

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on May 14, 2012**
4

5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, May 14, 2012, at the
6 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Debra
7 Meyers-Martin at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
8 Administrator Mekarski/Village Clerk called the roll.
9

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

13 Absent: None.
14

15 **MINUTES:**
16

17 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Nale to suspend the reading of the**
18 **Minutes of April 23rd, 2012.**

19 **Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion Carried.**
20

21 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Ormsby to approve the Minutes of April**
22 **23rd, 2012, as presented.**

23 **Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion Carried.**
24

25 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**
26

27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she has Bills for Approval totaling
28 \$299,423.41. She stated that there is a Cover Memo in the Board Packet designating the
29 more significant payouts.

30 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to approve the payment**
31 **of Bills for May 14th, 2012, in the total amount of \$299,423.41.**

32 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**
33

34 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**
35

36 Village President Meyers-Martin opened up Communications and Petitions at 7:03 P.M.
37

38 **Commendations for Meritorious Service** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that
39 she is very excited tonight because we have some Commendations for Meritorious
40 Service in the Olympia Fields Police Department. She stated that she is very happy to be
41 here for that. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Chief Chudwin would
42 introduce the officers.
43

44 Chief Chudwin stated that he is glad to be here tonight as Chief to be able to make these
45 Commendations for the officers that work so hard for the Village of Olympia Fields and
46 have done some extraordinary work. Chief Chudwin acknowledged his wonderful wife,

1 Nancy, who sees very little of him. He thanked her for coming tonight. He acknowledged
2 Corporal Don Dean's wife, Christine, who works for the Matteson Police Department.
3 She had her daughter with her. He stated that Corporal Steve Lopez's wife, Rehana, is
4 here to observe. He stated that Commander Carl Frey who is the leader of the afternoon
5 shift and the Patrol Commander is here tonight.

6
7 Chief Chudwin stated that the first Commendation would be made to Officer Miguel
8 Ayala. He stated that this is not only for Meritorious Service but for courageous conduct.
9 This is for an incident that occurred in July of 2011. "On July 28th, 2011, in the morning
10 hours Officer Miguel Ayala received a radio dispatch that an armed robbery just occurred
11 in neighboring Matteson. Although informed that the offender was traveling away from
12 his location, Officer Ayala took the initiative to remain in his position and soon after
13 observed the offender fleeing eastbound on Route 30 towards Chicago Heights. Officer
14 Ayala called dispatch and advised that he would be moving to prevent the offender's
15 escape. Officer Ayala not having immediate backup initiated a stop on the offender who
16 surrendered when challenged by Officer Ayala. Due to his fast response, quick thinking
17 and decisive actions, Officer Ayala prevented an armed and dangerous criminal from
18 escaping into the community. Officer Miguel Ayala conducted himself in the best
19 tradition of law enforcement and the Olympia Fields Police Department." Chief Chudwin
20 thanked Officer Ayala. (There was a round of applause). Chief Chudwin stated that
21 Officer Ayala is a part-time officer for the Village. He has a very extensive background
22 through the Kankakee County Sheriff's Department. He is a very, very astute, excellent
23 police officer. He does a great job every day that he is with the Village. (There was a
24 round of applause). Village President Meyers-Martin and Trustee Gibson, Liaison to the
25 Public Safety Committee, congratulated Officer Ayala.

26
27 Officer Ayala thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to work for the Village.
28 He stated that he has learned so much given the training here. He stated that it is a great
29 place to work. He appreciates it. (There was a round of applause).

30
31 Chief Chudwin stated that the next Commendation is for six of the Village's Police
32 Officers. The officers are: Corporal Don Dean, Officer Derrick Blasingame, Officer Matt
33 Kickert, Officer Scott Metzger, Officer Kendall Kerrigan, and Officer Gabe Alverado.
34 Chief Chudwin stated that Officer Matt Kickert is ill and was not able to be here this
35 evening. "On April 4th, 2012, the officers responded to a residential burglary on Country
36 Club Drive. Upon their arrival they spoke with the homeowner and gained all the facts
37 and determined that a young juvenile male was on the property earlier that day. The
38 officers canvassed the neighborhood and spoke with several residents including suspects.
39 Through their hard work and diligence, a full confession was given by the juvenile
40 offender and all the missing property was recovered. This happened in a very short period
41 of time. The officers' extraordinary dedication and professionalism resulted in a quick
42 and decisive arrest."

43
44 "On April 27th, 2012, over two weeks later, another residential burglary was reported on
45 the same street. With their knowledge of what happened previously, the officers again
46 searched the area, located the offender who was the same offender, and was able to once

1 again recover the property, and gain an admission, confession, to this incident.” Chief
2 Chudwin stated that it’s very important to note that true residential burglaries where
3 strangers enter homes in Olympia Fields are extraordinarily rare. It is not rare in the
4 communities around the Village. He stated that the hard work that the officers put in to
5 aggressively patrolling the streets make it a very unattractive location for criminals to
6 come to attempt these. He stated that we are not immune to these types of crime. He
7 stated that by their decisive action this was something that was able to be laid to rest
8 something that would create great consternation of the residents along Country Club
9 Drive. (There was a round of applause). Village President Meyers-Martin and Trustee
10 Gibson, Liaison to the Public Safety Committee, congratulated the officers.

11
12 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the residents of Olympia Fields place all of
13 their trust, their confidence, and their faith in the police department in the Village. She
14 stated that we are never disappointed. She stated that we always feel that we have the best
15 police department in the State of Illinois. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she
16 is very proud of all of them. She thanked the officers for working hard for the residents
17 and for being committed to the residents. She stated that she hears from the residents, and
18 she knows that they place all of their trust and faith in the officers as well as the Board.
19 She thanked the officers and she stated that we appreciate all that you do for us. (There
20 was a round of applause).

21
22 Trustee Gibson, Liaison to the Public Safety Committee stated that she would like to ditto
23 what Village President Meyers-Martin stated. Trustee Gibson works closely with the
24 officers, the Deputy Chief and the Chief. She finds that the work is rewarding. She
25 congratulated them on all of their hard work. She stated that she sees the officers around
26 the Village. She knows that they are there and their presence makes the Village much,
27 much safer. She thanked all of them. (There was a round of applause).

28
29 Chief Chudwin stated that he has another Commendation for Detective Corporal Mark
30 Akiyama. Detective Corporal Akiyama couldn’t be here this evening because he is
31 involved in an investigation. He stated that early Sunday morning individuals in a pick-up
32 truck entered onto the grassy area of Sergeant Means Park, which is the fields there and
33 created substantial damage to that location. He stated that our officers responded very
34 quickly as soon as they heard the radio call and were actually able to take into custody
35 the offenders. They worked throughout the day today with Trustee Gibson and the State’s
36 Attorney’s Office and with area police departments. It was not just the park in the Village
37 that was affected. Detective Corporal Akiyama has been working on this throughout the
38 afternoon and evening and he could not be here. The Commendation to Detective
39 Corporal Mark Akiyama states as follows: “The Village of Olympia Fields Police
40 Department recognizes Detective Corporal Mark Akiyama for his extraordinary devotion
41 to duty for the past three years. Detective Akiyama has worked as the only full time
42 Detective for the police department. He has faced numerous challenges related to serious
43 criminal offenses and solved many of these crimes. He has returned to duty on many
44 nights and weekends being on 24-hours a day call every day. He has sacrificed many of
45 his personal events to perform his duties. His unwavering work ethic and his
46 knowledgeable and highly professional conduct has been in the best tradition of law

1 enforcement and brought credit to both himself and the Olympia Fields Police
2 Department.” (There was a round of applause).

3
4 Chief Chudwin stated that we faced an extraordinary situation throughout the year. They
5 hired a police clerk in a part-time capacity. She had to step up and fill the shoes of two
6 full-time clerks. He stated that Police Clerk Diane Bounadonna did not have a day off in
7 the past five months. She has stepped up and helped the department tremendously. “This
8 award recognizes Police Clerk Diane Bounadonna for her extraordinary devotion to duty
9 on behalf of the Village of Olympia Fields Police Department. For the past five-months
10 Clerk Bounadonna has worked as the only full-time clerk for the police department. She
11 has faced numerous challenges and seen to the needs of administration of the Police
12 Records Section. She has worked with no time off without complaint. Clerk Bounadonna
13 has not only maintained the level of service, but worked to improve operational
14 capabilities in the department. Her unwavering work ethic and highly professional
15 conduct has been in the best tradition of law enforcement and brought credit to herself
16 and the Olympia Fields Police Department.” He stated that Clerk Bounadonna had to be
17 with her family tonight and could not come back that long distance. (There was a round
18 of applause).

19
20 Chief Chudwin thanked the Board and the citizens for giving him this time to make the
21 presentations. He stated that it means so much to the department and they appreciate it.
22 (There was a round of applause). (There was a standing ovation for the police officers).

23
24 Chief Chudwin stated that each one of the officers deserves to receive a Commendation
25 because each one of them is always doing something extraordinary.

26
27 **Preparation for the NATO Conference** – Village President Meyers-Martin asked Chief
28 Chudwin to expand a little bit on the preparation for the NATO Conference.

29
30 Chief Chudwin stated that the NATO Conference starts on Sunday going into Monday.
31 Originally, it was to be Saturday, Sunday and Monday. Chief Chudwin is the Regional
32 Co-Chair for Region 4 which is Lake, Cook and DuPage Counties along with Sheriff
33 Zaruba from DuPage County. They have been involved with this since July 29th of 2011.
34 Chicago is the focal point of this. The conference will take place at McCormick Place.
35 They have worked very closely with the South Suburban Mayors and Managers
36 Association and the western cog and on the North Shore. They have a combined effort
37 that is underway with the suburban agencies. They will have emergency operation centers
38 that will be in place this week and into the weekend. They will be receiving information
39 on a continuous flow through the Secret Service, the FBI, and all the agencies that
40 support them. They do not believe at this time that there is anything significant that
41 should impact the suburbs. He stated will the Metra trains be affected. He stated that he
42 received word from a friend of his at Metra that the trains will be running. Some of the
43 east junction trains are being shutdown. They are going to restrict backpacks on the
44 trains. He stated that a number of the major community businesses are doing
45 teleconferencing through that period in order to keep their employees out of the city. He
46 suggested not being downtown in the city on Monday. There will be many motorcades

1 coming from the airport and traffic will be congested. They don't have any specific
2 information on threats. He stated that those interested in disruption have done it in front
3 of cameras. There is no camera activity out in the suburbs that would draw their attention.
4 There was information that they might try to go to some of the Fortune 500 Companies
5 spread out throughout the North Shore and go into DuPage County.

6
7 Chief Chudwin stated that they have worked closely with Bud Fleming at South
8 Suburban Mayors and Managers Association to build a plan not only for the south
9 suburbs, but the west and the north. They have the ability to call out necessary police
10 elements should they have a problem. Most of the agencies that they are dealing with
11 including Olympia Fields have a contingency plan to move to a 12-hour shift if there is
12 an emergency situation. They are going to focus their concentration and efforts along the
13 Metra Line. They want the riders to recognize that the officers are there for their safety.
14 He stated that they will be coordinating and communicating with the agencies at the
15 Federal, State, County and local level.

16
17 Chief Chudwin thanked Sheriff Tom Dart. He stated that Tom Dart has been a huge
18 contributor and he has put in motion training for 100 of his sheriff's police officers to be
19 available for the suburbs. That is a huge boost in regard to any type of crowd control
20 issues. President Preckwinkle through her Department of Homeland Security, through
21 Director Mike Masters, have partnered with them. Chief Chudwin is a long-time friend of
22 Mike Masters.

23
24 Chief Chudwin stated that the disciplines they are concerned with are the fire department
25 and EMS, the Department of Public Works and Law Enforcement. The Federal
26 Government is in play at all levels. The Illinois National Guard has been stood up for the
27 weekend. They have their contingencies just as they assisted the Village during the U.S.
28 Open. They have their special teams that will be onsite. He stated that everything that he
29 is aware of is being done to provide protection for the suburban communities and the City
30 of Chicago. He believes that at the end of the day we will have a successful NATO
31 Conference. He has no doubt that there will be those that come to disrupt. He also
32 believes that in the best tradition of America there will be those that are there for a
33 peaceful protest and they should have their rights respected at the highest level. He stated
34 that those that come to create problems will be dealt with individually and we will do it
35 effectively. Village President Meyers-Martin thanked Chief Chudwin. There were no
36 other members of the public that wished to address the Board. Village President Meyers-
37 Martin closed Communications and Petitions at 7:20 P.M.

38
39 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

40
41 **5(A) Recommendation for a Final Waiver of Lien and Payment of Invoice**
42 **#GE11243-02 to Gallagher Asphalt for work completed in connection with the**
43 **Olympia Fields Country Club Proposed Parking Lot Modifications Project in the**
44 **amount of \$7,780.14.**

45

1 **5(B) Recommendation for a Final Waiver of Lien and Payment of Invoice**
2 **#GE11209-03 to Gallagher Asphalt for work completed in connection with the**
3 **Country Club Drive Paving Project – Western Avenue to Guard House in the**
4 **amount of \$3,617.40.**

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will move on to the Consent Agenda. She
7 inquired whether or not any Board Member wanted to move an item out of the Consent
8 Agenda. There was no response by any Board Members.

9 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Pennington to approve items 5(A) and**
10 **5(B) under the Consent Agenda.**

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

12
13 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Ormsby to move Resolution**
14 **#2012-08 under the Report of the Village Administrator to this point of the Agenda.**

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

16
17 **Resolution #2012-08 – Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Local**
18 **Assurance Resolution – Vollmer Road Multi-Use Path** – Administrator Mekarski
19 requested that Mary Clumpner from Robinson Engineering step up. She was the first
20 Administrator for the Village of Olympia Fields. Administrator Mekarski stated that
21 Robinson Engineering has been working on an ITEP, which is an application to the
22 Federal Government. This is for the Department of Transportation, Service
23 Transportation Program. This is an application process to allow the Village to look for
24 Federal funding for a Multi Purpose Safety Path from Kedzie Avenue to Western
25 Avenue. He stated that it is virtually impossible to walk or navigate a bike through the
26 viaduct especially if there are semi-trucks or tandems passing in that narrow lane. He
27 stated that there are some corridors for pedestrian safety that have been walled off by the
28 County with guardrails. There is the potential for creating a safety path without any
29 bridge modifications. This would involve some construction along the incline of the
30 viaduct, probably a retaining wall, and possibly some right-of-way acquisition. This
31 application is for Federal funding towards this effort. It is only an application and does
32 not commit the Village to these funds. If the Village were selected, additional materials
33 would go before the Board for final deliberation and consideration.

34
35 Mrs. Clumpner stated that getting to Irons Oaks or any of the places if you do the bike
36 trail it is hard to get there.

37 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Oliver to approve Resolution No. 2012-**
38 **08- The Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Local Assurance**
39 **Resolution – Vollmer Road Multi Use Path.**

40
41 Trustee Ormsby inquired of Administrator Mekarski and Mrs. Clumpner the reason for
42 picking Kedzie to Western. She stated that it seems like a difficult run.

43
44 Administrator Mekarski stated that it is the most unsafe passage we have. He stated that if
45 the children or a family wanted to take a bike ride to Irons Oaks or to the Headquarters of
46 the Park and Recreation District on Western Avenue, there are only two passages,

1 Lincoln Highway and Vollmer Road. On Lincoln Highway it is extremely dangerous.
2 The safety path doesn't connect all the way through to Western. You have the four-lanes
3 of traffic and the rate of speed would be a challenge in and of itself. He stated that we
4 have a lot of cyclists that like to get to the Bike Path System in the Nature Preserve right
5 on the borderline of Olympia Fields and the Village of Matteson right down Vollmer
6 Road. This links up the whole Bike Path System in an east/west arterial and it connects
7 two parts of the Village together. He stated that it would be ideal if you could cut through
8 the country club. He stated that even if you are a member of the country club you can't
9 take a bicycle through the country club. That is why this was discussed. He stated that we
10 had some discussions at some of our Budget Workshops and at some of our Capital
11 Improvement Strategy Meetings about this. He stated that the Village got a strong letter
12 from some of the cyclists in the community. The Village got a lot of accolades from the
13 Park and Recreation District and Irons Oaks as well.

14
15 Trustee Waite stated that there is room there to make safe passage through the bridge. He
16 stated that Robinson Engineering agreed to look at that and come up with a plan at no
17 charge to the Village.

18
19 Trustee Ormsby stated that it seems like it would be cost prohibitive to do that. She stated
20 that it would be great and it would be a great selling point for the Village.

21
22 Administrator Mekarski stated that it would be an expense. He stated that it is 80% from
23 the Federal Government and 20% from the Village. It is an MFT eligible cost. He stated
24 that if the Village received the Grant we would try to fold this into our Comprehensive
25 Road Program. The Board is looking at a \$3,000,000.00 comprehensive repaving of
26 about 45% of our road network in two phases. He stated \$1,500,000.00 possibly as early
27 as next Fiscal Year and another \$1,500,000.00 after 2016. That would be in part funded
28 with MFT dollars encumbering those for 20-years. The Village President and the Board
29 are vigorously working on Economic Development Strategies along Lincoln Highway
30 which could resurrect the Village's sales tax. He stated that you are not making
31 commitments now. It is an opportunity. He stated that the Board will have to roll up its
32 sleeves with the Finance Committee to see if this is something the Village can afford, and
33 if there might be some joint participation in picking up that match. He stated that this is a
34 resource that can really help the County, and the Cook County Nature Preserve System as
35 well as our Park District.

36
37 Trustee Nale inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not this had anything to do
38 with the intersection of Kedzie and Vollmer. Administrator Mekarski stated that this
39 particular application does not. He stated that the Village President will discuss the trip to
40 D.C. for our funding requests and the pitch that the Village made to try to do
41 improvements at that intersection.

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

43
44
45
46

1 **FINANCE:**

2
3 **Audit Process** – Trustee Pennington stated that he did not have a formal report this
4 evening. He stated that the audit process has begun. The Village’s Auditors, Sikich, are in
5 the process of finalizing their fieldwork now. The full blown audit process will
6 commence immediately after they have completed their fieldwork. He stated that there
7 will be further reports to come.

8
9 **BUILDING:**

10
11 **Update – 20000 Governors Highway – Demolition of former Governors Restaurant**
12 **Building** – Trustee Ormsby stated that the demolition next door is inching along. She is
13 hoping that it will be completed by the next Board Meeting. They made major progress
14 this last week.

15
16 **Arbor Day Celebration** - Trustee Ormsby stated that our Arbor Day Celebration at the
17 Metra Park was a rousing success. She stated that Village President Meyers-Martin,
18 Administrator Mekarski and Trustee Nale were present. They had a nursery school in the
19 area attend as well. The Tree City Flag is flying in that park. Administrator Mekarski
20 read a Proclamation. She stated that everyone spoke. It was a beautiful day and the park
21 looks amazing.

22
23 Trustee Ormsby stated that the new tree is a Katsura Tree. It is a beautiful tree. They
24 dedicated it to Dorthine Brown-Martin. John McDonnell made the post. There is a plaque
25 that states that she was responsible for the Tree City Status. Trustee Ormsby stated that
26 this is our fifth year of having the Tree City Status. The Village got special recognition
27 for being a Tree City for five-years.

28
29 Trustee Ormsby stated that one of the things that they are looking for is a new name for
30 that little park. She doesn’t know if they should have a contest or just have people submit
31 a name. The Beautification Committee wants it to be called “A Garden.” She believes
32 that it needs a new name. She would appreciate any input from anybody. Trustee Ormsby
33 stated that a lady told her that she goes to that park every day and sits on that bench either
34 in the morning or the afternoon. It is two blocks away from where the lady resides.
35 Trustee Ormsby stated that it is a peaceful spot. She encouraged everyone to look at the
36 Tree City Flag. She stated that it is very pretty. She thanked everyone for attending. She
37 thanked Administrator Mekarski for the Proclamation.

38
39 Administrator Mekarski stated that this was a park that was abandoned by the Park
40 District and it was turned back over to Metra. The Village President and the Board of
41 Trustees worked with the Beautification Committee and not only accepted the park, but
42 worked with Metra to expand the area getting additional right-of-way, and they literally
43 in two-years have transformed the landscape. He stated that it is a wonderful, wonderful
44 job.

1 Trustee Ormsby stated that Denise Will and her entire staff came to the Arbor Day
2 Ceremony. She stated that it was very nice to have them be a part of it. She stated that we
3 were grateful to have them there.

4
5 **PLANNING:**

6
7 **Career Readiness and College Preparation Subcommittee of the Educational**
8 **Commission** – Trustee Oliver stated that he did not have a formal report this evening. He
9 stated that he wanted to make an addendum to the report that he made at the last Board
10 Meeting having to do with the Subcommittee for Career Readiness and College
11 Preparation of the Educational Commission. The Educational Commission is making
12 more of an effort to keep the Village President and the Board, as well as the Village more
13 in tune with what it is that we are attempting to do. One of the major projects that the
14 Educational Commission is working on right now is this issue involving our children
15 going to the Career Fairs and going out to Navy Pier to the College Fair.

16
17 Trustee Oliver stated that at the last meeting he mentioned that the Career Readiness and
18 College Preparation Subcommittee met with Prairie State College. The attempt was to
19 find a place or venue in order to have this Career Fair. They learned that there are 12
20 colleges that make up the South Metropolitan Higher Education Consortium. The
21 Consortium has the same sort of mission that the Subcommittee of the Educational
22 Commission has evolved into, which is to focus more of our energy and efforts in the
23 Middle School for the sole purpose of trying to indoctrinate them now as well as their
24 parents to have more parental involvement for the kids sake, and for the Middle School
25 group to be better prepared to enter into the high school system. He stated that many of
26 the schools are suggesting, and particularly Rich 227 is suggesting that by the time the
27 Middle School kids get to the high school level, they are not really prepared. There are
28 only 25% or less that are prepared to do well in school. The Consortium is trying to do
29 the same thing that the Educational Commission is doing which is to approach the Middle
30 Schools and work with those parents. He wanted to go on record to state the 12 colleges
31 that make up the Consortium. Trustee Oliver stated that he misplaced his notes. He stated
32 that Moraine Valley College, Prairie State College, Governors State University and
33 Illinois Institute of Technology, Lewis University and University of St. Francis are a few
34 of the colleges. Trustee Oliver stated that he will name the full list of colleges involved
35 with the Consortium at the next Board Meeting.

36
37 Trustee Oliver stated that the Educational Commission Subcommittee is working very
38 diligently to not only look at something that will be in the immediate future, but will have
39 long-term effects on the kids of this region, particularly with Rich 227. He stated that the
40 Board will hear more about this as time goes on.

41
42 Trustee Ormsby stated that the focus on the Middle School is something that she always
43 wondered about. She stated that the kids that come out of Arcadia School come out at
44 such a high level. She stated that school has such a high ranking. It is one of the best
45 schools in the State. She stated then they go to the Middle School. She inquired what

1 happens from Arcadia to the Middle School. She inquired where the disconnect is. She
2 believes it has to be in the Middle School. That has always been a question that she had.

3
4 Trustee Oliver stated that one of the nice things of achieving the status of a Blue Ribbon
5 School is it is not something that you aspire to every year. It is something that you work
6 hard to attain. He stated that the Federal Government tracks those kids beyond the grade
7 school into high school and into college. He stated that it is a nice way to figure out what
8 it is that is working for them, and how well they succeed based on this status of the Blue
9 Ribbon School. He stated that there are several Blue Ribbon Schools in the area. The
10 Catholic School St. Lawrence O'Toole has the same status. He stated that often times
11 these kids go to private schools. Many of them do not attend Rich Central. Those that do
12 are in that 25% that fair well and will go anywhere.

13
14 Trustee Ormsby stated that the kids come out of Arcadia in the 90 something percentile
15 across the Board in test results and then they go to Middle School. She inquired whether
16 or not the information is available on what happens to them. Trustee Oliver stated no.

17
18 Administrator Mekarski stated that we would be happy to address that in a work session.
19 He stated that it is very difficult to do that because the standardized testing that is used in
20 the Elementary and Middle Schools don't align at all with the standardized testing in the
21 high schools. He stated that you have a mismatch of not only what is being tested, but
22 there is a tendency of the teachers to teach to the test. You have no congruency with what
23 is being taught, not 100%, but in a lot of cases, especially in some of the core elements,
24 Math, Science, and Reading and the transition into high school.

25
26 Trustee Ormsby inquired what is the percentage of Arcadia's students that go to the
27 Middle School. She stated that Middle School feeds from a lot of spots.

28
29 Administrator Mekarski stated that we can look into that. He stated that at the June
30 Meeting let's have that entered into the record and we can have some discussion and see
31 if we can do some research for the Board.

32 33 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

34
35 **New Garage Door at the Public Works Garage** – Trustee Waite stated that he did not
36 have a formal report this evening. Trustee Waite stated that the new garage door at the
37 Public Works Garage has been installed. It is a roll-up, steel door. It was previously
38 approved by the Board. It cost about \$10,000.00. He stated that the door is very attractive
39 and now they have the height that they need to get the trucks inside.

40
41 **Dog Ordinance Signs** – Trustee Waite stated that the Public Works Department has
42 started to put up the signs to pick up after your dog. They should have all of the signs up
43 by the end of this week. He stated that allows the police department to fine somebody if
44 they do not pick up after their dogs. He has noticed that people are walking their dogs and
45 carrying bags to pick up after the dogs.

1 **Inspection of East Water Tower** – Trustee Waite stated that the east water tower has
2 been inspected. They are going to put in a new liner on the inside. It is a high quality
3 coating that lasts for many years. It should be completed by the end of this month and
4 then that tower will be back in service.

5
6 **Lincoln Mall Closing** – Trustee Waite stated that he attended a Mothers’ Day Party
7 yesterday. Several of the ladies in attendance stated that they had heard rumors that
8 Lincoln Mall is closing. He inquired whether or not that is true.

9
10 Trustee Gibson stated that it is true. There was a meeting last week. Trustee Gibson
11 didn’t know about the meeting. One or two of the Homeowners Association Presidents
12 attended the meeting. She stated that the word is that the mall is closing and perhaps
13 Carson’s will stay.

14
15 **Dog Ordinance (Continued)** – Trustee Ormsby stated that she along with Mr. Alexa and
16 Reginald Ford drove the entire Village to place the signs for the Dog Ordinance. She
17 stated that five-signs have been set aside for Wysteria. Reginald Ford is going to contact
18 Dr. Gibson and Dr. Gibson can show him where the signs are to be placed in Wysteria.
19 She stated that they set aside four-signs in case they missed something critical. They have
20 gotten feedback that people are happy the signs are out there.

21
22 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she attended the Greens Homeowners
23 Association Meeting and the subject came up about people walking their dogs, and the
24 signs, and the enforcement of the Dog Ordinance.

25
26 Trustee Pennington inquired of Trustee Ormsby whether or not she could state where the
27 signs will be going. Trustee Ormsby stated that they prepared a map and they noted every
28 single one of the signs. She stated that she can prepare a map for the Board so that they
29 can see where the signs are located. There are quite a few signs at 207th Street off of
30 Western. They had to do those back-to-back because that was a big spot. They tried to put
31 the others where they had received complaints about the problem. She stated that they
32 will probably end up ordering more signs. They didn’t put any in the park area because
33 that really is the park area. She believes that Denise Will is interested in having the signs
34 but the Village will not buy the signs for the Park District.

35
36 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

37
38 Trustee Nale stated that she did not have a formal report this evening.

39
40 **Executive Safety Committee** – Trustee Nale stated that the Executive Safety Committee
41 met on Thursday, May 10th. She will have a formal report at the next Board Meeting.

42
43 **Human Resource Committee** – Trustee Nale stated that the Human Resource
44 Committee is meeting on Monday, May 21st. She will have a report at the next Board
45 Meeting.

1 **South Suburban Convention Center** – Trustee Nale stated that she spoke with the
2 personnel people at the South Suburban Convention Center. She was interested in getting
3 some information out to various communities about some of the positive things that are
4 going on in the Village of Olympia Fields. One of the things is the recent Arbor Day
5 Celebration that the Village had. The individual that she spoke with stated that they just
6 needed something in writing and some pictures. Trustee Nale stated that she wanted to
7 get together with Trustee Ormsby to see if they could get something about the Village out
8 there to the other communities.

9
10 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that is wonderful. Trustee Ormsby stated that
11 would be great.

12
13 **The Traditions First Balloting Session** – Trustee Nale stated that she was invited to
14 attend The Traditions first Balloting Session on May 11th. She stated that it was just
15 wonderful. They have a beautiful club house. They had about a dozen people on the
16 ballot for offices. They decided that they would take the three people that received the
17 highest number of votes, and those three people would decide on the offices that they
18 wished to hold. Trustee Nale stated that the residents of The Traditions are very grateful
19 to the Village for their help and assistance over the years. She stated that they are very,
20 very friendly and she was very happy to be there.

21
22 Administrator Mekarski stated that as part of the road reconstruction the Village was able
23 to install over 60 new trees in The Traditions. Village President Meyers-Martin stated
24 that she and Administrator Mekarski drove over there and it is very, very pretty. Trustee
25 Nale stated that they are getting ready to open the swimming pool.

26
27 Trustee Gibson inquired whether or not they are an official Homeowners Association
28 since they had their election. Administrator Mekarski stated that they don't have a
29 majority interest in the property. He believes that the Royal Bank of Canada owns 55 lots
30 and The Traditions own 45 lots. There is the potential for 107 to 118 lots. It depends
31 whether or not the last section goes towards quads, townhomes or single-family homes.
32 He stated that right now the Royal Bank of Canada still controls the majority interest.

33
34 Trustee Nale inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not the property that they
35 would like to eventually build on is owned by the bank. Trustee Gibson stated that all of
36 that unsold property belongs to the bank. Trustee Nale inquired whether or not that part
37 of the property is called "The Traditions." Administrator Mekarski stated yes, it is. It is
38 all part of the same plan. Trustee Nale stated that maybe this should be brought to their
39 attention that it might not be considered a Homeowners Association in the Village.

40
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they participate in everything that the
42 Homeowners Associations participate in. The Village has never extricated them from any
43 activity.

44
45 **Tree Program** - Trustee Gibson inquired of Trustee Ormsby whether or not the Village
46 was going to have a Tree Program this year. Trustee Ormsby stated that we discussed this

1 at the Beautification Committee Meeting. Due to the fact the Village has so many Ash
2 Tree issues, the Beautification Committee is thinking about revamping the Tree Program.
3 She stated that Wysteria has about 90 Ash Trees that need to be removed and Arcadia has
4 a lot too. The Beautification Committee is thinking that an area should be able to
5 participate as opposed to an individual, because certain areas are losing so many trees.
6 She stated that they had approval to do that. Vienna Woods has about 25 Ash Trees that
7 need to be removed.

8
9 Trustee Ormsby stated for the benefit of the residents that don't know what the Tree
10 Program is, every year the Village puts money aside and we offer three different kinds of
11 trees. The Village pays 50% and the homeowner pays 50%. She stated that this year we
12 are not going to offer it to the individual. We are going to offer it to the Homeowners
13 Associations. She stated that they will probably do that for the next three or four-years
14 due to the Ash Borer.

15
16 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

17
18 Trustee Gibson stated that she did not have a formal report this evening. She stated that
19 her formal report was presented during Communications and Petitions. She stated that
20 she has been riding with Chief Chudwin and Deputy Chief Kickert most of the day
21 looking at the damage and outlining some of the things that we need to do within the
22 Village because of that. She stated that we believe that it is youth in the Village that is
23 breaking into some of the homes. She stated that so far we have been successful in
24 apprehending them.

25
26 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

27
28 **Resolution #2012-07 – A Resolution adopting several policies and notices in**
29 **conjunction with the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic**
30 **Opportunity Grant.** Administrator Mekarski stated that the first item on the Agenda is
31 Resolution #2012-07 - A Resolution adopting several policies and notices in conjunction
32 with the State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant. He
33 stated that this is actually a legal Grant compliance requirement dealing with The
34 Traditions Grant, our \$502,000.00 Paving, Storm Water Management and Road Right-of-
35 Way Grant. He stated that as part of those requirements, additional modifications and
36 amendments to our personnel policies needed to be incorporated.

37
38 Administrator Mekarski stated that the Resolution references three. The Housing and
39 Urban Development Act of 1968 Section 3 Policy, is a policy to increase opportunities
40 for employment and contracting for low income residents and businesses utilizing
41 Community Development Block Grants. He stated that if there are any other Federal
42 Grant Monies available, special notice would go out in the Village's Bid Notices and the
43 Village's advertisements, and the Village's Webpage that possible employment
44 opportunities could be involved with the use of these Federal Funds.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that the other two are relative to Section 504. He stated
2 that this is the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. This is a formal policy that the Village does
3 not discriminate on the basis of disability. It provides a Notice of Nondiscrimination on
4 the basis of Disability and a Grievance Procedure. It incorporates those policies into the
5 Village's Manual.

6 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Pennington to approve Resolution No.**
7 **2012-07 – A Resolution adopting several Policies and Notices in conjunction with the**
8 **State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grant.**

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

10
11 **Dedication of Private Streets as a Public Right-of-Way – Greens Townhomes**

12 **Subdivision** – Administrator Mekarski stated that the second item is the dedication of
13 private streets as a public right-of-way – Greens Townhomes Subdivision. He stated that
14 we do have a representative from the Greens Townhomes here this evening. He stated
15 that this is long in coming. The Greens Townhomes has been working with the other
16 associations, and independently with Administrator Mekarski's Office and the Office of
17 the Village's Legal Advisor and the Village's Engineer to put together all of the
18 necessary paperwork so we can dedicate the two streets in the Greens Townhomes that
19 are not public streets.

20
21 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not that included the streets
22 and the curbs. Administrator Mekarski stated that is correct, the streets and the curbs and
23 some minor right-of-way beyond that just to allow adequate maintenance. He stated that
24 it is like an easement so if we have snow piling or construction activities we are not
25 actually on private property.

26
27 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not there would be any
28 need to improve anything to accept this dedication. Administrator Mekarski stated not by
29 the homeowners. He stated that this will be assessed by our Geographic Information
30 System Pavement Management Analysis. It will be incorporated into Phase 1 or Phase 2
31 of that Capital Improvement Strategy that was discussed earlier in the meeting. He stated
32 that we conducted a preliminary analysis. The Village President presented that at the
33 Greens Homeowners Association Meeting. It looks at 10 or 15 parameters of road surface
34 from bleeding of asphalt, to rippling, to potholes, to wear ability to ride. The Board,
35 rather than making a subjective decision, can make a very impartial decision based on the
36 livability of the road. The whole strategy of the Board is to repair these roadways before
37 they get to the point where they deteriorate so much that we have to rebuild it. The Board
38 has invested in a sophisticated mechanism of its lasers, aerial photography, and
39 photography designed on the truck itself, and it measures all kinds of features of the
40 roadway.

41
42 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not this Motion
43 encompasses the single-family homes in the Greens. Administrator Mekarski stated no,
44 the single-family homes are already dedicated. He stated that St. Andrews Drive and St.
45 Andrews Court and the subordinate streets are already part of the dedicated roads. The
46 Village's Pavement Management System would incorporate that as well.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that our Legal Advisor took the legal documents
2 submitted by the townhomes and incorporated that into a Modified Common Element
3 Dedication Agreement. He stated that Paragraph A states “The Association is the duly
4 appointed governing body representing the Unit Owners in the Greens Townhomes
5 Subdivision, located within the Village.” The actual specifications of the subdivision are
6 filled out. The attorney has referenced all the specific documents that were submitted to
7 Administrator Mekarski by the homeowners and incorporated into this modified
8 agreement so that we can duly record it in the County. The Motion that is attached to the
9 Memorandum of May 14th, 2012, still stands.

10
11 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the original Memo does have the signatures
12 for your review.

13
14 Trustee Gibson inquired whether or not there is a reason that we don’t have any
15 signatures from anyone in Inverness Court. She stated that we have enough signatures.
16 Administrator Mekarski stated that we met the statutory requirements as per our Legal
17 Advisor. Trustee Gibson stated that you have St. Andrews and Tam O’Shanter, but it
18 seems a little odd that you don’t have anyone out of the 11-residents from Inverness
19 Court. Trustee Waite stated that the second page is missing. Administrator Mekarski
20 stated that this might be a copying or collating error. Administrator Mekarski apologized.
21 He stated that there were two pages to this. He stated that we do have those.

22 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Kelvin to authorize the Village**
23 **President to enter into the “Common Element Dedication Agreement” with the**
24 **Greens Townhomes Subdivision to formally accept the dedication of private streets**
25 **to the Village of Olympia Fields to be maintained, repaired, and or replaced in**
26 **accordance with the Village’s usual and customary practices as a dedicated public**
27 **street; and authorize the Village President and Village Clerks to execute all**
28 **documents and exhibits necessary for filing with the Cook County Recorder of**
29 **Deeds; and further authorize the Village Attorney to record at Cook County an**
30 **executed exhibit of dedication of the public road network for the Greens**
31 **Townhomes Subdivision.**

32
33 Trustee Pennington stated that we want to make it clear that that second page be
34 appended to the second page of signatures. Trustee Gibson stated that the name of the
35 street is within the Memorandum. Trustee Pennington stated that the names of the signers
36 are not there. He suggested that we make sure that the names of the signers are there.

37 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Gibson to authorize the Village**
38 **President to enter into the “Common Element Dedication Agreement” with the**
39 **Greens Townhomes Subdivision to formally accept the dedication of private streets**
40 **to the Village of Olympia Fields to be maintained, repaired, and or replaced in**
41 **accordance with the Village’s usual and customary practices as a dedicated public**
42 **street; and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk to execute all**
43 **documents and exhibits necessary for filing with the Cook County Recorder of**
44 **Deeds; and further authorize the Village Attorney to record at Cook County an**
45 **executed exhibit of dedication of the public road network for the Greens**
46 **Townhomes Subdivision upon insertion of the additional page of signatures.**

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

2
3 **Information Only: Pre-Application to IEPA for Low Interest Loans – Graymoor**
4 **Laterals Project** – Administrator Mekarski stated that the next item is for information
5 only. It is a pre-application for the IEPA for Low Interest Loans. This is the Graymoor
6 Lateral Project. He stated that in our Budget Work Session and our work session on
7 Capital Improvement Strategies we talked in part about the Graymoor Lateral Project. He
8 stated that we will have a more detailed work session as soon as the analysis is completed
9 in about two or three weeks from Robinson Engineering. He stated that we were
10 anticipating on the 2030 Plan to bond for the capital improvements. There is an
11 opportunity for Low Interest Loans. Low Interest Loans would be preferable than going
12 out to the market for bonds. The pre-application to the IEPA is for an amount not to
13 exceed \$2,500,000.00 for this project. The current estimate range is somewhere between
14 \$1,000,000.00 and \$1,500,000.00. He stated that the \$2,500,000.00 may not be necessary,
15 but the analysis is not completed yet. He stated that we are applying for a loan for the
16 worst case scenario. He stated that the IEPA will only give you monies that you can
17 support by an engineering analysis. The Board does not have to take any action. He just
18 wanted the Board to know that the pre-application is being made and it is in the Village’s
19 fiduciary interest to do so.

20
21 Trustee Waite inquired of Administrator Mekarski how many laterals that covers.
22 Administrator Mekarski stated that they took the worst case scenario and they took 144
23 homes, and they assumed that a certain linear footage has to be done on all of them. That
24 is the worst case scenario. They are doing the cleaning, the televising, the smoke testing,
25 and they are installing clean outs, and they are doing a more detailed televising of the
26 lateral itself to see what cracks have to be repaired or if it can be suture formed or
27 replaced. It can range anywhere from \$1,000.00 to \$15,000.00 depending on the length,
28 and depending if it has to be replaced, or if it just has to be lined. He stated that there are
29 a lot of variables yet.

30
31 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

32
33 **Olympia Fields Tolentine Park – Grand Opening – May 26, 2012** – Village President
34 Meyers-Martin stated that in the Board Packet is the flyer advertising the Grand Opening
35 of Tolentine Park which is scheduled for Saturday, May 26th, 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. at
36 207th and Governors Highway. The Ribbon Cutting will begin at 11:00 A.M.

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that everyone is aware how many times the
39 Board has had this discussion regarding the Tolentine Park and knowing that the Grand
40 Opening was coming. She stated that the elements and issues that the Board has
41 discussed for the past eight or nine months have not been laid to rest. Some are still
42 pending. She stated that today the Village received a report from Robinson Engineering
43 regarding some of the issues that we have broached, not only with the Park District but
44 with IDOT regarding safety concerns at that intersection. She stated that the Grand
45 Opening is May 26th. The Village will certainly support the Park District in that effort,
46 but we will continue to work behind the scenes so that we can address those concerns that

1 we have had from the very beginning. Village President Meyers-Martin stated at the last
2 Board Meeting that she, along with Administrator Mekarski and Robinson Engineering
3 met with eight of IDOT's engineers to discuss a possible traffic light for that intersection.
4 She stated that while they were under the impression that IDOT was totally opposed to it,
5 Village President Meyers-Martin got the sense that they were more receptive to the
6 Village's plea at that particular meeting, and that the Village may be able to make some
7 progress, although not in time for the Grand Opening. She stated that is unfortunate. She
8 stated that is where we are.

9
10 Trustee Ormsby stated that park is already thriving. She stated that there are people there
11 all the time. She stated that it is already a success for the Park District.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Village will continue to work on the
14 elements that we believe are still of importance regarding the park.

15
16 **Respond Now 5K Race** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there is a flyer in
17 the Board Packet for the Respond Now 5K Race. The event is scheduled for June 9th,
18 2012, at Bicentennial Park. Village President Meyers-Martin invited Mr. Carl Wolf from
19 Respond Now to speak about the event.

20
21 Mr. Carl Wolf stated that he is the Executive Director of Respond Now in Chicago
22 Heights. Mr. Wolf came this evening to answer any questions that the Board might have,
23 and to make sure that everything is in place as far as the Village Board is concerned
24 regarding the 5K Race planned for June 9th.

25
26 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that one of the concerns was a Certificate of
27 Insurance which has been provided. She stated that we have that in our report. She stated
28 that from a Memo that she has, the Village still has not received written approval from
29 the Park District and from the Homeowners Association. She stated that it looks as
30 though we are trying to reach out to Sharon Bean and Doris Meredith.

31
32 Mr. Wolf stated that we have spoken with them on a number of occasions. We have
33 received their consent and their approval. Mr. Wolf stated that he spoke with Mallory at
34 the Park District. He has received verbal approval from them. He has asked for written
35 approval but they felt that verbal approval would do. He has discussed the event with the
36 Homeowners Association and the Park District.

37
38 Administrator Mekarski suggested that Mr. Wolf contact him later this week and they
39 could have a conference call with Ron Bean from the Homeowners Association and with
40 the Park District to see if we can secure approval. He stated even an e-mail transmission
41 stating that they met and discussed this, and that it is official. He stated that helps protect
42 the Village's liability because it is affecting public and private property because the race
43 will interfere with the pleasure of the private homes, and it affects the park property
44 because you will be assembling at Bicentennial Park.

1 Mr. Wolf stated that he knows very little about the setup of the different Homeowners
2 Associations, but he heard that Doris Meredith is with the Arcadia Subdivision and that
3 Sharon Bean is with the Original Village. He stated that he heard that it wasn't necessary
4 to discuss it with the Original Village. Trustee Gibson inquired of Mr. Wolf whether or
5 not the race is going through the Original Village. Mr. Wolf stated that the last he heard
6 they were not but he will double-check on that. He didn't have the route with him.
7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Board was in agreement and approved
8 the concept of the race. The Board was just looking for some of these other elements to
9 be in place like the insurance, and the approval of the Homeowners Association. She
10 stated that this race will take place prior to our next Board Meeting.

11 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to approve and authorize**
12 **the running of the Respond Now Southland 5K Race upon the acquisition of the**
13 **written approvals from the Park District as well as the Homeowners Association.**

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

15
16 Trustee Gibson inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin if we could also mention in
17 the Motion, in the form of a letter or e-mail. Trustee Pennington stated that an e-mail is
18 just as good. Trustee Gibson stated that written approval could be one or the other.
19 Administrator Mekarski stated that is part of the public record so we don't have to
20 modify the Motion. Trustee Nale stated that the Original Village Homeowners
21 Association is meeting on Saturday.

22
23 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Mr. Wolf could contact the Administrator's
24 Office and work in tandem with Administrator Mekarski to get all of those pieces in
25 place.

26
27 Trustee Waite stated that Carl Wolf is the Executive Director. He stated that McKenley
28 Wilson and Amy Webber are the people in charge of the race. They are on the Board.
29 One is an employee of Respond Now.

30
31 Mr. Wolf thanked the Board for what it is doing for Respond Now and they appreciate
32 the Village's willingness to allow them to have the race. They are looking forward to a
33 wonderful event.

34
35 Trustee Waite inquired of Mr. Wolf how long Respond Now has been in business. Mr.
36 Wolf stated 42 years. Trustee Waite inquired of Mr. Wolf how Respond Now got started.
37 Mr. Wolf stated that Respond Now started as a coming together of various churches that
38 saw that individuals would go to these churches looking for assistance. The churches
39 decided to pull their resources together. He stated that what started as an effort of
40 parishioners, volunteers, at these local churches has grown into an agency that has the
41 support of a great number of churches in the far south suburbs, and a large number of
42 individuals and businesses in the south suburbs. The people of the area support it. Mr.
43 Wolf stated that they get some funding from United Way. They get some Federal
44 Funding through FEMA and some State Funding. Over a third of their support is from
45 individuals, businesses, and local churches in the south suburbs. That local support in
46 conjunction with Grants that they write and the government funding helps them to be

1 diversified in their funding base and being able to continue to be of service to folks in the
2 area.

3
4 Trustee Waite inquired of Mr. Wolf how many people they give service to on a daily
5 basis. Mr. Wolf stated anywhere from 80 to -families a day, three-days a week. They
6 service all the towns, cities, and Villages in the far south suburbs including Olympia
7 Fields. Mr. Wolf stated that he will be in touch with Administrator Mekarski.

8
9 **Trip to Washington, D.C.** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she wanted to
10 discuss our lobbyist trip to Washington. She stated that we are celebrating 10-years of the
11 relationship with the Lobbyist, Smith Dawson & Andrews. She stated that she has not
12 been involved for all of the ten-years. She passed out a Memo from Brett Garson. He is a
13 representative from Smith Dawson & Andrews that the Village has been working with
14 for many years. She believes that the trip was successful this year in spite of the fact that
15 earmarks are sort of taboo these days because of the economy, and just the climate and
16 the atmosphere in Washington. They did meet with Majority Leader Harry Reid’s Office.
17 They met with Senator Mark Kirk’s Office and Senator Dick Durbin’s Office. They met
18 with the Department of Housing and Urban Development. They met with Congressman
19 Jesse Jackson’s Office. She stated that it is a contingency and it use to be four-towns. It is
20 now three, the Village of Park Forest, the Village of Olympia Fields and the Village of
21 Richton Park. The Mayors and Village Administrators from each of those Villages meet
22 with the Senators Offices and the Congressman’s Offices with the purpose in mind to
23 have each Mayor give a report and summary on projects that the Villages are involved in,
24 our request for funding, and our request for their participation in the projects that we are
25 doing. She stated that over the years we have been very successful.

26
27 Administrator Mekarski stated that we have brought back well over \$5,000,000.00 for the
28 four communities. The Village of Olympia Fields has brought \$1,500,000.00 involved
29 with improvements to our Sanitary Sewer Lift Stations, committed improvements to
30 intersection redevelopment at 203rd Street and Crawford which is being incorporated with
31 the State financing of that intersection, and the Retail Redlining Study which was over a
32 quarter Million Dollars designed to really shatter the glass ceiling, and for the first time in
33 the United States look at the issue of unconscious racism or the process where national
34 retailers will look at a community like ours and stereotype it despite our wealth, despite
35 our disposable income, and make an assumption that we are poor, undereducated and
36 can’t support Class A Retail. He stated that everybody knows in this community that is
37 false, and that study is going a long way towards waking up not only Olympia Fields but
38 America to that issue.

39
40 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the one thing that she wants to emphasize as
41 part of that trip, is that each and every one of those Senate Offices always expressed to
42 our contingency how impressed they are with the fact that we have this consortium of
43 towns who are willing to work together in order to bring back the benefits to their
44 constituents and to their residents. She stated that other than a group of towns out east, we
45 are the only towns that do that. They are highly impressed that we believe in regionalism,

1 we believe in working together and sharing resources, and making that concerted effort
2 together. She stated that we are always complimented on our actions for doing that.

3
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that they are impressed with the Retail Redlining
5 Study. She stated that there was talk of a Congressional Hearing where they would testify
6 about the benefits of that Retail Redlining, as well as their interest in the findings of that
7 and making this a model for the rest of the Nation, because there are other towns and
8 Municipalities across the Nation that experienced the same type of thing where they have
9 difficulty attracting economic development to their particular Municipalities. She stated
10 that there was a great deal of interest about that. She believes that we will see the benefits
11 of making that apparent and making that noticeable to our representatives in Washington.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we also talked in partnership with Park
14 Forest about the TOD at 211th Street and the improvements that need to be made there, as
15 well as the development that we would be interested in pursuing for our Transit-Oriented
16 Development at 211th Street.

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she was extremely excited because she got to
19 bring up the roundabout that we have discussed at Vollmer and Kedzie. She stated that
20 after we were done showing pictures of trucks that have crashed into the viaduct and the
21 fact that traffic can be tied up for hours on end on Vollmer Road with no alternative, we
22 were met with a lot of excitement and a lot of interest in that particular project.

23 Congressman Jackson stated that “They will do whatever it is that they can do in order to
24 further that project.” She was extremely excited about that because it really wasn’t on
25 their top list, but they did mention it. They understand that this is a real, major concern
26 for the Village. SouthCom stated that if that road is blocked, emergency vehicles can’t
27 get through. They have to go all the way to Route 30. She stated that really made an
28 impression and she was very excited about that. She stated that they get it and she is
29 happy about that.

30
31 Administrator Mekarski stated that we have two catastrophic accidents there a month
32 where a truck that goes through the viaduct is totally decimated. The top is taken off, the
33 sides collapse. He stated about four-months ago, as the top of the truck was sheared off
34 and there is no structural support to the sides of the trucks, a main beam supporting the
35 whole truck where the cab door opens up and closes, collapsed on the car behind it
36 crushing the vehicle. Fortunately, it came down on the passenger side. If it came down on
37 the driver’s side it would have been fatal. He stated that happens at least twice a month,
38 at least once in Flossmoor and once in Olympia Fields. Those extractions can take over
39 six-hours because they have to load all the contents, pick up the contents that spewed on
40 the road and get it on the truck and load it back on. Sometimes they have to get extraction
41 equipment to pull the trucks because sometimes they are wedged in there.

42
43 Administrator Mekarski stated that the roundabout is designed to allow the trucks to go in
44 a traffic circle. There are electronic devices that would trip if the height is measured
45 above what the truck can yield, and then warning lights telling the driver to continue and
46 go on the other direction on Vollmer. He stated even if they don’t have a catastrophic

1 failure, a cab truck trying to back up takes an hour. He stated that with a tandem truck
2 backing up it can take three hours, because they have to uncouple it, and then couple it
3 after it is backed up.

4
5 Village President Meyers-Martin provided the Board with a summary of the items they
6 discussed and the offices that they visited on that trip.

7
8 **International Council of Shopping Centers** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated
9 that this is the first year that the Village will participate in the International Council of
10 Shopping Centers. They have a big conference in Las Vegas every year. Most of the
11 surrounding towns in this region attend. Some of them have booths. That is where those
12 deals are made to get economic development into your town and to get Class A Retail
13 into your town. The retailers and restaurants are present. She is scheduled to make the
14 rounds with all of our owner/developers in town. She stated that whoever they are
15 meeting with she is going along with them, in order to make the plea for the Village that
16 we are interested in working with them to attract retail to this Village. There is a segment
17 where you are speaking to some of the tenants directly. She stated that it might be
18 Potbelly's who is on her list to approach. Jimmy John's, Caribou Coffee, Starbucks, T J
19 Maxx, Marshalls, Meijer, all of those retailers will be there. She has the cut sheets that
20 list all of the square footage and the traffic studies in terms of how many cars travel on
21 the streets. She stated that we are well-armed to promote the Village of Olympia Fields.
22 She is excited about that. She is hoping that will be the first step in getting Olympia
23 Fields on the map and letting retailers know that we are here and that we are interested in
24 working with them. She stated that you have to get on their radar screen. You have to go
25 after them. They don't come to you these days. She stated that is coming up on Sunday.

26
27 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

28
29 **Resignations and Appointments – Resignation: Randy Kickert as Police Department**
30 **FOIA Officer – Sergeant Morgan and Sergeant Beauchamp as Police Department**
31 **FOIA Officers** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that at our last Board Meeting
32 the Board tabled the Resignation of Deputy Chief Randy Kickert as our Police
33 Department FOIA Officer, and his recommendation to appoint Sergeant Morgan and
34 Sergeant Beauchamp as the new FOIA Officers. She stated that there was a question
35 regarding that process. There is a Memo from Deputy Chief Kickert in the Board Packet.

36
37 Trustee Gibson stated that the question the last time was how they arrived at those two
38 people. After the last Board Meeting Trustee Gibson spoke with Chief Chudwin. She
39 stated that it really is not a promotion. It is another job that they have to do. Everyone
40 knew about it. She stated that these two Sergeants have the longest longevity and the
41 most training for a FOIA Officer and that is why they were chosen and they accepted it.

42 **Motion by Trustee Ormsby, second by Trustee Oliver to accept the Resignation of**
43 **Deputy Chief Randy Kickert as our Police Department FOIA Officer, and to**
44 **appoint Sergeant Morgan and Sergeant Beauchamp as our newly appointed Police**
45 **Department FOIA Officers.**

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

1 **Sign Ordinance** – Trustee Ormsby inquired of Administrator Mekarski whether or not he
2 had a chance to get a hold of the Village Attorney regarding our Sign Ordinance.
3 Administrator Mekarski stated that he did. He stated that he has been working very
4 closely with Judy and she has been working very closely with Mike Hoffman. She
5 completed the definition section. He stated that within a week or two weeks we will
6 schedule a review team meeting to go over the revised draft with Trustee Ormsby,
7 Trustee Gibson and Mr. McDonnell.

8
9 Trustee Gibson stated that we have done that. Trustee Ormsby stated that we have done
10 that so many times. Administrator Mekarski stated that he takes a lot of the responsibility.
11 We have been inundating her office with a series of lawsuits. Trustee Gibson stated that
12 the definitions have been done for over a year. Trustee Ormsby stated that they are two-
13 pages long. Administrator Mekarski stated that they had to be totally revamped. Trustee
14 Ormsby stated that they shouldn't have to be totally revamped. They are pulled right out
15 of other Villages. Administrator Mekarski stated that the definitions as they currently
16 were written were not consistent with recent revisions of Federal and State Law. He
17 stated that in his conference attendance at The American Planning Association, one of the
18 most talked about topics was Sign Ordinance Construction, and how if the Ordinance is
19 not checked against new Case Law, both Federal and State Statute, that it can invalidate
20 the constitutionality of the whole thing.

21
22 Trustee Gibson stated that for two-years now we have been trying to get a Sign
23 Ordinance finished. Administrator Mekarski stated that she is working diligently. Trustee
24 Gibson stated that we need her to know how important it is to us to get it done.
25 Administrator Mekarski stated that she does. He reiterates the interest of the Board on a
26 weekly basis. She will get it done. He promises that. He stated that we will have a
27 meeting in two-weeks with the Sign Committee. He stated that we will probably have
28 either First Reading or discussion at the Board level at the next meeting in June.

29
30 **Planning Report (Continued)** – Trustee Oliver stated that for the sake of clarity on his
31 report, he would like to go ahead and finish the name of the Consortium and the
32 members. The name of the Consortium is the South Metropolitan Higher Education
33 Consortium. The members are: Governors State University, Joliet Junior College,
34 Kankakee Community College, Moraine Valley Community College, Prairie State, South
35 Suburban College, Northwestern College, Lewis University, St. Xavier University,
36 Illinois University of Technology, DeVry University, and the University of St. Francis.

37
38 **NEW BUSINESS:**

39
40 **Cancellation of the May 28th Board of Trustees Meeting – In Celebration of**
41 **Memorial Day** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that under New Business we
42 have the cancellation of our May 28th Board of Trustees Meeting which is Memorial Day.
43 She inquired of the Board whether or not there is a need to reschedule that meeting for
44 that week. Administrator Mekarski stated that if there is any kind of urgent business we
45 can always call a Special Meeting. He stated that he has looked at the calendar and we
46 should be able to postpone that. He stated that if something comes up we can post it 48-

1 hours in advance, and as long as we have a quorum to take care of that business we can
2 address that. He stated that if members have conflicts, as long as it doesn't constitute a
3 quorum, you can participate in that Special Meeting telephonically. He stated that he will
4 make every effort to make the Sign Ordinance a part of our next meeting, which is the
5 first meeting in June.

6
7 Trustee Waite stated that if Administrator Mekarski could have somebody get the
8 invoices together he would come in and sign them. Administrator Mekarski stated that
9 would be good. He stated as we have done in the past, we work with the Village
10 President's Office and Trustee Pennington to go through and get checks approved as we
11 have in our other times of recess.

12 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to authorize the cancellation**
13 **of the May 28th Board of Trustees Meeting in celebration of Memorial Day.**

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

15
16 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she had no Resignations or Appointments
19 other than what she already mentioned.

20
21 **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

22
23 **To Discuss Matters of Collective Bargaining 5ILCS120/2(c)(2) -**

24 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Nale to go into Executive Session**
25 **at 8:45 P.M to discuss matters of Collective Bargaining according to**
26 **5ILCS120/2(c)(2).**

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

28
29 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Board will be going into Executive
30 Session and we will not be taking any action afterwards. She thanked everyone for
31 coming tonight.

32 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Nale to return to Open Session at 9:25**
33 **P.M.**

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

35
36 **ADJOURNMENT:**

37
38 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Pennington to adjourn at 9:25 P.M.**

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

40
41 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**