

VILLAGE OF DOLTON  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
October 3, 2016

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the New Village Hall at 6:41 p.m.

ROLL CALL The following trustees were present: Stanley H. Brown, Tiffany Henyard, Duane Muhammad, Robert E. Hunt, Jr., Robert E. Pierson, Jr. and Valeria Stubbs.

Also present: Village Attorney John B. Murphey, Village Engineer Ronald E. Smith, Village Administrator Stan Urban and department heads.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE/  
PRAYER

Prayer was led by Mr. Edward Crayton.

VILLAGE CLERK

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Village Clerk asked for approval of the following meeting minutes:

September 6, 2016 Regular Board Meeting  
September 19, 2016 Regular Board Meeting  
September 19, 2016 Committee of the Whole

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES above.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Muhammad. There being no discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. COMMUNICATIONS

Dolton Elite Basketball has contacted the Village Clerk and will be submitting a written request for Tag Days on Saturday and Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> and October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> at Sibley and Lincoln and Sibley and Chicago Road. There was a consensus of all board members to approve the request.

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Village Engineer Ron Smith advised the board that it will be asked to approve the 2016 CDBG Subrecipient Agreement at the November board meeting. The village was awarded \$200,000 in CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) funds for FY2017.

The new PACE bus shelters will be installed at Lincoln and Park Aves., 142<sup>nd</sup> and Chicago Rd., Sibley Blvd. at Evers and Sibley Blvd. at Greenwood. Construction is reported to be scheduled within thirty days. There was discussion on the timeline for construction of the shelters.

The Abandoned Property Program (APP) Grant allows for new funds and reimbursements for clean-up of abandoned properties. Robinson Engineering will submit the grant application on behalf of the village.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Police and Fire—Trustee Pierson

Chief Robert M. Collins, Jr. reports that the Dolton Police Department responded to 2,042 calls for service in September:

Criminal Homicide	0	Year to Date:	3
Forcible Rape	0		3
Robbery	6		69
Aggravated Assault/Battery	10		54
Burglary	29		250
Theft	75		353
Motor Vehicle Theft	8		63
Arson	1		8

Police department expenditures year-to-date are in line with its budget.

Chief Collins reports that on September 20, 2016, Officer DeVries and his canine partner, Rony, assisted the Steger Police Department and other police departments in conducting drug searches in two schools in Steger. Mayor Rogers added that Officer DeVries and Rony also recently assisted in two narcotics raids in Dolton.

Chief Steven McCain reports that there were staff shortages in 2016 due to injuries, retirements, and illnesses. These have contributed to a spike in overtime hours and budget overruns. Chief McCain provided an analysis of these expenditures and measures he has taken to contain overruns.

### Public Works—Trustee Stubbs

Supt. Matt Stacey reports that Cook County Sheriff Work Alternative Program (SWAP) workers were in the village in September picking up litter along Lincoln Ave., Chicago Rd., Greenwood Ave., and Sibley Blvd. SWAP workers are demolishing a vacant home at 147<sup>th</sup> and Princeton.

Discussion followed on the status of Public Works hires.

### **Housing—Trustee Henyard**

Housing Director Denise Fields reports that 40 homes were sold in September. The highest sales price was \$138,000 and the lowest price was \$14,929. Discussion followed on the status of properties donated to and sold by the South Suburban Land Bank.

### **Human Resources/Department on Aging – Trustee Henyard**

Trustee Henyard announced that there will be a committee meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. at the New Village Hall.

### **Youth**

No report. Trustee Stubbs said that she looks forward to working with the new trustees committee.

### **Finance—Trustee Hunt**

The finance committee will meet every month on the third Thursday beginning October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. TIF (Tax Increment Finance District) reports for FY2015 have been filed with the county. To date the village has collected 74 percent of property tax revenues, with 85 percent collection expected. In 2015 the village collected 89 percent and in 2014 it collected 91 percent.

## **TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Trustee Henyard announced the following job opportunities: Village of Dolton Public Works, Big Lots in Calumet City (seasonal work), CVS in Dolton, and Carl Buddig in South Holland.

Trustee Henyard announced the upcoming Cancer Walk on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, beginning at the Dorchester Senior Center with 10 a.m. registration. Proceeds from the walk are donated to Abundant Living Center for assistance with medical related expenses. Approximately \$700 was raised from the walk this past summer. Those wishing more information or to volunteer may contact Trustee Henyard at 708-397-6859 or Trustee Brown at 708-541-2778.

Trustee Brown announced that the Dolton Bears Players and Cheerleaders will be holding a pep rally Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at Dolton Park with the homecoming game on Sunday. They are requesting permission for tag days on Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and October 29<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Brown further announced that the Post Office, United Parcel and Amazon are currently hiring seasonal workers.

Trustee Brown read about economic development.

## **VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Administrator Urban requested that the board go into Executive Session this evening for the Village Attorney's report on pending litigation.

Mr. Urban announced that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has notified the village that the \$2 million loan for installation of new electronic water meters throughout the village has been approved. The village will begin changing out meters before the end of the year. Mr. Urban introduced Finance Director Yvonne Redmond and Water Department Supervisor Brian Marciniak to explain further and answer questions from the board.

## CORPORATE BILLS

MOTION TO APPROVE corporate payments in the amount of \$866,157.03, gross payroll of \$398,933.76, Melanie Fitness Center Bills of \$12,926.57 with gross payroll of \$3,449.19, for total corporate payments of \$1,281,466.55, AS AMENDED TO NOT PAY \$13,000 to Larrell's 4 Season Lawn Care and \$20,525 to Fathers and Blessings for lawn care.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Muhammad.

Trustee Pierson said that further documentation was needed before the lawn care bills should be approved. Mayor Rogers said that the board is free to pull out all discrepancies to committee but that the trustees risk work stoppages. Trustee Pierson and Muhammad said that a consensus to pay after the village administrator sends out the documentation would be acceptable. In response to Trustee Hunt's question, Mr. Urban said that he had recommended at a budget meeting that Public Works provide oversight of the work being done by the lawn care contractors, but that the board had decided to keep oversight with the Housing Department. He added that he had asked for the addition of a part-time employee to check on work. Attorney Murphey recommended a special board meeting to approve the payments so that the vendors would not have to wait another month to be paid. There was further discussion on measures needed to ensure that there are no future discrepancies.

At the call of the mayor, a special board meeting was announced for Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 5 p.m.

ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE AS AMENDED:

### ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

### A. Fire Department Apparatus Assessment

Fire Chief Steven McCain requested approval to move forward with an assessment regarding the need for additional apparatus for the fire department. The department solicited requests for proposals as set forth before the board. Chief Mc Cain said that at the very least he is requesting approval for repair of Fire Engine 1447. Total cost of repairs is \$18,954.68 with a trade-in value of vehicles 1442 and 1446 of \$7,500, for a total cost of \$11,454.68. Chief McCain noted that a request for proposal for these repairs was solicited due to the village board's current position to not purchase a new engine.

MOTION TO APPROVE PROPOSAL BY INTERSTATE EMERGENCY VEHICLES, INC. FOR REPAIR OF FIRE ENGINE 1447.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Brown.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Youth Center

MOTION TO DEFER ITEM TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING IMMEDIATE LITIGATION BY CONTRACTOR.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Pierson.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

C. New Hire Appointments

MOTION TO DEFER ITEM TO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN PERSONNEL.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Pierson.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Ordinance No. 16-021

Amending Section 6-5-4-7 of the Village Code to Allow for the Posting of an Additional Handicap-Only Sign (14414 Minerva Ave.)

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Brown.

Trustee Hunt asked if there was a list of approved handicap signs. The village clerk said that because the signs are approved by ordinance, the new village code once consolidated would list all addresses. The clerk said that she could also make a list from the ordinances. There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Remote Utility Payment Centers

Mr. Brian Marciniak, water department supervisor, announced that shortly residents will be able to pay their water bills at Kurt's Ace Hardware on Chicago Road, and at both Fairway Finer Foods locations in Dolton, as well as at the village hall's payment center Mondays through Fridays and the Dolton Currency Exchange on Chicago Road. Residents may also continue to pay by mail and online. In response to Trustee Hunt's suggestion, Mr. Marciniak explained that there is also a drop box for payments outside of the payment center. Mayor Rogers noted that payments online or at the Dolton Currency Exchange on Saturdays will be processed on Mondays. Trustee Henyard commented that the goal of the additional locations is to close the village payment center on Saturdays. Administrator Urban said that the goal is also to increase foot traffic into these businesses to further economic development in the village. MB Bank and Food4Less were also approached but were not interested.

MOTION TO APPROVE UTILITY BILL REMOTE PAYMENT LOCATIONS

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Stubbs.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

C. Residential Exterior Sewer Line Coverage

Administrator Urban asked for the board's consideration of the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program. He said that the program is essentially sewer line insurance coverage for residential homeowners. Residents' participation would be voluntary. The board would have to endorse the program. Mr. Urban outlined the terms proposed. He will invite a representative of the program to address the board at a future date.

D. Speed Bumps

Mayor Rogers noted that since certain streets have been resurfaced, complaints of speeding by residents on those streets have increased. He asked Chief Collins to identify those locations where it would be beneficial to install speed bumps. Mayor Rogers said that Calumet City has installed portable speed bumps at \$137 each. Trustee Hunt asked about the process of identifying those locations and whether Chief Collins has met with residents on those blocks. Mayor Rogers replied that an assessment can be done by radar. Trustee Henyard and Brown agreed that there is a need, with Trustee Henyard identifying Dorchester Ave. at Menards and Trustee Brown identifying 154<sup>th</sup> & Greenwood Ave. Mayor Rogers noted that there is already a traffic light at 154<sup>th</sup> and Greenwood.

E. Pre-Approval of Sentinel Newspaper Content by Board of Trustees

Trustee Pierson said that he did not bring this item forward to stop publication of The Sentinel but that he objected to its lop-sided content. Mayor Roger disagreed and pointed to various photos in recent editions featuring the trustees. Trustee Stubbs said that if trustees want to be in the newspaper they can, and cited the "Clean Sweep" event, the Cancer Walk, and the "Heart of a Woman" event this year. Mayor Rogers challenged Trustee Muhammad's comment that the newspaper costs \$3,700 a month as it was published every other month. In response to questions by Trustee Hunt and Henyard about the process for content submission, Mayor Rogers directed the trustees to submit their content to Ashahed Triche by the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month and every other month.

MOTION TO REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE SENTINEL BEFORE PUBLICATION.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Brown.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 5 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, and Pierson

NAYS: 1 Trustee Stubbs.

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

F. Elimination of Mayoral Credit Card

Trustee Pierson said that he brought this item forward because the audit report noted that some credit card receipts were missing. He said that only in cities without village administrators do the mayors have a credit card. Mayor Rogers said that right now the card is not in his possession, and that 95 percent of the charges are by village departments. In response to Trustee Muhammad's question, Administrator Urban said that the village has three credit cards issued to the mayor, Mr. Urban, and the Chief of Police. Mr. Urban further explained the policy and procedures for credit card use. The card had been issued to the mayor personally because of the village's credit rating at the time. Trustee Hunt said that MB Bank offers another card with an employer identification number (EIN#) instead of a social security number. Trustee Muhammad said that there should be one credit card issued to the village administrator with receipts to match expenditures. Mayor Rogers said that he will no longer use the credit card.

MOTION TO ELIMINATE MAYORAL CREDIT CARD.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Brown.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 4 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Muhammad, and Pierson

NAYS: 2 Trustees Hunt and Stubbs

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

G. Reduction in Authorized Spending Limits

Trustee Pierson proposed reducing the amount of an expenditure the mayor may authorize from \$10,000 to \$1,000. Currently a department head may authorize an expenditure up to \$1,000 without board approval, the village administrator may authorize an expenditure up to \$5,000, and the mayor may authorize an expenditure up to \$10,000. Trustee Stubbs noted that winter time expenses such as for salt may require immediate spending, as would other emergency situations. In response to Trustee Muhammad's question, Administrator Urban said that all authorizations are verified manually. In response to Trustee Brown's question, Supt. Stacey confirmed that there is a winter action plan. Mayor Rogers noted that the Village Administrator does not handle all operations day-to-day. Trustee Hunt said that he thought a \$1,000 limit was too low.

MOTION TO LIMIT MAYOR'S AUTHORITY TO APPROVE EXPENDITURES TO NO MORE THAN \$1,000.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Brown.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 3 Trustees Brown, Henyard, and Pierson  
NAYS: 3 Trustees Hunt, Muhammad, Stubbs  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 0

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

"Coffee with the Mayor" on October 8<sup>th</sup> will be shortened to accommodate the Cancer Survivors Awareness Breakfast for the American Cancer Society. He extended condolences to the several employees and their families who had recently lost loved ones.

In response to Trustee Henyard's question about sponsorship for the Cancer Survivor's Awareness Breakfast, Mayor Rogers said that Robinson Engineering had agreed to assume most of the cost. Trustee Henyard asked Mayor Rogers to dedicate proceeds to the fund she had set up with Abundant Living Church. Mayor Rogers said that the funds from the breakfast would be donated to the American Cancer Society.

CITIZENS ADDRESS

Arlecta Baldwin, manager of Dorchester Townhomes, cautioned that applying for an EIN# backed credit card may take several weeks. She asked about the three homes across from the complex with Handicap Parking signs. She noted that placing water bill payments in the drop box means the resident will not get a receipt.

Resident, 31 years, said that he was one of two recently hired for Public Works and has now been let go despite his experience. He said that the board is not giving back to the people of the village.



Demetrious Walker, Fathers and Blessings, said that his organization had emailed all invoices with photos of the lawn care included. He said that the board's agenda is a political battle and about zero to community. He added that The Sentinel covers village events and invited residents to a community meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup> at New Community Church.

Resident said that he saw a new set of people with "knives in their hands" this evening and questioned Trustee Pierson's motivation. Resident asked if Trustees Brown and Muhammad were running for mayor and said that the opposition to The Sentinel is political.

Kenny Williams, Silk 'N Classy Barbershop and College invited residents to "Cutting for Education" at the barbershop located at 114 E. Sibley Blvd. on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 12-3 p.m. The event offers free haircuts and manicures for children.

Resident, 26 years, said the meeting was embarrassing. Resident said that if you work for a company, you don't attack your boss. He said the agenda should have items that mean something.

Georgia Williams, resident, reminded the board that the Melanie Fitness Center needs help right now.

Mary Avent, resident, said that board meetings have been embarrassing for a long time. The meeting should be out in two hours. She asked where was the \$14,000 JAG grant money. Resident chided Trustee Stubbs for telling Karen that she didn't live here when Karen spoke during Citizens Address at the last meeting.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION for consideration of deferred items (above).

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Pierson.

#### ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed at 10:52 p.m.

The Board of Trustees returned from Executive Session at 11:54 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

#### ROLL CALL

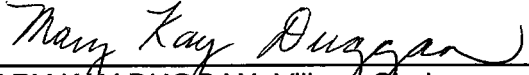
AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 7th day of November, 2016.

  
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RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor