

1 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

2
3 **5(A) Ordinance No. 2012-04 – An Ordinance abating the 2011 Tax Levy for the**
4 **General Obligation Bonds, Series 2005A of the Village of Olympia Fields. (First &**
5 **Second Reading).**

6
7 **5(B) Ordinance No. 2012-05 – An Ordinance abating the 2011 Tax Levy for the**
8 **General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008 of the Village of**
9 **Olympia Fields. (First & Second Reading).**

10
11 **5(C) Ordinance No. 2012-06 – An Ordinance abating the 2011 Tax Levy for the**
12 **2010 General Obligation Bonds of the Village of Olympia Fields. (First & Second**
13 **Reading).**

14
15 **5(D) Ordinance No. 2012-07 – An Ordinance abating the 2011 Tax Levy for the**
16 **2011 General Obligation Bonds of the Village of Olympia Fields. First & Second**
17 **Reading.**

18
19 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will move on to the Consent Agenda. She
20 inquired whether or not any Board Member wanted to move an item out of the Consent
21 Agenda. There was no response by any Board Members.

22 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to approve items 5(A)**
23 **through 5(D) under the Consent Agenda.**

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

25
26 **FINANCE:**

27
28 **April 30, 2012, Audit Schedule** - Trustee Pennington stated that on his Agenda this
29 evening is the Audit Schedule for April 30, 2012. He stated that as we are about to
30 conclude our Budget for 2012-2013, we almost immediately start the Audit Process for
31 this year. The Audit Schedule has already started. There was a Planning Meeting on
32 February 29th, 2012. The Preliminary Fieldwork is scheduled to commence on May 8th, of
33 this year. The preparation and confirmations by the Village is scheduled to be prepared
34 and distributed to the Auditors on that same date. The Adjusted Trial Balances will be
35 sent to Sikich on June 20th, 2012. The Final Fieldwork is scheduled for June 25th, 2012.
36 The report from the Actuary will be sent to Sikich regarding the OPEB on June 20th,
37 2012, and the report from the Actuary regarding the Police Pension will be sent to Sikich
38 on July 13th, 2012. The First Draft of the Management Letter and the Audit is scheduled
39 for August 8th, 2012. It will be returned to Sikich for revisions, if needed, on August 31st,
40 2012. Management's Discussion and Analysis of the Draft Copy for the Auditor's
41 Review is scheduled for August 31st, 2012. The Draft Copy for the Final Review to the
42 Auditor is scheduled for September 7th, 2012. The CAFR and Management Letter to the
43 Board are scheduled for September 14th, 2012. The presentation to the Board and the
44 Finance Committee is scheduled for November 12th, 2012.
45

1 Trustee Pennington believes that there is an error in the schedule. The Finance
2 Committee will hear the presentation of the Audit prior to the presentation by Sikich that
3 is scheduled for November 12th. Typically, the Finance Committee hears the Audit first,
4 and then it is presented to the Board for final approval. He will check to see if there is a
5 date out of sequence.

6
7 **Board Review of Budget** - Trustee Pennington stated that the Board will be meeting
8 Saturday, March 17th, at 8:00 A.M. to go over the Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

9
10 Trustee Waite stated that he is new as a Trustee. He inquired if it was expected that all of
11 the Trustees attend the meeting on March 17th. Trustee Pennington stated absolutely, we
12 need your input.

13
14 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired whether or not the Department Heads will be
15 at the meeting on March 17th. Trustee Pennington stated that was not his understanding.
16 He inquired why the Department Heads would be there. Village President Meyers-Martin
17 stated that they were there last year. Trustee Pennington stated that he didn't think that it
18 was necessary for the Department Heads to be there. The Finance Committee has already
19 discussed with the Department Heads their budgets during the Finance Committee
20 Meeting. He will leave it up to the Board, on whether or not the Board believes that it is
21 necessary for the Department Heads to be at the meeting on March 17th when the Board
22 reviews the Budget. He does not think that it is necessary for them to be there.

23
24 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Pennington whether or not he felt
25 the Department Heads would bring anything to the table if there were questions from the
26 Trustees regarding their particular Department Budgets. Trustee Pennington stated that
27 we already covered those. The Finance Committee has notes on the deliberations that
28 they had with the Department Heads at the time the Finance Committee met with them.
29 He believes that he is more than capable of answering any of those questions should they
30 come up. He stated that he leaves it to the Board's determination. He stated that if the
31 Board feels it is necessary for the Department Heads to be there, then so be it.

32
33 Trustee Waite stated that he didn't think that it was necessary. He stated that it is a lot of
34 people, and a lot of time to have somebody scheduled if it is necessary. He doesn't know
35 why they were there last year. Trustee Pennington stated that he leaves it up to the Board.
36 He concurs with Trustee Waite that it is not necessary.

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it was merely a question. She inquired of the
39 Board if there was a consensus whether or not they would like the Department Heads
40 there or not. Trustee Nale stated that she didn't think it was necessary. Trustee Gibson
41 stated as long as Cindy is there she didn't think it was necessary for the Department
42 Heads to be there. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Cindy will be there.
43 Administrator Mekarski stated that he will be there.

1 **BUILDING:**

2
3 **Update – 20000 Governors Highway – Demolition of former Governors Restaurant**

4 **Building** – Administrator Mekarski stated that as everyone can see the demolition of
5 Governors Restaurant is going forward aggressively. It should be completed within
6 another week. He stated that Trustee Ormsby has been working with the Building
7 Commissioner, and there is going to be an attempt to save as many trees as practical. He
8 stated besides the demolition of the building, the entire parking lot would be raised and
9 the entire site would be graded. There will be some minimal tree impact necessary to
10 finish the remaining demolition. They are working to maximize the site so that it doesn't
11 look completely barren after the demolition.

12
13 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski if the parking lot out here is part of
14 their parking lot across the street. Administrator Mekarski stated that is all part of their
15 site. It will be demolished. It will be seeded and mulched. He stated hopefully, we can
16 retain some of the large trees on the site. He stated that any future development might be
17 able to incorporate the trees and it would look more mature.

18
19 Trustee Waite stated that we sometimes use that parking lot. Administrator Mekarski
20 stated without permission from the property owner. He stated that we have no real
21 authority to do that. It will be the intent of the property owner after demolition to market
22 it back for future use. The schedule is to remove all building material and site amenities,
23 grading it, seeding it, mulching it, and trying to maintain some of the larger trees on the
24 site.

25
26 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not it would make sense to
27 let the property owner delay that portion of the demolition. He stated that there is a good
28 base there. It needs to be resurfaced. He stated that whoever takes over that property
29 could find that area to be good for parking. It would be easy to put down another layer of
30 asphalt. It would take away the need to go back and put a base in and asphalt over the
31 top. He suggested leaving it up to the buyer of the property to determine whether or not
32 they want that removed.

33
34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we had touched on that discussion regarding
35 the parking and the lack thereof in light of the demolition. They did explore talking to the
36 owners of the building to the south of Village Hall to pick up the slack in terms of
37 parking, and also some of the properties behind Village Hall. She stated that the Village
38 had explored other venues. She stated right now with demolition going on, you definitely
39 don't want cars parking there during that process.

40
41 Administrator Mekarski stated that we don't have any kind of a Parking Agreement with
42 the property owner. He stated that if the Village was going to use it for parking it would
43 be necessary to get a formalized agreement, and discuss insurance and liability issues. He
44 stated that there probably would be a consideration that we might be subject to the cost of
45 demolishing it for a potential purchaser. He isn't sure if the Village wants to absorb that.

1 Trustee Waite stated that he wasn't suggesting that the Village absorb that. He was
2 saying that the potential purchaser would have the option to have that parking lot
3 demolished or not. He stated that it was just an idea that he wanted to throw out.
4

5 Trustee Gibson stated that it was her understanding that a part of the agreement was to
6 have the owners of the property put it back in its original form. She stated that if we
7 grade it and put grass seed and grass there, no one could park there because we have an
8 Ordinance against parking on anything other than a solid surface. She stated now, after all
9 this time, if we want to go back and make the decision to leave this part, it doesn't work.
10

11 Trustee Waite stated that it is already paved. Trustee Gibson stated that the agreement
12 with them was to put it back in its original form. Trustee Waite stated that he is sure that
13 they would be willing to change that agreement if we asked them. He just threw that out
14 as an idea.
15

16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we accept that as an idea. We explored other
17 options too. She stated that Representative Al Riley is here.

18 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to suspend the rules to go**
19 **back into Communications and Petitions so that we can allow Representative Riley**
20 **to make his presentation.**

21 **Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion Carried.**
22

23 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS (CONTINUED):**
24

25 **Al Riley, Illinois State Representative – 38th District** - Representative Al Riley arrived
26 at 7:18 P.M. Representative Al Riley thanked the Board for having him here this evening.
27 He stated that he is aware that Administrator Mekarski has some questions of him about
28 general legislature items as it relates to some things that you are doing in the Village. He
29 believes that one concern that a lot of people he has spoken with has is the redistricting
30 and what it means, and what it means to local communities. Representative Riley brought
31 a map of the current District. He will discuss the changes that were made to the new 38th
32 District and what that may mean to everyone.
33

34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that for this presentation the Board wanted an
35 overview, and to get their questions answered. She stated that if there are any in-depth
36 issues that we want to go into, then we may formulate a special workshop.
37

38 Representative Riley stated that would be fine. He stated that he partnered with a
39 gentleman from the Visualization Lab at the University of Illinois, and they prepared a
40 more in-depth presentation lasting about an hour for some of the members of the General
41 Assembly. He can provide the Board with that presentation as well if they would like to
42 see it.
43

44 Representative Riley stated that the redrawing of maps, the counting of people is as old as
45 our Constitution. It is in there that this shall be done every 10 years so that we know how
46 many people we have and for taxation reasons too.

1 Representative Riley stated that the Village Hall is in the 38th District. Representative
2 DeLuca is to the east. The eastern boundary of the 38th District is Western Avenue. He
3 has a portion of Harvey that goes all the way to Park. The northern boundary is about
4 159th Street. The southern boundary is the Will County Line or Steger Road. The western
5 boundary meanders. He stated that parts of it go to Harlem Avenue and parts of it go to
6 Oak Park Avenue. After the 2010 Census, redistricting occurred because they recognized
7 what happened with the population in the state. Illinois gained population, but it didn't
8 gain as much as other states did. They took the Representatives in Congress from the
9 states that did not grow as much. He stated that currently, every Representative District
10 has about 105,000 people. He stated that about 210,000 people are in a Senate Legislative
11 District. He has a Representative District. A Senator has a Legislative District. Illinois
12 has a population close to 13,000,000.00 people now. You divide that by the number of
13 people in the House of Representatives which is 118. He stated that you need 108,000
14 people in your new District. He gained population. Everyone else lost population. The
15 population gain in the 38th District came from the growth in Matteson and Country Club
16 Hills. They grew in the last 10 years. He stated that his District had 111,000 people and
17 he had population to give away. He stated that if you have population to give, then you
18 lose part of your old District.

19
20 He stated that Will Davis is to the northeast. He gained a lot of Representative Riley's
21 eastern boundary. The new 38th District that will take effect on January 1st, of 2013, has
22 moved west. His new eastern boundary is Kedzie Avenue instead of Western Avenue.
23 The new western boundary is 80th Avenue instead of Harlem Avenue. He has moved one
24 mile to the west. The southern boundary will remain the Will County Line or Steger
25 Road, and 159th Street is still his northern boundary. He stated that he and Will Davis use
26 to share Homewood. Representative Riley has a few precincts in Homewood, but Will
27 Davis has gained all of Representative Riley's Homewood and Flossmoor.

28
29 Representative DeLuca has gained Representative Riley's Olympia Fields east of Kedzie
30 Avenue and his Park Forest. Representative Riley just has precincts in those Villages
31 now.

32
33 Representative Riley stated that Representative DeLuca was up 32 people. He didn't gain
34 or lose anything in former Representative, now Justice Scully's old seat. Thaddeus Jones
35 is in David Miller's old seat. Thaddeus Jones needed population. He stated that you have
36 to be contiguous to give population where needed. Representative Riley gave population
37 to Representative DeLuca who then gave it to Thaddeus Jones. Everyone now has
38 108,000 people. He stated that is why Marlow Colvin who is in the City around the 8th
39 Ward, and Donny Trotter who is a Senator in Chicago, go almost all the way down to
40 Peotone because they are searching for population. He stated that some Districts, and
41 ours is one of them, still has to follow the tenets of the 1968 Voting Rights Act. Toi
42 Hutchinson's Senate District is not under the tenets of the Voting Rights Act. He stated
43 that all of those things are taken into consideration. The map did undergo a lot of
44 scrutiny. There were a lot of Court Cases. He stated that moving west he has like 68% of
45 Tinley Park. He also picked up Frankfort Square which is an unincorporated part of

1 Frankfort. He also picked up a little bit more of Frankfort. Right now in the 38th District
2 he is all Cook County. On January 1st, he will be a Cook and Will County Representative.

3
4 Trustee Waite inquired of Representative Riley where the boundaries are for the 40th
5 District. He stated that he went to vote early and he thought he was in Mike Hastings
6 District. Representative Riley stated that is the 19th Senatorial District. Trustee Waite
7 stated that it was Toi Hutchinson and she was running unopposed. Representative Riley
8 stated that you are right on the cusp. He stated that you are east of Kedzie. Representative
9 Riley stated that he didn't show up on Trustee Waite's ballot, Anthony DeLuca did.

10
11 Trustee Nale stated that it is very strange because we all live in the same community.
12 Trustee Gibson stated that the dividing line has always been Western Avenue. Now it is a
13 little further west.

14
15 Representative Riley stated that often people will say we should just have one
16 Representative. He stated that you can't do that. He stated that you redistrict to give
17 everyone a chance to vote and it is done by population. He stated that even though he lost
18 a little bit of Olympia Fields, people can still come to him and they can go to Anthony
19 DeLuca.

20
21 Trustee Pennington inquired of Representative Riley whether or not in Will County he
22 has the section around Crete-Monee Road. He stated that it is right off of Western
23 Avenue. Representative Riley stated no. His part of Will County is west. He didn't pick
24 up University Park. University Park is consumed by Anthony DeLuca and Thaddeus
25 Jones. Steger Road is the dividing line between Cook County and Will County. That is
26 his southern boundary. He stated that we have to encourage people to come out and
27 answer the census.

28
29 Dr. Ernie Gibson inquired of Representative Riley how the redistricting affects us from
30 the National level congressionally. Representative Riley stated that Jesse Jackson, Jr. is
31 still the representative in the 2nd Congressional District. He stated that by him moving
32 west, he has moved into the 1st Congressional District. So he has Bobby Rush and a little
33 bit of Bill Lipinski. He stated that everything is redrawn. The wards in the City are
34 redrawn. Townships are based on geography, 64 miles square.

35
36 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that back in 2006, which is the last official
37 knowledge that she had of what was going on within the South Suburban Legislative
38 Caucus, there was a Southland Caucus, which included all of the Southland Legislatures,
39 both Senators as well as Representatives. It is her understanding that is now disbanded.

40
41 Trustee Riley stated that it has not been disbanded. He stated that in Springfield we have
42 all kinds of caucuses which are official and unofficial. They have the Republican Caucus.
43 He stated that the biggest ones are based on party. There is the Democratic Caucus. There
44 are caucuses based on interest groups. There is a High Speed Rail Caucus. There is an
45 Environmental Caucus. Those are not official as such. Regional Caucuses are not either.
46 He stated that we get together all the time. They got together before some of the changes

1 took place. The 2008 Mass Transit Bill had a lot to do with the South Suburban Region.
2 Representative Riley along with Will Davis and George Scully at the time, and Bobby
3 Rita, and people outside of the caucus, Maggie Crotty, got together and put pressure on
4 the framers of the Bill, to put some things in that Bill that would be germane to the needs
5 of the south suburbs. They got a permanent South Suburban Seat on the Metra Board.
6 They have new rail cars, although not as many as he would like to see, with bathrooms on
7 them. He stated that the ICE Grant, Innovation Coordination Enhancement Grant that was
8 part of our RTA, Rich Township won a \$250,000.00 Grant that was part of that. They
9 tried to change the funding formula for the service boards. They couldn't get that done.
10 He stated that there is a Southland Caucus. They meet all the time. They collaborate all
11 the time. They got together on the Capital Bill Money.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it was very successful to have that group
14 band together for some of the south suburban interests.

15
16 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Village President and Diversity, Inc. have been
17 working with the Housing Collaborative and the South Suburban Mayors and Managers
18 on the Vacant and Abandoned Properties Bill, which is Senate Bill 16. He received a note
19 that Senate Bill 16, Amendment 6, passed out of the House Committee this past
20 Thursday. He inquired of Representative Riley if he could address the likelihood of that
21 legislation getting passed. The Village is contemplating doing a Memorandum of
22 Understanding with Cook County for Vacant and Abandoned Properties. The State Law
23 would give the City of Chicago, Cook County, and local Municipalities more authority
24 beyond what they call "Safe Harbor," being able to manage the abandoned home
25 preforeclosure. As of now the Village has very limited rights to gain entry and remove
26 the waste, or make sure the sump pump is running and the electricity is on. The Village
27 would get a reasonable return after taxes.

28
29 Representative Riley stated that sometimes with certain Bills you can't predict what is
30 going to happen in the body. He stated that many Bills that come out of the Senate to the
31 House, the sponsor will say that it was unanimous coming from the Senate. There are a
32 lot of factors involved. He believes that it is a good Bill. It has a lot of support. He stated
33 that some of the best intention Bills will have opposition. He stated that the last four Bills
34 that dealt with scourge of foreclosure were sponsored by himself and Maggie Crotty. He
35 stated the last one being non-judicial sale of properties if you were in a Federal Workout
36 Program. Those Bills passed unanimously. He stated that with a lot of those types of Bills
37 the Illinois Association of Realtors might be in opposition. There might be some other
38 groups in opposition, maybe the Illinois Association of Manufacturers. He believes that
39 everyone understands the importance of those kinds of Bills. He believes that the Illinois
40 Municipal League would be a proponent of that Bill. He stated that if they are not, they
41 should be. He suggested that the Village sign on as a proponent of the Bill. When the Bill
42 comes up for a vote, you get the Bill Number, what the Bill is all about, the proponents
43 and the opponents of the Bill. He stated that often time's people will look at that. The
44 Village can sign a "Witness Slip" online. He suggested that the Village get in touch with
45 the appropriate Committee and say that the Village wants to sign on as a proponent of the
46 Bill. He stated that the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association could do the

1 same thing. He is the Chairman of the House Committee on Cities and Villages. He
2 stated that everything having to do with TIF's, cities, and annexations comes before his
3 Committee. He has not seen it. It could have gone through Revenue or some other
4 Committee. It is on second reading now so it will come to the floor of the House. They
5 don't always get unanimous votes but all you need is 60. Representative Riley inquired of
6 Administrator Mekarski if there were any fees dealing with the Bill.

7
8 Administrator Mekarski stated not that he recalls from last year. He stated that if he has
9 the concurrence of the Village President and the Board he would like to get a copy of this
10 year's Bill, to see if it is the same as last year's and present it to the Board at the next
11 meeting, and see if we can get concurrence of the Board to sign up as a proponent. Last
12 year the Bill was House Bill 1195. It had full support of all of the councils of
13 government, SSMMA, Cook County, City of Chicago, and the majority of our local
14 Municipalities. The only opposition was coming out of the Illinois Banking Association.
15 He believes that some of that had been tempered because Chase Bank had taken a
16 leadership role in supporting the Cook County Vacant/Abandoned Properties Ordinance.

17
18 Administrator Mekarski stated that the biggest problem we have is that when houses get
19 abandoned, and electricity is discontinued, and it gets flooded, we have a minor problem
20 turning into thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars sometimes to the point of
21 demolition. The Bill as written in the previous year would allow a local Municipality to
22 enter the building preforeclosure, remove the waste, remove any dead animals, make sure
23 the electricity is on, make sure that it is winterized, and therefore we can protect the asset.
24 He stated that helps out everyone. It helps out the adjoining property owners. It helps out
25 everybody's home values. There are less Federal Dollars being implemented to get the
26 property back up to a marketable condition. He believes that last year the entire southern
27 delegation was in support of it.

28
29 Representative Riley stated that Taylor Anderson is the Lobbyist for the SSMMA. He
30 suggested that the Village get all the support possible. Representative Riley stated that he
31 will get on as a co-sponsor. He stated that it is a great Bill. You have to be prudent and do
32 your homework and really push hard for it. That helps the legislative process.

33
34 Trustee Waite stated that foreclosures and repossessions started out at a very high rate of
35 speed. He stated that there were a big percentage of evictions and foreclosures that were
36 being done illegally. Trustee Waite inquired of Representative Riley whether or not that
37 is still going on.

38
39 Representative Riley stated no. He stated that one of the reasons is because of a Bill that
40 he and Maggie Crotty passed. It goes back two or three years ago when Tom Dart put his
41 own self-enforced moratorium on evictions. They were threatening to sue him. Their Bill
42 is already in place. That was the Bill that said if the person was renting in an apartment
43 building, and they were current on their rent, that no matter what the landlord's problems
44 were, because they were foreclosing on the landlord not the tenant, the tenant had at least
45 six months, or the life of their lease to still stay in their apartment. Tom Dart was doing
46 what he was supposed to do with the moratorium. It was the law of the land at the time.

1 He stated that the illegal evictions have definitely decreased. He stated that things were
2 so horrible with foreclosures and the whole housing market that we are beginning to see
3 light at the end of the tunnel. It has happened because of the business cycle, and a lot of
4 foreclosures have already taken place. The economy is getting a little better. There has
5 been a lot of good, public policy to try to deal with the issue where people had a question
6 or a grievance with what had been happening.

7
8 Administrator Mekarski stated that he just got an alert on Senate Bill 16. The vote is
9 moving in rapid fire. He stated that he wants to make sure that we have adequate time
10 prior to the next meeting, if not, possibly the Board could move for us to sign up and
11 support it now. The alert reads as follows: "Senate Bill 16, State Legislation that will give
12 Municipalities more tools to confront vacant properties, will be coming up for a vote in
13 the House Housing Committee this Thursday, March 8th at 1 o'clock. Then it will move
14 quickly for a vote at the full House. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus endorses the Bill,
15 and we encourage you to do the same. The Bill will allow all Municipalities, Home Rule
16 and non-Home Rule to require that the mortgage holders, like banks and mortgage
17 servicers, maintain and secure vacant properties. Mortgage holders could be required to
18 register vacant properties, pay a registration fee, conduct periodic inspections, and
19 provide basic security and property maintenance, like boarding up the doors, the
20 windows, cutting the grass, remove garbage, and clearing snow. More information on
21 Senate Bill 16 is attached to this e-mail. Please note that the House Floor Amendment
22 Number 6 is the actual Bill. It replaces the original language and any other amendments
23 previously filed. As you know, MMC lobbied for the adoption of Senate Bill 16 last year,
24 and we plan to achieve that this spring as well. We expect strong opposition. But the
25 legislatures have said the Number 1 factor in their decision making is hearing from
26 Municipalities in their District. We urge you to register your Municipality as a proponent
27 of Senate Bill 16 for the first time. You can now do this online by filling out a brief
28 online form that takes about a minute to complete."

29
30 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Representative Riley whether or not the Village
31 would have adequate time in two weeks.

32
33 Representative Riley stated that the Village should move quickly. He stated that we won't
34 be going back until March 21st. He stated that it is on second reading, meaning it is
35 coming out of the Committee and we will be seeing it on the floor at that time. The
36 Village should pass whatever it needs to pass forthwith. He stated that if you have six
37 amendments, then there are some issues with that Bill. There will be opposition on the
38 Bill. There was a fee. He stated that there are some people that will not vote for anything
39 with a fee attached. People from the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus met with him last
40 week.

41
42 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she had a question about Peotone. She is
43 aware that there have been issues regarding representation and their position on the third
44 airport versus non-support. She inquired with redistricting whether or not there are new
45 players in the Peotone area now.

1 Representative Riley stated yes, there are. His personal opinion is that it doesn't have
2 anything to do with the whole issue of the airport. In 2007 he flew over the airport
3 footprint to see all of these people being displaced. He stated that in 2007 there was
4 nothing out there. He stated that 2750 acres of the 3500 to 4,000 acre inaugural footprint
5 have already been acquired. He stated that we are either going to have an airport or one of
6 the biggest State Parks in the state. He believes that we are going to have an airport. The
7 issue right now is one of governance. STAND is still around. They have 15 to 20 people.
8 Will County wants to govern the airport. There is a bone of contention between ALNAC,
9 Abraham Lincoln National Airport Commission that Congressman Jackson helped start
10 and Will County. He stated that the Airport Footprint Plan, the Environmental Impact
11 Study, all of that has been submitted to the Feds. The FFA is just waiting to say which
12 plans are you going to use and who is going to govern it. He stated that all of the other
13 groundwork has been done. He wants an airport because of what it would do in terms of
14 Economic Development in this entire region. Governor Quinn has stated that he is for the
15 airport. Congressman Jackson or the 2nd Congressional District consumes the Peotone
16 area. All of these things happened before the redistricting.

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Representative Riley how that governance is
19 going to be decided. She inquired what has to be done in order for it to finally be resolved
20 one way or the other.

21
22 Representative Riley stated that it will take a Bill by the General Assembly and/or an
23 Executive Order by the Governor. He stated that ALNAC wants the Governor to lease the
24 land because it is State land. The plans that were sent to the FFA were from the South
25 Suburban Airport Commission which means IDOT. The plans between ALNAC, SSAC
26 and the State are really close. He stated that ALNAC wants the Governor to lease the
27 land to ALNAC because ALNAC has the developers. There has been legislation passed
28 to encourage public/private partnerships for these large capital kinds of projects.

29
30 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Representative Riley whether or not he sees
31 that Bill coming up before the change in the redistricting. Representative Riley stated that
32 he is not sure because they have the Budget and other things that they have to look at. It
33 is not a timing issue. It is an issue of the parties getting together. He believes that they
34 could use an outside person coming in to help get the parties together.

35
36 Trustee Pennington commended Representative Riley as well as Senator Toi Hutchinson
37 for their leadership on the Bill that created the Southeast Mass Transit District. It has
38 been a year this month since the Governor signed that Transportation Bill. Trustee
39 Pennington inquired of Representative Riley whether or not he could update the Board on
40 what is going on with the Southeast Mass Transit District.

41
42 Representative Riley stated that was a great Bill. He stated that the South Suburban
43 Legislatures took care of some business with the Illiana Expressway and the I-57 and 294
44 Interchange. The reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU is stalled right now. SAFETEA-LU is
45 a huge Service Transportation Bill, almost like a Capital Bill that they pass at the Federal
46 level every few years. The Bill that was introduced in the House was horrible. It would

1 have penalized Illinois. He stated that we would have lost about \$600,000,000.00. The
2 legislatures here didn't like it. The Senate Bill was better. They are working on that one
3 right now. He stated that we can't afford locally some of the dollars to fund these huge
4 projects. That is a huge project. We have some local support but the rest will have to
5 come from the Feds. Representative Riley stated that it is in our best interest to get the
6 best Service Transportation Bill at the Federal level that we can. All of our Senators are
7 on board.

8
9 Village President Meyers-Martin thanked Representative Riley for giving the Board so
10 much information, and for updating the Board on all of the legislation that is upcoming
11 and proposed.

12
13 Representative Riley told everyone to use their State Representatives. Village President
14 Meyers-Martin encouraged everyone in the audience to remember to vote on March 20th.
15 She stated that it is very important that we all voice our opinions. (There was a round of
16 applause for Representative Riley). Village President Meyers-Martin closed
17 Communications and Petitions at 8:06 P.M.

18
19 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to authorize the**
20 **Administrator to sign as a proponent, do the requisite paperwork in order for the**
21 **Village of Olympia Fields to become a proponent of Senate Bill 16.**

22 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**

23
24 **PLANNING:**

25
26 Trustee Oliver stated that he did not have a formal report this evening. He stated that the
27 Planning and Zoning Commission will be meeting on March 13th, 2012, at the Village
28 Hall.

29
30 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Oliver what time the Planning and
31 Zoning Commission Meeting was. Trustee Oliver stated 7 o'clock P.M.

32
33 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

34
35 Trustee Waite stated that he did not have a formal report this evening.

36
37 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

38
39 **Revision of 2012 Holiday Schedule** - Trustee Nale stated that Administrator Mekarski
40 provided some information in the Board Packet. She stated that it is worthwhile noting
41 that while the paid Holiday Schedule for 2012 was approved by the Board in November
42 of 2011, the request for additional paid days, including Presidents Day and Columbus
43 Day, was not brought to the attention of the Human Resource Committee until its first
44 regularly scheduled meeting of February 20th. She stated that a Revised Paid Schedule
45 Request was sent to Administrator Mekarski suggesting that one-half day be added on the

1 schedule for Christmas Eve Day and New Year's Eve Day in accordance with
2 neighboring Villages.

3 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Waite to adopt the revision to the**
4 **Village of Olympia Fields 2012 Holiday Schedule and establish the 13 designated**
5 **holidays as the Official Holiday Schedule for the subsequent calendar years. Said**
6 **revision adds Presidents Day (Monday, February 20, 2012) and Columbus Day**
7 **(Monday, October 8, 2012); and removes Good Friday (Friday, April 6, 2012)**
8 **effective at the beginning of next Fiscal Year (May 1, 2012), providing for a total of**
9 **12 holidays for calendar year 2012.**

10
11 Administrator Mekarski stated that the year in the Motion is incorrect. It is not "May 1,
12 2013." The beginning of the next Fiscal Year is May 1, 2012.

13
14 Trustee Gibson inquired of Trustee Nale if she had stated that Christmas Eve was a half-
15 day. Trustee Nale stated that in the Villages that are surrounding Olympia Fields, the
16 employees receive a half day for Christmas Eve Day and for New Year's Eve Day.
17 Administrator Mekarski stated that we have had that for a full holiday for a number of
18 years. Trustee Nale stated that we give them the full day.

19
20 Trustee Nale stated that those holidays would include the following: New Year's Day,
21 Martin Luther King's Birthday, Presidents Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day,
22 Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, the Day After
23 Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve.

24
25 Administrator Mekarski stated that he wanted to emphasize the third paragraph in his
26 Memorandum. The current Holiday Schedule was published and distributed to all
27 employees in the beginning of December 2011. It was adopted by the Board on
28 November 28th, 2011. "The Holiday designated as Good Friday scheduled for Friday,
29 April 6, 2012, has been anticipated by numerous employees as a designated holiday and
30 they have made plans and arrangements. In light that one of the proposed additions
31 (Presidents Day) has also expired this calendar year, which was a full work force day, he
32 has worded the Motion to make all changes effective at the beginning of the Fiscal Year,
33 May 1, 2012. The Motion as proposed maintains our total holiday allocations to 12 days
34 for this calendar year." The following calendar year there will be 13 holidays. He stated
35 that because Good Friday was published and advertised to all employees on November
36 28th, 2011, it would be fair to allow them to take it this year, and then it would terminate
37 after this year.

38 **Roll Call:**

Ayes (5-0)

Motion Carried.

39
40 **Goals of the Departments** – Trustee Nale stated that about a year ago the Human
41 Resource Committee met and they put forth the goals of each of the departments. They
42 also had an organizational chart. It was her understanding that this would be put on the
43 website, and it would be distributed in the New Residents Handbook so that the residents
44 would have a more thorough understanding of how the Village functions. She inquired of
45 Administrator Mekarski if anything has been done to accomplish that or where do we
46 stand on that.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that he didn't know. He will look into it the first thing in
2 the morning. He stated that it wouldn't be a problem to add it to the website. Currently,
3 they are doing the revisions on the New Residents Handbook. They should be able to
4 insert that into the new printing. Trustee Nale stated that if we can't get New Residents
5 Handbooks due to the expense, she suggested putting an insert into the New Residents
6 Handbook. Trustee Waite stated that you can put the whole handbook on the web.
7 Administrator Mekarski stated that is taking place as well. He stated that the New
8 Residents Handbook has not been printed. They are making revisions right now.

9
10 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the New Residents Handbook has not been
11 printed. It needed a lot of updating. The discussion was to not do the full, glossy book
12 that the Village has done in the past, but to have a less expensive version that can be
13 easily redone and updated.

14
15 Trustee Gibson stated and done in-house. Village President Meyers-Martin stated and
16 done in-house.

17
18 Trustee Waite stated that the easiest way to keep it updated is to put it on the web. Then
19 you can update it every day if you want to. Trustee Nale stated that would be great if we
20 can do that. Trustee Waite stated that you can give them a printed handbook and tell them
21 to go to the website because that is the most up-to-date. Village President Meyers-Martin
22 stated that is certainly a thought.

23
24 **Employee Handbook** – Trustee Nale stated that she noticed when she was looking into
25 the situation about days off, that the Employee Handbook is really outdated. She would
26 like the Board's approval to go ahead with the Human Resource Committee and begin to
27 review that handbook, and possibly have input from all of the Department Heads too.
28 Administrator Mekarski stated that is an excellent idea. Village President Meyers-Martin
29 stated that would be great.

30
31 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

32
33 Trustee Gibson stated that she did not have a formal report this evening.

34
35 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

36
37 Administrator Mekarski stated that he did not have a formal report this evening.

38
39 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

40
41 **Attending Homeowners Association Meetings** – Village President Meyers-Martin
42 stated that she, along with Fire Chief Angell from the City of Chicago Heights and
43 Assistant Chief Kozlowski from Chicago Heights, and Chief Chudwin have been
44 attending the Homeowners Association Meetings, sometimes two a night. They have
45 been informing the residents about what is contained within the Referendum. They have
46 been met with a lot enthusiasm. The residents have an understanding of what the

1 Referendum is all about. They have also talked about what the change in fire service is
2 going to mean to the residents. She is very excited and very happy that they have been
3 able to do that. She stated that having that dialog with the residents has been very
4 productive.

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she had to give kudos to Fire Chief Angell,
7 Assistant Chief Kozlowski, and Chief Chudwin because in some cases they had not been
8 feeling well, and sometimes they stayed very late at the meetings, and they have been
9 there throughout it all. She stated that she appreciates that.

10
11 **Commonwealth Edison** - Trustee Waite stated that he received a robocall prior to
12 coming to the meeting this evening. It took him by surprise. He thought the call was from
13 Commonwealth Edison and that you could sign up for discounted electric rates. He stated
14 that it sounded like Commonwealth Edison was having a change of heart, and maybe
15 would like to keep our business rather than having it go out to brokers. He just wanted to
16 alert everyone to that in case they receive a similar call.

17
18 Trustee Pennington stated that he received some information in the mail regarding the
19 possibility of changing over to Commonwealth Edison. He stated that it was to stay with
20 them and realize additional savings. Trustee Waite stated that this is something that is
21 going on to compete with the brokers. Village President Meyers-Martin thanked Trustee
22 Waite for that notice.

23
24 **Town Hall Meeting** – Village President Meyers-Martin reminded everyone in the
25 audience that there will be a Town Hall Meeting on March 24th, at 9:00 AM., at the
26 Cathedral of Joy Church, which is the former Greek Orthodox Church on Western
27 Avenue. All of the residents are invited. There is a notice going out in the mail to all of
28 the residents inviting them to the Town Hall Meeting. They will have the opportunity to
29 meet with Fire Chief Angell, Assistant Chief Kozlowski, and the staff of the City of
30 Chicago Heights Fire Department, as well as Chief Chudwin and Deputy Chief Kickert.
31 She stated that residents will be able to ask questions and express any concerns that they
32 have. The residents can review the response times that have been studied through the
33 Village’s engineering firm.

34
35 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

36
37 **Meeting with IDOT on Tolentine Park** – Trustee Oliver inquired of Village President
38 Meyers-Martin whether or not she had any comments regarding the meeting that she had
39 with IDOT. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they are still trying to schedule
40 the meeting with IDOT. The Village was relying on Robinson to be the intermediary with
41 Diane O’Keefe.

42
43 **Breakfast with the Business Owners of the Olympia Square Plaza** – Trustee Oliver
44 inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin how the meeting went with the business
45 owners of Olympia Square Plaza. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it was
46 excellent. She stated that she and Administrator Mekarski met with the business owners

1 from Olympia Square Plaza. They met at McDonald’s. The breakfast was hosted by
2 Randy Conn from McDonald’s. There weren’t as many people there as they had hoped.
3 In the beginning the people were a little apprehensive and a little hesitant to voice their
4 opinions, but by the end of the breakfast there was so much enthusiasm, and so much
5 brainstorming going on, and so many ideas bouncing back and forth about how they want
6 to work with the Village. She stated that they are so appreciative that the Village is
7 reaching out to them and trying to establish a better relationship with our business
8 community.

9
10 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she was very pleased with that initial
11 meeting. She wants to continue that with the other businesses in town. She believes that
12 the businesses need to know that the Village cares about the existing businesses, and that
13 the Village is interested in business retention as well as in new Economic Development.
14 She stated that they stressed what is going on along the Route 30/Western Corridor and
15 that the Village has big plans for that in Economic Development. She stated that
16 everyone was excited.

17
18 **NEW BUSINESS:**

19
20 The Board did not have any New Business to discuss this evening.

21
22 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

23
24 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have any Resignations or
25 Appointments this evening.

26
27 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

28
29 **To Discuss Matters of Personnel – Open Meetings Act Section 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) –**
30 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that on the Agenda it does say “Executive
31 Session.” She stated that has been postponed. The Board will not be having an Executive
32 Session this evening.

33
34 **ADJOURNMENT:**

35
36 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Gibson to adjourn at 8:26 P.M.**

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

38
39 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**