

Village of Dolton
Regular Meeting Board of Trustees
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom - Livestream on YouTube
Monday, May 4, 2020

CALL TO ORDER In the absence of Mayor Riley H. Rogers, Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the New Village Hall at 6:43 p.m.

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

Also present: Village Attorney John B. Murphey, Village Engineer Ron Smith, Village Administrator Elizabeth Scott and department heads.

A quorum was present.

The Village Clerk asked for a motion to appoint a mayor pro tem to chair the meeting.

MOTION TO APPOINT TRUSTEE JASON HOUSE AS MAYOR PRO TEM.

Motion by Trustee Steave. Second by Trustee Denton.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

Trustee House assumed the chair.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER

Led by Trustee Jason House.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Henyard criticized Mayor Rogers for his failure to attend the meeting. Trustee Henyard further read the covid-19 statistics for zip codes 60473 (South Holland) and 60419 (Dolton).

Trustee Henyard further asked about business licenses and whether late fees will double

Village Administrator Elizabeth Scott said that so far there have been no business license issues. Trustee House recommended that struggling businesses be proactive and contact the village for a case by case determination.

Trustee House asked about the licenses requirement for business to pay dues to the Dolton Chamber of Commerce.

Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan said that because the chamber was inactive last year, it has credited dues paid to the upcoming license year. Trustee House asked that the item be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Committee of the Whole.

Trustee Henyard asked whether a cannabis business license was granted to a business on 142nd St.

Village Clerk Duggan said that several potential businesses have applied to the village for zoning certification as part of the state process; and explained that the state has sole license authority. No state licenses have been issued for Dolton.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *Limited to Discussion of Agenda Items*

None

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

- A. Approval of the Minutes:
February 18, 2020 Meeting of the Committee of the Whole
March 2, 2020 Regular Board Meeting

The village clerk asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes either separately or together.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES of the February 18, 2020 Meeting of the Committee of the Whole and the March 2, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

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

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

- B. Communications

None.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Village Engineer Ron Smith summarized his written report re potential grant opportunities. The village has received \$100,000 in Community Development Block Grant Development (CDBG) funds for street resurfacing. It had applied for a total of \$400,000. In recent years the village had received \$200,000.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Trustee House said that he would announce a new committee meeting date, and expects a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Forensic Audit, as proposed by Trustee Henyard, due by this Friday. The purpose of the RFP is to get a price before moving forward.

Housing

Trustee Tammie Brown said that there is no housing committee report for this month. Staff has been on a skeleton crew.

Police and Fire

Trustee Holmes advised residents to keep their eyes and ears open for criminal activity.

Police Chief Mobley read the monthly report of 1,616 calls to the police department for service in April.

Public Works

Trustee Steave read aloud the Public Works report: Public Works remain open from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Homewood Disposal continues to pick-up branches tied in 4-ft. lengths on the regular pick-up day.

Melanie Fitness Center

Trustee Steave announced that revenue was up for January- March.

Melanie Fitness Center was closed in March per the governor's executive order. In response to Trustee Denton's question, Trustee Steave said that very few members had been paying monthly and that most have been paying as they go. Members who paid for March would be credited going forward.

CORPORATE BILLS

Corporate Payments Register #162: Corporate Payments \$48,019.76, Water Fund \$310,708.19, Melanie Fitness \$266.75; for Total Corporate Payments of \$358,994.70.

Corporate Payments Register # 163: Corporate Payments of \$914,472.21; Gross Payroll 04/10/20 \$376,383.96; Gross Payroll 04/24/20 \$308,401.30; Melanie Fitness Center Payments \$3,155.62, Gross Payroll 04/10/20 \$5,219.69; Gross Payroll 04/24/20 \$4,517.69; for Total Corporate Payments of \$1,612,150.47.

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE BILLS REGISTER # 162 and 163 absent payment to Piekarski & Sons.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Henyard.

Trustee House said that he wanted to withdraw payment to Piekarski & Sons in the amount of \$32,540 for tree cutting which exceeded the annual budget. Trustee Tammie Brown suggested paying ½ of the amount. Discussion followed.

Trustees Henyard and Denton asked for explanations of payments to Menards and other vendors. Village Administrator Scott explained that these were expenses for Covid-19 protection and disinfectant supplies, which Cook County will reimburse at 75%. Trustee Henyard further questioned expenses for Odelson & Sterk for \$11,810 (actual amount \$1,181.25), Law Office of Dennis Gianapolous for \$15,600.54 and Kasperek Co. for \$28,395.00.

Attorney Murphey confirmed that he had recently entered into a new partnership with Odelson & Sterk, to be renamed.

Cris Miroballi, CPA, of Kasperek Co. said that he could not answer further questions to which he had no immediate knowledge or access. Trustee House said that the board does not expect him to come into the meeting with 10 pages of invoices. Trustee Denton noted that that board did not receive the warrant list until Friday evening. Trustee Henyard lectured Mr. Miroballi on his lack of preparedness. Trustee House said that he doesn't disagree with anybody. Trustee Tammie Brown suggested better description on the purchase orders.

There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Retirement Agreement (Alvarado, D.)

MOTION TO APPROVE TO APPROVE RETIREMENT AGREEMENT.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Steave.

Village Administrator Scott explained that the current salary is \$100k plus without overtime. The agreement provides for village payments of health insurance benefits for two years; the retiree pays the deductible Attorney Murphey confirmed that the agreement was entered into with the union.

There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Attorney Murphey outlined the current situation:

The village is in a health crisis and a financial crisis. Revenues lag by real time; the village is on the verge of a tsunami when expected income tax and sales tax revenues are down/not received. Last year the village received 82% of projected property tax revenues and the county is contemplating an extension of the payment deadline. Forbearance (extension) of mortgage payments by banks, which include property taxes, mean further reduced tax revenues. There are talks of federal, state, county, and municipal aid per capita that would not be fair to the south suburbs.

The village is asking the City of Chicago for forbearance on the repayment agreement. So far the village remains current. Staying current for 8 years of the agreement waives several million dollars in waived interest.

Village Administrator Scott asked residents who have not complied with the 2020 census to do so; federal, state and local funding is at stake. So far 56% of residents have self-responded.

Ms. Scott further announced funding received for a new village comprehensive plan which would include a grant application writer.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *General Comments*

Giavonni Nickson, Communications Director, reported the following posts during the meeting:

How are bills being paid? Was a warrant list submitted?

Did the village receive payroll protection funds?

What is the agreement with the Dolton Chamber of Commerce?

When will there be a discussion of short-term and long-term financial plans?

Can the Housing report include forecasts for the next 2 to 5 to 20 years?

Trustee Tammie Brown initially said yes, but shortly after asked to be recognized to say forecasts were unpredictable, so no, it could not be done.

Can there be a weekly address on covid-19 and can the mayor take questions?

Ms. Nickson reported on the village's outreach by social media and email listserv: H.S. Dist. 205's food giveaway M-F at the Village Hall, Mayor Rogers' 8 week initiative with local businesses for food giveaway, masks giveaway; and from the beginning, Stay at Home updates from the Governor.

When are water bills due?

How were layoffs conducted and why would we lose water department personnel?

Trustee Denton said that she has already been sued for previous layoffs by the Board of Trustees, and wants to make it clear that she has had nothing to do with recent decisions.

Is it safe to let firefighters go? Trucks have been non-stop for 60 days.

Administrator Scott explained that payroll costs the village \$460-480 every two weeks. Trustee House added that the reality is what the village can afford.

Trustee Henyard added that residents should not go out for little things like the mayor's food giveaway? She further asked why does the village have to pay for what the mayor does?

Trustee Steave responded that people are hurting and appreciate the help anyway we can.

Trustee Henyard replied that the village should not shut off water. Trustee Steave said that at some point the village will have to shut-off, and residents can and should make payment plans.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, Mayor Pro Tem House asked for a roll call to adjourn. On a motion by Trustee House, second by Trustee Denton 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 8:42 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 1st day of June, 2020.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor