



- 1 Obligation Bonds, Series 2005A of the Village of Olympia Fields [First and Second  
2 Reading.  
3
- 4 E. **Ordinance #2017-8** – An Ordinance Abating the 2016 Tax Levy for the 2011  
5 General Obligation Bonds of the Village of Olympia Fields [First and Second  
6 Reading.  
7
- 8 F. **Ordinance #2017-09** – An Ordinance Abating the 2016 Tax Levy for the General  
9 Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008 of the Village of  
10 Olympia Fields [First and Second Reading].  
11
- 12 G. **Ordinance #2017-10** – An Ordinance Abating the 2016 Tax Levy for the General  
13 Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2014B of the Village of  
14 Olympia Fields [First and Second Reading].  
15
- 16 H. **Ordinance #2017-11** – An Ordinance Abating the 2016 Tax Levy for the General  
17 Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2005 of the Village of Olympia Fields [First and  
18 Second Reading].  
19

20 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that brings us to the Consent Agenda. That’s Items 4(A)  
21 through 4(H). These are Ordinances that are routine in nature.

22 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to Waive on First Reading and**  
23 **Adopt in Second Reading Ordinances 4(A) through 4(H) of the Consent Agenda.**

24 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**  
25

26 **FINANCE:**  
27

28 **January 2017 Financial Statements – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Presentation – Village Treasurer, Don**  
29 **Theobald** – Trustee Byrd stated that you should have the Financial Reports. Mr. Theobald, our  
30 Treasurer, is here to give you the Third Quarter Report.  
31

32 Mr. Theobald stated that the first item is the Treasurer’s Report. He stated that on Page 3 of that  
33 Report are the bank balances. The bank balances as of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 are \$4,607,665.58. The  
34 next page shows where those are by Fund. That is the book balance. That balance is  
35 \$4,264,037.00.  
36

37 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mr. Theobald what he would attribute the difference is between  
38 the Cash by Fund and the Cash by Financial Institution on the previous page. Mr. Theobald  
39 stated whenever you do a bank reconciliation at home and you have a bank balance and a book  
40 balance, it’s generally outstanding checks. He stated generally deposits in transit cause that  
41 difference. On any given day, you probably release checks, but they haven’t yet gotten to their  
42 source and the checks have not been cashed yet so they haven’t cleared the bank.  
43

44 Mr. Theobald stated that the next document is a newer document. In working with staff, they  
45 have put together a Flash Report. Any feedback from the Board is appreciated in terms of what  
46 they might want to know. The four items they have chosen are critical things to monitor. The  
47 first is the “Fund Balance.” Your Fund Balance is \$3,090,000.00. They have been tracking how  
48 the Fund Balance relates to the number of months of expenditures of your Budget. You

1 previously devised a goal to try to have a reserve of six-months. That's exactly where this sits  
2 right now. You can see on the graphic where it has gone over the last 10-years. It is something  
3 that they monitor and work with as they do Annual Budgets.

4  
5 Mr. Theobald stated that the upper right-hand corner is another very hot topic, the "Police  
6 Pension Expense." They are tracking the Actuarial data. The Pension Liability is in the first  
7 column. The Net Cash in the individual Funds is in the second column. The third is a function of  
8 those two, the Liability minus the Cash. The fourth column is your percentage. That's the  
9 number that is generally tracked, and generally looked at. It is easy to compare to other local  
10 Municipalities. Your funding percentage in the police is 33.43%. We do know that the funding  
11 percentage last year was slightly higher, closer to 39%. The IMRF Fund which is funded  
12 completely different is 90.9% funded. On the graphic, they trace the Police Pension and how the  
13 funding expense, the contribution the Village makes towards that Fund on an annual basis looks  
14 over a 10-year cycle. The number that is at the end of this last year is \$939,000,000.00. That's  
15 that amount you are intending to finance this Tax Levy past 2016 and with the 2017/2018  
16 Budget.

17  
18 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Mr. Theobald if he would elaborate a little bit about  
19 why the Fund dropped from 39% to 33.43%.

20  
21 Mr. Theobald stated what happened in the Actuarial Study done April 30<sup>th</sup> of 2016 versus  
22 previous Studies, there were suggested changes in the Actuarial Assumptions. Those  
23 assumptions can radically impact the Actuarial amount that is determined that is needed to be  
24 funded. One of those is the Mortality Table. And another is the Return on Investments. The  
25 tables change by the Standards that all of the various Actuaries are using. Those tables can  
26 radically impact, and it did in the Village's case. The Return on Investments went from 7.5% to  
27 7%. Most Villages and Municipalities were using that 7.5%. In the last several years they have  
28 seen a little bit less of a return on that. That is a long-term rate. Over the long haul that is what  
29 the expected return is.

30  
31 Mr. Theobald stated in the bottom left-hand corner is the "Tax Rate Corner." This is a nice tool  
32 to keep your eye on. You can see the last 10-years of tax rates and assessed valuations. The one  
33 notable is the Assessed Value back in the '08/'09 timeline. It plateaued at that point. He stated  
34 with the Recession in '08 you can see that it has dropped steadily since that time. What the  
35 Assessed Value does to your Tax Levy, you are still requesting the need on an annual basis of  
36 what your levy is. The rate will go up as the Assessed Value goes down. It's not necessarily that  
37 in the Tax Rate Column you are levying a bigger tax every year. It is just as the Assessed Value  
38 goes down the rate goes up.

39  
40 Mr. Theobald stated that in the right-hand, bottom corner you will see that we have listed the  
41 debt issuances of the Village. He stated just to monitor that as knowing where we stand in terms  
42 of outstanding debt, whether through GO Bonds, GO Alternate Revenue Bonds, or Refunding  
43 Bonds. That gives you a benchmark of what those outstanding debts are.

44  
45 Mr. Theobald stated that if you have anything that you would like to trend that is relevant and  
46 important to you we can add that.

47

1 Trustee Byrd stated that those are the things we are really concerned about, especially the Police  
2 Pension expense. We went from 39% to 33.43%. Trustee Byrd inquired whether or not we  
3 should show an increase in that as of April 30<sup>th</sup>.

4  
5 Mr. Theobald stated that he wouldn't be able to say whether you would or not. The market has  
6 been up. You start to get outside of his area. He knows when the Actuaries compute this they  
7 don't take the upswing and use it as of that date. They take an average over several years of what  
8 the return on investments were. You are not going to feel a big bump from a market increase in  
9 the last few months. What you are going to see is a more diluted average of what it does. That's a  
10 critical item as we look forward and we look at obtaining Bond Ratings. That's a big item that  
11 the S&P people are looking at. When we spoke to them last and we were at that higher rate, he is  
12 sure they are not going to be pleased with the lower rate. We have to be prepared with a  
13 presentation. It isn't for lack of effort by the Village Board in putting money aside. It's mostly  
14 the change in the Actuarial Assumptions that have come to bite us.

15  
16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the other thing that needs to be said for the Trustees  
17 and for the audience, is that for years we were basing our contributions on the Department of  
18 Insurance. When the State stepped in and mandated that you had to use an Actuary as opposed to  
19 the Department of Insurance, then there was a huge difference between our contribution rate  
20 from the Department of Insurance to the Actuary. Now we are playing catch up because for years  
21 we were using that calculation. Mr. Theobald stated exactly, very true.

22  
23 Mr. Theobald stated that there is another document he is going to talk about. The heading on that  
24 document is the "Village of Olympia Fields Snapshot – Revenues and Expenses." This gives the  
25 Board a snapshot view of the first nine-months of your Fiscal Year as it is compared to the  
26 Budget. For example, on the General Fund, the first column is an Annual Budget. The second  
27 column is the Budget for the Nine-Months. Staff allocates that Budget by month. They do it  
28 specific to that month. It is not just a total number divided by 12. It is compared with the Actual  
29 Nine-Month Expenditures. The way to get a quick read on this is you go down to the "Budget  
30 Nine-Months" Column. You go to the "Excess Revenues and Expenses." That is saying that your  
31 Budget through Nine-Months is saying that Revenues will not meet Expenditures by  
32 \$611,000.00. That is not saying that for the end of the year that is the case. That is just saying  
33 through those specific nine-months. The actual results produced a deficiency less than that which  
34 is a positive variance of \$157,000.00. As you sit at the end of nine-months looking at going into  
35 your Fourth Quarter, you are ahead of what your Budget expectations were.

36  
37 Mr. Theobald stated similarly for the Water Fund and the Sewer Fund. The Water Fund planned  
38 to have a \$99,226.00 deficit through nine-months. It had a surplus of \$16,000.00. So that is a  
39 positive variance in the last column of \$115,000.00. That's a good thing.

40  
41 Mr. Theobald stated that in the Sewer Fund you planned for a \$46,227.00 surplus. This Fund  
42 indicates that you are going to be right now at a \$54,000.00 deficiency. That one is lagging  
43 behind. The reason that the Revenues from both the Water Fund and the Sewer Fund are lagging  
44 behind is the receivables have gone up. Staff records cash-in and cash out for these two Funds.  
45 Once those receivables are collected they would be closer to the expected levels.

46  
47 Mr. Theobald stated that another big item to point out to you is the Administrative Expense. That  
48 is the second row of numbers. The Expense of \$667,434.00 is higher than the Budget by

1 \$542,569.00. That difference is due mainly to the line item "Attorney's Fees," as there is some  
2 litigation that was unexpected in the Budget. That adds up to about \$112,000.00. The Attorney's  
3 Fees are over by about \$50,000.00. In the Police Fund, it is going the other way. The Budget  
4 anticipated more salaries and related benefits as well as their Line Item for Gas and Oil. Those  
5 collectively make for a positive variance of about \$190,000.00 for the benefits and salaries. The  
6 Gas and Oil is about \$26,000.00. The purpose of this document is to try to give you an overview  
7 of where the Village stands at this point in time.

8  
9 Mr. Theobald passed out another document to the Board. He stated that the Tax Bills you have  
10 recently received show a couple numbers on it that were kind of difficult to understand. This  
11 tries to put that together and give you an answer. The focus numbers highlighted in yellow is  
12 what he will be talking about. Those numbers show up on your Real Estate Tax Bill. On your  
13 Real Estate Tax Bill, it says there is a "Pension Liability of \$33,930,702.00." That is one side of  
14 the equation which is the liability. In addition to the liability you have put aside assets to offset  
15 that liability. That liability is being offset by \$14,006,110.00. The third column is the "Net  
16 Pension Liability." On the Tax Bill, they show the \$33,930,702.00. They show the Net Liability  
17 which is \$19,924,592.00. You have to kind of put those together. They offset each other. The  
18 other number they show on the bill is the bottom number in the first row of numbers which is  
19 \$15,267,578.00. That number is on your Tax Bill. That is comprised of two different numbers  
20 that are detailed above that. They look at all of your financing, and all of your debt issues. That is  
21 in the middle of the page the \$11,826,720.00. Those all add up to that number, as well as another  
22 section called "Other Debt." They include in that total debt things that are on your balance sheet,  
23 normal Accounts Payable, normal accruals that you would see. That is all showing on your Real  
24 Estate Tax Bill. That number adds up to \$3,440,858.00. Those two added together answers the  
25 question where did the \$15,000,000.00 come from. There is a second column that looks at  
26 adjusting those numbers. You may have \$11,826,720.00 in debt. But you have a handful of  
27 offsets either through Agreements or contracts that you have entered into with other entities that  
28 they are sharing in a portion of that debt. Your Net Debt is \$8,456,000.00. It is quite a bit  
29 different than the \$11,826,720.00. It is the same where we have had those liabilities he  
30 mentioned come off of your Balance Sheet. There were a couple of offsets there as well that the  
31 Net Liabilities are \$1,075,000.00. The complexity of that number without explanation is very  
32 confusing.

33  
34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to re-emphasize that your Tax Bill has  
35 the \$15,000,000.00 figure, but it does not reflect the offsets which then brings that debt down to  
36 an actual real time number of the \$8,193,137.00. The Tax Bill does not reflect the  
37 reimbursements and the offsets that come in that affect that.

38  
39 Trustee Byrd inquired of Mr. Theobald whether or not that is taken from the Auditor's Report as  
40 of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Mr. Theobald stated correct. You can see exactly where they are pulling the  
41 numbers from. He stated as an example, when they explain that you have a liability for deferred  
42 taxes of \$1,313,296.00. That sounds negative in its connotation. It is an Accounting Term that is  
43 very normal. There is a receivable on the other side of that. The net effect of the receivable in the  
44 deferred income tax is zero. There is no looming debt of deferred taxes that might be owing to  
45 someone. It is a similar thing with the debt due within one-year. We have already addressed the  
46 total debt above \$11,826,000.00. So, the debt due within one-year is kind of a mistake of pulling  
47 it up there. There are explanations for it. He is sure they couldn't do something as complex as

1 this on the Tax Bills, so in transparency it is good to have that but you have to know how to  
2 interpret it too.

3  
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the question comes up when you are talking about  
5 accounting as it relates to Municipalities, there is all types of nuances that occur that don't occur  
6 in the private sector. Is that correct? Mr. Theobald stated that is very true. Village President  
7 Meyers-Martin stated that it is like comparing apples and oranges if you are trying to compare  
8 Corporate Accounting to Municipal Accounting. Mr. Theobald stated yes. In his business if he  
9 had an Applicant who worked in a corporate situation for 25-years and he was a CFO, and he  
10 compared that person to someone who has been in governmental accounting for the last five-  
11 years he would select the person with five-years' experience, because that person is going to be  
12 knowledgeable. The other person, it is a whole different set of rules promulgated by the  
13 Governmental Accounting Standards Board. The others are promulgated by the Financial  
14 Accounting Standards Board. They are completely different worlds.

15  
16 Trustee Pennington stated that it was a good Report. Trustee Gibson thanked Mr. Theobald for  
17 bringing this to the Board the way he has to make the Board understand better what they are  
18 trying to do. Mr. Theobald stated if you need anything differently to let him know. Trustee Byrd  
19 stated that GASB tends to change things every year anyway with the Government Reporting. It is  
20 good to have you here today to share with us. Next year it might be a totally different thing with  
21 them. Mr. Theobald stated that it probably will be. Trustee Byrd thanked Mr. Theobald.

22  
23 **BUILDING:**

24  
25 Trustee Hudson stated that she did not have a Formal Report this evening. She stated that we do  
26 have a name change for "John's American Bar & Grill." You will see a different name there. It  
27 has been turned over to the new owner. We have to put our signature on the way that the sign is  
28 being installed. They are using some of the same things that were there. It has been changed over  
29 to the new name.

30  
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she knows that there was some question in terms of  
32 timing for the new sign. Are you in review of that sign? Trustee Hudson stated that we are in the  
33 process of reviewing that sign.

34  
35 **PLANNING:**

36  
37 **Planning and Zoning Commission Special Meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. -**

38 Trustee Pennington stated that he does not have a Formal Report this evening. He stated that a  
39 Special Meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission will be held on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup>,  
40 2017, at 7 o'clock to discuss the changes in Chapter 22 of our Zoning Codes. The Planning and  
41 Zoning Commission was commissioned to look at the Ordinances. We've had several  
42 Ordinances that he must admit are antiquated and require revision. We are starting out  
43 specifically with Chapter 22 which centers specifically on Zoning. The meeting will be held at  
44 Village Hall on Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. We are going to discuss the Drafts that have  
45 been prepared by legal for that specific purpose.

46  
47 **Joint Meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission, Board of Trustees, Economic**  
48 **Development Committee, and St. James** – Trustee Pennington stated that on April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017,

1 at 6:30 P.M. there will be a Joint Session of the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Board of  
2 Trustees, and the Economic Development Committee and St. James Hospital to discuss the  
3 proposed Medical District. This will be a full-fledge Joint Board Meeting of all responsible  
4 Boards to discuss and move forward with our Medical District Proposal. He wanted to bring that  
5 to the Board's and to the audience's attention this evening.

6  
7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is excited about that meeting. She knows that the  
8 Economic Development Committee soon to be Commission are here. We are also excited about  
9 having that Joint Meeting with the Planning and Zoning.

10  
11 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

12  
13 Trustee Matz stated that she does not have a Formal Report this evening.

14  
15 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

16  
17 **Human Resources Committee Update** – Trustee Robinson stated that during the Human  
18 Resources Committee Meeting they recently had, he wanted to welcome Mr. Robert McCullough  
19 to the Committee. He is in the audience. The Human Resources Committee continues to review  
20 job descriptions that they received from the various Department Heads, as well as Performance  
21 Evaluation Tools that they are looking at in a collaborative effort with the Department Heads and  
22 the Village Work Charts. They are in full swing. At some point, they will present it to the Board  
23 for final approval.

24  
25 **Library Board Update** – Trustee Robinson stated that he did not have any update on the  
26 Library Board.

27  
28 **Dedication of the Little Free Library** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated that last  
29 Saturday we had a dedication of the Little Free Library which is now located at the Susan  
30 Ormsby Little Garden at 203<sup>rd</sup> Street right across from the Post Office. This is something that the  
31 Library Board put in place she believes last year. The first location was at Sergeant Means Park.  
32 She stated that people have the ability to go to this kiosk and check out a book. You don't have  
33 to have a library card. You take the book out, read it, and bring it back. It has been very  
34 successful at Sergeant Means Park. Now, they have a second location at the 203<sup>rd</sup> Street  
35 Metra/Susan Ormsby Little Garden/Post Office. It is very easy to find. It is very tall. It has  
36 "Peace" written in every language on both sides. It is a beautiful addition to the garden. We are  
37 very excited about the library. We love working with our library.

38  
39 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we try to let everyone know at the New Residents  
40 Reception that our library representation is Park Forest. She knows that a lot of people will go to  
41 Matteson. Park Forest is our library. She is happy to say that they have begun to partner with  
42 Arcadia School to have programs in the school as well. We are very excited about the library and  
43 the good things that they are doing there.

44  
45 Trustee Robinson stated that for those of you who do not have a library card, he would definitely  
46 urge you to visit the library and they will be more than happy to ensure that you get a library  
47 card.

1 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**  
2

3 **Brookdale Senior Living AARP Driving Class** – Trustee Gibson stated that she has four items  
4 to bring to you this evening. The first one is the Olympia Fields Police Department has partnered  
5 with Brookdale Senior Living to co-host a “Safe Driving for Seniors” class presented by AARP.  
6 She is sure that most of you know what AARP is. It’s for all of us retired or old people.  
7

8 The class will be held at Brookdale, 3633 Breakers Drive, on Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday  
9 April 28<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. The instructor for the class is Ms. Barbara Nettles who  
10 has been specially trained by AARP to provide senior drivers with a refresher course on safe  
11 driving techniques, a State of Illinois Rules of the Road update, and to answer any questions the  
12 class participants may have.  
13

14 Sponsorship of this important class continues a long history of the police department co-hosting  
15 safe driving classes for our senior residents. These “safe driving for seniors” type classes are  
16 important now more than ever due to those drivers being over the age of 65 representing the  
17 fastest growing age group using our roadways today.  
18

19 The class size is limited to 20 participants. Fees for the class are \$15.00 for AARP members and  
20 \$20.00 for non-AARP members.  
21

22 Trustee Gibson encouraged everyone to take advantage of that. She understands that if you  
23 report that to your car insurance company you get a deduction so that makes it even better.  
24

25 **Completion of Northwest University Center for Public Safety – School of Police and**  
26 **Command** – Trustee Gibson stated that the second item she has to report is the Olympia Fields  
27 Police Department is proud to recognize Detective Corporal Garrick Amschl on his upcoming  
28 graduation from Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and  
29 Command. That will occur on June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017, in Evanston, Illinois. Detective Corporal Amschl  
30 and his classmates are graduating as members of the 402<sup>nd</sup> class to complete this prestigious  
31 program.  
32

33 The School of Police Staff and Command is a nationally recognized upper level management  
34 program which exposes police personnel to many critical concepts including resource allocation,  
35 staffing, legal review, budgeting, personnel issues, discipline and other topics designed to assist  
36 students in effectively managing their agencies.  
37

38 A staff study entitled “Patrol Officer Fitness Standards,” which is a required component of the  
39 course was completed by Detective Corporal Amschl and is available for review upon request.  
40

41 Detective Corporal Amschl should be recognized and commended for completing this intensive  
42 course of study voluntarily “on-line” during his own time without the need for scheduling  
43 adjustments or taking away from his assigned duties with the Department of Homeland Security,  
44 Immigrations and Customs Enforcement Financial Crimes Investigations Group.  
45

46 Trustee Gibson stated that she believes that we should all recognize and understand how  
47 important this is. He will certainly share some of the experiences with us.  
48



1 **Thank You Message to Officer Kerrigan** – Trustee Gibson stated that the third item she has to  
2 report on is a Thank You Message to one of our officers. The Olympia Fields Police Department  
3 received a thank you message via the Department’s Facebook page on March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, from Mr.  
4 Tom Blarney reference the actions of Patrol Officer Kendall Kerrigan on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

5  
6 Mr. Blarney extended his thanks to Officer Kerrigan for his assistance during the torrential  
7 rainfall on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Because of the heavy rainfall, many of the area streets and parking lots  
8 had deep standing water making the roadways difficult to drive through. While on patrol, Officer  
9 Kerrigan observed Mr. Blarney having difficulty driving his smaller vehicle through the standing  
10 water while Mr. Blarney was attempting to check various lockboxes on area medical buildings to  
11 collect patient specimens. Officer Kerrigan used his patrol squad to safely assist Mr. Blarney in  
12 completing the scheduled collections. Mr. Blarney then posted on Facebook “hash tag” #honest  
13 police work and “hash tag” #community policing at its best reference Officer Kerrigan’s actions.

14  
15 Officer Kerrigan should be recognized and commended for his assistance to Mr. Blarney. Patrol  
16 Officer Dan Kickert should be recognized for his continuous monitoring of the Department’s  
17 Facebook page and for bringing Mr. Blarney’s message regarding Officer Kerrigan to the  
18 attention of the Chief of Police.

19  
20 Trustee Gibson stated that any time that we see things that look like they need to be  
21 congratulated we should do that.

22  
23 **Commendation to Officer Kerrigan** – Trustee Gibson stated that this Commendation to Officer  
24 Kerrigan has been shared with the residents at the time. The individual who was saved because  
25 of that was in the hospital. That person was not able to hear this. Trustee Gibson stated that she  
26 received a call from a resident, Lola Proulx, who recognized from the website the possibility of  
27 honoring Officer Kerrigan. Trustee Gibson called Lola back and stated that he won’t be there to  
28 be honored but he is going to be honored because of his good work. She stated that resident Lola  
29 Proulx would like to share with you information about an incident that happened to her where  
30 Officer Kerrigan saved her life.

31 **Motion by Trustee Robinson, second by Trustee Pennington to Suspend the Rules to allow**  
32 **Miss Lola Proulx to come forward.**

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

34  
35 Miss Lola Proulx stated that she has lived here for 41-years and loves it. She thinks that she lives  
36 in the best area anyone knows about. She thinks that our police department is the very best. A  
37 while back she was attacked by a neighbor’s dog, a resident’s dog. While he had her on the  
38 ground and he got her arm and her hand, she still can’t use her hand and she has had three  
39 surgeries. Officer Kerrigan was there. The dog was inches from her throat. The officer didn’t  
40 know what to do and to shoot because the dog was so close to her. So, he shot three bullets, and  
41 luckily the dog fell down and she lived. Miss Proulx stated that she has so much to thank him  
42 for. He is just wonderful. She wishes that he was here. Miss Proulx stated that the whole police  
43 department is wonderful and she thanks you. (There was a round of applause).

44  
45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that at the time Lola was actually the person that you  
46 called if you saw a stray dog. If you saw a dog that was hurt we would always call Lola and she  
47 would pick the dog up. At any given moment, she and her husband Ernie, would have five or six  
48 dogs that they would fall in love with and they would adopt. We thank Lola for her service. We

1 are so glad that Officer Kerrigan was there to save your life that particular evening. Trustee  
2 Pennington stated “Hear, Hear.” Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to thank  
3 all of our Public Safety Officers because they are to be commended. We receive letters on a  
4 regular basis commending them for their community spirit, for their professionalism, and for  
5 their response time. We appreciate them because it does keep Olympia Fields one of the safest  
6 communities in the entire region, if not the State. Thank you so much to Chief Krull and our  
7 Public Safety Officers. (There was a round of applause). She stated that we will go back into  
8 regular session.

9  
10 **REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

11  
12 **Resolution #2017-06** – A Resolution Approving the Agreement between the Village of Olympia  
13 Fields and Southland College Preparatory Charter High School (Agreement for College & Career  
14 Readiness) – Administrator Mekarski apologized to the Board and to the public. He was having a  
15 little medical condition with elevated blood pressure levels that was causing his brain to be  
16 clouded. He has taken care of that and feels much better.

17  
18 Administrator Mekarski stated that his Report is Resolution #2017-06, a Resolution approving  
19 the Agreement between the Village of Olympia Fields and Southland College Preparatory  
20 Charter High School. This is an annual event that the Village of Olympia Fields Educational  
21 Commission holds. It’s one of the greatest things that the Commission has done since 2006. It is  
22 a Career and College Readiness Program. He stated following some of the recommendations  
23 from Prairie State College, the Educational Commission puts on an Educational Seminar for  
24 sixth, seventh, and eighth-graders. It is for all the middle schools that feed into our three high  
25 schools which is Rich Township High School, Bloom Township, as well as Homewood-  
26 Flossmoor High School. The key is to try to instill in young minds in the community the desire  
27 to advance towards college and/or careers. We bring in professionals from multidisciplinary  
28 functions to inspire the children. It is held annually at the Charter School. Dr. Davis is always  
29 gracious to provide us the entire Charter School. It is just before they begin summer recess. They  
30 allow us to use the entire building to have concurrent sessions of these professionals.

31  
32 Administrator Mekarski stated that last year we focused on healthcare. We brought in  
33 professionals from Franciscan St. James. We brought in the Director of Emergency Operations  
34 for the Operating Room to do the Keynote Address, Dr. Vernell Johnson. We had Radiologists,  
35 Lab Technicians, people involved in maternity, as well as actual Primary Care Physicians. They  
36 really inspired the kids towards professions, both college and careers in the medical field.

37  
38 Administrator Mekarski stated that this year we are doing something a little different. We are  
39 working with SSMMA and the Chicago Southland Economic Development Council to inspire  
40 some young minds in math and science, and in particular the need for high-skilled jobs, in  
41 industry, and commerce. We are exploding in the Chicago Southland with industry and  
42 commerce. One of the things that employers are telling us is there is not enough of a talented  
43 labor pool to allow our industry to expand. He stated that working with SSMMA and CSEDC in  
44 partnership with the Educational Commission, we are going to be introducing the children to  
45 various careers in science and math, including engineering and robotics. The event will be held  
46 May 20<sup>th</sup>.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that we are utilizing a small amount of funds. It is budgeted by  
2 this Board every year, \$5,000.00. Due to the fact, the Fiscal Year ends April 30<sup>th</sup>, we ask the  
3 Board to pass an Escrow Agreement encumbering this year's Fiscal Funds into an Escrow  
4 Account. That money would be transferred for the event which is held after the Fiscal Year on  
5 May 20<sup>th</sup>. He encouraged those citizens that would want to participate in this. He knows the  
6 Economic Development Committee is doing educational partnerships with 227 to stimulate  
7 interest on an array of economic topics. He encouraged everybody to come to the Charter School  
8 that day. He stated that at 8 o'clock there is a breakfast for the speakers. The event starts at 9:00  
9 A.M. The Village President always gives the Keynote Address. She can testify to the amount of  
10 joy that she receives as the Chief Elected Official watching the kids explode on that whole day.  
11 We have a Motion asking the Escrow Agreement to be approved by the Board. On May 20<sup>th</sup>, we  
12 will be participating in this great event at the Charter School.

13

14 Trustee Byrd stated that David said it quite well. It is an excellent time to come out and see kids  
15 really enjoying themselves learning. He has attended the last two or three events. They have  
16 hands-on activities. It is not just lecturing them. It is about careers. They rotate to three different  
17 seminars. They have a luncheon. They have a discussion at the end. It is an excellent program  
18 and a well-spent \$5,000.00 to help them put that program on. We are hoping to do bigger and  
19 better things, and maybe work with Rich Central to get a few things done. You can come out and  
20 watch young people learning and enjoying themselves with the hands-on activities.

21

22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she gives the welcome speech. This program that  
23 was started by the Educational Commission has really grown. It reaches out to the Feeder  
24 Schools. We have been told that the Feeder Schools are extremely important to the high schools  
25 because we want them to be more prepared for high school, so that the high school teachers don't  
26 have to work so hard to bring them up to speed. The Feeder Schools have always been crucial to  
27 the improvement to our high school district. We are happy to partner with Southland Charter  
28 School, the Educational Commission, the CSEDC, and St. James Hospital, in order to bring this  
29 type of program to the children.

30

31 Trustee Matz inquired whether or not there is any room to add to this program, like Mentoring  
32 Youth Through Technology which is another STEM Group. Administrator Mekarski stated  
33 absolutely. We are still in the planning stages. We would be happy to invite you to one of the  
34 brainstorming sessions with the Educational Commission and the Charter Staff. Trustee Matz  
35 stated that she is adding a group to it, perfect.

36 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Robinson to Approve Resolution #2017 -06 A**  
37 **Resolution Approving the Agreement between the Village of Olympia Fields and Southland**  
38 **College Preparatory Charter High School.**

39

40 Mrs. Savage inquired whether or not she could make a comment.

41 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Pennington to Suspend the Rules.**

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

43

44 Mrs. Drella Savage stated that she thinks it is an excellent program. She inquired whether or not  
45 this is an additional \$5,000.00 to be added to this year's Budget for this program, since this is an  
46 ongoing program that she is sure it has been budgeted for in prior years. Is this an additional  
47 amount? And, if so, how much is the first amount?

48



1 Mrs. Trinette Britt-Johnson recognized the members of the Economic Development Committee  
2 that are sitting in the audience: Mr. Morris, Mr. Lewis, Mr. Gibb, and Mr. Chandler. Our Village  
3 President established a Committee to build better relationships with the business community and  
4 to develop programs to support and attract new and existing businesses in the Village of Olympia  
5 Fields. Based on our efforts over the last couple of years we realize that successful economic  
6 development activities in communities are supported by Economic Development Commissions  
7 under the Ordinances of their Municipalities with defined roles and responsibilities. Accordingly,  
8 we want no less for our community to insure success. The purpose of the Commission is to: (1)  
9 Recommend to the Village President and Board of Trustees economic and commercial  
10 development policies. (2) Recommend to the Village President and Board of Trustees research  
11 and resources necessary for the implementation of any Village development strategies and plans.  
12 The EDC will focus on the goals, major projects, and long-term consideration such as  
13 community growth and sustainability, land use development, Capital Improvements, financing  
14 vehicles, and strategic planning. We will also aide in the process of efficiency by channeling the  
15 resources of our combined expertise and insight to complement the judgment of the Village  
16 President, Board of Trustees, and Administrative Staff.  
17

18 In order to accomplish this objective, we recommend change to our structure codifying us as a  
19 recognized Commission of the Village of Olympia Fields. Our guiding principal will be the  
20 acronym STAMP which means we will strive to be strategic, transparent, accountable, measured,  
21 and practical in the execution of our mission. We are proposing that the Economic Development  
22 Committee be now sanctioned as the Economic Development Commission which we believe the  
23 benefits of that Commission to be the following: Provide opportunities for dialog and community  
24 input; Activities may include the study of critical issues; Performing independent research and  
25 reviewing Reports and recommendations; Discuss, analyze, formulate, and forward well-  
26 developed thoughtful recommendations for consideration; Provide mechanisms appropriate for  
27 the ascertainment of facts and the discernment of views; Serve as a way to build public  
28 consensus before economic development decisions are finalized; Participate in the visioning and  
29 strategic planning, and assist in designing business and economic oriented local government  
30 services.  
31

32 The Commission shall have the following duties: (1) Recommend and/or present to the Village  
33 President and the Board of Trustees strategies and plans for economic improvement pursuant to  
34 the Village's economic development plans. (2) Recommend to the Village President and the  
35 Board of Trustees projects for economic development, improvement, and retail recruitment. (3)  
36 Review and make recommendations to the Village President and Board of Trustees on the  
37 creation of proposed Tax Increment Financing Districts (TIFs) and other financing vehicles  
38 related to economic development. (4) Review and make recommendations on economic  
39 development matters referred to the Commission by the Village President or the Board of  
40 Trustees, or as required by the Village's economic development plans. (5) Review applications  
41 for new businesses that require zoning approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission and/or  
42 the Village Board, and report its findings and recommendations to the Planning and Zoning  
43 Commission and/or the Village President and Board of Trustees. (6) In concert with the Board of  
44 Trustees, make recommendations for design and updates for website development and other  
45 marketing initiatives and programs. (7) Submit an Annual Budget for the Commission for  
46 consideration by the Village President and Board of Trustees. We believe the opportunities and  
47 next steps are: The EDC will develop a strategy designed to systematically create economic  
48 sustainability for our community. In order to guide our efforts to support economic growth and



1 President Meyers-Martin stated that the second item under the Village President’s Report is an  
2 Ordinance authorizing the imposition of a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailer’s Occupation  
3 Tax. Back in November there was a Referendum asking for a Non-Home Rule Sales Tax of 1%.  
4 That Referendum passed 60% to 40% with 60% of our Village residents agreeing that that was  
5 something that would be beneficial and of value to the residents.  
6

7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that in order for us to put that into motion, we do need to  
8 pass this Ordinance. It is a timing issue. If we are to pass it by May 1<sup>st</sup>, we can begin to collect  
9 the revenue as a result of that 1% by July 1<sup>st</sup>. If you delay the vote in approving this, it then  
10 delays the time when we can begin to collect the 1%.  
11

12 Trustee Pennington inquired how long the delay is. Administrator Mekarski stated that the next  
13 period would be October for collection in January. As the Board is aware, the Village would  
14 receive anywhere in the neighborhood, we are estimating. \$550,000.00 to \$730,000.00 in Non-  
15 Home Rule Sales Tax which is being encumbered by the Village for Capital Projects and limited  
16 capital equipment. It’s restricted for salaries and benefits. It will be driving a lot of projects. The  
17 exciting thing is that 90% of those revenues are contributed by non-residents. You will be getting  
18 your roads, water, and sewer from the use of revenues from non-residents.

19 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to Waive on First Reading and**  
20 **Adopt in Second Reading Ordinance #2017-13 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Imposition**  
21 **of a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailer’s Occupation Tax and Non-Home Rule Municipal**  
22 **Service Occupation Tax in the Village of Olympia Fields, Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.**

23 **Roll Call:                      Ayes (6-0)                      Motion Carried.**  
24

25 **Interactive Agendas will be Coming Soon** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she  
26 has one other item. She is speaking to our resident that comes regularly now. At the last Board  
27 Meeting, we did talk about an App that would allow for an Interactive Agenda for residents to  
28 access so that you had the same documents that the Board has, but allowing residents to have  
29 more input, and perhaps ask more questions, but definitely create a better relationship between  
30 the Board and the residents in terms of our Agendas. We checked into that. It is quite different  
31 than the presentation we had about the website. This is something that we can do. It would not  
32 take the six to eight-months that we were talking about how long it would take for the website to  
33 be upgraded. It will change sort of the rhythm of how Board Packets are put together. You would  
34 have to begin preparing the Board Packet well in advance of when it is prepared now in order to  
35 be able to get those documents interactively. We have budgeted for that in our Budget that will  
36 be effective May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be doing that. We will be going to an Interactive Agenda sooner  
37 rather than later. It will take us some time to get acclimated to this new way of doing things for  
38 the Board Packet. She is happy to say that will eliminate a lot of the paper. We won’t have to kill  
39 so many trees in order to get these documents out. It will require that we have Tablets so that we  
40 can access our Agendas electronically. As she may have stated on several occasions, “We may  
41 be crawling into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, but we are moving.” She stated thank you so much for that  
42 suggestion. She looks forward to us being able to do that.  
43

44 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**  
45

46 The Board did not have any Unfinished Business to discuss this evening.  
47  
48

1 **NEW BUSINESS:**

2  
3 The Board did not have any New Business to discuss this evening.

4  
5 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

6  
7 **Appointment to the Human Resources Committee – Robert McCullough –**

8  
9 **Appointment to the Educational Commission – Kyuana Marshall –**

10  
11 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has before the Board two Appointments for your  
12 approval. The first one is the addition and approval of Robert D. McCullough. You have  
13 information on Mr. McCullough. You have his Application. At one point, he was at every  
14 Commission Meeting gathering information.

15 **Motion by Trustee Robinson, second by Trustee Pennington to Approve the Candidacy of**  
16 **Robert D. McCullough, Jr. to the Village of Olympia Fields Human Resources Committee**  
17 **for a Term Continuing until a New Appointment is made by the Village President.**

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

19  
20 Village President Meyers-Martin welcomed Mr. McCullough to the Human Resources  
21 Committee.

22  
23 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the second Appointment she has before the Board  
24 for approval is for the candidacy of Kyuana Marshall to the Educational Commission. You have  
25 her Application.

26 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Byrd to Approve the Candidacy of Kyuana**  
27 **Marshall to the Village of Olympia Fields Educational Commission for a Term Continuing**  
28 **until a New Appointment is made by the Village President.**

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

30  
31 Village President Meyers-Martin welcomed Kyuana Marshall to the Educational Commission.

32  
33 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

34  
35 Village President Meyers-Martin opened Communications & Petitions at 8:25 P.M.

36  
37 **STEM Program** - Mr. Carlando Owens stated that his comment concerns the STEM Program at  
38 the Charter School. He thinks it is an excellent program for students to participate in. He noticed  
39 in some areas they have expanded it from a STEM Program to a STEAM Program where it also  
40 includes the arts. He would encourage the school to consider that also.

41  
42 **Inquiry on Village Meeting Tomorrow Night** - Mr. Owens stated that he has heard rumors  
43 about a meeting tomorrow evening, but he has not seen anything about it on the Village's  
44 Website, or posted anywhere. He wanted to confirm whether or not there is a meeting. Village  
45 President Meyers-Martin inquired what the meeting was regarding. Mr. Owens stated that he is  
46 not sure. Trustee Byrd stated that it sounds like a rumor. Mr. Owens stated that is why he was  
47 asking the question is there a Public Meeting tomorrow evening.



1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated no. She stated related to that she believes that as a Board,  
2 and as a Village, we have to find more creative ways to get people more involved in the NIXEL  
3 which allows us to get that information out about meetings that are posted. We have always  
4 posted them on the door. She stated but electronically, there is a better way to do it.

5  
6 **Political Signage in Wysteria** - Mr. Ernie Gibson stated that he resides at 208 Wysteria Drive.  
7 His discussion has to do with clearing the air on some misunderstanding. He is proud to say that  
8 he has been the Chairman of the Board of Wysteria for the last 20-years. We are a PUD. We do  
9 have policy. He would like to clear up that policy in reference to political signage. We do allow,  
10 and that is our policy in Wysteria, we do allow for signage on your individual property. We do  
11 allow signage, or door hangers on your doors as such. When it comes to our common areas, you  
12 must get permission. We experienced some 17-years ago where we were taken advantage of.  
13 That's why we initiated the policy. This year we did remove some political signage from our  
14 common areas. Certainly, we were criticized for that severely. They wanted to know why is it  
15 that you only have Debbie Meyers-Martin's signage in your common areas. We said that she  
16 asked six-weeks ago as she did in the last election. We have Art Byrd. He asked about a month  
17 or so ago. What we are saying here is this. We do invite you to our meetings. We meet by law  
18 with all of our citizens. We have in the area from 30 to 50-individuals turning out four times a  
19 year. We do invite all participants in reference to those persons who are seeking office. We want  
20 to make sure that we record this, Madam President, and bring it to the standpoint that the Village  
21 knows or understands our policy on political signage. Village President Meyers-Martin closed  
22 Communications & Petitions at 8:30 P.M.

23

24 **ADJOURNMENT:**

25

26 **Motion by Trustee Robinson, second by Trustee Gibson to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.**

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

28

29 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

30 :

31

32

33