

VILLAGE OF DOLTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
November 2, 2015

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the New Village Hall at 6:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL The following Trustees were present: Stanley Brown, Tiffany Henyard, Robert E. Hunt, Jr., Duane Muhammad, Robert E. Pierson, Jr., and Valeria Stubbs.

Also present: Village Attorney John B. Murphey, Village Engineer Ronald E. Smith, Village Administrator Stan Urban and department heads.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER

Prayer was led by Trustee Brown.

SWEARNG IN OF POLICE LIEUTENANTS

The Village Clerk administered oaths of office to Derik Guess and Glenn Ores. The Village Clerk had previously administered the oath of office to Scott Maton.

VILLAGE CLERK
REPORT

A. Approval of the Minutes: None.

B. Communications: None

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Village Engineer Ron Smith reported on the availability of up to \$200,000 in funding available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Brownfields Assessment Program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police and Fire—Trustee Pierson

Chief Collins reports that during October the police department responded to 1882 calls for service, and the following field activity was recorded: 397 traffic, 410 parking violation, 37 criminal arrests, and 7 warrants.

Chief McCain reports that during October the fire department responded to 372 emergency incidents, of which 275 were emergency medical services (EMS), 84 were fire-related,, and 13 were vehicle accidents. The fire department has responded to 3,473 emergencies year to date. Chief McCain expressed his thanks to all who attended the department's open house for fire prevention month. The department will be sponsoring a nonperishable food and toy drive for families in need, and will be accepting unwrapped new toys and nonperishable foods from November 9th through December 18th. Blood pressure screenings are available to residents between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. at fire station no. 1 each Tuesday following a Monday village board meeting.

Public Works—Trustee Pierson and Trustee Stubbs

Superintendent Matt Stacey reports that public works responded to 219 requests for service in October. Residents are asked to call in any water main breaks with the correct addresses to public works, or to the non-emergency fire department number after hours. They are also asked to rake leaves blocking sewers, which cause flooding.

Housing—Trustee Stubbs

Housing Director Denise Fields reports that the housing department processed 275 transactions in October for total receipts of \$25,440.65.

Dorchester Center—Trustee Stubbs

No report.

Melanie Fitness Center—Trustee Muhammad

Director Ishmael Muhammad reports that between June 1st and November 1st, Melanie enrolled 444 new members. On November 9th it will initiate its “silver sneaker program” for those ages 59 and over. There will also be a kid’s corner offering child care. The goal is to enroll 1,000 new members by the end of the fiscal year.

Youth—Trustee Muhammad

Trustee Muhammad presented a short video on scholarships for youth from underserved communities in the United States to attend the Latin American School of Medicine in Cuba.

Finance —Trustee Muhammad

Lauterbach & Amen, the village’s auditors, are working on completing the fiscal year 2014 audit. They will be at the village beginning the first week of November, contemplating completion by year’s end. The September books are 90 percent completed and updated and the finance department is actively working to update the remaining accounts.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Village Administrator Stan Urban reported that beginning with the current billing cycle, water bills will be mailed to residents by envelope instead of postcard. Mr. Urban noted that often the postcard bills are getting mixed up with junk mail. Also, the residents’ account numbers were visible on the postcards. The new bill will allow for inserts of news of upcoming events.

CORPORATE BILLS

MOTION TO APPROVE corporate payments in the amount of \$4,908,631.76 and gross payroll of \$359,857.45, Melanie Fitness Center payments in the amount of \$5,971.57 and gross payroll of \$5,952.21, for total corporate payments of \$5,280,412.99.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Stubbs.

Trustee Hunt said that he has been asking for financial statements from the finance department and been refused. He said that he is not comfortable voting to approve when he has not seen the financial statements. In response to Mayor Rogers' question, Trustee Hunt read an email from Ms. Redmond of the finance department which said that the records for September are not yet completed and not fully accurate so she does not feel comfortable releasing what she has. Administrator Urban noted that the corporate bills in the past months have been around a million dollars. Tonight they are around \$4,908,000. The reason is that bond payments are due each year by June 1st and December 1st. The warrant list shows the bond payments. If the bond payments are not made by December 1st the village will be in foreclosure. Mr. Urban said that he is not aware of the questions he has asked Ms. Redmond. Mayor Rogers agreed and said that Trustee Hunt makes it a point to send emails derogatory of the mayor and administrator's management. Trustee Hunt said again that as a CPA and having a financial background, he does not feel comfortable voting to approve without the financial statements. Trustee Hunt disagreed with Mr. Urban's statement that Trustee Hunt has never questioned the financial statements. In response to Trustee Muhammad's suggestion that Trustee Hunt help staff, Trustee Hunt said that he has offered and has been told his help was not needed.

Roll Call

AYES: 5 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 1 Trustee Hunt

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE payments for the Dorchester Center in the amount of \$27,295.86.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Stubbs.

At Trustee Henyard's request for an update, Administrator Urban explained that the sale of the Dorchester remains pending transfer of the Supportive Living Facility (SLIF) license from the Village of Dolton to the buyer. The village has transferred the interim management of the Dorchester to the buyer, which has assumed responsibility for Dorchester bills going forward. By the end of the year the village will no longer have any Dorchester bills.

Roll Call

AYES: 5 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 1 Trustee Hunt

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Administrator Urban summarized the following items:

- A. Ordinance No. 15-045
Authorizing the Intergovernmental Transfer of Certain Property ("Dusties") to South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority (SSLBDA)
- B. Ordinance No. 15-046
Amending Section 3-2-6A(2) to Provide for a \$.01 Per Gallon Vehicle Fuel Tax
- C. Ordinance No. 15-047
Amending General Offenses Section 5-5-2-7

D. Ordinance No. 15-048
Amending Fire Prevention Code

MOTION TO APPROVE Consent Agenda Items A-D

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Brown. At Trustee Henyard's request, Trustee Muhammad modified his motion to eliminate Item D from the consent agenda. Second by Trustee Brown.

Discussion followed on the village's tax liability for Dusties, overpayment by Food for Less of the local motor fuel tax, the addition of internet solicitation to General Offenses Section 5-5-2-7 (prostitution), and implementation of a revised fire prevention code (Item D, removed from the consent agenda).

On the MOTION TO APPROVE Consent Agenda Items A-C.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 15-048 Amending Fire Prevention Code.

Motion by Trustee Brown. Second by Trustee Pierson.

Fire Chief Police McCain explained that the amendment consolidated and made current all fire code provisions. Discussion followed on implementation of a business inspection fee. Trustee Henyard said that she believed the \$100 fee was too high and favored a \$50 fee. She added that business owners should always be contacted before implementing new fees. Mayor Rogers said that he thought the fee was reasonable. Trustee Stubbs noted that as a landlord she pays the village \$155 in yearly inspection fees.

Roll Call

AYES: 5 Trustees Brown, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 1 Trustee Henyard

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution No. 15 R-013
Supporting a Proposed Class (b) Sustainable Emergency Relief (SER) Classification for Certain Property Within the Village of Dolton

(The village clerk advised that the meeting agenda incorrectly identifies the resolution as 15 R-012.)

Administrator Urban explained that Ardagh Glass has requested village support in its application to Cook County for property tax relief. He introduced Jeff Shankwiler of Ardagh Glass (formerly Saint Gobains). Mr. Shankwiler noted that going back to its original incorporation as Ball Glass, the Dolton plant has been operational for 60 years. The company is looking to invest \$28 million to rebuild the plant furnace, which would commit it to remaining in the village for eight to ten and possibly up to twelve years, translating to \$4.8 million in property taxes. Discussion followed on offering hiring Dolton residents and the company's plans to offer an employee training program.

MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 15 R-013.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Stubbs.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Ordinance No. 15-049
Amending Title 2, Chapter 7 Hiring Qualified Police Officers and Firefighters

At Administrator Urban's request, Village Attorney John Murphey explained that the ordinance passed in May calling for lateral hiring of police officers and firefighters has been challenged by the firefighters union. Police Chief Collins has also requested that the ordinance be amended to include lateral hiring of certified officers part-time. It would allow the village, which is now in competition with the planned hiring of new officers by the City of Chicago, to get officers on the street more quickly. This would reduce training time by half. In response to Trustee Hunt's question, Chief Collins said that the recruits would not be placed on a hiring list; they do not have to be put through the academy. To date, he has received 27 applications. Mayor Rogers, Trustee Stubbs, and Trustee Pierson commented on the advantages to the village in hiring already trained officers chosen by Chief Collins. In response to Trustee Brown's question, Attorney Murphey explained that the village's contract with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) is silent on lateral hiring, unlike the firefighters contract. Chief Collins added that police officers are willing to accept top quality help. Currently the police department has 30 full-time and a few part-time officers.

MOTION TO APPROVE Ordinance No. 15-049.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Pierson.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

TRUSTEES' REPORTS

Trustee Brown expressed his thanks to the ladies who have volunteered for tutoring young men and women. He has secured a study place. The NAACP Chicago Far Southside Branch scholarship gala will be held at Glenwood Oaks on November 14th. Trustee Brown asked for short paragraph submissions on violence prevention from youngsters. The winning submissions would attend the function with Trustee Brown. The Illinois High School Association is still seeking officials (IHSA.org). NICOR Gas is also hiring. The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) has opened an office at Thornton Township Hall and also at 15340 Page in Harvey.

Trustee Henyard reported that the Chicago Police Department is hiring officers. Ingalls Hospital, Whole Foods, Dollar Tree (Blue Island), and Dick's Sporting Goods (Orland Park) are also hiring. Many residents are facing foreclosures. There are options including home loan modification, giving the home back to the lender, or a short sale. Renting may be another option. The village charges a \$50 annual license fee to rent a home.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Rogers reminded residents who are renting foreclosed properties that they may still be subject to eviction if they do not pay their rent. There is a help tenant foreclosure hot line: 855-207-8347. He urged homeowners who receive a notice of foreclosure to go to court. There are procedures in place that may avoid loss of the home.

Telephone lines at the Village Hall were down at 1 p.m. today due to an error by AT&T, which was scheduled to work on the system at 5 p.m. but started earlier. Mayor Rogers received a number of emails from residents who had called the Village Hall and received a message that the phones were disconnected.

The "Neighborhood Watch" sign that was distributed with the Sentinel newspaper lists helpful telephone numbers on the back.

The Cancer Survivors' Breakfast held last week collected \$1,500 in donations to the American Society. Mayor Rogers thanked everyone who supported and donated to the event.

"Coffee with the Mayor" is held on the second Saturday of each month at the Dorchester from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. This month's guest on November 14th is Mariyana Spyropoulos, president of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. Following the event, representatives from the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will be present to process applications from eligible seniors, disabled persons, and parents of children under the age of six whose utilities have been cut off.

The annual village Christmas tree lighting will be in front of the old village hall at 5 p.m. on November 28th. The annual Thanksgiving Dinner for seniors will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. on November 24th. RSVP is required to 708-201-1690.

The Village Hall will be closed on November 11th for Veterans Day, and Thursday through Saturday, November 26th through November 28th.

Mayor Rogers reminded residents that tickets will be issued for parking in designated areas after one inch of snow has fallen. Mayor Rogers noted that traffic enforcement has been stepped up. It is the only way to prevent speeding.

(Following Citizens Address) Mayor Rogers read a list of comparisons of water rate charges by south suburban communities. Dolton charges \$5.61 per 1,000 gallons of water, which is one of the cheapest rates in the area.

CITIZENS ADDRESS

Mrs. Clayton, resident, expressed her thanks to Trustees Brown and Stubbs for their help, and to Mayor Rogers for sponsoring the cancer survivors breakfast.

Resident for over 30 years, 157th and East End, said that her water bill is always higher than it should be and that she needs the meter read. She reported that a resident at 158th and East End is burning trash in the back.

Resident reported speeding by the playground at Shepard and Minerva. She thanked Chief Collins for removing a car blocking the driveway. Also, there are cars coming onto the block late at night and shining lights into parked cars. Resident further reported a tree "half-sliced" in the parkway at 14549 Minerva.

Barbara Parker, resident, asked about the status of a Freedom of Information Act request she submitted in July regarding village grants. She was told by the village clerk that the request was directed to department heads, and asked that they get the information to the village clerk.

Resident questioned receipt of a letter today saying his water bill is overdue. He said he paid a \$200 bill in September.

Thetis Lockett, resident, expressed her thanks to the mayor and the village for the Dolton newspaper.

Resident suggested that the village go paperless with the water bill. Resident also asked if the financial statements and budget information will be available to the public, and how to get branches from the tree in the parkway cut down.

Mrs. Thames, resident, said that she had called both the police and fire department non-emergency numbers last night to report burning leaves and the persons at the other end acted as if she was bothering them. Her grandson has asthma and the smell is making him sick.

Mrs. Harvey, resident, said she received a water bill for \$272 and asked for the meter to be checked. She also asked for someone to look at a hole in front of her driveway.

Resident urged citizens to contact their legislators to protest cuts by Governor Rauner in subsidized day care.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss pending litigation.

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

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

The Board of Trustees entered Executive Session at 9:04 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, on a motion by Trustee Pierson to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, second by Trustee Muhammad, Mayor Rogers asked for a roll call to adjourn.

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

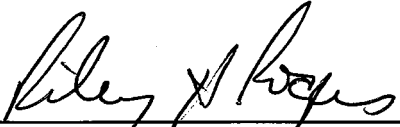
The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 5th day of December, 2016.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor