

VILLAGE OF DOLTON  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
August 4, 2014

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the Harper Municipal Building Board Room at 7:41 p.m.

ROLL CALL The following Trustees were present: Cathern L. Bendell, Stanley Brown, Robert E. Pierson, Jr., Tiffany Henyard, Trustee Robert E. Hunt, Jr. and Sabrina G. Smith.

Also present: Village Engineer Ronald Smith, Village Attorney John B. Murphey and Village Administrator Stan Urban and all department heads were also present. Legislative Counsel James Vasselli arrived later.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE PRAYER

Mayor Rogers recognized the presence of both Pastor Cesar LeFlore and Pastor Charles Straight. Pastor Straight led prayer.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

A. Approval of the Minutes

Special Board Meeting June 26, 2014  
Regular Board Meeting July 7, 2014  
Committee of the Whole July 7, 2014

The Village Clerk asked for a motion to approve the several minutes as presented unless a trustee wished to make corrections or changes to the minutes separately.

MOTION TO AMEND THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 7, 2014 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING TO ADD TRUSTEE HENYARD'S WRITTEN STATEMENT OF OBJECTION TO ACCEPTANCE OF THE DONATION OF THE MB BANK PROPERTY.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Brown. There being no discussion:

Roll Call:

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 26, 2014, REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JULY 7, 2014 AS AMENDED, AND OF THE JULY 7, 2014 MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Motion by Trustee Bendell. Second by Trustee Henyard.

MOTION TO AMEND THE MINUTUES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF JULY 7, 2014, to add the following discussion to Old Business Item E, following the Motion to Accept the AFSCME Public Works Agreement (subject to conditions as set forth).

"Trustees Pierson and Bendell having voted no, roll call was interrupted when Trustee Smith asked for further clarification. There was further discussion. Trustee Pierson asked that his vote be changed to AYE."

Motion by Trustee Hunt. Second by Trustee Henyard. Discussion followed.

Roll Call:

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

ROLL CALL on Motion to Approve the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of June 26 2014, the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 7, 2014 as amended, and the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole of July 7, 2014.

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Communications:

Vehicle stickers for the year ending June 30, 2015, remain on sale. The cost of the stickers will double after August 15<sup>th</sup> to \$80 per vehicle and \$10 per senior citizen vehicle.

Mayor Rogers added that the newly hired code enforcement officers are out writing tickets for violations.

The Village Clerk introduced Pastor Straight to invite residents to Faith Church's Neighborhood Back to School Block Party & Health Fair on Saturday, August 30, 2014, from noon to 4 p.m. at the church, 15015 Grant Street in Dolton.

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Ronald Smith described the proposed project with the Village of South Holland to construct a roundabout at 154<sup>th</sup> and Cottage Grove to improve traffic flow and increase safety, similar to the one in South Holland on Cottage Grove between 162<sup>nd</sup> and 170<sup>th</sup> Streets, and responded to questions from the Board.

Mr. Smith further noted the availability of brownfields area-wide planning grants, as detailed in his written report.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Police and Fire—Trustee Pierson

Chief John Franklin reports that the Dolton Police Department received and responded to 1,738 complaints and requests for service from July 7th to August 4th. Trustee Pierson noted that he had placed out applications for part-time code enforcement officers at the last board meeting, and asked residents who may not have received a call to be patient as the village expects to hire one or two more employees.

Chief Terence Hughes reports that the Dolton Fire Department responded to 290 calls between July 7<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Public Works—Trustee Bendell**

Acting Superintendent Matthew Stacey reports that Public Works received and responded to 431 requests for service in July. Residents are again reminded to place their garbage cans out for pick-up only after 7 p.m. the night before. Residents may place bulk items out with their garbage cans, as well as tree branches if they are cut into 4 foot lengths and tied with string. Residents are asked to report street lights out and water main breaks to Public Works.

### **Trustee Henyard—Housing**

Trustee Henyard reported that the Dolton Cancer Walk was held on Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, and thanked the walk's 50 participants. The walk will return next year on the last weekend in June. She further announced that Bed, Bath and Beyond is hiring and applications are available on the board room table. Taco Bell in Homewood is also hiring. The village has posted a position for part-time clerks in housing, building, water and public works.

Trustee Henyard read the following statement and asked that it be included in the minutes.

"Attention Attention Dolton Residents: I have a statement to make and I would like everyone to listen and hear me but hear me RIGHT.

Many of you have spoken in citizen's address regarding concerns at it relates to our village. Almost every board meeting someone stands before the board and ask that a pot hole be fill or a tree be trimmed. With those facts I take in consideration what our priorities are and what they need to be. As I sit before you, I've been on this board for a year and we have never paved a street or completely cut down a resident tree due to under staff and financial problems. So I urge you residents to take a second look at things as they come before you and prioritize. Right now, taking on a new building is not a good move for our village. The money can be better used by addressing your daily concerns. Would it be nice to come down your street and not be on a roller coaster, would it be nice to have trees trim within a 24 hour turn around and not on a waiting list? Well you can have all these things if we just prioritize."

Trustee Henyard further announced that there will be a job fair at the South Holland Community Center on August 6<sup>th</sup> and 9 a.m.

The previously announced auction of village-owned housing has been postponed while the village secures clear title to the properties. The date(s) of the auction will be announced in September.

Mayor Rogers added that Acting Housing Director Denise Fields reported 456 housing transactions in July for total revenues of \$20,365.00

Community Liaison Officer Brian Thigpen reports that code enforcement officers issued 537 tickets for code violations between July 14<sup>th</sup> and July 30<sup>th</sup>, including 259 for tall grass/weeds.

### **Dorchester Center/Melanie Fitness Center—Trustee Smith**

Trustee Smith introduced Ms. Genevieve Thomas, of Awakened Alternatives, new management of the Dorchester Senior Center under an interim contract, who provided a status report on management's first month.

Trustee Smith announced the Project Safe Haven Proposal under Pastor LeFlore for students of Districts 148, 149 and 205, to establish and secure reliable corridors of safe passage for elementary and high school students who walk to and from their schools in the village.

### **Youth—Trustee Brown**

Trustee Brown announced that Thornton Township's ZAP program offering free grass-cutting to senior homeowners is accepting applications from high school and other returning students. Applicants may contact Trustee Brown at 708-541-2778 or at sbrown@vodolton.org.

## Finance—Trustee Hunt

Trustee Hunt announced that the Board of Trustees passed the annual Appropriation/Budget Ordinance on July 31<sup>st</sup>, and that CDBG (Community Development and Block Grant) audit was completed. The accountants are still working on the 2012 fiscal year audit. Audits of the TIF (Tax Increment Financing) accounts are due shortly.

## VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Urban expressed his appreciation to Community Liaison Officer Brian Thigpen and the code enforcement officers under his direction who are out Monday through Sunday.

Collection letters recently sent for past-due accounts over 30 days have yielded over \$7,000 in revenue. Accounts not responded to will be turned over to the Illinois Comptroller under the Local Debt Recovery Program.

## CORPORATE BILLS

Finance Director Miller asked for a motion to approve payment of the Corporate Bills in the amount of \$1,078,763.53 and Gross Payroll in the amount of \$332,242.33, and including \$10,582.83 for the Melanie Fitness Center and Gross Payroll of \$6,668.83, for total Corporate Payments of \$1,428,257.52.

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE BILLS in the amount of \$1,428,257.52

Motion by Trustee Smith. Second by Trustee Pierson.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

Ms. Miller asked for a motion to approve payment of the Dorchester Bills in the amount of \$30,627.77 with Gross Payroll in the amount of \$39,064.51, for total Dorchester payments of \$69,692.28.

MOTION TO APPROVE DORCHESTER SENIOR CENTER BILLS in the amount of \$69,692.28.

Motion by Trustee Smith. Second by Trustee Bendell.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

## MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Rogers introduced Chief Franklin to remind residents that August 5<sup>th</sup> was "National Night Out" from 6 to 10 p.m. in front of the Village Hall.

Every Wednesday this summer is "Steppin' at the Fountain" in front of the Village Hall from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

"Coffee with the Mayor" is this Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the Dorchester Senior Center.

Mayor Rogers reported that the village has made progress in segregating revenues into proper accounts with expenditure limitations, including \$1.2 million in water revenues. Mr. Urban noted that payments to vendors (excluding attorneys) are current within 30 days.

In response to the mayor's question, Mr. Urban advised the board that the village's lobbyist on the agenda to present this evening, is not here. Mr. Urban will follow-up.

Mayor Rogers urged trustees to revisit the licensing of the convenience store on Sibley Blvd. Trustee Smith responded that she is trying to walk through the neighborhood and get residents' input. Mayor Rogers urged her to please knock on doors so the village can get it done.

## OLD BUSINESS

### A. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1) Public Works Tentative Agreements
- 2) Vehicle Sticker Enforcement Agreement
- 3) Purchase Order Policy
- 4) Resolution 14 R-0013  
Authorizing the Village Administrator to Conduct Financial Transactions on behalf of the Village of Dolton to Sell Prudential Financial, Inc. Common Stock
- 5) Ordinance No. 14-022  
Providing for Automated Traffic Law Enforcement Systems and for Administrative Adjudication of Automated Traffic Law Violations in the Village of Dolton and Authorizing the Village of Dolton to Enter into Agreements Concerning the Enforcement Systems and Services Related Thereto (SafeSpeed, LLC)
- 6) Ordinance No. 14-023  
Adjusting the Village's Water Rates in order to Facilitate a Loan with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

Trustee Hunt asked that Item 3 be pulled from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS 1, 2, 4, 5, 6.

Motion by Trustee Hunt. Second by Trustee Bendell.

Roll Call:

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE ITEM 3 OF THE CONSENT AGENDA: PURCHASE ORDER POLICY

Motion by Trustee Hunt. Second by Trustee Pierson.

MOTION TO AMEND PURCHASE ORDER POLICY.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Brown.

Trustee Henyard proposed eliminating authorization by department heads of purchases of up to \$1,000, and elimination of authorization by the mayor for emergency purposes up to \$10,000.00, and consolidating authority for purchases with the Village Administrator. Discussion followed.

Roll Call:

AYES: 3 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt  
NAYS: 2 Trustees Bendell, Pierson  
ABSTAIN: 1 Trustee Smith  
ABSENT: 0  
Motion passed.

B. LOBBYIST UPDATE—Pulled from Agenda by Mr. Urban

C. IAFF UNION NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

Administrator Urban explained that he and the fire chief had met with the union on two occasions. The union has requested that its attorney be present at the next meeting. The Village Attorney said that he has emails and telephone calls into the union attorney as late as Friday to set a meeting. There has been no response yet.

D. APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEY FOR IAFF UNION NEGOTIATIONS  
Discussion followed.

MOTION TO REFER TO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Roll Call:

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
Motion passed.

E. MOVING OF VIDEO EQUIPMENT FROM CURRENT LOCATION TO THE NEW VILLAGE HALL

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Brown. Discussion followed.

Mayor Rogers stated his agreement to relocate the "Media Center" to the new Village Hall.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
Motion passed.

F. HIRING OF FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS (9)

MOTION TO HIRE 5 FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS.

Motion by Trustee Hunt. Second by Trustee Henyard.

Trustee Bendell objected to hiring 5 firefighters instead of the 9 requested by the Fire Chief. Chief Hughes explained the requirements of the Safer Grant to hire a minimum of 9 firefighters. Discussion followed.

MOTION TO AMEND TO HIRE 6 FULL-TIME FIREFIGHTERS.

Motion by Trustee Hunt. Second by Trustee Henyard. Discussion followed.

Roll Call  
AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
Motion passed.

G. 911 Dispatch Call Center Reorganization

Mr. Urban outlined the payroll expenses for 911. Discussion preceded the motion.

MOTION TO TABLE.

Motion by Trustee Smith. Second by Trustee Henyard.

Roll Call  
AYES: 6 Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS None.

CITIZENS ADDRESS:

Garrett Ghezzi, resident, objected to the budget allocation of \$32,000 total for elected officials' training and for the proposed roundabout on Cottage Grove.

Diane Lofton, resident, directed her objections to Trustee Smith re the Board's decision not to grant a liquor license to the proposed convenience store on Sibley Blvd. Resident noted that she lives nearby the proposed location. Resident criticized trustees for "finding what you want, otherwise you crunch numbers." Resident further criticized 3 trustees for "snickering" during meetings.

Trustee Smith replied that she will listen to residents.

Dan Lee, resident, commented that the meeting went well until the Board addressed financial issues. He objected to hiring extra attorneys at taxpayers' expense, and to additional expenses for training of elected officials.

Resident further commented on the "sniggling and giggling" by certain trustees which is disrespectful to the mayor. Resident further noted that the Board could not determine in answer to the mayor's question regarding the proposed purchase order policy, what would determine an emergency in which the mayor could act.

Delores Tims, 28-year resident, at 157<sup>th</sup> and East End, noted that the high grass/weeds cut on Greenwood Ave. were not cut far enough to allow visibility onto Greenwood.

Resident inquired about a proposed promotion of a part-time Public Works employee to full-time.

Kenny Williams, business owner, 'Silk 'n Classy,' invited residents to free haircuts for back to school on August 17<sup>th</sup> from 12 to 5 p.m. Citizen further urged the Board of Trustees to consider the needs of small businesses looking to move.

Mrs. Crayton, resident, agreed with residents' previous criticisms of the proposed budget. She further asked for residents' support of the Thornridge H.S. band participating in the Bud Billiken parade on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT**      The Village Clerk having advised the Board of Trustees of its previous Motion to Refer to Executive Session, there being no other business before the Board of Trustees, on a motion by Trustee Smith to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, second by Trustee Bendell, Mayor Rogers asked for a roll call to adjourn.

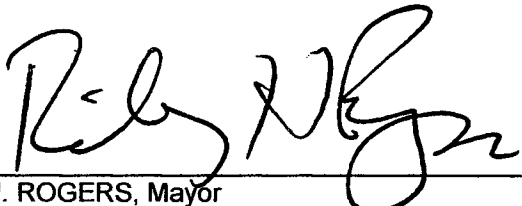
Roll Call  
AYES: 6      Trustees Bendell, Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Pierson, Smith  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0  
Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY KAY DUGGAN, Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 2nd day of September, 2014.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor