

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on April 24, 2017**

4
5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, April 24, 2017, at the
6 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Debra Meyers-
7 Martin at 6:30 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrator
8 Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll.

9
10 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Robinson, Pennington, Hudson, Byrd, and Matz
11 Village President Debra Meyers-Martin
12 Village Administrator/Village Clerk, David Mekarski

13
14 Absent: None.

15
16 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

17
18 **To Discuss Matters of Personnel with a Need to Reconvene – Open Meetings Act Section**
19 **5ILCS120/2(c)(1) -**
20 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Hudson to go into Executive Session to Discuss**
21 **Matters of Personnel with a Need to Reconvene According to the Open Meetings Act**
22 **Section 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) at 6:35 P.M.**

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

24
25 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will be going into Executive Session. We will
26 reconvene at 7 o'clock for our Board Meeting.

27
28 **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

29
30 **Motion by Trustee Pennington second by Trustee Hudson to go back into Open Session at**
31 **7:07 P.M.**

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

33
34 **(The Board Meeting commenced at 7:11 P.M.)**

35
36 **PUBLIC HEARING:**

37
38 **Proposed Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Budget** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is
39 going to open the Public Hearing. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Public
40 Hearing is to listen to commentary regarding the Proposed Fiscal Year Budget 2017-2018. (The
41 Public Hearing was opened at 7:12 P.M.)

42
43 Mr. Pat Collier stated that he is a resident. He stated that he sees on the Agenda that you have
44 two payments that are going to be made to Robinson Engineering. Village President Meyers-
45 Martin inquired of Mr. Collier where he was reading from. Mr. Collier stated the Consent
46 Agenda. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are not at the Consent Agenda. We are

1 at the Public Hearing regarding the Budget. Mr. Collier apologized. He stated that means you can
2 only have questions about the Budget. Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes.

3
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Budget Process that takes place every year
5 begins in January. It starts with our Finance Committee. The Finance Committee is made up of
6 citizens. They meet with each and every Department Head to go over their Budget. They go over
7 it line item by line item. It has been her experience, that they always requested that the
8 Department Heads decrease their Budgets by 10% minimal. They have always done that. They
9 have always stayed within the guidelines in terms of monies for their Departments. Any
10 expenditure that we feel is overboard, or not necessary, always comes under question from the
11 Finance Committee. The Budget is then reviewed by the Board of Trustees. During this period of
12 time, from February to this point, we go over it line item by line item, and take out expenditures
13 that are unnecessary. We amend some expenditures. Sometimes these involve long discussions.
14 At the end of the day, we are always able to pass a Balanced Budget, and most times with
15 surplus. That is our process. The Budget Reviews are always open. They have always been open
16 to the public. We have had residents come in and join us. They are able to ask questions and
17 provide input. She is very proud of the process. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she
18 is very proud of the Trustees. She thanked them for the time that they devote to this every year.
19 At the end of the day, we always have a Balanced Budget unlike some Municipalities that do not.
20 We are always in the black. And we are able to maintain services in the Village, and maintain
21 each of our Departments. She commends and thanks the Board of Trustees for their time, their
22 effort, their dedication, and their commitment to the Village of Olympia Fields. Village President
23 Meyers-Martin inquired whether or not anyone in the audience had a comment. She inquired
24 whether or not the Trustees had any comments regarding the Budget Process. Trustee Gibson
25 stated no.

26
27 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired whether or not anyone in the audience had any
28 comments. (Although, members of the public were in the audience, no one wished to address the
29 Board). Village President Meyers-Martin closed the Public Hearing at 7:15 P.M.

30
31 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

32
33 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson, to Suspend with the Reading of**
34 **the Minutes of the March 27th, 2017, Board Meeting, and the Minutes of the April 10th,**
35 **2017, Joint Work Session of the Board of Trustees, Planning & Zoning Commission and**
36 **the Economic Development Commission.**

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

38
39 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Byrd, to Approve the Minutes of the March**
40 **27th, 2017, Board Meeting, and the Minutes of the April 10th, 2017, Joint Work Session of**
41 **the Board of Trustees, Planning & Zoning Commission and the Economic Development**
42 **Commission as presented.**

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

44
45
46
47

1 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

2
3 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has Bills for Approval totaling \$170,380.82. She
4 stated that there is a Cover Memo designating the more significant payouts.

5 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Byrd to Approve the Payment of Bills for April**
6 **24th, 2017, in the total amount of \$170,380.82.**

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

8
9 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

10
11 **A. Recommendation for Payment of Invoice #17040169 to Robinson Engineering**
12 **for Work Completed in Connection with the Vollmer Road Reconstruction**
13 **Preliminary Engineering Project (Project No. 14-590) in the Amount of \$5,631.58.**

14
15 **B. Recommendation for Payment of Invoice #17030310 to Robinson Engineering for**
16 **Work Completed in Connection with the Vollmer Road Reconstruction Preliminary**
17 **Engineering Project (Project No. 14-590) in the Amount of \$7,897.38.**

18
19 **C. Farewell Employee Reception for the Village President and Departing Trustees.**

20
21 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that brings us to the Consent Agenda. That's Items 6 (A),
22 6 (B), and 6 (C). These are items that are routine in nature and normally don't require any
23 discussion regarding their place on the Agenda.

24 **Motion by Trustee Hudson, second by Trustee Gibson to Approve Consent Agenda Items 6**
25 **(A), 6 (B), and 6 (C).**

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

27
28 **FINANCE:**

29
30 **Ordinance #2017-15** – An Ordinance Approving the Annual Budget of the Village of Olympia
31 Fields for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year [First and Second Reading] – Trustee Byrd stated that he
32 has before you tonight the Budget for approval and also the Financial Statements for February
33 and March. The Budget Memorandum that you have has Ordinance #2017-15 - An Ordinance
34 Approving the Annual Budget of the Village of Olympia Fields for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year. It
35 is for First and Second Reading. We have a Budget Surplus of \$45,641.00 budgeted for 2017-
36 2018 which is on Page 4.

37 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Pennington to Waive on First Reading and**
38 **Approve in Second Reading Ordinance #2017-15 – An Ordinance Approving the Annual**
39 **Budget of the Village of Olympia Fields for the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.**

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

41
42 **February's 2017 Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances** – Trustee Byrd stated that in
43 February's Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances there is a total of \$4,704,265.17 in the
44 institutions that are listed there. The institutions are: Bank Financial, Illinois Funds, First
45 Midwest, IMET, US Bank, Harris, MB Financial, Chase Bank, Wells Fargo, and Seaway. Most
46 of the funds are in the IMET Fund. The next page shows the General Fund, the Water Fund, and
47 the Sewer Fund, as well as others. It shows you the amount in each one of those funds, and the

1 Interfund. The General Fund has \$1,167,536.43 in the Interfund, for a total of \$2,055,289.49.
2 The funds in the Interfund are owed to the General Fund from Oak Lane, and Metra all the way
3 down.

4
5 Trustee Byrd stated that since we have the Financial Statements for February and March, he will
6 briefly go through the Revenues for February. In the Revenues for February in the General Fund,
7 the Village budgeted \$1,026,817.00. The actual Revenue was \$487,623.00. He stated that a lot of
8 this is due to the timing of our Real Estate Taxes that are coming in. In the Water Fund the
9 Village budgeted \$191,633.00 in Revenue. The actual Revenue was \$175,610.00. In the Sewer
10 Fund the Village budgeted \$134,704.00 in Revenue. The actual Revenue was \$133,422.00.

11
12 Trustee Byrd stated that the Expenses for the month of February, the Departments continued to
13 keep their Expenses down. In the General Fund the Village budgeted \$648,758.00 in Expenses
14 for the month. The Village's actual Expenses were \$435,543.00. The Water Fund was pretty
15 much equal to what we had actually budgeted for on the Expenses. The Sewer Fund was pretty
16 much on task with that too.

17
18 Trustee Byrd stated that the next document shows you where we are at as of February in the
19 General Fund, Water Fund, and Sewer Fund. The tan sheet we have not had in previous Budget
20 Reports. It is giving you where we are at as of 10-months. It shows you the Revenue at the actual
21 10-months. There is \$4,973,050.00. The Village had budgeted to be at \$5,546,907.00. We are
22 under by \$573,857.00. The next page explains why there is a difference between those two and
23 why we have a deficit on our Revenue. It is mainly because of timing on the Property Taxes. In
24 most of the Expense columns there is a surplus on all of the expenses except Administration.
25 That was \$120,291.00. That was due to litigation and Attorney's Fees that were paid out. You
26 can see the "Clerk's Office, Collector, and Police" You can see that there has been a surplus
27 there due to the fact that those Departments had Expenses.

28
29 Trustee Byrd stated that in the Water Fund it shows you what the actual 10-months is, and what
30 the Village budgeted for 10-months. The Village had budgeted \$2,245,381.00 in the Water Fund.
31 The Village had \$2,074,301.00 of Revenue in that fund. It shows the same information for the
32 Sewer Fund. He stated that he will go into more details on the March Financial Statement. You
33 also have the Detailed Report for each Department and each line item for February.

34
35 **March Financial Statements** – Trustee Byrd stated that if you look at the General Fund in
36 March, the Village budgeted \$969,634.00. The actual Revenue was \$1,128,586.00. The timing
37 with regard to the Real Estate Taxes you see picks up in March. In the Water Fund the Village
38 budgeted \$191,633.00 in Revenue. The actual Revenue was \$211,495.00. In the Sewer Fund the
39 Village budgeted \$134,704.00 in Revenue. The actual Revenue was \$119,996.00.

40
41 Trustee Byrd stated that the Expenses for the month of March was lower than what they expected
42 to payout for the month. The Village budgeted \$703,837.00 for Expenses in the General Fund.
43 The actual Expenses were \$676,998.00. The Departments have been actively keeping all of their
44 Expenses down for the year which is greatly appreciated.

45
46 Trustee Byrd stated that if you go to the "Year to Date Surplus/Deficit" for the month of March,
47 in the General Fund the Village budgeted for a \$32,646.00 surplus. The Village had a \$49,588.00

1 surplus. That is approximately \$17,000.00 more than what was budgeted for. In the Water Fund
2 the Village budgeted for a \$16,497.00 surplus. The actual surplus was \$152,096.00. In the Sewer
3 Fund the Village budgeted for a \$212,311.00 surplus. The actual surplus was \$228,012.00.
4 Everything at this point is either above Budget, or we are in line with the Budget for the 2016-
5 2017 Budget.

6
7 **March's 2017 Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances** – Trustee Byrd stated that the Cash
8 Balance Treasurer's Report for March shows a total of \$5,780,413.05 in the institutions that are
9 listed there. You should have a Report showing the 11-months compared to our Eleventh Month
10 Budget. He stated that budgeted for 11-months is \$6,516,541.00. The actual received in the
11 11months is \$6,101,636.00, which is \$414,905.00 less than what we had budgeted for. It is a
12 timing process due to how we receive the Real Estate Taxes. If you look at the Expenses, except
13 for Administration which we talked about before which is due to Attorney's Fees and litigation,
14 all of the rest of the Departments have surpluses above their Budget. It is the same with the
15 Water Fund. You have a Detailed Report for March as well. That tells you where your
16 expenditures are being exceeded. We try to keep those in line.

17
18 Trustee Robinson stated good job. Village President Meyers-Martin asked Trustee Byrd to name
19 the members of the Finance Committee. Trustee Byrd stated that the members of the Finance
20 Committee are as follows: Mr. Ernie Gibson is here. Louis Lee, Ngozi Okorafor, Bruce Betts,
21 Greg Foster, and Albert Riley, Jr. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we thank them for
22 their service.

23
24 **Open Gov Presentation – Betty Zigras, Assistant Finance Director** – Trustee Byrd stated that
25 Cindy and Betty are here to give us an Open Government Presentation. Administrator Mekarski
26 stated that well over a year ago, this President and this Board authorized the purchase of Open
27 Gov. It's a very sophisticated software program to allow for full transparency of our financial
28 records. Cynthia Saenz and Betty Zigras have been working on loading up financial data for over
29 a year perfecting the various elements that you will see tonight, which will be accessible on the
30 Village's Website. As the audience is aware, the Village is also under contract with a new Web
31 Design Company, CivicPlus. Over the next six-months we will be under construction with a
32 brand-new webpage which will also incorporate this. This is ready to go on now.

33
34 Mrs. Saenz stated that Open Gov is an interactive financial reporting tool. We started this
35 process in September of 2015. It was a huge project that she began. When Betty came on board
36 she was able to complete it and bring it to fruition. We are ready to launch this product. She
37 stated that with Betty's diligence and attention to detail, we have been able to load five-years of
38 historical data, along with the current year's activity. She is going to go through some of the
39 Reports. She stated that keeping our commitment for full transparency, this product will be
40 launched to the website on May 1st. We are still fine-tuning some of the charts and graphs. All of
41 the data from our monthly Financial Statements, our Annual Audits, our Budgets, and our
42 Accounts Payable System will be available on the website.

43
44 Mrs. Zigras stated that this will all be linked to the website. There will be a series of questions
45 that you can have answers to. The first one we will look at is "Annual Information." We have
46 from 2011 through the 2017 Budget. Some of the views they have created are a series of what
47 they thought might be important, relevant questions to our residents. What are the Village's

1 annual General Fund Revenues and Expenses? This shows the Revenues and Expenses by Fiscal
2 Year. Green is the Revenue. Red is the Expenses. We have it in a graph and we have the data
3 here. We can go in and see the types of Revenues. We can see what types of taxes we have. We
4 have Property Taxes, Sales Tax, and Utility Tax. All of this information goes down here. You
5 can do a comparison between the Fiscal Years for the last six Fiscal Years with Open Gov. All of
6 this has been anchored back to our Audits. Everything ties back to the Audit and the Financial
7 Statements for the Village. The other question that we have on Open Gov is, "What Revenue
8 sources of the Village is utilized in the General Fund?" You have taxes, fines and fees. These are
9 all of our Revenues, and all of our Revenues for each Fiscal Year. The information is coming
10 from the Reports that Trustee Byrd was going through tonight with all of the Revenues and
11 Expenses, line item by line item. It is all here, but it is rolled up into a higher category the way
12 that the Audit is presented. If you like, you can drill down to the line item.

13
14 Mrs. Zigras provided as an example, "How much does the Village spend on street paving?" If
15 you pull the line item called "Street Paving," you can see that in 2011 there wasn't anything
16 paid. In 2012, we spent \$190,000.00. In 2013 and 2014, there was \$1.1 Million with an issue of
17 the Bond, \$61,000.00. It goes on to 2017. How much Tax Revenue does the Village receive each
18 year? This shows us the graph. It also shows the detail. If you want to drill in to Sales Tax you
19 can do that, and it will just show you the Sales Tax Revenue year to year.

20
21 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mrs. Zigras if we went out and secured a Bond, would the
22 amount of that Bond be factored into the data here to show not only the amount of the Bond, but
23 also any Expenses that were incurred prior to receipt of that Bond and going forward. Mrs.
24 Zigras stated that the first one that we showed, notice in 2011-2012 our Revenues and Expenses
25 are equal. In 2015, we have a jump. We go from Revenues of \$5,000,000.00 typically each year
26 and then we jump to \$7,000,000.00. That was a Bond Issue. If you drill in there, "Other
27 Financing Sources," you see the \$1.9 Million Bond and the \$71,000.00 for the capital issuance.
28 So, it is in there. Trustee Pennington stated that is fine.

29
30 Mrs. Zigras stated that another view that we thought the residents might be interested in, is show
31 me all the Revenues collected as charges for services. Administrator Mekarski stated that the
32 audience can't see the legend. He inquired of Mrs. Zigras whether or not she could outline what
33 it says. Mrs. Zigras stated that when you are online yourself it will be much clearer for you. The
34 colors signify different things. The blue signifies "Wireless Revenue." The green is "Cable." We
35 have "Paramedic Charges," etcetera. The chart down here gives you the exact numbers. You can
36 Hoover over the chart and it will give you that information. She is hovering over the green. It is
37 saying, "Wireless Revenue 2015-2016 Actual \$162,000.00," which is 48% of the entire charges
38 for services. The total is \$337,000.00 for the charges for services for that Fiscal Year.

39
40 Mrs. Zigras stated that another view that they created is, "How much Revenue does the Village
41 receive in Property Taxes?" This is another view. We saw it the first time when we were in
42 "Taxes" or even "Revenues." You just keep drilling down. "Revenues, Taxes," if you drill into
43 "Taxes," you will see "Property Taxes." We can see "Property Taxes from Fiscal Year 2011,
44 2,000,000.00." It's increasing slightly since 2011. In 2011, it was \$2,034,000.00. In Fiscal Year
45 2016-2017, we budgeted \$2.3 Million.

46
47 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mrs. Zigras whether or not this would also show monthly data?

1 Mrs. Zigras stated yes. Right now, we are in the view for the “Annual.” Trustee Pennington
2 stated that he understands that. Mrs. Zigras stated that there is a view for “Monthly,” for the
3 current year. What is the cost to provide water service? This is the Water Fund. In orange is the
4 “Water Purchases,” the cost to buy water from Oak Lawn. Then we have “Contractual Services.”
5 Purple is “Personnel Services.” The numbers are all down here. You can see that the water cost
6 has increased from \$450,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00 to buy water.

7
8 Mrs. Saenz stated that the other thing to remember is we have come up with questions that we
9 thought were important to the residents. That’s what these views are. She stated that with it being
10 interactive, the residents can pull together their own data. That’s the other important feature to
11 this. One of the reasons that this was presented to the Board was with the number of FOIA
12 Requests that we were receiving for salary information, or Attorney’s Fees, things of that nature,
13 once we launch this, in response to a FOIA Request we can refer that person to the website.

14
15 Mrs. Zigras stated that she will show you how we can do that. We can go into “Filters.” You can
16 create your own. Do you want “Expenses?” Do you want “Revenues?” Do you want “Revenues
17 versus Expenses?” She stated let’s look at “Expenses” and we want to do it by fund. Let’s say,
18 “The Corporate Fund.” She stated which Department. Let’s look at all the Departments. What
19 kind of expense do we want to look at? “Expense Type.” She wants to see “Personnel Services.”
20 Here are all the personnel charges for all of the Departments. This is what our personnel salaries
21 are. It’s interactive. The residents can pick and choose, and create their own queries and views
22 the way they like it.

23
24 Mrs. Zigras stated that all of our data from six-years of Audits, are here in one big snapshot. You
25 can toggle back to “Views,” if you don’t want to create your own. These are some that we
26 thought were important. How much the Village spent on salaries. This is all salaries across all
27 funds. These are the numbers and the graphs. What are the Village’s Sewer Fund Revenues
28 versus Expenses? How much did the Village spend on overtime? This is showing overtime
29 between Public Safety and Public Works. Those are the only two Departments that have
30 overtime. How much does the Village spend on employee benefits? We have “Workmen’s
31 Comp, IMRF, Police Pension,” and “Hospital Insurance.” All six Fiscal Years is available to us
32 right here. How much did the Village contribute to the Pension Funds? These are the two funds
33 the Village contributes to. You have the “Police Pension Expense” and the “IMRF Expense.”
34 We’ve seen this graph many times for “Police Pension” when we were doing the 2030 or the
35 Town Hall Meetings. We see how the “Police Pension” has gone from \$464,000.00 to Fiscal
36 Year 2017 of \$881,000.00.

37
38 Mrs. Zigras stated that these are the “Annual.” We can go quickly to the current year. Show me
39 the budgeted versus Actual Year to Date. Here is the March Budget versus March Actual. Here is
40 the General Fund Year to Date Actual Revenues compared to the Budget for March. The
41 information that Trustee Byrd was giving is all available now online. The other one is month to
42 month cumulative. We can see May, June, July, August cumulative how the Expenses have been
43 increasing. The views are “Annual” and “Current.”

44
45 Mrs. Zigras stated that another Report that we have is “Accounts Payable.” We have loaded from
46 Fiscal Year 2011 until March 31st of 2017, all of our AP Invoices. This is a filter. You can filter
47 in here. You can add a filter. Do you want to search by an Invoice Date? Do you want to search

1 by a check number? Most people want to search by Vendor Name. We have paid “Cintas
2 \$56,286.00 since 2011.” All of the checks are here. It has what they are used for which is
3 “Uniform Expense, Building Maintenance,” etcetera. You can further filter by fund, by
4 Department. This is all the information that is on an AP Check. We have Departments, check
5 numbers, etcetera. If a FOIA Request is out there for how much we paid a specific vendor, we
6 just direct them to this. All of our AP checks are on here.

7
8 Trustee Pennington inquired whether or not we could show the “Treasurer’s Report of Cash
9 Balances” on this as well. Mrs. Zigras stated that we will link that to this.

10
11 Mrs. Saenz stated that the plan is that we will continue to add as we go along. That was one of
12 the Reports that she saw on another Municipal Website that we discussed today. We will link
13 that as well.

14
15 Trustee Pennington stated that it is important, because it shows the difference between cash and
16 what is owed via the Interfund, and the balances due, or the balances therein. Mrs. Saenz stated
17 that it will show actual cash in the checking account versus the investments as well. Trustee
18 Pennington stated good.

19
20 Mrs. Zigras stated that another Report that we have is the full-time head count. You can also
21 change the type of graphic. You can have a pie graph. You can have a bar graph. You can have a
22 line graph. This shows in police what our FTE Count has been since 2010. It also shows it for
23 Public Works and Administration. There are a lot of ways that you can play with this and get a
24 lot of valuable information.

25
26 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mrs. Zigras how secure is this in terms of possible manipulation
27 by anyone. Mrs. Zigras stated that it is going to be on our website. They won’t have access. They
28 cannot go in and manipulate the data. It is web-based. It is cloud-based. Mrs. Zigras stated that
29 she and Cindy have access to it.

30
31 Mrs. Saenz stated that it is not hosted on our server. It is hosted by Open Gov. It is data that we
32 are uploading. The filers and the views are hard data that has been entered. You can manipulate
33 it to print charts and print graphs. You can’t change the numbers in there.

34
35 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted you to re-emphasize that this is
36 something that came not at our initiation, but it is now available to Municipalities.

37
38 Mrs. Saenz stated that they started rolling it out to Municipalities. This company started showing
39 up at conferences in about 2013. A lot of Municipalities could not afford it. She stated that with
40 transparency and the FOIA’s a lot of Municipalities have started purchasing the program.

41
42 Mrs. Zigras stated that in Illinois there are 22. This will show you where they are at. DuPage
43 County, Kane County, Warrenville, Glen Ellyn, and Oak Brook are some of the Municipalities
44 that have Open Government.

45
46 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired whether or not this mitigates some of the need for
47 FOIA’s because the information is available from Open Gov.

1 Mrs. Saenz stated that we do receive requests from businesses. Once they go to our website and
2 see it, they won't request the information from us. Some of them will still try. A lot of times they
3 want Excel Spreadsheets. They want data a specific way. Legally, as long as the information
4 exists on our website we can point them in that direction.

5
6 Mrs. Zigras stated that we have a portal that we can see who is visiting our site. We can see how
7 many hits we have on the site, the analytics. We can see how long they were on.

8
9 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is very excited about that. We have had inquiries
10 about the website and the availability of information. Some of the information is kind of
11 embedded. In combination with the new overhaul to the new website and Open Gov it should be
12 much more user-friendly.

13
14 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you are waiting for John for the Building Report.
15 We will skip to Planning.

16
17 **PLANNING:**

18
19 **Request from Olympia Fields Park District for a Donation to Support the 5K Sock Hop**
20 **Hustle on May 14, 2017 – Executive Director, Denise Will** – Trustee Pennington stated that he
21 has no Official Report from Planning this evening. He has a request from the Olympia Fields
22 Park District for a donation to support the 5K Sock Hop Hustle on May 14th of this year. This is
23 from Executive Director Denise Will. She was supposed to be here tonight but she is not. The 5K
24 Sock Hop Hustle is something that we have donated to the Olympia Fields Park District before.
25 We last honored them with a \$1,000.00 donation in May of last year. This is a good event. He
26 wouldn't have any qualms about making a little donation. However, he believes that it is
27 important that the Executive Director be here to present her request. Given the fact that this is
28 late again, this year, he would propose that we not authorize the \$1,000.00 this year to the Park
29 District. This is a continuation of their activities in terms of getting matters out to us late, as well
30 as not showing up to make their presentation.

31
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that every year the Park District always asks for a
33 contribution. She inquired this Sock Hop Hustle, is that an evolution from the old "Fall Family
34 Festival" which then became the "Pumpkin Festival. "Is that what this is?"

35
36 Trustee Pennington stated yes. Trustee Matz stated that in her explanation of asking for this
37 money, Denise stated that they were short staff due to the construction that is going on over in
38 the Park District. She stated that Denise apologized for this late notice.

39
40 Trustee Pennington stated that is not, in his opinion, sufficient in order to not have her here. She
41 could come forward and tell us that and not give it to us in a Memorandum. Trustee Matz stated
42 that she understands that.

43
44 Trustee Gibson stated that this has gone on too long waiting until the very last minute to say
45 what they need. Trustee Pennington stated that it is a consistent thing. Trustee Gibson stated and
46 not showing up to discuss, and explain what it is they need it for.

47

1 Trustee Matz stated that she understands that, but we are still trying to build a relationship. She
2 believes that we can still go over there and talk to them about having this being late, and them
3 not coming here to present it. We still extend an olive branch. The Park District is still a part of
4 Olympia Fields whether we want it to be or not.

5
6 Trustee Gibson stated that she is not saying that because of that. She is saying that we have
7 consistently told the Executive Director that we need this when we are doing our Budget. Trustee
8 Pennington stated that this is an unbudgeted item. Trustee Gibson stated that it would be much
9 better if we knew all of it. She is sure that they must know if they are going to do things like this.
10 Why wait until about 14-days before it happens to say that this is what we need?

11
12 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she was only going to add to the fact that she, like
13 Trustee Matz, had always been a big supporter of the Park District because while they are a
14 separate entity, a separate Budget, and a separate Board, our fortunes are tied together just like
15 with the school. People assume that the Village is connected to the Park District more so than we
16 actually are in terms of our relationship. She has always been of the opinion that we needed to
17 support them. She also agrees that over these years, and for her it has been 15, they have always
18 done this. They always come at the last minute, in spite of the fact that we tell them, we ask them
19 to come and do a presentation. We ask them to give us this information prior to the Budget Cycle
20 so that it can be incorporated. That has never occurred. She certainly understands the position of
21 Trustee Matz. She also understands that we have asked them to rectify their request over the
22 years.

23
24 Administrator Mekarski suggested that if the Board wishes to table this to May 8th, we can give a
25 copy of the Minutes to the Executive Director. He can go to the Executive Director and
26 encourage her attendance. That would still be in time before the event on May 14th.

27
28 Trustee Hudson stated that at this point we have not only extended the olive branch, we have
29 extended the tree. It has been about 15-years and Denise has not made any changes. She doesn't
30 think we need to table something that we don't have budgeted. If it was budgeted she could
31 tabling it. We talk about people not doing what they should do. She stated that Denise is not
32 doing what she should do. We can't make people do the right thing. People must do what the
33 guidelines say that they are to do. If they want something they must come so that it can get in the
34 Budget.

35
36 Trustee Byrd stated that he is pretty much with her and Trustee Matz. The Park District is part of
37 the Village. Although, the Executive Director didn't get things to us timely, what goes on over
38 there does affect the Village. He doesn't know how we can change her to get her to do things in a
39 timely manner. It does affect the Budget. He knows that. We have to look at the whole picture
40 which is the Village. The Park District is not politically or financially part of the Village. He
41 stated that people do view it as the Village of Olympia Fields. He would be reluctant not to give
42 her the \$1,000.00.

43
44 Trustee Pennington stated that the only way we can change her is not contribute to her event.
45 This has been ongoing for 15-years. It has always been that way. He agrees we should have
46 synergies between the Village and the Park District. However, by making this \$1,000.00
47 contribution, we are condoning her activities. Are we going to continue to condone her activities

1 and still give up money that's not even budgeted into our Budget? It's a small amount of money,
2 he agrees. It is de minimis to what we normally have to handle. We have to teach that
3 Administration a lesson. And by withholding funds for 2017, he believes that they would get the
4 message.

5
6 Trustee Hudson stated that she has worked with the Park District for several years trying to get
7 them to join her in making Western and Vollmer Road look a little bit better. She does not get a
8 response from the Park District on our side. When she gets the response from the other side they
9 are a little reluctant because we have not joined in. If she can get someone to get the Park District
10 to join in with her after three-years of trying, then she can see herself supporting something that
11 they want. She knows that most of you have seen Western and Vollmer Road. It does not look
12 beautiful at all. She would like to have the Park District join in with us to see if we can get
13 something done there too.

14
15 Trustee Gibson suggested that in her Budget which is "Public Representation," we have the
16 "Pumpkin Festival" for \$1,000.00. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is the
17 "Pumpkin Festival." It is two separate things. Trustee Gibson stated that they may come back in
18 October and say for the "Pumpkin Festival" we want our \$1,000.00. It would be up to us to
19 change it to a 5K and forget about the "Pumpkin Festival". It is already budgeted in that
20 particular Budget.

21
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this particular event, she was under the impression
23 has evolved from the "Fall Family Festival," to the "Pumpkin Festival," to something else, to
24 this. They have changed the time of year based on it. Maybe there are two separate events.

25
26 Mrs. Saenz stated that she didn't think that we contributed to the "Pumpkin Festival" last year.
27 We contributed to this event. Trustee Pennington stated that is correct. We did not contribute to
28 the "Pumpkin Festival" last year. We budgeted the \$1,000.00 that you have in your Budget. We
29 did contribute in 2016 to the Park District.

30
31 Trustee Gibson inquired of Trustee Pennington what is a 5K Sock Hop Hustle. Trustee
32 Pennington stated that it is a combination 5K Race and an event afterwards. Trustee Gibson
33 inquired of Trustee Pennington how many Olympia Fields residents take part in that. Trustee
34 Pennington stated that is a good question. He has no idea. Village President Meyers-Martin
35 stated that is something that Denise could have provided if she had been here. Trustee
36 Pennington stated precisely.

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there had been a suggestion to table it. Is there a
39 consensus to table this, or is there interest to just vote? Trustee Pennington recommended that we
40 just vote and not table this.

41 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Byrd to Authorize the Finance Department to**
42 **Contribute \$1,000.00 for this Year's Budget Fiscal Year 2016/2017 for the Olympia Fields**
43 **Annual 5K Sock Hop Hustle on May 14, 2017.**

44 **Roll Call: Ayes (2) (Trustees Gibson, Hudson, Pennington,**
45 **and Robinson voted No) Motion Failed.**

46
47

1 **BUILDING:**

2
3 **Please Put Garbage Cans Away after Garbage Pickup** - Mr. McDonnell stated that he doesn't
4 have a Report at this time. Trustee Hudson stated that we don't have a Formal Report. Trustee
5 Hudson stated that if you have new residents moving in, if you could remind them to help keep
6 the Village beautiful by making sure they put their garbage cans where she cannot see them.
7 Also, bring them in where she won't look at them all week. It is just the little things that they
8 may not be aware of. You can make them aware of those things. Trustee Hudson stated that she
9 appreciates your help in doing that.

10
11 **Get Suggestions from the Village for Replacement Trees if Trees were Cut Down** - Trustee
12 Hudson stated that if they have a situation where they have trees that have been cut down
13 because they needed to be cut down, make sure they call Building or Public Works to find out
14 what type of tree is best for them to have as a replacement. She would prefer that they not go out
15 and do it on their own.

16
17 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

18
19 **Senate Bill 0550 Lead Compliance Mandates – Pat Barker, Robinson Engineering** – Trustee
20 Matz stated that in light of the contamination of the water in Flint, Michigan, we have new Lead
21 Compliance Mandates, Senate Bill 0550. She stated that Pat Barker is here from Robinson
22 Engineering to explain to us how we can be in compliance by 2018, and how we can keep our
23 water safe.

24
25 Mrs. Pat Barker stated that due to recent events concerning the elevated lead levels in Flint,
26 Michigan, there has been a lot of public interest in lead content of drinking water. Although the
27 vast majority of Municipal Systems are in compliance with current lead and copper standards,
28 the State of Illinois has now mandated that each community must comply with additional
29 requirements. The Illinois Legislature enacted Senate Bill 0550 on January 16th of this year. It
30 requires the following efforts from each Village:

31
32 The Village must prepare and submit to the IEPA, and post on the Village's Website a
33 water main and water service material inventory list by April 15th, 2018. We have one year to
34 provide an inventory that would include a list of the total number of water service lines in the
35 system; A list of the number or known lead service lines (including those privately owned); An
36 update on an annual basis; The information must be available for inspection during the IEPA's
37 annual inspection.

38
39 The Village must provide the following to water users:

40
41 Notification that elevated lead levels may develop in areas with known or suspected lead
42 service lines when water main or water meter replacement projects commence; Information
43 about best practices for mitigating risks of consuming water containing lead, using updated
44 instructions and educational materials; And notification and consumer education information
45 when testing indicates the lead result is above the EPA limit.

1 Mrs. Barker stated that it is a proactive effort to make sure that Villages are providing
2 information. That they post it on the website so that the residents and the businesses can be
3 aware of it, and that it be updated each year. The Villages have one year to provide that
4 information and to post it on the website.
5

6 Administrator Mekarski stated that this was not budgeted in next year's Budget that was
7 approved. He suggested that the Finance Committee may want to take this under consideration.
8 He would help solicit proposals for the analysis. The Finance Committee could give
9 recommendations back to this Board and the incoming Trustees and President-Elect.
10

11 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she agrees that you should review it. Is that
12 something that you would have an RFP for to do the testing? Mrs. Barker stated yes. We would
13 like to offer information to the Board and get a directive from the Village as to how to move
14 forward, and how to evaluate the cost for the initial year to provide the information. Village
15 President Meyers-Martin inquired how long of a process is that? Mrs. Barker stated that is a
16 good question. There has been a bit of research about lead pipes in the Village. We would assess
17 what has already been done and use that as the starting point to determine what information is
18 needed and prepare a timeline for that.
19

20 Village President Meyers-Martin stated so this is above and beyond the testing that we do on a
21 regular basis. Mrs. Barker stated that it would be. It is intended to be Village-wide. They say
22 even privately owned water mains. That's a concern. Certain mandates have recently been
23 announced for schools. There is a lot of testing going on right now so that schools and residents
24 can reach a comfort level that that information is being obtained. That's not about the Village's
25 service lines. That's about what is on the school property and serving those within the schools.
26 There is a lot of testing going on there to confirm that the water is safe for children in those
27 schools.
28

29 Administrator Mekarski stated that almost every community with older homes have lead service
30 lines to their Village. That is State-wide and Nation-wide. Generally, there's a calcification
31 inside the pipe that helps protect the lead from leaching into the water supply. That calcification
32 can get dislodged when there is water hammering, when there is shuttering of the water lines
33 when the hydrant is turned on or off by the Fire Department too fast. If there is a water main
34 break, that causes sometimes a disturbance not only at the main, but at the service lines, and
35 sometimes when there is home construction. He stated that Jim Landini is aware of some of the
36 lead service lines that are already existing in homes. You can see it in replacing the meters. It is
37 going into the basement. There is an existing State Law already on the books that requires if they
38 are excavating a B-Box, there is a requirement to replace the lead from the B-Box, the shutoff
39 valve to the main.
40

41 Mr. Landini stated that is a possibility. It is not actually a law yet. Though this is a new mandate,
42 we are not behind the time on this either. Since what happened in Michigan a year, year and a
43 half ago, we have been taking inventory of the houses that we get into to check meters for high
44 usages and see what their connections are. We have been logging that. We do have a fairly
45 substantial log of what does have lead service lines. He is also compiling notification and
46 education materials to send out to the residents. When we go through the residential meter
47 changeout, we will have information that goes with the changeout to the residents of what

1 precautions to take just because we have changed out your meter, and moving forward. This is
2 not something that has caught us completely off guard. We've had this process going for the past
3 year. The April 15th, 2018, deadline we should be way ahead of that. We are prepared for it.
4

5 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this was for information only. There was no action
6 that was needed. We know that we have a good head start on that. Mr. Landini stated that we saw
7 it coming with what happened in Flint.
8

9 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

10
11 **Trustee Robinson Commends the Human Resources Committee** - Trustee Robinson stated
12 that he does not have a Formal Report this evening. Trustee Robinson commended the Human
13 Resources Committee in which two of our members are present in the audience, Mr. Carlando
14 Owens, and Mr. Robert McCullough. We have three other members that are not present tonight.
15 Miss Susan Gowen, Susan Moroney, and Mr. Larry Mullins. He wanted to commend them on
16 their professionalism, their diligence, their commitment in working alongside with him, the
17 Committee, and the Village, in reviewing HR Policies and Procedures, Job Descriptions, and
18 Performance Evaluations. Trustee Robinson stated that they did an outstanding job. He would
19 hope that they continue to move forward because they are headed in the right direction.
20

21 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

22
23 **Appointment of Chief Krull to the North East Multi-Regional Training Advisory**
24 **Board of Directors** – Trustee Gibson stated that she has two items to present to the audience this
25 evening. The first one is to tell you about the good news with regard to the Chief of Police, Chief
26 Krull.
27

28 He was recently elected by his peers to serve on the North East Multi-Regional Training
29 (NEMRT) Advisory Board of Directors. NEMRT is responsible for providing critical high
30 quality and cost competitive law enforcement training to officers from throughout the
31 Chicagoland Metropolitan area. Training at NEMRT ranges from one day refresher courses to
32 State mandated courses through university directed School of Police Staff and Command
33 courses.
34

35 NEMRT's Advisory Board of Directors consists of 16 Directors including 6 law enforcement
36 executive officers from units of local government. Some of the duties for NEMRT's Advisory
37 Board of Directors include, but are not limited to; meeting the training needs and requirements of
38 NEMRT member agencies, setting policies which guide the organization, writing, maintaining
39 and updating a strategic plan that outlines the long-range goals for NEMRT's growth and
40 ensuring that NEMRT has adequate finances to meet organizational goals and that membership
41 fees and state funds are being spent responsibly.
42

43 The election of Chief Krull to this voluntary position on NEMRT's Advisory Board of Directors
44 will provide an additional voice and advocate for the training needs of all Municipalities and
45 agencies within the Chicago Southland Metropolitan area. Chief Krull has served on NEMRT's
46 "Training and Curriculum Committee" since 2016 and will continue to be an outspoken advocate

1 for the training needs of law enforcement professionals throughout the state to better serve the
2 communities that they are sworn to protect.

3
4 Trustee Gibson stated that she personally commends the Chief for the recent election by his
5 peers to serve in this way. It is a very important Advisory Board of Directors. Trustee Gibson
6 would like to say personally, “Congratulations, Chief.”

7
8 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she would echo that, “Congratulations, Chief.”

9
10 **Thank You Message to Officer Lawrence Smith** – Trustee Gibson stated that the second
11 Report for Public Safety is: The Olympia Fields Police Department received a thank you e-mail
12 message from Mrs. Angela Parrish on Monday, April 17th, 2017. Mrs. Parrish wished to thank
13 Patrol Officer Lawrence Smith for recently assisting Autumn Swanson at Rich Central High
14 School. Miss Swanson is an Honor Roll Student at Rich Central and is the daughter of Angela
15 Parrish and Steven Swanson of Olympia Fields.

16
17 Officer Lawrence Smith assisted Miss Swanson as part of his assigned duties as a school security
18 officer at Rich Central, and made a positive impression on Miss Swanson. Mrs. Parrish and Miss
19 Swanson stated that they were grateful for Officer Smith’s kindness, professionalism and
20 approachable demeanor. Because of Officer Smith’s actions, Miss Swanson used her own money
21 to purchase doughnuts, orange juice and bagels for the entire Department.

22
23 Due to the actions of Officer Smith and his positive interaction with Miss Swanson and this
24 mutual show of support, vital lines of communication between our young adults and our
25 Department were improved. Positive interactions such as this one are vital to keeping everyone
26 in our community safe and increasing confidence in the law enforcement profession. The Chief
27 of Police felt it was necessary and proper to send an acknowledgement letter to Miss Swanson
28 for her kindness and show of support.

29
30 Miss Swanson and Officer Lawrence Smith should both be recognized and commended for their
31 actions in the community. A copy of the e-mail received from Mrs. Parrish including a photo of
32 Officer Smith and Miss Swanson is attached for reference purposes only.

33
34 Trustee Gibson stated that this is an example that our officers are pleasant, and professional, and
35 who at all times support and protect our residents with pleasant interactions and assistance.
36 Officer Smith showed that he possesses all the professional ability and the roles with honor.

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we commend Officer Lawrence Smith as well for
39 his service. Trustee Pennington stated, “Hear, Hear.”

40
41 **REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

42
43 **Ordinance #2017-14 – An Ordinance Restricting Parking Along Crawford Avenue within**
44 **the Village of Olympia Fields [First and Second Reading]** – Administrator Mekarski stated
45 the Ordinance and the two Resolutions that follow are all associated with the very large Capital
46 Project that this Administration has been working on for a number of years. It was initiated by
47 former Mayor, Linzey D. Jones and his Administration, seeking Federal Funds for intersection

1 improvements at 203rd Street and Crawford. It was picked up by our current Mayor, Debra
2 Meyers-Martin, and working in tandem with Smith Dawson and Andrews our Federal Lobbyist
3 which is under contract with SouthCom and the four participating communities. In this particular
4 effort with SDA it was the Village of Park Forest, the Village of Richton Park, and the Village of
5 Olympia Fields, and SouthCom. Ultimately, through continued diligence of the Mayor and the
6 Board, IDOT has announced a major project, \$1,761,800.00 to redo the intersection at 203rd
7 Street and Crawford. It is really critical right now because of the hospital expansion. Robinson
8 Engineering has been very instrumental in pushing this Grant and working with the
9 Administration. Pat Barker is here. She can give you a brief explanation of the funding ratio, our
10 local share, and the efforts that Robinson made with the Mayor and the Board over the last six-
11 years.

12
13 Mrs. Barker stated, “Congratulations.” This is an effort that has been going on for quite some
14 time. There has been a tremendous effort on the part of the Village to work with IDOT and to be
15 patient with IDOT. The good news was just received last week. The good news is an intersection
16 improvement at Crawford and 203rd Street for the amount of \$1,761,800.00. There will be traffic
17 signals added to that intersection. There will be additional dedicated turn lanes. The intent of
18 IDOT’s improvement is to increase the safety of that intersection and increase the traffic flow
19 and efficiency of that intersection. She stated that with the changes taking place at the hospital
20 the timing is excellent. At the bottom of IDOT’s Plans in small print says, “Subject to funding
21 availability.” At this point in time they are targeting the June 16th, 2017, letting for this project.
22 The Project Plans are complete. They are sitting in Springfield. She is not sure why they just got
23 around to sending them to the Village. They look good. The Village is the beneficiary. The
24 participation that they are asking for is less than 1%. That’s excellent. The 1% is for what they
25 consider to be 5% of the cost of the traffic signals, which is one leg of the intersection. The east
26 leg of the intersection is under Village jurisdiction. The west leg is under the Township
27 jurisdiction. They are each receiving a bill of \$11,500.00 to participate in this project.

28
29 Administrator Mekarski stated that the first Motion is for an Ordinance prohibiting parking
30 within the jurisdiction of Olympia Fields between Thornwood Avenue to 205th Street within the
31 corporate limits.

32 **Motion by Trustee Hudson, second by Trustee Pennington to Waive on First Reading and**
33 **Adopt in Second Reading Ordinance #2017-14, An Ordinance Restricting Parking Along**
34 **Crawford Avenue within the Village of Olympia Fields.**

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

36
37 **Resolution #2017-08** – A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement between the
38 State of Illinois and the Village of Olympia Fields for the Improvement of Crawford Avenue –
39 Administrator Mekarski stated that the second item is Resolution #2017-08. It is a Resolution
40 authorizing the Execution of an Agreement between the State of Illinois and the Village of
41 Olympia Fields for the improvement of Crawford Avenue. The Agreement is attached to the
42 document. Administrator Mekarski inquired of Mrs. Barker whether or not there was anything
43 she wanted to say to the Board with regard to the Agreement itself.

44
45 Mrs. Barker stated that the Agreement is an Intergovernmental Agreement saying that the
46 Village agrees with the project moving forward, and that they will participate as the state has
47 asked to be part of this improvement.

1 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Gibson to Approve Resolution #2017-08- A**
2 **Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement between the State of Illinois and the**
3 **Village of Olympia Fields for the Improvement of Crawford Avenue.**

4
5 Trustee Pennington stated that on Page 2 of the Agreement, Paragraph 4, it addresses Exhibit B.
6 He stated that Exhibit B was not attached to the Intergovernmental Agreement.

7
8 Administrator Mekarski stated that Exhibit B would be the Resolution appropriating sufficient
9 funds. That is the next Resolution #2017-09 – A Resolution Authorizing Funds to the
10 Improvements of Crawford Avenue in the Village of Olympia Fields. Trustee Pennington stated
11 very good. Administrator Mekarski stated that we have to take them separately.

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

13
14 **Resolution #2017-09** – A Resolution Authorizing Funding for the Improvements to Crawford
15 Avenue in the Village of Olympia Fields – Administrator Mekarski stated that the last Resolution
16 is that Exhibit. He stated Resolution #2017-09. It's a Resolution authorizing funding for the
17 improvements to Crawford Avenue. As Mrs. Barker indicated, while this is a project of
18 \$1,761,000.00 plus, our financial contribution is a mere \$11,500.00. The Village intends to
19 Budget, and he believes that Cynthia has already made it part of the Budget from the Village's
20 Bond Residual. That's the local roads, Phase 1, Road Residual. Actually, Phase II is from the
21 budgetary standpoint. That's \$11,500.00.

22 **Motion by Trustee Robinson, second by Trustee Gibson to Approve Resolution #2017-09 –**
23 **A Resolution Authorizing Funding for the Improvements to Crawford Avenue in the**
24 **Village of Olympia Fields; and to Authorize the Village's Finance Director to Secure the**
25 **Local Match of \$11,500.00 from the Village's 2012 Road Bond Residual.**

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

27
28 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Mrs. Barker in terms of the maintenance of that
29 light, is it the state that will be doing that or the Village. Mrs. Barker stated that as with all traffic
30 signals, when there are local legs then they ask the Village to participate on the maintenance cost
31 of the local legs. One leg would be a Village expense. She stated not ongoing, but there is certain
32 participation. She stated just like there is along Governors Highway and at Vollmer. Anything
33 that is under State Jurisdiction, the State has 100% responsibility for any legs that are local. If
34 there is future maintenance, then they would ask for the Village to participate. She is sure that is
35 part of what is happening now throughout the Village.

36
37 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this has been a long time in the making. We have
38 always received several complaints about that corner. When Rich Central lets out of school, it is
39 almost impossible to get onto Crawford Avenue at that time of day, emergency vehicles, and
40 residents in general. She stated and now with the expansion of the hospital, an additional 700 to
41 800 employees coming to the Village of Olympia Fields, it is crucial that that improvement be
42 obtained and accomplished. The timing is perfect at this point. We appreciate that. She stated
43 that for a while they had been approved, but the funds had not been released.

1 **REPORT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**
2

3 **May 8, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. – Inauguration of Village President and New Trustees** – Village
4 President Meyers-Martin stated that the Inauguration of the Village President and the new
5 Trustees will take place on May 8th, 2017, in the Board Room at 7:00 P.M.
6

7 Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated the Trustees-Elect, Trustee Cassandra Matz, and
8 our Village President-Elect, Sterling Burke. We look forward to having the Inauguration here.
9 She believes that we have in place the Judge who will do the swearing-in. She wants to make
10 sure that everybody is aware that will take place at the next Board Meeting which is May 8th at
11 7:00 P.M. We will have a brief Meeting before the Inauguration takes place.
12

13 **Joint Work Session of the Board of Trustees and Planning & Zoning on the Wireless**
14 **Telecommunication Facilities – Date to be Determined** – Village President Meyers-Martin
15 stated that the other item that is on her Report is the Ordinance related to the Joint Work Session
16 with the Board of Trustees and the Planning & Zoning on the Wireless Telecommunication
17 Facilities. The date of the Work Session is to be determined. There was a Public Hearing held.
18 Only one person showed up at the Public Hearing. It was to discuss the changes in the Ordinance
19 that will address wireless communication because it had been demonstrated and stated several
20 times that that Ordinance needed to be strengthened. It needed it to be amended in order to
21 address any future inquiries or requests for cell phone towers in the Village. Going forward there
22 will be that Joint Work Session in order to cement any changes to that Ordinance that will allow
23 us to be more in control of any of those types of requests. That date will be determined.
24

25 Administrator Mekarski stated that we will do a round robin with the Planning Commission
26 Members, our Professional Consultant Team, and our Attorney, and this Board. First and
27 foremost, we are going to meet with the President-Elect and the new Trustees to get their input
28 on this Ordinance. We will set that Joint Work Session.
29

30 Trustee Pennington stated that we have a date for the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting
31 because that was carried over to June 20th for the continued Public Hearing. Administrator
32 Mekarski stated that we need to have the Joint Work Session prior to that. That is completely
33 dependent upon the direction of the incoming Board and the Village President.
34

35 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that will include the Administration, Planning and
36 Zoning, Legal, and Teska.
37

38 Administrator Mekarski stated that we included this in the Packet for everybody to go through it
39 thoroughly, so when we sit down for the Joint Session we can have final comments and be
40 prepared for the Public Hearing at the Planning and Zoning Commission. Once they finish their
41 work they will give a recommendation back to the governing authority, and we will have an
42 opportunity to pass it, amend it, or not approve it.
43

44 **Diversity Dinners Celebrates 20th Anniversary** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that
45 she wanted to congratulate the Diversity Dinners. They just celebrated their 20th Anniversary on
46 Saturday at Rich South High School. That commemorates 20-years of dinners that have been
47 held in the south suburbs, that included diverse members of the community having dinner

1 together, learning more about each other. It started with Robin Kelly, our Congresswoman, and
2 Barbara McKinley, and Barbara Moore. Both were Community Relations Directors at University
3 Park and Park Forest, and our very own Bev Sokol. It was a wonderful, wonderful experience
4 and celebration. We congratulate them on that.

5
6 **Proposed Trauma Center in the South Suburbs** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated that
7 in Springfield they will be taking up discussions and Legislation related to a Trauma Center in
8 the south suburbs. We have not had a Trauma Center since St. James closed their "Trauma
9 Center." It has been discussed over and over again from Legislators, to Mayors, to Trustees, to
10 Cook County Commissioners, on how to address the cost of having a Trauma Center. She stated
11 that Trauma Centers cost Millions and Millions of Dollars. St. James did not want to entertain a
12 Trauma Center Facility at their site because of the expense. That dates back to Arnie Kimmel
13 and the inquiries with him on whether or not they would be interested in doing that considering
14 they were expanding and consolidating.

15
16 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she will be talking with the South Suburban Mayors
17 and Managers to talk about that Legislation. They will be imposing taxes at the tollway. They
18 will be imposing taxes on a lot of different entities that will be state related in order to create a
19 Trauma Center Fund. She is sure that you will be hearing more about that in the months to come.
20 It has been mandated on the State level that there must be, should be, and will be a Trauma
21 Center in the south suburbs. Otherwise, if you have an emergency, you have to go all the way to
22 95th Street to find a Trauma Center. Most people have found that to be unacceptable. The cost is
23 off the chain in terms of how much it costs to have a Trauma Center. They will be imposing
24 those new taxes in order to create that fund. You will be hearing more about that from your
25 Legislators, Representative Riley, Representative DeLuca, Senator Hutchinson, and Senator
26 Hastings as they will be going forward with that project.

27
28 Trustee Byrd inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin whether or not she heard anything in
29 Springfield about the LGDF Fund, and what they are doing with that.

30
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she spoke with the Governor on Friday. He is still
32 threatening to hold out the LGDF if, in fact, his turnaround Agenda is not supported by the
33 Legislators. We are coming up to May 30th. If a Budget is not passed by May 30th, it will be the
34 third year that there is no Capital Budget in the State of Illinois. He is still threatening that along
35 with the MFT Funds.

36
37 Administrator Mekarski stated that is one of the issues that is on the South Suburban Mayors and
38 Managers Agenda for Lobbyist Day. A number of Mayors, including Madam President will be
39 lobbying to increase it up to the historic limits. He believes it is 10%. There is a big effort
40 underway for April 26th. Trustee Byrd stated that we are at 8%. He is talking about going down
41 to 4%. Administrator Mekarski stated that the Legislators are trying to push to get it back up to
42 10%.

43
44 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that at the time it was about \$250,000.00, which would
45 have been money lost from the Village of Olympia Fields if the Governor maintained his threat
46 to do that. That changes from Municipality to Municipality. It is based on population.

47

1 Trustee Byrd inquired whether or not there is anything that we can do. Administrator Mekarski
2 stated send a letter to the Governor’s Office from all of the residents.

3
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Mayors and Managers have been meeting with
5 the Governor ever since he got into office. When we first met with him it was in Springfield. He
6 was very dismissive. It was almost as though he said, “What are the south suburbs?” He was
7 very dismissive. The second time we met was in Chicago. He did not know about the third
8 airport. He didn’t know about Iliana. She found it strange that if you are going to meet with a
9 group of South Suburban Mayors, you have not done your homework to know what the issues
10 are in the south suburbs. He did not. He did not speak on that. That meeting went nowhere. The
11 third time which was last year, we were in Springfield. He kept all of the South Suburban
12 Mayors waiting for an hour before we met with him. This time he was a little more receptive
13 because he had been through this process with Speaker Madigan. She doesn’t think that he
14 expected that. He was a little humbler, but still threatening if the turnaround Agenda is not
15 supported that he will be exacting that penalty on Municipalities. He maintains that position as of
16 Friday. A colleague of hers works in the Governor’s Office. She stated that the Minority
17 Representative literally has to drag him out to the minority communities. The Governor is not
18 overly excited about coming to the south suburbs. As far as she knows he hasn’t been here yet.
19 We will see if, in fact, in the coming year if he will make more of an effort to come out to the
20 southside of Chicago and the south suburbs. He was at the Chicago Minority Business Expo.

21
22 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

23
24 The Board did not have any Unfinished Business to discuss this evening.

25
26 **NEW BUSINESS:**

27
28 **Advice and Counsel – Water Rate Increase as Imposed by the City of Chicago and the**
29 **Village of Oak Lawn** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this is for advice and
30 counsel only. We are being notified by the City of Chicago and the Village of Oak Lawn that
31 they are passing on another water rate increase. You have a Memo from the City of Chicago
32 stating that the Chicago Municipal Code stated that: “Beginning June 1st of 2016, and every year
33 thereafter, annual rates shall be adjusted upwards, if applicable, by applying the previous year’s
34 rates at the rate of inflation calculated based on the Consumer Price Index, the Urban Wage
35 Earners, and the Clerical Workers Chicago. All items published by the United States Bureau of
36 Labor Statics.”

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that what you will be deciding is if you are going to pass
39 on that rate increase that will be coming from Chicago, which is scheduled to be seven-cents per
40 1,000 gallons. The Village of Oak Lawn has sent a Memo as well stating that they will be
41 passing on a rate increase too. You will be deciding if you will absorb that out of the Water
42 Fund, or if you will be passing it on.

43
44 Administrator Mekarski stated just to elaborate on that, under the existing Code of Ordinances
45 that rate increase will automatically go into effect, unless the governing authority passes an
46 Ordinance waiving it. The advice and counsel that Administration is asking for is do you want an
47 Ordinance prepared for your May 8th Meeting to waive this, or do you want this to be added to

1 our water rates. We did do a Financial Analysis on the impact. It would be \$10,000.00. That
2 would be the effect to the Water Fund. Administrator Mekarski stated that we can prepare the
3 Ordinance. He needs the advice and counsel on whether this Board wishes the Ordinance be
4 prepared to waive it, or do you want it to take effect. If you want it to take effect we do nothing
5 because it is automatic.
6
7 Trustee Gibson stated that if it is an increase like it has been for a number of years, and all of us
8 live here. We don't like the water rates, but instead of it coming from the General Fund, she
9 thinks it should go to the users.
10
11 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you see that is effective every June 1st. You are of
12 the opinion to not absorb it. Trustee Gibson stated no.
13
14 Trustee Robinson stated that he is indecisive at this point. He would be hesitant to say to put it on
15 the residents. It is something that he would have to weigh.
16
17 Trustee Pennington stated that he believes that an Ordinance should be created. He doesn't think
18 that we should pass this on to the residents. He would be in favor of the development of an
19 Ordinance to that affect.
20
21 Trustee Byrd inquired whether or not this is the second one that has come through that we have
22 not passed on. There was one earlier in the year. Mrs. Saenz stated that in January there was a
23 rate increase of five-cents. That was imposed by the City of Chicago. We did not pass that on.
24 Trustee Byrd stated that eventually we have to start passing it on sooner or later. Are you saying
25 don't pass it on now, or never pass it?
26
27 Trustee Pennington stated for tonight's purposes, let's not pass it on. Trustee Hudson stated that
28 we don't know how much they are going to use and we are still paying for that. She doesn't
29 know what that affect is. She is saying that right now we could pass it on. That does not mean
30 that it will stay that way as far as she is concerned.
31
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated so you are saying do not create an Ordinance. Trustee
33 Hudson stated at this point, yes.
34
35 Trustee Byrd inquired of Administrator Mekarski if we do create this Ordinance then there is a
36 vote on that at the May 8th Meeting to accept it or reject it. Administrator Mekarski stated that is
37 correct. We will have a Report from the Finance Department. Trustee Byrd stated that a Motion
38 will be made to either pass it on, or not pass it on. Trustee Byrd stated create the Ordinance.
39
40 Trustee Matz stated that she agrees too to create the Ordinance. Administrator Mekarski stated
41 that we will create the Ordinance and have it on the Agenda for the 8th. We will have a full
42 Report on the financial impacts to the Water Fund, and then the Board will take a vote.
43
44 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mrs. Saenz if it has been her experience when these rate
45 increases come in, that during the course of that period there has been an additional increase that
46 might come in from either the City of Chicago or Oak Lawn. He stated in other words, having
47 the seven-cents that we are discussing tonight, and then 90-days, 180-days down the road we see

1 something coming in from either Oak Lawn or the City of Chicago increasing that amount even
2 more.

3
4 Mrs. Saenz stated usually in January. We will see it in June or July, and then again in January.
5 Usually, it is the rate imposed by the City of Chicago pushed on through Oak Lawn.

6
7 Trustee Byrd stated that he has one thing that he wanted to read into the record. He will wait
8 until Communications & Petitions to do that.

9
10 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

11
12 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have any Resignations or Appointments
13 this evening.

14
15 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

16
17 Village President Meyers-Martin opened Communications & Petitions at 8:57 P.M.

18
19 **Thank you to Madam President and the Board** - Mrs. Helen Conrad stated that she resides at
20 6 Wysteria Drive in Olympia Fields. She stated from the bottom of her heart, she wanted to
21 thank Madam President for being our President for 15-years. She has lived in Olympia Fields for
22 19-years. She has enjoyed her house, as well as the community. She knows that is attributed to
23 the things that you have enacted and have done over the 15-years that you have been President,
24 as well as the Board.

25
26 Mrs. Conrad stated for those that are leaving the Board she wishes them farewell. She wishes
27 them the best in their future endeavors. She hopes that you continue to work, and live in the
28 community so that hopefully it will stay the same and become better. She stated for the incoming
29 people she wishes them the best. She supports them because she lives here and she wants the
30 community to be the best it can be always. (There was a round of applause).

31
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has only been Village President for six-years.
33 She was a Trustee for nine-years before that, thus 15. She thanked Mrs. Conrad for her
34 comments.

35
36 **Question from the Consent Agenda** - Mr. Pat Collier stated that he wanted to go back to the
37 earlier thing about paying Robinson Engineering for the work that they have done. He inquired
38 whether or not the Village gets reimbursed for this expenditure.

39
40 Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes, the Village gets reimbursed because that was
41 monies that came from a Grant as a result of the State and Cook County working together as
42 stakeholders in the Vollmer Road Project. That has been an issue in the Village for a very, very
43 long time. It was very exciting and encouraging that the County which is not always proactive,
44 and the State came together to see that there needed to be something done. They created this
45 \$1,000,000.00 Grant. That has increased to a \$1,300,000.00 Grant to do engineering to see what
46 needs to be done in order to resolve that issue once and for all. It is her understanding, the only
47 way to keep trucks from crashing into that bridge is to lower the road. You are never going to be

1 able to raise the bridge. That involves a lot of planning and a lot of engineering because there are
2 water mains, electric and gas lines. The Country Club is concerned about their golf course. There
3 are homes on Vollmer Road that would have to be addressed as well. There is a lot of
4 preparation work involved with that. Robinson has been taking the lead on that in terms of
5 gathering that information, so that there can be a determination about what the scope of the work
6 needs to be.

7
8 **Incident Report** - Trustee Byrd stated that he wanted to read something into the record. He
9 thought about this for 10-months now. He wanted to officially read this into the record so that it
10 will be part of the Village record. This is an "Incident Report: 16-02662." He will give a copy to
11 Faith. He stated to summarize it: "On 6-14-16, Mr. Sterling Burke, which it bothered me since
12 then, put his hands on me, threatening me how to vote No, on a cell phone tower. After the
13 Planning Commission Meeting, for the cell phone tower, Mr. Burke walked up to me and put his
14 hands on me. I was talking to Mike Lewis. He told me to vote No or I am gone. This has
15 bothered me because I don't appreciate that. To-date he has not even apologized for what he did.
16 I thought for 10-months about this. What should I do with this? I did not use it during election
17 time because I thought it was totally unfair. But, Mr. Burke, you were wrong. I am still waiting
18 for an apology. So, I want it to go officially on the record that Mr. Burke, I have filed an Incident
19 Report on him. I did not take him to Court. I did not have him arrested for touching me, for
20 threatening me. I will tell Mr. Burke that should not happen anymore. I will support this Village
21 always. I will not threaten you. I will not touch you. I will not threaten or touch any Trustee up
22 here. I do not expect for you to do that to me or anybody else up here again. This Report I will
23 file with our Reporter over here, Faith Stine. If you want a copy of this, you know how to FOIA
24 you can get it. It was filed on 6-15-16 the very next day. I think there is even a video where you
25 lost total control as you walked out of the building. Mr. Mike Lewis had to contain him. Now, I
26 don't know if he was going to hit me or what, but he had to be contained. Now, if you wish to
27 apologize now, I am willing to accept his apology. But I don't think you think you did anything
28 wrong." That is my comment, Madam President. I am very sorry that I had to have a negative
29 thing at the end of your last meeting. This is for Faith to put in the Report.

30
31 **Village President Meyers-Martin Farewell Address** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated,
32 "Let me take this opportunity to say as I have said many, many times, Coffee with the President,
33 Homeowners Association Meetings, Board Meetings, Town Hall Meetings, events: I have lived
34 in the Village of Olympia Fields for 26-years. I have thoroughly enjoyed it. I have seen many
35 Presidents, or a few, and Boards. I have seen the Village grow and progress. I have thoroughly
36 enjoyed my time as a Trustee because we had the great leadership of the Honorable Linzey
37 Jones. I have certainly served with some of the Board Members that are here: Trustee Gibson for
38 one and Trustee Pennington.

39
40 I have certainly enjoyed being a Trustee and enjoyed being Village President. It was a great
41 opportunity, and great residents. I have a couple of lines that I always say. One is that it always
42 felt like a family reunion every time that we had events, because everybody was good neighbors.
43 They were good friends. They were good citizens. Everybody genuinely cared about the Village.
44 I genuinely care about the Village. I want it to continue to thrive. I believe that there has been
45 much said, much implied. I just kind of chalk it up to the climate of the country where there is a
46 lot of dissatisfaction. There is a lot of unhappy people. There are a lot of people who feel that
47 there are things that are sort of unwarranted and maybe even unnecessary. But that being said, I

1 think that “we” as a Board have done great things. The staff great things. We have great,
2 dedicated staff. I see John McDonnell. I see Jim Landini. Of course, Police Chief, John Krull.
3 Director of Finance, Cindy Saenz. And certainly, David Mekarski our Administrator.

4
5 I have enjoyed all of the work. I have enjoyed the discussions. As I said at the Coffee with the
6 President, “I love that stuff. I love having that talk.” What I don’t like is being accused. What I
7 don’t like is people not having an open mind, or flexibility. But as Pastor Singleton always says,
8 “There’s more to like than to not like. You gain more if you work together than if you work in
9 opposites.” That has been my belief. I always treat everyone as an adult because I believe that is
10 the way that we function in our best light. With that, I thank you all. I thank the audience. I thank
11 the residents. I thank staff. It has been a great, great experience and one that I will never forget,
12 and all of the friendships, and all of the support, and all of the people that I have met along the
13 way have made it all worthwhile. With that, I thank you very much.” Village President Meyers-
14 Martin closed Communications & Petitions at 9:12 P.M.

15
16 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

17
18 **To Discuss Matters of Personnel No Need to Reconvene – Open Meetings Act Section**
19 **5ILCS120/2(c)(1) -**

20 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to go into Executive Session to**
21 **Discuss Matters of Personnel. There will be no need to Reconvene According to the Open**
22 **Meetings Act Section 5ILCS120/2(c)(1) at 9:12 P.M.**

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

24
25 **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

26
27 **Motion by Trustee Robinson, second by Trustee Pennington to go back into Open Session**
28 **at 10:00 P.M.**

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

30
31 **ADJOURNMENT:**

32
33 **Motion by Trustee Hudson second by Trustee Robinson to adjourn at 10:00 P.M.**

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

35
36 Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.