

1 Mrs. Burke stated that the Third Place winner is the Olimene Family from 3106 Hermes Drive in
2 the Olympia Club. They will receive a \$50.00 Gift Certificate from Sunnycrest. There was no
3 representative from the Olimene Family present this evening.

4
5 Mrs. Burke stated that the Second Place winner is the Linkous Family from 5 Strauss Lane in
6 Vienna Woods. They will receive a \$75.00 Gift Certificate from Sunnycrest. (There was a round
7 of applause).

8
9 Mrs. Burke stated that the First Place winner is the Johnson Family from 2521 Glen Eagles Drive
10 in The Greens. They were the First Place winner last year as well. They will receive a \$100.00
11 Gift Certificate from Sunnycrest. (There was a round of applause).

12
13 Mrs. Burke stated that she wanted to congratulate everyone because all of the yards and the
14 landscaping in the Village were absolutely beautiful. Everyone did a wonderful job. It was hard
15 to decide who was going to get First, Second, and Third Place.

16
17 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Mrs. Burke if she would explain to the audience
18 what the process is in terms of determining who gets the awards and how the selections are
19 made.

20
21 Mrs. Burke stated that they send out a letter about six weeks in advance to the Homeowners
22 Associations. There are criteria for judging. The Presidents of the Homeowners Association, or if
23 they have a designated Committee, or Beautification person in their own neighborhood, review
24 the homes in their own Homeowners Association. They make a minimum of six nominations and
25 they choose their top three for each subdivision. Anyone who is nominated gets a certificate. The
26 Beautification Committee sends out hundreds of certificates to individual families. The
27 Beautification Committee goes out on a particular day and they view the top three in each
28 subdivision. They are judged based on curb appeal, use of floral and landscape arrangements and
29 how it is associated with the house, if it fits well with the design of the home, color, and
30 maintenance. She stated that you don't have to have a ton of flowers in your yard. Mrs. Burke
31 stated that if your yard is beautiful and well-maintained it can still win.

32
33 Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated all of the winners and thanked them for adding to
34 the beauty of Olympia Fields. (There was a round of applause).

35
36 **37% Tax on the Water Bill** – Mrs. Laura Shinker stated that she resides at 20741 Greenwood
37 Drive in Suburban Woods. She believes that this is somewhat apropos to landscaping. She has an
38 older home and over the past two or three-years she has put in a lot of landscaping because her
39 landscaping was overgrown. Last year in the drought she watered quite a bit and her water bill
40 was high, but she didn't want to lose the investment she had made. This year, during the dry
41 period, she finished up the yard. She thought that the water bill would be about \$200.00, maybe a
42 little more than \$200.00. She has a bill in her hand for \$345.00. She stated that 37% of that is
43 tax. Mrs. Shinker stated that you don't call it a tax, but it is a tax. She stated that to paraphrase
44 Gertrude Stein, a tax is a tax is a tax. She stated that this is a tax and it is 37% of the bill. It is
45 over a third of the bill.

46

1 Mrs. Shinker stated that she called on Thursday to talk to Administrator Mekarski about this in
2 order to find out why that tax is so high. She was told that he was in a meeting and she left a
3 message. She never heard back. Mrs. Shinker stated that when she worked, if someone was out
4 of town you didn't leave them hanging. You told them that the person was out of town and they
5 wouldn't be back for a week. She never heard anything so she called back on Friday. She spoke
6 with someone named "Gladys." Mrs. Shinker asked Gladys about the seminar that Administrator
7 Mekarski was at. Mrs. Shinker stated that this is a high tax and she wanted to know what her tax
8 dollars are going for. Mrs. Shinker wanted to know what the seminar was about. She wanted to
9 know if it was relevant to Olympia Fields business. Gladys wouldn't tell her. Mrs. Shinker didn't
10 know if Gladys didn't know, or if Gladys didn't think that Mrs. Shinker had the right to know.
11 Mrs. Shinker stated that she was upset. She doesn't swear at people when she is upset. She may
12 raise her voice a bit but she doesn't get nasty. She felt that she should get an answer justifying a
13 tax of 37% on water usage.

14

15 Mrs. Shinker stated that she has lived in the Village most of her adult life. She stated that at one
16 time we had a well. Chicago water was supposed to be so wonderful. Now, she doesn't think that
17 it is so wonderful. She believes that we are paying to fill the coffers in a mismanaged city that we
18 are a suburb of and she resents it. She stated that when you water your lawn, you are not using
19 the sewer. That is not sewer usage. The water is going into the soil. She lives alone and doesn't
20 use the sewer that much. Mrs. Shinker stated that she feels sorry for the families in the Village
21 that have children. It must be cheaper to go to a Laundromat than to use your washer. She would
22 really like to have a 37% tax justified. She thinks that it is outrageous.

23

24 Mrs. Shinker would love to know how many employees of Olympia Fields go to seminars. She
25 went to seminars when she was working. She went out of State to seminars. She stated that three-
26 quarters of the time it was a waste of time. She didn't learn anything. The rest of the time you do
27 learn something. She would love to know where her tax dollars are going now. She stated that if
28 she is going to be taxed at this rate, where is the money going? Is it going for seminars? And if
29 so, how many seminars over the past 18-months? What were they focused on? Do they have
30 anything to do with Olympia Fields business?

31

32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she would try to address some of Mrs. Shinker's
33 concerns. She appreciates Mrs. Shinker coming tonight. When she meets with the Homeowners
34 Associations she always says that this is the place to come if you want action. She stated that in
35 terms of the seminar that Administrator Mekarski is at, it is once a year. It is the City Managers
36 Conference that all City Managers throughout the country attend. They have seminars. They
37 have continuing education. They have updates on Federal Legislation, as well as local and
38 Municipal Legislation. They get information on Grants, and how Village's can tap into money.
39 Village President Meyers-Martin stated yes, it is a very worthwhile conference for him to attend.
40 Over the years he has brought back a lot of Grant Money as a result of the networking, people,
41 and the seminars that he has had the opportunity to participate in when he has been at the
42 seminars.

43

44 Mrs. Shinker inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin why couldn't she be told that. Village
45 President Meyers-Martin stated that she cannot excuse the fact that no one got back to Mrs.
46 Shinker. That is inexcusable to her. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she will
47 certainly check into that. She knows exactly who Mrs. Shinker spoke with, and Mrs. Shinker

1 should have been provided an answer. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will make
2 sure in the future that we are more mindful and cognizant of questions that come into the Village.
3 Village President Meyers-Martin stated for that she apologizes and she thanked Mrs. Shinker for
4 bringing that to her attention.

5
6 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that as far as the taxes, some years ago when we lost our
7 dealership which was akin to about \$350,000.00 in Sales Tax that actually came into the Village,
8 it was a very big part of our Budget. When they left and went to the Auto Mall which is now
9 practically defunct, but they wanted all of the car dealerships there and they practically raided
10 Route 30. Chicago Heights suffered as well as the Village of Olympia Fields and Park Forest.
11 We lost a lot of money. At that time in order to be able to maintain Village services we had to
12 raise our user fees which are part of that tax that you are experiencing. It is at its cap so it never
13 will go higher than what it is, but it is 5% in terms of a Budget. She stated that why you are
14 feeling the pinch now is because it is based on the higher rates that Chicago is passing onto all of
15 its suburbs. All of us on this Board have experienced huge increases as well as the rest of the
16 people in the audience. It cannot be helped at this time.

17
18 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are in constant conversations and negotiations
19 with other resources in order to provide water, something other than Oak Lawn because that is
20 where we get our water. They have New Lenox, Orland, Mokena, and Tinley Park. The Village
21 is at the very end of their pipeline. There is Olympia Fields, Country Club Hills and Matteson.
22 Matteson doesn't want to work with the Village. The Village is trying to form a sustainable
23 coalition in order to look at other resources where we might be able to get our water cheaper. It is
24 a slow process. The Village wants to make sure that it does its due diligence and that the Village
25 is not in a position where it does not have redundancy which means that if that pipeline goes
26 down, the Village doesn't want to have to rely on the Village's Water Towers. There are only
27 three days of water in the water towers. The Village has to make sure that it has other outlets in
28 order to get water. Village President Meyers-Martin has stated several times that water is
29 becoming as precious as gold or oil. Everyone is in the business of trying to find cheaper water.
30 Some people are even privatizing their water system. She stated that is why you are experiencing
31 such a high bill, both tax wise as well as the rates. She is hoping in the very near future that they
32 will be able to resolve some of those costs. Right now, the Village is at the mercy of Oak Lawn.
33 Oak Lawn is going through a \$160,000,000.00 renovation of their system. They want Olympia
34 Fields to pay \$25,000,000.00. She stated that if we can't get other towns to join the Village in
35 that cost, the Village will foot \$25,000,000.00 alone. That is something that the Village has put
36 into their 2030 Plan in terms of how to pay for that. She stated that is on our mind constantly.

37
38 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is so sorry that Mrs. Shinker is experiencing that
39 pain. She stated that if Mrs. Shinker wants to come in she could talk to Myriam at the Water
40 Department about maybe a payment plan.

41
42 Mrs. Shinker stated that she is not asking for charity. She pays her bills in full. She doesn't have
43 any debts. The bill will be paid in full on the 10th of October. She stated don't offer me a
44 payment plan. That is not why she is here. She finds that insulting.

45
46 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she is trying to offer her a way that the Village can
47 work with her under the circumstances.

1 Mrs. Shinker stated that you don't have to work with me. She is here questioning the tax. She
2 stated that you have answered my question. Don't treat me like a charity case. She resents that.

3
4 Trustee Waite inquired of Mrs. Shinker where she lives. Mrs. Shinker did not respond. At this
5 time Mrs. Shinker proceeded to leave the room. Village President Meyers-Martin thanked her for
6 coming.

7
8 **Successful Electronic and Metal Scrap Drive** – Mrs. Willett Hudson is the Vice President of
9 the Enhancement Organization. She wanted to report on the success of the Electronic and Metal
10 Scrap Drive that was held on Saturday. The main reason for the drive was to help the residents
11 remove from their basements or closets a lot of scrap that they may have had, and bring it to a
12 location where it could be recycled. She stated that the Enhancement Organization would also
13 receive a small amount of money. The Enhancement Organization provides Scholarships and
14 helps residents in various situations. Mrs. Hudson stated that if you have an idea of something
15 that you would like done in the Village they might be able to help with that. She would like
16 everyone to join the Enhancement Organization by paying a \$15.00 fee once a year. That will
17 help them give a Scholarship to any student that lives in the Village and is currently attending
18 college. Mrs. Hudson stated that they will probably have the Electronic and Metal Scrap Drive
19 again next year, but they haven't decided when or where yet.

20
21 Trustee Waite inquired of Mrs. Hudson how many new members they got. Mrs. Hudson stated
22 that the last count she had was 15 and that is very good. She thanked everyone that contributed.

23
24 **Water Rates** – Mr. James Dawson stated that he recently moved to 3262 Platte Trail. He has a
25 question regarding the water rates. Mr. Dawson inquired how much we pay per 1,000 gallons.
26 Mrs. Saenz stated that she would go and obtain that information. Trustee Waite stated that it is
27 \$9.48 per 1,000 gallons. It is just for the water and not the sewer, but that is usually about the
28 same.

29
30 Mr. Dawson inquired whether or not the sewer is a percentage of the water or how does that
31 work. Trustee Waite stated no. He stated that we had to figure out a way to bill for the sewer. He
32 stated that sewer is a problem. We have been having problems with the sewers in the Village.
33 The Village is about 60% through working out a lot of details on sewers. There were a lot of
34 people that had their sump pumps hooked up to the Sewer System, and there were a lot of cracks
35 in the sewer pipes and ground water was infiltrating and overloading the pumps. He stated that
36 we are only allowed to pump a certain amount of sewer water into the Sewer System. Sometimes
37 when it gets overloaded, you have raw sewage going into Butterfield Creek. When that happens
38 we have to report it to the EPA and tell them what we did. If they don't like what the Village did
39 to fix it, and if we don't fix it fast enough, they want to fine the Village.

40
41 Trustee Waite stated that the sewer is a major headache except that for the past five-years we
42 have been relining all of the sewer pipes that are on the Village's right-of-way. Those are the
43 main part. Then you have the laterals that come from each house. We have been working on a
44 program. We did a Test Program in Graymoor. It was done there because mainly those houses
45 are set way back and the laterals are very long and costly to go in and fix. In order to fix them
46 they go in with these patented rigs and they go down and reline the sewer pipes. A few years ago
47 the Village thought it would have to put in a new sewer line from Graymoor over to the Pumping

1 Station. Once we started relining the pipes the Village discovered that the current pipes were
2 adequate as long as there wasn't a lot of infiltration from outside. The Village tries to cover the
3 cost of sewer and the cost of water by using a combination of a sewage charge and a water
4 charge. The water charge the Village can measure. The sewer is more difficult. He stated that the
5 other lady was saying that when she waters her plants she shouldn't be paying a sewer charge.
6 He agrees with that wholeheartedly except he doesn't know how to divide that up. The Village
7 has to get the same amount of revenue. They take the total cost and try to divide it up. They
8 know how much water is being pumped. If they add this amount for sewer then they have all of
9 the costs covered.

10

11 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that Trustee Waite is our Public Works Liaison. He
12 works very closely with that. She stated that to answer your question simply, we have to have a
13 charge in order to maintain the sewers. She works with the EPA. The Village has violations on a
14 regular basis because it has an old Sewer System that needs a lot of rehabilitation which is
15 extremely costly. The Village has begun that process with the relining of the laterals because our
16 pipes are cracked and they are leaking.

17

18 Mrs. Saenz stated that the water rate is \$9.11 per 1,000 gallons. Village President Meyers-Martin
19 stated that is the rate that we pass on when Oak Lawn passes on the increase to the Village. The
20 Water Fund has to pay for itself.

21

22 Mr. Dawson stated that the reason he asked the question is because he has only been here a few
23 months. He has received maybe three water bills. It has been around \$100.00 or maybe a little
24 over \$100.00. He got a bill a couple days ago for \$1,000.00. That is why he was inquiring.

25

26 Village President Meyers-Martin suggested that Mr. Dawson have Joe Alexa come out and look
27 at his meter. She stated that it seems as though something may be amiss in terms of how they are
28 counting your usage. She stated that sometimes water meters will be incorrect. She stated that
29 doesn't sound right.

30

31 Mr. Dawson inquired whether or not he would be allowed to have his Sprinkler System on a
32 separate meter so that he could monitor it more closely.

33

34 Trustee Waite stated that there are meters that you can buy that are commercial that you can plug
35 in there and that will tell you how many gallons are going through that line to irrigate your lawn.
36 You can look and see what the percentage of the usage is. The other thing to do is look at your
37 plumbing. The biggest thing is the toilets that leak.

38

39 Mr. Dawson stated that he did check his toilets. He will try to get to the bottom of it. Trustee
40 Waite stated to call the Public Works Department.

41

42 Village President Meyers-Martin stated please call Joe Alexa. Trustee Oliver stated 503-8200.
43 Trustee Oliver welcomed Mr. Dawson to Olympia Fields.

44

45 Village President Meyers-Martin thanked Mr. Dawson for coming. She tells people that this is
46 the place to come if they need action, because we can get on things immediately or at least the
47 very next day.

1 Trustee Waite stated that you will get good service if you go to the window and talk to
2 somebody. They will point you in the right direction.
3

4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that with Mr. Dawson being a new resident, she hopes
5 that he will come to the New Residents Reception. It will be held on October 26th. They haven't
6 sent out the notices yet. She thanked Mr. Dawson for coming.
7

8 **Tax Rate for Property Tax Bills** – Mrs. Shirley Johnson stated that she resides at 2481 Glen
9 Eagles Drive. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson attended the Board of Appeals Meeting that was held in late
10 summer. Mrs. Johnson inquired who sets the tax rate for the Property Tax Bills. Commissioner
11 Rogers indicated that Olympia Fields does. Mrs. Johnson inquired whether or not that is correct.
12

13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that it is according to the levy. The Village does get a
14 small percentage. She stated that 98% of that money goes to other places.
15

16 Mrs. Johnson inquired who sets that percentage of the tax bill for all of the entities. She stated
17 that Commissioner Rogers indicated that percent rate comes from the Village. She inquired
18 whether or not that is correct.
19

20 Trustee Waite stated no. there are taxing bodies. You have the Park District which is a separate
21 taxing body. You have the schools which are a separate taxing body. And you have the Village.
22 There is a miniscule portion of that tax bill that comes from the Village. The way that it is
23 divvied up is by the Assessor.
24

25 Mrs. Johnson stated that Commissioner Rogers stated that it is the Village. She is trying to get
26 clarity as to why the Village has a tax rate that is much smaller than other bedroom communities
27 to the north and to the west. Commissioner Rogers indicated that percentage of the tax bill in its
28 entirety is set by the Village. Mrs. Johnson inquired who is setting the percentage for all the
29 other entities then if it is not the Village.
30

31 Trustee Waite stated that they are setting their own. Mrs. Johnson stated they can go and charge
32 whatever they want and whatever percentage for each entity. Trustee Waite stated that he
33 doesn't like it either. Mrs. Johnson stated that we are going to have to stop that. They can't just
34 have an open pocketbook. She has gone online. She has looked at North Shore, west, and
35 anywhere else with houses that are comparable. She stated that our houses have tanked. They are
36 a fourth of what they use to be worth and we are still paying the high tax rate in the entirety. She
37 is not just talking about the Village or the schools. She is talking about everybody.
38

39 Trustee Waite stated that in the last five-years he has had four reductions in his property taxes
40 because every year he appeals them.
41

42 Mrs. Johnson stated that they have been appealing every year. Last year they said no that was the
43 tax. The house is consistently plummeting by hundreds of thousands.
44

45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you will notice that when the value of the home goes
46 down it seems like the assessed value goes up and they do charge more. She stated that for towns
47 that don't have a lot of Sales Tax Revenue that precipitates higher property taxes.

1 Mrs. Johnson stated that she has checked other bedroom communities that have nothing there but
2 homes like the Village does and they are not at the same tax rate. She stated that we are going to
3 have to do something about the general tax rate in its entirety of that tax bill. We have so many
4 empty homes that people are getting \$16,000.00, \$17,000.00 tax bills in our subdivision and they
5 are literally losing these homes by the minute because they can't pay the property taxes.

6
7 Trustee Waite inquired of Mrs. Johnson what the subdivision is. Mrs. Johnson stated The Greens.
8 She stated that we are paying a disproportionate amount of taxes for homes with the same
9 amount of land. She stated that some houses have acres of land and they are not taxed like we are
10 being taxed.

11
12 Village President Meyers-Martin suggested that Mrs. Johnson come in and we can show her how
13 the Village has arrived at its tax rate, the levy. Mrs. Johnson stated that she is not just talking
14 about the Village. She stated the entire bill at the top, we are assessed a percentage for the entire
15 bill.

16
17 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the Assessor does that. Mrs. Johnson asked
18 Commissioner Rogers who is setting this tax rate. Commissioner Rogers wanted to see the bill
19 and she showed it to him.

20
21 Trustee Waite inquired of Mrs. Johnson who Commissioner Rogers is. Mrs. Johnson stated that
22 he is on the Board of Appeals. The year before last they did get a significant tax cut. They have
23 been appealing every year.

24
25 Trustee Waite stated that the Assessor is located at the Rich Township Offices. They have people
26 there that will help you with your appeals. Mrs. Johnson stated that is not the problem. She wants
27 to know who is setting that rate, the entire rate for the entirety, for all of the bill, not just each
28 person's piece of the pie. She wants to know who is setting the pie. Mrs. Johnson thanked the
29 Board. Village President Meyers-Martin closed Communications and Petitions at 7:35 P.M.

30
31 **FINANCE:**

32
33 **July 2013 Financial Statements** - Trustee Byrd stated that in the Board Packet is charts. Trustee
34 Byrd thanked Cindy Saenz for developing the chart. It definitely makes a difference in going
35 through the numbers. The first chart shows "Revenue and Expenses." In the General Fund the
36 Village budgeted \$793,390.54 for Revenue. The Village actually received in Revenue for the
37 month of July \$749,879.28. In the Water Fund the Village budgeted \$158,832.92 in Revenue.
38 The Village actually received \$125,149.20. The Village budgeted \$94,235.67 for Revenue in the
39 Sewer Fund. The Village actually received \$87,970.98. He stated that the actuals are falling
40 below Budget at this time. The Sewer Fund is pretty much on Budget for the month. It is about
41 4% off. The Water Fund and the General Fund are a little more under Budget.

42
43 Trustee Byrd stated that the Village budgeted \$586,854.22 for expenses in the General Fund. The
44 actual expenses were \$588,289.40. The bar chart reflects that all the expenses are pretty much on
45 track for the month of July. The Village budgeted \$94,935.12 for expenses in the Water Fund.
46 The Village actually spent \$94,210.50. The Village budgeted \$43,181.29 for expenses in the

1 Sewer Fund. The Village actually spent \$38,828.29. Trustee Byrd stated that we need to work a
2 little more on the revenue which will change as the Real Estate Taxes come in.

3
4 Trustee Byrd stated that the second page shows the current month of surplus and deficits. The
5 Village budgeted \$206,536.32 for our surplus and deficits for the month of July. The actual was
6 \$161,589.88. It is 22% less than what we had budgeted for. The Village budgeted in the Water
7 Fund \$63,897.80 for surplus and deficits. The surplus was \$30,938.70. The Village budgeted in
8 the Sewer Fund \$51,054.38 for surplus and deficits. The Village had a surplus/deficit of
9 \$49,142.69. He stated that we are still under due to certain revenues not being in. The expenses
10 are on. The revenue is off. That is why you are seeing less of the actual to your Budget for that
11 month.

12
13 Trustee Byrd stated that with regard to the Year to Date Surplus and Deficit, the Village
14 budgeted \$304,897.88. The actual was \$338,159.40 in the General Fund. In the Water Fund the
15 Village budgeted \$233,058.40. The actual was \$100,366.05. In the Sewer Fund the Village
16 budgeted \$18,099.74. The actual was \$58,806.29.

17
18 Trustee Byrd stated that he wanted to correct that. He stated that if you look at the General Fund
19 and the Sewer Fund, those were deficit Budgets. We were budgeting for a deficit during that
20 month.

21
22 Trustee Byrd stated that the chart on the third page is a new chart. It is tracking the term for the
23 Annual Budget. It has May, June, and July on there. The top line representing the Water Fund is
24 going up. We only budgeted to have a surplus of \$121,705.00 annually for the Water Fund. We
25 had \$100,000.00. He stated that as long as we continue on that path we should be okay. The
26 green shows the Sewer Fund. There was a dip that was there. It is beginning to go back to the
27 Budget of \$93,338.00 for the year. The change in the water rates went into effect in June or July.
28 There is an increase there. The biggest challenge is in the General Fund. We are budgeting for a
29 \$640,000.00 loss there. We are under at the moment. We should be able to make that Budget.

30
31 **Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances** – Trustee Byrd stated that you should have the
32 Treasurer's Report of Cash Balances. There are nine financial institutions that we keep money in.
33 The majority of the money is kept in the Illinois Funds and the IMET Fund. They are two
34 governmental funds. They are kept in there for security reasons. He stated that we have a total of
35 \$8,055,726.62 in the bank as of July 31st. The next page shows the "Cash (Net of Interfund) by
36 Fund." You can see the amounts in the General Fund, the Water Fund, the Sewer Fund and the
37 other funds. The total amount in all of those funds together is \$6,880.180.00. Trustee Byrd stated
38 that the last page shows a chart which is charting those funds that he just mentioned.

39
40 Trustee Oliver stated thank you for the graphs. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we
41 are very happy with the graphs.

42
43 **BUILDING:**

44
45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she did not have anything to report for Building.

46
47

1 **PLANNING:**

2
3 **Park District Pumpkin Fest** – Trustee Oliver stated that he didn't have anything to report on
4 tonight. Trustee Oliver stated that a couple of weeks ago, he attended a Park District Meeting.
5 The Park District wanted Trustee Oliver to provide the Application to the Village on behalf of
6 the Park District, regarding some assistance from the Village to the Park District's Pumpkin Fest
7 coming up in October.

8
9 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Oliver whether or not they submitted this at
10 the time that the Village was budgeting for this year. Trustee Oliver stated that they did not.
11 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Oliver whether or not there is a reason why
12 they are just now doing that weeks before the event. Trustee Oliver stated that he couldn't
13 answer that question for her. Trustee Oliver recalls that we met and had this discussion during
14 Budget time. We were concerned that they did not provide an Application at the time. He
15 strongly suspects that they won't make this mistake next year.

16
17 Trustee Gibson stated that is under her budgetary funds. She stated that when we were in several
18 meetings during the Budget time, we indicated at that point that if they wanted help they should
19 submit it. We also said it to them last year two or three-days before their Pumpkin Fest when
20 they came in and asked for funds. We expressly said to them to please make this known during
21 Budget time because that is when we fix our Budget. She stated at that particular time, Trustee
22 Oliver said that he was going to go to them and remind them. She believes that Trustee Oliver
23 did that during Budget time. Trustee Gibson stated that she finds it very unusual. This is the
24 second or third time that we have informed them that during Budget time is when we put the
25 Budget together and that is the proper time to bring in any request that you have.

26
27 Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Trustee Oliver whether or not the Park District gave
28 him a timeline of when they need this money. Trustee Oliver stated no, they just gave him the
29 letter or the envelope to present to the Village. He believes that the Pumpkin Fest is in the middle
30 of October. They don't want to connect it to Halloween.

31
32 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we will have that discussion as it relates to what we
33 discussed during the Budget Meeting probably at our next meeting. That should give us time in a
34 timely way to make that decision.

35
36 **PUBLIC WORKS:**

37
38 Trustee Waite stated that he did not have a Formal Report this evening.

39
40 **HUMAN RESOURCES:**

41
42 **Human Resource Committee Report** – Trustee Nale stated that she has been pretty busy over
43 the past couple of weeks. Trustee Nale stated that the Human Resource Committee met on
44 September 16th after a summer recess. Trustee Nale is pleased to report that the Virgin Health
45 Care Program has been initiated. Naomi Perkins has agreed to be the contact person for
46 communication and updates with the Program's Director. Naomi has obtained volunteers in each
47 department to act as a contact person. Those "Commanders" that they are now called are:

1 Roxanne Scott in Public Works, Debbie Adams in the Police Department, and Naomi Perkins in
2 Administration. Trustee Nale will keep in touch with Crystal Goldberg at the Virgin Health Care
3 Center should any questions arise. All employees received notification of the program's kick-off
4 date along with their current paychecks. Soon thereafter there were eight employees who decided
5 to register early. She stated that it looks like it is going to take off very well.

6
7 The remainder of the meeting centered on a list of in services possible for the Fiscal Year.

8
9 **Executive Safety Meeting** – Trustee Nale stated that the Executive Safety Meeting met on
10 September 17th. At that time Administrator Mekarski was requested to initiate a contact with the
11 Chicago Heights Fire Department for advice in conducting two sessions, one on CPR Training
12 and a second in the use and proper maintenance of the fire extinguishers. Trustee Nale stated that
13 final preparations for IRMA's visit on September 30th were discussed. These consisted of
14 obtaining hearing protection devices, ordering HEPA Masks, plus an easier plan for employees
15 to purchase their safety shoes. Trustee Nale stated that Cindy Saenz volunteered to distribute a
16 preparation list to tie-in with IRMA's scheduled appointment on September 30th.

17
18 **PUBLIC SAFETY:**

19
20 **Recommendation to Hire Part-Time Police Officers** – Trustee Gibson stated that she has one
21 report to make. The Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, September 17th to interview
22 candidates for Part-Time Police Officer positions in the Village of Olympia Fields. From the
23 initial applicant pool, Sergeant Morgan, Sergeant Beauchamp, Sergeant Blasingame and Deputy
24 Chief Frey were tasked with selecting the best applicants to participate in the preliminary
25 interview process.

26
27 After the preliminary interviews were completed, the candidates were placed in rank order of
28 preference and the results were forwarded to Chief Krull. Arrangements were made for the top
29 four candidates to be interviewed by the Public Safety Committee on September 17th. Trustee
30 Gibson stated that we did that. After this vetting process was complete and with the consensus
31 and approval of the Public Safety Committee, the Public Safety Committee recommended that all
32 of the candidates be considered for employment as Part-Time Police Officers.

33
34 Currently, the Village has only one Part-Time Police Officer who has limited availability due to
35 time constraints associated with his full-time job. Additional Part-Time Officers would provide
36 supplemental coverage on days and shifts as needed.

37
38 Trustee Gibson stated that of the candidates interviewed, one candidate is already trained and has
39 completed the required Part-Time Police Officer Training Program required by the State of
40 Illinois. The other three candidates would need to be enrolled in the required Part-Time Training
41 Academy. Due to the depth, time commitment and organizational resources required to train new
42 officers, it would be very difficult, if not impossible to properly train all of these qualified
43 applicants at one time. Based on training needs as well as organizational necessity, Chief Krull is
44 recommending the following plan: 1. We have one officer, Mark Twilley, of Country Club Hills
45 and we are suggesting that he be hired as a Part-Time Officer immediately and should begin his
46 Field Training without delay. Mr. Twilley already has Part-Time Officer Certification. 2. One
47 officer, Lawrence Smith, of Olympia Fields be hired as a Part-Time Officer immediately and

1 should begin the part-time academy as soon as possible. Once enrolled in a part-time academy
2 and after successful completion of the mandated 40-hours of Use of Force and Firearm Training,
3 Mr. Smith should begin his Field Training. 3. Craig Abraham is suggested to be hired as a Part-
4 Time Officer immediately and should begin the part-time academy as soon as possible. Once
5 enrolled in the part-time academy and after successful completion of the mandated 40-hours of
6 Use of Force and Firearm Training, Mr. Abraham should begin his Field Training. 4. Kenneth
7 Hopman is suggested to be hired once Mr. Twilley has completed his Field Training with the
8 Olympia Fields Police Department. Mr. Hopman will be enrolled in a part-time academy once
9 Mr. Smith and Mr. Abraham have completed their part-time academy training. Trustee Gibson
10 stated that the Board has all of this information. She stated that we authorization from the Board.
11 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Byrd to authorize the Chief of Police to hire**
12 **the following part-time officers: Mark Twilley of Country Club Hills, Lawrence Smith of**
13 **Olympia Fields, Craig Abraham of Homewood, Kenneth Hopman of Tinley Park; and**
14 **initiate either Field Training, Part-Time Academy, Use of Force and/or Firearm Training**
15 **as deemed appropriate by our Chief; and further require all officers to complete a Pre-**
16 **Employment Physical and Drug Screening.**

17
18 Trustee Byrd inquired of Trustee Gibson how many applicants applied. Trustee Gibson stated
19 four applicants. Trustee Byrd stated only four applied. Trustee Gibson inquired of Chief Krull if
20 he remembered how many applicants applied. She stated that these were the ones that were
21 vetted.

22
23 Chief Krull stated that they had an applicant pool of about 40 applicants to choose from. They
24 were all vetted through the Sergeants and through Deputy Chief Frey prior to those final four
25 being presented to the Public Safety Committee. Those were the top four candidates so to speak.

26
27 Trustee Byrd inquired of Chief Krull whether or not there were any females. Chief Krull stated
28 that there was one, highly qualified female. The only caveat that she had was that she wanted
29 full-time employment immediately. Chief Krull couldn't promise that and it wouldn't be right for
30 him to do so. She ended up removing her Application. Trustee Byrd stated that we don't have
31 any female officers in the Village. Chief Krull stated that he would love to have at least one
32 female officer here. He stated that through the hiring process he has to be careful that it doesn't
33 appear that he is only looking for full-time, female officers.

34
35 Trustee Gibson stated that all other Villages have Part-Time Officers because it really does
36 cutback on the amount of overtime and overwork that we would present to our regular officers.
37 She stated that right now we are at a low. We need Part-Time Officers. Since we did have three,
38 we have hired two as full-time officers just recently. It leaves us without coverage in the event
39 that an officer is sick, or he needs vacation, or he is overworked. Trustee Gibson stated that it is
40 an imperative thing that we need to cover.

41
42 Trustee Waite inquired of Trustee Gibson that when that happens you have to go to overtime.
43 Trustee Gibson stated yes and overtime is very expensive. Trustee Waite inquired of Trustee
44 Gibson whether or not we have to pay any fringe benefits to the Part-Time Officers. Trustee
45 Gibson stated no.

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

47

1 **REPORT OF VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

2
3 There was no report in Administrator Mekarski's absence.

4
5 **REPORT OF VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

6
7 **Proposal for "Under the Arches"** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you have a
8 Memo in your Board Packet regarding the "Under the Arches" event that Randy Conn is here to
9 discuss in terms of his McDonald's Restaurant located on Western Avenue and Route 30.

10 **Motion by Trustee Waite, second by Trustee Oliver to Suspend the Rules to allow Randy**
11 **Conn to come and tell us a little bit about the event.**

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

13
14 Mr. Randy Conn stated that he is the owner and operator of McDonald's. Over the years that he
15 has owned the restaurant he has tried to get some excitement going on his corner. A lot of places
16 around him have closed. They have been struggling to maintain their sales volume at that
17 restaurant because we lost a lot of businesses. He stated that they get very creative when we
18 spend our money and create events to make a place of destination for folks to come to. They
19 don't charge anything for them. They just hope that they buy a meal when they come in. They
20 have been very successful over the years with their Karaoke Nights and their live entertainment
21 that they host for their senior citizens and all different age groups. The local schools in the area
22 perform on their stage, whether it is their choirs, bands or Poetry Club or whatever. That is the
23 background of what they have done at that particular place. They have gained a reputation not
24 only in this local area, but outside the local area of that McDonald's is the place to go because
25 they call it the "Rock and Roll McDonald's."

26
27 Mr. Conn stated that they are planning on having an outdoor concert the 18th of October. They
28 have locked in a band called the "Heartache Tonight," which is a Tribute Band of the Eagles.
29 They want to put a large tent on the parking lot behind them and open it up to the public. It will
30 be free. They reached out to some of the local businesses in that area to help fund the event. The
31 total cost is \$3,500.00. That is the cost of the tent and the cost of the band. He stated that he does
32 these outdoor concerts all the time, and the Cruise Nights, and the Car Shows, and it is always on
33 his dime. This time he is reaching out to put something for the local businesses in the area. Mr.
34 Conn is asking the Village to help him in that venue.

35
36 Trustee Waite inquired of Mr. Conn how much he is asking for. Mr. Conn stated that we are
37 trying to get \$300.00 to \$500.00 per business. He stated that he will be picking up at least 50% of
38 it or more. It is a local event that the whole area will benefit from.

39
40 Trustee Waite stated that he understands that a lot of senior citizens have been there and met as
41 couples and got married. Mr. Conn stated that four of them have on their stage. He believes that
42 they are all still married too.

43
44 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she didn't know that. She stated that we can put that
45 in the newsletter. Village President Meyers-Martin inquired of Mr. Conn what the time is of the
46 event.

1 Mr. Conn stated that it is a whole week event. There is a history of the Eagles out right now on
2 DVD. The band is in 40-years of existence. They are going to show the video on Monday and
3 Tuesday. The Rock and Roll Show on Wednesday night at the restaurant will be featuring their
4 rock and roll guy doing Eagles stuff. Thursday they will show the video again. Friday will be the
5 outdoor concert. On Saturday the Eagles themselves, are in Chicago for a concert. It will start on
6 Friday at 6:00 P.M. and it will go until 9:00 P.M. He stated that we won't have Karaoke that
7 night because we are doing this instead.

8
9 Trustee Waite stated that one of the groups that entertains there is in the Rock and Roll Hall of
10 Fame. Mr. Conn stated that Steve Lydell who performs on Wednesday performed out in Vegas.
11 He performs at the Olympia Fields Restaurant and at the McDonald's in Highland, Indiana.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she knows that he was reaching out to at least two
14 other businesses as sponsors. Mr. Conn stated that we are going to reach out to Currie Motors
15 and Food 4 Less. They are going to ask everybody in the general area to participate. The
16 incentive for the businesses if they partake will be advertising on a banner that they will display.
17 He is giving them 10 V.I.P. Tickets for the event that night so they can send their employees for
18 some recognition.

19
20 Trustee Waite inquired of Mr. Conn whether or not he sponsored something at the Village's Golf
21 Outing. Mr. Conn stated that he sponsors a lot of things in this Village. He sponsored the Golf
22 Outing and the Christmas Party.

23
24 Trustee Oliver stated that Mr. Conn has been very humble. Trustee Oliver stated that not only
25 has he been supportive of MOF Baseball, but to Rich Central High School, and the Golf Outing.
26 Trustee Oliver stated that if there is someone looking for money, Mr. Conn has always provided
27 as best he can, more so than anyone else. Trustee Oliver stated that he applauds Mr. Conn for
28 taking this step to bring some foot traffic to maybe take a look at that corner. Mr. Conn stated
29 that is the plan behind all of this.

30
31 Mr. Conn stated that we created this to have that band play that night. He stated that Bizios is
32 going to have a new restaurant. It might be the perfect opportunity for him to come out there
33 with a table to promote that restaurant. He stated that if there are any crafts in the area that would
34 like to come out they can set up a tent.

35
36 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there is no amount listed in the space, but Mr. Conn
37 is asking for between \$300.00 and \$500.00. Mrs. Saenz informed Village President Meyers-
38 Martin that there are monies that have been budgeted in our Public Participation Fund that could
39 potentially be used for this type of sponsorship. Village President Meyers-Martin believes that it
40 would only be fair and productive for the Village to sponsor it at the rate of \$500.00. That is
41 what she would like to put in this space.

42 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Oliver to authorize a Special Event Permit for**
43 **the Olympia Fields McDonald's "Under the Arches" Concert and Fair as described in the**
44 **Proposal submitted by Randy Conn for October 18, 2013; conditioned on meeting all site,**
45 **health and safety regulations as required by the Village's Building Commissioner; and**
46 **authorize the release of \$500.00 as a Donation for the Sponsorship of the event.**

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

1 Mr. Conn thanked the Board. He stated that it is very much appreciated.

2
3 **Report on Vollmer Road/Bridge Improvement Project Meeting September 16, 2013 –**
4 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the second item is the Report on Vollmer
5 Road/Bridge Improvement Project Meeting which was held September 16th at the Village Hall.
6 She stated that it was a very big success. There were 32 participants at the meeting which had
7 never been done before. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the son of former Village
8 President, Anita Healey, works for CNN Railroad. He stated that when she was the President she
9 had tried, along with Senator Deangelis, to do a similar meeting in order to address this issue
10 regarding the Vollmer Road Bridge. They were unable to get anyone to participate, and unable to
11 get anyone to cooperate except for the Village of Olympia Fields and the Village of Flossmoor.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that in attendance at that meeting was Chief Krull, our
14 Assistant Fire Chief, Public Works, Mayor Braun from the Village of Flossmoor and his Village
15 Administrator, and his Police Chief and his Fire Chief, the Superintendent of the Cook County
16 Department of Transportation and Highways, there was a member from Senator Durbin's Office,
17 Senator Mark Kirk's Office, and Congresswoman Kelly's Office. She stated that State
18 Representative Anthony DeLuca was here, Ed Paesel the Executive Director of the South
19 Suburban Mayors and Managers Association, Chicago Heights Fire Department, CNN Railroad,
20 Metra, Robinson Engineering, and our Lobbyist, Smith Dawson & Andrews was here. It was
21 very well-attended. All of the stakeholders and all of the people that had any say in getting that
22 work done were here. The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association transportation
23 person was here too and they took it back to their Transportation Committee and actually
24 approved it, and now it will go forward for \$1,000,000.00 in Engineering Funds to fix the
25 problem at Vollmer Road.

26
27 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she would backtrack a little and tell everyone what
28 needs to be done for that project. At the end of the day it could possibly be a \$35,000,000.00
29 Project, expanding anywhere between five to 10-years. In order to alleviate the low clearance at
30 the bridge on Vollmer Road it is going to require them lowering the road, which is no easy task,
31 and widening the road in order to allow for pedestrian traffic as well as bike traffic. There are
32 water mains over there. ComEd has lines over there. There is gas over there. The engineering
33 alone is going to take three-years at a cost of \$1,000,000.00. It is an 80/20 split. She stated that
34 80% of the funds will be coming from STP Funds at the Federal Government Level. That is the
35 Surface Transportation Program which is a result of the Surface Transportation Act in
36 Washington. They would come up with 80% of that \$25,000,000.00 to \$35,000,000.00. The
37 County would come up with 20% of that money. The Transportation Committee at South
38 Suburban Mayors and Managers is recommending that that be approved in terms of the
39 \$1,000,000.00 for the Engineering Study. She stated that we are very excited about that. They
40 will know October 1st whether or not that is approved, which would allow them to begin the
41 Engineering Study.

42
43 Trustee Waite stated that it won't cost the Village anything. Village President Meyers-Martin
44 stated no, not for the Engineering Study.

45
46 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there was data gathered by Chief Krull along with
47 Robinson Engineering as far as the number of incidents that have occurred at that bridge. Since

1 2009 there have been over 400 hits on that bridge, whether the bridge was actually hit, or
2 whether the truck went under and got stuck, or whether the truck got just before the base and
3 figured out that he wasn't going to clear it and then had to back up. She stated that for all of
4 those incidents, it has taken between five and eight hours of traffic disruption where you cannot
5 pass through that bridge and traffic has to be rerouted. That is manpower on our police
6 department and on ESDA which is Emergency Services, and on Flossmoor's part. It has tied up a
7 lot of resources over the years and nobody can seem to figure out why for the past 30-years
8 nobody ever tried to address this at this level.

9
10 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that our fire department is on the other side of that
11 bridge. If that road is closed for any number of hours that adds to the response time because they
12 have to literally go all the way to Route 30 to come around. In looking at the Chicago Heights
13 Fire Department and doing our due diligence, we realized that was a possibility that they may
14 run into that incident because sometimes there are five or six incidents in one week, and
15 sometimes two a day. The Village had to be very mindful as to what we would do as our Plan B
16 if, in fact, that road was closed. Chicago Heights works with the Village of Flossmoor so their
17 fire department can respond if, in fact, that bridge is closed. It is a public safety concern not only
18 for the Village of Olympia Fields, but also for Flossmoor.

19
20 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that is a commercial corridor. Meijer's is scheduled to
21 come to the Village of Flossmoor at the corner of Vollmer and Crawford. You cannot afford for
22 traffic to be tied up and backed up on that road if you are trying to create commercial success.
23 That is something to be mindful of. When the County was here before, they had suggested
24 maybe banning Vollmer Road to truck traffic between Kedzie Avenue and Western Avenue. She
25 doesn't believe that is the answer because you are not going to get every truck to comply. That is
26 a commercial corridor and that may affect businesses and their ability to get their goods
27 delivered to their stores and their places of business. The commercial corridor is affected by the
28 fact that this traffic can be tied up forever. She stated that our personnel and the amount of time
29 that they have to respond and redirect traffic at that spot takes them away from other duties in the
30 Village. She stated that we have many reasons to address this issue. She is not looking forward to
31 that road being closed for up to 10-years. If, in fact, it does occur, that certainly will be three to
32 five-years down the road.

33
34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that in the interim, there has to be something to address
35 in the short-term how we fix that problem. Grants have been submitted in order to come up with
36 short-term solutions. She stated one of them is early warning detection, whether that is a Chain
37 System where the trucks are literally driving and chains are hitting the top of their truck to wake
38 them up. They are not paying attention to the signs at all. There are close to nine signs between I-
39 57 and the road telling them what the clearance is. They just blow right through it because they
40 are following their GPS. Most of them don't have a trucking GPS. They have the type of GPS
41 that we have which does not give you bridge clearance on there at all. Signage is not exactly the
42 answer. The County came out immediately and cut back brush. Some of the signs are
43 illuminated. It doesn't seem to help. The early warning Chain System is a possibility. There is a
44 Laser System that could be in place as well.

45
46 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are moving forward with the solutions to that
47 issue. The County has promised that they will come up with something to address in the short-

1 term the issue that we have been affected by these trucks hitting the bridge. Village President
2 Meyers-Martin had a conversation with Senator Mike Hastings today. If the County doesn't
3 follow through with their promise, Senator Hastings has an option that we can then pursue which
4 puts more heat on not only the County, but also our State Government to address this issue. She
5 is going to give the County a chance to follow through with their initial promises. She stated that
6 we will keep you posted.

7
8 Trustee Waite stated that within five-minutes of the end of the meeting, the County folks said the
9 next time you have a crash there let us know because they would like to come out to see it. He
10 stated that five-minutes later they got a call that a guy from Kansas City took his 18-wheeler
11 through and it took the entire top of the trailer off.

12
13 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there was a near fatality. So far we have been very
14 fortunate that nobody has been hurt, maimed, or killed at that location. She stated that particular
15 time that Trustee Waite is speaking of, when the truck hit the bridge; the sides of the truck fell
16 off. All of the cargo and debris came off the truck and there was some type of debris that went
17 through the windshield of a car. She stated that if someone had been sitting in that spot they
18 would have been decapitated. There were teenagers in the car. Village President Meyers-Martin
19 stated that this was her plea to them for us not to wait until there is a tragedy before they address
20 this issue. There are plenty of things that are out of your control and you have no way of dealing
21 with the end result. She stated that we know what the potential dangers are. We know what it is
22 we need to do. It is something that we must do. She believes that everyone understood that at that
23 meeting and that there was a spirit of cooperation.

24
25 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that the good news is that the engineering is going to go
26 forward. Hopefully, we will know that October 1st. The Transportation Committee at the South
27 Suburban Mayors and Managers Association was all onboard with the Engineering Study which
28 is the first step of doing the big picture results. We will wait for Cook County to come forward
29 and keep their promises as well. She stated that we will keep you posted on that as we move
30 forward with those results.

31
32 **Public Works Department – Special Brush Pick Up Days** – Village President Meyers-Martin
33 stated that the last item on her report is that she spoke with Joe Alexa who is our Public Works
34 Director. She asked him to put together some type of plan where the Village would come
35 through and pick up brush. She stated that if you are cutting down trees, whether they are Ash
36 Trees or just shrubbery that has died and you want it picked up, we are going to send out Public
37 Works two days during the month of October. There will be information going out with the
38 requirements of Public Works. They are asking that the branches be cut into manageable lengths
39 and stacked in one direction on the parkway. They are asking that the brush not contain any
40 stones, metal, stumps, vines, twigs or thorns. They are asking that you don't bundle them. They
41 are going to be chipping them and making them into mulch. She stated that if you live east of the
42 Metra Tracks your day will be Tuesday, October 8th, all day long. If you live west of the Metra
43 Tracks, it will be Tuesday, October 15th.

44
45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that this was designed to help residents who sometimes
46 cut their shrubbery and their branches but don't have a way to dispose of them. If you have

1 questions about whether or not what you are putting out is acceptable, feel free to call Public
2 Works. Their number is 503-8200.

3
4 Trustee Byrd inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin how the residents will be informed of
5 that.

6
7 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we are putting it on Channel 4. It is on the website.
8 We are sending it out with the water bills. Flyers will be available at Village Hall at the counter.
9 She believes that they are going to put it on NIXLE as well.

10 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Nale to Suspend the Rules in order for Mr.**
11 **Conn to address the Board.**

12
13 Mr. Conn stated that you can put it on my bulletin board at McDonald's if you want to.

14
15 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that would be great. She thanked Mr. Conn.

16
17 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

18
19 The Board did not have any Unfinished Business to discuss this evening.

20
21 **NEW BUSINESS:**

22
23 **Recommendation to Reschedule the October 14th Board Meeting to Tuesday, October 15th,**
24 **due to the Holiday** – Village President Meyers-Martin stated that our next Board Meeting is
25 scheduled for October 14th and that is Columbus Day. Village Hall is closed on Columbus Day.
26 She stated that we are asking that we change that date and reschedule it to Tuesday, October 15th,
27 which is our normal practice when our Board Meetings fall on holidays.

28 **Motion by Trustee Gibson, second by Trustee Oliver to authorize the Village President to**
29 **reschedule our October 14th meeting to Tuesday, October 15th due to the Columbus Day**
30 **Holiday.**

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

32
33 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that our next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday,
34 October 15th.

35
36 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

37
38 **Nomination by Village President Debra Meyers-Martin for Trustee Appointment to Fill the**
39 **Vacant Trustee Seat (Formally held by Susan Ormsby) with a Term Ending April 30, 2015;**
40 **and a Motion to Confirm the Village President Appointment by the Board of Trustees –**
41 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that since we had the unfortunate task of replacing
42 Trustee Ormsby who actually had to resign due to her moving from the Village, and with the task
43 of replacing that vacancy on our Board, we reached out to all of the Homeowners Associations.
44 We reached out through the police department. We reached out on our website looking for
45 anyone who is interested in serving as our new Trustee or being appointed as Trustee. Village
46 President Meyers-Martin stated that she received nine Applications. She interviewed each and
47 every one of those Applicants. She was very encouraged by the level of enthusiasm that residents

1 actually do want to participate with their local government. In many situations there is always a
2 level of apathy. People don't want to be involved. They don't want to volunteer. They don't have
3 time. She has stated many; many times that everybody is overscheduled and overbooked.
4 Sometimes you just don't have one extra free moment to give to any outside activities. She
5 received nine Applications and she was very excited about that. She interviewed all nine of the
6 Applicants. Everyone was civically engaged. They were excited. They had wonderful ideas
7 about serving on the Board, but there is only one vacancy.
8

9 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she had to determine who would best fit the
10 direction that the Village is moving in, and the Board is moving in. She stated that you have
11 information on her recommendation to replace that vacancy. She encouraged everyone who had
12 participated to join her in a new Committee that is being formed currently that deals with Civic
13 Engagement. It asks a cross-section of residents to participate on this Committee where they will
14 advise this Board on things that they find are needed, they are wanted within their own
15 subdivisions. She is very excited about putting this Committee together. We are going out to
16 Homeowners Associations and we are asking people to consider participating on this Committee
17 because we want to know what it is that people want, what residents want in this town, whether it
18 is the type of businesses they would like to see, whether it is something dealing with our senior
19 population, whether it is something that Village Hall could be doing better, and if there are
20 programs that residents would like to see. These are all things that we need input from. That is
21 the purpose of the Civic Engagement Committee. That will be a very influential and important
22 Committee in the years to come.
23

24 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that her recommendation is Willett Hudson from the
25 Original Village of Olympia Fields. The Board has her Resume. She is sure that the Board has
26 known of Willett's involvement in the Village and her participation in many of the Committees,
27 and many of the outside activities that the Village pursues. Village President Meyers-Martin felt
28 that she was an excellent choice for our vacancy in the spirit of former Trustee Susan Ormsby
29 who also was very committed to this Village, and really cared about the beauty and the
30 progressive movement of this Village.
31

32 **Village President Meyers-Martin stated that there are two Motions that must be brought**
33 **forward in order to accomplish this nomination. Village President Meyers-Martin stated as**
34 **follows: "As Village President, I would like to submit the nomination of Willett Hudson for**
35 **appointment to fill the vacant Trustee seat (formerly held by Susan Ormsby) with a term**
36 **ending April 30, 2015; and I respectfully request a Motion of my Fellow Board Members to**
37 **confirm my appointment."**

38 **Trustee Oliver stated so moved. Trustee Waite seconded the Motion.**
39

40 Trustee Nale stated that she had a question and she doesn't know what the answer is. She stated
41 that there are several Applications here. We just received those Applications this evening.
42 Trustee Nale inquired of Village President Meyers-Martin what the Rule of Order is to comply
43 with her wishes.
44

45 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that you will be voting. She is not sure if Applications
46 were ever taken in the past for appointments. She did that because she wanted people to have that
47 opportunity. She interviewed each and every one. She weighed qualifications versus knowledge,

1 Village President Meyers-Martin congratulated Willett Hudson. (There was a round of applause).
2 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that she looks forward to working with Mrs. Hudson.

3
4 **Resignation – Mel Schneider from the Public Safety Committee** – Village President Meyers-
5 Martin stated that she has a resignation this evening. Village President Meyers-Martin stated that
6 Mel Schneider is a long time resident of the Village and a long time member of the Public Safety
7 Committee. Unfortunately, and sadly, his wife just passed away last week. The Memorial
8 Service was Sunday. In lieu of his many, many years on that Committee, and time constraints,
9 and maybe health, he has submitted his resignation. She inquired of Trustee Gibson whether or
10 not she would like to speak a little bit about Mr. Schneider.

11
12 Trustee Gibson stated that Mel has always been a very, very helpful person to bring forth his
13 experience in all of the things that he has participated in this Village. His house is up for sale
14 now. He was expecting his wife not to make it any further. The day that she passed away he
15 came over to Trustee Gibson’s home and he wanted some advice. He inquired of Trustee Gibson,
16 what if he really feels that he has done his job in this Village and he is kind of tired now. Trustee
17 Gibson told him that she understands and that we will miss all of your experiences. We will miss
18 you from the Public Safety Committee because you have a lot of history. We will understand.
19 There comes a time when any of us will want to kind of release ourselves from some of the
20 things that we have been in the habit of doing. Mr. Schneider wants to stay in the area. He
21 doesn’t know where that will be when his house sells. Trustee Gibson believes that she kind of
22 relieved him of feeling that he was letting us down. She told him that he wasn’t letting us down.
23 Because of his experiences she stated that we may at times contact him and ask him what his
24 opinion is, especially if he is still in the Village.

25
26 Trustee Gibson stated that he sent a letter saying, “Please accept this letter to request my
27 resignation from the Public Safety Committee. My contribution has mostly been in the
28 organizational aspect of our Committee which I feel is now adequately covered by Chief Krull. I
29 would like to make room for the inclusion of other individuals that may have more background
30 in these problems that have surfaced in the ensuing years of my tenure. It has been an honor to
31 serve on this Committee which has helped keep the bad guys from making our Village a place of
32 operation. Sincerely, Mel Schneider.”

33
34 Village President Meyers-Martin stated that we certainly thank Mel for his years of service and
35 wish him well as he goes through this next phase of his life.

36
37 **ADJOURNMENT:**

38
39 **Motion by Trustee Nale, second by Trustee Byrd to adjourn at 8:40 P.M.**

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

41 **Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.**

42
43