



VILLAGE OF DOLTON

Jason House.....Mayor
Alison Key.....Village Clerk

TRUSTEES

Kiana L. Belcher	Stanley Brown	Tammie Brown
Andrew Holmes	Brittney Norwood	Edward Steave

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Village Hall
14122 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Monday, September 15, 2025
6:30 pm

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – at 6:30 pm by Mayor Jason House. Present: (5) Trustees Kiana Belcher, S. Brown, T. Brown, Brittney Norwood (arrived at 7:07 pm). Also Present: (2) Deputy Clerk Aris Montgomery & Village Administrator Charles Walls. Absent (2) Clerk Alison Key & Trustee Andrew Holmes. A quorum was established.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Jason House
3. PRAYER – Minister Deborah White
4. PUBLIC COMMENT
5. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
Trustee Kiana Belcher – September 26th, the Dolton Police Department is doing their car show at 14900 Greenwood; it starts at 6:00 PM. I believe the last one is October 12. We have community Game Night that same evening at 6:00 PM at 14200 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr. Jr. We are still working on our Resource Hub. Envision unlimited is there Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. This is our faith-based mental health resources that we need for our community. We have someone that will be working with us for expungements and veteran's assistance. Meals on Wheels will start November 1st for seniors.
Trustee Stanley Brown – At Abundant Living Christian Center we have sandbags if anyone needs them.
Trustee Tammie Brown - Just want to say thank you to the fantastic employees that we have working for the village of Dolton. They beautified the whole entire area for that event and they're doing work in all the areas so want to say thank you to Bunch and his crew, Marcus, Community Liaison, Brian Thigpen and his staff.
Trustee Edward Steave – We've been used to one meeting a month for 3 years. We have to train ourselves back to two meetings a month and discussion and that's the way good government is set up. At Committee of the Whole meetings we're not making any votes. We're discussing it to give the community an opportunity to give input and then the next meeting we vote on it.
6. ORDER OF BUSINESS
 - a. Presentation of Rucker Athletics – **Dr. DeAndre Rucker**

Proposal to Rehab Melanie Fitness Center.



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- **After-School Daily Fitness Program for Kids**
- **Senior Health & Mobility Program**
- **Comprehensive Health Support**
- **Pool-based Fitness Revolution**
- **Youth Sports Expansion Program**
- **General Health & Wellness**
- **Meal Prep**
- **Juice Bar**

Consensus to move forward to the October 6th board meeting.

- b. Presentation Regarding the Abandoned Property Acquisition Program – **Attorney Jacqueline J. Agee**

Attorney Jacqueline Agee - The Abandoned Property Acquisition Program or the APAC program is a program that some of the South Suburbs use. The program is used to acquire abandoned vacant boarded up homes and get them back on the tax rolls get them back into a habitable condition. It's done by any applicant, whether it's a resident of Dolton or somebody outside of Dolton comes forward and puts up an escrow. That escrow amount is something that's determined by ordinance so it will be a fixed amount and then the village takes that property through the Circuit Court proceedings to get ownership of the property. Once the village gets the ownership of the property they get all the back taxes abated and then they transfer it over to the applicant whoever it is that applied for that property. The applicant then has 60 days to bring the property up into habitable condition. At that point they can sell the property they can rent the property or they can live in the property however they want to go about it. This also includes any commercial property, any vacant land or residential homes.

- c. Discussion of Accounting Firm – **Trustee Kiana Belcher**

Trustee Kiana Belcher - We really have been trying to make sure that we get finances in order. There have been several conversations back and forth via e-mail and we're not getting information that we feel that can give us a solid ground on where we actually are financially. We're just trying to make sure that we're doing right by the village financially. I put it on the agenda so the accounting firm can give us some feedback on when we'll be able to get items we need or should we look for another accounting firm?

John Kaspereck - I think everyone knows that the struggles we've been dealing with at the village, with respect to the finances, is not easy to say the least. There's just so many different areas that you come into work and there's a new fire that needs the attention and it's difficult to decipher which is the most important. I've sat down with Lauren and with my other partner and we put together a schedule which we sent to the mayor for the financial statements. This is a goal we're going to prioritize over other fires and we'll just say we're going to make sure that the financial statements do come out on a timely basis.

Consensus vote to move forward to the October 6th Regular Board meeting.



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d. Discussion of Finance Accounts Receivable – **Trustee Kiana Belcher**

Trustee Kiana Belcher - Right now we have one person in the finance department and we rely heavily on the accounting firm. We're building our finance department back up so we can release as much responsibility from the accounting firm. We would like to have it internally versus externally.

Consensus vote to move forward to the October 6th Regular Board meeting.

e. Discussion of Billing for Amusement Tax – **Trustee Kiana Belcher**

Trustee Kiana Belcher - The current ordinance that we have in place on amusement tax states we are supposed to receive 8% of whatever people are charging for tours or anything related to the Pope's home.

f. Discussion of Approval to Open a Separate Bank Account for Pope Leo Activity – **Mayor Jason House**

Mayor Jason House - This account would be for many individuals that indicate that they would like to be supportive of the village of Dolton, specifically the area connected to Pope Leo's childhood home as well as improvements in the village of Dolton. We want to make sure that if we accept any contributions or any donations that we have one account that can be FOIA'd so that anyone who makes a donation can see their donation there and also responsibly see that any funds that are used from that account are applied directly to the purposes that we've laid out.

Consensus vote to move forward to the October 6th board meeting.

g. Discussion of Ordinance 25-005; Amending Title 2, Chapter 14 "Historical Commission" of the Municipal Code of the Village of Dolton, Cook County, IL – **Mayor Jason House**

Mayor Jason House - As has been discussed, the creation of what I've called a "steering committee", would actually be by ordinance. This historical committee would be established and composed of seven individuals who would vet all the different opportunities within that area of Pope Leo's childhood home to make sure that all opportunities are presented and are properly vetted and propose a solution or a path to the village board of trustees on what they seem to be the most viable.

Consensus vote to move forward to the October 6th board meeting.

h. Discussion of Dukes' Settlement in *Dukes, et al, v. Dolton, et al., Case No. 2024 L 3789* – **Attorney Michael McGrath**

No discussion.

i. Discussion of Miles' Settlement in *Dukes, et al, v. Dolton, et al., Case No. 2024 L 3789* – **Attorney Michael McGrath**

No discussion.



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7. MAYOR'S REPORT - I want to always remind everybody to show up and vote at every election. I like to tell people that Dolton votes and gives a great representation at every election. It shows our state legislators and our county legislators that we are an engaged community. The next upcoming election is on March 17th. I've begun putting together and working with the team to integrate more with the school districts, park district and library so that as items come up we can try to bring it all into one consolidated location to make things much easier. We really want to make sure that we are promoting synergy and and efficiency in these difficult times. We are going to again elevate our standard and tickets will begin to start being issued. We have gone through the steps of making sure that we're giving people fair warning and we have to make sure that that compliance is beginning to happen. We will work with anybody that needs assistance to the degree that we're capable of doing but we also need to make sure we're getting the same partnership back from the residents and the community.
8. EXECUTIVE SESSION –
a. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(11) – discussion regarding pending or probable or imminent litigation.

No Executive Session.

9. ADJOURNMENT – at 7:58 pm.

Motion by Trustee Kiana Belcher. Second by Trustee Brittney Norwood. Ayes (5) Trustees Kiana Belcher, Stanley Brown, Tammie Brown, Brittney Norwood & Edward Steave

Approved, by the Board of Trustees this day, October 6, 2025.

Alison Key, Village Clerk

Ayes: (6) Trustees: Belcher, S. Brown, T. Brown, Holmes, Norwood & Steave
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)