

VILLAGE OF DOLTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
March 20, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order in the New Village Hall at 6:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Also present: Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan, Village Administrator Stan Urbañ and department heads. Village Attorney John B. Murphey and Village Engineer Ronald E. Smith were absent.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER

Prayer was led by Mr. Edward Crayton.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Village Clerk Mary Kay Duggan reminded residents of the local consolidated election to take place on April 3rd. The February 28th municipal primary election nominated Democratic candidates whose names will be on the April 3rd ballot unopposed, because no other party or independent candidates filed for election. The village clerk asked residents to consider the candidates for school boards, park districts, library board and Thornton Township positions, which will also be on the ballot.

Trustee Henyard announced that the Thornton Township Youth Committee is hiring instructors and assistants at \$10-20 per hour. Interested residents may telephone 708-596-6040 x2015.

Trustee Henyard reminded residents that she is available to assist residents who are struggling to modify their mortgages. She may be reached at 708-297-6859.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Update on 50/20 Summer Youth Employment Program

Mayor Rogers asked for a motion to take this item from the table.

MOTION TO TAKE ITEM FROM TABLE. Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Muhammad.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Stubbs

Motion passed.

Mayor Rogers explained that he wants to move forward with the program which began last year. While the program's name comes from the 50 Dolton youth hired last summer for 20 hours per week, his goal this year is to hire 75-100 youth which would cost approximately \$150-160,000. He said that he has already reached out to local businesses, including Menards, to hire through the program, and would like to see half of the youth placed with the businesses. Trustee Muhammad said that last year's program was "raggedy" and asked about measures to fine-tune the program. Trustee Muhammad also asked where the funding would be coming from. Mayor Rogers expressed surprise at Trustee Muhammad's comment, noting that he had heard only positive comments about the program. Mayor Rogers pointed out that last year the board had voted to fund the program and allocated approximately \$80,000 in funds, and that he anticipated allocation of the same amount this year with businesses funding the rest. He declined to further discuss the commitments he has from businesses to date. Trustee Henyard said that she was in favor of the program but has ideas to improve it, such as placing the youth in businesses. She asked vendors to donate to the program. Mayor Rogers asked for and received a consensus of all trustees present to move forward with the program.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Resolution No. 17 R-005
Authorizing Execution of the Application for the County of Cook, Illinois, 2017
Community Development Block Grant ("CDBG") Program Year

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 17 R-005.

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

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Stubbs

Motion passed.

- B. Ordinance No. 17-003
Adopting a Village Transparency Policy

MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17-003.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Henyard.

Trustee Pierson said that he apologized to Village Clerk Duggan for not discussing the proposed ordinance with her as it involves work she will have to do. He clarified that he and Trustee Muhammad, who worked on this ordinance together, proposed an effective date of March 31, 2017, for all records listed in the ordinance to be posted on the village's website. He said he was open to discussion, but did not agree with the date of June 30, 2017, as proposed by the mayor. Trustee Muhammad pointed to items currently on the website that need updating. Media Director Edward Steave objected to Trustee Muhammad raising these issues at the board meeting instead of reaching out to him directly. Attorney Murphey noted that maintenance of the website is the function of administrative staff not trustees, and suggested a two-week delay for further consideration. In the meantime, the "transparency" ordinance could

be placed on the website so that the residents would know what it contains. Trustee Muhammad said that it was his objective and that of Trustee Pierson to pass the ordinance tonight. Mayor Rogers noted the objection by the village clerk and the village attorney's recommendation, and said that additional time should be taken to consider the needed time and possible expense involved. Village Clerk Duggan said she objected to not being consulted on the timeline, as it falls to the village clerk and staff to do the work. Trustee Muhammad said that he had volunteers who could complete the work within that time. Trustee Henyard noted that the board had been on this topic for 30 minutes and called for a vote.

ON THE MOTION TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 17-003:

The village clerk asked for and received clarification that the effective date remains March 31, 2017.

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Stubbs

Motion passed.

C. Appointment to Trustees' Standing Committee: Police and Fire

MOTION TO CHANGE APPOINTMENT TO POLICE AND FIRE STANDING COMMITTEE.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Brown.

Trustee Pierson said that he has had difficulty in obtaining a quorum of the Police and Fire Committee, of which he is the chair. He suggested that because Trustee Hunt has been unavailable, Trustee Muhammad take his place on the committee. Trustee Pierson said that the village clerk had suggested a temporary appointment pending reorganization of committees after the new trustees take office. Trustee Hunt objected to the statement that he was unavailable. Trustee Pierson withdrew his motion.

D. Mayoral Veto

Mayor Rogers read aloud his veto message to the board of trustees dated March 20, 2017:

"I hereby veto the action of the Village Board taken on March 6, 2017 approving a four-year contract with W&W Towing. It is irresponsible for the outgoing Board to bind the new Village Board with a long term contract such as this. This Agreement has all the elements of a political payback and that's not the way Village business should be conducted.

I request that the Village Board uphold my veto at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting."

Mayor Rogers asked if any trustees had had conversations with the owner of W&W Towing. There was no response.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Rogers announced that Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx would be speaking at Faith United Methodist Church at 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 19th. The meeting is open to the public.

The first Village of Dolton Family and Community Bike Ride will take place Thursday evening, April 20th.

The next "Coffee with the Mayor" is April 8th.

CITIZENS ADDRESS

Cheryl Hill, resident, invited Trustee Hunt to step down anytime and told board members to stop bickering in front of the residents. She said she was glad Mayor Rogers vetoed a four-year contract when new people are coming in. She thanked the village clerk for her efficiency in following-up with her when she has come in and asked the mayor to veto the transparency policy.

Stanford Culp, resident, asked that the three-minute time limit for Citizens Address be consistently applied. He said that the Board was only trying to be sure about the details of the 50/20 program. He noted that there had been no explanation of the CDBG resolution. He asked about the outdated website documents referenced by Trustee Muhammad, and said that a transparency policy is needed. He questioned why implementation would take long. He questioned the reason for having a board of trustees if the mayor was going to veto its decisions, such as its approval of the towing contract.

Pat Byrd, resident, said the board has to learn to table items when needed, and asked what happens if the transparency ordinance is not implemented by March 31st.

Resident questioned why the board had previously tabled discussion of the 50/20 program for this year and said that his child had been a product of last year's program. He said that the board should take discussions behind closed doors. Resident further asked about door-to-door electric company solicitation.

Herman Moore, resident and newly appointed Fire and Police Commissioner, read aloud his letter to the mayor, village board, and residents, entitled "It Takes Teamwork."

Kenny Williams, Silk 'N Classy, thanked the village clerk for her announcement that the election is not over. He said that High School District 205 published a notice in the Daily Southtown on March 8th that it had issued \$30 million in bonds for improvements. He said that 205 is taking students out of Thornridge and sending them to Chicago State University, and that Thornridge is in jeopardy.

Tracy Brown, resident, said that a small group of residents had kept Thornridge open before and it can do it again. She congratulated the newly elected officials. She said she has seen improvements since this administration. She expressed her thanks for channel 4.

Edward Crayton, resident and candidate for High School District 205 school board, spoke of annual deficit spending by the school board, and said that at the current rate there is no way the district can keep three schools open.

Mrs. Crayton, resident, also addressed problems at Thornridge. She added that while 50/20 is an excellent program, the board must find adequate funding, and volunteered to be part of a committee to solicit donations. She inquired about the provisions of the transparency ordinance and the validity of the mayor's veto of the towing contract.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL

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

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 1 Trustee Stubbs

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 3rd day of April, 2017.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor