

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on April 12, 2010**

4
5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, April 12, 2010, at
6 the Olympia Fields Village Hall and was called to order by President Jones at 7:00 P.M.
7 The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll.

8
9 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Ormsby, Oliver, Pennington, Nale and Meyers-Martin
10 President Linzey Jones
11 Village Clerk, Judi Kay Rangel
12

13 Absent: Administrator Mekarski - (Attending Planning Conference)
14

15 **MINUTES:**

16
17 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to approve the Minutes of**
18 **March 22, 2010, as amended.**

19 **Roll Call Vote: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**
20

21 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

22
23 President Jones stated that he has Bills for Approval totaling \$218,575.70. He stated that
24 there is a Cover Memo regarding the bills. The most notable payment is \$90,000.00 to
25 Cook County. He stated that wraps up all of the payments of the Kedzie Avenue Project.
26 That money was from a State Grant.

27 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Meyers-Martin to approve the**
28 **payment of bills for April 12, 2010 in the total amount of \$218,575.70.**

29 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**
30

31 **Public Hearing – Intent to sell General Obligation Bonds (Alternative Revenue**
32 **Source in the amount of \$1,585,000.00) –** At 7:03 P.M. President Jones opened up the
33 Public Hearing with respect to the intent to sell General Obligation Bonds payable
34 through an Alternative Revenue Source in the amount of \$1,585,000.00. He stated that
35 this is a strategy that Olympia Fields has joined with Park Forest, Richton Park, and
36 Matteson. \$1,000,000.00 will be expended for the SouthCom operations. \$585,000.00 is
37 to make the necessary maintenance to the two water towers. There is work that needs to
38 be done inside the water towers and they have to be painted on the outside. The source of
39 the payment for that is through the water rates.
40

41 Trustee Pennington stated that this is a sound strategy and it should enhance the entire
42 Village as well as SouthCom. President Jones stated that they are installing additional
43 cutting edge technology at SouthCom. There were members of the public present, but no
44 one wished to speak regarding this matter. President Jones closed the Public Hearing at
45 7:07 P.M.
46

1 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**

2
3 President Jones opened up Communications and Petitions at 7:07 P.M.

4
5 **Presentation by Robinson Engineering – Olympia Fields Country Club Water**

6 **Modeling Study** – Mr. Greg Kamplain from Robinson Engineering stated that he was
7 going to give an update report on the Olympia Fields Country Club Water Distribution
8 Study. Mr. Kamplain is the Project Engineer for that study. Robinson Engineering was
9 asked to do an evaluation of the Village's existing system, and the Country Club's system
10 as well. From the data they were able to create an Electronic Computer Water Model of
11 each individual system. They looked at how each system operated independently, and
12 what the capabilities were if the Village was to absorb the Country Club's system. The
13 Village's system is well interconnected. It has a few dead ends that are mainly
14 geographically bounding. It has good fire flow. There are a few residential areas that are
15 below 500 but they can be addressed.

16
17 Mr. Kamplain stated that the Country Club's system is operating well independently.
18 They only have one well and one tower. Their main issue is with the water quality. They
19 do not provide any additional treatment besides chlorination and fluoridation. In looking
20 at combining the two systems they narrowed it down to two options. The first option is
21 beneficial to the Country Club. They could receive 3500 gallons per minute of fire flow,
22 which is what would be needed at their clubhouse. The first option provides an additional
23 connection under the tracks for the Village itself. It has some increase in pressure and
24 flow. It is very minimal affecting east of the tracks as opposed to the full loop. The
25 second option would be beneficial to the Country Club and to the Village. A copy of the
26 report was provided in the Board Packet. Robinson Engineering is looking at the final
27 review of the report, and is working with the Administration, Public Works, and the
28 Country Club.

29
30 President Jones inquired of Mr. Kamplain, what the estimated engineering costs would be
31 for the Village's portion and for the Country Club's portion, if the Village partnered with
32 the Country Club to build this cross section from the east to the west side of town. Mr.
33 Kamplain stated that the overall cost was just over \$2,000,000.00. The shared footage
34 would be a 60/40 split. 60% would be the cost to the Village. 40% would be the cost to
35 the Country Club. President Jones stated that the estimated cost to the Village would be
36 \$1,200,000.00. The estimated cost to the Country Club would be \$800,000.00.

37
38 Trustee Meyers-Martin inquired of Mr. Kamplain that the reason the first option was
39 even considered is because it is cheaper. Mr. Kamplain stated that is true because the
40 Country Club's intent is to be able to get Village water, and still be able to meet their fire
41 flow requirements. He stated that it would be better for the Village overall if it were to
42 benefit to the east.

43
44 President Jones stated that the Public Works Department has advocated this cross
45 connection between the east and the west side of the Village, creating that loop which
46 makes both tanks operate much more efficiently, providing protection and backup

1 between the two tanks. He stated that the Sewer System was the priority the last two
2 years. That project will be completed this year, but there is still debt service on that
3 project. He stated that this would be a good thing. It has not been demonstrated that it is
4 an absolute necessity. He doesn't know that the Village could undertake the cost within
5 the next couple of years. He believes that the Country Club wants to get the Village's
6 water into the club for a variety of reasons. They may want to put enough line in there to
7 join the Village's System at their cost. He stated that there has to be more conversations
8 with the Village and the Country Club about this. He is not sure what their financial
9 capability is to take out \$800,000.00 worth of debt to cover their portion. He knows that
10 they are interested in doing it, but he doesn't know what their financing position is. He
11 stated that it is important to do the study. The cost of the study was split with the Country
12 Club. The information will always be useful to the Village and to the Country Club. He
13 stated that if the Village can do it financially, this is something they would probably want
14 to do over the next five years. Mr. Kamplain stated that it could be done in phases. Under
15 the first option, the Country Club's cost would be \$840,000.00. President Jones stated that
16 it is something that he believes will be discussed over the course of the upcoming Fiscal
17 Year.

18
19 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mr. Kamplain as to whether or not Metra would have to
20 be involved in this as well. Mr. Kamplain stated that there would be the required design
21 to meet Metra's requirements. Permits and restrictions are involved. There are also two
22 creek crossings that will involve the Corps of Engineers and the Department of Natural
23 Resources. Trustee Pennington inquired as to whether or not Mr. Kamplain saw any
24 possible issues emanating from Metra or the Corps of Engineers. He doesn't believe there
25 will be any issues. He stated that it just takes time to obtain a Railroad Permit. The
26 Permits for the Corp and IDNR are low cost, or no cost as long as you adhere to the
27 requirements of being within the floodplain.

28
29 **Presentation by Robinson Engineering – Sanitary Sewer Lift Station Upgrades –**
30 Mr. Ken Budwash from Robinson Engineering stated that he provided the Board with an
31 exhibit showing the nine Lift Stations within the Village. He stated that it is time to
32 update and renovate the antiquated and deteriorated Sewage Lift Stations in the Village.
33 The spare parts are no longer readily available. There are additional safety and security
34 concerns. The Graymoor Lift Station is in the process of being renovated. They want to
35 update the Lift Stations with Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. That is a way to
36 see what is going on in the stations and record it, and control the stations. The following
37 are a list of what they would like to add to the stations: 1. Portable generators for
38 emergency pumping; 2. Starter options; and 3. Variable Frequency Drives, which are
39 more energy efficient. Mr. Budwash stated that there are nonfunctioning valves in the
40 station that do not function correctly all the time. There are corrosion issues and insecure
41 station doors. There are obsolete pumps, motors, starters, and valves, and corroded
42 cabinets.

43
44 President Jones stated that Administration is asking the Board to consider the
45 Engineering Service Agreement, which is a cost of \$5,000.00. That will create the
46 Facility Plan for all of these locations, so that if the Board gets an opportunity to compete

1 for another round of Stimulus Money, or compete for a low-interest rate loan through the
2 IEPA, the Facility Plan is in the hopper with the IEPA. He stated that this is what got the
3 Village in the running for the second phase of the Sewer Program, because the Village
4 did the Facility Plan and submitted it. The Village was placed higher on the list in the
5 selection process, and the Village qualified for the financing package. He stated that
6 Administration is not asking the Board to commit itself to undertaking these projects.
7 More work has to be done. The cost amount has to be analyzed. That will come later. He
8 stated that this is something that needs to be done in the long-run. The Board may do it in
9 the next five years. He stated that about a year or so ago, Robinson Engineering did an
10 estimated cost for this project.

11
12 Mr. Budwash stated that the project was estimated at around \$1,300,000.00 or
13 \$1,350,000.00. President Jones stated that the Village submitted paperwork to the IEPA
14 back then and the project was rejected. It was too far down the list to get picked up for
15 the Stimulus Funding.

16
17 Trustee Meyers-Martin inquired of Mr. Budwash as to whether or not the nine Lift
18 Stations are all at the same level of disrepair. She inquired as to whether or not there is a
19 Priority List for which stations should be done first, second, or third, if they are not all at
20 the same level of disrepair. Mr. Budwash stated that the stations are not all in the same
21 condition. It depends how old the stations are. He stated that there are newer stations in
22 Wysteria and The Greens. He stated that a lot of the stations are in the condition that the
23 Graymoor Lift Station is in now. He stated that there is a list that defines each station,
24 and describes the work to be done to each station.

25
26 President Jones requested that Mr. Budwash send that information to the Village this
27 week, and Administration will forward that to the Trustees.

28
29 **Thank you to Village Employees** – Judge Richard Crusor stated that he is appearing as a
30 citizen this evening. He stated that he had three things he wanted to mention. He hoped
31 that everyone got the letter that he sent to the Village President and to the Trustees, and to
32 the Village Administrator regarding the police department and, in particular, Chief
33 Chudwin. He stated that so many times we take Public Safety for granted. We come out
34 to a nice Village of Olympia Fields and think it is all that and a bag of chips. When you
35 look beyond the façade, and the inner workings of what goes on daily for the folks that
36 put their lives on the line, and the devotion to the Village to ensure that we maintain the
37 standard of being the premiere place to live, not only in the south suburbs but in the State
38 of Illinois period, he thought it was incumbent upon him to bring it to their attention. And
39 just again, to give congratulations, and to appreciate the fine work that the Chief does, as
40 well as all of the Department Members. He also wanted to point out to them, he didn't get
41 a chance to put it in the letter, but the individuals such as Commander Delya, Corporal
42 Blasingame, Officer Metzger, Officer Ford, Nora Bernot, Kathryn Bertrand, Sharon
43 Gruca, and Joyce Rambo, for the fine work that they do in making sure that the Courts
44 run as well as they do. He wanted to bring that to their attention and give them honorable
45 mention for that, because they truly deserve it for the fine work and hard work that they
46 put in week after week to make sure that the Courts run well out here.

1 Judge Crusor stated that his next comment is addressed to President Jones. He stated that
2 he was thinking back of what to say tonight to President Jones if he had an opportunity.
3 He stated that as he reflects back over the 13 years, and this is predicated upon what the
4 Village received in the mail last week, it became apparent that this was an office that was
5 not sought, but in President Jones strict obedience to the electorate he rose to the
6 challenge and he served the Village in the capacity dutifully, nobly, and with integrity.
7 That speaks volumes. He has established a very strong foundation. It is said, "The wise
8 man builds a strong foundation for others to follow." And that he has. He knows that
9 there appears to be times when President Jones felt that he was in some of the hottest
10 ovens, hottest furnaces ever for the complaints and everything else that goes on around
11 there. But his tenacity, his faithfulness held him through this. He wanted President Jones
12 to always remember, "The best deal comes from the hottest ovens." He rose to the
13 challenge. President Jones thanked Mr. Crusor for his comments.

14
15 Mr. Crusor stated to the Trustees that this is from his heart only and his wife's as well, but
16 they wanted to give each and everyone of them a heartfelt thank you, thank you, thank
17 you, for the fine work that they do, and for their hard work, their integrity to see these
18 problems through. He stated that they could have stopped at the Staples Store and just
19 picked up the staples button when they came to the meetings and just pressed easy when
20 the hard decisions had to be made but they didn't. The fact that the Village is in the
21 financial shape that it is, financially, structurally, speaks volumes. It really does. He
22 stated that in the Southtown there was an article yesterday about the foreclosures, the
23 boarded up properties, and the dilapidated properties. He stated that if you looked on that
24 list you saw all the Villages that were listed there save for one. Olympia Fields was not
25 on that list. He stated that Trustee Ormsby always maintained that she always wanted to
26 keep the bar high, the standard of excellence high. Because they have all adhered to that
27 standard, the Village has prospered, and done well in these most difficult times. And they
28 have been pretty tough times. But we are still floating, with undiminished honor, and we
29 are still doing well, but we are doing well thanks to your efforts. In any transition of
30 leadership he is reminded of the Chinese term "crisis." On the surface one would think
31 yes, it does mean danger. But the flip side of crisis also means opportunities. With that in
32 mind, it is his sincere hope and desire that this Board would continue to serve during this
33 transition and through the elections of next year. As they go into 2012 he asked them to
34 consider these four words, and take them to heart, "Experience matters. Experience
35 counts." Now is not the time for a novice for on-the-job training to try to carry the load
36 here. He stated you have done well. The Village has done well. He and his wife wanted to
37 acknowledge that and bring it to their attention. They just want to say "thank you."
38 President Jones and the Trustees expressed their thanks to Mr. Crusor. (There was a
39 round of applause). President Jones stated that they were very nice comments. He
40 thanked Mr. and Mrs. Crusor for coming in. He stated that Joan is our artist that created
41 our quilt. President Jones closed Communications and Petitions at 7:35 P.M.

42
43 **FINANCE:**

44
45 **January and February 2010 Financial Statements** – Trustee Pennington stated that he
46 would present the financials for the period ending January 31st and February 28th, 2010.

1 He stated that most of the activity in the two-month period occurred in the Corporate
2 Fund.

3
4 **Corporate Fund – January 2010** - Trustee Pennington stated that the Village closed the
5 month of January in deficit status. The Village budgeted for a deficit due to the lag in
6 Sales Tax Revenue, which was down 7% for this period, and State Income Tax Revenue,
7 which was down 14% during this period. The Village realized a total fund deficit in the
8 amount of \$296,157.04. The actual realized revenue was \$272,940.67 against a budgeted
9 sum of \$376,540.18. The Village's actual realized expenses for January amounted to
10 \$569,097.71 against a budgeted amount of \$535,150.13. The actual fund deficit was in
11 the amount of \$296,157.04. The year to date actual plus encumbrance was a deficit in the
12 amount of \$200,737.72. Trustee Pennington stated that he attributes this to the lag time
13 that the Village experienced in not receiving the revenues timely from the Sales Tax
14 Revenue and the State Income Tax Revenue.

15
16 **Corporate Fund – February 2010** – Trustee Pennington stated that the Village closed
17 the month of February 2010 in a surplus status. The Village had a planned revenue
18 budget in the amount of \$647,995.18 and realized \$461,150.25. The Village's budgeted
19 expenses were \$411,659.13. The Village incurred expenses in the amount of
20 \$431,919.91. This yielded a Fund Surplus Budget in the amount of \$236,336.05 against
21 an actual fund surplus of \$29,230.34. The year to date actual plus encumbrance for
22 February 2010 was negative in the amount of \$171,507.31.

23
24 **Sewer Fund and Water Fund** – Trustee Pennington stated that the Sewer Fund and
25 Water Fund were essentially mirrors of each other during this two-month period.

26
27 **Public Hearing – Proposed Ordinance 2010-2011 Budget** – President Jones opened up
28 the Public Hearing at 7:40 P.M. with respect to the proposed 2010-2011 Budget.
29 Ordinance #2010-09 – On First Reading an Ordinance approving the Annual Budget of
30 the Village of Olympia Fields for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year. There were members of the
31 public present, but no one wished to speak regarding this matter. President Jones closed
32 the Public Hearing at 7:41 P.M.

33 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to approve Ordinance**
34 **#2010-09 on First Reading, an Ordinance approving the Annual Budget of the**
35 **Village of Olympia Fields for the 2010-2011 Fiscal Year.**

36
37 President Jones stated that this Budget reflects an across the board salary increase of 3½
38 percent for Village Employees effective May 1, 2010. The rest of the Budget is pretty
39 much holding the line on the Village's obligations it has undertaken in its infrastructure
40 area. There are no significant increases in those matters.

41
42 Trustee Pennington stated that when the Finance Committee sent out the Budget Memo
43 to the Department Heads in January, they asked the Department Heads to seek economies
44 of scale, and they did that in light of the economic condition that we face as a Village, as
45 a County, as a State, and as a Country. He stated that we have done really well here in
46 Olympia Fields. Our strategies, our financial models that we have put together speak to

1 that very topic. He commended the Trustees for being the leaders and the liaisons to their
2 respective committees in putting the Budget together. He stated that the Village has a
3 balanced Budget in these difficult times. The Village has a small surplus. He stated that
4 speaks to this Administration's desire to make sure that the residents get what they're
5 looking for. He applauds the Trustees. He applauds his colleagues on the Finance
6 Committee, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Byrd, Louis Lee, and Ngozi Okorafor, because they were
7 diligent in going through the Budget with Trustee Pennington. Trustee Pennington stated
8 that they wanted to make sure that they were in market band for the employees. He stated
9 that we have accomplished that and he is truly grateful for that.

10
11 Trustee Ormsby thanked Trustee Pennington for his leadership. She stated that the
12 Budget Process went smoothly. She stated that everyone that works for the Village is
13 truly amazing to her. She stated that year after year they try so hard to be good stewards
14 and every year we seem to be. She stated that is a culture that is in this Village and she is
15 proud to be part of it.

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

17
18 **BUILDING:**

19
20 **Commercial Advertising – Public Right-of-Way** – Trustee Ormsby stated that there is
21 a Memorandum in the Board Packet. This matter is for discussion only this evening.
22 Trustee Ormsby stated that for a few weeks, James & Sons had employed an individual to
23 hold a sign advertising at the corner of Vollmer and Governors Highway. The individual
24 holding the sign had a hoodie over his eyes. He was sitting in a chair. He looked very
25 ominous. The sign was flipping back and forth. She stated that is not what she wants to
26 see at our corner. Trustee Ormsby knew that the Village did not have an Ordinance
27 against this. She spoke with Administrator Mekarski and John McDonnell to see whether
28 or not anything could be done. The matter was brought up with the Village Attorney.
29 Trustee Ormsby stated that nothing could be done. You cannot ban commercial
30 advertising; the First Amendment protects it. The only avenue that Trustee Ormsby sees
31 is to speak with James & Sons about this.

32
33 Trustee Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Ormsby as to whether or not she is aware if
34 James & Sons uses the same type of advertising at their other locations. Trustee Ormsby
35 stated that she is not aware. Trustee Meyers-Martin thought that might be a point of
36 leverage in a discussion with James & Sons. She does not recall seeing anything like that
37 at their other locations. She is aware that the tax people advertise like that. Trustee
38 Ormsby stated that she knows that some people have complained to James & Sons about
39 this.

40
41 President Jones stated that if the residents walk in to James & Sons complaining about
42 this marketing strategy that may help since nothing speaks more volumes than customers.
43 He stated that the Trustees that don't like this should complain to James & Sons and state
44 that they won't do business with them if they are going to market in this fashion.

1 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Meyers-Martin to authorize the**
2 **Village President to accept and execute the IEPA Loan No. L-170052, Change Order**
3 **No. 1 providing for the inclusion of the Davis Bacon Act provisions.**

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

5
6 **Resolution #2010-05 – A Resolution for Construction on State Highways –** Trustee
7 Oliver stated the last item is Resolution #2010-05, which essentially states that anyone
8 doing business for the Village has to go through the normal procedures to follow for a
9 Permit on the roads owned by the State. The Village is exempted from that when they are
10 doing basic kinds of emergency work and picking up trash. If there is a water main break,
11 the Village is not required to complete this Permit. They just have to make a phone call in
12 order to get the Permit. Everyone else that the Village does subcontract work with has to
13 get the Permit from the State.

14 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Ormsby to approve proposed**
15 **Resolution #2010-05, A Resolution for Construction on State Highways within the**
16 **appropriate boundaries of the Village of Olympia Fields.**

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

18
19 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

20
21 **Human Resource Committee –** Trustee Nale stated that the Human Resource
22 Committee met on March 15th. They are currently reviewing the Code Violation
23 procedure sent to them by John McDonnell.

24
25 Trustee Nale stated that the Committee discussed some ideas of demonstrating the
26 Village's identity when they have the annual holiday choir singing at the 211th Street
27 Metra Station, so that the people will know that they represent the Village.

28
29 Trustee Nale stated that one of the Committee Members, Mr. Tom McNeal, discussed
30 with the Committee a program that he saw on 20/20. It was a video of new tires being
31 sold after they had been manufactured several years prior. The program warned the
32 public to learn to read the code that is on each tire, so that they know when their new tires
33 were purchased, the date that they were made. Some of these tires are five to seven years
34 old and they have begun the drying out process.

35
36 During the month of February, a video entitled "Preventing Injury Through Body
37 Mechanics, Ergonomics, and Physical Fitness," along with information was provided to
38 all of the employees. Trustee Nale stated that the video was very well received. Each
39 Department Head had the video for seven working days.

40
41 **Executive Safety Committee –** Trustee Nale stated that the Executive Safety Committee
42 met on April 1st. They had a discussion concerning the wearing of safety shoes.

43
44 The Committee is working on a Smoking Health Policy as recommended by IRMA. The
45 policy that IRMA has is very, very long, and very detailed. The Committee is going to
46 form its own policy. The Executive Safety Committee will be meeting on June 3rd. At

1 that meeting, Brian Melinda representing IRMA is going to present a movie on hearing
2 conservation. Trustee Nale stated that during the summer they would like to plan a mock
3 evacuation drill.

4
5 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

6
7 **Customs Department** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that the Village did receive within
8 the last ten days, a payment from the Customs Department in the amount of \$27,800.00.

9
10 **Emergency Management** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that at a prior Board Meeting,
11 she brought up the proposal for the Trustees to attend an Emergency Management
12 Meeting. Once Administrator Mekarski returns from his Planning Conference, they are
13 going to schedule a date for everyone to participate in the Emergency Management
14 Meeting.

15
16 **Cameras on the 203rd Street Corridor** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that the DVR
17 has been rebuilt and the system is up and running. According to Chief Chudwin it is
18 fabulous as far as what they can see in terms of surveillance. The cameras are at the
19 Metra Station, which allows the police to see the parking lot. The cameras are at the Post
20 Office and at St. James Hospital. She stated that the cameras around Village Hall were
21 upgraded also. She stated that the Camera System is quite remarkable.

22
23 **Welcome Officer Donaldson** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that a new part-time police
24 officer was added to the Public Safety Department. He will be responsible for training the
25 officers. She stated that we are very happy to have Officer Donaldson join our Olympia
26 Fields family.

27
28 President Jones stated that the Trustees should see the Deputy Chief about the
29 Surveillance System. He stated that the capabilities of the Camera System are
30 remarkable. He stated that the Village is hooked into the cameras at St. James Hospital.
31 The hospital controls their cameras, but the Village can see what they are looking at. The
32 Village is working diligently to gain better access to the Rich Central Camera System.
33 That hasn't happened yet. President Jones anticipates that they will be asking for
34 authorization to purchase three additional cameras for the exterior of Village Hall. There
35 are some blind spots there. He suggested that perhaps the Customs money could pay for
36 those.

37
38 President Jones stated that Officer Donaldson has over 20 years of experience as a full-
39 time police officer. Previously, he was in a command position.

40
41 Trustee Pennington stated that what the Village has accomplished with the Camera
42 System, Metra would like to be able to do that system wide. The next Metra Board
43 Meeting is April 16th. Trustee Pennington would like the Executive Director of Metra to
44 take a look at what the Village has in place. President Jones suggested that Trustee
45 Pennington speak with the Chief regarding any security issues and access issues.

1 President Jones would like to make a presentation on the Camera System when he goes to
2 Washington, D.C. in two weeks to try to obtain interest on that funding strategy.

3
4 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

5
6 President Jones stated that Administrator Mekarski is in New Orleans obtaining his
7 continuing education credits for his licensing. There was no report in Administrator
8 Mekarski's absence.

9
10 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

11
12 President Jones stated that he did not have a formal report this evening.

13
14 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

15
16 **District 227 Board Meeting** – President Jones stated that he is very proud of the Board.
17 All of the Trustees attended the District 227 School Board Meeting on April 6th. He
18 stated that the Trustees spoke eloquently and they spoke to the issues. He stated that other
19 residents of Olympia Fields spoke to the issues. He stated that David Morgan did a
20 marvelous job, as he has done since he has been on the School Board to fight for
21 openness, transparency, a good process, and things that will help those children improve
22 the schools performance. President Jones stated that the School Board censored David
23 Morgan at that meeting. He stated that the censor has no legal significance at all.
24 Residents from Park Forest and Richton Park spoke at the meeting. He stated that many
25 of the School Board Members have family members on the District's payroll. President
26 Jones stated that the School Board stated that Donna Leak was their finalist for
27 Superintendent.

28
29 President Jones called on the residents of Olympia Fields to join forces with the residents
30 of Park Forest, Matteson, Richton Park, and Country Club Hills to find three candidates
31 to run next spring in the April Election to replace Tony Brunson, Jackie Upshaw, and Mr.
32 Imoukhuede, whose terms will expire, so that good people can get control of the School
33 Board.

34
35 Trustee Ormsby inquired as to why the State can't step in at some point. President Jones
36 stated that the Village has kept the Illinois State Board of Education fully informed of
37 what is going on in the District. The Village asked them to intervene. He stated that they
38 really have no power. They set standards for testing and that is really all they do. They
39 make decisions on Charter Schools.

40
41 President Jones stated that the meeting for the Charter School that Dr. Davis has
42 proposed will be held in Springfield. He is going to obtain the date and get that
43 information out to the Board tomorrow. He stated that we have to take a bus to
44 Springfield and support that effort.

1 Trustee Ormsby stated that she thought that President Obama had fired an entire school in
2 Rhode Island. She is going to find the article and send that to everyone.

3
4 President Jones encouraged everyone to get on Bob Nale's communication list. He stated
5 that Mr. Nale has done a monumental job of keeping the dialog going with so many
6 different people. He stated that Bob Nale has done a great job. Fred Veazey has been
7 constant on this issue. Cheryl Rutherford has given time when she can. Tracey Bell
8 obtained signatures on Petitions on Easter Sunday.

9
10 Trustee Ormsby stated that we need a little media help like NBC. President Jones stated
11 there was something on FOX. He applauded the Southtown Star for trying to stay on this
12 story.

13
14 **The Traditions** – Trustee Nale stated that the streets in The Traditions are in horrible
15 shape. President Jones stated that the Village is working on having a meeting with the
16 bank within the next couple of weeks. He has instructed the Village Attorney to draw up
17 a lawsuit to sue the bank with respect to the street. The bank's position is that they do not
18 stand in the shoes of the Developer. The Village does not feel that is a good legal position
19 for them to be in. President Jones stated that a Circuit Court Judge of Cook County could
20 decide what the bank's obligations are under the PUD Agreement. The obligation for the
21 Developer to put in the final lift on the road has come and gone. Administrator Mekarski
22 and the Village Attorney will cover the meeting with the bank, along with the residents of
23 The Traditions. The papers regarding the lawsuit will be given to the bank at that time.
24 He stated this is a \$275,000.00 project. The Village is not going to pay for it. Trustee
25 Nale stated that she understands that some of the driveways are not completed. President
26 Jones stated that is possible.

27
28 President Jones stated that he spoke with the residents of The Traditions about setting up
29 a special taxing District like the Village has with the Governors Office Park. The
30 residents aren't quite willing to do that yet. Trustee Nale stated that didn't seem quite fair.
31 President Jones stated that he couldn't ask taxpayers in Graymoor to pay for repairs in
32 The Traditions that aren't the legal obligations of the Village. He stated that Trustee
33 Nale's point was well taken.

34
35 **Park District** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that at the last Board Meeting it was
36 mentioned that representatives of the Park District might come to the Board Meeting on
37 April 26th. She inquired of President Jones as to whether or not we still want them to
38 come. President Jones stated yes, and that Trustee Meyers-Martin should remind Cindy
39 as well as the representatives of the Park District. Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that she
40 would do that.

41
42 **NEW BUSINESS:**

43
44 **Tree City Award and the Growth Award** – Trustee Ormsby stated that the Village did
45 receive the Tree City Status and Growth Award again. As part of the Village's obligation,
46 they have to plant a tree for Arbor Day. The landscaper that is employed by the Village

1 offered to donate a tree this year. She would like to put a tree in Stamper Park. A few
2 years ago, they put a tree in Arcadia and Rich Central. The schools don't take care of the
3 trees. She wants the Village to control the trees. She inquired of Trustee Pennington as to
4 where we are with Stamper Park. Trustee Pennington stated that it was still in legal at
5 Metra. Trustee Ormsby asked that if anyone has an idea where a tree could be placed for
6 Arbor Day, to let her know.

7
8 **Emerald Ash Borer** – President Jones stated that the Village did find the Emerald Ash
9 Borer in one of the Commercial Properties on Lincoln Highway. The Village has taken a
10 wait and see attitude. The Village is going to watch its trees. He stated that it is in
11 Matteson as well. The Village doesn't know how many Ash Trees there are on private
12 property. The only concentrated areas of these trees in Olympia Fields are in the public
13 right-of-way at the 203rd Metra Kedzie Corridor. There are about 40 trees there. He stated
14 that hopefully a lot of the residents don't have the trees. Trustee Ormsby stated that it is a
15 fast growing tree. Trustee Gibson stated that a lot of Developers put them in.

16
17 President Jones stated that the Village is going to ask the residents at some point this year
18 to go out and look at their Ash Trees.

19
20 **203rd Street Metra Parking Lot** – Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to let
21 Trustee Ormsby know about something that was happening at the 203rd Street Metra
22 Parking Lot. She stated that people are walking through the landscape where the bushes
23 are on the outer perimeter of the lot, as they try to get to the sidewalk that leads to
24 Kedzie. She stated that Cumberland Court has a sidewalk that enters into the parking lot.
25 Once you come to the end of that sidewalk, in order to continue on to the train, rather
26 than walking all the way around the landscape, the people are cutting through the bushes.

27
28 President Jones stated that we would take a look at that. He suggested removing some of
29 the bushes and putting in a path.

30
31 **Trees at Post Office** – President Jones stated that there are some old trees located on the
32 Post Office property that are leaning on the electrical system. They are causing an
33 intermittent power loss at the Post Office. They definitely need to be cut away from the
34 electrical system. The Post Office would like to have them removed. Nothing can be done
35 without the permission of the property owner. President Jones asked Trustee Ormsby to
36 go over and look at the trees. He suggested possibly removing some of the trees and
37 replacing them with new trees.

38
39 **Apple Tree at Stamper Park** - Trustee Ormsby stated that when you walk by Stamper
40 Park there is an Apple Tree there. The apples fall from the tree and people slip. She stated
41 that they are going to take that tree down. She stated that it is very dangerous. Trustee
42 Pennington stated that you get a lot of flies there as well. The tree attracts bees. She
43 stated that the tree couldn't be trimmed.

1 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

2
3 President Jones stated that he did not have any Resignations or Appointments.

4
5 **ADJOURNMENT:**

6
7 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to adjourn at 8:35 P.M.**

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

9
10 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

11