

1 **MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF OLYMPIA FIELDS**
2 **MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
3 **Held on May 13, 2019**
4

5 The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, May 13th, 2019, at the
6 Linzey D. Jones Municipal Building and was called to order by Village President Sterling M.
7 Burke at 7:00 P.M. The assembly recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
8

9 Village President Burke asked Pastor Singleton to bless this occasion.
10

11 Pastor Singleton stated that it is an honor to be here. He is here to pray on behalf of our new
12 Trustees. He asked that they stand as he calls their name. Sandra Finley, Desireé Watkins and
13 Willis Pennington, Jr. Pastor Singleton asked that everyone bow their heads in prayer. “Precious
14 Heavenly Father, we come always honoring and praising your holy name. Your word said that
15 promotion comes neither from the east nor the west, but it comes from you. So, since promotion
16 comes from you, the ability to carry out these tasks, we pray Lord that they will be a labor of
17 love from all of these new Trustees. That they will have the heart and mind, and best interest of
18 the Village of Olympia Fields at heart. That they will work through the difficult situations and
19 the difficult times and find the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit so that we, who are all
20 residents here in Olympia Fields may prosper and be blessed with the wisdom and the
21 knowledge and understanding that you empower them with. We pray, oh, Lord, that you will do
22 that which only you can do, because you have said in your word that through you, we can do all
23 things, and without you we can do nothing. So, we consecrate them, and bless them, and grateful
24 for all the family and friends who have gathered here to share in this elevation, for this they are
25 elevated before men, let them continue to humble themselves before you, and in all things we
26 give you praise, glory and honor. In Jesus name, Amen. God Bless You.”
27

28 Village President Burke stated that he does the same thing with our Finance Committee, because
29 he is on the Finance Committee. Village President Burke thanked Pastor Singleton.
30

31 **Administration of Oath**
32

33 **The Honorable Cynthia Y. Cobbs, Illinois Appellate Court – First District Circuit Judge**
34 **Trustee-Elect Sandra Finley** – Village President Burke stated next will be the Honorable
35 Cynthia Cobbs, Illinois Appellate Court. She is a First District Circuit Judge. She is going to
36 swear-in Trustee-Elect Sandra Finley. The Honorable Cynthia Y. Cobbs administered the oath to
37 Trustee-Elect Sandra Finley as follows: “I, Sandra Finley, having been elected to the office of
38 Village Trustee, in the Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook aforesaid, I do
39 solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of
40 the State of Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Trustee, to the
41 best of my ability.” The Honorable Cynthia Cobbs congratulated Trustee Finley. (There was a
42 round of applause). Village President Burke congratulated Trustee Finley.
43

44 **The Honorable Adrienne E. Davis, Cook County Circuit Court Judge**

45 **Trustee-Elect Desireé Watkins** – Village President Burke stated next we will have the
46 Honorable Adrienne Davis, Cook County Circuit Court Judge to swear-in Trustee-Elect Desireé
47 Watkins. The Honorable Adrienne Davis administered the oath to Trustee-Elect Desireé Watkins

1 as follows: “I, Desireé Watkins, having been elected to the office of Village Trustee, in the
2 Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook aforesaid, I do solemnly affirm that I will
3 support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and I
4 will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Trustee, to the best of my ability.” The
5 Honorable Adrienne Davis congratulated Trustee Watkins. (There was a round of applause).
6 Village President Burke congratulated Trustee Watkins.

7
8 **Village President Sterling M. Burke**

9 **Trustee Willis Pennington, Jr.** – Village President Burke stated next he will be swearing in
10 Trustee Willis Pennington, Jr. Village President Burke administered the oath to Trustee Willis
11 Pennington, Jr. as follows: “I, Willis Pennington, Jr., having been elected to the office of Village
12 Trustee, in the Village of Olympia Fields, in the County of Cook aforesaid, do solemnly affirm
13 that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of
14 Illinois, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of Trustee, to the best of my
15 ability.” Village President Burke congratulated Trustee Pennington. (There was a round of
16 applause).

17
18 **Village President Sterling M. Burke Requests the Deputy Clerk to Conduct Roll Call of the**
19 **New Board** – Village Administrator/Deputy Village Clerk, Cynthia Saenz called the roll.

20
21 Present: Trustees – Watkins, Oliver, Pennington, Matz, Finley, and Thomas
22 Village President Sterling M. Burke
23 Village Administrator/Deputy Village Clerk, Cynthia Saenz

24
25 Absent: None.

26
27 Village Administrator Saenz stated that also in attendance we have Chief John Krull, Building
28 Commissioner John McDonnell, Public Works Director Jim Landini, Finance Director Betty
29 Zigras, Trinette Britt-Johnson the Village’s Economic Development Consultant, Faith Stine our
30 Court Reporter. Village Administrator Saenz stated that she is the Village Administrator and the
31 Deputy Village Clerk.

32
33 **Village President Sterling M. Burke Requests Comments from New Trustees – Sandra**
34 **Finley and Desireé Watkins** – Trustee Watkins stated “I am so excited to be here this evening. I
35 really want to thank the Village of Olympia Fields for trusting me. I ran on being the voice of the
36 community and that is truly my goal. I want to thank not only the people sitting to my right, but
37 the people that ran for office. It was a wonderful run. I met great people. The thing about
38 Olympia Fields is that we really love our community and it shows by the turnout here tonight.
39 Thank you again. I look forward to serving you.” (There was a round of applause).

40
41 Trustee Finley stated “I am very grateful for this opportunity to serve in this particular capacity
42 in this particular Village at this particular time in our Village’s life and development. You know
43 there’s your vocation, the thing you do, for the professional work that you do. And then there’s
44 your allocation, the thing that you do because you love it. This is the opportunity to marry the
45 both of them. I couldn’t be more happy for the opportunity to do this work. The thing that I ask is
46 for all of you who worked and walked, and talked, I ask you to don’t leave us now. Stay with us.
47 Stay engaged and continue to help and hold us up. You do that, then I think that we will be

1 unstoppable. I am grateful for your support, grateful for your love, grateful for your investment
2 in Olympia Fields, and grateful for the opportunity to be on this particular team. Whatever the
3 winning team is, think about your sports analogies, this is that one. We are going to do this.”
4 (There was a round of applause).

5
6 **Village President Sterling M. Burke Requests Comments from Trustee Willis Pennington,
7 Jr.** – Trustee Pennington stated that “I too want to thank the residents of Olympia Fields for
8 expressing your continued support and confidence in me, and in electing me to my fourth term as
9 your Village Trustee. My vision regarding Village Governments has always been to ensure that
10 you have a government that responds to your needs, and strong financial stability, open and
11 transparent government, efficient public works services, and strong public safety. This continues
12 to be my focus now and into the future. To that end, I will continue to work to maintain the
13 Village’s strong financial position and net operating reserves. I, as well as this Board, will
14 continue to work to maintain the Village’s extraordinary AA Plus rating, work toward reducing
15 Village expenses where appropriate, without a reduction in services, and not lose focus of our
16 core mission of providing public safety, public works services, inclusive of infrastructure
17 upgrades in the most economic and cost efficient manner possible. I look forward to working
18 collaboratively with the fellow Trustees, this administration, the Department Heads, as we grow
19 our efforts in promoting the Village of Olympia Fields as the destination Village of choice to
20 raise a family, to work, and to thrive. But more importantly, I will remain committed to the
21 residents of the Village of Olympia Fields. Thank you very much.” (There was a round of
22 applause).

23
24 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

25
26 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Thomas to Dispense with the Reading of the
27 Minutes, and Approve the Minutes of the April 15th, 2019, Board Meeting as presented.**
28 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

29
30 **BILLS FOR APPROVAL:**

31
32 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Pennington to Approve the Payment of Bills
33 for May 13th, 2019, in the Total Amount of \$989,961.49.**
34 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

35
36 **ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:**

37
38 **Report of the Village President:**

39
40 Village President Burke stated that he does not have a Report this evening.

41
42 **Report of the Village Administrator:**

43
44 Village Administrator Saenz stated that she did not have a Formal Report this evening.

1 **DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORTS:**

2
3 **Betty Zigras – Director of Finance**

4
5 **Resolution #2019-02 – A Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Promissory Note and**
6 **Approving the Third Distribution of Tax Increment Funds (Lincoln-Western TIF**
7 **District/Wal-Mart Economic Incentive Agreement – Mrs. Zigras stated that before you we**
8 have Resolution #2019-02. It is a Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Promissory Note and
9 Approving the Third Distribution of Tax Increment Funds (Lincoln-Western TIF District/Wal-
10 Mart Economic Incentive Agreement. Mrs. Zigras stated that this is the third distribution to Wal-
11 Mart with the agreement with the TIF. It is the \$6.9 million TIF Agreement.

12
13 Village President Burke inquired of Mrs. Zigras the reason for doing this early. Mrs. Zigras
14 stated that whenever we receive an increment, we received the first tax dollars in March, and we
15 turn around and give distribution immediately so that we are not accruing that interest. Village
16 President Burke stated that it is actually saving us money. Mrs. Zigras stated yes.

17 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Matz to Approve Resolution 2019-02 - A**
18 **Resolution Authorizing Execution of a Promissory Note and Approving the Third**
19 **Distribution of Tax Increment Funds for the (Lincoln-Western TIF District/Wal-Mart**
20 **Economic Incentive Agreement).**

21 **Roll Call: Ayes (6-0) Motion Carried.**

22
23 **John McDonnell – Building Commissioner**

24
25 **Event Permit – Olympia Fields United Methodist Church – “Church-A-Palooza Music**
26 **Fest” – June 30, 2019, 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. – Mr. McDonnell congratulated the new**
27 **Trustees. Mr. McDonnell stated that before you tonight is an Event Permit for the Olympia**
28 **Fields United Methodist Church. They call it “Church-A-Palooza Music Fest.” It will be held on**
29 **June 30th, 2019, from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. They had the same event last year with the same**
30 **exact layout that they submitted this year. Last year they met with the Wysteria Homeowners**
31 **Association to go over their plans for the event since it could negatively affect their area and**
32 **their peace and quiet there. Last year they were unanimous in approving this event for the United**
33 **Methodist Church. There was no one there from the church to speak regarding the event.**

34
35 Mr. McDonnell stated that he has reached out to the Event Coordinator a few times. He stated
36 that to no avail he did not touch base with her. We will have their insurance document before we
37 would ever issue the Event Permit.

38 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to Approve the Event Application**
39 **Submitted by the Olympia Fields United Methodist Church “Church-A-Palooza Music**
40 **Fest” on June 30th, 2019 from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., at 20301 Western Avenue, Olympia**
41 **Fields, with the Understanding that the Certification of Insurance naming the Village as an**
42 **additional Certificate Holder will be provided before the Event Date.**

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

1 **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

2
3 Village President Burke stated that next on the agenda are the Trustee Reports. Each of the
4 Trustees have assignments as a liaison. The reports that we normally would do at this time, we
5 are going to forego those because we want to get to the festivities as quickly as possible. The
6 Building Department, Community Relations, Public Works, Park District Liaison, Public Safety,
7 Finance/Planning, and Zoning, Human Resources, Police Pension, Beautification Committee and
8 Educational Commission, ordinarily at this time, those areas would be reported on by the
9 Trustees.

10
11 **Building Department/Community Relations Commission**

12
13 **Public Works/Park District Liaison**

14
15 **Public Safety**

16
17 **Finance/Planning & Zoning**

18
19 **Human Resources/Police Pension**

20
21 **Beautification Committee/Educational Commission**

22
23 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

24
25 Village President Burke stated next is Public Comment. Village President Burke opened Public
26 Comment at 7:20 P.M.

27
28 Ms. Constance Means stated that she is concerned about the wall that goes along Route 30. That
29 concern is not just hers. It is representative of the Maynegaite Homeowners Association. It is
30 falling down. It is falling down quickly now and terribly. There is a whole collapsed unit on the
31 wall that is kind of juxtaposed inside. We've had conversations and meetings. She did send a
32 letter to the Village President. She realized that there were other items that were much more
33 important than that that he had to take care of. She would like to be in touch with the Village
34 President about how we are going to work on this further. Village President Burke stated that
35 John McDonnell can address this right now.

36
37 Mr. McDonnell stated that he can give everybody the recent update. They gave it to the Village
38 Attorney to file a Motion for a Warrant and a Demolition Order to tear down the fence. The
39 Warrant would allow the Village to do whatever we would want on the property as it pertained to
40 the fence. The Demolition Order would give the Village the approval from a Judge to take down
41 the entire fence. As the Village Attorney was filing that paperwork, they found out that the
42 property went into a forfeiture case in a subsequent Sheriff's Sale. There is a new owner of that
43 property that evidently bid on it and won the bid. The Village Attorney has turned over that
44 information to us. Since going after that person for a Warrant and a Demolition Order, we have
45 to serve them proper notice to take care of the problem themselves before we file for the Warrant
46 and a Judgment for Demolition against the new owner that just purchased the property. He
47 received a call today from the new owner's attorney that was appointed to the case. The attorney

1 is well aware that there is needed repairs. Also, a lawn needs to be cut. He stated that the street
2 repairs need to be done and the detention pond needs to be taken care of. He did have that
3 discussion with the new owner's attorney as of today.

4
5 Village President Burke stated that we had a meeting with the Maynegaitte Homeowners
6 Association. Sometime in the next week, we will call another meeting and meet with you and go
7 into the details. We wanted to at least answer you. He appreciates her going along with the fact
8 that he was not available. We will meet again. He stated that Mr. McDonnell will have a full
9 update on what is going on and we can move on. Ms. Means thanked Village President Burke.
10 Ms. Means congratulated the new Trustees. Village President Burke closed Public Comment at
11 7:25 P.M.

12
13 **NEW BUSINESS:**

14
15 The Board did not have any New Business to discuss this evening.

16
17 **Article on Carolyn Gibson in the Tribune** - Village President Burke stated that it was not on
18 the agenda, but all of you know that Carolyn passed. We had a Proclamation for her. We had a
19 Resolution for her. Most of the people on the dais attended her funeral. She was loved by
20 everyone in the Village. She will not be forgotten. The Tribune just ran an article this weekend
21 on her. We can make a copy available to everybody that might want one. This was the most
22 recent article about Carolyn that got put in the Tribune. He wanted to bring that to everybody's
23 attention.

24
25 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

26
27 Village President Burke stated that he did not have any Resignations or Appointments this
28 evening.

29
30 **Recognition of the Dignitaries in the Audience** - Trustee Watkins inquired of Village President
31 Burke whether or not before we adjourn, we could recognize the dignitaries that are in the
32 audience. Village President Burke stated sure. The following dignitaries introduced themselves:
33 Cook County States Attorney Kim Foxx. (There was a round of applause). Commissioner
34 Kimberly Du Buclet from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation Board. (There was a round of
35 applause). Jonathan Vanderbilt, Mayor of Park Forest. (There was a round of applause). Rich
36 Township Democratic Commissioner, Calvin Jordan. (There was a round of applause).

37
38 Village President Burke invited everyone to the Inaugural Reception in the lobby. He thanked
39 everybody for coming.

40
41 **ADJOURNMENT:**

42
43 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Oliver to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:27
44 P.M.**

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

46
47 Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.