

Village of Dolton
Regular Meeting Board of Trustees
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom - Livestream on YouTube
Tuesday, October 5, 2020

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:36 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 Clerk Mary Kay Duggan, Village Engineer Ron Smith, Village Administrator Elizabeth Scott, Cris Miroballi of John Kasperek Co. and department heads. Village Attorney John B. Murphey entered the meeting during Committee Reports.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER

Led by Village Clerk Duggan.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Henyard announced that her voter registration drive was a success, and expressed her thanks to Thornton Township Supervisor Frank Zuccarelli for the donation of food boxes. Residents may contact Trustee Henyard at 708-297-6859 for food. Trustee Henyard questioned why the voter registration event was not posted on the village website.

Trustee Henyard asked Mayor Rogers to convene a town hall meeting on the proposed development for 14200 Cottage Grove before moving forward. She referenced board meeting minutes from a 2011 village board meeting discussing the need for environmental cleanup of the property. Discussion followed on projected uses of the property.

PRESENTATION:

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle
Intergovernmental Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

Mr. Adolphus Kindle addressed the board on behalf of President Preckwinkle, who joined the meeting momentarily to urge passage of the Intergovernmental Agreement with Cook County.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *Limited to Discussion of Agenda Items*

None.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

- A. Approval of the Minutes:
September 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting
September 21, 2020 Meeting of the Committee of the Whole.

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

MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Denton

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Communications

Village Clerk Duggan reminded everyone that the village hall would be closed on Monday, October 12th, to commemorate Columbus Day (also Indigenous Peoples Day). Early voting in the upcoming presidential election begins October 19th at multiple locations in suburban Cook County. The closest locations to the village are the Calumet City Public Library and Thornton Township Hall. There is still time for residents to apply for mail-in ballots.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Village Engineer Ron Smith summarized his written report regarding the FEMA Flood Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant. Cook County is not fully allocating its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) budget in the current uncertain covid-19 environment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance

Trustee House announced that the finance committee met on September 30th and will meet again on October 28th.

Housing

Trustee Tammie Brown reported housing department revenue received for the month of August in the amount of \$86,297.50.

Police and Fire

Trustee Holmes reminded residents to check their smoke detector batteries this time of year and have an exit plan in case of a fire. He asked residents to keep their eyes and ears open and call the police department if they see something questionable.

Public Works

Trustee Steave reported that the public works department saves the village money by servicing village vehicles in-house. He said that the water department is doing better. Trustee Steave commended public works for its efforts in cleaning up the downed branches after the recent storm.

Melanie Fitness Center

Trustee Steave reported that Pastor Dodd of New Community Church toured the center with a possible investor. They are considering purchasing Melanie for use as a gym and wellness center.

Discussion followed in response to Trustee Henyard's question regarding the proposed development at 142nd and Cottage Grove and continuing to pay staff to come into the Melanie Fitness Center.

CORPORATE BILLS

Trustee House read aloud the summary of Corporate Payments Register #173 and #172:

Corporate Register #173: Corporate Payments \$634,996.18, Gross Payroll 09/11/20 \$336,571.31, Gross Payroll 09/25/20 \$347,248.20; Melanie Fitness Center \$16,977.34, Gross Payroll 09/11/20 \$855.11, Gross Payroll 09/25/20 \$855.11; for Total Corporate Payments \$1,337,503.25.

Corporate Register #172: Electronic Corporate Payments \$39,832.21, Water Fund \$235,298.11, Homewood Disposal Bonds \$321,200.00; Manual Checks \$185,000.00; for Total Corporate Payments of \$781,330.32.

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE PAYMENTS REGISTER #173 and #172:

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Brown.

Mr. Miroballi of Kasperek Co. answered trustees' questions on certain itemized expenditures.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Resolution No. 20 R-007
Supporting a Proposed Class 8 Classification for Certain Property Within the Village of Dolton –
1250 E. Sibley Blvd. - J & J Electronics, Inc.

Trustee Denton asked about the apparent conflict of property addresses in the information presented. Village Clerk Duggan acknowledged the inconsistency, but the property index number (PIN) controlled, and deferred to Adam Dodson of Sandrick Law Firm, representing the applicant, who explained that the conflict was between the assessor's street address and the post office address. The property address contained in the resolution is the assessor's address.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 20 R-007.

Motion by Trustee Steave. 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.

- B. Proposed West Sibley Financing (TIF) District Redevelopment Plan and Project Eligibility Study (300 W. Sibley)

Village Attorney Murphey explained that this is the next step in the TIF approval process. There being no further discussion:

MOTION TO MAKE TIF ELIGIBILITY STUDY AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Steave.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution/Intergovernmental Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds

MOTION TO APPROVE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH COOK COUNTY.

Motion by Trustee Holmes. 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.

MAYOR'S REPORT

(Given at the end of committee reports.)

Mayor Rogers announced that food giveaways at the Melanie Fitness Center would resume for the next four Saturdays. There will also be free covid testing at the giveaway this Saturday.

Mayor Rogers announced that he met with residents of the 150th, 151st, and 152nd blocks of Evers this past Saturday regarding a shooting at 151st and Evers. The meeting led to the identification of one of the passengers in the offending vehicle and his arrest. Five weapons and an AKR47 were recovered on execution of a search warrant in Harvey.

Trustee Holmes noted that as chair of the police and fire committee, he should have been notified of the meeting, as well as the other trustees. Mayor Rogers noted Trustee Holmes' comment, and added that it is also unfair for Trustee Holmes to be using information provided by the Dolton Police Department in press conferences.

CITIZENS ADDRESS *General Comments*

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

It is extremely dark on neighborhood streets. Is there a plan?

Mayor Rogers answered that the village is replacing street lights.

Trustee House said that the mayor took the town hall meeting back

Trustee House answered that he said the mayor agreed to a town hall meeting. Mayor Rogers in turn asked if the board wanted to wait until a lease was presented or not? Discussion followed.

What is the process for obtaining a seat on the board?

If they have someone who wants to clean up that dump site, please do so.

When is the town hall meeting?

Would there be a business plan regarding 14200 and Cottage Grove?

Can you give us more details re FEMA and flood areas?

Mayor Rogers said not at this time.

What about the water bill dates being changed as discussed at public works committee meeting?

Trustee Steave answered that he had discussed this in his committee report.

Where is the Melanie Fitness Center listed?

Trustee Steave answered that it is not listed right now because there is a potential buyer.

I saw the new traffic unit video. With all the crime that is going on, why was a citizen pulled over for changing lanes without signaling.

Why are vehicles being sent tickets when there is no sign saying no turn on red at Sibley and Lincoln?

Trustee Holmes noted that police stops for traffic violations are monitored along with other stops, and that the key matter is to protect foot traffic, including children. Mayor Rogers added that he created the traffic unit in response to residents' complaints.

Property taxes are too high. If it brings revenue to the village--am interested.

Can we speak about the increase in water bills?

PINs in this area seems to be a problem.

Who pays for the TIF?

Village Attorney Murphey answered that the developer pays some and the village pays the rest. The village is reimbursed from the TIF funds.

When is the village going to enforce window stickers? I have a lot of neighbors who have not purchased.

Mayor Rogers said that crossing guards have been authorized to issue tickets.

To Trustee Holmes: You have been in office over two years. When will you hold and Police & Fire Committee meeting?

Who on the board authorized advanced payment to employee described as ghost payrollling?

I have been reporting a dead tree in front of my house (on Evers) for over a year.

Can you clarify the change of dates for the water bill?

Does the mayor ever hold press conferences regarding crime in Dolton? I get info from my Ring application.

Mayor Rogers answered that he has held many press conferences but not on overall crime.

Why do we need an EPA examination for a parking lot facility?

I also live on Evers and asked for a dead tree to be cut down.

It seems like business decisions are being rushed. When are you going to establish a plan? Where is the village going?

In reference to the red light camera at Sibley and Lincoln: Why are fines paid not being reported?

Why is there no time on red light cameras?

Trustee Henyard noted that the posted sign says "must make a complete stop." Mayor Rogers said that because they are state roads, the village must have state permission to alter the lights.

Where does the money go to for the red light cameras?

Mayor Rogers answered that it goes to the village and police department.

Does the village determine the amount of property taxes?

Can you please advise if residents will get compensation for severe flood damage?

To Clerk Duggan: I turned in a Freedom of Information Act request and have not received a response.

Village Clerk Duggan said that she was sorry to hear that and asked resident to contact her at the telephone or email that the clerk provided.

If the village is getting funds from FEMA for flood relief, why aren't you sharing with residents?

Trustee Tammie Brown urged affected residents to contact FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA.

How much is collected from red light cameras for a year?

I was told by the assessor's office that the village determines what percent citizens pay for property taxes.

Attorney Murphey explained that the village levies a certain amount to meet projected needs and the county converts that amount to a tax rate.

Trustee Holmes announced that he organized clean-ups at various locations in the village.

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, there being no discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 4 Trustees Denton, Henyard, House, Steave

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 2 Trustees Brown, Holmes

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 2nd day of November, 2020.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor