

1 **EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH THE NEED TO RECONVENE:**

2
3 To Discuss Executive Session Minutes Under the Open Meetings Act (December 17th, 2018; and
4 November 1st, 2018) -

5
6 The Board held an Executive Session from 6:30 P.M. to 6:48 P.M. to Discuss Executive Session
7 Minutes (December 17th, 2018; and November 1st, 2018) According to the Open Meetings Act,
8 Section 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d) with the Need to Reconvene.

9
10 **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**

11
12 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Finley to Return to Open Session at 6:48 P.M.**
13 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

14
15 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
16 **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
17 **Held on January 13, 2020**

18
19 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, January 13th, 2020, at the
20 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Sterling M.
21 Burke at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

22
23 Present: Trustees – Watkins, Oliver, Finley, and Matz
24 Village President Sterling M. Burke
25 Village Administrator, Cynthia Saenz
26 Village Clerk, Drella Savage

27
28 Absent: Trustee Pennington and Trustee Thomas.

29
30 Village Clerk Drella Savage stated that we have four Trustees present this evening so we have a
31 quorum. Village Clerk Drella Savage stated that we also have present Village President Burke;
32 Village Administrator, Cynthia Saenz; Building Commissioner, Mr. John McDonnell; Public
33 Works Director, Mr. Jim Landini; Director of Finance, Ms. Betty Zigras; Trinette Britt-Johnson,
34 Economic Development Consultant; Court Reporter, Faith Stine-Willard; and she is the Village
35 Clerk, Drella Savage.

36
37 **RELEASE OF PRIOR CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:**

38
39 Village Clerk Drella Savage stated that we just returned from a Closed Session to discuss the
40 release of some prior Executive Session Minutes.

41 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Oliver, that we not Release the Minutes from**
42 **the Executive Sessions held on November 1st, 2018, and December 17th, 2018, on the Basis**
43 **that the Need for Confidentiality Still Exists as to all, or a Part of those Minutes.**

44 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

45
46
47

1 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

2

3 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Watkins to Dispense with the Reading of the**
4 **Minutes, and Approve the Minutes of the December 16th, 2019, Board Meeting as**
5 **presented.**

6 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

7

8 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

9

10 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Watkins to Approve the Payment of Bills for**
11 **January 13th, 2020, in the Total Amount of \$297,525.69.**

12 **Roll Call: Ayes (4-0) Motion Carried.**

13

14 **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:**

15

16 **REPORT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT:**

17

18 Village President Burke stated that next is a Report from the Village President. He stated that he
19 is the liaison to the Economic Development Commission. He asked Trinette Britt-Johnson to
20 give the Board an update.

21

22 **Update on Butterfield Plaza** - Mrs. Trinette Britt-Johnson stated that we are excited to say that
23 the Butterfield Plaza has indeed closed. She stated that Batter & Berries and the new owners will
24 be meeting later on in the week. They are bringing in their architects and their design team to
25 design the space. They will be sending plans to John. We are excited to see that level of progress.
26 They are working on an announcement. They want to have a big “Coming Soon” announcement
27 ceremony at the plaza. We are excited to finally say that the plaza has been sold, and Batter &
28 Berries is coming soon. The next time she gives a report, she will be able to give you some
29 specific timelines as to where the plans are working with John, and when they plan on opening.

30

31 Village President Burke stated that they do have a signed lease. He just wanted to make sure that
32 is clear. Mrs. Britt-Johnson stated yes. (There was a round of applause).

33

34 **Update on Olympia Corners** - Mrs. Britt-Johnson stated that the other thing that she wanted to
35 update the Board on, for Olympia Corners, we have had a third meeting with a developer who
36 has interest, who is presenting various concepts. It is in the early, preliminary stages of course.
37 We will present the developer to the Board when it progresses a little bit further. At the moment,
38 we believe that there is serious interest. We are excited about the potential concepts that they are
39 presenting to us. We want to wait until it progresses a little bit further before a presentation is
40 made to the Board. Trustee Oliver stated congratulations.

41

42 **Economic Development Commission – John Harris, A5 Group Inc.**

43

44 **Authorization for the Village President to Execute an Agreement Between the Village of**
45 **Olympia Fields and A5 Branding & Digital to Develop a Marketing Brand for Business**
46 **Retention and Attraction in an Amount Not to Exceed \$75,000.00.** – Mrs. Britt-Johnson
47 stated that at the last Board Meeting, Mike Lewis did a preliminary introduction on the process

1 of the Economic Development Commission doing an RFP for a marketing and branding firm and
2 presented our recommendation. In your packet you have a contract for this particular marketing
3 firm. She was talking to a wise lady who asked her a question. She asked Mrs. Britt-Johnson
4 whether or not she has ever been to Disneyland or Disney World. Mrs. Britt-Johnson stated no.
5 She stated that might be a bucket list item for her one day. The lady said that they advertise or
6 promote Disneyland or Disney World as the greatest place in the world. The most fun place.
7 Then they create all of their activities and programs around that tag line of it is the greatest place
8 on earth.

9
10 Mrs. Britt-Johnson stated that we believe, because we live here, and we pay taxes, that Olympia
11 Fields is the greatest place to live, to play. She stated that the Village President often says that
12 Olympia Fields is Wauconda. She doesn't know if that is something that we will use. If the
13 Board approves the firm, the firm will be working with all of you as well as us. A lot of people
14 when they market something, here is a product, and you try to market this product. Instead of
15 marketing the product, maybe we might use what they call "reverse content marketing," like
16 Disney does. This is a great place and how do we attract people to this great place.

17
18 Mrs. Britt-Johnson stated that she would love to introduce John Harris of A5, and allow him to
19 talk about the great things that he has figured out about Olympia Fields and how he will be able
20 to help us with our branding and marketing needs for working with economic development.
21 There are a couple of things that have changed in the contract from what numbers were presented
22 the last time. There have been some additions. There are some other things that have occurred.
23 We are excited to have John tell you a little bit about his firm and what he can offer us.

24
25 Mr. John Harris stated that he is one of the principals of A5. They are a branding and digital
26 consultancy based in the City. They are a 10-person firm. They are storytellers. Their job through
27 branding, and through the digital work, and marketing and communications work, is to help craft
28 and tell that story that Trinetta talked about. Disneyland and Disney World are the happiest place
29 on earth. The story has to be real. It has to be authentic. It has to ring true to folks who live here,
30 to folks who work here, and to folks who pass through. It also has to ring true for years and years
31 to come as people do come here, whether they are setting up a business or growing their
32 business. Kids that are going through the schools, their parents, their caregivers, their friends.
33 People who are playing golf over at the golf course. People who are going to be eating at the
34 restaurant that you just talked about.

35
36 Mr. Harris stated that our job will be to listen first to you, the Board. Listen to staff. Listen to the
37 members of the Commission. Our scope between the last meeting and this meeting was
38 expanded to include not only economic development, but education and the Community
39 Relations Commission, which is a strong way to go. It is about the live, work, play. It is about
40 the quality of life and the economic development, and all of the things that make this a place
41 worth investing in, whether it's your life or your business or both, or as a visitor.

42
43 Mr. Harris stated that they have done this successfully not only in communities around the
44 Chicago area. We work in Woodstock, Illinois. McHenry County in Niles. They just delivered a
45 Communications Plan to the Board at Northbrook, and are in the process of executing that. They
46 also work across the country in places as distant as Charlevoix, Michigan which is 2,500 people,
47 and in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. They also work with the private sector. They understand

1 healthcare. They have done a lot of healthcare work. They understand the hospital and healthcare
2 system that is here. They work with education. They work with the private sector which is
3 everyone from urban planners to architects, to real estate developers, to owners of businesses that
4 employee people. They have great faith-based communities as well, sporting, recreation. They
5 look at the entire community and what makes that community special. They are looking forward
6 to the opportunity to work with you, and to craft and tell your story on an ongoing basis, so that
7 resonates and reverberates throughout the Village and beyond.

8

9 Village President Burke stated that we have been out marketing the Village of Olympia Fields to
10 people all over. We know that the people who live here made an investment in the Village in the
11 homes that we have all bought, and the taxes that we pay. We have yet to find anybody who is
12 absolutely against wanting to come to Olympia Fields. What became very obvious to us, is that
13 we don't have a brand. A brand is who we are. He stated that Trustee Watkins talked about doing
14 a study of some type to look at what our strategic plan would be. We have a strategic plan. What
15 we don't have is a brand. Flossmoor just went through a branding exercise. In that branding
16 exercise they came up with a number of things that kind of put them on the map and people
17 recognize. They already recognize Flossmoor because of the high school. We don't have
18 anything quite like that. We have a Country Club that really isn't part of the Village. What is
19 Olympia Fields? It is, it was, and still is a great place to live. Once you start talking to people
20 about it, it is safe. It is quiet. We have a hospital here. We have all kinds of very nice things. We
21 have great neighbors. What is that nugget that you can put into a form of something that is really
22 catchy, and something that is really going to make a difference and it grabs somebody by the
23 throat to get them to want to come to Olympia Fields?

24

25 Village President Burke stated that what we do not have, we do not have kids. He stated that
26 Kelvin was "Mr. Baseball." He got to know a lot of people around here because all of the kids,
27 for the most part, played baseball with Kelvin's programs. All of those kids have grown up. We
28 have to get some young people to come here. He stated that Homewood has a program right
29 now, if you take the train downtown you actually see posters in the train station. You see things
30 in the news print about Homewood being a great place to live. We thought it was very necessary
31 to try to identify something and put it in print, and put together a Communication Plan that
32 allows us to do this.

33

34 Village President Burke stated that the other thing that we thought that we needed was a state-of-
35 the-art plan to do social media. We do things with emails. We don't have Facebook. We don't
36 have Twitter. We don't have any of those state-of-the-art types of things to contact people and to
37 get people to communicate with us. He stated that part of what A5 has been charged to do, is to
38 take all of the new things and incorporate in what we love about Olympia Fields, and put all of
39 that together and create a Communication Plan, as well as a branding model that will allow us to
40 reach out to people, whether it is from the economic development standpoint, an education
41 standpoint, and a community relations standpoint. We have an individual on our staff that has
42 been doing some of this stuff. That person has been reassigned. We are going to need somebody
43 from the outside to help fill-in to take that person's place, and to help expand what she was
44 doing, and these other states of the art things.

45

46 Village President Burke stated that we did this RFI to find out who out there could potentially do
47 these things. At the time, we had four or five people that gave us information. We took that

1 information and we took it to an RFP. He stated that A5 came out to be the number one
2 organization that we thought would do a great job of doing this. He hopes the Board had an
3 opportunity to read through what was in the contract. He hopes that you had an opportunity to
4 see what kinds of things they can do. We asked John to come in to answer any questions that you
5 may have.

6
7 Trustee Oliver inquired of Mr. Harris who is your intended audience. Mr. Harris stated that the
8 intended audiences will come from staff, from Board, and will be revealed through the process.
9 Where we started the conversation was economic development. He thinks that by adding
10 community relations, in other words, quality of life, existing residents, and also looking at
11 education. How do we attract folks who have kids and families? He stated that from an economic
12 development perspective, there will be a number of audiences from an existing resident
13 standpoint. There will be people who are already here. We want to turn them into ambassadors to
14 help attract people here. He stated that to the extent that visitors are part of the equation, look at
15 visitors. The economic development aspect will be part of the process in terms of looking at who
16 you, we specifically, want to target and attract, and then making sure that the story resonates and
17 that when the Village, Trinette, whomever is speaking to somebody that you would like to
18 attract, that they understand you can tell the story and they will understand the advantages, the
19 reasons, the what's it in for me that will make them want to come to Olympia Fields.

20
21 Trustee Oliver stated so in a way, what you are trying to create is almost like in the business of
22 advertising, sort of a jingle that resonates with anyone and everyone. They think of Pepsi or
23 Coke there is a jingle, there is something to that. That seems like it is going to be an awful big
24 challenge for Olympia Fields. How did that work for some of the companies or the
25 municipalities that you have worked for?

26
27 Mr. Harris stated that communities have only really started marketing themselves in recent years,
28 because as communities and areas have matured, there has been an interest amongst elected
29 officials and staffs of communities to start marketing. You are not selling a product per se. You
30 are selling an idea. You are selling a vision. We don't know what that answer will be today. It
31 will be revealed through the process. We propose sitting down with a number of community
32 members, with Board, with staff, and talking with folks outside of the community to get their
33 understanding of awareness and perceptions of Olympia Fields. And looking at various studies,
34 Development Plan, Strategic Plans, et cetera, and looking at best practices of other communities
35 and what they have done, and then pulling all of that together into a set or series of
36 recommendations. We always come with more than one concept. It's not just one and done. We
37 are not going to walk in and say, "Happiest place on earth." There will be two, or three, or four
38 of those.

39
40 Mr. Harris stated as to some of the specifics, he could talk about a number of them. He stated
41 that Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, they were hired by the City there. It is a city of 50,000 people
42 between Cleveland, Akron and Canton. The downtown is along the western bank of the
43 Cuyahoga River. They were looking at tearing out their old pedestrian only mall that had been
44 around since the '70s. The downtown had died about 30 years ago. The city had hung on to this
45 pedestrian only mall thinking that someday things might turn. They worked with the City of
46 Cuyahoga Falls to not only help the Board convince the sitting Trustees that it was the right thing
47 to do to invest the City dollars that comes from the taxpayers, they developed this story and

1 brand around it. There were a couple of things strategically. The first was connecting the south
2 end of downtown, which is actually pretty successful, and the north end which was pedestrian
3 only was completely dead. You could roll the proverbial bowling ball through downtown
4 Cuyahoga Falls a year or two years ago and not hit anything, and nobody would have known if it
5 hit anything. They helped them change perceptions, and helped them create the story. The idea to
6 take the successes of the south end with craft breweries, with distilleries, with a sushi place, with
7 mixed use developments and extend it north and become a cohesive downtown connecting the
8 north and south. He stated that because of the Cuyahoga River immediately on the eastern edge
9 of the downtown, to make it a recreational place. The State of Ohio has opened up a couple of
10 dams. It is allowing kayaking and canoeing both recreational and competitive. There are walking
11 paths and trails. In creating that vibe and that story, and the City Council approving this, it
12 opened up the doors to significant investment, which has led to millions and millions of dollars
13 in investment in downtown Cuyahoga Falls.

14
15 Mr. Harris stated that in Woodstock, Illinois, McHenry County, it is a charming, old, historic
16 square, brick-lined streets. It has an opera house that dates from the late 1880s. There is an old
17 courthouse. It was the home of Orson Welles. It was the home of Chester Gould who created the
18 Dick Tracy Comic Strip. Woodstock has always been a place where creativity, independence,
19 and entrepreneurship, that thread, that theme was and remains strong. The story for tourism and
20 now economic development community building is around this idea of real Woodstock, and it's
21 real charming, and it's real fun, and it's real remarkable, and it's real Woodstock. They have
22 been doing that for the last few years. He stated that coming up in the next month there will be a
23 new phase of that campaign coming out. It will focus on a lot of people in Woodstock, business
24 people who are residents, who are doing wonderful things giving back to their community. A
25 whole series of stories about people and place. Why Woodstock is a special place.

26
27 Mr. Harris stated that is the type of story that we want to create here. There are facts and figures.
28 There is location. There are opportunities. There are stories of people and of human interest.
29 That's what people really want to see and what people really gravitate towards is that mix of
30 people and place, and that mix of numbers and human face and human story.

31
32 Trustee Oliver stated that Trinette, as well as the Economic Development Team, have prepared
33 the Village quite well in helping us to understand, as far as economic development and its
34 mission for some time. We should not expect overnight something to just pop up. It was great
35 news tonight. This takes time. He is imagining that this work that you will be doing with the
36 Village, once you are done, you really are not done. This is going to be ongoing. It may take a
37 couple of years. He stated that you are still working with Woodstock in different phases.

38
39 Mr. Harris stated that we are in year four or five with working with Woodstock. We are in our
40 second year in Niles. You are exactly right. Once you have that songbook if you will, and that
41 story, and those key messages, then you do have to keep going. You can't stop. You have to be
42 consistent. We talk at our firm all the time that we craft and tell stories that are clear, concise,
43 consistent, and compelling, and create a lot of content that helps get results. At the end of the
44 day, you have to make an ask too. You have to know who it is that you are talking with. You
45 have to make a connection with them, and be in a position to make an ask of them. He stated that
46 from a marketing perspective, it takes three to five times before someone is actually in a position
47 to even respond and hear, oh, Homewood, or Berwyn, or Woodstock. It is five to seven times

1 before they are in a position to buy. That goes back to your question of audience. We need to be
2 very clear ultimately, as to who we want to reach, and who we want to buy Olympia Fields.
3

4 Mrs. Britt-Johnson stated that she gave the analogy at the last Board Meeting, talk about rowing
5 in the same direction and everybody in the same boat. She thinks that will also help understand
6 your approach.
7

8 Mr. Harris stated that's a great point. Every person in this community has the ability to stay or
9 go. He stated whether you are an elected official or a staff member, or somebody who is living
10 here, a kid in the schools, somebody visiting the hospital, we need to have a story that is
11 consistent. You need to be able to consistently tell that story. The Mayor may say it in a slightly
12 different way than some of the rest of you, maybe slightly different words, or a different way of
13 expressing it. At the end of the day, everybody should be really singing from that same songbook
14 that says this is why someone should invest in Olympia Fields. He stated whether it is bringing
15 your family here, or coming here as young people to start a family, whether it is aging in place,
16 whether it is to visit and take advantage of opportunities and activities, start a business, et cetera.
17

18 Trustee Finley stated you've gone through the process of the invitations that work with Olympia
19 Fields. The Economic Development Commission has looked you over up and down and said that
20 you are the best of the best. What is it that you see in Olympia Fields that made you say this is
21 where we want to be? This is where we want our team to invest itself.
22

23 Mr. Harris stated that first of all, he thinks that there is great leadership here from what we have
24 seen from the Economic Development Commission, from the staff, and from the Board, and
25 what we have heard by doing our due diligence, is the environment is right here for everybody as
26 Trinette said to get in the same boat and row together. That's one thing. He would say that desire
27 to get better and to go farther, and to really work to not only retain, but attract folks, and get
28 people excited is what gets us excited about Olympia Fields. That's what you will see from us is
29 help with that and crafting that story, and telling that story consistently. The passion that we
30 bring to our work and the rest of our team, you will see that from him, his business partner,
31 Fletcher Martin, from Lizzy Kreindler who has met with the Economic Development
32 Commission, and the rest of the team that is going to work here. We talk all the time about doing
33 "A" work, and striving for A+ work, and being client advocates. Candidly, we don't respond to
34 every RFP. In fact, we don't respond to most RFPs. This was attractive because of the
35 community's size and its location, and its placement, and your assets, and sort of where you are,
36 and the idea of where you want to go. You may not have that completely figured out yet. That's
37 okay. The idea that you want to move this community forward and grow it, and you have a
38 number of assets that he and others have recited, gives you a strong foundation and a strong base
39 for that growth. Are there other communities out there with that opportunity? Sure. This is
40 particularly exciting. He stated that you put together that place, and the people that we have met
41 with and that we have listened to, listening to the Economic Development Commission we could
42 hear the passion. We could hear the ideas. We could hear the vision and we see that opportunity
43 to work together with you to get the results that you are looking for.
44

45 Trustee Finley stated thank you so much for that feedback. Soon we will be able to offer you
46 pancakes. Mr. Harris inquired gluten free or straight up pancakes? He is good with either.
47 Trustee Finley stated that Batter & Berries will take care of it all.

1 Trustee Watkins stated that she believes that we can create a beautiful story here in Olympia
2 Fields. Her concern is how we are going to have that story heard by our constituents and our
3 community. She stated that just going out into the community, a lot of people don't have social
4 media. They are not email savvy. A lot of people are still watching TV. She inquired what are
5 you going to do to work around that.
6

7 Mr. Harris stated that the story he is going to give you is a public story. It is on record. He never
8 says anything out of turn or out of school. He stated that in Northbrook where they just delivered
9 the Communications Plan, there were a couple of relatively new Trustees on the Board. There
10 were a number of things that they wanted them to explore. One of them specifically, was a print
11 newsletter. The opinion was that print is dead and nobody is reading print anymore, and we
12 should just get rid of that newsletter. We are a branding and digital consultancy. He fully
13 subscribes to digital communication. He also comes from a print background. He has been
14 around for a few years and was originally a reporter for Forbes Magazine when it was print only.
15 We had to find empirical evidence that the print publication could work in Northbrook. Through
16 the process we talked with folks. We listened. We did focus groups. We did small group
17 meetings. We did one-on-one meetings. We talked to a variety of people at the library which had
18 recently overhauled its print newsletter. While we did recommend a lot more on the digital side,
19 social media, website, email, we also said let's not do away with the print newsletter. They cut it
20 back from 12 times to six times a year. There is a couple of things that happened. Northbrook is
21 a relatively older community on the North Shore. They are not technically North Shore, but they
22 are fairly close. Folks liked the newsletter. They just weren't reading it a ton. The Village is
23 going to hire a well-known columnist from a major newspaper here in Chicago, who happens to
24 be a resident of Northbrook. He stated that because that person is somebody that people read
25 every day, whether online or in print, he is going to write stories about Northbrook that are going
26 to resonate. It could be about the Pancake Breakfast. He said that they have a great Pancake
27 Breakfast. It could be about the arborist and the Tree Program. It could be about a variety of
28 things that make Northbrook different or special.
29

30 Mr. Harris stated back to three or five times before anybody notices or hears your message, and
31 five to seven before they are in a position to buy, we have to reach people in multiple ways. The
32 digital side will rise here in Olympia Fields as it has and is in other places. We can't throw out
33 all of the traditional methods of communication. We do a lot of posters, 11 x 17 posters in
34 windows. He stated that in Niles we are redesigning the vehicle sticker. If you see a vehicle
35 sticker from Niles, Illinois, it is going to be bright and colorful, and have a message. People are
36 going to take notice in the parking lots. We can't go all digital, just as we can't go all print. We
37 have to understand through that process where people currently are. What is the level of adoption
38 of cellphones, of social media? What social media is strongest? Instagram is going to trend
39 younger. Twitter, we have seen works in some markets, not in all. A lot of entertainment and
40 sports. Facebook is certainly skewing a little bit older. It will all be considered. It will all be
41 well-reasoned and supported. When we come to you with those recommendations, it won't be
42 one recommendation, here it is. Take it or leave it. It will be well-supported by facts and by other
43 people by the listening that will take place. Trustee Watkins thanked Mr. Harris.
44
45
46

1 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, Second by Trustee Finley to Authorize the Village President to**
2 **Execute an Agreement Between the Village of Olympia Fields and A5 Branding & Digital**
3 **to Develop a Marketing Brand for Business Retention and Attraction in an Amount Not to**
4 **Exceed \$75,000.00.**

5 **Roll Call: Ayes (4-0) Motion Carried.**

6
7 Mr. Harris thanked the Board. He stated that he is looking forward very much to working with
8 all of you.

9
10 Trustee Watkins stated that Trinette mentioned earlier the price may be a little more. Is this the
11 \$75,000.00 that she was referring to.

12
13 Village President Burke stated that it was like \$48,000.00. We included the Educational
14 Commission, the Community Relations Commission, and some work that was going to be done
15 once this is all baked to supplement the digital media, newsletters, and things like that that the
16 staff was doing, we are going to have them pull all this stuff together and package it all up. He
17 stated that a lot of people are not aware that we have Frank Lloyd Wright houses around here.
18 We have all kinds of things that need to be taken into consideration. They are going to pull all of
19 that stuff together and put our best effort forward in what we are going to do. Trustee Watkins
20 stated okay.

21
22 **REPORT OF THE VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR:**

23
24 **Authorization for the Village President to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement**
25 **Between the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority and the Village of**
26 **Olympia Fields for the Acquisition of Certain Properties through Abandonment**
27 **Proceedings** – Village Administrator Saenz stated that the next item on the agenda that you have
28 in front of you is an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Olympia Fields and
29 the Land Bank. Hopefully, you had an opportunity to review the information that you have in
30 your packet. We are a member of the South Suburban Land Bank. We have been a member for
31 four years. The purpose of the Land Bank is to acquire abandoned, vacant properties to help
32 reinvent them and get them back working with economic development in the Village. This
33 particular agreement is for the old, IRS building which is at 3615 Park Drive. This property has
34 been vacant since 2012. The information that you have in your Board Packet, details information
35 from the Building Department. It includes the amount of liens that we have on the property,
36 \$15,000.00. She stated that Reggi Ford, our Code Enforcement Officer, has included some
37 photographs of the inside of the building. Village Administrator Saenz and the Finance Director
38 took a look at the taxes that are outstanding on the property. The property taxes have not been
39 paid for this location since 2012. The first installment was paid in 2012. Since then, none of the
40 real estate taxes have been paid. We have had discussions with the Land Bank to have them do
41 some inquiries. They have discovered that since the real estate taxes have not been paid for two
42 years, the Village can start the process of trying to acquire this property under the abandonment
43 proceedings. This is what the agreement is for, for the Land Bank to begin working on those
44 processes to acquire that property. Once the property is acquired, then the Board will have to
45 discuss what the plan will be going forward. Village Administrator Saenz didn't know if Mr.
46 McDonnell wanted to mention anything about the property. We can see the condition. She
47 inquired whether or not there is anything that he can share.

1 Mr. McDonnell stated that you can see that the property has not been maintained in quite some
2 time. It would be a pretty far-fetched idea for somebody to come in there and pay all of the back
3 taxes, and then spend \$2,000,000.00 to renovate that building. He thinks that it would be good
4 for the Village to have control of that property. There are several other vacant properties that are
5 adjacent to that property that could make that a larger site for development.

6
7 Village Administrator Saenz stated that John is right. When we had interest before from a
8 developer, the two lots over there, they had numerous conversations with the Village President.
9 They were interested in that particular parcel because they wanted to expand their area. She
10 stated that having the control, and making a decision as to what we are going to do, but having
11 that parcel would make those other two lots more attractive for economic development. Mr.
12 McDonnell stated right.

13
14 Trustee Finley inquired of Mr. McDonnell whether or not there was anything about the condition
15 of the building that he wants to point out that you really should be aware of.

16
17 Mr. McDonnell stated yes. The building is currently locked up. It would be locked up even better
18 if the Village had control of the property. The basement is currently full of water. It is basically,
19 just a big, in-ground swimming pool when you walk into it. It would be good for the Village to
20 get a hold of it, and get the building secured so that nobody can go inside the building
21 unattended.

22
23 Village President Burke stated that we said this before, if we own the property, we get to control
24 it. This is a potential opportunity for us to own it. We will probably have to pay legal fees and
25 that's it.

26 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Watkins to Authorize the Village President to**
27 **Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the South Suburban Land Bank and**
28 **Development Authority and the Village of Olympia Fields for the Acquisition of Certain**
29 **Properties Through the Abandonment Proceedings.**

30 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

31
32 **Ordinance #2020-01** – An Ordinance Adopting an Equal Employment/Nondiscrimination
33 Policy for Agents and Independent Contractors Hired by the Village of Olympia Fields [First and
34 Second Reading] – Village Administrator Saenz stated that the next item she has on the agenda is
35 an Ordinance that the Board has discussed at length over the last couple of months. We had an
36 issue back in September with the work that was done in Suburban Woods. She stated that
37 Trustee Matz brought this to our attention, and wanted to make sure that we were going to look
38 into adopting an Equal Opportunity/Nondiscrimination Ordinance, so that any contractors or
39 agents working with the Village would have our rules and our laws to follow. She stated that Jim
40 has worked with the Village Attorney. We did find that we had a policy in place. We wanted it to
41 be converted into Ordinance form so that anybody working in the Village would then be able to
42 find this information on our website, and it would be included with any project that is brought to
43 our attention. The information that you have all seen before, has been incorporated into an
44 Ordinance. It does address WBE, MBE, and DBE. That is what we have for approval. It is before
45 you at a great time because spring is just around the corner and there are a few projects that will
46 be coming up.

47

1 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Oliver to Waive in First Reading and Adopt in**
2 **Second Reading Ordinance No. 2020-01 - An Ordinance Adopting an Equal**
3 **Employment/Nondiscrimination Policy for Agents and Independent Contractors Hired by**
4 **the Village of Olympia Fields.**

5 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

6
7 **TRUSTEE LIAISON REPORTS:**

8
9 **Building Department/Community Relations Commission – Trustee Finley** – Trustee Finley
10 stated that John has a report. Trustee Finley stated that in the packet of bills that we get to sign,
11 this particular stack had 13 or 14 items where the Village had actually taken over the
12 responsibility of landscaping for properties that had been left unattended. She went around and
13 looked at all of them to see what it looks like when we takeover. She saw more than what she
14 expected. Not only did she see our good work, but she got a chance to see the neighborhoods that
15 these homes are a part of. Rather than just looking at the places where the landscaping had been
16 done, she got a chance to look at the left and the right on all the other homes. She got a chance to
17 understand how very central this is, that a community is able to have some certainty that its
18 intent with how it presents itself will be protected by the Village of Olympia Fields.

19
20 Mr. McDonnell stated that he doesn't have a formal report with numbers and things like that on
21 it. He does have a lot of information to share with you. On January 21st, we are going to have a
22 Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting. It is an open Public Hearing for anybody to come. He
23 asked people to come and give their opinion about what we are going to do. The Village, through
24 the Land Bank, has acquired the Jewel Plaza area on the corner of Western Avenue and Lincoln
25 Highway. This has been an important project to the Village because that property has been
26 vacant for such a long time.

27
28 Mr. McDonnell stated that at that meeting, we are going to be listening to testimony from Mike
29 Hoffman from Teska Associates, about why we should change it from a Planned Unit
30 Development to our B-3 District. This is going to give us more leverage on the property to keep
31 things that you want to represent the Village, not just somebody coming down the road that has
32 an idea and they just want to put it in there, but it really doesn't speak for what the Village of
33 Olympia Fields wants.

34
35 Trustee Watkins inquired of Mr. McDonnell whether or not he could explain the difference
36 between the two.

37
38 Mr. McDonnell stated that a Planned Unit Development use to be a way that a lot of
39 municipalities would zone some things. It was kind of like a fly by the seat of your pants zoning.
40 One day you had a grocery store coming in and you wanted to leave it open-ended, so that
41 something else could come next to the grocery store. You didn't really want to write specific
42 language of what that wanted to be. You would make it a Planned Unit Development. It was like
43 molding clay, and then adding some more clay to it, and adding some more clay to it, and then
44 the rules and regulations just kept growing, and growing, and growing. Nobody knew what they
45 wanted to put there next. We do, kind of know what we want to put there and what we don't
46 want to go there. Leaving it in the PUD, leaves us open to things that we don't want to go there.
47 If we change it to the B-3 category, it has specific language written for what the Village wants to

1 go there, so that we don't get things that we don't want there. That's basically the difference.
2 One has written rules that says what can go there. The Planned Unit Development says that we
3 really don't know what we want to go there. Tell us what you think you want to put there and we
4 might write it into the rules. We want to get away from that. A lot of the Village of Olympia
5 Fields was written as a PUD originally. We have been slowly changing those as we go along.
6

7 Mr. McDonnell stated that another important meeting will be the meeting right after that on
8 February 18th. That is another Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting. We are going to tighten
9 the rules and regulations of the B-3 District so that we can specifically write in there things that
10 we want, and things that we don't want on that corner. Those are two pretty important meetings
11 for a large section of property that comes right into the corridor of the Village of Olympia Fields.
12

13 **Public Works/Park District – Trustee Matz** – Trustee Matz stated that she doesn't have
14 anything formal to talk about with Public Works. She invited everyone to come out Wednesday.
15 The Board will have an extensive conversation about Capital Projects at our Workshop at 6
16 o'clock this Wednesday. Please come out and be a part of that.
17

18 **Park District/Zumba Classes** – Trustee Matz stated that last year, she talked about the Park
19 District having free Zumba Classes every Friday in January at 11:30 A.M. We still have three
20 more Fridays left in January. Every Saturday in February, there will be free classes for Boot
21 Camp from 11:15 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
22

23 **Daddy/Daughter Dance** – Trustee Matz stated that the Daddy/Daughter Dance is February 7th
24 from 6:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. It is for all ages.
25

26 **Park District will Watch your Children on February 14th and 15th** - Trustee Matz stated that
27 as we spoke before, we are a senior community, but we might have kids who might want to take
28 their loved ones out for Valentine's Day, the 14th and the 15th. The Park District is offering to
29 watch your kids on Friday night, February 14th, or Saturday night, February 15th from 5:30 P.M.
30 to 11:00 P.M. It is \$40.00 per child. If you have a sibling, they give you \$5.00 off. She thinks it
31 is a great deal. She stated to let anybody know that has kids and they want to go out, that is an
32 option.
33

34 **Public Safety/Educational Commission – Trustee Oliver** – Trustee Oliver stated that he will
35 start out with the Public Safety Committee Meeting which was held two weeks ago. He stated
36 that you can expect that by March, that the Village President and Board will be swearing in a
37 new Police Chief. We are still working very diligently on the process for getting there. There will
38 be more information coming up in terms of where we are at that particular stage. We have had
39 lots and lots of interest from people wanting to be the Police Chief and you will learn more about
40 it soon.
41

42 **Educational Commission** – Trustee Oliver stated that he is not sure if this report is more for the
43 Village President's pleasure and this Board's as it is for John Harris. He is glad that Mr. Harris is
44 here. You spoke to so many of the issues that the Educational Commission is currently
45 undergoing. He believes that everyone in here has seen about a week ago, a 3 x 5 postcard
46 inviting you to come out and meet the new Principal of Rich Central High School. We wanted to
47 make sure that using that media, that we would get a huge turnout, but we only had 20. One of

1 the major issues in every election cycle is the schools. He stated not about what “we” as the
2 Village Board does, but “the schools.” We are not successful in reaching the very people that
3 want to have something different happening in our schools. As it turns out, this principal is
4 excellent. It was a great presentation for the 20 people that were there. We will need to know
5 how else we can get that information out there. The bottom line is, when you keep talking about
6 everyone grabbing an oar and rowing in the same direction, the information has to go out there,
7 and people have to develop an interest to come and get it. It’s that old adage, you can bring a
8 horse to the well, but you can’t make them drink. That’s what you are going to be dealing with as
9 part of educating and holding our town accountable for helping us row. The Educational
10 Commission has some additional ongoing interests in which we are going to try our best to get
11 you to understand what it is that is going on. There was a great piece at the last Village Board
12 Meeting regarding the taxes that the School Board is raising. That got a lot of interest because it
13 was money coming out of your pocket. Oddly enough, whatever happens at that school it is still
14 money coming out of your pocket.

15

16 Trustee Oliver stated that he begs you, that when we provide information to you, come on out
17 and see what we have to offer so that you too can tell the story.

18

19 **Finance/Planning & Zoning – Trustee Pennington –**

20

21 **November Financial Statements** - Village President Burke stated that next would be Trustee
22 Pennington, but he had to go to Urgent Care just before the meeting. He is really, really sick with
23 the flu. The finances, let’s just say that we are in excellent financial condition. He stated that he
24 can’t give the report.

25

26 **Reminder: Capital Projects Workshop & Budget Review Meeting** – Village President Burke
27 reminded the Board that the Capital Projects Workshop and Budget Review Meeting is going to
28 be Wednesday at 6 o’clock. As Trustee Matz indicated, the public is welcome to come. The staff
29 has gone through and identified the projects that we plan on trying to implement. The Board will
30 discuss what those projects are and prioritize them at that meeting. That will be the first step in
31 putting together the actual Budget for next year. We will be able to do all of these Capital
32 Projects that we are going to work on without having to borrow a dime. We are going to fund it
33 all out of surplus that we have been able to generate, which is a good thing. The discussion will
34 be had by the Board to prioritize those items that the staff has put together, and any other things
35 that the Board might want to try to include in it. One of which would be the project that we just
36 talked about. That is a span over the next year that that project will be included.

37

38 **Sikich Auditing Services Proposal** – Village President Burke stated that Sikich our Auditors, he
39 has a proposed Motion. He stated Option 1, is to Accept the Sikich Auditing Services Proposal
40 for a One Year Term, for an Amount Not to Exceed \$33,300.00.

41

42 Village President Burke stated that Option 2, is to Accept the Sikich Auditing Services Proposal
43 for a Three-Year Contract, Not to Exceed \$34,000.00. He stated that now he is kind of lost.
44 What’s the difference between those two? Why do we have two options?

45

46 Ms. Betty Zigras stated that one is a one-year contract. That’s the price. She stated that Option 2,
47 is per year. It is not one price for three years. Village President Burke stated that he is glad that

1 she clarified that. He stated that the recommendation really is to probably go with Option
2 Number 1, for one year. If we go with Option 1, that gives us an opportunity to open it up and do
3 more diligence next year to see if there is somebody else that we might want to change our
4 auditor. We have not changed our auditor in five years.

5
6 Trustee Matz inquired so why are we going with them now instead of getting somebody else?
7 Ms. Zigras stated that if we want to make the timeline to be completed by October to close out
8 our Fiscal Year 2020, we would need to have already picked out a new audit team.

9
10 Village Administrator Saenz stated that the audit work starts in February. Ms. Zigras stated that
11 it is a process that needs to really begin in July right after the fieldwork. Once the auditors are
12 here for the fieldwork, and once they are done, we should find a new audit team.

13
14 Village Administrator Saenz stated that the \$33,300.00, the annual fee for the one year, that does
15 include the Police Pension Audit that the Village does not pay. That is paid for by the Police
16 Pension Fund, the \$4,400.00. Village President Burke stated so it is really \$29,000.00 out of our
17 Budget. Village Administrator Saenz stated yes, out of our Budget. She stated but we need to
18 approve the entire amount because they will work on the Police Pension Audit. She just wanted
19 to make sure that the Board understood that.

20
21 Village President Burke inquired of the Trustees whether or not they wanted to go with a three-
22 year contract or a one-year contract based on what Betty just said.

23
24 Trustee Oliver stated that he likes the one year. Trustee Watkins stated that she likes the idea of
25 one year, just so we can look at it and compare other companies. Trustee Finley stated one year,
26 just so we can do due diligence of being able to have the option of changing it. Trustee Matz
27 stated one year it is. Village President Burke stated so we go with Option 1.

28 **Motion by Trustee Matz, Second by Trustee Oliver to Accept the Sikich Auditing Services**
29 **Proposal for the One Year Contract Term in an Amount Not to Exceed \$33,300.00.**

30 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

31
32 Trustee Watkins stated that she just wanted to understand the timeline. She inquired for next
33 year, when do we need to make a decision if we are going to look at other companies? Ms.
34 Zigras stated that the timeline is, they come out for preliminary fieldwork in February, 2020.
35 Then they come out for fieldwork in July for two weeks. She would get a Draft Audit by the end
36 of August. That needs to be filed with the State of Illinois by October 30th. If we are going to go
37 for an RFP, she would suggest we do it sometime in August. Trustee Watkins stated so the third
38 quarter. Ms. Zigras stated that she is looking at a selection for the new auditor that was done
39 back in 2006. That is the last time the RFP was done. The Finance Committee put it together. On
40 March 11th, 2006 it went for an RFP. They actually started early.

41
42 **Human Resources/Police Pension – Trustee Thomas** – Village President Burke stated that
43 next on the agenda is the HR and Police Pension. He stated that unfortunately, Trustee Thomas is
44 not here today.

45

1 **Beautification/Library Board – Trustee Watkins** – Trustee Watkins stated that the
2 Beautification Committee did not meet this evening. She stated that Susan Gatlin-Moroney is
3 here to acknowledge our Holiday Award Winners.
4

5 **2019 Holiday Awards Presentation – Beautification Committee** - Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated
6 that she is the Assistant Chair of the Beautification Committee. Unfortunately, our Chair is
7 unavailable. She is hopefully taking rest and relaxation seriously. Trustee Watkins is our Trustee
8 Liaison. Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney wanted to thank the rest of the Beautification Committee even
9 though they are not present right now: Susan Gowen, Evelyn Owens, Belinda Lowry, Naomi
10 Amegashie, and our Village Staff, Myriam Taylor, Naomi Perkins, and now Andrea who is
11 sitting right here. We have our full group of devoted people that have been working on this for a
12 long time. This is our 13th Annual Award Program for the Holiday Awards. This past season,
13 nine of our 15 Homeowners Associations participated in the program. All homes were nominated
14 for displaying decorations that demonstrate curb appeal, creativity, originality, and coordination
15 of décor to the home. All nominated homes, even those not selected as the top three in the
16 subdivision will receive a Certificate of Recognition from the Village, which is great. The top
17 three from each participating Association had nominee signs placed in their yards prior to the
18 Beautification Committee judging. From the field of these 26 homes, the Beautification
19 Committee selected the overall top three winners Village-wide. These homes had First, Second,
20 and Third Place signs placed in their yard indicating the honor from which they were selected.
21 Tonight, the top three homes/families are going to be honored. They will each receive an Awards
22 Certificate recognizing their efforts and gift cards from Bizios Market.
23

24 Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated that our First Place Winners are Anthony and Anita Anderson from
25 The Trails. (There was a round of applause). Mr. James Dawson, President of The Trails
26 Homeowners Association stated that he will be accepting the award on behalf of Mr. and Mrs.
27 Anderson.
28

29 Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated that our Second Place Winner is John and Dorothy Chana. (There
30 was a round of applause). Mr. and Mrs. Chana were present. Mrs. Chana stated that we would
31 like to thank you for the beautiful sign. We love it. It was like having a special friend. Mrs.
32 Gatlin-Moroney stated that this is not the first time that the Chana Family has been honored.
33

34 Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated that our Third Place Winner is Michael and Karen McCormick. Mrs.
35 Sharon Bean who is the President of the Original Village Homeowners Association will accept
36 the award on behalf of the McCormick Family. Mrs. Bean stated thank you so, so much for
37 inspiring everybody to look forward to winning. There's a competitive spirit. It's really great.
38 Typically, for us, they live close to each other. The McCormick's have won it again. Mrs. Gatlin-
39 Moroney stated that they have this wistful Christmas look when you drive down the street. Mrs.
40 Bean stated that we sincerely thank the Beautification Committee for even offering this
41 opportunity. It's really kind of exciting. Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated that the photo will be in the
42 next newsletter. (There was a round of applause).
43

44 **Next Beautification Committee Meeting** - Trustee Watkins stated that the next Beautification
45 Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, February 10th, at 6:00 P.M. here at the Village.
46
47

1 **Library Board** – Trustee Watkins stated that a recruiter from the U.S. Census was at the library
2 today to assist job candidates who are interested in open positions with the Census Bureau.
3 Representatives will be at the Olympia Fields Library on January 14th, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00
4 P.M.

5
6 **Training Sessions for the U.S. Census** – Trustee Watkins stated that the library will host four-
7 day training sessions for the U.S. Census Bureau on April 2nd, April 3rd, April 6th, and April 7th.
8

9 **Library Board Meeting** – Trustee Watkins stated that the next Olympia Fields Library Board
10 Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22nd, at 6:00 P.M.

11
12 Village President Burke advised Mr. Harris that the photo of the Award Winners will be in the
13 next newsletter. Mr. Chana is going to send a nighttime photo of his house. Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney
14 stated that next year they will provide a nighttime photo of the winning homes.

15
16 **MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS:**

17
18 The Board did not have any Miscellaneous Reports to discuss this evening.

19
20 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

21
22 Village President Burke opened Public Comment at 8:17 P.M.

23
24 **Damage to Common Areas from School Buses** - Mr. Larry Mullins stated that he resides at
25 20808 Alexander Street in Olympia Fields East. Mr. Mullins stated that the bus drivers that
26 pickup the kids in our community have no mercy for our streets. They are running all over the
27 curbs and they are beginning to be an eyesore. He stated at 207 in Brookwood it is like a little
28 small ditch in there. They are running over all of the common areas in the Olympia Fields East
29 section. He stated at 207 and Western. The bus company that picks up the kids has no mercy for
30 our community at all. We have to try to combat this.

31
32 Village President Burke inquired whether it is the high school or the grammar school. Mr.
33 Mullins stated that he doesn't know. Village President Burke stated that the reason he asked the
34 question, it would help that we can actually go to the offenders. They are two different groups of
35 people. Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated that the ones that she sees going over 25 miles an hour and
36 everywhere they please are the grammar school. That concerns her because there are young kids
37 on these buses. Mr. Mullins stated that Kickert is the bus company.

38
39 Village President Burke asked Mr. Landini to look at it and see if we can repair it if we can. He
40 stated that since Scott isn't here, you probably need to get with Scott and have him follow-up.
41 Mrs. Gatlin-Moroney stated middle school also.

42
43 **Question on the Bills for Approval** - Mr. Carlando Owens stated that in the Bills for Approval,
44 he sees an amount for "Metra Parking Terminal, 50% down payment." He would like some
45 more details as to what that project is.
46

1 Mr. McDonnell stated that come February 1st, there is going to be an increase. We have put signs
2 out already at the Metra Station that there is going to be an increase from \$1.25 to \$2.00 to park
3 at the Metra Station. All of that has been comprised of several meetings that staff has had, and
4 that the Board has had, and discussion about whether or not to stay with Metra or not to stay with
5 Metra, and the Village taking care of the parking lot area, and taking care of the funds that that
6 generates. We are going to be changing the cash boxes out at the Metra Station and putting in the
7 electronic stations. There will be five working stations there at all times. You are also going to be
8 able to pay on the new app that is also going to be affixed with the pay boxes. You can pay by
9 cash. You can pay by credit or debit card, or you can pay online with your cellphone. That
10 deposit is for the five machines and the installation of those electronic boxes.

11

12 **Save Our Southland** - Mrs. Holly Fingerle stated that she is a resident of Arcadia. She is one of
13 the principals with Save Our Southland. It was part of the coalition with the Petition effort to
14 stop the tax increase without taking it to voters and the Bond Referendum. She wanted to give
15 you an update. We are going to have an official statement out. We fell short of the required 3,777
16 signatures that we needed to get that Bond Referendum on the March 2020 Ballot. It is
17 legislatively dead as of January 6th she believes was the deadline statutorily to get that
18 referendum on the ballot for March 2020.

19

20 Mrs. Fingerle stated that we learned a lot of lessons. We still have some questions to run by an
21 election attorney. We lost the battle, but the war is not over. We have some questions as to
22 whether everything was done properly with the filing. We are hoping that a lawyer would find
23 that the clock would restart, and that we would be able to get the required signatures to stop this,
24 or at least take it to the voters and get some more information on the November Ballot. In putting
25 together her thoughts, she has realized that she is really furious with this School Board that they
26 didn't act in a transparent manner. In September, at the Board Meeting, the first public
27 discussion of which campus was going to be closed they announced a timeline of new
28 information being presented. All our questions that we have been asking for 10-months would be
29 answered, and they wouldn't take a vote until November. It dawned on her that was never the
30 case. In order for the notice requirement to be made, and for a referendum to be on the March
31 Ballot, the vote always had to be in October. There was a 30-day period where we would have to
32 get signatures and that deadline would be December 16th to be on the Ballot, and then January 6th
33 is the statutory deadline. She went back and was looking at the FOIA information on some of the
34 repairs. She is upset that it was always Rich East. In June of 2018, there was a huge contract that
35 the Board signed for almost \$1,000,000.00 to replace everything at Rich Central on the HVAC.
36 There was no discussion in those Board Minutes. There was no discussion in the Board video of
37 are we going to throw good money after bad. At the same meeting they hired a general contractor
38 to go do the facilities study to where they were going to see what we were looking at in terms of
39 repairs of Rich East versus Rich Central and Rich South as to what needed to be done over the
40 next 20 years. It makes no sense that you would commit to a \$1,000,000.00 contract. There is
41 still \$649,000.00 in work that hasn't been done. The only payment that has been made was in
42 October after they delivered these 100-page studies for each of these to kind of support and push
43 this narrative that it was too expensive to replace Rich East. In talking with former Board
44 Members, and even her husband who is an HVAC guy, and who is also an industrial electrician,
45 he remembers that all of the electrical work was replaced at Rich East maybe a decade ago. She
46 stated that buried in that report, \$27,000,000.00 in replacing all of the electrical.

1 Mrs. Fingerle stated that we have some questions. She knows we have a lot of professionals in
2 this community. Any lawyers, people that are worried about their tax bills, we need your help.
3 We don't have the deep pockets to fight this legally. She stated that from what she is hearing, for
4 each kind of a push that you are making, you need a specialist. You need somebody who
5 specializes in schools. She is finding that a lot of the lawyers in this area, don't want to challenge
6 their potential clients. They don't want to alienate a School Board that might hire them. David
7 taking on Goliath. The cheapest thing to do is to flip this Board. Thank you for talking about that
8 event with the principal. She wishes that she would have been invited. If she was invited, she
9 doesn't know where her invite went. She doesn't know if the coalition that was working on this
10 from Olympia Fields were invited. We tried to have a good ground game. Unfortunately, this is
11 new to us. She could list the lessons that they learned. Certainly, if we take another stab at this,
12 they are going to do things a lot differently. Thank you so much. Village President Burke closed
13 Public Comment at 8:25 P.M.

14

15 **NEW BUSINESS:**

16

17 The Board did not have any New Business to discuss this evening.

18

19 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

20

21 **Appointment – Andrea Townson to the Police Pension Board and Community Relations**
22 **Commission (CRC)** – Village President Burke stated that you have in your Board Packet
23 information about Andrea Townson to become a member of the Police Pension Board and the
24 Community Relations Commission.

25 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, Second by Trustee Finley to Approve the Candidacy of Andrea**
26 **Townson to the Police Pension Board and the Community Relations Commission (CRC)**
27 **for a Two (2) Year Term Ending in the Year 2022.**

28 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

29

30 **Resignation – McKinley Wilson from the Police Pension Board** – Village President Burke
31 stated that next is the resignation of McKinley Wilson. McKinley Wilson is the Senior Vice
32 President for Wells Fargo. He cannot continue to serve on the Police Pension Board because
33 there might be a conflict of interest.

34 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, Second by Trustee Watkins to Accept the Resignation of**
35 **McKinley Wilson from the Police Pension Board, and Authorize a Letter to be Sent on**
36 **Behalf of the Village Board of Trustees.**

37 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

38

39 Trustee Matz stated that we have in our packets Appointment Applications, but we never have in
40 our packet, Letters of Resignation. She thinks that should be included. Village President Burke
41 stated that you are right. It should be. We missed that. He has a letter. In the future, going
42 forward, we will do that.

43

44

45

46

47

1 **Appointment – Johnny Morris to the Chicago South Suburban Mass Transit District**
2 **(CSSMTD) -**

3

4 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, Second by Trustee Watkins to Approve the Candidacy of**
5 **Johnny Morris to the Chicago South Suburban Mass Transit District (CSSMTD) for a**
6 **Period of Two (2) Years Ending in the Year 2022.**

7 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

8

9 **ADJOURNMENT:**

10

11 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, Second by Trustee Watkins to Adjourn the Board Meeting at**
12 **8:27 P.M.**

13 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

14

15 Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47