

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**  
2 **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
3 **Held on March 28, 2016**  
4

5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at the  
6 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Debra Meyers-  
7 Martin at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrator  
8 Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll.  
9

10 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Nale, Pennington, Hudson, and Waite  
11 Village President Debra Meyers-Martin  
12 Village Administrator/Village Clerk, David Mekarski  
13

14 Absent: Trustee Byrd.  
15

16 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**  
17

18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you have before you tonight Bills for Approval  
19 in the amount of \$78,076.70. There is a Cover Memo in the Board Packet designating the more  
20 significant payouts.

21 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to approve the payment of Bills**  
22 **for March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016, in the total amount of \$78,076.70.**

23 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**  
24

25 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**  
26

27 Village President Meyers-Martin opened Communications & Petitions at 7:01 P.M.  
28

29 **Request from the Olympia Fields Park District for a Donation to Support the 5K Sock Hop**  
30 **Hustle on May 8, 2016 – Executive Director, Denise Will** – Village President Meyers-Martin  
31 stated that we have two Presentations under Communications & Petitions. The first is a  
32 Presentation from Denise Will who is the Executive Director of the Olympia Fields Park District.  
33

34 Mrs. Denise Will stated that she hopes that everyone got all of the materials for the 5K Race. It  
35 will be held on Mother’s Day, May 8<sup>th</sup>. The race will start at Bicentennial Park and end at  
36 Sergeant Means Park. The 5K is 3.11 miles. They met with Chief Krull and they have the ESDA  
37 people onboard with them. They have all of their security together. They are putting all of the  
38 pieces of the puzzle together. She stated that you should have a Route Map that will show you  
39 what the route of the race will be. They have already gotten a commitment of having police  
40 officers assist them with these special points that are most concerning like Kedzie and Highway  
41 30. After they get past that point it is really just in the neighborhood. They will send out letters to  
42 all of the residents along the Parade Route telling them that they are going to be passing by their  
43 house that day. They won’t be stuck there for the entire time of the race. As runners are passing  
44 by, there may be a time that they might have to wait for people to pass through.  
45

46 Mrs. Will stated that they are expecting 80-runners. If you type into your Search Engine, “Sock  
47 Hop Hustle.org” it will take you to the Race Page. It lists the sponsors on there. You can register

1 through the site. It gives you other information about it. If you Google it you will see that it  
2 appears in almost all of the major Race Magazines in the Chicagoland area, The Chicago Area  
3 Runners Association and My Race Pal. They have been working on it for about a year.  
4

5 Mrs. Will stated that she and Trustee Pennington have discussed keeping in contact with the  
6 Village, especially if we were seeking funding for anything to get the information in by January  
7 because that's a good time to do it. She attempted that, but she believes that there was some  
8 miscommunication somehow. She didn't know what she did but she thinks it is her fault. She  
9 hopes that the Village is able to participate in some way. They want the residents to come out. If  
10 they are on the Parade Route they want them to cheer on the runners. If anyone is interested in  
11 volunteering that day, they would love to have you volunteer. You can call the Park District and  
12 they will find a job for you. They are having an after the race party which all of the residents are  
13 invited to attend. It will be at Sergeant Means Park. They are trying to find some scouts to do a  
14 pancake breakfast in The Barn. Flossmoor Brewery is going to have a little beer tent for the  
15 runners. They will have races for the kids. The walkers that want to walk the track can do that. It  
16 will be over by 11:00 A.M. so the people can spend the rest of the afternoon with their moms.  
17 The race starts at 8:00 A.M. In an hour, hour and a half probably everybody will be through.  
18

19 Mrs. Will stated that the Budget is about \$8,900.00. They have two sponsors so far and some in-  
20 kind donations as well. They are still trying to raise some funding for it.  
21

22 Trustee Gibson inquired of Mrs. Will whether or not there is a fee for the racers. Mrs. Will stated  
23 that it is \$25.00 early bird and \$30.00 the day of.  
24

25 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Mrs. Will whether or not she has any idea of how  
26 many runners they will actually have.  
27

28 Mrs. Will stated no because this is the first time and they don't really know how to gauge it. The  
29 Chicago Runners Association helped them in the beginning. They said that 80 would be a good  
30 number to get for the first time and from there it would grow. She has been looking to see who  
31 else is having a race that day. There are things going on downtown. There is a race in Huntley  
32 which is way up north. We don't have any competition down here in the southland. She believes  
33 that H-F's race is the week after.  
34

35 Trustee Hudson inquired of Mrs. Will how she knows when someone is going to race. Mrs. Will  
36 stated that most racers will register the day of the race. They do have some registered right now.  
37 She doesn't know how many. It is kind of early for them right now so they don't have a whole  
38 lot registered. They know when someone registers online because they have that information  
39 available to them. They don't know how many runners will show up that day.  
40

41 Administrator Mekarski stated that in Denise's letter of January 5<sup>th</sup>, the Park District is  
42 requesting sponsorship help ranging from \$250.00 to \$2,500.00. He stated that while this is not a  
43 budgeted item, we do have a good surplus in our General Fund because of the judicious work of  
44 all of the Department Heads in keeping their expenditures down. We can accommodate anything  
45 that the Board of Trustees desires.  
46

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that typically it is not our policy to donate to charitable  
2 organizations. This is not a charitable organization. It is a local government body. It is our sister  
3 agency that serves the same taxpayers as our tax dollars.  
4

5 Mrs. Will stated that Dr. Parker at District 227 is planning to give them registration for all of the  
6 Track Team and have the Track Team come for the race. That is a nice addition as well. She is  
7 going to list them as a sponsor for doing that for them.  
8

9 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Mrs. Will whether or not she has approached St. James  
10 Hospital. They may be interested in participating as a sponsor.  
11

12 Mrs. Will believes that they are on the list to be contacted. She has not contacted them. She  
13 stated that it might be Mallory that is doing that.  
14

15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she likes the idea of the Park District providing this  
16 type of community event. Lots of Municipalities do 5K Runs. It is a way to engage residents in  
17 an activity. She commends the Park District for coming up with this idea especially to celebrate  
18 their 60<sup>th</sup> Year of serving the residents of Olympia Fields. Village President Meyers-Martin  
19 stated that she wishes you success.  
20

21 Mrs. Will stated that she hopes that Village President Meyers-Martin can come out that day.  
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes, it is Mother's Day. She stated that the Board can see  
23 on the Agenda that the Park District is requesting a monetary sponsorship. We are able to move  
24 that Motion request at this time if there are no further questions for Denise.  
25

26 Trustee Gibson stated that she is really happy that our Police Department is providing assistance  
27 during that. Wouldn't you think that by providing the police officers in this endeavor, that that's  
28 a very helpful, collaborative kind of effort? She hasn't spoken to the Chief. She is not sure  
29 whether or not that will encounter any financial funds from us like overtime for the police  
30 officers.  
31

32 Mrs. Will stated that is in our Budget. We were planning to pay for the officers. There is money  
33 in the Budget to pay the police for their service that day. We had planned on paying for that. If  
34 you would like that to be your donation that is possible as well depending on what the Chief  
35 says.  
36

37 Chief Krull stated that this will be an overtime event. We have three officers on overtime  
38 scheduled for that. He will be in as well as Scott Morgan. There will be a total of five officers  
39 there, only three of which will be on overtime. We have had some discussions with Eric Darwell  
40 from your office, and the Park District was willing to recoup that expense for the officers.  
41

42 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Chief Krull whether or not he has an estimated  
43 dollar amount for that. Chief Krull stated that it would be three officers at their overtime rate.  
44 They thought that three-hours would be sufficient, and another officer because you are serving  
45 alcohol there. We have to have an officer there by Ordinance anyway. The cost estimate would  
46 probably be \$500.00, \$600.00 when it is all said and done.  
47

1 Trustee Pennington inquired of Chief Krull whether or not that is per officer. Chief Krull stated  
2 no, it is the total.

3 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Waite to grant or support this effort in**  
4 **the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Park District, above and beyond what is going to be supplied**  
5 **by the Police Department.**

6

7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Park District is basically responsible for all of  
8 the events that we do for the community per se in terms of programs. It has been said many,  
9 many times that we really encourage that there be a better partnership, better communication,  
10 between the Park District and the Village because while we are separate entities and separate  
11 governances, we certainly reflect on each other. It is very important that you do well, because we  
12 do well when you do well. She appreciates the Motion.

13 **Roll Call: Ayes (4) (Trustee Hudson abstained) Motion Carried.**

14

15 **Relay for Life Event Presentation – Becky Czmyr, Volunteer Community Leader – Village**  
16 **President Meyers-Martin stated that our next Presentation is from Becky Czmyr for the “Relay**  
17 **for Life Event.”**

18

19 Mrs. Becky Czmyr stated that she is here with her friend, Heidi Gonzalez. She stated that Heidi  
20 comes from the American Cancer Society. Mrs. Czmyr is a community leader. Mrs. Czmyr  
21 stated that we have come to share with you the far south suburbs “Relay for Life Event” that will  
22 be held at Rich South High School on June 11<sup>th</sup>. They are looking for lots and lots of teams. It is  
23 a relay. You get a team of 10 and everybody takes turns walking around the track. It is from  
24 Noon to Midnight.

25

26 Mrs. Czmyr stated that there are a couple of different ways of getting involved as a Village or as  
27 a community. They would like to see more teams. You can have the Olympia Fields Village  
28 Team. You can have your own personal teams. The goal is to raise money for the American  
29 Cancer Society’s “Relay for Life.”

30

31 Mrs. Gonzalez stated that she is a staff person for the American Cancer Society. She always  
32 brings volunteers with her to events like this because it is the work of the volunteers that the  
33 American Cancer Society continues on its mission. We have millions of volunteers to a few  
34 hundred employees. She stated thanks always to our volunteers. She stated that we use to have  
35 the “Relay for Life” at Rich Central. One of the largest teams was the Olympia Fields Police  
36 Department.

37

38 Chief Krull stated that he will see if he can round up some volunteers. Mrs. Gonzalez stated that  
39 the Police Department could have a team. The Fire Department, they love to raise money. They  
40 often get involved in “Relay for Life.” Our goal here is community involvement. She stated that  
41 it is for all fitness levels and for all ages. They have some runners that are there. The idea is a  
42 relay. You get a team of folks together whether it is family, friends, co-workers, or church  
43 members, and you take turns walking around the track. The idea is to have at least one member  
44 of your team walking at all times. It is a very healthy thing to do in our community and getting  
45 good things in our communities that we all so need these days.

46

1 Mrs. Gonzalez inquired whether or not there are any cancer survivors in the room. Trustee  
2 Pennington stated 12-years. Mrs. Gonzalez congratulated Trustee Pennington. She stated that this  
3 is another thing that they love to do at the “Relay for Life Events.” Every opening ceremony is  
4 dedicated to cancer survivors. You take your victory lap. You get your beautiful, purple T-shirt.  
5 You get a sash. You get a free lunch on us that donors have provided. The opening lap is taken  
6 by cancer survivors whether they are 12-years or 12-days. Sometimes they put folks in golf carts  
7 and wheel them around so they can take their victory lap. They would love to have as many  
8 survivors out there as they can. She stated please consider yourselves invited to that and come  
9 celebrate with us. They have fliers and brochures that tell about “Relay for Life.” They want to  
10 get the Village of Olympia Fields involved again.

11  
12 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that at one time it was at Rich Central. Now it is at Rich  
13 South. Mrs. Gonzalez stated that she approached Rich Township 227, the School District, and  
14 Rich South didn’t have any scheduling conflicts. They do require lights because it goes to  
15 midnight. Rich South was available to them this year.

16  
17 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Mrs. Gonzalez how the volunteers raise the funds. Mrs.  
18 Gonzales stated that it use to be that you went around asking people for money. A lot of folks do  
19 their fundraising online now. There is a Website that everybody registers from. People send out  
20 e-mails and Facebook Messages to do their online fundraising. They have folks that do Paint  
21 Parties for fundraising. They have folks that do Bake Sales for fundraising. They don’t make you  
22 raise a certain amount to participate. If you have raised at least \$100.00 you get an event T-shirt  
23 as part of the Hope Club. They have a lot of folks that raise a whole lot more than \$100.00. She  
24 stated that for each level they get to earn special prizes as well.

25  
26 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we certainly commend you for your efforts first and  
27 foremost. We wish you success with that. Olympia Fields definitely would love to help you  
28 promote that. Please leave the fliers for us. We will have them on our counter. We can provide  
29 that information on Channel 4. She stated to Chief Krull that perhaps we can do something with  
30 the NIXLE to get the word out. We have a Volunteer Reception coming up on Saturday. We can  
31 make that information available for people who are already very active in the Village. Certainly  
32 there may be people who would be interested. She appreciates them coming tonight and  
33 providing that information. She stated that we certainly encourage the Chief to help us make a  
34 team. She thanked them for being here. Although there were members of the public in the  
35 audience, no one wished to address the Board. Village President Meyers-Martin closed  
36 Communications & Petitions at 7:25 P.M.

37  
38 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

39  
40 **A. Recommendation for Payment of Invoice #16030173 to Robinson Engineering for Work**  
41 **Completed in Connection with the Vollmer Road Reconstruction Preliminary Engineering**  
42 **Project (Project No. 14-590) in the amount of \$107,551.36.**

43  
44 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this brings us to Consent Agenda 4(A). The Consent  
45 Agenda consists of elements that are routine and therefore do not require a lot of discussion.

46

1 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to approve Consent Agenda item**  
2 **4(A) which is the recommendation for payment of an Invoice to Robinson Engineering.**  
3 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

4  
5 **FINANCE:**

6  
7 There was no Report in Trustee Byrd's absence.

8  
9 **BUILDING:**

10  
11 **Wal-Mart Expected to Open in August** - Trustee Hudson stated that she doesn't have a Formal  
12 Report this evening. She wanted to let everybody know that Wal-Mart is set to open in August  
13 now instead of the original date that we had in June. That is mainly because they are still  
14 working and trying to make sure that all of the smoke is out of the building. That was their delay.

15  
16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that as we move forward towards that August 1<sup>st</sup> date,  
17 she has been in conversations with many people regarding the hiring process that Wal-Mart will  
18 conduct. Once we have that information confirmed we will certainly be sharing that. She is  
19 reaching out to Prairie State to make sure that they are involved, as well as other entities that are  
20 involved with the hiring process. Wal-Mart has said that they probably will have a Hiring Office  
21 on the premises in Olympia Fields which would be great. We will keep you informed of that.

22  
23 **PLANNING:**

24  
25 **Planning and Zoning Commission** - Trustee Pennington stated that the Planning and Zoning  
26 Commission met in full session on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, to hear testimony and to consider an  
27 Application filed by Central States Tower and Jeffrey Risby, and Chicago SMSA, LLC doing  
28 business as Verizon Wireless, for Special Use approval to construct a 110-foot Wireless  
29 Telecommunications Cell Tower with antenna along with an equipment shelter at its base. This  
30 cell tower would be erected on property owned by the Cathedral of Joy Family Life Center  
31 hereinafter COJ, 20401 Western Avenue in Olympia Fields. Noteworthy is the fact that this  
32 tower would be erected in the middle of a residential area surrounded by Olympia Fields United  
33 Methodist Church on the north, the Wysteria Subdivision on the east, the Church of the Nazarene  
34 in Chicago Heights on the south, and the Olympia Fields East Subdivision on the west.

35  
36 Trustee Pennington stated that Mr. John McDonnell, Building Commissioner for the Village  
37 provided opening remarks regarding this proposed project. Mr. Mike Hoffman with Teska  
38 Associates presented Teska's review of the Application and the site, and recommended the  
39 approval of the requested Special Use for a cell tower subject to specific conditions. Mr. Risby  
40 verbally presented his rationale for erecting the cell tower at this site. Neither the Commission  
41 nor the audience attending had the benefit of visuals or other renderings setting out what the  
42 tower would look like after construction in this condensed residential area. It was Mr. Risby's  
43 position that Verizon Communications is now a Data Company, and that the FCC has mandated  
44 this area to be built-out. It is on this basis that the COJ Property was the best and only place for  
45 the tower, and that no other area was considered. Again, Mr. Risby failed to present information  
46 in support of his statements.

1 Trustee Pennington stated that Commission Chairman Victor Blackwell opened the meeting up  
2 for Public Comment by reading into the record a letter in opposition by Dr. James W. Truran,  
3 Senior Physicist, Argonne National Laboratory and Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics at  
4 the University of Chicago and a resident of Wysteria. Dr. Truran's concerns centered on two  
5 specific areas: The impact these towers and the high voltages that may be associated with them  
6 may have negative effect and impact on the environment and dangers to those who live near  
7 them. Secondly, a 110-foot tower will be an eyesore to the community and affect property  
8 values.

9  
10 Trustee Pennington stated that Dr. Ernest Gibson, President of the Wysteria Homeowners  
11 Association spoke in opposition for this project as well, citing inter alia the placement of the  
12 tower in a residential community, the possible health hazards emanating from cell towers and the  
13 decline in property values. Mr. Lee Langon, President of the Olympia Club Homeowners  
14 Association also expressed his objection to the placement of this tower in a residential  
15 neighborhood. Similar comments were advanced by those concerned residents attending. It is  
16 important to note that at no time was Mr. Risby able to prove his case for this Special Use  
17 Request.

18  
19 Trustee Pennington stated that Dr. Samuel Hinkle, Senior Pastor of COJ advised the Commission  
20 as well as the audience, that he and his Board were in favor of the tower, and this project will  
21 provide both a short-term and a long-term financial benefit for his ministry. He further indicated  
22 that COJ's legal counsel worked closely with CST/Verizon to insure that all safety issues have  
23 been addressed. Chairman Blackwell then closed the Public Comment. The Commissioners then  
24 asked questions of Mr. Risby in large part on his insistence that the COJ Property was the only  
25 suitable property in the area. Mr. Risby did state that in 2008 property located behind the then  
26 Currie Motors was considered, but there was no follow-up or follow-through by either parties,  
27 either Currie Motors or Mr. Risby's organization. It was further learned that CST had  
28 approached the Pastor of the Greek Orthodox Church when it owned the property in question.  
29 This admission dispels Mr. Risby's earlier statement that the instant property is the best property  
30 and no other land parcels are available.

31  
32 Trustee Pennington stated that it is important to note that this project is subject to, and operates  
33 under Section 332(c)(7)(B) of the Federal Communications Act, 47 USC 332(c)(7) which  
34 governs the ability of a Municipality to regulate the placement, construction and modification of  
35 cell towers. Although generally, Section 332(c)(7) provides for local government regulation over  
36 such zoning decisions, in actuality, the Act strictly limits the Municipalities regulation of the  
37 placement, construction and modification of cell towers. Under the Act a Municipality cannot  
38 unreasonably discriminate among providers of functionally equivalent services; Prohibit or have  
39 the effect of prohibiting wireless services; Regulate on the basis of environmental effects of radio  
40 frequency emissions if the proposed facilities comply with the FCC's regulations on emissions.  
41 Further, a Municipality may not deny cellular tower permits on the basis of perceived health  
42 risks. Should a Municipality deny a request, it must be in writing supported by substantial  
43 evidence contained in the written findings. It's important to note here that neither the  
44 Commission, its members, nor the audience at hand mentioned anything about going against the  
45 FCC Regulations. It is clear that the comments voiced by the residents in attendance, as well as  
46 the ill-preparedness of the Principals in presenting their case, the Planning and Zoning  
47 Commission could not advance this request to the Board of Trustees. It is the Commission's

1 recommendation that we table this request pending the receipt of a comprehensive Legal Opinion  
2 from our legal counsel regarding the placement of Monopole Telecommunications Towers in a  
3 residential neighborhood and the ultimate impact it has on a community. Further, we want to  
4 know if there was any substantive change in the law since the Village was apprised of same in  
5 2009. If you remember that is when we changed our zoning to reflect the inclusion of the T-  
6 Mobile Cell Tower at Irons Oaks. What we do not want is a proliferation of cell phone towers in  
7 Olympia Fields. Moreover, it is felt that alternative site locations are available and should be  
8 explored. This matter continues to develop. He stated that updates will be provided as they occur.  
9

10 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Pennington whether or not he has any  
11 perspective dates of when you might revisit this, depending on the cell phone tower's broker  
12 setting a scheduled date.  
13

14 Trustee Pennington stated that he wished John McDonnell was here because he was given the  
15 instructions to meet with David and contact John Murphey for the Legal Opinion. We feel that  
16 the Legal Opinion is essential, given the fact that this tower is going to be placed in a residential  
17 community, vis-à-vis what we currently have. Village President Meyers-Martin stated  
18 absolutely. Trustee Pennington stated what we do not know is the arrangements between Mr.  
19 Risby and his company, Verizon and the church.  
20

21 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the other thing that seems to be an unknown because  
22 the Petitioner was unprepared, whether or not they satisfy all the FCC requirements. Trustee  
23 Pennington stated that is a very true statement. This was the same Petitioner that attempted to get  
24 the cell tower erected last year at Sergeant Means Park. He was thwarted at that time. This is far  
25 more critical because of the location, the height, and the overall operation of a cell phone tower  
26 and its ultimate impact on a widely distributed area. He doesn't know what is going to happen.  
27 Mr. Risby left in a huff. We just have to wait and see, I guess.  
28

29 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there are a lot of elements at hand here. First of all,  
30 the FCC piece to it. Secondly, the fact that we have some additional locations that he may be  
31 able to take advantage of that would mitigate the concerns of the neighbors. She doesn't know  
32 how this plays into it, but normally when cell phone towers are placed it is to address complaints  
33 of Verizon users usually. It is her understanding that there have been no complaints of dropped  
34 calls or any disruption in service for Verizon users.  
35

36 Trustee Pennington stated that is true. That came out in his comment when he said that Verizon  
37 is now a Data Company vis-à-vis AT&T which is still doing traditional telephone work. That  
38 leads him to believe that Mr. Risby was not true in his statement to the Commission. He stated  
39 that Trustee Gibson was at the meeting. Trustee Pennington inquired of Trustee Gibson whether  
40 or not she wanted to say anything regarding what she thought.  
41

42 Trustee Gibson stated that she has several things. The presenter contradicted himself many times.  
43 He continued to say that 200-feet was the kind of distance he needed, but he needs this very spot  
44 here, even though he had tried Currie Motors first, the Park District next, and then the church.  
45 She didn't really believe the kinds of things that he was saying. The other thing that she has a  
46 problem with is she doesn't understand how Pastor Hinkle and his congregation could not have  
47 informed the Village of what was being planned before he signed the contract. The contract has



1 been signed. We found that out. She finds it hard to believe that as well. She stated that we were  
2 very wonderfully pleased that his church was coming to Olympia Fields. She feels now that he  
3 has no interest or concern for the residents. He is only concerned about the money that he is  
4 getting. She has a hard time understanding that.  
5  
6 Trustee Gibson stated that she was away on vacation. She could not understand why the Trustees  
7 did not get an official message from the Village that this was going on. They had to get it in a  
8 roundabout way.  
9  
10 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not he wanted  
11 to speak to that because we did not get notice.  
12  
13 Trustee Gibson stated that John knew about it. When she got back two-days after she heard about  
14 it, she asked John, "What is this? Somebody should be the official person to give us information  
15 on what is happening. We shouldn't have to get it by the grapevine."  
16  
17 Trustee Pennington stated or certainly direct that information through the Liaison for  
18 disbursement to the Board. Trustee Gibson stated exactly.  
19  
20 Administrator Mekarski stated that he doesn't have the information from John. He stated that  
21 John advertised it as an official Public Hearing, and did all the required Notices by law. He  
22 posted it outside the Village. He doesn't know if he sent out correspondence to the individual  
23 Trustees.  
24  
25 Trustee Gibson stated no, he didn't. When she asked him why he said, "Well, you know I just  
26 kind of forgot it. But I will send the whole packet to you today." Trustee Gibson stated that this  
27 has been going on for six or seven-months. Administrator Mekarski stated that he will address  
28 that with John.  
29  
30 Trustee Pennington stated that he believes that we should take the position that a formal Legal  
31 Opinion relative to the rights of the Village should be obtained from John Murphey's Office.  
32 Then we are going to have to look at whatever issues might emanate from that, given the fact  
33 that a contract has been entered into between Verizon, Risby, and the church. He doesn't know  
34 how that is going to play out.  
35  
36 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will definitely have the Legal Opinion before  
37 any future meetings at the Planning Commission level.  
38  
39 Trustee Gibson stated one other thing; he says that Verizon needs this space because they need to  
40 increase their coverage. His thoughts were that so many people now don't even have home  
41 telephone lines. Everybody is using the cell phone. She stated that a lot of people may be doing  
42 that. That is true. We asked how many more companies are you going to add to that pole because  
43 you are in the business of making money. We asked whether or not that is a possibility and he  
44 said, "Yes, of course."  
45  
46 Trustee Pennington stated that is always a possibility that other telephone communication  
47 services will lease space on that pole. We even raised the question if the pole is erected, whether

1 or not we could have the antenna inside the pole like we have over at Irons Oaks. He stated that  
2 was not the response that we wanted to hear because he said no.  
3  
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that going forward we will have the Legal Opinion.  
5 Also, we will firm up those additional locations that may be less obtrusive.  
6  
7 Trustee Gibson stated that he should be concerned about how much this is going to lower the  
8 property values of the church. She asked him that night do you live here. She stated that Mr.  
9 Hinkle stated no, but he has some property here. Trustee Gibson stated that is not what she  
10 asked. She asked whether or not he lives here. She stated that this company is out of Wheaton.  
11 She worked in Wheaton for 40-years. She inquired of Mr. Risby how many cell towers do you  
12 have in Wheaton that are in residential areas. Mr. Risby had stated that he doesn't think there are  
13 any.  
14  
15 Trustee Pennington stated that it is important to note that should this go through, Olympia Fields  
16 will be the first Municipality in the Southland Region to have cell towers of that magnitude in its  
17 Village in a residential area.  
18  
19 Trustee Nale stated that she doesn't understand why the Trustees, or at least herself, didn't know  
20 anything about this type of thing that was going on.  
21  
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that as David said, we have to check with John. He  
23 posted it as a Public Hearing but he did not as a result of that posting send correspondence to the  
24 Trustees.  
25  
26 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Public Hearing at the Planning Commission level would  
27 be referred to this body for action. There is no final action that would have been taking place at  
28 the Planning Commission. It is simply a recommendation to this governing body and then we  
29 would have the full deliberations and action on it.  
30  
31 Trustee Nale stated that we still should have had some information. Administrator Mekarski  
32 stated that he concurs. Village President Meyers-Martin stated absolutely.  
33  
34 Trustee Gibson stated that understanding what some of the rules are, her first idea about this is  
35 we should in respectful ways go and talk to Pastor Hinkle. We know he is getting a whole bunch  
36 of money. We probably know that he is in need of money because he has always been in need of  
37 money. She stated but to bring this kind of situation onto a whole group of residents in a Village  
38 that welcomed you when you wanted to come here really bothers her.  
39  
40 Trustee Pennington stated that is not a bad idea. He believes that before we do that we get the  
41 benefit of the Legal Opinion and see where we stand as a Municipality especially in light of the  
42 FCC Rule. He stated if we can develop substantial evidence that placing this tower in a  
43 condensed residential area will be detrimental to the residents, some of whom were cancer  
44 survivors, and expressed the same at the meeting.  
45  
46 Trustee Gibson stated and particularly the children. Trustee Pennington stated the children that  
47 go to the Church of the Nazarene. Trustee Gibson stated that there is always a lot full of children.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that if we do a formal objection to it, it has to be under Zoning  
2 Law. The FCC Rules are pretty clear that we can't object on environmental, or health, or impacts  
3 of micro magnetic radiation, or radio waves. It has to be under the basis of Land Use Law. He  
4 stated that aesthetics is not one of the elements. He stated that property values are under this  
5 particular Zoning Code.

6  
7 Trustee Gibson stated those studies were done 30-years ago. Trustee Pennington believes that  
8 there is latitude there. That's why the Legal Opinion in his view, will spell out with specificity  
9 those things that have been changed. What we are operating off of is a FCC Regulation that we  
10 got back in 2009. We don't know how old that Regulation was. It could be 10-years prior to that  
11 or 20-years prior to that time that we got it. He is not convinced that we cannot object to some of  
12 the things that our residents are concerned with. There has been a change in the law. There has  
13 been some relaxation of those edicts that the FCC Rule demonstrates. We should take every  
14 advantage of that. We can't do it right now.

15  
16 Administrator Mekarski stated that is a prudent course. He agrees with Trustee Gibson that  
17 probably persuasive community action with Reverend Hinkle is probably your best bet. If you  
18 are going to be hanging on the hope of denial based on the FCC and the Zoning Law, we are  
19 going to have a tough battle. He stated that convincing the church as a community is probably  
20 your bigger bang for the buck. It is very, very difficult to use local Zoning Laws to stop cellular  
21 towers. You can't do it on aesthetics or health. You can't do it on the environment. We need to  
22 revisit that and check to see if there are any changes in the FCC Laws, and look at any kind of  
23 Case Law relative to property values. That is one of the substantive areas that zoning can protect.  
24 He believes that the community should do a Petition or a Town Hall Meeting. You can ask  
25 Reverend Hinkle to utilize his gymnasium and everybody can meet there.

26  
27 Trustee Hudson stated that Trustee Gibson stated that he probably didn't realize that his property  
28 might be devalued as well. It was her understanding that that is not his property.

29  
30 Trustee Gibson stated that her husband had stated that he doesn't think that he owns it. They  
31 have a mortgage.

32  
33 Trustee Hudson stated that when he started he was renting. He may have gotten a mortgage  
34 since.

35  
36 Trustee Gibson stated that John says that he has a mortgage. Trustee Pennington stated that we  
37 can check the records to see who the owner is. If it is someone else he doesn't have a leg to stand  
38 on. If it is him we have to take whatever action we can take. Trustee Hudson stated that you  
39 should definitely check on ownership.

40  
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we need to go forward with the Legal Opinion first  
42 and foremost. Any other actions will be as a result of what is determined from the Legal  
43 Opinion. She stated because with the proliferation of cell towers now, since 2009 there may have  
44 been some changes to the FCC requirements that may allow us to object on that level. We won't  
45 know that until we actually have the Legal Opinion. We will reach out to our Attorney, John  
46 Murphey, immediately.

47

1 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

2  
3 Trustee Waite stated that he did not have a Formal Report this evening.

4  
5 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

6  
7 **Human Resource Committee** – Trustee Nale stated that the Human Resource Committee did  
8 meet. We are waiting for the Departmental Review of the updated Employee Handbook. It was  
9 decided to review the new Residents Handbook which we will begin at our next meeting. It was  
10 suggested by Sue Gowen that we have an in-service concerning identify theft. Trustee Nale is  
11 following a lead with the State which would provide such a Program at no cost.

12  
13 Trustee Nale stated that a recommendation was made to continue with the Healthcare Handouts  
14 for posting in each Department. An update of current birthdays was requested by Susan Moroney  
15 which she recently received from Naomi.

16  
17 Trustee Nale stated that Employee Evaluations was the last item of discussion. That is to be  
18 continued to their next meeting on Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup>.

19  
20 Trustee Nale inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not he has any update on the  
21 Employee Handbook. Administrator Mekarski stated that Judy Kolman is going to give us a  
22 partial delivery of the product that we can meet with you and the Department Heads to review.  
23 While we are reviewing that first part, Judy will be completing the second part. When we are  
24 completed with the Departmental Review, we can take it to the Human Resources Committee.

25  
26 Trustee Nale inquired of Administrator Mekarski when Judy Kolman will be delivering the first  
27 part. Administrator Mekarski stated that it should be this week or next week. He stated that Judy  
28 Kolman was out of town last week. She was working on it the week before she left. Trustee Nale  
29 stated that within the next two-weeks she should be receiving something. Administrator  
30 Mekarski stated that he believes so. It will be sent by him.

31  
32 **Library Board Report** – Trustee Nale stated that Village President Meyers-Martin was recently  
33 asked by a resident of the Village as to why the Matteson Library services Arcadia School rather  
34 than the Park Forest/Olympia Fields Library. The recent Olympia Fields Library Board Meeting  
35 was cancelled. Trustee Nale asked the Park Forest Library that same question. The response was  
36 that they would be absolutely happy to provide programs and services to Arcadia School. The  
37 library extends the invitation to them every School Year as the library participated in their  
38 Family Reading Night Program in November. Since there is more than one library serving the  
39 School District sometimes more than one library is invited to Open House Night and other  
40 events. Victoria our Outreach Specialist noted that Park Forest and the Matteson Library were  
41 both represented at recent events at Arcadia School. That has been a fairly common practice over  
42 the years according to Barbara Osuch who is the head of the library.

43  
44 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she said that is a fairly common practice. Trustee  
45 Nale stated yes and they approached the Arcadia School. They are more than willing to attend to  
46 Arcadia School if that is requested. Village President Meyers-Martin stated if it is requested from  
47 the school. Trustee Nale stated no, they approached the school and they offered to provide

1 programs for the school. It is up to the school to contact them. Village President Meyers-Martin  
2 stated the school did not express any interest in working with the Park Forest Library. Trustee  
3 Nale stated probably not. The gist lies in that unless the school wants the library to attend any  
4 discussions with the children that they have to call the library and say that they would like that  
5 specified.

6  
7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that makes sense that they wouldn't barge in and take  
8 over. The question that was related to her by the resident is why Matteson is involved and not  
9 Park Forest.

10  
11 Trustee Nale stated that Park Forest has offered that in the past. They would be more than happy  
12 to serve the school. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will check into that further.

13  
14 Trustee Waite stated that he thought that Trustee Nale had stated that the school had an Open  
15 House and the Park Forest Library and the Matteson Library attended.

16  
17 Trustee Nale stated that the reply to her e-mail was: "Yes, we would absolutely provide  
18 programs and services to Arcadia School as requested. We extend the invitation to them every  
19 School Year, and we participate in their Family Reading Night Program in November. Since  
20 there is more than one library serving the School District, the Outreach Specialist noted that the  
21 Park Forest and the Matteson Library were both represented at a recent event at Arcadia School.  
22 That has been a fairly common practice over the years."

23  
24 Trustee Waite stated that they attended two events. Trustee Nale stated that was the Reading  
25 Event at night. It wasn't during the daytime. They have programs in the evening for the fourth-  
26 grade, fifth-grade, and sixth-grade. They have them early in the evening at the library. They have  
27 told the Arcadia School that they would be happy to service them. The school has to get in touch  
28 with them. Trustee Waite stated that they attended the Reading Night. Trustee Nale stated that  
29 was not during school time. Trustee Waite inquired of Trustee Nale whether or not that was for  
30 everybody in the School District. Trustee Nale stated that she can't answer that question.

31  
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that to her it feels as though in order to get further details  
33 on how this relationship developed is to talk to the school. She will do that next. She will make it  
34 clear that the library offered to service the school. Village President Meyers-Martin thanked  
35 Trustee Nale for the follow-up.

36  
37 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

38  
39 **Citizen Assist – Life Saving Action – Officer Lawrence Smith** – Trustee Gibson stated that  
40 as the Trustee Liaison to the Public Safety Department she has four items to present to you of the  
41 activities of our officers over the last few weeks. Our officers are dedicated to their duty and  
42 have a very good sense of professionalism. The first one is Life Saving Action by Officer  
43 Lawrence Smith.

44  
45 On March 2, 2016 at 4:50 P.M. while on routine patrol in the Walgreens parking lot at 20950  
46 Governors Highway, Officer Lawrence Smith was flagged down and advised that there was a  
47 young female climbing on the bridge south of Highview on Governors Highway.

1 Officer Smith immediately went to the bridge and located the distraught teenage female standing  
2 on top of the bridge's guardrail crying and screaming hysterically. Officer Smith cautiously  
3 exited his patrol unit and slowly began to engage the female subject in conversation. The  
4 teenager told Officer Smith she was not okay. She didn't have any friends. She was failing in her  
5 classes and she wanted to hurt herself.

6  
7 Officer Smith continued talking with the teenager while climbing the bridge and moving closer  
8 to the female subject. Officer Smith was eventually able to get close enough to safely restrain her  
9 and prevent her from jumping off the bridge and injuring herself.

10  
11 Once the teenager was safely off the bridge, a Chicago Heights ambulance was called to  
12 transport the female subject to St. James Hospital. Officer Smith contacted the young woman's  
13 family in Country Club Hills, stayed at St. James and spoke with the mother and other family  
14 members making sure the teenager would get the help she needed.

15  
16 We will certainly recognize Officer Smith and commend him for his devotion to duty for what  
17 might have been a tragic loss of a young life. This is for information only.

18  
19 **Recognition Plaque – 2015 Illinois Special Olympics/Torch Run & Cop on Top** – Trustee  
20 Gibson stated that the second item is a Recognition Plaque, 2015 Illinois Special  
21 Olympics/Torch Run & Cop on Top.

22  
23 On March 28, 2016, Corporal Dean presented the Olympia Fields Police Department with a  
24 recognition plaque on behalf of the Illinois Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch  
25 Run for the Special Olympics.

26  
27 Corporal Dean has been the Department's coordinator for the Illinois Special Olympics events  
28 for the past five-years, each year gradually increasing participation, awareness and the amount of  
29 donations raised on behalf of the Special Olympics. In May of 2015, through the generous  
30 support of the community and customers at the Dunkin' Donuts on Vollmer Road and other  
31 fundraiser events, the Olympia Fields Police Department was able to donate in excess of  
32 \$5,000.00 to support the Illinois Special Olympics.

33  
34 This year's "Cop on Top" fundraising event will again be held at the Dunkin' Donuts on Vollmer  
35 Road, Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>.

36  
37 Corporal Dean should be recognized and commended for coordinating the Department's events  
38 on behalf of the Illinois Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

39  
40 Trustee Gibson stated that she believes the "Cop on Top" is a statewide, and perhaps a  
41 nationwide event that happens all over. If you go by Dunkin' Donuts on that date you will see our  
42 cops on top of the roof of Dunkin' Donuts.

43  
44 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is really neat. They bring their kids and they pass  
45 out the helmet. They get the people in the drive-thru line. If you haven't been there to "Cop on  
46 Top," you really should go out. Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Chief Krull how  
47 long the officers stay at Dunkin' Donuts.

1 Chief Krull stated that they get there right at opening until about Noon or 1 o'clock in the  
2 afternoon.

3  
4 **Thank You Letter from Village of Frankfort for Sergeant Metzger and Lars** – Trustee  
5 Gibson stated that the third item is a Thank You Letter from the Village of Frankfort for  
6 Sergeant Metzger and Lars.

7  
8 The Department received a thank you letter from the Village of Frankfort Chief of Police John  
9 Burica reference the actions of Sergeant Scott Metzger and his K9 partner Lars.

10  
11 On February 12, 2016, Sergeant Metzger and Lars assisted other area law enforcement agencies  
12 in reference to a home invasion and armed robbery in Frankfort. Once a perimeter was  
13 established, Sergeant Metzger and K9 Lars tracked the armed offender through a densely  
14 wooded area near where the home invasion took place.

15  
16 Sergeant Metzger and K9 Lars successfully tracked and eventually caught up with the armed  
17 offender who was eventually taken into custody without further incident or injury. Sergeant  
18 Metzger and Lars were commended by Chief Burica for the professionalism and the dedication  
19 to duty they exhibited while assisting with this high stress critical incident. It was a “job well  
20 done” by Sergeant Metzger and his K9 partner Lars. That is for information only also.

21  
22 **Thank You Letter – Olympia Fields Ducks Youth Football & Cheerleading – Sergeant**  
23 **Derrick Blasingame** – Trustee Gibson stated that the last item is a Thank You Letter from the  
24 Olympia Fields Ducks Youth Football & Cheerleading.

25  
26 On March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016, Sergeant Derrick Blasingame received a thank you letter and a plaque from  
27 Miss Brenda Marshall on behalf of the Olympia Fields Ducks Youth Football and Cheerleading  
28 organization. The Olympia Fields Ducks Youth Football and Cheerleading organization used the  
29 Rich Central High School football field for their home games.

30  
31 Ms. Marshall wished to thank Sergeant Blasingame and the Olympia Fields Police Department  
32 personnel for providing a safe environment and a visible police presence at their events. In her  
33 letter, Ms. Marshall related that the Olympia Fields Police Department personnel were always  
34 very helpful, friendly, exhibited a high level of excellence and were fine representatives of the  
35 Village.

36  
37 The Chief of Police received a similar “thank you” from Ms. Marshall in an e-mail also dated  
38 March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016. In her e-mail, Ms. Marshall again complimented our officers for exhibiting  
39 great dignity and a true concern for the children, families and staff, further stating our officers  
40 were kind, engaging and approachable.

41  
42 Sergeant Blasingame and all Olympia Fields Police Department personnel should be recognized  
43 and commended for their actions promoting the Village and the law enforcement profession.  
44 This is also information only.

45  
46 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to take this opportunity to commend  
47 Officer Lawrence Smith, Corporal Dean, Sergeant Metzger and Officer Lars, and Sergeant

1 Blasingame for all of the hard work and commitment that they do for the Village of Olympia  
2 Fields. She stated that certainly their professionalism and their dedication just proves once again  
3 that we have such a wonderful Police Department. (There was a round of applause).

4  
5 Trustee Waite wanted to point out that Lars is one of the few service dogs that is trained both in  
6 drug sniffing and also tracking people in his course of work.

7  
8 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Lars is amazing and we certainly are very happy to  
9 have him on our team.

10  
11 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

12  
13 **Resolution #2016-03- A Resolution of Intent to Utilize Tax Increment Financing to**  
14 **Improve Deteriorating Physical Conditions and to Stimulate New Economic Development**  
15 **within The Town Center/Governors Highway District** – Administrator Mekarski stated that  
16 he only has one item. It is Resolution #2016-03 - A Resolution of Intent to Utilize Tax Increment  
17 Financing to Improve Deteriorating Physical Conditions and to Stimulate New Economic  
18 Development within The Town Center/Governors Highway District. We authorized Teska  
19 Associates, Mike Hoffman, to initiate a Tax Incremental Financing District in the Town Center.  
20 The Town Center is bounded by Kedzie Avenue to the west, the Metra Canadian Railroad to the  
21 east, the Olympia Fields Country Club to the north of Vollmer Road, and to the south 203<sup>rd</sup>  
22 Street. We subsequently expanded the analysis and authorized the Planning Study to incorporate  
23 all of the Vollmer Road Commercial Corridor, and Governors Office Park because we saw it as a  
24 good opportunity to hopefully capture some increment with some of the changes in assessed  
25 valuations as they occur on Vollmer Road associated with the new development that would be  
26 happening because of the Meijer’s Development across the street on Flossmoor Road.

27  
28 Administrator Mekarski stated that we indicated in that last Memorandum that we are to explore  
29 the possibility of expanding it to include the hospital and the Tolentine Center. The green map  
30 that you have in your packet from Teska Associates depicts the area that picks up Rich Central  
31 High School and a large part of the hospital. It doesn’t include the entire Hospital District  
32 because there are some newer structures that would not be permitted under TIF Law. We pick up  
33 the 32-acres of the Tolentine Center. That is advantageous to us, not necessarily to subsidize any  
34 of the hospital activity, or activity that may occur in the Tolentine Center. Both of those  
35 properties will be experiencing some substantial change in assessed valuation. Within a TIF  
36 District you can move tax increment from one property to another. The \$100,000,000.00  
37 improvement to the hospital will affect some of the taxable property in the Hospital District. We  
38 don’t know to what extent because we have to make a delineation of what is taxable and what is  
39 not taxable in the Hospital District right now, and how that will change with the consolidation  
40 with Chicago Heights. We will be meeting with Arnie Kimmel and his Chief Financial Officer  
41 probably in the month of April to begin that assessment.

42  
43 Administrator Mekarski stated that we have had some inquiries about a medical related use on  
44 the Tolentine Center. He stated possibly talking about a major influx in dollars, \$3,000,000.00 to  
45 \$5,000,000.00 in investment into the Tolentine Center. That property value right now is at a zero  
46 tax base. He stated that any kind of increment to a commercial operation would produce a huge  
47 amount of increment that the Village Board could then utilize to revitalize Governors Office



1 Park, or to do public improvements into the Town Center. The Town Center alone has the  
2 opportunity with full build-out that is called out in our Comprehensive Plan to produce  
3 \$85,000,000.00 of tax increment.  
4

5 Administrator Mekarski stated that this is an exciting opportunity. What you have here before  
6 you today is a formal Resolution. The Resolution publicly notifies the creation of the Tax  
7 Incremental Financing District according to the boundaries that is depicted on the map. It  
8 requires the Village's Clerk, which is Administrator Mekarski to notify all of the Taxing  
9 Districts that would be affected. This is the first legal process. The only change that Mr.  
10 Hoffman has informed us is that by expanding it into Rich Central, the hospital, and Tolentine,  
11 he has to modify the initial report. There will be an increase in costs of approximately \$500.00.  
12 We can cover that within the Planning Budget in this year's Budget. So we will be making that  
13 additional expenditure besides what was previously authorized by the Board for both the Initial  
14 Study and the expansion to include Governors Office Park. He asked for the Board's full support  
15 in adopting this Resolution and starting the first part of the legal process. We think this is going  
16 to be a real, real big opportunity for Economic Development in this whole region.  
17

18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to add that the TIF has been very  
19 instrumental in allowing us to attract major Economic Development to the Village of Olympia  
20 Fields. We are just beginning to see the ripples of that attraction, of that ability to mitigate some  
21 of the negative issues that we always have to combat, whether it is competition with Will County  
22 because of taxes, whether it's people wanting to go where the action is which, of course, is west  
23 of I-57. We really do have to employ a lot of different strategies in order to make Economic  
24 Development a viable system here in the Village. Not only do we employ TIF, but in working  
25 with South Suburban Mayors and Managers we have been able to accomplish Enterprise Zones  
26 that were being phased out, and now we have been able to renew that Enterprise Zone. That is  
27 another tool in our tool belt that we will be able to use. This is very important because our Office  
28 Park vacancy is very, very high. You have to have some type of incentives in order to attract  
29 businesses because of the glut of office space. The hospital is a huge consolidation going on. We  
30 are trying to bring broadband to the hospital. We are trying to bring it to the high school and to  
31 the Business Park. All of these things are very important. The TIF assists us in being successful  
32 in those strategies.  
33

34 Administrator Mekarski stated that he is passing the map around so the audience can get familiar  
35 with the green area that is going to be announced as the Official TIF District. This would be TIF  
36 District Number 3. He wanted the audience to be aware of the boundaries.  
37

38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that when we first had our Town Hall Meeting regarding  
39 the Town Center, the question came up several times on how we planned on paying for such an  
40 ambitious plan. Everybody thought we would have to raise taxes, or have to do something to that  
41 affect. By employing the TIF Strategy for that, that mitigates the need for us to have to do that in  
42 order to get that done. The TIF has been very instrumental in being able to attract Economic  
43 Development.  
44  
45  
46  
47

1 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to Approve Resolution**  
2 **#2016-03 – A Resolution of Intent to Utilize Tax Increment Financing to Improve**  
3 **Deteriorating Physical Conditions and to Stimulate New Economic Development within**  
4 **The Town Center and Governors Highway District.**

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

6  
7 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

8  
9 **Volunteer Appreciation Reception/Brunch** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this  
10 Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, is the Volunteer Appreciation Reception/Brunch at the Olympia Fields  
11 Country Club. It starts at 9:00 A.M. She is sure that all of our volunteers and all of our Boards  
12 and Commission Members have received their invitations. We look forward to seeing you.

13  
14 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this is our second year of incorporating our Business  
15 Awards as part of the Volunteer Appreciation. We will be awarding two businesses in the  
16 Village. They are Awards for good customer service, quality goods, and quality service. She  
17 looks forward to that. We try to recognize that our existing businesses are important to us as  
18 well. One of the members of the Economic Development Committee is here, Mr. George  
19 Chandler, who is involved with our activities related to the Business Awards.

20  
21 **April Food Day** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Friday is April Food Day  
22 throughout the country. Olympia Fields is participating by having a receptacle in the foyer for  
23 donations of food. The donations go to the Food Pantries to resupply them. She stated that  
24 because of the recession, even though everybody tells us we are in recovery, and we are out of  
25 the recession, the Food Pantries are suffering desperately. There are so many people that never  
26 went before and that go there now to get food. She stated that Mr. Tim Bradford from the Rich  
27 Township Pantry says that their food supplies are low. She takes the donations in the foyer to the  
28 United Way. They are distributed to the Food Pantries in the region. She encouraged everyone to  
29 please donate before Friday. She stated that the La Quinta Hotel participates. The Southland  
30 Chamber of Commerce participates too. There are a lot of sponsors that participate in that. She  
31 encouraged everyone to join her in providing our donations from the Village of Olympia Fields.

32  
33 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

34  
35 The Board did not have any Unfinished Business to discuss this evening.

36  
37 **NEW BUSINESS:**

38  
39 The Board did not have any New Business to discuss this evening.

40  
41 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

42  
43 **Appointment – Howard Orlando Robinson Sr. to the Veterans Committee - Village**  
44 President Meyers-Martin stated that she is happy to say that she has an Appointment for your  
45 consideration. It is an Appointment for Mr. Howard Orlando Robinson, Sr. to the Veterans  
46 Committee. She stated that Mr. Robinson is a wonderful representative of our military and a

1 wonderful resident. He is quite interested in participating on the Veterans Committee. You have  
2 his Résumé in hand. You can see his accomplishments throughout his career.

3 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Hudson to approve the candidacy of**  
4 **Howard Orlando Robinson, Sr. to the Village of Olympia Fields Veterans Committee for**  
5 **the term expiring on January 2018, or until their successor has been appointed and**  
6 **qualified.**

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

8

9 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we welcome Mr. Robinson to our Veterans  
10 Committee. She stated that she has no Resignations.

11

12 **ADJOURNMENT:**

13

14 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to adjourn at 8:28 P.M.**

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

16

17 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29