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**MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Held on April 27, 2015**

10 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, April 27th, 2015, at the
11 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Debra Meyers-
12 Martin at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Administrator
13 Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll.

14 Present: Trustees – Gibson, Nale, Oliver, Byrd, Hudson, and Waite
15 Village President Debra Meyers-Martin
16 Village Administrator/Village Clerk, David Mekarski

17 Absent: None.

18 Village President Meyers-Martin asked that everyone keep the City of Baltimore in their prayers.
19 They are experiencing extreme difficulty. People are being seriously hurt. The entire City is in an
20 uproar. She hopes that everyone will keep them in their prayers. She stated as a Municipality we
21 understand how devastating that can be to your police department, your citizens, and to your
22 Administration. Please keep them in your prayers.

23 **SWEARING-IN – The Honorable Linzey D. Jones**
24 **Village Trustee – Carolyn Gibson**
25 **Village Trustee – Willett Hudson**
26 **Village Trustee – Bill Pennington**

27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are honored to have the Honorable Linzey D.
28 Jones here today to perform our swearing-in duties. (There was a round of applause). The
29 Honorable Linzey D. Jones administered the oath of office to Trustee Carolyn Gibson as follows:
30 “I, Carolyn Gibson, having been elected to the position of Village Trustee, in the Village of
31 Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of
32 the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the Ordinances of the Village
33 of Olympia Fields, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Village Trustee
34 to the best of my ability.” The Honorable Linzey D. Jones congratulated Trustee Gibson. (There
35 was a round of applause).

36 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Trustee Hudson was elected to her first full term.
37 The Honorable Linzey D. Jones administered the oath of office to Trustee Willett Hudson as
38 follows: “I, Willett Hudson, having been elected to the position of Village Trustee, in the Village
39 of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution
40 of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the Ordinances of the
41 Village of Olympia Fields, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Village
42 Trustee to the best of my ability.” The Honorable Linzey D. Jones congratulated Trustee
43 Hudson. (There was a round of applause).

44 The Honorable Linzey D. Jones administered the oath of office to Trustee Willis Pennington as
45 follows: “I, Willis Pennington, Jr., having been elected to the position of Village Trustee, in the
46 Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook, do solemnly swear that I will support the
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1 Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the Ordinances
2 of the Village of Olympia Fields, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of
3 Village Trustee to the best of my ability.” The Honorable Linzey D. Jones congratulated Trustee
4 Pennington. (There was a round of applause).

5
6 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Gibson to suspend the rules.**

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

8
9 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are going to take a short fifteen-minute break in
10 order to have our small reception. She welcomed everyone to the reception. She stated that we
11 will return to our Agenda at 7:25 P.M.

12
13 Trustee Gibson stated that she is extremely proud and honored with the support received during
14 her candidacy for re-election to the Board. She takes pride in the responsibilities bestowed on her
15 by the President. She strives to serve all of the residents in this great Village. As she begins her
16 fourth term as a Trustee, she sincerely thanks you and asks for your continued prayers, support,
17 and constructive guidance. Please know that she is here to answer your questions. She is here to
18 hear your concerns. We can work together for the betterment of our beloved Olympia Fields.
19 Thank you very much. (There was a round of applause).

20
21 Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated Trustee Gibson, Trustee Hudson, and Trustee
22 Pennington. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that our newest member to the Board will
23 not actually take his seat until the first meeting in May. We altered our schedule because we
24 wanted the Honorable Linzey D. Jones to be here in order to do the swearing-in. We are very
25 happy that he was able to be here today.

26
27 Trustee Pennington stated that he is once again thrilled and happy to be elected to the position of
28 Trustee in and for the Village of Olympia Fields. He believes that we have some challenges
29 before us in this Village. Trustee Pennington stated that he is looking forward to working with
30 the Administration and his Board of Trustees in order to address those challenges. He wanted to
31 thank his wife, in particular, because she was his stalwart. She was his Campaign Manager, and
32 her unwavering support and suggestions got him through all of this. He thanked the residents of
33 the Village of Olympia Fields who supported him in the April 7th Election. He is deeply honored.
34 He stated that I assure you that I will be your advocate here on the dais in the Village of Olympia
35 Fields. Thank you. (There was a round of applause).

36
37 Trustee Hudson stated that we are all thankful that you voted for us. That’s why we are here
38 today. We are going to cut the cake and we are going to drink some juice and toast to the fact
39 that all the residents voted for all of us, and we are going to do our best to satisfy you in the
40 coming years. Thank you again. (There was a round of applause).

41
42 **(AT 7:10 P.M. THERE WAS A BRIEF RECESS FOR THE RECEPTION).**

43
44 **(AT 7:25 P.M. VILLAGE PRESIDENT MEYERS-MARTIN RECONVENED THE**
45 **BOARD MEETING).**

46
47 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Gibson to go back into Open Session.**

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

1 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2
3 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Gibson to suspend with the reading of the**
4 **Minute of March 23rd, 2015, the Special Board Meeting of April 13th, 2015, and the**
5 **Workshop Meeting of April 13th, 2015.**

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

7
8 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Byrd to approve the Minutes of March 23rd,**
9 **2015, and the Workshop of April 13th, 2015, and the Special Board Meeting of April 13th,**
10 **2015, as presented.**

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

12
13 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

14
15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you have before you tonight Bills for Approval in
16 the amount of \$153,024.57. There is a Cover Memo in the Board Packet designating the more
17 significant payouts.

18 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Gibson to approve the payment of Bills for**
19 **April 27th, 2015, in the total amount of \$153,024.57.**

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

21
22 Trustee Oliver inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin whether or not he could make a
23 small correction to the one set of Minutes from April 13th. Trustee Waite stated that it is too late.
24 Administrator Mekarski stated that we would have to rescind that Motion. Trustee Oliver stated
25 that is fine, no problem.

26
27 **PUBLIC HEARING:**

28
29 **Proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget** – Village President Meyers-Martin opened the Public
30 Hearing at 7:30 P.M. to approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget. She stated that at
31 this point you have the ability to come forward with any questions regarding the Budget. It has
32 been posted. This is your opportunity at the Public Hearing. Administrator Mekarski stated that it
33 is questions or comments. We do have some copies at the front table of the Budget Summaries if
34 anyone would like to see that. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are in our Public
35 Hearing. If anyone has any questions or concerns she asked that they come forward.

36
37 Mr. Lee Langon stated that he resides at 20111 Aegina Drive. Mr. Langon stated that as he
38 quickly peruses the Budget, it is evident that when you look at Sales Tax Revenue we are on a
39 decline. It has been flat and now we are declining. It tells him that we have a lot of work to do.
40 Also in this Budget, he sees expenses skyrocketing, salaries skyrocketing. He stated unless we
41 find alternative ways to generate revenue without increasing tax dollars we, citizens of Olympia
42 Fields, will be footing this bill with increased taxes. What we are doing right now it is not
43 sustainable, not with a 2.9 mile square Village and the expenses that we currently have. They are
44 just not sustainable. He encourages everyone to take a hard look. It is everyone's responsibility
45 to try to bring Economic Development into our Village. He congratulates the newly elected
46 Trustees. He trusts that you will be looking at open, effective, and efficient government. In light
47 of the State of Illinois having a Six Billion Dollar Budget shortfall they are cutting programs, and
48 monies are being disseminated through all the Municipalities. We are going to have to tighten

1 our belts. We are going to have to think outside the box. We are going to have to try to do
2 everything we can to keep our Village solvent. Those are his comments just off the top of his
3 head. We have work to do folks. He stated thanks.

4
5 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired whether or not anyone else would like to speak.
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is very happy that at the end of the day we ended
7 up with a Balanced Budget. She thanked the Trustees for all of the hard work that they put in for
8 all of our Budget Reviews. She thanked Cindy Saenz who has been quite instrumental in putting
9 this Budget together along with David Mekarski our Village Administrator, the Finance
10 Committee and Trustee Byrd. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that everyone did their fair
11 share in helping put together a Balanced Budget. It is becoming rarer in Villages because of the
12 skyrocketing expenses and the reduction in Sales Tax Revenue throughout the region. The South
13 Suburbs is a particular victim to those types of situations and scenarios. She thanked everyone
14 who participated in our Budget. She inquired again whether or not anyone wanted to come
15 forward with any comments regarding the 2015-2016 Budget.

16
17 Trustee Hudson stated that if anyone is interested in understanding how we do each year, we
18 have an extended Budget. Currently, we are looking at the 2020 and we go up further to 2030.
19 We are monitoring it constantly. It isn't that we are not looking at where we are going and how
20 we are going to get there. Village President Meyers-Martin closed the Public Hearing at 7:37
21 P.M.

22
23 **COMMUNICATIONS & PETITIONS:**

24
25 **Presentation of the 2015 Presidential Golf Outing Scholarships**
26 **Jaya Thomas, Rich Central High School**
27 **Joshua T. Woods, Marian Catholic High School**

28
29 Village President Meyers-Martin opened Communications & Petitions at 7:37 P.M. Village
30 President Meyers-Martin stated that we have a very exciting item on our Agenda tonight under
31 Communications & Petitions. She stated that is the presentation of the 2015 Presidential Golf
32 Outing Scholarships. This is our flagship first year of giving out Scholarships as a result of the
33 Golf Outing that is held every year. She is very, very pleased and proud. Village President
34 Meyers-Martin thanked the Educational Commission. The Scholarships were selected by the
35 Members of the Scholarship Committee of the Educational Commission. She stated special
36 thanks to Cheryl Rutherford, Ilene Waite, and Dr. Doris Langon for volunteering to review the
37 Applications. We are very happy and excited and look forward to future years of providing more
38 Scholarship Funds to our students who live in the Village of Olympia Fields.

39
40 Village President Meyers-Martin presented a Scholarship to Jaya Thomas. Jaya attends Rich
41 Central High School. She will be attending the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign,
42 where she will be majoring in Chemistry. She has been a Drum Major with the Rich Central
43 Band for three-years. She is the President of the local chapter of the National Society of Black
44 Engineers and the High School Chapter of the Business Professionals of America. She is a
45 Pharmacy Technician Intern at the local Walgreens. She is a volunteer at Franciscan St. James
46 Hospital. Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated Jaya Thomas and wished her good luck
47 in school. (There was a round of applause).

1 Village President Meyers-Martin presented a Scholarship to Joshua Woods. Joshua will be
2 attending Howard University in Washington, D.C. majoring in Accounting. He is the Captain of
3 the Marian Catholic Lacrosse Team. He is the first African-American to receive a varsity letter
4 for the Marian Catholic Golf Team. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she hopes that
5 he is going to volunteer at the Amateur Open. He is an active member and volunteer at Trinity
6 United Church of Christ Youth Ministry. Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated Joshua
7 Woods and wished him good luck in school. (There was a round of applause).

8
9 **President's Golf Outing** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Golf Outing will be
10 held on August 31st. The more people that participate, the more funds she has to distribute for
11 Scholarships as well as to the Homeowners Associations. She stated even if you just come for
12 dinner we will be happy to see you.

13
14 Mr. Lee Langon stated that he resides at 20111 Aegina Drive. Mr. Langon congratulated the
15 elected Trustees. He stated that he has a habit of collecting campaign literature. His request is
16 that you just honor what you said you would do. We all love our Village. We are all looking
17 forward to working together to move our Village forward. He is certainly available. He is sure
18 most of our residents are to assist you in whatever you may need assistance with in order to
19 improve our Village. He stated congratulations, and please stand on what you say. Thanks.
20 Village President Meyers-Martin closed Communications & Petitions at 7:42 P.M.

21
22 **ITEMS REFERRED FROM THE APRIL 13th WORKSHOP MEETING:**

23
24 **Authorization for the Village President to enter into a Consulting Agreement with Teska**
25 **Associates, Inc. for a Proposal to provide Professional Consultation to establish a Town**
26 **Center Tax Increment Financing District (TIF) not to Exceed \$20,500.00** – Administrator
27 Mekarski stated that the first item was discussed extensively at our April 13th Work Session. It is
28 regarding the Proposal from Teska Associates to establish a Tax Incremental Financing District
29 for the Town Center. The Town Center Plan is on the large board. It is the area bounded by
30 Kedzie Avenue to the west, and the railroad tracks, Canadian National, Metra, and the Country
31 Club to the east, to the north Vollmer Road, and to the south 203rd Street.

32
33 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Camiros Plan was done under a \$100,000.00 Grant from
34 The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning. It demonstrated to our Steering Committee,
35 Planning Commission, and Board of Trustees, that there is a potential of creating an
36 \$85,000,000.00 Tax incremental Financing District. The Board could setup an Incentive Program
37 and utilize not existing resources of the Village, but future Property Tax proceeds that are
38 associated with new development to subsidize that development. We are looking at developing a
39 Mixed-Use, Retail, Institutional Uses, public improvements around the pond, some realignment
40 of some of the road network, creation of some neighborhood parks, and other amenities, but also
41 bringing Retail at Kedzie Avenue and Vollmer Road, and Retail on the lower floor of Multi-
42 Family Condominiums, or market rate apartments in the Town Center itself. Those developments
43 could be incented and subsidized through their own future tax dollars without hurting our
44 General Fund.

45
46 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Proposal from Teska has been revised since the Work
47 Session. It is now \$17,500.00. That includes not only the analysis, but setting up the Joint
48 Review Board. This expense is a reimbursable expense. If development does occur in the Town

1 Center which we expect it to happen, this would be one of the first items that would be
2 reimbursed and the General Fund would be reimbursed for the full cost. He stated just as some of
3 the hard and soft costs that we incurred for the creation of the Lincoln/Western TIF by Wal-Mart
4 are going to be reimbursed in the first two-years of the Wal-Mart TIF Agreement. That is the
5 demolition of Harold Motors, the creation of the TIF, all of the legal work, Site Planning, and
6 engineering work that it took to bring the Wal-Mart Development. Administrator Mekarski
7 stated that Cindy has already included it in the Budget. That is why we are bringing this to your
8 attention prior to your vote on the Budget. We still have a Balanced Budget even with this
9 expenditure. Administrator Mekarski respectfully asked consideration of the Board to approve it,
10 and to allow the six-month process to begin. He stated that a number of developers are already
11 approaching the Village President and him about development options.

12 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Hudson to authorize the Village President to**
13 **enter into a Consulting Agreement with Teska Associates, Inc. for a Proposal to provide**
14 **Professional Consultation to establish a Town Center Tax Increment Financing District**
15 **(TIF) not to exceed \$17,500.00.**

16
17 Trustee Byrd inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin where she is reading that Motion
18 from. Administrator Mekarski stated that she is reading the Motion from the Revised Agenda.
19 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is dated April 27th. It is the one we just passed out.
20 Administrator Mekarski stated that it was revised today consistent with your Work Session. Mr.
21 Hoffman indicated that they would be utilizing the GIS System at SSMMA to reduce the costs. It
22 is on the last page of the Proposal dated April 27th. Administrator Mekarski stated Page 4 of 4,
23 “We propose not to exceed Budget of \$17,500.00 for the creation of the new TIF in the Town
24 Center area. This includes all services outlined above as well as normal reimbursable expenses. It
25 does not include the cost of obtaining a legal description, or the cost of newspaper publication
26 for Notices or mailing costs for the Public Meeting or Public Hearing.” It is typically a four to
27 six-month process.

28
29 Trustee Byrd inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not we are entering into just
30 consultation with Teska on this. Administrator Mekarski stated no. Teska would be doing all the
31 staff work for the creation of the TIF, assisting in the creation of the Joint Review Board, doing
32 the planning analysis that is required by State Statute, doing all the filings that is required with
33 the Cook County Recorder of Deeds, working with our legal office in putting the Legal Notices
34 out, and coordinating the Public Hearings. It is a four to six-month process to create the TIF. The
35 TIF does not have to be implemented. Just as we created the TIF for Lincoln and Western, we
36 are now entertaining proposals on the Jewel/Osco portion. Some developers would like to use the
37 TIF subsidy, and others who would like us to use the Cook County Class “8” Subsidy.

38
39 Trustee Byrd stated but we are spending \$17,500.00. Administrator Mekarski stated \$17,500.00
40 for all the work associated with creating the TIF. Trustee Byrd stated what if we don’t implement
41 the TIF; the \$17,500.00 is just spent correct. Administrator Mekarski stated that is correct. If any
42 development occurs in any of the Town Center area, a TIF Agreement would be passed with that
43 developer and the funds would be encumbered. This would be the first expenditure reimbursed.

44
45 Trustee Byrd stated that his concern is what it was the last time. Teska talked about options, but
46 he hasn’t seen any options. He is not against TIF’s. He thinks the TIF would be a great idea. It
47 could work well for us there. He would like to see other options besides just an option on the TIF
48 again.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that there are basically two sets of options for inducing Economic
2 Development that is open for Non-Home Rule Communities. He stated that would be
3 establishing Tax Incremental Financing using future Property Tax proceeds that are associated
4 with that particular development that we have before you today, and/or participating with Cook
5 County in a range of Property Tax reductions under a Class 8 and a Class 7 and Class 6A and B.
6 Those go through a Mathematical Formula on the assessed evaluation of the property. They
7 pretty much bring down Commercial Assessment Classification to a Residential Classification. It
8 is cutting the Property Tax in half. It is allowed for 11-years. There is a 10-year opportunity to
9 expand it.

10
11 Administrator Mekarski stated that the TIF allows the Capital Expenditures like infrastructure,
12 land acquisition, demolition, and land clearing to be reimbursed upfront. The series of incentives
13 by Cook County really reduce operating costs over time on an annual basis.

14
15 Trustee Byrd stated that he thinks that is good. He stated that you are giving me one item to look
16 at. He is concerned, due to the fact, if there are other options out there he would like to know the
17 advantages of those other options, and the disadvantages of those other options compared to the
18 option that is given to him. He is only given one thing to make a decision on. He would like to
19 know how an Enterprise Zone would affect that. He stated that if we don't put a TIF there, what
20 is the possibility that it might be developed without a TIF. He doesn't know that because those
21 items were not put before him to make a sound decision. He is just making a decision on the TIF.
22 He is asking for the other options so that he can see them to make a sound decision.

23
24 Administrator Mekarski stated that we have included this area into our request to the State
25 Legislature to setup an Enterprise Zone. In Enterprise Zones, the biggest advantage would be a
26 waiver of all Sales Tax, State and Local Sales Tax associated with building materials associated
27 with construction of new development. He stated that somebody putting in whether it be a
28 shopping center, institutional use, or a residential complex, all the lumber they would buy, the
29 concrete, the lighting, the drywall, the Sales Tax would be saved. It is a small incentive versus
30 the TIF.

31
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she believes that Trustee Byrd is saying that that
33 would be information he would prefer to have in-hand, as opposed to just bringing it to the table
34 in a discussion now. Trustee Byrd stated definitely. He doesn't know how many people here
35 know about Enterprise Zones. He doesn't know how many people here know how Enterprise
36 Zones work. Trustee Byrd stated that he has some knowledge of them. He doesn't know how
37 many people here would know if you don't put a TIF or use an Enterprise Zone there, how it is
38 going to affect that Town Center section there. He would rather have something in front of him
39 so he can make a decision about which way to go.

40
41 Administrator Mekarski stated that if he wanted to table the request he would be happy to work
42 with Mike Hoffman to lay out a short white paper. Trustee Byrd stated that is what he asked for
43 the last time, that he be given something to make a decision.

44 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Oliver to table this to the next meeting to allow**
45 **time for some comparative strategies for this Town Center District.**

46
47 Trustee Waite inquired are we tabling this because somebody hasn't given us all the parameters
48 of what could be done. He stated that he agrees with Trustee Byrd that he would like to know

1 more about how they arrived at this one thing that they are presenting. He inquired do you want
2 everything to be brought before us like that, or do you like things brought before us sometimes
3 where the Committee says we have gone through all of these exercises, and this is the best that
4 we have come up with for moving forward.

5
6 Trustee Nale stated that we haven't done that yet. We haven't had a choice of anything. Trustee
7 Waite stated that if you are not on the Committee that works through all the choices and comes
8 to one choice, and the one choice that they think is the best, are you saying you don't trust your
9 Committee to do that, or we should try to second guess whatever the Committee has done.
10 Trustee Nale stated that she doesn't think it is a matter of trust. She would like to see what else
11 we have offered to us.

12
13 Administrator Mekarski stated that the implementation of the Town Center, we spent a good
14 amount of time in the Town Center Report. He stated that Page 43 of the Town Center Report
15 goes to a discussion all the way down to Page 60. It is in the back of the Board Packet. There is a
16 Cover Memo saying "Village President/Board of Trustees from John McDonnell, April 23rd to
17 approve an Amendment to the Village's Comprehensive Plan Adopting the Final Draft of the
18 Town Center Plan." The recommendation for establishing a TIF was discussed extensively
19 through the two-year period of creating the Town Center. This document did lay out various
20 options for development and development incentives. It was recommended that the best initiative
21 was the creation of the TIF. He stated to keep in mind the establishment of the TIF does not
22 mean that this body is forced to use it. It opens the door for you to utilize it. You can choose not
23 to utilize it and take on other incentives such as the incentive offered by the Enterprise Zone,
24 and/or by Cook County the suite of incentives.

25
26 Administrator Mekarski is sure that we have ample time to table it for one meeting. His only
27 concern is in the later part of the Agenda we have State Legislation that has just been proposed
28 under a Senate Bill. If passed by the Senate and the House, it would change the whole TIF
29 Process requiring that if this Municipality wants to setup a TIF, it has to get a sign-off from
30 every governing authority that it shares a jurisdictional school boundary with. In our case we
31 would have to get it from every Mayor that we share a jurisdictional boundary with for Rich
32 Township, Bloom Township, and Homewood-Flossmoor. There is a massive push by the
33 Mayors, and the Mayors and Managers, IML, and the TIF Association to oppose that Bill.

34
35 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is going to Springfield to lobby against the Bill
36 this week.

37
38 Administrator Mekarski stated that it is his hope that in two or three-weeks, the Bill doesn't go
39 through the assembly that fast. If it would, it would radically take away the autonomy of Non-
40 Home Rule Communities from creating TIF Districts in the future.

41
42 Village President Meyers-Martin stated just generally speaking, from all of the Municipalities
43 who have TIF's in place, those tend to be the most attractive to developers, the most attractive to
44 retailers as a financial strategy in order to create Economic Development. Certainly not the only
45 one, but for the Class 8, the 7A, the 7B, with Cook County basically lowering Property Taxes,
46 but not creating the type of incentive that retailers are looking for and developers are looking for,
47 it tends to be the most successful strategy that we have seen in the region, which is why everyone
48 tries to employ them more so now since the recession.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that under a lot of the Cook County Incentives you have to
2 demonstrate either vacancy of an existing building for 12 to 24-months, and you have to show
3 some derelict conditions in the market. We don't have any derelict conditions whatsoever in the
4 Town Center area. We can outline that and the Enterprise Strategy, and the TIF Strategy. We
5 spent a considerable amount of time on developing the Town Center Report with the Steering
6 Committee, over two-years. We have a recommendation from the Planning Commission to adopt
7 that Policy. It includes implementation strategies which includes the recommendation of creating
8 the TIF.

9

10 Trustee Waite inquired who is going to do that. He thought that a lot of that work was already
11 done. Administrator Mekarski stated that he would work with Mr. Hoffman in completing that.
12 A lot of that is in this Report. Other materials like the Class 8; the County has published a quick
13 summary. It is a four-page brochure. We use it when we go to Las Vegas. It summarizes all those
14 plans. The Enterprise Program we have has good documentation from the Mayors Caucus
15 because we just recently submitted an Application to the State Legislature for the Enterprise
16 Zone.

17

18 Trustee Waite stated that he doesn't believe that we ought to go through an 80-page document to
19 see whether or not there is anything there that we ought to reconsider. We already considered all
20 of the stuff that is there.

21

22 Trustee Byrd stated that he doesn't think that we are asking Administrator Mekarski to go
23 through an 80-page document. Trustee Byrd is just asking for the different options that were told
24 to him at the last meeting which he has not seen.

25

26 Trustee Waite inquired whether or not the options are in that document. Administrator Mekarski
27 stated not all of the options. It doesn't elaborate on the Class 8 and the Enterprise Zone. We can
28 outline those. Those options are still available even if the TIF Process is created. The TIF
29 Process keeps another option on the table that currently we enjoy, and currently the State
30 Legislature is considering taking away that option from Non-Home Rule Communities.

31

32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that if you vote to implement this TIF strategy, it doesn't
33 mean that you are required to use it. It just means that you have it at your disposal.

34

35 Trustee Byrd stated and you spent \$17,500.00. Trustee Waite inquired why we would want to
36 delay approving that TIF thing for two-weeks, if nobody is going to work on bringing together
37 other alternatives.

38

39 Administrator Mekarski stated that we will do that. Trustee Nale stated that she is satisfied with
40 that answer. She believes that the Committee has satisfactorily done its due diligence as far as
41 developing the TIF Program for what we want to use it for.

42

43 Trustee Waite suggested why don't we withdraw the Motion that is on the table. Trustee Byrd
44 stated that he is not going to withdraw the Motion. Trustee Hudson stated that you can vote on it.
45 Trustee Oliver stated just vote up or down.

46

Roll Call: (Trustee Byrd voted Yes.) No (5) Motion Failed.

47

1 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Gibson to authorize the Village President to**
2 **enter into a Consulting Agreement with Teska Associates, Inc. for a Proposal to provide**
3 **Professional Consultation to establish a Town Center Tax Increment Financing District**
4 **(TIF) not to exceed \$17,500.00.**

5 **Roll Call: Ayes (5) (Trustee Byrd voted Present) Motion Carried.**

6
7 **Motion to Authorize the Finance Department to establish a New Minimum Billing**
8 **Requirement for Sewer Usage from 9,000 Gallons to 2,000 Gallons consistent with the**
9 **Minimum Billing Requirement for Water Usage** – Administrator Mekarski stated that we had
10 considerable discussion on this at the April 13th Work Session. It was an opportunity to help our
11 seniors in our Village and some of our homes that are owned and occupied by a single
12 individual, sometimes some of our residents are snowbirds and use very little water and sewer
13 consumption. Our current minimum billing for the Water System is 2,000 gallons. The minimum
14 billing for sewer is 9,000 gallons. At the Work Session it was suggested that we create equity
15 and provide acceptance of Scenario Number 1, which is moving the minimum billing for sewer
16 from 9,000 gallons to 2,000 gallons and making it consistent with the water consumption. That
17 would mean a reduction in revenue in our Sewer Budget by \$23,000.00. Even with that reduction
18 in revenue of \$23,000.00 we still have a positive surplus in the Sewer Budget.

19
20 Administrator Mekarski stated that we passed out on the dais copies of the Financial Analysis
21 that Don Theobald & Associates and Cynthia Saenz put together. Scenario 1 has reductions in
22 revenues by \$23,000.00. Scenario 5 is \$5,000.00. If you do nothing, we create revenue of
23 \$29,000.00. This effort is for equity and for helping our seniors and our minimum users in the
24 community.

25
26 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that during our Budget discussions and at our last Board
27 Meeting we did talk about bringing more parity and equity to this formula. Nobody understood
28 why it was so out of balance in terms of equity. Scenario 1 was the recommended one because it
29 did bring total equity to the minimum user.

30 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Gibson to authorize the Finance Department**
31 **to establish a New Minimum Billing Requirement for Sewer Usage from 9,000 Gallons to**
32 **2,000 Gallons consistent with the Minimum Billing Requirement for Water Usage.**

33
34 Trustee Oliver stated that he likes this idea of parity and trying to find a way of helping our
35 seniors with the reduction of some of their sewer rates. He stated that he would ask the body to
36 also consider something else. He doesn't have enough information to actually provide the Board
37 with what that cost might be. He stated that if you are talking about parity among our seniors
38 which makes up about 35% of our residents, what would it be to provide that same sort of parity
39 for all of our residents during the summer months of May through September only. He stated you
40 reduce the rate by 50% or even 25% across the board, making it parity for everyone just during
41 the summer months.

42
43 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she understands what Trustee Oliver is saying but
44 that is not exactly what we are doing here. Trustee Oliver stated that he understands. He stated
45 that because of this it sort of opens the question about parity for our residents as a whole, rather
46 than just our snowbirds and our seniors. If the cost is not astronomically more than this
47 \$23,000.00, and we can save all of our residents some money, he thinks that would be a good
48 thing for the Village.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that is one of the things we could model in our 2030 Analysis. He
2 stated that in doing a quick analysis in his mind, if you are going to reduce rates at the peak
3 period of usage for three-months of the year for everyone, you would probably drive both funds
4 into a real serious deficit position. It would be a pretty severe drop. We can run that analysis.
5 There are probably some options to look at what Trustee Oliver would like to see.

6
7 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Oliver whether or not he was just speaking
8 to the Sewer Fund. Trustee Oliver stated just the Sewer Fund. He stated that right now there is a
9 surplus this year projected at \$176,000.00. He stated that if we are only talking about the cost of
10 35% of our residents it would be something like \$23,000.00. That would be great for our seniors.
11 He stated at least look at what it would cost for the summer months. The sewer is theoretically
12 designed to pay for the costs of our sewer repairs.

13
14 Administrator Mekarski stated for the transmission of sewage or the repairs, but also for the
15 maintenance of our 13 Lift Stations that pump the sewage to the MWRD System. He stated the
16 Sewer Fund; we are imposed strict regulations by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
17 and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District to repair the sewers to get the rainwater or what
18 they call “infiltration” or “in-flow” out of the water lines. Out of our entire infrastructure, it is the
19 Sewer System that we face the biggest pressure, some \$15,000,000.00 of work. In Graymoor
20 right now we are doing \$1,600,000.00 of work. He stated that \$500,000.00 is being subsidized
21 by the Army Corps of Engineers. He stated \$1,600,000.00 just to fix the laterals in 140 homes.
22 He agrees that for the annual basis we have the surplus. As soon as we finish Graymoor, we are
23 probably going to Mr. Martin’s area which is the next major area to do the same work that we
24 have done in Graymoor. We will try to setup a situation so the homeowners don’t have to pay for
25 the lateral work. We are going to try to drive it by the Village Sewer Rates.

26
27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that if we have the numbers analyzed by Don Theobald
28 you would be able to make an informed decision. You would actually see how that would
29 probably drive the fund into a huge deficit. That being said, it is a very civic-minded
30 recommendation.

31
32 Trustee Waite stated that you are saying that the projected minimum sewer usage revenue is
33 almost \$30,000.00. That is based on a 9,000 gallon minimum. Administrator Mekarski stated that
34 is correct. Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski the \$29,000.00 how many gallons
35 does that represent. Administrator Mekarski stated that he doesn’t know if he has that
36 information on this spreadsheet. Trustee Waite stated then swag it in. He stated that if it is 9,000
37 gallons there is something wrong with the numbers. Trustee Waite stated that he is trying to
38 figure out how many homes are involved in this. Trustee Byrd stated 66. Administrator Mekarski
39 stated that there are a total of 79 bills. There are 13 Commercial Accounts and 66 Residential
40 Accounts. Administrator Mekarski stated that Theobald & Associates and Cynthia Saenz put the
41 gallons. The minimum charge equates to 8,993 gallons.

42
43 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that when we had this during our Budget discussion, it is
44 already a part of the Budget. It doesn’t affect it if you vote for Scenario 1 because we included
45 that in our Budget.

46

1 Trustee Waite stated let's table this and study it more because there has got to be a better
2 alternative than having a 9,000 minimum that only affects 79 residences. Trustee Oliver stated 66
3 residences and 13 Commercial.

4
5 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are voting to change it to 2,000. Trustee Waite
6 inquired what the impact is on the revenue. Administrator Mekarski stated a \$23,000.00
7 reduction in revenue. Trustee Waite stated let's go with Scenario 1.

8 **Roll Call: Ayes (5) (Trustee Oliver voted No). Motion Carried.**

9
10 **FINANCE:**

11
12 **Ordinance #2015-10- An Ordinance Approving the Annual Budget of the Village of**
13 **Olympia Fields for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year. (First and Second Reading)** – Trustee Byrd
14 stated that he wanted to thank Village President Meyers-Martin, the Trustees, and the
15 Department Heads for the wonderful job that they are doing balancing this Budget for the year.
16 He knows about the financial challenges that we have had the last few years, and the financial
17 challenges that we had this year. It was a great pleasure to have the Department Heads go back
18 and cut 4% of their Budget in order to get a Balanced Budget for the year. We came out with a
19 small surplus. He stated that he thanks you for that. Trustee Byrd thanked the members of the
20 Finance Committee consisting of: Albert Riley, Ngozi Okorafor, Greg Foster, Louis Lee, and Dr.
21 Ernie Gibson. He stated that it was a pleasure to work with them during this Budget time.

22
23 Trustee Byrd stated that before the Board is the Budget that we all sat down and talked about and
24 agreed upon.

25 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Hudson to waive First Reading and approve in**
26 **Second Reading Ordinance #2015-10 – An Ordinance Approving the Annual Budget of the**
27 **Village of Olympia Fields for the 2015-2016 Fiscal Year.**

28
29 Trustee Oliver stated to please understand that it is with heartfelt concern that he has the position
30 of the current status that he has, as we move forward with the Budget in the next year, he would
31 hope that the Board would consider strongly benchmarks, or evaluations of sorts for our
32 employees, particularly at our executive level. We have historically pretty much just passed
33 Budgets based on whatever percentage that we want to provide for our employees. That is fine.
34 He has been on the Board for 12-years. He has yet to see an evaluation of any of our executive
35 level staff. He stated that if the executive level staff doesn't have evaluations he wonders about
36 those underneath them. Trustee Oliver stated that if we set benchmarks for whoever it is, that
37 should give us a little bit more of an idea about whether that person receives whatever percentage
38 that we do across the board or some increment of, so that as a Village, he believes most people
39 would feel comfortable knowing that our staff is doing the job that we have charged them to do.
40 There won't be a whole lot of guessing as to why are some people getting paid \$100,000.00. If
41 there are benchmarks that say this is what this person will be doing, and they have met that, that
42 should more than answer the questions and the concerns of our residents. He just asked that the
43 Board consider that at the next Budget.

44 **Roll Call: Ayes (5) (Trustee Oliver voted No). Motion Carried.**

45
46 Trustee Byrd stated that he wanted to thank the Financial Director, Cynthia Saenz, because
47 without her we really would have had a tough time of getting this thing together. She is really
48 excellent.

1 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that everything that you ask of Cindy she provides that
2 and more. Administrator Mekarski stated hear, hear. Trustee Byrd stated that if he needs
3 something she is always there. Village President Meyers-Martin stated absolutely. Administrator
4 Mekarski stated one of the best.

5
6 **February and March 2015 Financial Statements** – Trustee Byrd stated that he has reports for
7 February and March. Trustee Byrd stated that he will go through the February Report first. He
8 stated that in the Revenue side of the General Fund the Village budgeted \$762,593.00. The actual
9 Revenue received was \$639,835.00. In the Water Fund the Village budgeted to receive
10 \$186,616.00. The Village actually received \$138,566.00. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted
11 to receive \$116,687.00. The actual amount received was \$96,871.00. Our Revenue for this
12 month was slightly under what we had budgeted for the year.

13
14 Trustee Byrd stated that on the Expense side he is very proud of the Departments keeping their
15 Expenses down. In February the Village budgeted \$606,600.00 in Expenses in the General Fund.
16 The actual Expense was \$561,604.00 in the General Fund. In the Water Fund the Village
17 budgeted \$130,947.00 in Expenses. The actual Expenses were \$131,654.00. In the Sewer Fund
18 the Village budgeted \$48,435.00. The actual Expenses were \$105,952.00.

19
20 Trustee Byrd stated that on the “Current Month Surplus/Deficit,” there was a deficit in all three
21 funds compared to the Budget for that month. The General Fund the Village had budgeted
22 \$155,993.00. The actual was \$78,231.00. In the Water Fund the Village budgeted a surplus of
23 \$55,669.00. The actual surplus was \$6,912.00. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted
24 \$68,253.00. The Village had an actual deficit of \$9,082.00 for that month.

25
26 Trustee Byrd stated that on the “Year to Date Surplus/Deficit,” it is progressing in a positive way
27 and looking good. We should make our Budget for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year. In the General
28 Fund the Village budgeted as of February to have \$518,128.00 in a deficit. The Village actually
29 has \$263,985.00 in a deficit. In the Water Fund the Village budgeted \$61,828.00 surplus. The
30 actual surplus is \$16,782.00. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted a deficit of \$130,775.00.
31 The actual deficit is \$198,870.00. The General Fund is looking strong compared to our Budget
32 for the year. The Detailed Report is there if anyone has any questions. If there are any questions,
33 please feel free to ask.

34
35 **Treasurer’s Report of Cash Balances (February 2015)** – Trustee Byrd stated that you have the
36 Treasurer’s Report. The Village has \$6,165,558.60 in the accounts as of February 2015.

37
38 **March 2015 Financial Statements** – Trustee Byrd stated that in all three funds the Revenue was
39 slightly less than what the Village had budgeted for for the month of March. The Village
40 budgeted \$931,339.00 in Revenue in the General Fund. The actual Revenue was \$863,338.00. In
41 the Water Fund the Village budgeted \$210,616.00. The actual Revenue was \$136,190.00. In the
42 Sewer Fund the Village budgeted \$124,687.00. The actual Revenue was \$106,792.00.

43
44 Trustee Byrd stated that on the Expense side, the Department Heads are constantly keeping their
45 Expenses down. That is really helping the Budget out for the year. The Revenue hasn’t always
46 been there but the Expenses have always been kept to a minimum. On the Expense side in the
47 General Fund the Village budgeted to have \$648,499.00 in Expenses for the month of March.
48 The Village spent \$637,095.00. In the Water Fund the Village budgeted \$129,065.00. The actual

1 expenditure was \$101,761.00. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted \$89,978.00. The actual
2 expenditure was \$74,478.00.

3
4 Trustee Byrd stated that in the “Current Month Surplus/Deficit,” there was less than what the
5 Village budgeted for due to the fact the Revenue was down. In the General Fund the Village
6 budgeted \$282,841.00. The actual surplus was \$226,243.00. In the Water Fund the Village
7 budgeted \$81,551.00. The actual was \$34,429.00. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted
8 \$34,710.00. The actual was \$32,315.00.

9
10 Trustee Byrd stated that in the “Year to Date Surplus/Deficit,” in the month of March we are in
11 the eleventh month of the Fiscal Year. In the General Fund the Village budgeted to have a
12 \$235,288.00 deficit. The actual deficit is \$37,742.00. That is almost \$200,000.00 that we are in
13 the black compared to our Budget for the year which is good. In the Water Fund the Village
14 budgeted a surplus of \$143,379.00. The actual surplus was \$51,211.00. We are about \$90,000.00
15 under our current Budget for that account. In the Sewer Fund the Village budgeted a deficit of
16 \$96,066.00. The actual deficit was \$166,555.00. The General Fund is strong and continues to be
17 strong for the year. Trustee Byrd stated that the Board has the Detailed Report. If there are any
18 questions please let him know. Trustee Byrd thanked the Police Department for keeping their
19 Budget down to a real good minimum. Trustee Byrd thanked Chief Krull. Trustee Byrd stated
20 and also Public Works. It is good to be able to have a good Balanced Budget and keep the
21 Budget down, and keep the services going.

22
23 **Computer Services Agreement between the Village of Olympia Fields and Spectrum**

24 **Computer Services** – Trustee Byrd stated that you should have a Memorandum for a Motion to
25 accept the Computer Services Maintenance Contract with Spectrum Computer Services for the
26 Village for 2016, 2017, and 2018. That is dealing with hardware and software maintenance.

27 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Oliver to approve the attached 3 year**
28 **Computer Services Maintenance Contract.**

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

30
31 **BUILDING:**

32
33 **Beautification Committee – Arbor Day Update** – Trustee Hudson stated that Arbor Day is the
34 day that we as the Beautification Committee and anyone else that wants to join us plants trees.
35 Trustee Hudson stated that she wanted to read the Proclamation that Village President Meyers-
36 Martin presented when we went out to plant the trees.

37
38 **“WHEREAS**, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture, that a
39 special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

40
41 **WHEREAS**, this holiday called “Arbor Day,” was first observed with the planting of more than
42 a million trees in Nebraska and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world;
43 and

44 **WHEREAS**, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating
45 and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat
46 for wildlife; and

1 **WHEREAS**, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our
2 fires and countless other wood products, and trees in our Village increase property values, and
3 enhance the economic vitality of business areas; and beautify our community; and
4

5 **WHEREAS**, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.
6

7 **WHEREAS**, the Village of Olympia Fields and the Beautification Committee hereby extends to
8 Olympia Fields, two trees, a Red Bud and a Pagoda Dogwood, to be planted today on the Village
9 Parkway at 207th Street and Tenuta Court in celebration of Arbor Day.
10

11 **NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Debbie Meyers-Martin, President of the Village of Olympia Fields,
12 County of Cook, State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015, as Arbor Day in the
13 Village of Olympia Fields, and urge all citizens to support efforts to protect our trees and
14 woodlands and to support our Village’s Urban Forestry Program.” This was signed by Debbie
15 Meyers-Martin on April 24th, 2015.
16

17 Trustee Hudson stated that as you go through the Village you may see some signs on other trees.
18 Those signs will tell you what any trees will do. You will see the same information tagged to
19 some trees. They do 10 to 15-trees each year.
20

21 **PLANNING:**
22

23 **To Approve an Amendment to the Village’s Comprehensive Plan (Town Center Plan),**
24 **Adopting the Final Draft of the Town Center Plan, dated July 2014, as a “Special Area**
25 **Plan” to the Village’s Adopted Comprehensive Land Use Plan –** Trustee Oliver stated that
26 you have before you the Final Draft of the Town Center Plan as of July 2014. The Planning and
27 Zoning Commission held numerous meetings, of which many of you attended as well. We now
28 present to you this Final Plan and Amendment for your approval. Mr. McDonnell provided a
29 Cover Memo dated April 23rd. There are some Amendments to the Village’s Comprehensive
30 Plan. Trustee Oliver stated that he wanted to highlight the points in the Appendix. 1. “ Ensuring
31 the quality of all new development, both public and private, within the Town Center is critical.
32 This includes architecture that fits the character of Olympia Fields, and landscape improvements
33 that both beautify the area and enhance the environmental quality of the community. Guidelines
34 should be created to direct these improvements, most likely created as a part of zoning ordinance
35 revisions that would create new regulations to assist in implementation of the Town Center
36 vision. Such guidelines should also encourage the incorporation of energy efficiency and new
37 technology into building and site design. 2. The Commission supports the provision of a variety
38 of housing types within the Town Center to both diversify the Village’s housing mix and provide
39 desirable housing for a variety of different ages and lifestyles. Some affordable housing may also
40 be appropriate within the Town Center. A particular desire to attract younger residents was noted
41 by the Commission. 3. Once some development occurs, the Village should consider installing a
42 sign to outline plans for the remainder of the property within the Town Center. 4. The park
43 proposed at the intersection of Kedzie and 203rd Street should have some specific component that
44 provides a draw to the area, like ice skating, a fountain, music, or some other unusual feature. 5.
45 The Village should work closely with Metra and the Olympia Fields Country Club to enhance or
46 replace the existing station to make the facility ADA compliant and to improve the overall look
47 and appearance of this highly used facility.”

1 **Motion by Trustee Byrd, second by Trustee Nale to approve an Amendment to the**
2 **Village’s Comprehensive Plan (Town Center Plan), adopting the Final Draft of the Town**
3 **Center Plan, dated July 2014, and its Appendix and Acknowledgements, as prepared by**
4 **Camiros, The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, for adoption of the Plan as a**
5 **“Special Area Plan” to the Village’s Adopted Comprehensive Land Use Plan.**

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

7
8 **PUBLIC WORKS:**
9

10 **Bid Award Recommendation for the 2015 Landscape Maintenance at the 203rd Street**
11 **Metra Parking Lot/Detention Basin and Cumberland Court; and Authorization for the**
12 **Village President to Execute an Agreement with Top Gunn Landscape –** Trustee Waite
13 stated that we have a Bid for the landscape maintenance at the 203rd Street Metra Parking
14 Lot/Detention Basin and Cumberland Court; and authorization for the Village President to
15 execute an Agreement with Top Gunn Landscape who is the lowest and best bidder. The people
16 who Bid it last year, GT&L were Number 2 on the list. They were about \$800.00 more than Top
17 Gunn who was about \$6,800.00. GT&L were \$7,500.00. We are recommending that we go with
18 Top Gunn.

19 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Gibson to accept the Bid Award**
20 **Recommendation as prepared by Jim Landini, Public Works Director for the 2015**
21 **Landscape Maintenance at the 203rd Metra Parking Lot/Detention Basin and Cumberland**
22 **Court to Top Gunn Landscape in the amount of \$6,797.00, which represents the lowest and**
23 **best Bid, meeting all specifications as required under this Project; and further authorize**
24 **the Village President to execute a Contractual Agreement with Top Gunn Landscape**
25 **meeting the Village’s Contractual and Insurance Requirements.**

26
27 Trustee Waite stated that the lowest Bid was Top Gunn. The highest Bid was \$14,840.00, twice
28 as much. You can see why putting stuff out for Bid makes a lot of sense as opposed to having no
29 Bid.

30
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has had that discussion with Jim Landini that
32 going forward all of those projects will go to Bid instead of having the no Bid.

33
34 Trustee Byrd inquired of Trustee Waite what happened with GT&L last year. He inquired
35 whether or not Trustee Waite and Mr. Landini were satisfied with GT&L.

36
37 Trustee Waite stated that there were some minor things that they hadn’t considered. They were
38 new people trying to get a leg up on some local business. They didn’t do such a bad job to have
39 themselves excluded. They also didn’t meet the requirement of having a low Bid.

40
41 Trustee Byrd stated that his reason for asking that is due to the fact that just because you get a
42 low Bid, it doesn’t mean it is the best Bid. The best Bid is based on the quality of the work that
43 you get from the people that are bidding. He is aware that Jim will be going out for Bids all the
44 time. You have to do your due diligence and make sure you are getting the best contractor for the
45 job, even though the Bid might be \$500.00 higher or \$600.00 higher than the person that you are
46 awarding the Bid to. He knows that you guys are doing your due diligence. They should not be
47 put in place just because the Bid is the lowest Bid.

1 Trustee Waite stated that we don't send out letters to people that mess up. If you got the Bid last
2 year and it was a lousy job that you did, you might not be invited back.

3
4 Administrator Mekarski stated that he can speak a little bit about the performance of last year's
5 contract. He is sure that the Village President can as well as the Beautification Committee. He
6 stated for grass cutting, GT&L did an excellent job. He stated that towards the end of the season
7 the landscape beds really got unmanaged. There was an excessive amount of weeds choking off a
8 lot of our vegetation, bushes weren't trimmed, which prompted the Beautification Committee to
9 work this year on restructuring and redoing all the Bids. Administrator Mekarski had asked Mr.
10 Landini to go into the Bid Specs and make sure this year's Bid Specs really strengthen the
11 requirement to not only do the grass cutting but to annually maintain those beds.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she had a conversation with Trustee Hudson because
14 up until this point as part of our RFP's we never asked for qualifications in terms of your
15 knowledge or expertise in planting. What is a sturdy plant? What is not? There are all types of
16 aspects to the contract at this point that we will now be requiring as part of the Bidding Process.

17
18 Trustee Byrd stated which is good. He assumes that GT&L was the lowest Bid last year. That is
19 why he asked what went on with them.

20
21 Trustee Waite stated that we knew that they did somewhat less than a quality job, but they were
22 new. We were trying to work with them and help them along in their business. They were local.
23 There were other reasons that they got the Bid last year. Plus there were reasons last year that
24 they didn't get the Bid this year. We are well aware of a lot of those things. Last year was a
25 difficult year in terms of horticulture. You had to have water in order to keep things growing
26 properly. You had to have a way to get it there. Trustee Waite stated that he didn't think that they
27 were bad people that we ought to exclude them from bidding in the future. They need to improve
28 some of the things that they are doing and we would talk with them about that before they
29 submitted a Bid.

30
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that your point is well-taken that the lowest Bid is not
32 always the best Bid. We know that. We will now be looking at more qualifications as well as part
33 of that Bidding Process.

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

35
36 Trustee Waite stated that he has been trying to pull the ComEd Invoices on the lighting over in
37 that area. He was talking to Jim Landini. Mr. Landini was pulling some of the invoices and
38 looking at some of the lights. We have only had to replace one of the lights. That was because
39 the contractor didn't put it in right. The bulb wasn't screwed all the way in. He had to come back
40 with a Boom Truck and screw it in tight. We uncovered that we were billing that whole parking
41 lot to one of the resident's that lived on 207th Street. They were kind of happy with that
42 discovery.

43
44 Trustee Waite stated that we are looking at these light bulbs. They do save us as much as we
45 think. When we get all of the invoices and the bills together, it looks like it is definitely going to
46 be in the ballpark area.

47

1 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Waite how quickly or how soon would
2 those two lamp posts that have been victims of accidents of bad drivers be replaced. She didn't
3 know whether or not Trustee Waite had a conversation with Jim Landini.

4
5 Trustee Waite stated that he doesn't have that information. Village President Meyers-Martin
6 stated that she knows that they were on order. They take a while. Trustee Waite stated that he
7 knew Mr. Landini was working on it. Trustee Waite stated that he didn't see fit to follow-up on it
8 since somebody else was already following up on it.

9
10 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

11
12 **Update – Customer Service Training for Front Office Personnel** – Trustee Nale stated that
13 Cindy Saenz was kind enough to obtain a film from IRMA regarding Customer Service. Cindy
14 made the film available to all of the employees on two separate occasions. The film was well-
15 received.

16
17 **Library Board Meeting Update** – Trustee Nale stated that she attended the Library Board
18 Meeting on Wednesday, April 22nd. The Library Board is planning a reception on Saturday, May
19 2nd to introduce the new Little Free Library. The reception will be held at Sergeant Means Park at
20 11 o'clock A.M. The public is welcome.

21
22 Trustee Nale stated that Joan Braden who is on the Library Board lost her husband several weeks
23 ago and is now in the hospital. She is going to have surgery. If anybody would like to send her a
24 card Trustee Nale is sure that Mrs. Braden would appreciate it.

25
26 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

27
28 **Community Relations Commission Update – Volunteer Appreciation Reception** – Trustee
29 Gibson stated that on Saturday, April 18th the Annual Volunteer Reception Brunch was held at
30 the Olympia Fields Country Club. It was very well-attended. We are pleased to take time each
31 year to recognize our devoted volunteers because they give of their time, their services, their
32 expertise and their assistance on many Committees and Commissions. The contributions that
33 they provide are very, very useful and very helpful. She stated that from the comments after the
34 affair everyone seemed to have enjoyed the food, and the opportunity to socialize with other
35 volunteers and neighbors. Their help and assistance in the Committees and Commissions is very
36 valuable. We were very proud to honor them. It is an annual affair. We certainly wish that we
37 could do more for the volunteers because without them many of our Commissions and
38 Committees would be less than they are because we don't get information and directives from
39 our taxpayers in our community, which gives us more than a transparent opportunity so that
40 volunteer members can express their concerns and ask their questions, and provide the
41 Committees and the Commissions with their help. She appreciates it. She looks forward to next
42 year. She thanked everyone who are here that volunteer and she hopes they will continue.

43
44 **Accident Reporting Software Update** – Trustee Gibson stated that on Monday, April 13th, the
45 Public Safety Department began to use the Appriss Crash Logic Software. This software allows
46 officers to complete Traffic Accident Reports electronically using a Software System approved
47 by the State of Illinois. The software increases the uniformity, clarity, accuracy and speed in
48 which the Accident Reports are completed.

1 Completed reports are then sent via a secured internet connection to the Illinois Department of
2 Transportation for review. After that review is done, motorists involved in a traffic accident will
3 be able to obtain the completed report by requesting a copy via e-mail or traditional mail
4 delivery. The Apriss Crash Logic Software has the ability to quickly and efficiently obtain
5 accident data for statistical or informational reports.

6
7 Trustee Gibson stated that it makes her very proud to say that Deputy Chief Scott Morgan was
8 tasked with instituting the Apriss Crash Logic Software Program including the logistics involved
9 in training, information technology support, operational procedures and final deployment of this
10 program. It gives her great pride to recognize and commend Deputy Chief Morgan for his efforts
11 in this worthwhile program. She stated that she never fails to commend our Chief for his unique
12 ideas in keeping our police force in good shape and with knowledge of all the new activities.

13
14 **Huth Middle School Career Fair Update** – Trustee Gibson stated that on Thursday, April 16th,
15 Village President Debbie Meyers-Martin and Police Chief John Krull were invited to participate
16 in a Career Fair at Huth Middle School in Matteson.

17
18 There were over 70 people of many different disciplines and professions who were invited to
19 speak at the Career Fair. The most important thing about that Career Fair is the students were
20 enthusiastic. They were engaged with each speaker and they did ask many interesting questions
21 and sometimes challenging questions. The students, teachers and staff at Huth Middle School
22 were extremely grateful for the extra time and effort put forth in their voluntary time by the
23 speakers.

24
25 The Village of Olympia Fields was well represented at Huth Career Fair and is thankful for the
26 opportunity to interact with the students and for the hospitality extended to them by Dr.
27 Blondean Davis, Matteson School District 162 and their Board of Education.

28
29 Trustee Gibson stated that we need to commend Chief Krull and Village President Debbie
30 Meyers-Martin for their interest and enthusiasm for students in our area.

31
32 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Chief Krull whether or not he had any thoughts that
33 he wanted to share about the students.

34
35 Chief Krull stated that those students were absolutely grateful, fantastic, and as Trustee Gibson
36 indicated they did ask some very challenging and interesting questions at times that were not
37 necessarily germane to what we were talking about in the classroom. It was interesting
38 nonetheless.

39
40 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she enjoyed her classroom as well. Some kids it was
41 clear they were bored to tears, but some were very enthusiastic and asked great questions. She
42 enjoyed it very much.

43
44 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

45
46 **Resolution #2015-09** – A Resolution Opposing Illinois House Bill 173 which would Prohibit
47 **Automated Enforcement Systems in Non-Home Rule Municipalities** – Administrator
48 Mekarski stated that he has two real critical Resolutions that could affect the safety of our

1 community as well as the revenues in the General Fund. The first is Resolution #2015-09 - A
2 Resolution Opposing Illinois House Bill 173 which would Prohibit Automated Enforcement
3 Systems in Non-Home Rule Municipalities. The Board has a Resolution prepared by the
4 Village's Legal Advisor with the assistance of Chief Krull. There was a Revised Resolution
5 passed out on the dais. The only substantive change was the suggestion of Trustee Byrd to make
6 sure we got all four Legislatures identified to receive a copy of this.

7
8 Administrator Mekarski stated that this is a real serious Bill that threatens the ability of Non-
9 Home Rule Communities like ours to manage local jurisdictional traffic safety issues. It would
10 take away our ability to operate the Red Light Cameras which have been so instrumental on
11 Lincoln Highway in reducing the amount of vehicular traffic accidents, injuries, and deaths. In
12 addition to that, violators of the Red Light Cameras, those proceeds go for paying for all of the
13 equipment. The remaining proceeds are returned to the Village that occupies those cameras. He
14 stated that starting in 2017 it would impact our General Fund by \$250,000.00, which is a huge
15 hole to try to close.

16
17 Administrator Mekarski stated that this Bill has gone through the assembly aggressively. On the
18 dais is a copy of the Illinois General Assembly Legislative actions. On April 22nd, the Bill has
19 already gone for third reading and has passed. There has been one attempt to ask the vote to be
20 reconsidered which failed. There has been a second Motion to reconsider which has been tabled.
21 Village President Meyers-Martin will be going this week with the 43 Mayors of the South
22 Suburban area to Springfield. This Bill and the Senate Bill is going to be top on their Agenda.
23 This is a real serious issue. It threatens the autonomy and the ability of our community to manage
24 public safety. The Chief has been very instrumental in bringing this to my attention and working
25 with our Legal Advisor.

26
27 Chief Krull stated that there is not a whole lot more to add. It is a very fluid situation. He is not
28 confident that it will get stalled in the Senate. If it does reach the Governor's desk there is no
29 indication what he will do with that Bill at this point.

30
31 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the South Suburban Mayors and Managers
32 Legislative Policy, more and more it seems as though the state is trying to take away power from
33 the local Municipalities to rule and govern their own town. She stated just as they were trying to
34 introduce the Inspector General that everyone must have one. Again, the South Suburban Mayors
35 and Managers were totally against that because 99% of the towns manage their governments
36 perfectly, or at least with enough expertise that they don't need the County or the State sending
37 someone in to legislate what goes on in that town. She stated that more and more that seems to
38 be happening coming from the State level as well as the County level. It is the principle of that
39 governance that they are in opposition to.

40
41 Trustee Waite stated why do they want to fool around with small communities. Why don't they
42 start with where the problem is, the City of Chicago? Trustee Waite stated that he guesses they
43 are too fearful of doing that. It just fractures his skull to understand why they would want to get
44 involved in stirring up stuff that is unnecessary in small governmental units. He stated look at
45 what the City of Chicago has done with this Red Light Camera thing. You had everything from
46 bribery and felonies being committed to shortening the amber lights so they could give out more
47 tickets. And you want to come down here and mess around with little old Olympia Fields where
48 we aren't having any problems at all.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that Trustee Waite is right, Chicago, and any Home Rule
2 Community would be permitted to continue to have the Red Light Cameras.
3
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they actually put that caveat because they don't want
5 to mess with Chicago. That is why they will specifically say "Non-Home Rule Communities." If
6 they didn't, then they would have to fight Chicago and they don't want to do that.
7
8 Administrator Mekarski stated that if anyone questions the validity of Red Light Cameras, he has
9 seen on some of the Red Light Camera films, school buses that have gone through Lincoln
10 Highway and Governors on a stalled red going through a red light. It is a very serious issue. It
11 has made a difference in traffic safety and accidents, injuries, and deaths.
12
13 Trustee Waite stated that he knows on Joe Orr and Western, every now and then one of those
14 lights get stuck in the red position. What is the person suppose to do if you come to some
15 intersection and everything is stuck on red, sit there until hell freezes over, or what?
16
17 Chief Krull stated that you should proceed with caution after a reasonable amount of time
18 through the intersection carefully, paying close attention to other motorists in the area.
19
20 Administrator Mekarski stated that if it is a stalled red that would be taken into consideration.
21 Our Traffic Administrator, Les Delya, actually reviews each and every film. If there are some
22 irregularities those are thrown out.
23
24 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that he has his door open to people who have gotten
25 tickets to come in and watch the film with him so that they can see exactly what transpired. She
26 believes that Red Light Cameras have changed the culture of drivers especially in the State of
27 Illinois. She can't speak to all of the other states. She stated that in California they don't have
28 many at all. It is positively scary. She stated that we are use to stopping. When you see the
29 yellow light you start slowing down and stopping. She stated that people that are three car
30 lengths behind them are zooming past and going through these red lights. She believes that it has
31 changed the culture for the better.
32 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Nale to approve Resolution #2015-09 – A**
33 **Resolution opposing Illinois House Bill 173 which would Prohibit Automated Enforcement**
34 **Systems in Non-Home Rule Municipalities.**
35
36 Trustee Waite stated that somebody said that we should give a copy to the appropriate
37 Legislators. He stated shouldn't the Governor also get a copy. Administrator Mekarski stated that
38 is an excellent idea. He will add that to the Resolution.
39
40 **Trustee Waite amended the Motion to state that the Resolution be officially delivered to**
41 **our slate of Legislators, Congresswoman Kelly, and to add Governor Rauner on the**
42 **Distribution List.**
43 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**
44
45 **Resolution #2015-10- A Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 1206 which Amends the Tax**
46 **Increment Allocation Redevelopment Act** – Administrator Mekarski stated that this Bill could
47 have serious economic impacts to local communities. That is presented here today in Resolution
48 #2015-10 - A Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 1206 which amends the Tax Increment

1 Allocation Redevelopment Act. Administrator Mekarski stated that before this body can setup a
2 Tax Incremental Financing District it has to setup a Joint Review Board. The Joint Review Board
3 requires an invitation for Taxing Bodies like the School District to sit on the Joint Review Board
4 to participate in the development of the Plan, the Review of the Plan, or the recommendation of
5 adoption of the Plan to this Board. Then there is a Public Hearing that allows all jurisdictions to
6 make comments before this body acts on the TIF. This Senate Bill amends the Act by providing
7 that “Where a School District includes all or part of one or more Municipalities, a Municipality
8 so situated may not implement a Redevelopment Plan or Redevelopment Project unless each
9 Municipality which shares the School District with the Municipality implementing the
10 Redevelopment Plan or Redevelopment Project has approved that Plan or Project.” That would
11 require that in the Town Center Plan to have every governing authority in Rich Township motion
12 to approve the development of that Plan and the creation of a TIF, as well as the adjoining
13 governing authority for Bloom Township which is Chicago Heights, as well as Flossmoor and
14 Homewood which we also share a School District.

15
16 Administrator Mekarski stated that economic incentives are highly competitive. He believes that
17 the Village President can testify that if that was the law of the land we would not have been able
18 to create the TIF on Lincoln and Western. Wal-Mart would not have been interested in the site
19 and a \$29,000,000.00 TIF would not have been created. It would be a lot more difficult for this
20 Municipality to go forward with its Economic Development Agenda. This Resolution asks to
21 oppose the action happening in the Senate. It has been placed for third reading on April 22nd. The
22 Village President will be going with the 43 Mayors to Springfield to try to lobby our Legislatures
23 not to adopt this. This has serious impacts for all communities interested in Economic
24 Development in the State of Illinois.

25
26 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not this would also work in the
27 reverse that we could hold up all kinds of projects for other communities. Administrator
28 Mekarski stated that it could, but this community has always recognized that we are only as
29 strong as our neighbors in our region. We always support the Economic Development Initiatives
30 of our neighbors like the Meijer’s Development in Flossmoor, or the Chicago Heights
31 development of Food 4 Less. We knew that would have some impacts on our own Economic
32 Development, but in the greater scheme it would be stronger for all.

33
34 Trustee Byrd stated that it could basically destroy TIF’s. He stated that could be 10 or 15-miles
35 out. Administrator Mekarski stated absolutely. Trustee Byrd stated our TIF going up to
36 Glenwood and Glenwood shares H-F. You have communities competing with each other.
37 Administrator Mekarski stated that we saw one School District oppose the Wal-Mart TIF in
38 Tinley Park and that persuaded them to move more aggressively on the Olympia Fields and the
39 Richton Park Plan. That is just from one School District. He stated think if we had to do multiple
40 Municipalities with size. The School Districts are always invited in the Joint Review Board and
41 then the Public Hearing Process. It is not like they are excluded.

42
43 Trustee Byrd inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not he has any reasons why it is
44 being sponsored by Cullerton. Administrator Mekarski stated that he doesn’t. Village President
45 Meyers-Martin stated that she has no idea. The Southland Region is already at a disadvantage in
46 terms of being competitive just because of taxes, location, sometimes density, sometimes roof
47 tops. She stated that to take this away as a tool in your tool box in order to have incentives for

1 **Business Ambassador Program** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that as part of the
2 Business Ambassador Program we awarded two Business Trophies at our Volunteer
3 Appreciation Luncheon. She stated one was to Humecki & Associates which is an Accounting
4 Firm. They are also located in the Business Park and Brookdale. There was a lot of excitement
5 generated from Brookdale. They are a very good business partner and a very good neighbor in
6 the Village of Olympia Fields. We congratulate both of them on the Business Awards.
7

8 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that is a nomination process that we put out in the
9 newsletter. We put it on Channel 4. It is on the Website. We ask for nominations from residents.
10 She stated that if there is a business in town that you like their customer service and you like the
11 way that they treat their customers, if you like their product and their service, she encouraged
12 everyone to nominate that business for their program which occurs every spring when the
13 Business Ambassador Awards are presented.
14

15 **Lobby Day in Springfield** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is going to
16 Springfield on Wednesday. It is Lobby Day. The South Suburban Mayors and Managers go there
17 every year with their Legislative Policy Statement. They meet with the Governor. They meet
18 with their Legislators. They meet with all of the agencies like DCEO and IDOT in order to make
19 our case for Legislative Policy that is an enhancement to our local Municipalities. It is always
20 very well-attended. Most of the members go there. They have a briefing from the Illinois
21 Municipal League and they have the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus down there. She is excited to
22 go. She will bring up the Resolutions that we have been speaking about today, as well as the
23 threat to take away LGDF, or at least to reduce it by 50%. She stated that our last newsletter was
24 a “Call to Action.” As a result of the Village doing the “Call to Action,” the DuPage Mayors and
25 Managers Association contacted Village President Meyers-Martin and wanted her to speak at the
26 Press Conference because the Village had been so proactive in reaching out to our Governor to
27 say how unhappy we were that he was proposing that kind of amendment. That just goes to show
28 you that people pay attention to what other towns do. She stated for them to have seen that and to
29 say that we had been proactive, and that we had been leading the effort to get a response from the
30 residents, she was very happy about that.
31

32 **Thank You to the Community Relations Commission** – Village President Meyers-Martin
33 stated that she wanted to thank the Community Relations Commission for the Volunteer
34 Appreciation Reception. That is practically unheard of in other towns. Nobody recognizes their
35 volunteers. It gives our residents who volunteer, who participate, who engage with the Village, it
36 lets them know that we believe that they are important, and their work is important. We
37 appreciate their commitment to the Village. She commended the Community Relations
38 Commission on that.
39

40 **Resurfacing of Route 30** - Village President Meyers-Martin stated that on May 1st, IDOT is
41 going to begin resurfacing Route 30. We made the plea that that roadway be paved. They will
42 start from I-57 moving east to Hilltop. She stated just be prepared that there will be some
43 disruption to that roadway. She is thankful that they don't have to reconstruct it like they had to
44 do on LaGrange. If you go to Orland, it is quite disruptive. That will be going on for years
45 because they have to reconstruct that road. This will be a resurfacing of Route 30. We are happy
46 that they will be doing that.
47

1 Trustee Oliver inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin how long that will take. Village
2 President Meyers-Martin stated that it starts May 1st. She has not received any estimate of how
3 long that work will take.

4
5 Administrator Mekarski stated that it is basically grinding and recapping. Village President
6 Meyers-Martin stated and some patching. She stated that we were way down on the list of having
7 that work done on IDOT's Five-Year Plan, but because we have pursued South Suburban
8 Mayors and Managers to step up and intercede for us, they have moved it up so that they will do
9 that work starting May 1st.

10
11 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

12
13 **LGDF** - Administrator Mekarski stated that the Village President put out a letter in the last
14 newsletter giving the IML page to send a letter to the Governor saying that you do not want to
15 see the Governor take State income Tax from local control. That threat is still out there. It could
16 impact the Village by \$250,000.00. There are some Homeowners Associations Presidents in the
17 audience this evening. The President of the Homeowners Associations is in the audience. It
18 would be fabulous if there would be an e-mail blitz to take that letter that was in the spring
19 newsletter and encourage all residents to respond. If we had 1,800 letters going to the Governor
20 you would be heard. It would make a huge difference. Park Forest will lose \$1.4 Million Dollars.
21 Flossmoor will lose \$500,000.00. That means to continue the same level of services, taxes or
22 fees would have to go up, or we reduce services. He stated that \$250,000.00 is hard to recoup.
23 He stated that if you equate that with the Public Works employees it is the same impact. We have
24 six laborers. That represents 70% of our labor force for Public Works.

25
26 Trustee Byrd stated that we are facing \$500,000.00 with Non-Home Rule if that happens.
27 Administrator Mekarski stated that is right.

28
29 Administrator Mekarski stated that there are some major issues happening in the State
30 Legislature and those letters need to go to the Governor and our four Legislatures that represent
31 us, Senator Hastings who has always been supportive, Senator Toi Hutchinson, Representative
32 DeLuca and Representative Riley. They have always been behind local issues. The Governor
33 needs to hear your voice and not just this body.

34
35 **Emergency Management Plan** - Trustee Oliver stated that there is something else that he would
36 like to have the Board consider. It might fall under emergency management. In the news recently
37 there has been a lot of discussion about these trains that go through neighborhoods carrying some
38 very dangerous loads. It should prompt us to review what our Emergency Management Plan
39 would be should something disastrous happen along our tracks which goes through most of
40 Olympia Fields. If something did occur, it would be a catastrophe that would go at least a mile
41 on either side of the tracks. He asked the Board to consider what would be our Plan.

42
43 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that if you recall we were designated as the evacuation
44 point for Homeland Security at our Metra Station at 203rd Street. It has been some years since
45 that Plan was first introduced. Reviewing that Plan would be a good idea.

46
47 Administrator Mekarski stated that about six or nine-months ago, we brought up the Cook
48 County Emergency Management Plan that the Chief has been participating with. That Plan

1 addresses the transportation of hazardous materials through Municipalities and talks about a
2 coordinated incident command response between regional police departments, regional fire
3 departments and local departments in a coordinated fashion.
4

5 Chief Krull stated that is correct. Trustee Oliver inquired of Chief Krull whether or not that Plan
6 is available to the public. Chief Krull stated that they are almost ready to roll it out. He stated
7 that out of the hundred and some communities that were asked to participate, they are in the 89
8 percentile of completion. It should be ready to go shortly. It is a very impressive and very
9 comprehensive Plan.
10

11 Trustee Waite stated that the problem that you have with rail, the safest way to transmit
12 petroleum and chemical products is a pipeline. He was with a major oil company for a number of
13 years. He stated that we have an enormous problem because right now the biggest movers of
14 petroleum products are Canadian National Railway, which is one of the biggest and most
15 efficient railways in the world. They are top drawer efficient. When you look at all of those
16 trains going up and down our tracks almost all of them are CN which is Canadian National
17 Railway. The pipeline is the Number 1 safest. Number 2 is rail. Even though you look at the fact
18 they had a big accident in Montreal and one in Alabama, but compared to the products and
19 freight being moved and the loss of life or limb the last thing you want your stuff on are trucks.
20 You can't be unloading the rail cars down the way and then take them down by truck and reload
21 them on the other side of town. They have taken all of these rail lines that have brought the
22 petroleum products through Chicago and they put in new tracks. The Canadians bought up a
23 bunch of short line rail that basically bypasses Chicago. You still see some stuff going through
24 Chicago, but that is because there are refineries that they have to get the products to. They are
25 not bringing everything through Chicago like they were before. It is going around. It is causing
26 headaches for some of the further out suburbs like Joliet for example, where now 24/7 you have
27 got trains going through there practically back-to-back. He stated that an enormous amount of
28 rail stuff is going on around here. Village President Meyers-Martin stated absolutely.
29

30 **NEW BUSINESS:**

31
32 The Board did not have any New Business to discuss this evening.
33

34 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

35
36 **Appointment – Robert McCullough to the Community Relations Commission –** Village
37 President Meyers-Martin stated that she is very happy and pleased to present to you an
38 appointment for the Community Relations Commission to Mr. Robert McCullough. He would
39 like to join the Community Relations Commission. Mr. McCullough has been a resident of
40 Olympia Fields for 10-years. He has more than 20-years of management level experience.

41 **Motion by Trustee Hudson, second by Trustee Oliver to approve the candidacy of Robert**
42 **D. McCullough, Jr. to the Village of Olympia Fields Community Relations Commission for**
43 **the term expiring on April 27, 2017, or until their successor has been appointed and**
44 **qualified.**

45 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**
46

47 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we welcome Mr. Robert McCullough to the Village
48 of Olympia Fields Community Relations Commission. (There was a round of applause). The

1 Chairperson is in the audience if you have an opportunity to speak to him, as well as our Trustee
2 Liaison, Carolyn Gibson. Village President Meyers-Martin welcomed Mr. McCullough, Jr. to the
3 Community Relations Commission. She thanked him for volunteering.
4

5 **Resignation – Geraldine Tyler from the Community Relations Commission** – Village
6 President Meyers-Martin stated that she has one resignation and that is of Geraldine Tyler from
7 the Community Relations Commission and the Golf Committee as well. Geraldine moved to
8 Florida so she will no longer be participating with us.

9 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Gibson to accept the Resignation of Geraldine
10 Tyler from the Community Relations Commission.**

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

12
13 **FAREWELL PRESENTATION:**
14

15 **Trustee Kelvin Oliver** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the next item is kind of
16 bittersweet. It is a farewell presentation to Trustee Kelvin Oliver. Trustee Oliver has been on the
17 Board for many, many years. He is definitely a committed Trustee to the residents of Olympia
18 Fields. He has been an asset to this Board in terms of ideas, creativity, and energy. You have
19 participated with the Baseball Association and have gotten all of us interested in that whether we
20 had children on that team or not. We appreciate all of that hard work and time that you put in.
21 We thank Pam Oliver for allowing you to be away so much participating with the Board of
22 Trustees. “In honor of 12 years of dedicated service and fiduciary oversight as Village Trustee,
23 and Trustee Liaison to the Plan Commission and Educational Commission.” Congratulations and
24 we thank you.
25

26 Trustee Oliver stated thank you so very much. (There was a round of applause and a standing
27 ovation). Trustee Oliver stated to you, Madam President and the Village Board, thank you so
28 very much for the work and the dedication that you have provided to this Village. When he first
29 came onboard he was a nervous wreck wondering whether or not he would be able to match the
30 enthusiasm, the dedication, and the motivation of this Board to meet the needs of the residents. It
31 was you that gave me that drive to do even more.
32

33 Trustee Oliver stated to the residents of Olympia Fields, thank you for accepting him. Thank you
34 for allowing him to do all that he could in the best manner that he could to make Olympia Fields
35 continue to be as Madam President would say, “The jewel of the south suburbs.” Olympia Fields
36 will continue to do that. He will continue in some capacity to make this Village be the Village
37 that it is, and how it has been recognized throughout the southland area, and now throughout the
38 state because of your leadership. Thank you all very much, but you haven’t seen the last of me.
39 (There was a round of applause).
40

41 Trustee Waite stated that he will miss Trustee Oliver. He stated some of those discussions we
42 have had and so forth. He had one person come up to him and say they don’t know what we are
43 going to do now, all of us will be out here asleep in the future because of your departure. Trustee
44 Oliver stated that he will miss you guys.
45

46 Trustee Gibson stated from her perspective it has been a journey with Trustee Oliver for the last
47 12-years. She has a couple years more under her belt. She remembers when he was first elected
48 and he would come in sometimes and say to Susan and Trustee Gibson that “I am just a

1 neophyte.” We said, “Oh, no. You won’t be a neophyte long. You will get with it.” And he did.
2 We are appreciative of that. We will miss you. We know that you will be sticking around and
3 giving us some advice. Good luck. Trustee Oliver stated thank you.
4
5 Trustee Nale stated that she would like to express her thoughts on missing his folder every week
6 for a meeting. She stated that he has so kindly offered for her to take back and put in place for
7 him. Trustee Oliver stated thank you so very much. Trustee Nale stated that it was her pleasure.
8 Trustee Oliver stated thank you.
9
10 Trustee Oliver stated that he can’t forget Faith. He stated thank you for taking my crippled words
11 and forming them into a real nice poetic feel for our Minutes. Thank you so much. Faith, the
12 Recording Secretary stated thank you.
13
14 Trustee Hudson stated that she is sure that she will see Trustee Oliver again when he is coming
15 to participate in the Matteson-Olympia Fields Baseball. We will be happy to support those
16 children as we go on. Trustee Oliver stated he is still looking for checks. Trustee Hudson stated
17 that we gave him all we are giving him this time. We are sure that we will see him whether we
18 give him some or not. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Village provides a
19 sponsorship so we will do that again.
20
21 Trustee Byrd stated that he has only had the privilege of the last couple of years to serve with
22 Trustee Oliver. We have spent many other hours together while he was in his driveway and
23 doing his yard and he stopped by to talk. That we will definitely continue. He can get a little
24 more practice on that golf game now that he will have a little time. Trustee Oliver stated more
25 baseball. He is horrible in golf. Trustee Byrd stated those checks for baseball; if he sends him
26 something Trustee Byrd will send him money. Trustee Oliver has to ask. Trustee Oliver stated
27 okay. Trustee Byrd stated we take letters. If Trustee Oliver sends him letters Trustee Byrd will
28 send him money. If Trustee Byrd doesn’t get letters Trustee Oliver doesn’t get money.
29
30 Administrator Mekarski stated that he had the privilege to serve with Trustee Oliver for the last
31 decade, but in particular from the beginning of the Educational Commission in 2006. We
32 participated in hours and hours of very intense debate on an array of school issues. Our
33 Educational Commission has really moved forward with Policies, recommendations, and
34 oversight that have changed State Educational Policy, especially when it comes to standardized
35 testing. It was through that partnership on the Educational Commission that he has been an
36 excellent Liaison. He was a really good steward for the children and the future of our Village.
37 You are going to be missed.

38
39 **ADJOURNMENT:**

40
41 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Oliver to adjourn at 9:42 P.M.**
42 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

43
44 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

45