

Village of Dolton  
Regular Meeting Board of Trustees  
Monday, December 2, 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 6:43 p.m.

PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE/  
PRAYER

At the request of Mayor Rogers, prayer was led by Trustee Deborah Denton.

ROLL CALL

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

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

A quorum was present.

GENERAL  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Henyard announced that she was sponsoring a clothing/toy/wig giveaway on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Dorchester. Contact Trustee Henyard at 708-297-6859.

Trustee Brown announced a childrens gifts giveaway with Trustee Holmes on the afternoon of December 14<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Master Lodge at 14141 Chicago Road.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *Limited to Discussion of Agenda Items*

Duane Muhammad, former trustee, resident, asked several questions about the tax levy. John Kasperek of Kasperek & Co. explained that there is a cost to the village for uncollected tax revenues that the board may choose to make up.

*Mayor Rogers said that this item is on the agenda for board deliberation.*

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

A. Approval of the Minutes

October 26, 2019 Public Hearing  
November 4, 2019 Regular Board Meeting  
November 18, 2019 Committee of the Whole

Village Clerk Duggan asked for a motion to approve the minutes either separately or together.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES of the October 26<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing, the November 4<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting, and the November 18<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Whole.

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

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 1 Henyard (voted "present")

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Communications

The village clerk noted that the 2020 Schedule of Board of Trustees Meetings was on the agenda under New Business for approval. The schedule conforms to previous years' schedules.

Mayor Rogers asked for a motion to approve New Business Item B: Schedule of Board of Trustees Meetings 2020.

MOTION TO APPROVE SCHEDULE OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS 2020.

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.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Smith had submitted his written report dated December 2, 2019, updating status of the 2018 Cook County Development Block Grant for streets resurfacing and the CMAP Pavement Management Plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Trustee House said that the finance committee would meet this month as needed regarding upcoming agenda items.

Housing

Trustee Tammie Brown read the housing department report of October revenue of \$80,953.25.

Police and Fire

Trustee Holmes read the Dolton Police Department report for November, 2019: 2,823 calls for service; and the Dolton Fire Department report 2019 to date: 4,142 incidents reported.

Public Works

Trustee Steave announced that the recently purchased snow trucks are displayed in front of the village hall.

Homewood Disposal will continue to pick up leaf bags through December 6<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Steave further announced that the Melanie Fitness Center pool is now open. Trustee Steave reported that 130 former members have returned.

#### CORPORATE BILLS

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE BILLS in the amount of \$644,074.78, manual checks in the amount of \$12,931.00, Gross Payroll 11/08/19 \$359,268.78; Gross Payroll 11/22/19 \$362,962.85, MELANIE FITNESS CENTER BILLS \$5,229.64, Gross Payroll 11/08/19 \$6,665.13; Gross Payroll 11/22/19 \$9 697.059; for TOTAL PAYMENTS of \$1,400,829.27.

Motion by Trustee Steave. Second by Trustee Brown.

Trustee House acknowledged Trustee Denton's earlier request and read the warrant list aloud.

In response to Trustee Henyard's question, Public Works Supt. Matt Stacey responded that the removal of the larger trees on the west side required professional services.

Trustee Henyard further asked about cleaning services of \$1,200.00. Acting Police Deputy Chief Lacey explained that the clean-up was for biohazards including feces and blood.

Trustee Henyard further asked why the village's credit card statements are not included in Corporate Bills.

Trustee House responded that the finance committee has had discussions about reconciling credit card payments with credit card statements, which are on different timelines.

Discussion followed on the village use of Five Star Construction for concrete replacement.

There being no further discussion:

#### ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 1 Trustee Henyard

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance No. 19-019  
Amending The Village of Dolton Zoning Code by Adding New Chapter 14 "Regulations for Cannabis Business Establishments"
- B. Ordinance No. 19-020  
Amending Title 3, "Business and License Regulations", of the Dolton Village Code by Adding New Chapter 25, "Regulation of Cannabis Business Establishments", Thereto
- C. Ordinance No. 19-021  
Imposing a Municipal Cannabis Retailers' Occupation Tax

Discussion followed re Items A-C above.

In response to Trustee Henyard's question as to where tax revenues from retailers would go, Village Attorney Murphey explained that this revenue would be treated as all revenue in to the general fund.

Trustee Henyard recommended that any cannabis revenue be specifically allocated to programs for youth services.

Mayor Rogers suggested that anticipated revenues be allocated to property tax rebates.

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE No. 19-019.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Denton. There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motions passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 19-020.

Motion by Trustee Denton. Second by Trustee Brown. There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 19-021.

Motion by Trustee Brown. Second by Trustee Steave. There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

- D. Ordinance No. 19-022  
Amending Section 3-3-12 of the Dolton Village Code (Video Surveillance Cameras on Premises)

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 19-022.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Steave.

Trustee Henyard said that she sponsored this ordinance because of recent crime in the village. The ordinance has been considered by the Board of Trustees in its Committee of the Whole.

Trustee Holmes said that he wanted enforcement mechanisms in the ordinance and he would vote no without them. Village Attorney Murphey explained that violations are set in the licensing ordinance.

There being no further discussion:

**ROLL CALL**

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

NAYS: 1 Trustee Holmes

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Ordinance No. 19-023  
Levying Taxes for General and Corporate Purposes for the 2019 Tax Year Beginning May 1, 2019 and ending April 30, 2020 for the Village of Dolton

MOTION TO TABLE ORDINANCE NO. 19-023.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Denton. There being no discussion allowed on this motion:

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: 2 Trustees Denton, Henyard,

NAYS: 4 Trustees Brown, Holmes, House, Steave

ABSTAIN: 0

ABENT: 0

Motion failed.

Village Accountant John Kasperek of John Kasperek & Co., explained that the village board may not need to increase the tax rate to meet expenses, except that the actual revenues collected point to a loss (last year 14 %), and the board may wish to provide for a conditional 6% increase to make up the projected loss in tax collections. Questions followed.

MOTION TO TABLE ORDINANCE NO. 19-023 to the Finance Committee.

Motion to approve by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Steave.

Trustee House said that it was his oversight not to schedule a finance committee meeting before this evening. The finance committee will meet on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

Village Attorney Murphey cautioned that the village levies \$10 million every year but collects has been collectiong \$8 million. He said tha this is a huge problem in every town. Lenders no longer pay on mortgages while pension funds are super-liens on the village.

Attorney Murphey further pointed out that Village of Dolton taxes amount to 22% of a resident's total property tax bill.

There being no further discussion:

ROLLCALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

A. Schedule of Board of Trustees Meetings 2020

Motion approved under Village Clerk Communications above.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Rogers reported the success of the following events in November:

Opening of the senior café at New Community Church, open to Dolton residents 60+ daily on December 5th.

Giveaway of 1,000 turkeys to Dolton residents at Mayor Rogers' annual giveaway event on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mayor Rogers acknowledged the \$1,000 contribution by Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan.

Thanksgiving dinner for senior Dolton residents on November 26<sup>th</sup> at the Dorchester.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *General Comments*

Trina Downs, resident, asked for an explanation of how she was billed 172 units for the last water billing cycle.

*Mayor Rogers noted that the resident has filed a lawsuit against the village and he will have no further comment. Village Attorney Murphey said that the village will defend against the lawsuit.*

Resident since 1994, questioned why her mother received an estimated "outrageous" water bill when the water meter is in the back yard. *Ms. London, water department manager, said that she could not say why as this occurred before her tenure this year and acknowledged the water department's past history of estimating bills.* Resident further expressed frustration because Ms. London was repeatedly not available when resident was told she would be in.

Felicia James, resident, complained about receiving a "runaround" from the village regarding water damage to her home she said was caused by the public works failing to completely turn her water off.

*Mayor Rogers said that he would meet with resident at 9:15 a.m. tomorrow.*

Cheryl Hill, resident, urged residents to attend library, park district and school board meetings as well as village meetings. She told board members to quit being derelict in their duties. Resident further inquired about a new date for the tree lighting ceremony.

A.J. Burse, resident, also asked about a new date for the tree lighting ceremony. He further asked if the tax levy would authorize the county clerk to take an additional 6% of property taxes if there is a loss in tax revenues.

*Village Attorney Murphey said that the board of trustees has made no decisions as the tax levy information packet was just given to the board.*

*Mayor Rogers suggested December 21<sup>st</sup> for the new tree lighting ceremony date.*

Kevin Boens, resident, objected to Trustee Steave "attacking" Trustee Henyard while the board is "misappropriating village funds" and Trustee Henyard is right about the tax levy.

Daniel Epstein, attorney and candidate for Cook County Judge in the March 17<sup>th</sup> primary election, introduced himself as an advocate for criminal justice reform.

Joel Garcia, resident, complained about his water bill and receipt of a notice that his second property was vacant. He added that residents are leaving their garbage cans out beyond the pick-up day.

*Ms. London responded that some of the outside water meters are not working but every account is different.*

Kiana Belcher, resident, asked about Trustee Henyard's question regarding \$6,000 in payment for board-ups.

Sandra Wells, resident and regional Director of Neighborhood Housing Services, announced her agency's Partners in Community Building program. She recommended a town hall meeting on water billing, and asked Trustee Steave if he has an accounting for the last quarter.

*Trustee Steave responded that the Finance Committee meeting will address water billing.*

Resident further suggested a housing committee meeting to discuss how tax dollars are being spent, and commented that she did not understand why a "guard" was next to the citizens address podium.

Felita Crayton, resident, said that paper copies of what the board is doing should be distributed to residents.

Duane Muhammad, resident and former trustee, complained that the village clerk had failed to post "pertinent information" on the village website as required by the village "transparency" ordinance and the state Open Meetings Act.

*Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan responded that at the time the board of trustees considered the "transparency" ordinance in 2017, she stated publicly that with no staff she would not be able to comply with its requirements. The majority of the board chose to approve the ordinance anyway. The village clerk reminded Mr. Muhammad that as finance committee chair in 2018 he successfully motioned to terminate the village's full-time media director who managed the village website. That position was later filled as part-time. The Open Meetings Act provisions apply to communities with a full-time webmaster.*

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0


ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

  
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MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 6th day of January, 2020.

  
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RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor