

Village of Dolton Board of Trustees
Meeting of the Committee of the Whole
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom – Livestream on YouTube
Monday, September 21, 2020

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at the new village hall at 6:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL The following trustees were present: Tammie Brown, Deborah M. 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.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER**

Prayer was led by Trustee Denton.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan announced that early voting for the upcoming election begins on October 18th. The early voting locations closest to Dolton are the Calumet City Library and Thornton Township Hall. Hours (beginning the 19th) are Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday – Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Voters may also vote by mail but must apply to receive a ballot. They may do so at cookcountyclerk.com. Applications are also available here at the village all. The county will begin mailing ballots to applicants at the end of this week and as received. Voters may mail their ballots back anytime or drop them off when the early voting locations open.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Village Administrator Elizabeth Scott provided an update on the census and Cares Act reimbursements. This summer the village offered \$100 water bill credits to residents at least two billing cycles behind through a grant from Ardagh Manufacturing to New Community Church. Ardagh also donated funds to install new street lights in front of the village hall.

ORDER OF BUSINESS *(Discussion Only)*

1. Presentation: Development of 14200 Cottage Grove Ave. - 995 LLC

Attorney Keith Harrington addressed the board on the proposed development of the property for a truck parking facility. His client is proposing a 10-year lease with 10-year option to buy the approximate nine and one-half acres. A draft lease would be submitted to the village 10 to 14 days after preliminary approval of the concept. Discussion followed regarding concerns over traffic and the current condition of the property. Trustee Henyard recommended a town hall meeting for residents to weigh in on the proposal. Mayor Rogers requested a draft lease before moving forward.

2. Presentation: Fire Response Billing - Angi Graham, Fire Recovery USA

This item was pulled from the agenda.

3. 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.

Mr. Adam Dotson of the Sandrick Law Firm and his client addressed the board regarding the proposed expansion of the former Mobile Concepts property. J & J Electronics plans a similar business but with expanded services that are “more on the wheel side.” The purchase of the property is contingent on obtaining the class 8 certification. There was a consensus of the trustees to move forward.

4. Request for Class 8 Classification Renewal: 14948 S. Woodlawn Ave. Global Self-Storage

Mr. Dotson explained that this request was not a “straight-up” class 8 application. His firm would be submitting an agreement for the village attorney to review.

5. Request for Class 8 Classification Renewal: 599 E. Sibley Blvd. (mall)

This item was pulled because the requesting party was not in the virtual meeting room.

6. Request for Class 8 Classification: 601 E. Sibley Blvd. (vacant lot)'

This item was pulled because the requesting party was not in the virtual meeting room.

CITIZENS ADDRESS

Giavonni Nickson, Communications Director, reported the following posts:

To Mayor Rogers or Trustee Holmes: Who authorized water department employees to receive advance pay that had to be reimbursed?

At Mayor Rogers' request, Cris Miroballi noted that this matter refers to a discussion in executive session.

Why would a survey need to be done if the village owns the property? It should already have a survey.

Attorney Murphey responded that a new survey would make sure abutting property is not included.

In follow-up to the first question, I'm just asking who authorized.

Mayor Rogers responded that there were some reimbursements of covid pay, which is all he will say for now.

What steps are needed to clean up the property?

Mayor Rogers noted that there may be a need for a hazardous waste cleanup.

What happened to the property after it was acquired by Mayor Shaw?

Ms. Nickson reported that there were multiple questions regarding a pay advance, already answered.

What can be done about neighbors using my private sidewalk leading up to my porch? The police have been dismissive.

Mayor Rogers advised swearing out a complaint for trespass.

Why wasn't the clean-up advertised on the village website?

Trustee Henyard said she was asked this question and suggested the resident ask at the meeting.

Ms. Nickson said that Ms. Sandra Wells called her a day and a half before asking if she was available to for the cleanup and a presentation of a donation to a local business owner at the village hall the same day. Ms. Nickson explained that she would be at the village hall that day and available for the presentation, which did not take place.

What about all of the abandoned houses with all the weeds and junk in the yards?

Trustee House explained that there has been a split among the board whether to use the \$25,000 budgeted for grass cutting to hire contractors or buy landscaping equipment.

Trustee Holmes noted that he has had the grass cut at over 60 properties in the last two weeks.

How do I file the complaint for trespassing?

Mayor Rogers said to file at the Dolton Police Department.

There is a park at the proposed truck stop and kids can run out and get hit.

Mayor Rogers noted that the proposal is for truck parking not a truck stop, and noted that there is a facility at 142nd and Dante that house trucks. These facilities eliminate truck parking on the streets.

Mayor Rogers added that it is very important to complete the census form. Ms. Nickson reported that Dolton's response is just under 67%.

Mayor Rogers acknowledged the Village Administrator's comment regarding installation of lights in the downtown thanks to a grant from Ardagh Manufacturing.

They did a house today and left it all over the yard (14210 Kimbark).

Mayor Rogers said that Public Works will come back.

Where can I get an application for a ballot?

The village clerk responded that residents may apply online or obtain a paper application at www.cookcountyclerk.com, and that applications are also available at the village hall.

Will there be cameras in the truck parking lot?

Attorney Harrington said that the lot will be secured.

To Trustee Holmes: Who authorized the advance payment?

Trustee Holmes answered that he would like to know the same thing.

Trustee Henyard asked if there was a reason for lighting the downtown and not residential streets.

Village Administrator Scott responded that the grant was limited to revitalize the downtown area. She further explained for new lights to be installed on residential streets, all residents on the street must sign over easements to ComEd before ComEd will installing any new poles or overhead wiring. It is very difficult to get everyone to agree.

It is very dark at 153rd and Evers. There is only one light in the middle of the block. It is bad for crime.

Mayor Rogers added that the village does not have the funding for additional lights. Where crime has been documented, he tries to put in lighting and at least cut back the trees.

At least remove the overhanging branches. I've called several times.

We need some more lights at 145th and Minerva, front and back.

Can residents be allowed access into meetings?

Good question. We don't do three minutes in Zoom meetings which makes it easy to avoid questions.

Cars run the stop sign at 145th and Minerva (around 7 a.m.). Not sure they can see it.

Mayor Rogers said that he recently activated a police traffic unit. The village has recently purchased three license plate readers. There has been some reduction in speeding. The unit is also concentrating on trucks and abandoned vehicles. Chief Mobley added that the unit can focus on certain spots unlike the other officers who may need to respond elsewhere.

Social distancing can be practiced at meetings. I've seen it done at other meetings.

I'm happy to see Chief Mobley doing better.

There is a school on the corner at 148th and LaSalle. I've never seen anyone stop.

The same for 145th and Minerva. Also issue tickets for trash.

Chief Mobley expressed his thanks to residents for their well wishes.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, on a motion by Trustee Holmes, second by Trustee Brown to adjourn the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole, Mayor Rogers asked for a roll call to adjourn.

ROLL CALL

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

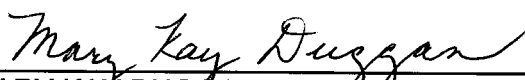
NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Brown

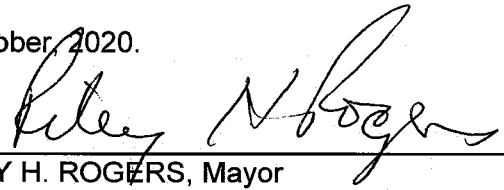
Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 5th day of October, 2020.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor