governments to better serve the residents of our  
40 state. The Mayors of the Chicago Region are highly disappointed that as one of his first acts the  
41 Governor has chosen to shift the state's budgetary problems onto local government and this is  
42 not acting in partnership." This was a very strong letter that they sent to the Governor. He  
43 doesn't seem to be responding to input so far. We will see how that goes.

44  
45 Trustee Gibson stated that there are two ways we can lose money. Trustee Gibson inquired  
46 whether or not they are going to reduce our 6% down to 50% of that which would be 3%.

47

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that it is 8% to 4%. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that  
2 overall they have reduced your share before 2011 from 10% to a six% share. She stated 50% of  
3 what we receive now is \$250,000.00. Trustee Byrd stated that we received approximately  
4 \$498,000.00 at the most. Trustee Gibson stated that is not the same as the \$500,000.00 that you  
5 mentioned our Village would receive normally.  
6

7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated no. We get about \$498,000.00 a year now and that is our  
8 LGDF. That would be reduced to \$250,000.00. Administrator Mekarski stated which would be  
9 extremely difficult to make a Budget without a cut in services.  
10

11 Trustee Waite inquired whether or not the state is behind in payments to Municipalities. He  
12 thought that there were a certain amount of payments that weren't finding their way to  
13 Municipalities that qualified for them. He inquired whether or not he missed something.  
14

15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she doesn't exactly understand. Trustee Waite stated  
16 that the state collects whatever and then turns around and gives a certain portion of that back to  
17 the Municipalities. He inquired whether or not they are 100% up-to-date in those funds going  
18 back to the Municipalities. Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes.  
19

20 Trustee Byrd stated that if you look on the Detailed Report at State Income Tax, he stated in  
21 looking at this report they are up-to-date. We budgeted \$301,000.00 for the year-to-date and we  
22 actually received \$327,000.00. They have given us money.  
23

24 Trustee Waite inquired whether or not they have given us all the money that we are suppose to  
25 be entitled to. The accountants wouldn't put the state down as a bad debt. They wouldn't book it  
26 until they received it.  
27

28 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the information that she has is that approximately  
29 the third week of each month the Illinois Department of Revenue certifies to the State  
30 Comptroller the amounts to be allocated based on net collections from the prior month. That  
31 money is distributed to the Municipalities through the LGDF. She stated that as far as she knows,  
32 and as far as Cindy has provided to us, we are up-to-date with those payments. She stated that  
33 this is not written in stone in terms of his proposal, but that is what he wants to do. She stated  
34 that going forward that money is going to be hugely decreased.  
35

36 Trustee Waite stated that in the article that was in the Tribune, perhaps he misread it, they were  
37 talking about not paying the Municipalities the 3% that they were behind currently. The  
38 Municipalities were already short what the state owed them. Trustee Waite stated that he will  
39 have to do some more research on it. There is some portion of monies that the state collects that  
40 they are suppose to distribute to local governments and it is not getting distributed. They are  
41 using it for other purposes. There is a big IOU sitting there someplace with all of those funds. He  
42 stated how far behind is the state in terms of money that is owed to the suppliers. They look at it  
43 and say we are a year and a half behind and that adds up to X Billions of Dollars.  
44

45 Village President Meyers-Martin asked Trustee Waite to bring in the article.  
46  
47  
48



