

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on May 24, 2010**
4

5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, May 24, 2010, at the
6 Olympia Fields Village Hall and was called to order by President Jones at 7:00 P.M. The
7 assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll.

8
9 Present: Trustees – Ormsby, Oliver, Pennington, Nale and Meyers-Martin
10 Village President, Linzey Jones
11 Village Clerk, Judi Kay Rangel
12 Village Administrator, David Mekarski
13

14 Absent: Trustee Gibson
15

16 **MINUTES:**
17

18 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to approve the Minutes of**
19 **May 10, 2010, as presented.**

20 **Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion Carried.**
21

22 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**
23

24 President Jones stated that he has Bills for Approval totaling \$62,533.65.

25 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to approve the payment of**
26 **bills for May 24, 2010 in the total amount of \$62,533.65.**

27 **Roll Call: Ayes (5-0) Motion Carried.**
28

29 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:**
30

31 President Jones opened up Communications and Petitions at 7:02 P.M. President Jones
32 stated that the Board was going to hear reports from the Village Engineers and some of
33 the Department Heads regarding the Sewer Program, the Road Program, and the Citation
34 Program.

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36
37 **PUBLIC WORKS:**
38

39 **Recommendation of Bid Award for the 2010 MFT Street Program MFT Section No:**
40 **11-00000-01-GM** – Mr. Joe Alexa stated that for this year’s Road Program they had a bid
41 opening on May 18th. The low bid was received by Iroquois Paving in the amount of
42 \$167,008.14. The work scheduled to take place this year is as follows: 1. Resurfacing of
43 Thornwood Drive from 207th Street to Woodland Drive. 2. A segment of Graymoor Lane
44 in the 100 section. 3. The installation of curbing at 207th and Spartan Way, and Parthenon
45 and Spartan Way. 4. There is culvert pipe that is deteriorating and collapsing running
46 underneath the roadway at Corinth and Alexander that needs to be addressed and taken

1 care of. 5. There are also three culvert pipes that run underneath the roadway on
2 Greenwood at 20816. Those pipes have deteriorated. Through the winter months it has
3 been a bad situation where they had to cut it out and add large rocks to try to secure that
4 area and patch it temporarily. Those culvert pipes convey water from the Suburban
5 Woods area and also Arcadia. It is a main water flow way of storm water to Butterfield
6 Creek. Even though the Engineer's bid estimate was \$11,658.00 lower than the estimate,
7 it is critical to get this work done. He is recommending that the Village move forward on
8 this project so that the issues can be taken care of.

9
10 Mr. Lou Haussmann from Baxter & Woodman stated that there were three bidders on the
11 project. It is a tough job for them because of the amount of pipe work. Half of the job is
12 pipe work, and the other half is paving. He stated that the pipes have to be fixed and they
13 had to be included in this year's program.

14
15 President Jones inquired of Mr. Haussmann if the Village went out to bid a little later this
16 year than in the past. Mr. Haussmann stated that the Village went out to bid about three
17 weeks later this year than last year. He stated that some of that had to do with figuring out
18 the total scope of the project. They were interested in getting Country Club Drive paved
19 this year, but it was decided to postpone that in order to get the infrastructure work done
20 first.

21
22 Trustee Ormsby inquired of Mr. Alexa if 207th and Spartan Way is the end of Arcadia
23 School. Mr. Alexa stated that those are the radiuses. The radius is the curve.

24
25 President Jones stated that this is to address the bus issue. Trustee Ormsby stated that it is
26 not where you turn off of Parthenon into the school. Mr. Alexa stated that it is not. Mr.
27 Haussmann stated that it is the road turning radii to allow the busses to make the turns.
28 Trustee Ormsby thought the resident was referring to where you actually turn into
29 Arcadia School. Mr. Alexa stated that there is no issue with the radiuses there. It is the
30 bus drivers. Mr. Alexa stated at first they were going to go with a nine inch curb, but that
31 seemed awful high. They are now going to put a six inch curb there. That will prohibit
32 the bus drivers from driving on the grass.

33
34 Trustee Meyers-Martin inquired as to whether or not all of this work was going to take
35 place simultaneously. Mr. Haussmann stated that the culvert work will be done first.
36 They will patch around the culverts. The paving will be done last. Trustee Meyers-Martin
37 inquired as to how disruptive this would be to the neighborhood. Mr. Haussmann stated
38 that he does not see any problem. Mr. Alexa stated that on Greenwood they may have to
39 close the road down for a day to do the repair work on the three culverts. The residents in
40 that area would be notified. President Jones stated that no one would be locked in if they
41 had to shut the road down.

42 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Ormsby to accept the**
43 **recommendations of our Department of Public Works Director, Joe Alexa, and our**
44 **Village Engineer, Baxter & Woodman, for the lowest and best bid for the Fiscal**
45 **Year 2010-2011 MFT Program; authorize the Village President to enter into a**

1 **Contractual Agreement with Iroquois Paving Corporation in an amount not to**
2 **exceed \$167,008.14.**

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

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5
6 **COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS: (CONTINUED)**

7
8 **Financial Update for the Sanitary Sewer Project** – Mr. Alexa stated that for the IEPA
9 Loan, Request Number 1, the Village has received \$219,665.00 to date for loan
10 disbursement. Currently, on Request Number 2, the IEPA is processing the disbursement
11 of \$423,332.00. At the Board Meeting held on May 10th, a bill was approved for payment
12 to Kim Construction in the amount of \$28,440.40. Robinson Engineering is currently
13 reviewing invoices received from Insituform in the amount of \$462,559.14, as well as
14 another invoice from Kim Construction for \$19,710.00. Once those documents are
15 reviewed, Request Number 3 will go out to the IEPA for disbursement.

16
17 **Report on the Status of the Completion of the Work Relative to the Sanitary Sewer**
18 **Project** – Mr. Ken Budwash from Robinson Engineering stated that the ARRA Loan
19 Project consists of two projects. Mr. Budwash stated that in regard to the Lining Project,
20 they have lined about 74% of what they were to line as part of the project. He believes
21 that project will be completed earlier than anticipated.

22
23 Mr. Budwash stated that Kim Construction is doing the Manhole Rehab Project. They
24 have completed 109 manholes out of roughly 240. They are about 45% complete. He
25 stated that both of those projects are on target, consistent with the calendar that was set
26 out. They will definitely be completed before the deadlines that were set forth in the
27 contracts. President Jones inquired as to when that work is done, then all phases of this
28 project as originally envisioned by the Village are completed. Mr. Budwash stated that is
29 correct.

30
31 **Update on the Graymoor Lift Station** – Mr. Budwash stated that the Graymoor Lift
32 Station is on schedule. ComEd is scheduled to provide power to the Lift Station this
33 week. They have to install an electric meter. Once electric has been provided to the
34 building, the contractor will conduct an equipment check to make sure that all the
35 components are functioning correctly.

36
37 President Jones inquired as to the status of the landscaping for the Lift Station. Mr.
38 Budwash stated that a Landscape Plan was provided by the contractor. The Landscape
39 Plan was forwarded to Mr. Alexa and Trustee Ormsby. Trustee Ormsby stated that she
40 did not receive that. Kay Mangan from the Beautification Committee has it and she is
41 very happy with it. Trustee Ormsby stated that it is very extensive. Trustee Ormsby stated
42 that the Landscape Plan just needs a couple tweaks to it. She will get it back to Mr. Alexa
43 this week.

44
45 Mr. Alexa stated that a Change Order will be required for the Landscape Plan. He stated
46 that some of the shrubs were not included within the original scope of landscaping.

1 President Jones stated that whatever the Village has to do, it is going to do within reason.
2 Mr. Alexa stated that the cost is closer to \$13,000.00. President Jones stated that this
3 would have to be reviewed. He suggested that perhaps the Village could do it in stages
4 and do a little now, and then do a little bit more in the next Fiscal Year. He stated that
5 once the Beautification Committee/Building reviews it, it will have to come back before
6 the Board for consideration and approval. Trustee Ormsby stated that she agreed that it
7 would have to come back before the Board.

8
9 Mr. Budwash stated that the roof will be installed on the Lift Station next week. He stated
10 that aesthetically, the building is a nice looking building. Trustee Ormsby stated that they
11 were able to select the roof and it blends into the landscaping. She stated that it is a very
12 nice improvement for Graymoor.

13
14 **Update on Compliance with the Homes that have Illegal Sewer Connections to the**
15 **Sanitary Sewer** – Mr. John McDonnell stated that when they began the relining of the
16 Sewer System throughout the Village, inspections were done of the residents' homes and
17 it was discovered that some residents had some illegal sewer connections to the Sanitary
18 Sewer. When the project started, approximately 389 homes in the Village had illegal
19 sewer connections. In October of 2009 a letter was sent to those residents requesting that
20 the residents remedy the illegal connections. 184 homes are now in compliance, which is
21 almost 50%. There were 51 homes in Graymoor that had illegal sewer connections. As of
22 today, 25 homes in Graymoor are in compliance, which is very important since the new
23 Graymoor Lift Station will be coming online soon. As of last Friday, a third and final
24 warning notice was sent to the residents in Graymoor that are not in compliance. Next
25 week phone calls will be made to those residents in Graymoor that are not in compliance
26 and have not responded to the Village from the last two mailings.

27
28 President Jones inquired if the Village is offering to reinspect to ensure as to what needs
29 to be done, since it was discovered that in some cases there are simpler ways of coming
30 into compliance than what we had initially thought as a result of the initial inspection
31 process. Mr. McDonnell stated that we have been working with every resident throughout
32 the Village to help them come up with a more economical way to make the repairs, and
33 have helped them out with that by doing a reinspection at their request. Some of the
34 residents have made the repairs themselves. He stated that there has been input from the
35 Village Staff on how to do things in a more economical way. He stated that there is more
36 than one way to repair an illegal sewer connection. He stated that there are different
37 materials and different types of technology that are out there versus what was out there
38 when the homes were built. He stated that sump pump pits and ejector pits use to be put
39 in the ground. Now the State Plumbing Code allows them to be above ground rather than
40 in ground. That just makes a \$2,000.00 repair a \$1,000.00 repair. The repairs are
41 inspected by the Village's Plumbing Inspector or by Mr. McDonnell.

42
43 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mr. McDonnell as to when the second mailing was sent
44 out to the residents. Mr. McDonnell stated that the second mailing was sent out the end of
45 January, 1st of February 2010.

1 President Jones inquired as to whether or not the last communication that just went out to
2 the Graymoor residents indicated the significance of the Lift Station coming online so
3 that they understand that the rules set down by the MWRD, the Lift Station will manage
4 its capacity at a lower level. It is important to the Village and to the residents to eliminate
5 as much improper infiltration and inflow into the system as possible. Mr. McDonnell
6 stated that the last notice to the Graymoor residents mentioned the Lift Station coming
7 online very soon.

8
9 President Jones suggested making the list of those addresses available to the President of
10 the Graymoor Homeowners Association so that they can do some follow-up. He also
11 suggested making a copy of the notices that have gone out available to the President of
12 the Graymoor Homeowners Association as well.

13
14 Mr. Leon Francisco, President of the Graymoor Homeowners Association inquired as to
15 what the consequences are if those homeowners do not come into compliance. Mr.
16 McDonnell stated that the homeowners will be issued a Citation and the Village
17 Prosecutor will bring them into the Markham Court to get some type of Administrative
18 Warrant for entry, or for some type of repair. He stated that there is a further legal
19 process that the Village will have to follow-through with the Village's Prosecutor on how
20 they want to proceed with forcing the residents to come into compliance. The fine can go
21 as high as \$500.00.

22
23 Mr. Francisco stated that he thought that cost could be a problem if they don't know that
24 they can do something on a cheaper basis. Mr. McDonnell stated that the number that
25 was given to them in the first mailing could be deterring them from coming into
26 compliance. It is clear in the letter that the Village wants to reach out to contact these
27 people, and they want the people to contact the Village if they have a question on the
28 cost. Mr. McDonnell stated that he previously sent a list of the addresses that were not in
29 compliance to Mr. Francisco and Mr. Kunkel, but he will send them an updated list since
30 some of the residents have come into compliance.

31
32 President Jones stated the Village can supply Mr. Francisco with the original letters that
33 were sent to the homeowners with the engineer's estimated cost to repair the particular
34 problem that was identified in the homes. He stated that some of the estimated repairs are
35 \$100.00 and some may be \$2,000.00 or \$3,000.00. Until the residents allow the Building
36 Commissioner to go into the home, and view the problem, and discuss with the
37 homeowner how the problem could be repaired, there is no way to assess whether or not
38 the problem could be repaired at a cheaper cost than the estimated cost given by the
39 Village's Engineer in the letter. Mr. Francisco stated that he could be of assistance to Mr.
40 McDonnell when Mr. McDonnell is going to make phone calls to the residents in
41 Graymoor that are not in compliance.

42
43 President Jones stated that there is a Graymoor Homeowners Association Meeting on
44 June 8th at 7:00 P.M. He inquired of Mr. McDonnell if he would be able to attend that
45 meeting to discuss this matter with the residents. Mr. McDonnell stated that he would
46 check his schedule. Mr. Francisco stated that he had asked if President Jones and Trustee

1 Pennington could attend the meeting as well to assist in some questions that the
2 homeowners had. President Jones inquired of Mr. Francisco as to what topics they
3 wanted to discuss. Mr. Francisco stated that they wanted to talk about the ponds.
4 President Jones stated that whoever shows up from the Village at the meeting will have
5 some information regarding the ponds.

6
7 Trustee Pennington inquired of Mr. McDonnell as to whether or not he saw a problem
8 with getting the 25 residents in Graymoor in compliance, with the Graymoor Lift Station
9 coming online very soon. Mr. Budwash stated that the Graymoor Lift Station should be
10 coming online in mid July. Mr. McDonnell stated that they are hopeful that the residents
11 will come forward and they will get close to 100% compliance in Graymoor prior to the
12 Graymoor Lift Station going online.

13
14 Trustee Ormsby inquired of Mr. McDonnell as to whether or not the homes that are in
15 Graymoor that are not in compliance are all occupied, or if any of the homes are vacant.
16 Mr. McDonnell stated that as far as the Village knows, the homes are all occupied. Mr.
17 McDonnell will let President Jones know if he will be able to attend the Graymoor
18 Homeowners Association Meeting on June 8th. President Jones stated that if he is able to
19 attend the meeting, they will get him up to speed on the pond issue.

20
21 **Flow Monitoring** – Administrator Mekarski inquired of Mr. Budwash as to whether or
22 not Robinson Engineering has been doing continual flow monitoring, or if the Village has
23 to do additional flow monitoring in the rainy season. Mr. Budwash stated that currently
24 there is a flow meter in Graymoor. It has been there since the fall. They are continuously
25 monitoring the flow to see where the Village stands.

26
27 Administrator Mekarski inquired of Mr. Budwash that with the point repairs, with the
28 lining, and the code compliance since the last rain, if they have seen any kinds of
29 indications of the data that the infiltration and inflow is going down. Mr. Budwash stated
30 that when they look at what was done in 2008 and 2009 in the Graymoor Subdivision,
31 there is a pronounced reduction in what he sees in the infiltration and inflow. There has
32 been huge progress and they just need to continue with the progress and monitor it. He
33 stated that infiltration and inflow is storm water and it should not be in the Sewer System.
34 The only liquid that should be in the Sewer System is sewage. President Jones thanked
35 Mr. Alexa, Mr. McDonnell, Mr. Budwash, and Mr. Haussmann for their reports and for
36 attending the meeting this evening.

37
38 **Graymoor Ponds** – Mr. Leon Francisco stated that he is the President of the Graymoor
39 Landowners Association. He stated that for the past five years they have been trying to
40 work with the Village Administrator, the Village President, and the Village Engineers in
41 terms of the critical nature of the condition of the ponds in the Graymoor area. He stated
42 that it is an absolute swamp. It is a mosquito infested area now. He stated that for the last
43 three or four years they have heard that help is on the way. A couple of Referendums
44 went through that kind of looked at the possibility of getting some funding. They
45 discussed the meetings that the Village went to in Washington, D.C. to look at funding.
46 The last that they heard is that nothing is going to happen. They would like to know

1 where we are in the process and if anything is going to happen. If something is going to
2 happen, when is it going to happen? What can the Graymoor Landowners Association do
3 to assist in moving it forward? Mr. Francisco stated that they have done everything that
4 they can with the Lift Station on the property, which was donated by the Landowners
5 Association to the Village in the good nature of who they are in trying to be a participant
6 several years ago.

7
8 President Jones stated that is a very interesting comment. Graymoor needs a Lift Station
9 and they are doing the Village a favor. Mr. Francisco stated that he didn't say anything
10 about doing us a favor. He talked about cooperation and working with the Village in that
11 regard. He didn't say anything about favors. He stated that they are trying to be a good
12 citizen, and they are trying to work with this Board. They have been doing that for the
13 past five years. They are trying to ask for any kind of assistance that they can get for
14 resolution of a problem that could turn into a monumental problem.

15
16 President Jones stated that the Village has not found the funding to pay for what needs to
17 be done to dredge those ponds. The Village has not found the funding, given the other
18 challenges of what it had to do with the Sewer Program, and the Graymoor Lift Station.
19 There has not been Federal Money made available to the Village for this \$2,000,000.00
20 Project.

21
22 Mr. Francisco stated that the last report they had the project would be \$2,000,000.00. The
23 Village was looking to receive \$250,000.00 from Congressman Jackson. President Jones
24 stated that the cost of the project has never changed. Congressman Jackson had stated
25 that out of resources he had available to him, he might make available to the Village
26 \$250,000.00. But that is not enough to move the project. The engineering is done. The
27 Village needs between \$1,500,000.00 and \$2,000,000.00 to commence the dredging. The
28 Village has not found that level of funding. Every year the Village has gone to its Federal
29 Lobbyist seeking an earmark sufficient to take care of this problem. Every year it has
30 been turned down. They haven't been able to get Senator Durbin, or Senator Burris, or
31 Congressman Jackson, or any of the other Federal Representatives that are there to
32 shoulder that request through the Appropriations Process given the competitiveness for
33 Federal Funding. The Village had hoped that it would get some money from the State
34 Capital Bill, which was close to \$1,000,000.00 to use on a project like Graymoor, but that
35 Bill was never funded. They never sold video poker, so they never sold the bond, so they
36 never funded the Bill. The Village continues to look for Federal and State resources. He
37 believes that if the Federal and State resources would pickup the bulk of the project, the
38 Village would find somewhere within its own funds to fill the gap. The Village cannot
39 take on 80% or 90% of the cost right now as it is finishing these other projects.

40
41 Mr. Francisco suggested perhaps doing a scaled down version of what the Engineers
42 initially recommended to get the ponds to the point where they won't be a hazard to the
43 residents that are living out there. He inquired as to whether or not there is any kind of
44 engineering alternative that would be less than the \$2,000,000.00 approach to try to get
45 something resolved. That is what they are looking for.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that he does not believe that there is any kind of approach
2 that would be effective for the residents. He stated that the ponds are going through a
3 sedimentation process. The water doesn't have the natural depth to do the turnover, and
4 you are getting depletion of oxygen and you are getting eutrophic conditions and that is
5 what some of the odors are coming from. The only solution from the Engineering Reports
6 is to dredge the ponds at a significant depth to allow for that annual turnover that happens
7 with the change in seasons, and the change in temperature with the water column. He
8 stated that Congressman Jackson did secure \$197,000.00 for the Village. That is sitting in
9 an unencumbered account. He stated that the Village needs a substantial amount of
10 money to do the dredging of at least one pond the right way. Aside from the Lobbyist
11 Strategy, the Village President and the Board has authorized Administrator Mekarski to
12 do a Special Grant (Water Resources Planning Act) by the Army Corp of Engineers. The
13 Village put \$2,000,000.00 plus into the Corp's Authorization Bill. That is going through
14 the legislative process this year. The Village should hear by December of this year
15 whether or not the Army Corp of Engineers prioritized that project, and that the
16 Authorization Bill went through Congress. Typically, it is passed in January.

17
18 Mr. Francisco stated that those are the kinds of things that they want to hear, and that is
19 why he asked Trustee Pennington to join them at their next meeting. He stated that after
20 the dredging, a big piece of that \$2,000,000.00 was having the mud and sediment trucked
21 out of the subdivision. He asked if there were alternatives they could consider. He stated
22 that there is a lot of property in the Graymoor area that is used for parks. He inquired as
23 to whether or not all of the mud and sediment would have to be trucked out, or could they
24 put it somewhere to reduce some of the cost. Administrator Mekarski stated that the
25 material does not have any kind of heavy metals in it. It could be moved someplace in the
26 Graymoor area. He stated that a good portion of the cost was dewatering the slurry to get
27 it into the consistency for trucking.

28
29 Mr. Francisco stated that they would like Trustee Pennington, or President Jones, or any
30 of the engineers, to provide an update as to where we are at one of their Homeowners
31 Meetings. They would also like to know if there are any alternatives that they can
32 consider to try to reduce the \$2,000,000.00 cost. He stated that we all understand what
33 the state of the economy is, and with the monumental task that the Army Corp of
34 Engineers is dealing with right now in the Gulf of Mexico, the Village isn't giving him
35 much hope that anything will be getting done this year. He would like to talk about the
36 ponds, the cost, and the possible alternatives, and how we can collectively work on this at
37 their meeting on June 8th.

38
39 **Issues with the Police Department – Sergeant Blasingame** - Helen Burleson stated that
40 she resides at 56 Graymoor Lane. It has come to her attention that Officer Blasingame
41 was suspended for a period of time with pay. She is concerned and disturbed by the
42 process. She stated that in 1994 an officer was suspended and the Village came together.
43 It wasn't done in secrecy. It wasn't done behind closed doors. The residents were able to
44 participate and ask questions. She stated that Officer Blasingame was accused of lacking
45 integrity and she was wondering what that was based on.

1 **Policies and Procedures Manual for Employees** - Mrs. Burleson inquired as to whether
2 or not the police department has a Policies and Procedures Manual that is given to the
3 officers when they are first hired so that they know what the rules are that govern the
4 police department. She feels that the public has a right to know what is going on.
5

6 **No African-Americans Above the Rank of Corporal on the Police Department** - Mrs.
7 Burleson stated that her other concern is the fact that no black officer has ever attained a
8 rank above corporal. She doesn't understand that. She would hope that all of the officers
9 that are hired are competent people. She stated that in the history of the Village, not one
10 black officer has been promoted above the rank of Corporal. She would like to know why
11 not. She believes that the Village would be concerned about equal opportunities and
12 equal access to promotions. She stated that most Municipalities reflect the diverse
13 makeup of their communities. She stated that the majority of the people in the Village
14 now are black and the police department should reflect that. The majority of the revenue
15 that runs the Village comes from black households, because for the most part they are the
16 ones in the new and more expensive homes. She does not feel that the Village is getting
17 the representation for its tax dollars that it should be getting. She wasn't sure if she
18 should address that to the Board, the Village President, or the Public Safety person.
19

20 President Jones stated that all employees receive a Policies and Procedures Manual when
21 they start their employment with the Village. He stated that there is a General Manual for
22 the Village Employees. There is a manual for the police department. He is confident that
23 every employee has that, and knows what the procedures are and what their rights are,
24 and what the appeal processes are in dealing with the police department.
25

26 President Jones stated that as far as diversifying the department itself, he thinks that we
27 have made some good progress. He stated that since he has become Village President we
28 have diversified the ranks. In order to get up into the higher ranks, that is a combination
29 of years of service, experience, and the opportunity to be in those positions. He stated that
30 the two individuals who were recently promoted to Sergeant, have both been with the
31 department for 22 years. He stated that there is very little turnover in the Command Staff
32 at the Sergeant and above ranks to provide opportunities. He stated that the overall
33 makeup of the work force consists of African-American, Hispanic, Asian, as well as
34 Caucasian. He stated that the applicant flow is not based on who lives in Olympia Fields.
35 The applicant flow is based upon those individuals who are willing to be police officers.
36 He stated that none of the officers live in Olympia Fields. There has never been an
37 applicant for an officer from the Village. He stated that there is a bit of a disconnect with
38 the demographics of the Village and the applicant flow itself. President Jones stated that
39 Mrs. Burleson could sit in on the Public Safety Committee Meetings to discuss these
40 issues. He stated that those are public meetings. Trustee Meyers-Martin publishes the
41 meeting schedule. The following individuals are members of the Public Safety
42 Committee: Tim Bradford, Trevor Davis, Marshall Meilach, and Mel Schneider. Trustee
43 Meyers-Martin is the liaison to that Committee.
44

45 Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that they are trying to put together a meeting for the third
46 week in June. They meet on an as needed basis, but they have tried to have quarterly

1 meetings. They want to make sure that they have a quorum. She stated that she could let
2 Mrs. Burleson know when the next Public Safety Committee meeting will be held.
3 President Jones stated that as far as the incident that occurred in 1994, he remembers
4 being at the meeting. Mrs. Burleson stated that there was an article in the paper that the
5 officer was charged with defrauding the Village. It was the officer's day off and he was
6 suppose to go to Court. The squad car that he normally used was being repaired. He
7 didn't have a way to get to the courthouse. Another officer volunteered to drive the
8 officer to the Markham Courthouse. Halfway there, the Sergeant called and said "Bring
9 that squad car back to the Village." They brought the squad car back. The officer still had
10 no way to get to the courthouse. Chief Marcella told the officer to take his car. The
11 officer went to the courthouse and by the time he got there Court was no longer in
12 session. Officer O'Connor billed for his time because he did what he was suppose to do.
13 He explained that he could not take his personal car because he had arrested some people,
14 he had given tickets, and he was afraid that somebody might tamper with his car, and
15 most importantly, his insurance company would not cover should he have an accident
16 doing police work, because his insurance was just for his personal car. The Village
17 Attorney said that he had never heard of that. Mrs. Burleson stated to the attorney that
18 there are many things you have never heard of. When she worked for a Real Estate
19 Company, they had to have the Real Estate Company on their insurance as a co-insurer in
20 case they had an accident carrying customers, they would sue them, but they would also
21 sue the company. She was astounded to hear that an attorney had never heard of that. She
22 hopes that the Village doesn't have the same attorney.

23
24 President Jones stated that he feels that he is precluded from talking about these things in
25 public. He will not discuss publicly the particulars of the investigation of the due process
26 that was accorded the officer in terms of that investigation, the recommendation, and the
27 outcome of that investigation. He believes that those personnel matters are confidential.
28 He stated that the officer is aware of his appeal rights if he feels it is appropriate to
29 appeal. As far as his personal situation goes, that is how he feels he has to leave it. He
30 stated that this Board cannot get into it because they are part of the appeal process. He
31 has not discussed the matter with the Board other than general detail, because if they are
32 brought into the appeal process they have to hear it fresh.

33
34 Mrs. Burleson inquired as to whether or not the Board is aware that the officer was
35 reinstated but demoted. President Jones stated that he believes that they are aware of the
36 decision that he made in consultation with the Chief of Police, and the Village Attorney,
37 as to what was the appropriate action to take given the findings that were made with
38 regard to the officer's conduct. President Jones stated that he hired Derrick Blasingame.
39 He promoted him. Based on the finding of certain actions he took or didn't take,
40 President Jones decided that his Corporal rank should be removed. That has occurred and
41 he has been returned to duty. His pay as a police officer is unaffected. He is not in a
42 command position at this juncture. What went on during the process as to what was said,
43 that remains confidential. He has received letters from Mrs. Burleson and others,
44 including Officer Blasingame's godmother. His approach is to be objective about the
45 process and be objective about the high standards that the Village has for its employees,
46 and make sure that they are all held to those high standards. His decision process is not

1 affected by personal relationships, family relationships, race, or other factors that he
2 considers to be irrelevant to running a tight ship in this operation. That is the basis of his
3 decision making process and how we ended up where we are in this particular situation.
4

5 Mrs. Burleson inquired of President Jones that through the appeal process is it possible
6 that he would not only be restored to his rank, but could, in fact, be promoted. She
7 understood that he was scheduled for a promotion. President Jones stated that he would
8 not promote him. Mrs. Burleson stated that the charge has to be very serious. President
9 Jones stated that Officer Blasingame was represented by an attorney. If he wants to share
10 whatever information he wants to, that is his prerogative. It is not President Jones'
11 prerogative to breach those confidential activities in terms of the investigation itself and
12 what occurred during the course of the investigation.
13

14 Mrs. Burleson stated the difference between this situation and Officer O'Connor's
15 situation where the Village did know what the charges were was because that was during
16 the appeal process. President Jones stated that he doesn't know how that came up or what
17 Officer O'Connor said publicly. He believes that Officer O'Connor did say things
18 publicly about the whole situation. He believes that is how the Village became aware of
19 what was going on. He does not believe the process itself was public. Mrs. Burleson
20 stated that the first she had heard about it was in the newspaper. He stated that he believes
21 that Officer O'Connor went to the newspaper and made it a public issue.
22

23 President Jones stated that we are not making it a public issue. He considers personnel
24 matters subject to a fair level of confidentiality, primarily for the benefit of the employee.
25 He stated that if the employee wants to disclose whatever he wants about the process he
26 is free to do so. He was represented by counsel throughout the process.
27

28 Trustee Meyers-Martin stated that Mrs. Burleson mentioned the case in 1994, and she
29 would hope that the residents will take into consideration that this Board, the Village
30 President and the Police Chief are all different people now. It is a completely different
31 time than in 1994. She speaks for herself as well as the other members of the Board that
32 we are very sensitive to what is going on in the Village. They are very sensitive about
33 staff, and what goes on among staff, and how the staff relates to residents and how we are
34 portrayed in the community. She would hope that the residents would be just more
35 sensitive to the fact that this is a different Board, a different Board President and their
36 values are different than what was taking place in 1994.
37

38 Mrs. Burleson stated that she has been a fan of this police department since her son was
39 about 15 years old, and that was in 1972 or '73. He was stopped for a curfew violation.
40 The officer asked him who he was, and where he was going, and why he was out after
41 curfew. After her son explained, that was the end of it. She had called Chief Unger and
42 complimented him and told him that she was very pleased with the way the officer
43 handled it. If she hadn't been, she would have been at the station the first thing Monday
44 morning. Mrs. Burleson wrote a letter to the editor of the Star in 1987 when she had a
45 home invasion or burglary. She compared the Village's Police Department to Scotland
46 Yard. She has always had a high opinion of the police department. She always wants to

1 be able to have that regardless of who is sitting in these seats. That is what she is paying
2 taxes for.

3
4 Trustee Meyers-Martin stated this is true. She just hopes that the residents would be
5 aware that there are different people sitting in these positions now and we have a
6 different value system than maybe was taking place in 1994, and we are very careful
7 about what goes on, and that staff as well as residents are treated fairly.

8
9 Mrs. Burleson stated that to her it doesn't matter who sits here. She believes that anybody
10 who sits here should have certain qualities of fairness and justice. It doesn't matter if it is
11 a different date or a different time, fairness is fairness whether it is 1994, 2010 or when.

12 Trustee Meyers-Martin stated absolutely. Mrs. Burleson stated that the fact we have
13 different people here, she would hope that we have the same caliber of people at all
14 times. President Jones closed Communications and Petitions at 8:10 P.M.

15 *****

16
17 President Jones stated that at this juncture he was going to be departing this meeting. He
18 stated that the Trustees can appoint somebody to preside over the meeting.

19 **Motion by Trustee Ormsby, second by Trustee Pennington that Trustee Meyers-**
20 **Martin becomes President Pro Tem for the remainder of the meeting.**

21
22 **FINANCE:**

23
24 Trustee Pennington stated that he did not have a formal report this evening.

25
26 **BUILDING:**

27
28 **Gateway Signs** – Trustee Ormsby stated that the Gateway Sign at Crawford and Route
29 30, and the Gateway Sign at Vollmer and Western which sits in front of Graymoor needs
30 to be cleaned. The Gateway Sign at Crawford and Route 30 is almost 10 years old. The
31 recommendation was that the signs be cleaned every five years. She is a little behind on
32 that one but she is ahead of the game on the Gateway Sign at Vollmer. They have to be
33 taken down to be cleaned. They have mold and mildew. At first, they didn't think the
34 signs would have to be removed, but they do. She has to let Chief Chudwin and John
35 McDonnell know about this as well. She expects that to happen within the next two or
36 three weeks.

37
38 President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Ormsby as to whether or not that
39 was budgeted for. Trustee Ormsby stated that she will have to take it out of her
40 Landscape Budget because she doesn't want the signs to incur any more damage than
41 they already have. Parts of the signs have to be repainted. It will cost about \$1,100.00.

42
43 President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin inquired as to how long the signs would be down.
44 Trustee Ormsby stated that they will be taken down within the next two or three weeks
45 and it takes about three weeks to have them cleaned.

1 **Village Hall Dedication and Signage** – Trustee Ormsby stated that in the Board Packet
2 there is a signage outline that was prepared by Mike Hoffman of Teska Associates, Inc.
3 The Village purchased a sculpture as a gift for President Jones. In order to place the
4 sculpture in the front of Village Hall and light it, she is suggesting that the existing sign
5 be removed. She stated that sign was never intended to be a permanent sign for the
6 Village Hall. The Village applied for a Grant to obtain the new signage for Village Hall
7 but it was denied. The former Ethan Allen Sign was retrofitted and became the temporary
8 sign for Village Hall. The sign is nearly impossible to read. Teska looked at putting
9 signage on the facade of the building above the doors. She is asking for approval of the
10 verbiage and the cost. Not all of the cost is in here. Administrator Mekarski has some
11 ideas of where the Village can appropriate this money from.

12
13 Administrator Mekarski stated that this was not a budgeted item for this Fiscal Year, but
14 it was an anticipated expense from the day we opened the Village Hall. The current
15 signage for Village Hall was always recognized as a temporary sign. The sign that is on
16 the diagram is not a back lit sign. It has maroon channeled letters similar to the address
17 identification that is on the lower part of the front façade. The lighting is indirect lighting
18 from the three overhead lights. The cost for the sign is \$18,304.00. That cost was
19 obtained from the same company that installed the Olympia Square/Bizios Sign. There is
20 an additional cost associated with running electricity from the roof to the facade area, as
21 well as running electricity to light the sculpture, and the concrete pad for the sculpture.
22 This would be an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00, which brings the total cost for the sign
23 to \$23,304.00. There are two possibilities for this, one is just appropriating a line item
24 that will reduce the fund balance from \$159,000.00 to \$136,000.00. The other possibility
25 is to make an appropriation from the Unencumbered Fund Balance. There is an adequate
26 surplus in the Unencumbered Fund Balance to move \$23,000.00 or \$24,000.00 into a line
27 item account and accomplish this project.

28
29 Trustee Ormsby stated that we are naming Village Hall after President Jones.
30 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to dedicate this building
31 to Linzey D. Jones, and it will be noted in the signage Linzey D. Jones Municipal
32 Building.**

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

34
35 President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that it does mention in the Memo that you will
36 get additional bids for the signage. Trustee Ormsby stated that we can do that. She would
37 ask that Teska obtain those bids or John McDonnell. Mr. McDonnell stated that we can
38 go to other sign manufacturers and get bids as well. Trustee Ormsby stated that the
39 sculpture is in Chicago on New Orleans Street and she would prefer not to have to move
40 the sculpture twice. President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin suggested including the cost in the
41 Motion and leaving it open as to who gets the bid. Trustee Pennington stated that you
42 need to include the entire cost. He suggested an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 that
43 will give some leeway.

44 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to allow the cost of the
45 new Village of Olympia Fields Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building signage, and
46 construction for the sculpture not to exceed \$25,000.00.**

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

2
3 Trustee Ormsby stated that she will have a color rendering and the font so the Board can
4 see it. She inquired as to whether or not there was going to be a ceremony. Administrator
5 Mekarski stated that we can either have a workshop as a whole, or you can appoint a
6 subcommittee and report to the Board. He stated that some of the members have
7 expressed having a committee as a whole. He stated that we can start the meeting a half
8 hour earlier, or stay a little bit later as long as we advertise as a public meeting.

9
10 Trustee Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Ormsby as to when she believes that this
11 work will be completed. Trustee Ormsby believes that the Village can get the sculpture
12 within the next two or three weeks. She isn't sure about the signage. Mr. McDonnell
13 stated that the sign that is on the Memo in the Board Packet takes six weeks to be made
14 from the time that it is ordered. She believes that at the minimum, it would be seven
15 weeks out. Trustee Pennington stated that he believes that it should be stated in the
16 Motion where this money is coming from.

17 **Motion by Trustee Ormsby, second by Trustee Pennington, that the money to pay**
18 **for the new Village of Olympia Fields signage come from the Unencumbered Village**
19 **Fund.**

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

21
22 **PLANNING:**

23
24 **Ordinance #2010-10 – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 16, “Planning and**
25 **Development,” Article II, “Plan Commission,” in its entirety to establish a combined**
26 **Planning and Zoning Commission** – In the absence of Trustee Gibson, Administrator
27 Mekarski stated that he would be reporting on Planning. He stated that there is a
28 Memorandum in the Board Packet dated May 24, 2010, outlining Ordinance #2010-10.
29 This was introduced in discussion at the April 26th Board Meeting. At that time, the
30 Board referred the matter to the Planning Commission to hold a Public Hearing. On May
31 18th the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing. No members of the public were in
32 attendance. The Planning Commission moved unanimously to recommend the adoption
33 of this Ordinance. The Ordinance as presented this evening is drafted to waive First
34 Reading and to for your consideration to adopt in Second Reading after waiving First
35 Reading.

36
37 Administrator Mekarski stated that this eliminates the Zoning Board of Appeals and it
38 conveys both planning functions and appeal functions with the Planning Commission.
39 Many communities are utilizing this for efficiency and effectiveness. The Planning
40 Commission has an overall big picture focus in constructing the Ordinance, working with
41 the Comprehensive Plan, and understanding the vision from a planning and aesthetic
42 perspective as well as from an economic perspective. Many communities feel that
43 Planning Commissions can be better at administering variances to the Code because they
44 have the intent or the understanding of that Code behind them.

1 Administrator Mekarski stated that with respect to Section 16-17, “Membership (b),” the
2 Board will not have to make any additional adjustments with the current membership of
3 the Planning Commission. This Ordinance incorporates the Ordinance of 2007 where the
4 Board had changed the composition of the Planning Commission from ten members to
5 seven members, and all members would serve their time according to that Code, and the
6 Board would reappoint accordingly.

7
8 Administrator Mekarski stated that there will be amendments to the Zoning Code,
9 Chapter 22. The cleanup of those Ordinances will be done within the next month or two.
10 The Planning Commission would have to hold a Public Hearing in order to do that.

11 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Ormsby to waive First Reading,**
12 **and to adopt on Second Reading Ordinance #2010-10 – An Ordinance Amending**
13 **Chapter 16, “Planning and Development,” Article II, “Plan Commission,” in its**
14 **entirety to establish a combined Planning and Zoning Commission.**

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

16
17 **PUBLIC WORKS: (CONTINUED)**

18
19 **Recommendation for Payment to Gaskill & Walton Construction Company –**
20 Trustee Oliver stated that on the cover sheet you have a recommendation for payment to
21 Gaskill & Walton Construction Company in the amount of \$286,355.90. He stated that
22 the correct amount is \$286,335.90 for work completed in the Graymoor Lift Station
23 Improvements Project. The work is completed. Robinson Engineering and Joe Alexa are
24 recommending that the payment be made to Gaskill & Walton Construction Company in
25 the amount of \$286,335.90.

26 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Ormsby to recommend payment to**
27 **Gaskill & Walton Construction Company in the amount of \$286,335.90 for work**
28 **completed in connection with the Graymoor Lift Station Improvements Project,**
29 **Payment Request No. 1.**

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

31
32 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

33
34 **Approval of Outline Describing Existing Code Enforcement Procedures -** Trustee
35 Nale stated that a proposal was made at the last Board Meeting for approval of the draft
36 prepared by the Human Resource Committee for the Code Violation Procedure. The
37 proposal was tabled at that time so that Trustee Ormsby would have an opportunity to
38 discuss the proposal with the Building Commissioner, John McDonnell, of which she is a
39 Trustee Liaison. Trustee Nale stated that it is her understanding that the proposal was
40 favorably received without changes.

41 **Motion by Trustee Ormsby, second by Trustee Oliver that the Code Violation**
42 **Procedure as prepared by the Human Resource Committee be included in the**
43 **Village Community Guide.**

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

1 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

2
3 **Reverse 911 System** – President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that Chief Chudwin has
4 stated that the Village’s Reverse 911 System is in the process of being revamped. There
5 will be several ways that residents can be reached. The residents will be able to be
6 reached by text, a cell phone call, through their e-mail, as well as through their land
7 phones. The system can be used for other public announcements as well as for public
8 safety issues. She stated that they are very excited about the Reverse 911 System being
9 revamped.

10
11 **Search for Part-Time Police Officers** – President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that
12 the police department is ramping up its search for part-time police officers. The part-time
13 staff had been reduced, but the department is revamping that for the summer. The Public
14 Safety Committee is looking at candidates for part-time police officers.

15
16 **Recognize Officers-** President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that at a prior Board
17 Meeting we had talked about some way to recognize our officers. Chief Chudwin is in the
18 process of putting together a booklet so that the Board will be able to put names with
19 faces of the Village’s Police Officers. She is looking forward to receiving the booklet.
20 Once she is in receipt of the booklet, she will make it available to the Board.

21
22 Trustee Nale inquired of President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin as to how many hours would
23 be available. President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that it varies. They try to have a
24 minimum of 20 hours for one officer. They fill in for vacation time, and any overtime that
25 may be needed. Trustee Nale inquired of President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin how many
26 part-time officers that would include, for instance, three part-time officers with 20 hours
27 for each officer. President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that they strive for 20 hours for
28 each officer.

29
30 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

31
32 **Ordinance #2010-12** – Administrator Mekarski stated that this is up for First and Second
33 Reading. There is a Memorandum in the Board Packet from the Village Attorney dated
34 May 10th. He stated that John Murphey the Village Attorney, and Cynthia Saenz the
35 Finance Director have been working on this Ordinance. A copy of Ordinance #2009-09
36 was passed as a requirement of the Village’s IEPA Loan for both the water and sewer
37 rates when the Village was applying for Stimulus Funds for the water tower, and for the
38 Stimulus Grant Loan for the Sewer Program. There is a schedule in the Board Packet of
39 the minimum charges for water rates. This was in case the Village got stimulus dollars for
40 the water tower ranging from 2010 to 2030. In the existing fee schedule, there is an
41 automatic provision in there that says if Oak Lawn makes a change, that our local rate is
42 automatically changed. We do not have to go back before the Board. When a
43 comprehensive schedule was prepared consistent with the 2030 analysis, it required that
44 every year we go back and physically adjust the numbers. Rather than doing that, the
45 proposed Ordinance incorporates that when there is a change in the Oak Lawn or Chicago
46 water, and it is passed-through, staff has the authority to take this comprehensive

1 schedule and make the adjustments accordingly. They can only make the adjustments
2 consistent with those pass-throughs, and they have to be in keeping with the overall
3 proportional intent of the Ordinance that was passed in 2009. Administrator Mekarski
4 suggested that the Motion be waived on First Reading and adopted on Second Reading.
5 **Motion by Trustee Ormsby, second by Trustee Nale to waive First Reading and to**
6 **approve Ordinance #2010-12 – An Ordinance amending Section 21-21(a) of the**
7 **Olympia Fields Village Code to incorporate the Pass-Through Charge set forth in**
8 **Section 21-21(b) of the Village Code.**

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

10
11 **Update – District 162’s Appeal to the Illinois State Board of Education regarding**
12 **the Southland College Prep Charter School -** Administrator Mekarski stated that
13 Friday, May 21st was a historic day not only for the Village, but for the region. He stated
14 that on Friday, Superintendent Blondean Davis took before the Illinois State Board of
15 Education District 227’s denial of establishing a Charter School in our region. He stated
16 that on Friday there were delegates present from Country Club Hills, Park Forest,
17 Richton Park, Matteson and Olympia Fields. Through the activities by the Education
18 Commission led by Trustee Oliver and Susan Mekarski, 28 citizens came to give
19 testimony. McDonald’s donated over 40 sandwiches for the two buses that left the
20 Village Hall parking lot at 5:30 A.M. for a three-hour bus trip to Springfield. Lorraine
21 Hudson went to McDonald’s at 4:45 to pickup the sandwiches. District 162 had 45
22 minutes to present its proposal for the Charter School. District 227 had 45 minutes to
23 state its rebuttal to the Charter School. The citizens were given 30 minutes to speak.
24 President Jones spoke as to why the Charter School is important to Olympia Fields. Each
25 representative from each of the five communities gave their presentation on why the
26 Charter School is important to their respective community. Susan Mekarski read into the
27 record the support from Diversity, Inc. for the Charter School. Parents had an opportunity
28 to speak. Administrator Mekarski stated that Trustee Oliver gave a very passionate,
29 heartfelt perspective on what it takes for a parent to pay the kinds of taxes that we do for
30 education, but be forced to take a parochial alternative because there is no public choice,
31 and that he could not play politics with his own child. District 227 gave a public
32 response. After a 45 minute recess, the Illinois State Board of Education voted
33 unanimously to create the second Charter School in a suburban area outside of the City of
34 Chicago. It will be capped to 500 students so as not to cause an adverse affect to the
35 financial welfare of the parent school.

36
37 Dr. Davis is looking at the old Marshall Field’s building as a possible site, and at a
38 foreclosed office building in Richton Park that has reduced the price from
39 \$26,000,000.00 to \$4,500,000.00. The Charter School will open at the Huth Middle
40 School in August 2010. It will have 125 students and it will operate at Huth Middle
41 School for one year. Every year, an additional 125 students will be added until the cap of
42 500 students is reached.

43
44 President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin inquired as to who did the presentation for District
45 227. Administrator Mekarski stated that Superintendent Hunigan began the presentation.
46 It was turned over to the incoming Superintendent, Donna Leak. She presented a

1 PowerPoint presentation on the “level of excellence” for the three schools. It was closed
2 by Mr. Grossi, the Treasurer of District 227. Dr. Leak brought up that Rich East was one
3 out of 10 schools that was given an award for highest level of academic improvement.
4 The Chairman asked that all the members put that into perspective that was
5 accomplished, but they then learned that 42% of the juniors were reclassified and were
6 not able to take the test, and that record should be held in suspect. The Chairman
7 announced that because of that, they did receive some Federal sanctions regarding the
8 junior skip rate, and they are now considering a rule to make it mandatory for a third year
9 student, whether they are defined as freshmen, a junior, a senior, or extracurricular, they
10 have to take that exam. That may be an upcoming State Law or State Rule. That
11 fundamentally came from the Olympia Fields Education Commission. They have been
12 pushing that issue and drawing attention to it for two years at the leadership of Fred
13 Veazey and the PTSO.

14

15 Trustee Oliver stated that Administrator Mekarski covered everything that he would have
16 articulated. He stated that District 227 was ill prepared to answer many of the questions
17 raised by the Illinois State Board of Education. He stated that it was embarrassing, and
18 the District had egg on their face quite a few times regarding the award that Rich East
19 received, and regarding the fact that they did not let 42% of the juniors take the test.

20

21 Trustee Oliver stated that it was a great day for our region and our District. We are so
22 hopeful. He stated that the pendulum is shifting in another direction. We still have much
23 work to do. After the decision was made, the Chairman was addressing District 227 and
24 the people present for the Charter School, and the School Board Members got up in mass
25 and walked out, turning their backs on the Illinois State Board of Education as they were
26 announcing that you are going to have to work together because this is not a done deal.
27 He stated that it was embarrassing.

28

29 Trustee Pennington stated that he wanted to applaud Trustee Oliver and the Education
30 Commission for their efforts in bringing this to fruition. He stated that it has been chaotic,
31 traumatic, and we have all experienced some of the antics that the School Board has put
32 on. He stated that we all know what we need to do going forward at this particular point.
33 (There was a round of applause).

34

35 Trustee Oliver stated that he would like to take that accolade but he wanted to go on
36 public record, that there have been champions in this area for a long time, people like
37 Fred Veazey, who has been out there independently, just alone, and fighting, and
38 fighting, and getting nowhere until the Education Commission came along thanks to
39 President Jones, to help harness some of this effort. He stated that there are a number of
40 people where these accolades should go around. He believes that during the Volunteer
41 Appreciation Awards this announcement will be made.

42

43 Trustee Ormsby stated a huge applause to Administrator Mekarski for his tireless
44 leadership on this. (There was a round of applause). She stated that it has been an
45 exhausting and frustrating run here for about the last 20 years trying to get this pendulum
46 to move. She stated that it is very exciting.

1 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

2
3 President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have a report of the Village
4 President this evening.

5
6 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

7
8 The Board did not have any Unfinished Business this evening.

9
10 **NEW BUSINESS:**

11
12 **Scheduling Conflict** – Trustee Ormsby stated that we made a date to go into Closed
13 Executive Session on June 1st and she will not be available. She stated that she spoke
14 with Trustee Meyers-Martin about this earlier, and they had discussed that the week of
15 June 7th would be good, or waiting until the first Board Meeting in June. The Trustees
16 will e-mail each other to see what day would be good for them. Administrator Mekarski
17 asked that the Trustees let him know when they have a date, because he has to advertise
18 this as a Closed Executive Session under the provisions of the Open Meetings Act.

19
20 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

21
22 President Pro Tem Meyers-Martin stated that she does not have any Resignations or
23 Appointments.

24
25 **ADJOURNMENT:**

26
27 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to adjourn at 9:02 P.M.**

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

29
30 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

31
32
33
34