

Village of Dolton
Regular Meeting Board of Trustees
Monday, August 5, 2019

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the New Village Hall at 6:38 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER

Prayer was led by Trustee Denton.

ROLL CALL

The following trustees were present: Deborah Denton, Tiffany Henyard, Jason House, Edward Steave. Trustees Tammie Brown and Andrew Holmes were absent.

Also, present: Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan, Village Administrator Elizabeth Scott, Village Engineer Ron Smith, and department heads. Village Attorney John B. Murphey was absent.

A quorum was present.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Henyard announced that her "Stop the Violence Walk" would take place on September 23rd. Job opportunities would also be available along the walk. Trustee Henyard may be contacted for more information at 708-297-6859.

Trustee Henyard further announced that Thornton Township assists income eligible residents with utility bills.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *Limited to Discussion of Agenda Items*

Duane Muhammad, former trustee and resident, objected to the replacement of Mr. Cliff Taylor of InsureSource LLC as insurance broker of record. He said that the mayor had exposed the village to liability by his previous appointment of the Owens Group, and the mayor is now pushing a large agency over a local young man.

Edward Crayton, resident, asked who is the board asking for approval as broker of record.

Mayor Rogers responded that he is asking for approval of Mesirow Insurance Services.

Trustees Steave, Brown, and Holmes acknowledged Mr. Taylor's comments.

Mr. Crayton responded that if it is financial issue the board should negotiate to keep an African American young man with fineness of character.

Valeria Stubbs, former trustee and resident, said that in 2015 the village's former insurance broker left the village uninsured, and asked if the village would be fully covered.

Trustee House responded, yes, the village is fully covered.

Cliff Taylor, InsureSource, LLC, advocated on his behalf as a struggling black broker who is still here.

Felita Crayton, resident, asked hadn't the board of trustees overridden the mayor's veto of the extension of Mr. Taylor's contract.

The village clerk confirmed that the previous board had overridden the mayor's veto, but that the newly elected board had voted to terminate the contract extension on May 9th.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

A. Approval of the Minutes: July 15, 2019 Regular Board Meeting

The village clerk asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES of July 15, 2019.

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

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Denton, Henyard, Holmes, House, Steave

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Communications

Tag Days Request -- Dolton Bears

The village clerk asked for approval of the request for tagging on August 9-11 and August 23-25 on Sibley Blvd, at Lincoln Ave. and Greenwood Road.

MOTION TO APPROVE TAG DAYS REQUESTS BY DOLTON BEARS.

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

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Denton, Henyard, Holmes, House, Steave

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

At Trustee Henyard's recommendation, there was a consensus of the trustees to permit a Tag Day by DOLTON ELITE BASKETBALL on August 16-18 at Sibley Blvd. and Lincoln Ave. and Greenwood Road.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Village Engineer Ron Smith summarized his written report re a grant application opportunity by Cook County's FY19 Homeland Security Grant Program.

This year's Community Development Block Grant bid opening will be on Monday, August 12, at 12 p.m. at the village hall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Trustee House announced that the budget was approved at the special board meeting on July 29. The Finance Committee will continue to meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Per the mayor's request the committee will review all vendor contracts.

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Housing

Trustee Tammie Brown announced that CEDA would be opening a Dolton office at the Village Hall, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays to start, staffed by "Partners in Community Building."

Police and Fire

Trustee Holmes read aloud the Dolton Fire Department Report for July of 344 incidents (including emergency rescue).

Trustee Holmes further announced that this month's community policing meeting will be on the last Saturday of August on the 31st at Village Hall. This meeting will be a call to citizens to action.

Public Works

Trustee Steave read aloud the public works monthly report for July, 2019.

CORPORATE BILLS

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE BILLS of \$468,872.40, Manual Checks of \$1,295.31, Gross Payroll 07/05/19 of \$330,938.40, Gross Payroll 7/19/19 of \$335,902.48; MELANIE FITNESS CENTER BILLS of \$3,221.22, Gross Payroll 07/05/19 of \$6,482.97, Gross Payroll 07/19/19 of \$5,714.59; for TOTAL PAYMENTS of \$1,152,427.37.

Motion by Trustee Steave. Second by Trustee Denton. There being no discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Denton, Henyard, Holmes, House, Steave

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Approval of Insurance Broker of Record

MOTION TO APPROVE INSURESOURCE, LLC AS BROKER OF RECORD.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Denton.

Trustee Steave explained that he was not in favor of continuing with Mr. Cliff Taylor of InsureSource after the outgoing board of trustees voted to extend his contract for two more years with a penalty clause for early termination.

Trustee House explained that he had not been in favor of the contract extension because of the penalty clause, but that he did not want to put the village in further risk of litigation.

Mayor Rogers responded that he had talked with many attorneys who advised him that the incoming board of trustees were within their rights to terminate the extension.

Mayor Rogers said that he had been an insurance broker for 21 years. He read aloud Mr. Taylor's email announcing premium increases.

Mayor Rogers asked Mr. Taylor how many insurance companies he had contacted before his email. Trustee Henyard asked Mr. Taylor to come to the podium to respond. Over Trustee Henyard's objection, Mayor Rogers did not allow Mr. Taylor to come to the podium. In response to Mayor Rogers' questions, Mr. Taylor said that he put forward an extension of the contract because renewal was upcoming in August. He noted that this evening he had put forward a new quote to the trustees that is \$20,000 less than the broker proposed by Mayor Rogers. Mayor Rogers said that he had not received a copy of the new proposal. The village clerk said that she had not received a copy.

Trustee Steave asked why if contract renewal was up in August, Mr. Taylor did not wait to request the extension of his contract by the incoming board, which took office in May.

Trustee Henyard stated her objection to the letter sent by the mayor's office to current carriers to extend coverage under the mayor's proposed broker without approval of the board of trustees.

Mayor Rogers invited Mr. Dan Mackey of Mesirow Insurance Services to the podium to speak. Mr. Mackey outlined Mesirow's proposal previously submitted to the mayor and trustees.

Trustee Tammie Brown said that Mr. Taylor should have given the board time to look at other vendors. Mr. Taylor said that he was still the broker of record. Mayor Rogers responded that Mr. Taylor knew he had a new board coming.

On the Motion to Approve InsureSource, LLC:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 3 Trustees Denton, Henyard, House

NAYS: 3 Trustees Brown, Holmes, Steave

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

There being a tie vote. Mayor Rogers cast his vote: NAY. Motion failed.

MOTION TO APPROVE ALLIANT MESIROW AS INSURANCE BROKER OF RECORD.

Motion by Trustee Steave. Second by Trustee Brown.

Trustee Henyard stated her support for InsureSource, and that thanks to the current board the mayor is on a rampage.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 3 Trustees Brown, Holmes, Steave
NAYS: 3 Trustees Denton, Henyard, House
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

There being a tie vote. Mayor Rogers cast his vote: AYE. Motion passed.

B. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement – FOP Records Clerks

MOTION TO APPROVE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH FOP.

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

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Denton, Henyard, Holmes, House, Steave
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0
Motion passed.

C. Resolution No. 19-020

Authorizing the Acceptance of a Grant from the Illinois Housing Development Authority and to Enter into a Program Funding Agreement

Village Administrator Elizabeth Scott outlined the provisions of the grant, which awards \$60,000 for grass cutting of vacant properties in the village.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 19-020.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Brown.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Denton, Henyard, Holmes, House, Steave
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0
Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Rogers announced that a new staffing agency would be at the village hall pursuant to Trustee Tammie Brown's announcement above.

Mayor Rogers reminded residents that the village is part of \$19 million federal grant to study/improve railroad crossings in the Dolton-Riverdale community.

The first new Fiats leased by the village have been delivered. They will be assigned for inspectional services with one assigned to the police department.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *General Comments*

Mayor Rogers reminded residents that they are limited to three minutes.

Resident reported neglect to paint street lines, fire hydrants, and stop signs.

Mayor Rogers responded that work had begun this past week.

Regina Stephanie Hazelray, resident, said that she is still waiting for her refund for being overcharged for a vehicle sticker, and asked that the payment center be open later hours for those who work during the day. Resident further recited Psalms 37.

Demetrious Walker, Fathers and Blessings (FAB) announced a book bag giveaway at its Lincoln Avenue location on August 16th. There will be further announcements of upcoming programs. He questioned why Public Works did not pick up the debris from FAB's clean-up of the Lincoln Avenue property.

Supt. Stacey responded that it was private property.

Lavell Applewhite, Dolton Bears, asked if there were any other sources of village help in addition to tag days.

Trustee House suggested that Dolton Bears submit a request for donations from village elected officials.

Resident for 19 years, said that he has been trying to get a tree cut down.

Supt. Stacey responded that the tree is alive although there are dead limbs which could be taken out.

Resident answered that the tree is dying and is invested with ants.

Edward Crayton, resident, objected to the termination of Mr. Cliff Taylor of InsureSource as insurance broker of record.

Resident, 149th and Lincoln Avenue, asked for relief for residents from raccoons living in abandoned houses.

Kevin Boens, resident, asked why there were no questions about the new insurance broker, even if the agency had worked for the village before. He criticized Trustee Holmes for not interacting at board meetings.

In response, Mayor Rogers noted that when board members were texting each other during board meetings, there were no objections. Trustee Tammie Brown said that resident should not assume that her silence means she is just voting with the mayor.

Diane Lofton, resident, said that the insurance matter should have been previously discussed at a Committee of the Whole meeting. She criticized Trustee Holmes for leaving during a board meeting for the second time, and said that when asked Trustee Holmes doesn't know the answers to lots of her questions.

Demetrious Walker, again, said that he wanted to follow-up on the branches at FAB's property.

Mayor Rogers advised that Mr. Walker had already spoken and would not be recognized further. Trustee Steave asked Mr. Walker to see him after the meeting.

Resident said that she was following-up on her husband's request for relief from raccoons.

Resident of 34 years said that Mayor Rogers was running the village like Trump.

Duane Muhammad, objected to the mayor's "disrespect of a woman" and the clerk's "violations of the rules" regarding Trustee Henyard. He added that if the choice of the insurance broker is only about money, why not let Cliff Taylor have the contract.

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL

AYES: 5 Trustees Brown, Denton, Henyard, House, Steave

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Holmes

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 7th day of October, 2019.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor