

1 position to control that property so that we can further develop it, and discuss with developers
2 how we might want to move forward.

3
4 Village President Burke stated that we have had numerous conversations about this. The
5 Executive Session that we just had was one in which we discussed everyone's side on this. There
6 are pros and cons about doing this. The Resolution that is before us is to take a formal vote to
7 buyout the option of the now current company who has this property. The property is currently in
8 the Land Bank. The Land Bank has sheltered approximately \$1.5 million of taxes. We have
9 roughly \$800,000.00 in our TIF Fund to buy this property. The TIF Fund was created to serve as
10 an investment vehicle to help us generate revenue to put businesses back on the tax rolls. The
11 actual property has a sunset where the current owners, at the end of July and in the first part of
12 August, will lose their right to the property. We are concerned that things may occur that would
13 prevent us from moving forward. The Motion is to buy the property for \$200,000.00.

14
15 Village President Burke stated that in 2014 this property was valued at roughly \$8.9 million. The
16 Chase Building in the Village is just over an acre. They want \$850,000.00 for that building. The
17 building in which the Dunkin' Donut is in, that building at one point was for sale for \$2.1
18 million. It is down to \$1.2 million. He stated that buying the Jewel Plaza puts us in complete
19 control so we can negotiate with potential developers. It is very critical. The Motion and the vote
20 we are about to have is to determine whether or not the Village of Olympia Fields should expend
21 \$200,000.00 out of our TIF Fund. The purpose of the TIF Fund is to incent developers and/or
22 people to do development on that land.

23 **Motion by Trustee Oliver, second by Trustee Pennington to approve this Resolution.**

24
25 Village President Burke asked Village Administrator Saenz to call the roll. Trustee Watkins
26 inquired whether or not she could comment before she votes. Village Administrator Saenz stated
27 that she believes that you can suspend the rules to allow comments first.

28 **Motion by Trustee Thomas, second by Trustee Pennington to Suspend the Rules to Allow**
29 **Comment.**

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

31
32 Trustee Watkins stated that being a new Trustee, it is very difficult to vote on something that she
33 just got information on.

34
35 Village President Burke stated that on this Motion, we don't have to suspend the rules for you to
36 make a comment. You can question it. Is that what you want to do?

37
38 Trustee Thomas stated that she made a Motion to suspend the rules for comment. That was her
39 question. She asked if she could make a comment before she voted. Trustee Thomas stated that
40 she made the Motion to suspend the rules for comment and Trustee Pennington seconded that.
41 So, we can suspend the rules for comment.

42
43 Village President Burke stated that just so everybody understands, if you want to make a
44 comment about the Resolution, we don't have to suspend the rules for that. You, as a Trustee,
45 can question and make a comment on your own without suspending the rules. Trustee Watkins
46 stated that she understands.

47

1 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to Reinstate the Rules.**
2 **Voice Vote: All Ayes Motion Carried.**

3
4 Trustee Watkins stated that being a new Trustee, it is very difficult to make a decision and vote
5 on something that she just got information on an hour ago. She read the Minutes. She has
6 reviewed previous Minutes on this topic. She did a little research on her own. She thinks it is a
7 great deal, but she knows that we can wait 30-days. We don't have to move so quickly. We have
8 until the end of July to come to a determination. Her recommendation being a new Trustee, is
9 that we go into a couple more Executive Sessions, so that we can have all of the information that
10 the President is privy to, because she has no information. That is her recommendation. She really
11 wants this to work. She just feels that the communication is something that needs to be worked
12 on.

13
14 Trustee Matz stated that she concurs. We have discussed this before. We have repeatedly asked
15 the Mayor for concrete information, documentation. We have not received that. Once again, this
16 is before us for a vote.

17
18 Trustee Watkins stated that being on the outside looking in, is a little different than being on the
19 inside. She didn't realize that we don't see each other all month until this meeting. We get our
20 information and we come here before the public to make very prevalent decisions, and we don't
21 meet during the month. She thought it was very odd being a Board, and being a cohesive unit,
22 that we don't have any communication between each other until we sit here in front of you, our
23 constituents. She finds it very odd that we are that disconnected. It is just amazing to her. She
24 wants people to know, that when people make votes, and people say, "Hey, I don't have the
25 information." They are told you should go to the Economic Commission. Trustee Watkins stated
26 that it is very difficult when you are appointed to a Commission and Committee and you have
27 two, to do your stuff and sit on everybody else's Committees and Commissions. There is no
28 information being emailed to us like other municipalities, so, we don't know. She has been very
29 active. She sent emails, and she comes here and she talks to people. She stated that to her, that
30 should be an automatic thing. Communication is key. That is the missing component to anything.

31
32 Trustee Matz stated that there is no sense of urgency on purchasing this deal. Whichard, who is
33 the owner of this property, brought this to us last year. Last year the dollar amount was way more
34 than what he is asking for now. He keeps dropping the price knowing that it is going to sunset
35 the end of July, which means that we get it free and clear. What is the urgency?

36
37 Trustee Pennington stated that there is no guarantee we will get it free and clear. Trustee Matz
38 stated that there is a guarantee. Trustee Pennington stated that there is no guarantee. Trustee
39 Matz stated that they owe \$1.5 million in back taxes. Trustee Pennington stated that he
40 understands that. He inquired whether or not he could finish his comment. There are no
41 guarantees that we can obtain this land for nothing. We don't know what Whichard and his
42 group will do. We are getting an asset here that is highly valuable for this Village. We can do so
43 much with this land. He would caution any type of delay, even 30-days. We just don't know
44 what the guy is going to do. We can assume he is not going to do anything. Do you really want
45 to run the risk of legal action against the Village? Although it may be spurious, we still have to
46 defend it.

47

1 Trustee Matz inquired can anybody say, “Cell Tower?” We’ve already been there with the cell
2 tower. We spent almost half a million dollars fighting that cell tower and it is still there.
3

4 Trustee Pennington inquired of Trustee Matz what her point is. Trustee Matz stated that her point
5 is we are talking about the unknown. You are talking about what they are going to do. They have
6 not come back to reclaim that property from the Land Bank because they owe \$1.5 million. They
7 have no funds to do that. They come after us with a lawsuit for what? We are letting it sunset.
8 They can’t come after us with a lawsuit for us allowing it to sunset.
9

10 Trustee Watkins inquired so what Trustee Pennington stated is true, there is some risk associated
11 with it. But we still have until the end of July before that risk even becomes an option or
12 something that we have to deal with. Trustee Pennington stated the risk is now. Trustee Watkins
13 stated that we have until the end of July to make a decision. Her request is that we have a few
14 more, maybe two meetings, because she hasn’t seen anybody sitting on this dais since she got
15 sworn in. She is asking for a couple more meetings to have this discussion and bring those
16 grants, and that information that you mentioned just so we can take a look at it. It is all about the
17 vital information.
18

19 Village President Burke stated that this notion about \$500,000.00 on a cell phone tower is not
20 true. He was the person that advocated to try to stop the cell phone tower from going in. John
21 Murphey is our lawyer. Did we pay you a half a million dollars for the lawsuit? Mr. Murphey
22 stated that if he got a half a million dollars he wouldn’t be sitting here. He stated that he got
23 nothing close to that.
24

25 Village President Burke stated let’s be careful about throwing numbers around that don’t make
26 sense. Everyone has an opportunity to speak. He wanted to touch on one other thing. Everyone
27 has an opportunity to talk to anybody that they want to. The Board Packets go out 48-hours in
28 advance for people to read those Board Packets. This is something that has been discussed for
29 months. We have had at least five meetings. Some of the people in this audience have actually
30 heard about it. None of this is something that is foreign or new to anybody. No one is keeping
31 anybody from any information. All of us are citizens of this Village. When that Wal-Mart deal
32 went down, the developer made \$3.6 million. Guess who paid the \$3.6 million? All of us, the
33 citizens. Wal-Mart got \$6.9 million to come here. That’s \$11,000,000.00 plus that the Village,
34 and us, as citizens are paying Wal-Mart money for the next 23-years to stay here. This
35 opportunity to buy this piece of land puts us in 100% ownership of the land. We get to control
36 this without having someone else manage our money and take our tax dollars. The sooner we get
37 control of the property, the faster we can do things to develop the property and generate revenue
38 for the Village of Olympia Fields.
39

40 Trustee Thomas stated that she would like to say to her fellow residents and neighbors of
41 Olympia Fields, that by no means is her request to wait because she wants to be a barrier to
42 entry. Her question has been, what is the risk to the Village if we wait. Assumptions are there.
43 There is an assumption he will sue. There is an assumption that he will not sue. The fear that he
44 will sue is because he proposed a rap venue. He proposed a storage facility. She knows that you
45 would agree with her that those are not vital, economic development options for the Village. If
46 he were to sue, good attorneys, whether it is Mr. Murphey or we hire one, can litigate things in
47 court. That’s Number 1. Number 2, if the appraisal of the land, that’s Cook County, we have not

1 paid for it. This is about being transparent. So that you understand whatever our decision is, this
2 is why the decision is made. When you see her in the store you can say, "Good afternoon. Praise
3 the Lord," whichever one you want to say, because you heard it already. If the Cook County
4 records show that that land is at about two point something million dollars, she can't honestly
5 raise her right hand and say that she knows that for a fact because it hasn't been presented. She
6 was informed of that by word of mouth today. No one makes these kinds of decisions based on
7 word of mouth. If there is a grant that we could apply for to demolish the building, we should
8 know that as Trustees before we come in the room. We should know what are the risks
9 associated with not moving forward. This is the kind of information that she is asking for. If
10 there are potential developers that have been spoken to, who have shown an interest, as a Trustee
11 that is representing the ones that came out to vote, and she believes that is most of you in the
12 room because you are here tonight, we should know what the potentials are. All she is asking is
13 for information. If they say they are going to sue us, okay, that is what they do. She is not so
14 much concerned about that. She is concerned about having the time to discuss this further.

15

16 Trustee Thomas stated that you all should know our Village Attorney. His name is Mr. Murphey.
17 He is sitting in the front row. She has asked our Village Attorney on the phone, and in person,
18 and in email, what is wrong with waiting. The answer that she has heard, there is this great
19 assumption, this risk, that this seller who owes the Land Bank \$1.5 million in back taxes that he
20 is going to sue because we refused. She didn't refuse. She doesn't know who refused. Nothing
21 was presented to her. She never saw what was presented. She told Mr. Murphey you are an
22 attorney. If you can't handle it, then we will get an attorney who can. That's her question. She is
23 just asking for us to wait. Period. She stated that Mr. Murphey has yet to give her the answer that
24 she is looking for. He has given her an answer. Maybe his answer is that he can't tell me an
25 answer. She can take that. What is the risk? Is the risk that bad? You have to know what the risks
26 are. What is the risk of waiting, point blank? She doesn't think that it will go any further if we
27 don't do this now. She learned that there is no expiration on the Cook County Grant so we are
28 not missing an opportunity because the Grant opportunity does not expire. When we are ready,
29 we will apply for the Grant. That is what she understood. She wants to be able to get this
30 information more timely, and have the time to dissect it and ask questions. Because we only have
31 one meeting a month, we use to have two, this is why we miss some things. Those are her
32 comments. She thinks that most of you know where she stands. Whenever we are ready to vote
33 we can move forward. She just wants you to understand from her, what her position is and why.

34

35 Trustee Matz stated that we are not here to be spoon fed. We were elected into this position to
36 govern with some type of knowledge, with information that is suitable for the residents. You
37 entrusted us with our major asset, your home. The packages that we get to sit here before you are
38 incomplete. We don't have information to support what it is that we have to vote on. That is just
39 not right. We have asked repeatedly for more information. The Mayor is privy to the
40 information. The Village Manager is privy to the information. And our Economic Development
41 Consultant is privy to the information and she answers to the Mayor according to the Mayor.
42 How can we make a sound decision when we don't have all of the information? She doesn't run
43 her household like that. Why would she run the Village like that?

44

45 Mr. Langon inquired why don't we hear from the residents. Suspend the rules. Trustee Oliver
46 stated that what you have been experiencing and seeing from this Board in the last two or three-
47 months, has been what he has coined "the making of sausage." The risk to him is that each Board

1 Member has to make a decision based on what we feel is the best decision for you. There's a
2 reason why you voted for us. There's a reason why you voted for the President. He trusts the
3 President and his administrative team who have done the work. Economic development is one of
4 the highest issues that we face. He stated property values, economic development. This is a
5 golden opportunity for the Village to acquire some land for monies that we don't have to pay for.
6 It comes out of a TIF. He stated that for him, it is a sound decision. He doesn't need much more
7 information than that. He hopes that anyone in the audience who has a business and wants to do
8 business with the Village would come to us. We are trying to open up avenues for us to own the
9 land and bring in businesses so that we have some of the fruits that so many of these other towns
10 west of us do. That's his point.

11
12 Trustee Watkins stated that what Trustee Oliver said is absolutely right. She thinks that everyone
13 sitting here wants to bring businesses to the Village. But to base something on "a feeling," is not
14 how you make a business decision. You have to have the information in front of you to make a
15 sound decision. This is not a marriage or a relationship. This is a business decision. When you
16 make a business decision, you have to have information in front of you.

17
18 Trustee Finley stated that this will be her second Board Meeting. The first one was when we
19 were sworn in and we briefly voted to pay the bills that were due that day. This is the one of
20 some substance to the Village's future. She stated that in asking for your vote, she was also
21 making a commitment in her mind that she would do what she needed to do in order to be
22 prepared to act in the interest of our Village. She would not do it if it was convenient for her. She
23 would make herself available to do what it is that she said that she would do on our Village's
24 behalf. She rearranged a lot of things in her world in order to do her job, which was to be
25 knowledgeable and informed so that when we sat here, and she sat with her teammates here, she
26 could do the work. In the spirit of that, she has gone to meetings that she has not necessarily been
27 invited to, but she was welcome to go to. She has asked questions. She has spoken to the Village
28 Attorney. She has spoken to the Village President. She has spoken to the Village developer. She
29 has spoken to the Economic Development Commission. She has spoken to the Finance
30 Committee. She has gotten what it was that she felt that she needed to know in an effort to make
31 a decision on a vote in order to acquire this property.

32
33 Trustee Finley stated that she believes that there is a difference between "I don't understand" and
34 "I don't agree." Any of you in your families, will have explained to people in your families until
35 the cows come home and they will never agree. They will say that they don't understand. If you
36 don't understand, go find out what you need to do in order to understand. Her question is, do you
37 agree? She is thinking here that we are at a point of decision. She is thinking that we are faced
38 with an opportunity to advance our business positioning by securing our borders by buying land
39 that is affordable so that we now can control what we choose to do with regards to economic
40 development in the Village of Olympia Fields. The risks have been explained to us. Some of us
41 agree that these are important risks, and others of us don't agree. That will come out in the vote
42 whichever way we go with that. The important thing to her to tell you, is that aggressive,
43 assertive, innovative, vigorous and brave thought leadership on what it is going to take to do
44 what it is that we say we want to do as a Village will be at hand. We won't always be
45 comfortable. All things won't always be known. We won't have a crystal ball. But we will have
46 enough if we choose to explore so that we can make what we consider to be credible decisions.
47 She has had the privilege of being able to sit in executive leadership with her fellow Board

1 Members. She knows that there is passion. There is point of view. There is engagement. And
2 there is vigor. That to her is a sign of goodness for what it is that we want to do. At the end of the
3 day, we have to choose which direction we are going in. You can't do it by side seat driving. At
4 some point you have to take the wheel and say, "Here is where we are going." That is what this
5 vote is going to bring us to a conclusion here this evening.

6
7 Trustee Oliver called for a vote. Mr. Langon stated that you are not going to open up the floor
8 then. You are not going to hear the residents. A woman in the audience stated we have opinions.
9 Trustee Pennington stated that there was a call to vote. Take the vote pursuant to Roberts Rules.

10
11 Village President Burke stated that pursuant to Roberts Rules there was a call for a vote.
12 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to Approve Resolution #2019-03 –**
13 **A Resolution Approving A Certain "Option Purchase Agreement" (Olympia Corners**
14 **Shopping Center/Lincoln and Western Tax Increment Financing District).**

15
16 Trustee Watkins stated that wasn't expecting to be in this situation at her first meeting. Again,
17 she thinks that everyone sitting here wants business, and economic development for our
18 community. Her only request was to meet as a team. She noticed that Trustee Finley said, "I met.
19 I met. I met." That's an individual meeting. That's not a group. We collectively are a voice. We
20 are not one voice. We are six voices, including the Mayor, seven. She cannot move forward on
21 this vote, so no.

22 **Roll Call: Ayes (4) (Watkins, Thomas, and Matz voted No) Motion Carried.**

23
24 (There was a round of applause). Village President Burke stated that there will be an Open
25 Comment section later on in the agenda.

26
27 **Proclamation – Declaring the First Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness**
28 **Day – Holly Fingerle** – Village President Burke stated that he has a Proclamation declaring the
29 first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

30
31 Ms. Holly Fingerle stated that she is a resident of Olympia Fields. We brought the Proclamation
32 declaring the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. She brought
33 Sharon Collins-Seleta here as the lead for the South Suburban Moms Demand Action Group.

34
35 Mrs. Seleta thanked the Board for considering this Proclamation, although the first Friday in
36 June has already passed. We do thank you for putting this forth. She stated that 100 people a day
37 in our country are killed by gun violence. She stated that 66 lives everyday are lost due to suicide
38 by firearm. That still leaves 34 people that are killed by homicides and unintentional shootings as
39 well. As of now, gun violence is the second leading cause of death for all children in our country.
40 It is very important that all of us take pause and take note of this. We all need to do whatever we
41 can to help prevent gun violence. We are not talking about taking away anybody's Second
42 Amendment rights. We are just asking responsible gun owners to be responsible, and for all of us
43 to put some thought forth as to what we can do to end and curb gun violence in our country.

44
45 Village President Burke thanked them for bringing this to our attention. As she said, this is not
46 something that will be taking away people's rights to have guns. We are bringing awareness to
47 the public. He believes that people in the Village cares about gun violence. We have had four

1 children at the high school in the last seven-months that have been murdered. A fifth one was
2 shot in the face. He stated that 20-rounds of an AR-15 was shot off over in Graymoor. We had
3 another shooting about a week or so ago. People are concerned about these things. He thought
4 this was a worthwhile opportunity to bring people’s attention to a situation that is running
5 ramped in our country. Olympia Fields is not without some of these situations. Thank God, these
6 situations where these kids got shot did not occur in the Village. It occurred away from the
7 Village of Olympia Fields. Nevertheless, they were students who were members of our school,
8 and one recently graduated. We all should be concerned about that. He thought it was
9 worthwhile to bring this even though we are a week late. The ladies assured him that this is
10 something that goes on year-round. We want to bring it to your attention. The Proclamation
11 declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. It could be any
12 day and every day. The Proclamation reads as follows:

13

14

15

16

17

**PROCLAMATION
DECLARING THE FIRST FRIDAY IN JUNE TO BE
NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE AWARENESS DAY**

18

19

20

21

“This Proclamation declares the first Friday in June to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day
in the Village of Olympia Fields to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence
and to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence.

22

23

24

“**WHEREAS**, every day, 100 Americans are killed by gun violence and on average there are
nearly 13,000-gun homicides every year; and

25

26

27

WHEREAS, Americans are 25 times more likely to be killed with guns than people in other
high-income countries; and

28

29

30

WHEREAS, protecting public safety in the communities they serve is the Village Presidents’
highest responsibility; and

31

32

33

WHEREAS, support for the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens goes hand-in-
hand with keeping guns away from people with dangerous histories; and

34

35

36

37

WHEREAS, Village Presidents and law enforcement officers know their communities best, are
the most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it, and are best positioned to
understand how to keep their citizens safe; and

38

39

40

41

WHEREAS, in January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton, a teenager who marched in President Obama’s
second inaugural parade and was tragically shot and killed just weeks later, should be now
celebrating her 22nd birthday; and

42

43

44

45

46

WHEREAS, to help honor Hadiya – and the 100 Americans whose lives are cut short and the
countless survivors who are injured by shootings every day – a national coalition of
organizations has designated June 7, 2019, the first Friday in June, as the 5th National Gun
Violence Awareness Day; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the idea was inspired by a group of Hadiya’s friends, who asked their classmates to
2 commemorate her life by wearing orange; they chose this color because hunters wear orange to
3 announce themselves to other hunters when out in the woods and orange is a color that
4 symbolizes the value of human life; and

5
6 **WHEREAS**, anyone can join this campaign by pledging to wear orange on June 7th, the first
7 Friday in June in 2019, to help raise awareness about gun violence; and

8
9 **WHEREAS**, by wearing orange on June 7, 2019 Americans will raise awareness about gun
10 violence and honor the lives of gun violence victims and survivors; and

11
12 **WHEREAS**, we renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to
13 keep firearms out of the wrong hands, and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our
14 children safe.

15
16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Village President Sterling M. Burke of the
17 Village of Olympia Fields declared the first Friday in June, June 7, 2019, to be National Gun
18 Violence Awareness Day. I encourage all citizens to support their local communities’ efforts to
19 prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives.” Village President
20 Burke provided the ladies with the Proclamation. (There was a round of applause).

21
22 Village President Burke encouraged all of the citizens to remember this. Next year wear orange,
23 but don’t forget how important this really is.

24
25 **Report of the Village Administrator:**

26
27 **Governor Pritzker’s 2019 Budget and Capital Bill** - Village Administrator Saenz stated that
28 she would like to acknowledge that Deputy Chief Morgan is in the audience, as well as our
29 Village Treasurer Stan King, and our Economic Development Consultant Trinette Britt-Johnson.

30
31 Village Administrator Saenz stated that she is sure that everyone has heard that Governor
32 Pritzker signed the budget for Illinois, and also there was a Capital Bill that was released that did
33 allow for municipalities to have funds for infrastructure and other Capital Projects. She believes
34 that you received the letter that they sent to the Governor via State Representative Debbie
35 Meyers-Martin and South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association which is an organization
36 that we belong to.

37
38 Village Administrator Saenz wanted to inform everyone that the Village of Olympia Fields
39 through the budget signed by the Governor and the Capital Bill, we have received some
40 appropriations. The total amount is \$478,000.00. We have not received formal notification yet.
41 She pulled up the budget and found our information. As soon as the Village has the direction
42 from the Governor’s Office, she will be sure to share that. This Board will make decisions on
43 whether we move forward with some of these projects for infrastructure and other renovations in
44 the Village.

45
46 **Resolution #2019-04 – A Resolution Terminating the Village of Olympia Fields’ ICMA-RC**
47 **Plan** – Village Administrator Saenz stated that the other item you have before you listed under

1 her report is a Resolution. This is just a bit of housekeeping. Our previous Village Administrator
2 via his contract, had an agreement with the Village that the Village did make contributions to his
3 retirement fund. When he left, we sent a letter to the organization that manages that plan asking
4 them to suspend that program and transfer all funds to him. Apparently, that fell between the
5 cracks. We received an invoice. This has resurfaced again. She spoke with someone at the
6 organization. They have given her directives. They are going to honor the date that he left, but
7 we have to have a formal Resolution in place canceling the plan. She also has to send formal
8 minutes. This Resolution is a bit of housekeeping to get the approval of the Board to cancel that
9 plan and transfer his funds to him, and then we can have that account terminated and not receive
10 anymore invoices to the Village.

11 **Motion by Trustee Pennington, second by Trustee Oliver to Approve Resolution #2019-04 –**
12 **A Resolution Terminating Plan Number 106428 with the ICMA-RC effective July 18th,**
13 **2018.**

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

15
16 **DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORTS:**

17
18 **John McDonnell – Building Commissioner**

19
20 **Event Permit – Cathedral of Joy Family Life Center – Community Day Fun Fest – 20401**
21 **Western Avenue – August 17th, 2019 from 10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. –** Mr. McDonnell stated
22 that we have an Event Permit from the Cathedral of Joy Family Life Center. They are proposing
23 a Community Day Fun Fest at 20401 Western Avenue, which is the location of the Cathedral of
24 Joy on August 17th, from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. They have had this event there before. The
25 Village has not had any problems with the event, or trouble at the event. It is a pretty short event
26 for one day that they are asking for. There was no one present from the Cathedral of Joy.

27
28 Village President Burke stated that just so everyone understands, events by organizations are
29 permitted. You have to go through the motions to get a permit. This is standard procedure.

30 **Motion by Trustee Thomas, second by Trustee Pennington to Approve the Event**
31 **Application Submitted by the Cathedral of Joy Family Life Center for the Community Day**
32 **Fun Fest at 20401 Western Avenue, on August 17th, 2019 from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.,**
33 **with the Understanding that the Certificate of Insurance Naming the Village as an**
34 **Additional Certificate Holder will be Provided before the Event.**

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

36
37 **Event Permit – Olympia Fields United Methodist Church – Car Show – 20301 Western**
38 **Avenue – July 28, 2019 from 3:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.; August 25th, 2019 from 3:00 – 7:00**
39 **P.M.; and September 29th, 2019 from 1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. –** Mr. McDonnell stated that he
40 has another Event Permit for the United Methodist Church. You have already approved one
41 event at their location. This is a separate event at their location. It is a Car Show. It is at 20301
42 Western Avenue at the United Methodist Church. They have it in their parking lot. They are
43 proposing several dates. They would like to have a Car Show there on July 28th, from 3:00 P.M.
44 to 7:00 P.M.; August 25th, from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.; and September 29th, from 1:00 P.M. to
45 5:00 P.M. These are short events. He believes that most of the Board Members were here when
46 they spoke before. He doesn't think that the two new members were here when they spoke

1 before. They are part of the National Cancer Society he believes. There was no one present from
2 the United Methodist Church.

3 **Motion by Trustee Thomas, second by Trustee Oliver to Approve the Event Application**
4 **Submitted by the Olympia Fields United Methodist Church for a Car Show at 20301**
5 **Western Avenue on July 28th, 2019 from 3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.; August 25th, 2019 from**
6 **3:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.; and September 29th, 2019 from 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. with the**
7 **Understanding that the Certificate of Insurance Naming the Village as an Additional**
8 **Certificate Holder will be Provided before the Event.**

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

10
11 Trustee Pennington stated point of order; he didn't see an insurance document attached. Have
12 they provided it? Mr. McDonnell stated that he has the insurance documents from both parties,
13 the United Methodist Church, and the Cathedral of Joy.

14
15 **TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

16
17 **Building Department/Community Relations Commission – Trustee Finley** – Trustee Finley
18 stated that she did report, before she was elected to the Board, that the Community Relations
19 Commission had completed and produced the breakfast to thank the volunteers and to welcome
20 the new residents. It was held at the Country Club. It was well attended. Trustee Finley wanted to
21 thank the two leading members of the CRC who drove the organizing of that with the support of
22 the rest of the Commission. That is: Jody Markus and Andrea Davis. They did an outstanding
23 job. We applauded them at our meeting and when you see them, she hopes that you hug them up.
24

25 **Public Works/Park District – Trustee Matz** – Trustee Matz that she is so excited about the
26 funds that are being appropriated for Capital Bills from the Governor from the budget. Finally,
27 we get some money. That \$478,000.00 will come in handy especially for infrastructure
28 improvements such as water, sewer, and our facilities renovation and sidewalks. She is an avid
29 biker. Our bike paths need some tending to. They are dangerous. She is dodging bushes and
30 rocks. It is something we have to pay attention to. If we want to be a healthy Village, we have to
31 incorporate activities in our lives. She stated no matter that they say we are a Senior Citizen
32 Community; we still like to ride bikes. Trustee Matz stated that when Jim Landini gets back, we
33 will talk about what is going on with our streets, and how he is going to start taking those streets
34 and making them better.
35

36 **Olympia Fields Park District - Trustee Matz** stated that she is the liaison to the Park District.
37 She tries to find ways that we can partner with the Park District and shine a light on Olympia
38 Fields. One of the ways is we have to capitalize on the young families that come and utilize the
39 parks activities because they come from all over. She stated especially if they see something that
40 benefits their child and we are offering it. That gives them an opportunity to drive through our
41 neighborhood and say, "Hey, I might want to live here." The Chicago Southland Convention &
42 Visitors Bureau puts out a magazine. It is free. In the magazine the Park District can put
43 activities that they are having every month. This has a wide reach. They don't have to pay for it.
44 The Village doesn't have to pay for it. It is still bringing families to our community. She tries to
45 find ways to make sure that we can partner, and we can build our community with young
46 families. As we get older, we are going to need somebody to help sustain the Village and keep it
47 beautiful.

1 Village President Burke inquired whether or not the Park District had some kind of planning
2 event a couple of weeks ago. He stated that he didn't know if the citizens were aware of that. Not
3 many people attended.
4

5 Trustee Oliver stated that it was for the renovation of Sergeant Means Park. Trustee Matz stated
6 that she can't speak to it. They are looking to renovate Sergeant Means Park. She can get more
7 information about that. Trustee Oliver stated that he missed that meeting as well. It was a well-
8 publicized meeting that the residents should have gotten the information. They have a 2020 Plan.
9 They want to get citizen input in terms of what they want to do with the Sergeant Means Park.
10 They have had some renderings of some new ideas at the park. This is the time for the residents
11 to speak up about what they want that park to look like.
12

13 Trustee Matz stated that she doesn't know how they get that information out to the residents.
14 Trustee Oliver stated that he received a postcard. Village President Burke stated that he thought
15 that they were having some kind of a planning session. They were looking for the residents to
16 chime in. He stated that the Village gets about 11% of your tax bill. The Park District is 2%. You
17 should know about these things. You might want to give them a phone call to find out what they
18 are doing. He stated that what they are doing is for all of our benefit. At the same time, it is your
19 money. Trustee Matz stated that the Park District is a separate governing body. They are not a
20 part of Olympia Fields. She stated that she is invited to be there.
21

22 **Public Safety – Trustee Oliver** – Trustee Oliver stated that in lieu of the passing of Chief
23 Krull's son, we did not have a meeting the night that we were scheduled to meet. We heard the
24 following day that his son had passed. We opted not to meet. Trustee Oliver stated that we will
25 meet and he will have a formalized report in July.
26

27 Trustee Oliver asked Deputy Chief Morgan to pass this onto the Chief. Trustee Oliver stated that
28 for National Night Out in August, Jesus Garcia from the Park District, would like the Olympia
29 Fields Police Department to consider using one of the parks as a venue for that event.
30

31 **Passing of Chief Krull's Son** - Trustee Matz inquired whether or not the residents know that the
32 Chief lost his son. She stated perhaps we could have a moment of silence. The Police Chief lost
33 his son last Tuesday. His son was 25-years old.
34

35 Village President Burke stated that Chief Krull's son died about a week ago. The Chief is not
36 here today. The wake was Monday night. That's why we moved the Board Meeting to today
37 because a number of us went out there. There had to be easily, 3,000 people in line. He stood in
38 line for almost three hours to get up to where the Chief was. It was amazing at how many young
39 people were there. The whole town of Lemont basically was there. The majority of them were
40 young people his age. The funeral was yesterday. There were a number of people from the
41 Village that attended. Our hearts went out to the Chief. The Village President told the Chief that
42 he has a son. He just doesn't know what he would do if he lost his son. The fact that there was at
43 least 3,000 people there, showed that a lot of people really loved him. The Chief is not here. He
44 is, of course, distraught about this. He stated that 25 years old is too young not to be here
45 anymore. He is sure that the Chief would appreciate hearing any outpouring of sympathy that
46 you have. At the same time, he is a very private person. We didn't want to make a big deal out of
47 this right here, because he personally probably would not want that.

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

2
3 **March 2019 Financial Statements** – Trustee Pennington stated that we are 11 months into our
4 2018/2019 Budget. Tonight, he will be reporting the results of the revenues and expenses for the
5 Village of Olympia Fields for the period covering May 1st 2018, through March 31st, 2019.
6 Trustee Pennington stated starting with the General Fund, General Fund Revenues for this period
7 were favorable to budget projections by \$71,829.00, or 1% of Budget Plan. Budgeted revenues
8 for this period were \$6,005,425.00. Actual revenues received were \$6,077,254.00 for the period.
9 We saw revenue increases in sales tax, real estate tax, local use tax, and utility tax respectively
10 for the period. General Fund expenses were favorable to budget projections by \$316,895.00, or
11 6% of Budget Plan. Budgeted expenses for the period were \$5,702,351.00, while actual incurred
12 expenses were \$5,385,456.00 This resulted in a favorable Fiscal Year to date actual plus
13 encumbrance in the General Fund of \$691,798.00. The overall impact to the budget at 11-months
14 is a positive \$388,724.00.

15
16 **Water Fund** - Trustee Pennington stated that with respect to the Water Fund, the water revenue
17 fees for this period were unfavorable to Budget Plan by \$135,800.00, or 6% of Plan. That's in
18 the negative. Budgeted Water Fund Revenue for the period was \$2,353,416.00, while actual
19 realized revenue was \$2,217,616.00 This revenue deficit is due largely to lower water usage
20 projections for this period. Water Fund expenses were favorable to budget by \$94,943.00, or 5%
21 of Budget Plan. Budgeted expenses for the period were \$2,015,789.00, while actual incurred
22 expenses for the period were \$1,920,846.00. Fiscal Year to date actual plus encumbrance in the
23 fund is \$296,771.00. The overall impact to the budget for this period is a deficit \$40,857.00.

24
25 **Sewer Fund** - Trustee Pennington stated that with respect to the Sewer Fund, sewer revenue fees
26 for the period were unfavorable to Budget Plan by \$30,826.00. Budgeted revenue for 11 months
27 was \$1,539,333.00, while actual realized revenue was \$1,508,507.00, or 2% unfavorable to
28 Budget Plan. He stated that lower sewage usage projections for this period was the contributing
29 factor for this deficit. Sewer Fund expenses were favorable to Budget Plan by \$77,514.00, or 6%
30 of Budget Plan. Budgeted expenses were \$1,258,294.00, while actual incurred expenses were
31 \$1,180,781.00. This resulted in a Fiscal Year to date actual plus encumbrance in the Sewer Fund
32 of \$327,727.00 favorable. The overall impact to the budget in the Sewer Fund is a favorable
33 \$46,688.00 for this period.

34
35 **Non-Home Rule Sales Tax Fund** - Trustee Pennington stated that with respect to the Non-
36 Home Rule Sales Tax Fund, the realized revenues from the Non-Home Rule Sales Tax exceeded
37 budget projections by \$21,963.00, or 4% of Budget Plan. The Village budgeted \$559,167.00 in
38 NHR Sales Tax, and realized \$581,139.00 in actual revenues. There were no transfers or
39 expenses incurred during this period. Our Fiscal Year to date actual plus encumbrance in the
40 Non-Home Rule Sales Tax Fund is a positive \$581,130.00 in this fund. The Trustees have the
41 comprehensive detailed reports in your Board Packet.

42
43 **Report of Cash Balances** – Trustee Pennington stated that we also have the report of cash
44 balances, which shows the cash balances both by institution, and by interfund. Those figures
45 represent \$10,098,499.02 in the cash net in the Interfund, and \$10,089,560.24 in cash by
46 financial institutions.

47

1 **Finance Committee** – Trustee Pennington stated that the Finance Committee will be meeting on
2 June 29th to discuss the upcoming audit. Our audit team from Sikich is in the office now looking
3 at information pertaining to our overall budget which will come out later in the year.
4

5 Mrs. Zigras stated that we are currently working on closing out the year-end, April 30th, 2019.
6 We will have auditors here in July. They are scheduled to begin field work on July 8th. They will
7 be here for two weeks. She plans to have preliminary numbers ready to present to the Board for
8 the July 15th Board Meeting.
9

10 **Human Resources/Police Pension – Trustee Thomas** – Trustee Thomas stated that she has
11 two items. One is very high level. It is high level because it is intentional. We are in the process
12 of working with the union and negotiating. That is where we are. Just know, that as a Trustee,
13 she is making sure that we are doing the things that are going to be beneficial both to our
14 employees whom we value, but also will be feasible for us as residents who will have to bear the
15 costs. She stated that after this meeting don't come to her and ask her any questions. When you
16 are negotiating and going through a union process, that is high level proprietary information. She
17 stated that she will give you the same answer to wait and see how it pans out.
18

19 Trustee Thomas stated that another bit of information that she would like to share, on Tuesday,
20 June 18th, Metra/Pace and Cook County will be hosting a Community Town Hall event.
21 President Preckwinkle is very dedicated to what use to be the IC. The main line, the South
22 Chicago Line, and the Blue Island Line, we have had constant issues with them regarding
23 ridership and access to transit. That has an impact on the economics in the southland. It is very
24 interesting to know that the social economic status of individuals in Cook County is better than
25 those individuals in south Cook County. That has to do with several factors. One of the factors
26 that has been determined, it is access to employment along with some of the other issues that we
27 are dealing with which the Village at this level can't solve. Those property tax reformers have to
28 be addressed by the County and State Legislation. We have gotten their attention. Hopefully,
29 there will be something coming. In the meantime, she thinks that what happens in our
30 communities, we often miss opportunities because we don't speak up. We don't come out when
31 there is an opportunity for us to come out, and we don't voice our opinion. The intent of this is to
32 share information and to present to the community what would it look like if there was a way to
33 be able to access Metra and Pace. We know that Metra's services they say we are a little elite.
34 She stated that for full transparency, she works for Metra.
35

36 Trustee Thomas stated that if there was a way for individuals to use Pace and then transfer to
37 Metra and the fare was minimal, or no fare. This is what this session is going to be about. It will
38 be at the Harvey Library. There are two sessions. The sessions will repeat the same information
39 both times. She has some fliers. We tried to identify a location where there is a Pace turnaround.
40 There is the big Pace turnaround in Harvey. There are other areas where there are Pace
41 connections. Trustee Thomas believes this will be a great opportunity for all residents in the
42 southland to come out. It will send a message to Cook County, to Metra, to Pace, to the elected
43 officials, that this is something that the taxpayers want. When the Capital Bill was passed in
44 Springfield, we were happy to see a Capital Bill which the State of Illinois had not had in 11
45 years. Cook County had also petitioned for funds to help them support the goals of their initiative
46 with this program. They also received \$100,000,000.00 from the State to move this forward. She
47 encouraged everyone to take a flier. If it doesn't fit you, pass it along to someone else that could

1 benefit. People that are looking for jobs in the northland right now, there are companies like
2 Abbot and Abbvi, they are begging for young people to come that way. They came and asked us
3 for a special service, a reverse commute, that would allow people to come out and to get back
4 home. Trustee Thomas stated that she will be there.

5

6 **Beautification/Educational Commission – Trustee Watkins** – Trustee Watkins stated that she
7 had a very busy month. You should have her Trustee Report. If you don't have it, there is a copy
8 upfront. The first two pages are facility options presented at the Board Meeting of 227. Her
9 suggestion is to review those options. She isn't going to go into them. She recommends attending
10 their Board Meeting.

11

12 Trustee Watkins stated that on May 15th she met with President Burke. They met in his office for
13 over two-hours. She got input on his vision for the Educational Commission, as well providing
14 him with some of her thoughts and ideas regarding the Commission. After reviewing the
15 Minutes, it was apparent that there was a lack of a quorum. She stated that per the EC Ordinance,
16 membership should be at 15 standing members with a two-year term. We only have seven
17 members. She presented her recommendation letter for approval to send out to potential
18 members on behalf of herself with the approval of Village President Burke. She left the meeting
19 feeling very positive about the direction and our conversation.

20

21 Trustee Watkins stated that on May 18th she had a meeting with Trustee Oliver to go over the
22 Educational Commission. She stated that being a newly elected official appointed to the
23 Educational Commission, Trustee Oliver was very thorough and informative. She appreciates
24 Trustee Oliver for sharing his knowledge and expertise as it relates to the Educational
25 Commission.

26

27 Trustee Watkins stated that on May 29th, 2019, the Educational Commission held its first
28 meeting in over a year at the Village Hall. Under the Burke Administration the Educational
29 Commission spent 2018 in planning mode and charting a new course of action for 2019. This
30 Superintendent meeting represents the first step towards the future under her as liaison, and led
31 by Fred Veazey as Chairman. Minutes were not submitted for this meeting. She emailed notes to
32 the Commission Chairman, the Commission members and the Village.

33

34 Trustee Watkins stated that on June 4th, President Burke called a "Special Meeting" to arrange a
35 debriefing of the Superintendent meeting as quickly as possible to Chairman Veazey. The
36 committee chose the date. This recap meeting was a discussion of the Superintendent meeting, as
37 no official minutes were complete and Chairman Veazey had not viewed the recorded tape.

38

39 On June 5th, Trustee Watkins sent a memorandum which she gave to all of the Trustees this
40 evening, recommending the following prospective volunteers for the Educational Commission.
41 This was going back to her meeting with President Burke on May 15th. There are 15 standing
42 members. We currently have eight vacancies and seven expired terms on the Educational
43 Commission. Standing members according to the Ordinance should be 15 serving a two-year
44 term. While this may seem like a lot, we all know that not everyone will be able to make every
45 meeting. By keeping this number at 15 this will allow the Educational Commission to
46 consistently meet a quorum. Trustee Watkins stated that she is recommending the following
47 eight Olympia Fields residents for new appointments as standing members to fill the vacancies.

- 1 1. Rudy Sagers is a 15-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mr. Sagers has been a substitute teacher
2 for over 20 years. He is a former IBM employee serving as an Advisory Marketing
3 Representative. Some of Mr. Sagers achievements and activities include Project Management
4 and Sales. He will be a great asset to the Commission.
5
- 6 2. Joyce Nelson is a 20-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Nelson is currently the Education
7 Administrator/Principal at the State of Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice. Mrs. Nelson's
8 strengths are mobilizing administrators, teachers, school staff, students, parents and community
9 members towards the goal of developing a common vision for educating our youth.
10 Trustee Watkins thought that Joyce Nelson would be a good candidate for recommendation
11 based on the Superintendent meeting and some of the concerns that Superintendent Johnnie
12 Thomas had with the children. He wants to build a relationship with the State of Illinois
13 Department of Juvenile Justice and that is where she works.
14
- 15 3. DeShonda Wright is a four-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Wright holds a Doctorate of
16 Education from Governors State University and a Masters of Arts from U of I. Mrs. Wright
17 serves as Lead and Mentor Instructor at Southland College Prep. Mrs. Wright will be a great
18 addition to the Commission. We are trying to build relationships with Southland College Prep.
19 Dr. Blondean Davis is the Superintendent. It makes sense to have someone from the school on
20 the Commission.
21
- 22 4. Veneeta Phelps is a 15-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Phelps holds a Masters in
23 Education Administration. Mrs. Phelps is the Assistant Principal of the Barack Obama School of
24 Leadership and STEM. Mrs. Phelps understands that education is a fundamental part of our lives
25 that needs specific attention and changes for this generation to understand its importance. We
26 will be extremely lucky to have her. At the Superintendent meeting again, both Superintendents
27 stated that the test scores in Math and Science are very low in our community. She stated that to
28 have someone that is heading up the Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM makes
29 perfect sense.
30
- 31 5. Lisa Shepard is a five-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Shepard is a graduate of
32 Tuskegee University and an active member of Jack & Jill of America, Inc. Mrs. Shepard is the
33 CEO of Red Karma Inc. salon located in Chicago. Mrs. Shepard is especially interested in the
34 Educational Commission because she has young children, and she wants to be a part of
35 impacting and positively influencing the decisions that will not only affect her family, but
36 families of those like hers. Trustee Watkins stated that one of the things that she and President
37 Burke talked about is that there are a lot of people that are retired. They don't have skin in the
38 game and kids in the system. Mrs. Shepard can be that voice on the Commission.
39
- 40 6. Gale Baker is a 24-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Baker is a retired Chicago Principal.
41 With a strong commitment for education, Gale continued her studies and earned two Masters
42 Degrees specializing in Special Education and Administration. Under her leadership as principal,
43 Ronald H. Brown Academy went from a school on academic probation to one of the seven
44 highest performing schools in the City of Chicago. Trustee Watkins stated that she serves with
45 Gale Baker on the HOA for The Trails. She has great work ethic. The fact that she is
46 volunteering her services, we will be lucky to have her as well.
47

1 7. Linda Walker is a 12-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Walker is a retired Elementary
2 School Principal. Mrs. Walker brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, and is aligned with
3 the mission of the Educational Commission to promote education excellence.

4
5 8. Laura Willis Moss is a 10-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Moss serves as mathematics
6 teacher for St. John's Lutheran School in Country Club Hills. She is a retiree of Thornton
7 Township High School. Mrs. Moss wants to create a marketing plan highlighting the great
8 accomplishments of our schools to attract more students. That was another area that the
9 Superintendents talked about, not branding and getting out information. She thinks that Mrs.
10 Moss will be an excellent addition to the Commission as well.

11
12 Trustee Watkins is recommending that the following two Olympia Fields residents be appointed
13 as standing members to replace current expired term standing members: We have seven standing
14 members. The terms are supposed to be two-years according to the Ordinance. She is new. She
15 can only go by the Ordinance on the books. She stated that Fred Veazey was appointed 9-1-2007.
16 Cheryl Rutherford was appointed 9-1-2007. Doris Langon was appointed 10-11-2010. Delores
17 Woods was appointed 1-14-2013. Donald Ransford was appointed 8-25-2014. Tanya Davis was
18 appointed 4-5-2016. Kijuana Marshall was appointed 1-30-2017. All standing members were not
19 reappointed. There is no paperwork on that so their terms are expired.

20
21 Trustee Watkins stated that Janice Preston is a 25-year resident of Olympia Fields. Ms. Preston
22 served 18 years as a Principal in elementary education and is currently a Board Member of Rich
23 227. As a lifelong educator, Ms. Preston has a strong commitment to lifting the academic quality
24 of our students. Ms. Preston is being nominated to replace Delores Woods as a 227 Board
25 Member. Delores Woods is on the Board. That was her recommendation.

26
27 Trustee Watkins stated that Vanessa Byrd is a 13-year resident of Olympia Fields. Mrs. Byrd is a
28 current Guest Speaker and Primerica Financial Services Representative. She holds a Bachelors
29 Degree from U of I in Marketing and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and past
30 President of Jack & Jill of America, Inc. Mrs. Byrd is committed to the children of Olympia
31 Fields. Her background has been a catalyst of her determination to assist in making our schools
32 TOP Notch. As you can see, she has recommended nominations for quality individuals. Trustee
33 Watkins stated and not taking away from anyone that is currently on the Commission, but going
34 by the Ordinance, all terms have expired.

35
36 Trustee Watkins stated that she is recommending that two Olympia Fields residents be
37 considered for appointment to replace expired term members submitted prior: These two
38 applications came in before Trustee Watkins.

39
40 Constance Means has been a resident of Olympia Fields for eight-years. She is a retired teacher.

41
42 Dr. Faye Hughes application was received on April 3rd. She has been a resident of Olympia
43 Fields for over 30-years. She has a Doctorate in Education. Trustee Watkins stated some really
44 great people in our community, and the fact that they want to volunteer, she thinks that we
45 should open the floor up and allow people to be a part of the conversation and move the
46 Educational Commission forward. There haven't been any minutes in over a year because they

1 have not met a quorum. In order to meet a quorum, you have to have four people. She is going
2 by the paperwork that was provided to her by the Village.

3
4 **Beautification Committee** – Trustee Watkins stated that on June 6th the Beautification
5 Committee held a meeting. Chairman Arlene Burke called it an “Orientation” Committee
6 meeting to introduce her to the BC team. Under the leadership of Chairman Burke, the members
7 were very professional, welcoming, and presented her with an agenda, and a calendar, along with
8 the history of the Committee. Each member thanked Trustee Watkins for calling and introducing
9 herself, which is what she did for all of the members of the Beautification Committee, as well as
10 the Educational Commission.

11
12 Trustee Watkins stated that the Committee is gearing up for the Summer Landscape Award
13 Program. The Summer Landscape Award Program is held annually in the spring/summer. The
14 award is presented to a homeowner who represents the Village and their neighborhood. Each
15 Homeowners Association selects three to six homes to represent their association. The top three
16 homes in the Homeowners Association will have a sign placed in their yard. The top homes
17 chosen by each Homeowners Association are reviewed by the Beautification Committee to select
18 the top three homes village-wide.

19
20 **Newly Elected Officials Workshop** – Trustee Watkins stated that on June 8th she attended her
21 Newly Elected Officials Workshop. She and Trustee Finley were there. It was a wonderful
22 experience. Our Village Attorney John Murphey was one of the speakers. Trustee Watkins
23 thanked Mr. Murphey because he had a very interactive training workshop. He had it set up like
24 Jeopardy. Mr. Murphey did a very good job with that. The training was given by the South
25 Suburban Mayors and Managers Association. In addition to the workshop, it was extremely
26 valuable to see and hear what other municipalities are doing that works and what doesn’t work.
27 These are some of her takeaways from this training:

28
29 1. Most municipalities have two or three meetings. Olympia Fields is the only southland
30 municipality that has only one meeting. For example, Park Forest meets on the 1st, 3rd, and 4th
31 Monday. Flossmoor meets on the 1st and 3rd Monday, et cetera. Trustee Watkins recommends
32 going back to twice a month meetings to increase communication between the Board Members
33 and the staff.

34
35 2. Other municipalities send weekly departmental, Commission and Committee updates via
36 email to “all” of the Trustees so that they have no surprises on the agenda. She talked to someone
37 from Park Forest. He gets notifications on his cell phone every week from Park Forest saying
38 this is what is going on in this committee. This is what is going on in that Committee. She
39 thought it was great. Trustee Watkins recommends that we model our communication after Park
40 Forest. They receive updates via text and email on everything happening at the Village, and on
41 the other Committees and Commissions. She also recommends that we adopt a Transparency
42 Ordinance.

43
44 3. According to Attorney Murphey, the Board of Trustees can add to the agenda by contacting
45 the Administrator to add the item. This does not require Mayor approval. She learned that at the
46 workshop. Both she and Trustee Finley asked the question twice. Trustee Watkins recommends

1 that the Administrator sends an email to the entire Board of Trustees asking if we have anything
2 to add to the agenda before it is printed.
3

4 4. Every six months the Board of Trustees is suppose to review the Closed Session Minutes and
5 release items that are not private. Trustee Watkins recommends that we implement this process.
6

7 5. It is recommended by Attorney Murphey that elected officials have a city cell phone and not
8 use our personal cell phones. Trustee Watkins recommends that all of the Board of Trustee
9 members receive a city cell phone. She stated whether they use it or not, she would use hers. She
10 has opted out taking a salary as Trustee. She stated that to have her cell phone paid for would be
11 great. (There was a round of applause).
12

13 Trustee Finley inquired of Trustee Watkins whether or not the Educational Commission that she
14 is the liaison to, is that one where you vote, or you do not vote. Trustee Watkins stated that she
15 doesn't vote on that one. Trustee Finley inquired of Trustee Watkins the recommendations of
16 these amazing people, does that enjoy the endorsement of the actual Chair of the Educational
17 Commission. Trustee Watkins stated no. When she went over the Minutes from the past, she told
18 Trustee Oliver that she found all of his information where he made recommendations to the
19 President. She is new. She is reading. She is learning. She is reading Ordinances. She is going by
20 what we have done prior. These are her recommendations. President Burke is the one to appoint.
21 These are her recommendations. In prior years, the President trusted the recommendations of his
22 fellow person. She just did what was done in the past. Trustee Watkins stated that these questions
23 that we are asking now, if we had the two meetings, we would have all of this taken care of.
24 There is a lack of communication. The fact that we have to ask these types of questions in front
25 of the public just solidifies what she is saying.
26

27 Trustee Finley stated that it is not so much a lack of communication, it is just that it is here and
28 we are sharing it with the public. She doesn't see any reason not to continue to share with the
29 public. Trustee Watkins stated that's perfect. Trustee Finley stated that we went to deep dish
30 training of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association. It was deep. It was thorough.
31 It was heavy. She wanted lunch but they didn't get it. One of the things that was pretty clear, we
32 got a general explanation of what can be done by any of the Villages that were in attendance.
33 What wasn't there was the specific cut on how individual Villages do everything that they do.
34 She viewed it as an overview more so than a recipe for what all of us need to do all of the time.
35

36 Trustee Watkins stated that this is her report. This is what she is communicating. She spoke with
37 people that work in Park Forest. She got everybody's card. She worked the room. After that
38 meeting, she met with three people from Park Forest. This wasn't where somebody just spoke up
39 on a stage and talked to her. She had one-on-one conversations with these people. After the
40 meeting, we went out and we talked for three hours. That's what she does. She likes to partner
41 with people. She likes to collaborate with people and she likes to get information. In your report
42 you can report on yours. This is her report. This is what she said. (There was a round of
43 applause).
44

45 Trustee Thomas inquired of Mr. Murphey for clarification to her, if the Ordinance says that it is a
46 two-year term and they have expired, she just needs to understand, if we have Chairs who have
47 not been reappointed, and they are just there, what does that mean. Does it default if they are not

1 reappointed? Does it default that they can stay on the committee if they are not reappointed? Mr.
2 Murphey stated that they are considered holdovers. Under the law, appointees serve their term
3 until their successor is appointed and qualified. We talked about that last Saturday. Trustee
4 Watkins stated yes. Mr. Murphey stated that's what is referred to as a "holdover appointee."

5
6 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**
7

8 Village President Burke opened Public Comment at 8:35 P.M.
9

10 Mr. Robert McCullough stated that effective May 16th he was bestowed the honor of becoming
11 the Arcadia Homeowners Association President. (There was a round of applause).
12

13 **Arcadia Homeowners Association Meeting** - Mr. McCullough stated that he has extended an
14 invitation to the Village Administration to attend their next meeting on Tuesday, June 18th, at
15 7:00 P.M. He submitted an inquiry to get the Village President's schedule to see if he can
16 accommodate them in a meeting. Village President Burke stated that he will be there. Mr.
17 McCullough stated that Arcadia is one of the subdivisions who is voluntarily paying dues. They
18 are not deeded. There are some issues. As the new Homeowners Association President, he is
19 covering things. He stated that there aren't too many of the homeowners from that subdivision
20 here tonight. It's important that you make contact with him immediately. He is posted on the
21 website. He stated to please contact him as soon as possible. Mr. McCullough stated that we
22 have had a weekly meeting every Tuesday starting from May 16th. The meeting on June 18th will
23 be at the Old Village Hall. If he knows who is coming, he can post an agenda for that meeting, so
24 that you will know what the meeting will be about.
25

26 **Status on the Wall** - Ms. Constance Means stated that she is President of the Maynegaite
27 Property Owners Association. They are still concerned about the wall. The wall is still gaping
28 open. There have been no updates on the progress with what is going on. She understands
29 through rumor, that that property changed hands possibly. She just needs to know what we are
30 going to do about that ugly wall out there that is having an adverse effect on her property values.
31 It seems to her that with the taxes she pays, somebody should call somebody to have the wall
32 demolished if we can't do any better. She stated that if that wall crumples and hurts someone we
33 are going to be busy paying a lawsuit, or paying attorneys to defend a lawsuit. That to her is silly,
34 and not a very good use of funds. She doesn't understand what the holdback on this is. Why is it
35 that we can't get that thing going? Why are we asking part of our Village, that does represent
36 other areas in our Village, to continue to put up with a slum condition? That makes no sense to
37 her. The cost on those homes in Maynegaite is quite extensive. That property on many areas
38 abuts right up to the Olympia Fields Country Club. She is not understanding anything, because
39 she too is not getting information. It is not coming forth. She gets silence. She hears crickets.
40

41 Ms. Means stated that she needs to know, President Burke, when you are really going to
42 sincerely sit down with us again to update us on what is going on with that wall, with the
43 property behind the wall which is often times used for a dump. What is going to happen with the
44 development of The Reserves Maynegaite which abuts up to Maynegaite properties? This is not
45 an attractive situation. We can't do anything to make it attractive, and it is not safe. It hasn't
46 gotten any safer. Silence does not help the safety of the wall at all.
47

1 Village President Burke asked Mr. McDonnell if he would give the people from Maynegaite
2 another update as to where we are with the legal situation. Mr. McDonnell stated yes. Ms. Means
3 inquired of Mr. McDonnell whether or not he could put that in writing to them. Mr. McDonnell
4 stated yes. Ms. Means stated thank you.

5
6 Village President Burke stated just so you have an understanding of some of the things that are
7 going on in the background, we have several individuals who are attempting to get hold of
8 various properties in the Village to build less than 2,000 square foot homes. Your neighborhood
9 over there is being targeted to do that. Ms. Means stated that's nice to know.

10
11 Village President Burke stated that there's a number of people, Olympia Club, your
12 neighborhood, and a couple of other places, including Graymoor where people are testing our
13 zoning, and testing what goes on in terms of homes. In this Village we have 90 people who are in
14 the process of losing their homes because they can't pay their taxes. Eight of which are senior
15 citizens. There's another two or three times that many people who are in foreclosure of some
16 type. There's another group of people who are in a position where their loved ones have died, or
17 moved into a senior citizen facility, and all three of these are putting an adverse amount of stress
18 on everybody's housing values, because they are all being sold at depressed prices.

19
20 Village President Burke stated that he asked Trustee Finley, as part of the CRC, to look into it.
21 We are going to change the direction on a number of these Committees. They will come before
22 the Board. Those things that are germane to all of us doing those things that protect our property
23 values, we are going to change some of these Committees. Making recommendations on some of
24 these Committees, if it doesn't make sense to what our current problems are, those Committees
25 may not exist as they stand today. In the case of the CRC Committee, he has asked Trustee
26 Finley to look into it, to try to figure out a way to come up with programs that will be beneficial
27 to affect those three areas. He stated that the South Suburban Housing Organization has
28 seminars. They have grants. They have all kinds of things to help people keep their homes. We
29 have a number of people who feel that they are immune to some of these things. The upkeep of
30 The Reserves, which is outside of Maynegaite, but it leads up to it, that is on the radar. Mr.
31 McDonnell will send you a letter. We've had a meeting. We talked about trying to clean up all
32 those fences. We cut trees down over there. We have discussed things like tearing that fence
33 down, and turn it into a park. Just make it an open park. Everybody needs to understand that.
34 There are other things that are equally important that will affect your property values in addition
35 to what you might be referencing in terms of that wall that's over there. There is an assault on the
36 Village of Olympia Fields with people on the outside to take advantage of available lots, to come
37 in and undermine the sizes of the homes that are in the Village and your property values.

38
39 Village President Burke stated that no one is sitting around being quiet about some of this stuff.
40 We don't want to create an alarm about things. He asked Mr. McDonnell to come up and state
41 where we are on it, so that it is perfectly clear what the situation is with that property over there
42 and the fence. There's a game being played. Part of the game is to try to get a hold of the land so
43 that people can come in and build substandard homes.

44
45 Ms. Means stated to possibly consider that the homeowners associations of those smaller bodies
46 that feed into the larger body, when you don't communicate with us, these things that you know
47 we can't help with, but perhaps communicating with us what is going on as it is happening, will

1 help us to also be able to plan and be proactive in getting some plans together that may offset a
2 lot of that.

3
4 Village President Burke stated that what he is telling you is happening in the last 30 days. Ms.
5 Means stated that her point is around communication. When we ask for an audience, we are
6 asking because we just need to know what is going on. It doesn't have to happen here. The fact
7 that the Homeowners Associations are empowered to do some things and to help with some of
8 these issues, if we know them, it is always to your disadvantage to have to know it after the fact
9 because then you can only react. She would rather proact.

10
11 Village President Burke stated that Mr. McDonnell has been all over this. We had a meeting here
12 in the Village where we discussed some things. Some of these things have been addressed and
13 fixed. There were houses inside of Maynegaitte that needed to work on their fences. The Reserves
14 is an independent subdivision that some games are being played with the ownership of that. He's
15 traced it down. We kind of know what is going on. It is also being augmented by some things
16 that some other developers are trying to do because these lots have gotten to be very inexpensive.
17 There are at least three groups that are trying to get a hold of these properties to do things that are
18 not in our best interest. He stated that he can't get into too many more details on that because it
19 could be a problem.

20
21 Ms. Means stated that she understands. She doesn't want to be all night and hog the mic. She
22 will appreciate more forthcoming communication where she doesn't have to do this when she
23 approaches. Village President Burke stated that he asked Trustee Finley to put together a
24 program. Ms. Means told Mr. McDonnell that she needs to be updated consistently. She stated
25 that whomever needs to update her, update her. She needs to know so that she can do the kind of
26 planning that she needs to do to be proactive in all of this. She likes the idea of a park out there.
27 She will do some work.

28
29 Village President Burke stated that he wants to finalize this to say that as a former President of a
30 Homeowners Association, and Treasurer, 15 years, he knows the value of what the Homeowners
31 Association Presidents should do. Under Lee Langon, there is a Homeowners Association group.
32 We use to meet. That was where a lot of information was disseminated among the Homeowners
33 Association Presidents. That communication needs to exist. The Trustees that are up here, they
34 all have a responsibility in an area. They are giving reports that they weren't necessarily being
35 given before. Trustee Finley has the responsibility to work with the community on this particular
36 subject. Ms. Means stated that she and Trustee Finley will be meeting quite a bit, or
37 communicating quite a bit about that. She would like to end this whole thing. She doesn't want
38 to be on the wall as long as Mr. Trump is on his wall. She would like to solve that before that.
39 Ms. Means thanked the Board for hearing her out.

40
41 Mr. Lee Langon stated that he is the President of the Olympia Club Homeowners Association.
42 He has concerns concerning this Jewel Plaza. We had a meeting that turned into a Town Hall
43 when we wanted to spend \$400,000.00 to buy that property. Apparently, that didn't happen. We
44 got a lot of feedback. We had public opinion. Now, we come back with \$200,000.00, and we had
45 absolutely zero public opinion. One of the new Trustees told him once that transparency is
46 overrated. Do you think so? This Jewel Plaza what are we going to do with it? In a few weeks
47 it's going to sunset. He was all for buying it because we supposedly had a bona fide business that

1 was going in. Mr. Langon inquired of Village President Burke whether or not we have a Letter of
2 Commitment, or a binding contract from a reputable business that wants to go into that property
3 right now, that we are spending \$200,000.00 of taxpayers' money without any public input.
4 Village President Burke stated that we do not have a contract with anybody because we don't
5 own anything. You can't have contracts with people without ownership of the property. One of
6 the problems here, is that in order to move forward on doing any development, people either do
7 it as individuals on their own, or they get some incentive that the Board weighs in on to move
8 forward. One of the issues about this property, is that if we own the property, we can enter into
9 negotiations with all kinds of people about that. As far as a bona fide person or company that
10 wants to move in, the particular individual that came to the Board Meeting that is a resident of
11 the Village of Olympia Fields, has four Culvers. He lives here. He wants to build a Culvers in his
12 neighborhood. He has expressed interest. He came to the Board and talked about that. When you
13 say, "bona fide," he doesn't know how much more you are going to get than having a person
14 who lives here that says that they want to do this.

15

16 Village President Burke stated that as far as the Village entering into any contract with him, he
17 can't enter into a contract with anybody because he doesn't own anything. The Village doesn't
18 own anything.

19

20 Mr. Langon inquired of Village President Burke; did we have a developer that's interested in
21 that. And if not, why couldn't we wait weeks for this sunset? Why are we spending \$200,000.00
22 of the taxpayer's money which you just did by basically putting the vote over with your vote, the
23 only time you can vote when it is three to three, not allowing public comment? He thinks it is
24 very disrespectful not to hear the residents when you are spending taxpayer's money.

25

26 Mr. Langon stated that he is concerned with the lack of the citizens involvement and the input at
27 the Village Meetings, because you move the public comment to the end of the meeting when all
28 the business is done. It is moot. He is up here, he stated that it doesn't mean a thing. He wants to
29 go on record, that we should not spend money without public input. You guys know that. If you
30 are here to push things through, have a nice two years, because that is about what it is going to
31 be.

32

33 **Metra Pond** - Mr. Langon stated that his third subject is you have a contract with Metra to
34 manage that Metra Pond. That pond is in atrocious condition. We have algae, muck, and
35 everything else. We have mosquitoes that are as big as houseflies. When can we expect that pond
36 to be maintained? That pond actually, is one of three that is connected. You ran on a promise that
37 you were going to address stormwater management. These are stormwater management ponds.
38 He hasn't seen one iota where the Village spent one penny on something that is going to benefit
39 the residents with the stormwater management. We need something done about that pond. It's
40 your responsibility to do it. You have a contract with Metra to do it. These ponds are
41 interconnected. We want to see some action. He has been asking about this for years, not just
42 your administration, but Debbie's and Linzey. You ran on you are going to do something.

43

44 Village President Burke stated that by the next meeting you may have something that shows
45 whose responsibility it actually is. We will move forth.

46

1 Mr. Langon stated that will be really nice to know that, because he is not, and none of the
2 Olympia Fields residents are responsible for stormwater management running into the pond
3 that is behind us and the residents are suppose to maintain it. That is absolutely ludicrous. You
4 agree with this. You know this. And you refuse to do anything about it. He will be here every
5 month talking about this, until we do something about it, or hey, is Murphey still here? He knows
6 what the consequences are of these ponds. That's his comment. Mr. Langon would like Village
7 President Burke to move the public comment up forward. Don't try to play these games to run
8 votes through without public opinion. You are spending taxpayer's money. We don't give a
9 damn if it comes from a TIF or anything else, that's taxpayers' dollars, and we don't have
10 anything to show for it there. We bought a vacant piece of land. It has been vacant for 10 damn
11 years. Why couldn't we wait a few weeks and get it for nothing? Did you spend any money for
12 the land by the train station? No, you let it sunset. This is ludicrous, folks. You just wasted
13 \$200,000.00 plus of our taxpayers' dollars. (There was a round of applause).

14
15 **Comments by Mrs. Jenkins** - Mrs. Debra Jenkins stated that she resides at 3205 Brookside in
16 Maynegaitte. You talked about something that she has been in a mess dealing with. She had to
17 hire her own private attorney. It has to do with these lots that were taken over. She was not aware
18 of a lot of legal things that were going on because she was not attending the meetings. She stated
19 that had she done that, she probably would have known that that property was being transferred
20 over, all the vacant lots.

21
22 Village President Burke inquired of Mrs. Jenkins, which properties. Mrs. Jenkins stated that
23 these are some lots that she was told when she went downtown to the Treasury Department. It
24 was a foreclosure, Chancery Case. There were about 50 or 60 PIN Numbers that were involved,
25 supposedly all vacant lots. They were in The Reserves area. The area that you were speaking of.
26 That's the reason why she got up here. When she went to go pay her taxes, she was surprised that
27 her home that she pays a mortgage on every month, that she pays taxes for on time, had been
28 deeded effective January, 2019 to some gentleman. The attorney handled the transfer of deeds
29 for this property that was foreclosed on. It was deeded to someone named Antonio Sanchez. Her
30 property wasn't the only one that was done in error is what she was told. They gave her all of the
31 documents downtown at the Treasury Department. The foreclosure PIN Numbers were posted
32 several years ago. At the end of the posting, this attorney's firm took it over to do the handling of
33 the transferring of the deeds to the certificate holder. When he did that, this attorney, he
34 miswrote a lot of the different PIN Numbers from hers and about seven other properties in her
35 area. We had no idea. You would not know. Check your deeds. You have no idea that this had
36 happened. She had no idea what it was. She thought it was a simple mistake. She went down
37 there thinking she could have a piece of paper and have them correct it because they gave her all
38 of the documents. She contacted this attorney for six weeks. He refused to take her call. She had
39 to hire an attorney to fight this to get them to transfer her deed back into her name. As of today,
40 that property is not in her name. A Judicial Deed was issued to this strange person who was
41 buying lots. He knows he got more than lots. She has some of the PIN Numbers so she knows it
42 wasn't only her house. You just put the PIN in and the picture of the home shows, and you know
43 that these are your neighbors' homes. This man is now sending brokers around trying to sell
44 them. It is a very sad situation. She never would have thought that this could happen. Check your
45 deeds. Look at your stuff. Make sure that it is in order. She was told it was a simple mistake.

46

1 Mr. McDonnell stated that he knows what she is talking about. Village President Burke stated
2 that he doesn't know what the Village can do about it. Maybe we need to get a letter from him
3 and the Village Administrator, and get Mr. McDonnell involved to try to help fix this. He would
4 like to know who else is affected. Mrs. Jenkins stated that it isn't just in The Reserves. There are
5 other areas as well. There was an address on Western Avenue. She knows that is not in our area.
6 The ones that she was able to identify by looking at the picture, knowing it was a house and not a
7 lot. She was told that they should all be vacant lots and they were not. They are homes that they
8 literally took from people. They just took them. If you didn't know that, you never would have
9 known until you were going to sell, or someone was knocking on your door saying that your
10 property was sold. Mr. McDonnell will talk to her and find out who these people are.

11
12 Trustee Thomas asked Mr. McDonnell to tell us what is going on when he finds out. She stated
13 that it sounds like fraud. Mr. McDonnell stated that he will.

14
15 Mr. McDonnell stated that he knows exactly what she is talking about. It goes to the HOA
16 President for the Maynegaite Subdivision. This property was bought through a Judicial Sale. He
17 was not aware of the mistakes in the PIN Numbers that have affected her. Personally, he didn't
18 know that there was a mistake in the PIN Numbers. This gentleman did buy vacant land. He met
19 briefly with the gentleman, his attorney, and his builder to talk about building out the rest of the
20 subdivision and repairing the fence. This gentleman was not going to develop that property. He
21 was under the assumption that he was going to purchase that property and flip it to somebody
22 else that wants to either have that property for some reason, or to develop that property. It's
23 unfortunate that your home's PIN Number got mixed up in that. He can assure you that those
24 PIN Numbers did not get mixed up at Village Hall. He can assure you that our attorneys when
25 we did any agreements with the previous corporation that owned it, that our PIN Numbers are
26 correct on that. It's unfortunate that you got mixed up in some type of Judicial Sale mistake. He
27 spoke with the owner. He did tell Mr. McDonnell that he owned the home there. Mr. McDonnell
28 explicitly told him that he did not. He was mistaken that he owned the home. Mr. McDonnell
29 believes that the gentleman understands that he does not own her home. He wouldn't think that it
30 would be any kind of battle for her to get that fixed. That's the only scoop he has on that
31 property. The owner that owns the property that now owns the deeds on all those vacant lands,
32 he is not a developer. He works with a contractor that does some development. They mentioned a
33 development that they have going on right now in Tinley Park. He does build some homes. Mr.
34 McDonnell believes that the gentleman just wanted to flip this property quickly. He doesn't
35 believe that the gentleman wanted to develop it. His buyer that he was purchasing it ahead of
36 time for, and waiting for that purchase to go through, he doesn't think the person that was going
37 to purchase it from him was able to get any type of financing for that property.

38
39 Village President Burke stated that we will pursue it from the Village's point of view to do
40 something about that. You have your lawyer. We will act as an advocate also to push it along.
41 Mrs. Zigras gets involved with PIN Numbers and taxes. We can go back and see when, and
42 where these transactions occurred, and help Mrs. Jenkins document what she needs to help do
43 what she needs to go do. Mrs. Jenkins stated thank you.

44
45 **Removal of Tree** - Mr. Kyle Parker stated that he owns a home at 788 Brookwood. Some years
46 ago, a water pipe busted in his yard which was Olympia Fields property. When they went in
47 there, it came between two trees. They brought a machine that went deep down in there and did

1 what they needed to do to fix the pipe. After they fixed the pipe, maybe a year, year and a half
2 after that, his tree began to die. He talked to Mr. Ford. Mr. Ford said that he had to remove the
3 tree. The tree didn't start dying until after they came and tore the roots out to fix that pipe. He
4 doesn't think that he should be responsible for that. Mr. Ford stated that it was infested or
5 whatever. That tree was all right before they went in there. Mr. Parker thinks that the Village can
6 remove the tree or whatever you need to do. He doesn't think that he needs to be responsible for
7 that.

8
9 Village Administrator Saenz stated that our Public Works Director, Mr. Landini, is away at a
10 conference. She believes that he is due back in the office either tomorrow or Friday. She will
11 make sure that Mr. Landini has Mr. Parker's information. Mr. Landini can check the records and
12 get back to Mr. Parker. Mr. Landini will coordinate with Reggie. We will get to the bottom of the
13 issue and see exactly what has happened. Mr. Parker stated that sounds great. He has pictures if
14 they need them of the actual work. Village Administrator Saenz stated that she is sure that Mr.
15 Landini will have the work order in his files. Whatever information you can share with him will
16 be helpful. Mr. Parker thanked Village Administrator Saenz.

17
18 **Inquiries by Mr. Powell** - Mr. Jerry Powell stated that he lives in Olympia Woods. His address
19 is 791 Brookwood Terrace. He purchased a home in 2012. When he purchased the home there
20 were easements for storm drainage. It took until last year when Mr. Landini, Mr. McDonnell, and
21 a few others had to come out several times before they determined that this is the Village's
22 responsibility. He is a senior citizen. He had to clean up around 20-feet of easement that the
23 Village is responsible for. He likes to have property. He keeps it up. He tries at his age. He works
24 at it. Mr. Landini had people come and redo the drainage system. Mr. Powell is concerned about
25 the upkeep of the system. Is he responsible for utility maintenance areas, easements, drainage
26 systems? That's what he has been doing since 2012 when he first purchased the property. He is
27 getting older now and he can't do as much as he use to do. He really doesn't want to do it. He
28 wants to find out about utility easements and storm drainage systems. Who is responsible for
29 taking care of that area?

30
31 Mr. Powell stated that you had tremendous parkland in Olympia Woods. You didn't have to pay
32 \$200,000.00 for it. You don't have to do a purchase. You already own it since 1950. It's a
33 tremendous parkland. It has been neglected ever since the Country Club deeded it to the Village.
34 It took him three years. He stated that John McDonnell knows what he is talking about, the
35 parkland. Mr. Powell has been taking care of that also as much as he can because it is adjacent to
36 his property. He wants to know whether or not you intend to develop the parkland that the
37 Village already owns. He has been in real estate for a number of years. You spend \$200,000.00
38 and you have no idea, or you are holding it close to the chest about the development of it. He
39 stated that from what he heard tonight; you talk about young people moving in. You are talking
40 about places for young people to go. You are talking about purchasing, buying, and spending on
41 something that you have a vision for. How about the parkland that you already own? What vision
42 do you have for that? He has Plats of Survey that distinguishes all the parkland that was deeded
43 to the Village by the Olympia Fields Country Club. It surrounds it. It is near it. There is nothing
44 that has been done to it. He had to battle for four years, and finally Mr. Landini came through.
45 He likes him. He did what he said he was going to do. He stated that he and Mr. McDonnell
46 worked on several things because he wanted to improve the property. That's his thing. He is a
47 rehabber. This is his retirement home now. He goes in and fixes it up. He gets all the permits

1 from Mr. McDonnell. He shows Mr. McDonnell what he is going to do with it. And then
2 everything around it is to pot.

3
4 Mr. Powell stated that on that parkland that surrounds it, there are structures on it that people
5 have been utilizing since 1950. When he bought it, he was told that he can't utilize a shed that
6 was on the property. It was torn down. He built a new one on his property. Before he was able to
7 move into the property, he was told that he had to fix the shed. He fixed the shed. It passed. Now
8 the Village tells him he can't use it. They tore it down. He brought it to their attention that all
9 around the parkland people have been grandfathered with structures on the parkland. Why was
10 he excluded from being grandfathered? The demographics have changed. He moved in. He
11 would see his neighbors across the way. The neighbors told him that they were grandfathered in.
12 He said that the Village tore his shed down. He had \$500.00 in it. Is he going to be reimbursed?
13 Mr. McDonnell went to the lawyers and said no, you can't use it. We are not going to reimburse
14 you. He was out \$500.00 for a shed that he had to fix up in order to move into a house that he
15 purchased. He has records. He has been dealing with the administration before you guys. He is
16 happy to see you. This is one of his first times coming to a meeting. He doesn't like coming to
17 the city because he is too busy. He is too busy living his life as an old man. Time is precious to
18 him. He wants to know what you are going to be able to do with that parkland. He wants to know
19 if you are going to fix that easement, maintain it on a regular basis, not just every 50 years. Can
20 you tell me that, Mr. President?

21
22 Village President Burke stated that he is not the one that will go fix it. He will ask Cindy and
23 John McDonnell. We will have a meeting with you here at Village Hall, or we can come out to
24 your house and you can show us what it is that you are talking about. Mr. Powell stated that John
25 is very familiar with it. Village President Burke stated that he, along with Mr. McDonnell, Jim
26 Landini, and Cindy will come out and take a look at this to get a better understanding to see what
27 the story is. If you say it belongs to the Village, then that is one thing. It may belong to the Park
28 District. Mr. Powell stated that he did that dance already. The Park District told him if he finds
29 out who it belongs to tell them. Mr. Powell stated that he found out and he told them. Village
30 President Burke stated that when Mr. Landini comes back, we will get him and Mr. McDonnell,
31 and we will go over and take a look at it. Mr. Powell stated that he appreciates that.

32
33 **Comments on the Educational Commission** - Mr. Fred Veazey stated that he is a 24-year
34 resident of the Village. He is the Chairman of the Olympia Fields Educational Commission. He
35 wanted to address some inaccuracies in the report that was distributed by Trustee Watkins. She
36 mentioned that she got her information from Village Hall. There are some inaccuracies here. He
37 wanted to let everybody know a little bit more about the Educational Commission. It was formed
38 after a visioning session that was held in 2005. A lot of people from the Village got together and
39 talked about the future of the Village, and how we can make the Village better. It was decided
40 after that meeting that the Village would form an Educational Commission. Mr. Veazey was part
41 of the formation committee. There were eight of us that talked about what would be the focus of
42 the Educational Commission. After that work was done, the Ordinance was passed. The
43 Ordinance is very broad. It is kind of a wish list of what we would want it to be like.

44
45 Mr. Veazey stated that one of the things that Trustee Watkins mentioned was it is 15 members. If
46 you read the Ordinance, it is not just 15 citizens from Olympia Fields, even though all should be
47 residents. It asks for the Police Chief or a police officer. It asks for different types of people in

1 different levels of expertise that would be part of the Commission to give a broad nature to it. He
2 was one of the original members in 2006.

3
4 Mr. Veazey stated that right now the members of the Educational Commission are: Dr. Doris
5 Langon, Dr. Delores Woods, Kijuana Marshall, Cheryl Rutherford, Tanya Davis, and Don
6 Ransford. Trustee Watkins replaced Trustee Oliver who for probably 10 years was the Trustee
7 Liaison on the Commission. This Commission is the only Commission within the Village that is
8 trying to oversee, or provide input to an entity that has nothing to do with Olympia Fields. That's
9 important to know. Every effort we take has the opportunity to come up with a zero. He stated
10 whether it is District 227, or District 162, or District 205. We have six Districts that serve the
11 Village. None of them have to listen to anything that we say. Nonetheless, we have worked at it
12 over these years to try to impact the educational systems. It's a tough task, but we have over
13 time, just like the Ordinance started off with a certain wish of who is going to be on it, we
14 realized over time that the Ordinance really wasn't fitting the job that we could do. We realized
15 that 15 people was too many. We never got them there anyway. When you have 15 people, a
16 quorum is eight. When you have 13, a quorum is seven, which means that some could argue the
17 bigger the number the more difficult it is to conduct business. Even though the need for a
18 quorum is very important when you are making decisions, which aren't our decisions anyway,
19 they are the Trustees decisions. We make the recommendations. They go before the Trustees and
20 they make the decisions. We don't make a lot of decisions that require that. We are finding ways
21 to interact with the School Districts with suggestions, or programs, or whatever to make them
22 better. As Village President Burke looks at the idea of how many, it is a double-edged sword.
23 You want to have dedicated people that will do the work. That is more important than the
24 numbers.

25
26 Mr. Veazey stated that he doesn't want people to read the report and form their own impressions.
27 There was a meeting with District 227 where there was a presentation made regarding their
28 facility situation. We have three schools and only a little bit over 3,000 students. A long time
29 ago, they had closer to 5,000 students. Enrollment is continuing to diminish. The current
30 Superintendent has decided to take this task on which should have been dealt with 10 years ago
31 because the projections were starting to show the downward trend then. The problem that
32 Lincoln-Way has over there, and closing that school, at least they closed the school. We have not
33 done anything yet. That's what the Superintendent is looking into right now. You only have the
34 one page. This was what they considered a financial picture of what it would look like to the
35 taxpayers if different options were taken. Close this school. Close that school. There was no
36 decision made at that time. The people in the audience, and some of the Board Members,
37 mentioned that this needs to take into consideration the other factors. Option 6 that is on the table
38 is the deal with Lincoln-Way North. What does that do when you have no school in your
39 community? What does that do to students that are bussed three times as far as they currently
40 are? What does that do? There are a lot of factors. The Superintendent and the staff plan to hold
41 some informational sessions that will include that information. If they don't, the audience should
42 demand that those things be taken into consideration. This is probably the biggest decision in
43 education that will happen in this community for probably the next 20 to 25 years. Significant
44 decision. Something has to happen because you shouldn't operate three schools of an average of
45 1,000 apiece. It is totally inefficient. It is inefficient financially. It is inefficient educationally. It
46 just shouldn't happen.

47

1 Mr. Veazey stated that a few years ago, he looked at all the School Districts that had multiple
2 schools in the School District at the high school level. There was only one other School District
3 that had less than 1,800 students a school. That was Proviso. They were in trouble as well. Most
4 of the others, if they have multiple schools, they are going to be at 1,800 into 2,000 because then
5 you are able to offer programs that can reach more students, and you are able to focus a little bit
6 more. Keep in mind that this is just one small piece of what is coming. There was a flier. Ask
7 somebody at the Village to put it on the website, if it is not there already. Just call 679-5800.
8 That's the District Office. Ask them when the sessions will be held. They will let you know.
9

10 Mr. Veazey stated that on the report, right after the election, President Burke came to our
11 meeting and asked us to refocus and to examine what we should be doing as a Commission
12 within our means. For example, we had been putting on programs and we were spending. When
13 the Village has a \$7,000,000.00 budget and we are spending on Districts that have an
14 \$80,000,000.00 or \$60,000,000.00 budget. We tried to look at is it important that we spend the
15 money, or is it important that we generate the ideas and inspire them to do them. That's what we
16 came up with. We spent the better part of the last year, and we did meet, Trustee Watkins,
17 several times, just talking about what our future was. We are all very capable people. We have a
18 lot of different opinions. We respect one another. We wanted to make sure that it was a path that
19 we all feel comfortable with. Going to the report, on the May 29th entry it says that the meeting
20 we held with the Superintendents, which was the first time, and he has lived there for 24-years,
21 the two Superintendents whose Districts serve probably 90% of our students, were in the same
22 room at the same time. We wanted to make that happen because we have to increase the
23 communication with us in the Districts, and the Districts to each other. At that meeting, which
24 was not our first meeting in over a year, we pulled them together. He thinks that we had an
25 outstanding meeting. He thinks that most of the people felt that way as well. He stated that
26 minutes were not submitted at that meeting because it was a Special Meeting. We would not
27 have submitted minutes from a previous meeting to be approved at a Special Meeting.
28

29 Mr. Veazey stated that the June 4th entry where there was another Special Meeting at the
30 President's request, which was on the normal date we meet. He stated that for 13 years we have
31 met on the first Tuesday of each month. Trustee Watkins cancelled that date because she
32 couldn't make it and wanted us to meet at a later date. Trustee Watkins stated that's not the truth.
33 Mr. Veazey stated that the meeting was cancelled. The regular meeting. That date was open so
34 the members were able to meet on the first Tuesday with President Burke, and Trustee Watkins
35 was able to join us then. Again, it says, "No official minutes were completed, and I had not
36 viewed the recorded tape." Mr. Veazey stated that he is at the mercy of the Village. After a
37 meeting, he will call over to the Village, or he will send an email, asking for the tape on a disc. If
38 he doesn't get the tape, then he can't view it. He can't listen to it. He can't prepare minutes. He
39 got a call on Friday and he was on the road on his way out of town. He was told that the last
40 three meetings that had been taped were on a disc waiting for him to pick up. He just got back in
41 town last night. He will do that. He will review them and we will have minutes. The point is,
42 Minutes have been prepared for previous meetings.
43

44 Village President Burke stated that everybody is suppose to have about three minutes. He doesn't
45 want this to get into a debate between what Trustee Watkins said or what you said. As the Chair,
46 and your Commission, you guys are there. We are restructuring a lot of these Committees. He, as
47 the President, can make recommendations to the Board, and the Board can approve who is on

1 and who leaves. Right now, we still have to sort all of this out. He doesn't want to get into a
2 public debate about this right now. Mr. Veazey stated that he understands. Village President
3 Burke stated that you as the Chairperson, has the right to give your side of this. These
4 Committees are all very important. Village President Burke stated that you did what he asked
5 you to do. He and Trustee Watkins had discussions about having three things that we are going
6 to focus on. We are not going to water the desert. Village President Burke suggested that he, Mr.
7 Veazey, and Trustee Watkins get together to come up with what those three things are. There are
8 six School Districts that cover the Village of Olympia Fields. Each School District has a Board
9 of Education that was duly elected. Each School District has an Administrator that is paid at least
10 \$250,000.00. They all have principals and people that do things. It is not the Village's
11 responsibility to try to tell those School Districts what to do. We are going to get it down to just
12 three things that this Commission is going to work on. If it doesn't work out, he is going to shut
13 the whole Commission down. He can do that. It's not going to have a lot of fight over who said
14 what to whom. Just to kind of be respectful to everybody that is involved, if it does not work, he
15 can take people off of the Committees and Commissions. He can put people on the Committees
16 and Commissions with the advice and consent of the Board, and that includes Trustees. He is the
17 one that appoints the Trustees to these Committees and Commissions. If he decides as the
18 President and CEO to do that, he can do that. He appreciates his input. It is not being
19 disrespectful to you or Trustee Watkins. It is getting late. What we need to do is move on. You
20 have his assurance that the three of us will get together before anything gets done. He is the next
21 to the final arbiter about who is on these Committees and Commissions, and who is not on these
22 Committees and Commissions.

23

24 Mr. Veazey stated that he just thought that it was important that the factual information about the
25 work of this Commission, and the things that we have done, and the fact that we have had
26 meetings, we have had minutes, we are dependent sometimes upon other people. That's
27 important. He doesn't want 50 people walking out of here thinking that we don't meet, that we
28 don't do anything. Trustee Watkins stated that when you look on the website under "Minutes for
29 the Educational Commission," there is nothing there.

30

31 **Comments by Mrs. Eubanks-Pope** - Mrs. Sharon Eubanks-Pope stated that she has been a
32 resident of the Village for 24-years. She has a very diverse background that began in education.
33 She was a classroom teacher. She moved up to a supervisory position within the Chicago Board
34 of Education. She was a Certified Teacher. She did supervise 13 schools within the Chicago
35 Board of Education when it was divided into areas. She was with the Pre-school Program. She
36 left that and became an entrepreneur. She dealt with investment management, rehab, and
37 construction. She has been doing that for the last 40 some odd years. She has a varied
38 background.

39

40 Mrs. Eubanks-Pope stated that as she sits here and she listens to what is going on in this Village,
41 she has a perspective that she brings. She wants to be truly respectful of everyone who runs for
42 these offices and works for these offices. Her hat is off to you. It's something that she has no
43 desire to do. When she moved to the Village in 1994, she enjoyed the Village, the beauty of the
44 Village, the deer prancing through her yard. She would go to work and come home and not pay
45 any attention to what else was going on. Three years ago, she started to pay attention because she
46 began to visit these Board Meetings. In the process, Debbie Meyers-Martin was the Mayor at
47 that time. There was a real big hoopla, and everyone was celebrating about a TIF that had been

1 created in the Village. On the drawing Board was room for two or three more TIFs to be formed.
2 She served on the TIF Board in Chicago, in the Fourth Ward, under the appointment of Toni
3 Preckwinkle. She served on that TIF for at least six or eight years. Everything that came in the
4 Fourth Ward that was going to be constructed, came through their Board. They knew who was
5 going to do it, and how they were going to do it, and how their funds were going to be dispersed.
6 She feels that she comes with a bit of expertise as to what has been going on here.

7
8 Mrs. Eubanks-Pope stated that when she started attending the meetings, and respectfully, she
9 knows that Bob Waite passed as Trustee. Trustee Matz was appointed by our previous Mayor.
10 She remembers the elections in which the last two Trustees have been elected. She remembers
11 Trustee Thomas running, because there was a feeling among a good population here in this
12 Village, that we definitely needed some change. Our past Mayor was a beautiful person with a
13 beautiful personality. We had a Village Manager who was arranging and making deals, and she
14 is going to say it, just making deals that honestly, it became very difficult for us to be able to
15 even fulfill them because it was a great thing to create a TIF. Also, they had a developer that was
16 a "Preferred Developer." She stood in a meeting in this room and she asked, "How can you have
17 a multimillion dollar anything being done in this Village, and you are going to call on a preferred
18 developer. You are not going to have an RFP, a Request for a Proposal?" You are not going to
19 have several proposals coming so that the Village is not being raped? And our property taxes
20 were going up, up, up. In addition to that, our water bills were very high. A closer look and
21 examination of the water bills showed that our water bills were high because we paid truly for
22 the water, but part of that money was being moved into the General Budget. These were the
23 things that were going on. She knows they were going on. It is hard for her to sit and hear the
24 discord here. We are all citizens. We are all looking for a decent place to live. She is certainly
25 hoping that you all come together and you are on the same page.

26
27 Mrs. Eubanks-Pope stated that Mr. Mekarski who was our previous Village Manager, he would
28 come to this Board and speak with our previous President. He would say that he got a
29 \$500,000.00 Grant and he can do thus and so. But the project that he was proposing was a
30 multimillion-dollar project. There was absolutely no way that five anything was going to bring
31 all of that together. The people sitting in this room, and most of them, she has been coming here
32 consistently for three years, they were not attending these meetings. She is going to say it, and
33 maybe she overlooked it, but she never remembers Miss Matz, Miss Finley, Miss Thomas, or
34 Mrs. Watkins, she never remembers seeing them during that time that we were really up in arms
35 here in the Village. We have fought for things. She stated that Stoney is his personality. She
36 doesn't get into that. He is detailed. He has looked at the numbers. He is innovative. He does
37 have things that are coming forth that are very good. She thinks all of you do. She has observed
38 you. She has observed the things that you have said, and that you bring to this Board. She is
39 asking for you to please, have peace. Do what you have to do. Don't scramble and get up here
40 and fight in front of us. Let's make this Village work. She has said it many times. She hopes to
41 live out her years here. She has options. She truly has options.

42
43 Mrs. Eubanks-Pope stated that she has four children. It hurts her to her heart that none of them
44 have opted to come back to this Village to live. Her oldest daughter is a Diplomat. She serves
45 all over the world. Her immediate supervisor is the Secretary of State. That's how high her
46 position is. Her second daughter is an entrepreneur. She is an educator, recognized
47 internationally. She has created her own program which operates in three states, California, New

1 Jersey, and Chicago. She was recently named an Obama Fellow. Her son is a Professor at
2 Loyola. Her youngest daughter after she was done with education in marketing, decided to come
3 back and run their business. She is glad of that because she is ready to retire. Her children aren't
4 the only outstanding children that have come through this Village. She served six years on
5 Marion's Board. She is familiar with public, private, and parochial schools. She taught in a
6 private school, as well as a public school. She was part of the Independent School Conference.
7 That's broad experience. You would hope that your children wanted to come back here to live.
8 When her second daughter got married, she got on the internet and looked at the statistics. She
9 said, "Mom, I can't do that. I have to be able to give my children a good advantage." This school
10 system is something that really does need attention. There is no reason to operate three schools
11 with 3,000 students. There is no reason to haul Will County's ashes trying to buy that school
12 over there. That's just her opinion. She stated thank you very much. (There was a round of
13 applause).

14
15 **Comment on his Water Bills** - Mr. Steve Bailey stated that he resides at 2716 Chariot Lane. He
16 moved to Olympia Fields a year ago last July 4th weekend. He has three young kids looking
17 forward to going to school. His soon to be kindergartner in the fall will go to Arcadia. We will
18 see what happens with the schools. He is optimistic.

19
20 Mr. Bailey stated that he has a personal issue here that he didn't really want to bring in front of
21 the whole Village. Village bureaucracy has made it that apparently the only way he can solve
22 this problem is to do so. He went on vacation in late January during the deep freeze time around
23 January 28th, January 30th. He was away for three weeks. He came back and his pipes were
24 busted in his home. His home was flooded. He had two inches of water in his basement.
25 Everybody deals with these issues. That's fine. He put in an insurance claim. He got people in.
26 He got Rotor Rooter in there and dried out the basement. He paid the money. Understood there
27 would be some issues with getting insurance claims and all that. He dipped into his savings to
28 start paying the money. He has all of the bills right here. He didn't want to put the amounts in
29 front of everybody. They are four-figure bills. He got a four-figure water bill. He thought that
30 maybe this was part of it. He put it in his insurance claim. It wasn't covered in insurance. It's his
31 responsibility. He has to pay for it. He gritted his teeth and paid it, figuring that was what
32 happened during the time period of the break. Time passes. He got another water bill. This one
33 was almost twice that amount. It is not covered under insurance. Something has to be outside the
34 house. What's going on? He went over to the DPW. He talked to Roxanne many times. She was
35 getting sick of him coming in there every morning. He was trying to track down Landini. He
36 talked to him one time on the phone. Luckily, he has flexibility in his job. He can get up early
37 and hang out there in the morning. He can't track the man down. He is approaching five-figures
38 out-of-pocket on this entire situation. In another municipality he might be able to go to the DPW
39 and say, "Hey, this looks crazy. This doesn't add up. Maybe we can make some kind of
40 adjustment for you to ease the pain on this terrible situation that you are facing." They said that
41 our hands are tied. He overheard some conversation that we might be able to adjust the sewer
42 charges or something. He stands before you today saying, "Hey, I need the help of the Village."
43 There is no reasonable reason why he should have close to five-figures in out-of-pocket
44 expenses. He is going to need to get something going with these crazy water bills or else he will
45 have to sell his house and move back to Georgia, or somewhere else. He stated thank you.

46

1 Village President Burke stated that we don't want you to move back to Georgia. We want you to
2 stay here. There has been discussion between Betty, who is our Finance Director, and Cindy. Mr.
3 Landini is out of town. He doesn't know if they came to a final result. Have you been in to talk
4 to either one of them? Mr. Bailey stated no. If he was told to do so, he definitely would have. He
5 talked to Jim Landini on the phone. Village President Burke stated that he believes that he heard
6 about this. These two are the ones that make the decision about the water bill. We had two
7 people, you and somebody else. He knows that somebody had a \$17,000.00 water bill. That's a
8 big thing. Mr. Bailey stated that he knows that this is an affluent community. He is on the low
9 end of our demographics here. He is trying to get there, but he can't get there if he is saddled
10 with these water bills. Village President Burke stated that he understands that. He will get with
11 both of them tomorrow. You need to come into the Village and we will try to sit down and talk
12 about this, the four of us. Village Administrator Saenz stated that we will take a look at it. Mr.
13 Bailey stated as a business person, next steps, are we going to set that meeting tonight. Village
14 President Burke stated that we have to wait for Mr. Landini to come back. He is at a conference.
15 When he gets back, we will nail it down. Village Administrator Saenz stated that we will
16 coordinate it. We will reach out to you. We will call by the end of the week and we will set
17 something up. Mr. Bailey stated thank you.

18

19 **Comment on Mr. Bailey's Issue and Other Issues in Olympia Fields East** - Mr. Carlando
20 Owens stated that he is the President of the Olympia Fields East Homeowners Association. The
21 reason that he stood with Mr. Bailey is because he is one of our residents. He was going to
22 present Mr. Bailey's issue for him if he didn't show up. Since he came, he decided to let him
23 speak himself because he can tell the story better than he could. Mr. Owens stated that Mr.
24 Bailey's issue is just one of six issues that he had. He doesn't want to go through all six issues.
25 He would like to get home before midnight. He presented Mr. Bailey's issue, and an issue that
26 was reported by the residents on Troy Circle. They have still been experiencing flooding. They
27 are pointing towards the Wal-Mart that is in their backyards pretty much. That is part of the root
28 cause of that flooding. He sent emails regarding that and Mr. Bailey's issue. He never got
29 responses. He doesn't know if something happened on his end, or if something happened on the
30 Village's end. Since he didn't get responses to the emails he wanted to come here tonight and
31 present those issues. He thinks the best way to handle all of the issues that he is presenting,
32 because some of them are related to flooding, and some are related to the maintenance of the
33 common areas in our subdivisions, is for us to have a meeting. We have our Beautification
34 Committee Meeting tomorrow evening at 7:00 P.M. Our next Board Meeting is July 11th at 7:00
35 P.M. at the Village Conference Center. We would like to meet with representatives of the Village
36 to discuss the issues and see where we can move forward.

37

38 Village Administrator Saenz gave Mr. Owens her email address. She asked him to forward the
39 emails to her, and we will talk about the dates and get it set up.

40

41 **Comment on the TIF** - Mrs. Eubanks-Pope apologized for being out of order. There is one
42 important thing that she would really like to say about the TIF. The monies that you get from a
43 TIF go into a separate bucket. That money can only be spent within the TIF boundaries. They are
44 taxpayers' dollars. We can't just generally spend them in the Village. The TIF is this vacant lot
45 that we are talking about and the Wal-Mart over there. Heaven knows, the Walton family doesn't
46 need any more money from us. She stated that to try to spend that to make that come alive, and
47 to bring businesses in and help them to come in, that's the most prudent way to spend it. She just

1 had to share that with you. She served on a TIF Board in Chicago. We brought the Fourth Ward
2 a lot.

3
4 **Comments on the Educational Commission** - Mrs. Doris Langon stated that she resides in
5 Olympia Club. She is here because she is a holdover on the Educational Commission. She
6 doesn't like the way that sounds. She doesn't like the miscommunication, the no communication,
7 and what has gone on recently with the Educational Commission. She commends Village
8 President Burke if he wants to disband or reorganize it. We all know how important education is.
9 She has three degrees, Ph.D., She has supervised many principals out here. She was asked to
10 volunteer on the Educational Commission when she moved out here. She served 100-days as the
11 Interim Superintendent on 227. It continues to need a lot of work. We are losing young families
12 because of the outcomes of education here. It was a good meeting with the two Superintendents.
13 It highlighted a lot of work that needs to be done. People buy homes. We want young families
14 because of educational systems around the world. Please, do something about our status, our
15 membership, and our organization. If you want to disband it, fine. Also, equity wise, all these
16 other Committees and Commissions, if they have holdovers, if they are not functioning, fix them.
17 Thank you.

18
19 **Comments on the Wall in Maynegaitte and the Vacant Property Next to Hers** - Ms. Cheryl J.
20 Rutherford stated that she thought she was going to speak just about the Educational
21 Commission. She lives in Maynegaitte. Her concern is about the fence. Her property is right there
22 next to that property that is vacant. She stated that Dr. Hughes is on the other side. She
23 remembers when that property was full of forestry. When that land was sold to the person that
24 has it now, all of the little animals decided that they were hungry and they fed upon her property.
25 She had to go through some extra preventative methods and get some other services out there to
26 deal with the moles, and whatever else was there. She did not like it. She has had to deal with the
27 deer tearing up her trees. She is not happy about it. She is bringing it to you as a concern of hers.
28 Whenever there were trees that were dead, the previous administration did try to help out and
29 make certain that that particular owner or the bank, came and cut those trees down. There are
30 some that are dead now. She lives at 3150 London Drive. She stated that coming right down
31 Indiana Avenue, that's her property to the right. She stated that for many years she has tried to
32 make it a beautiful place. She use to win awards for trying to keep up her property. She is a
33 senior citizen. She can't do those things that she use to do. If you would take care of the wall, it
34 is not pretty. She remembers when it was put up there. Whoever the owners are with respect to
35 that property, her house is right there. She prides herself on trying to keep her property together.

36
37 **Comments on the Educational Commission** – Ms. Rutherford stated that she has been on the
38 Educational Commission since the second year after its inception which is a very long time. She
39 shared with others and with Trustee Watkins that she moved here in 2002. She doesn't have any
40 children who have been in the system. Her children are grown. What is important is that her one
41 daughter-in-law attended Rich Central. Her daughter-in-law asked Ms. Rutherford what has
42 happened to it. She is a doctor. The school did produce good students. As far as moving back
43 into the community, her son and his wife have moved into Flossmoor. Her grandchildren are
44 very young. The younger son moved into Homewood temporarily. They are from Chicago. They
45 came out here for the school system.

46

1 Ms. Rutherford stated that she is interested in definitely trying to continue to help whether she is
2 on this Commission or not. She has been on the Commission since 2007. She is a former
3 educator. She was a principal and Central Office Administrator. She stated that Trustee Oliver
4 knows that we started the very early days of the Commission trying to work with District 227
5 when Mayor Jones was here. We worked very hard to work with District 227. She has the
6 pictures of when her and Trustee Oliver took the students, along with an Assistant Principal that
7 they were finally able to get from Rich Central, we took them to the College Fair. The parents
8 were very, very elated that this is something that the Educational Commission had attempted to
9 do with them to forge some kind of partnership. We realized that we only could go so far in what
10 we could do, because we don't have jurisdiction. The school wanted her to handle the paperwork
11 for permission from the parents to go. She let them know that legally as a parent, or as a citizen,
12 she could not be responsible for that. That was the school's responsibility. The next year we
13 worked with Prairie State. She has the paperwork and the programs. She took it upon herself,
14 having the idea that we should serve those students who fed into District 227, we should work
15 with them. She took it upon herself. She went to all of those School Districts. She tried to meet
16 with the Mayors. She did this on her own. She met with their representatives and with the
17 Superintendents of the schools. She didn't know that she wasn't really suppose to do that.

18

19 Ms. Rutherford stated that she is here to say that the Commission has done quite a few things. As
20 far as having a liaison with District 162 and Dr. Blondean Davis, we have had that for the past
21 four or five years with the College and Career Program. That was chaired by her. It involved the
22 Educational Commission. She had three Committees. The Educational Commission was Part 1.
23 Part 2 was Dr. Davis's school. Part 3 were all of those people who were going to be our
24 presenters. The last group of people that she worked with as presenters were from the hospital.
25 The last one that was going to happen did not happen, because she was ill. She was sorry that she
26 could not assume that. She wanted to. It was doctor's orders that she couldn't.

27

28 Ms. Rutherford stated that when you talk about the fact that we did not have meetings, she
29 knows that Faith use to take the minutes. She stated that Faith could definitely say who was there
30 and who was not. As far as the meeting the week before last was the first one, she knows in April
31 she ran to three meetings in one night, and one was here. As the previous speaker said, we need
32 to work together. We don't need to air our dirty laundry. That is suppose to be in private. She
33 thinks that we can work together. Education is very important to her. It always has been and it
34 will continue to be. Whether she is on the EC or not, she is still a part of Olympia Fields. She
35 will still do her best to make certain that we have a very viable educational system. She is not
36 ready to move yet. She can't afford to move. These taxes are just about to kill her. We have to
37 bring some new life in here. Thank you very much for listening to this long three-minute
38 presentation.

39

40 **Comments on the Educational Commission** – Delores Woods stated that her only purpose for
41 being on the Commission is to serve. She has no other goal, no motive. When she gets a report
42 like this, she considers it disrespectful. She considers it insensitive. It's almost like it is a power
43 grab on your part, though she can't imagine why, because all we are doing is trying to serve in
44 the community in which we live. It has always been her experience, when you want to work
45 collaboratively and successfully with people, you do it by building relationships. This is not how
46 you build relationships.

47

1 **Park District Meetings on Sergeant Means Park** - Mr. Carlando Owens stated that he forgot to
2 mention a couple things. Village President Burke stated that he doesn't want to cut him off, but it
3 is 10 o'clock. You had a shot. Everybody had a chance to talk. Give me a call tomorrow. He is
4 here all day long, every day. Mr. Owens wanted to reiterate the importance of the residents to
5 attend the Park District Meetings regarding Sergeant Means Park. He was one of the dozen
6 people that were there. Some of their plans are good. Some of them, not so good. Jerry was
7 referring to the parkland over in the Brookwood area. We have detailed information on that,
8 because we went through that with the previous administration. Village President Burke closed
9 Public Comment at 10:03 P.M.

10

11 **NEW BUSINESS:**

12

13 Village President Burke stated that he thinks we had a whole lot of New Business.

14

15 Trustee Watkins stated that this meeting has been really great. She is glad that she motivated
16 people to come out and speak. She stated that to have four members from the Educational
17 Commission come out and voice their opinions, and share with the Board, is really what it is all
18 about. She is happy that her report generated such great conversation.

19

20 **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

21

22 **Resignation from Public Safety Committee – Ernest L. Gowen –**

23

24 **Resignation from Human Resource Committee – Susan Gatlin-Moroney –**

25

26 Village President Burke stated that Ernie Gowen and Susan Moroney have served on two
27 Committees. They have submitted their Resignations. He would ask that the Board approve these
28 Resignations.

29 **Motion by Trustee Matz, second by Trustee Thomas to Accept the Resignations of Ernest**
30 **L. Gowen from the Public Safety Committee, and Susan Gatlin-Moroney from the Human**
31 **Resource Committee, and Authorize a Letter to be Sent on Behalf of the Village Board of**
32 **Trustees.**

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

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35 **ADJOURNMENT:**

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37 **Motion by Trustee Thomas, second by Trustee Matz to adjourn the Board Meeting at**
38 **10:05 P.M.**

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

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41 Respectfully submitted by Faith Stine.

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