

VILLAGE OF DOLTON BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
April 18, 2016

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole to order in the New Village Hall at 6:42 p.m.

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

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

A quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE/
PRAYER**

Led by Trustee Stubbs.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee Henyard announced that job openings with Windy City Dog Walkers in Chicago, Chicago Heights Cinema. Trustee Henyard's Cancer Walk will be from 10 a.m. on Saturday, June 11th. Volunteers or those who wish to participate may contact Trustee Henyard at 708-297-6859. The free building permit holiday for owner-occupied homes is in effect beginning April 1st and continues through May 30^{1st}. Trustees Henyard and Brown with Trustee Smith of Dixmoor and in conjunction with Clerk of the Circuit Court Dorothy Brown are offering a free expungement information session on Saturday, May 14th, from 1-3 p.m. at New Zion Christian Fellowship Church. Dorothy Brown is offering an expungement seminar on June 4th at Thornton Township High School.

Trustee Pierson announced that the second "Clean Sweep" event is this Saturday, April 23rd. Residents are asked to participate in a day of removing litter from the village. Volunteers will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the new village hall.

Chief Collins reports that in the last six months there has been a 60 percent reduction in reported burglaries, and 50 percent reduction in reported thefts. Issuance of tickets for speeding and stop sign enforcement has also increased. The Police Department is sponsoring a gun buy-back program on May 14th.

Trustee Brown announced that Step Alive is holding its 8th Annual Dinner Ball and Scholarship Fundraiser on Sunday, June 26th, at the Dorchester. The United States Postal Service offers a variety of jobs starting at \$20 per hour and many with full benefits, including opportunities for veterans.

Trustee Stubbs reminded residents with identification that residents may turn in their electronics at the old village hall on Saturday, May 21st, beginning at 9 a.m.

Trustee Muhammad announced that the Melanie Fitness Center's new hours are from 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. There are job openings for female personal trainers, sales counselors, and a business manager. The Members Appreciation Day celebrating the center's 15th anniversary has been moved to Saturday, May 21st from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The village will be hiring at least 10 young people ages 17 to late 20s this summer to be taught skills to help bring the youth commission building to life. Volunteers are also needed. Those interested may call 708-201-3348. Department heads are meeting this week on the new fiscal budget which is expected to be passed soon.

(After Order of Business:)

Administrator Urban announced that there would be a budget meeting beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 18th, at the Police Department Training Room. The following departments will be addressed: Police, Fire, Public Works, and Melanie Fitness Center.

(After Citizens Address:)

Mayor Rogers introduced his Executive Assistant Ashahed Triche to announce the following:

Mayor Rogers was recently interviewed by Paul Lisnek of CLTV.

Over 40 companies and agencies participated in the Youth Job and Resource Expo sponsored by Congresswoman Robin Kelly on April 16th at Thornton Township High School.

There will be a Financial Literacy Workshop at 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 23rd, at the Dolton Village Hall.

A new episode of "Shop Dolton" has been posted on the village website featuring Kurt's Ace Hardware.

The Dolton Chamber of Commerce will be meeting at 6 p.m. on April 20th at the village hall.

Mayor Rogers announced that this past Saturday a worker for an unlicensed tree service called by a resident was killed when a branch crushed him. The mayor cited this tragedy as an example of why it is important to have the proper equipment and people perform tree trimming.

Taco Bell will be occupying one-half of the former Dusties' property on Sibley Blvd. The village is in negotiation with Firehouse Submarines to purchase the other half of the property.

Mayor Rogers announced that the village would soon begin hiring young people for its summer "50/20" program.

This year's Mother's Day Breakfast will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, May 7th, at the Dorchester. There will be a Father's Day event as well.

The fountain at the old village hall will be back on by next week.

Plans for demolition by the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program of several abandoned buildings in the village are moving forward. Each demolition saves the village approximately \$20,000. Approximately 10-15 demolitions are planned for this summer.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

A. Award of Towing Contract

Chief Collins reported that three towing companies submitted Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for towing services: Airline Towing, Wes's Towing, and W&W Towing. All proposals contained sufficient information to allow continued consideration. Chief Collins visited all three facilities to observe their operations, location, security, inventory procedures and dispatch procedures.

Airline Towing is located at 12658 Winchester Ave. in Calumet Park. The site is approximately 5.2 miles from the Dolton Police Facility. The property is very large and the company appears to do a large amount of business. The location has numerous video surveillance cameras covering all entrances and exits from the lot as well as coverage of the many lots. A staffer at Airline produced and demonstrated paperwork and forms required by the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Secretary of State. A random sampling of actual documents showed neatness, completion and deadlines met. The process of intake was similar to the other towing agencies and the inventory is managed by a computer system. The owner of the company was very informative, hospitable, and personable. Airline guarantees an on scene time of 30 minutes or less for a police tow. Airline towing has the ability to move vehicles up to the size of a semi-tractor with a fully loaded trailer attached.

The main location of Wes's Towing is at 928 Wilson in Calumet City. The site is approximately 3.8 miles from the Dolton Police Facility. The owner of the company was hospitable and personable. Wes's Towing is also situated on a fairly large-sized lot. They also have another lot located in South Holland. Wes's appears to do a lot of business and does tow for several police agencies. The operation was professional and organized. The owner demonstrated the inventory tracking system, dispatching system, and wrecker tracking system. The yard had numerous surveillance cameras. Wes's Towing has the ability to move vehicles up to the size of semi-tractors with a fully loaded trailer attached. Wes's Towing quoted a 10 minute on scene time.

The owner of W&W Towing also was hospitable and personable. W&W has a relatively new facility located at 14101 Leavitt Ave. in Blue Island. The site is approximately 4.8 miles from the Dolton Police Facility. W&W has a fairly large lot to keep and store vehicles. The lot is covered by video surveillance cameras. The owner demonstrated the inventory tracking system, and the wrecker tracking system. The operation seemed to run in a smooth proficient manner. The personnel were pleasant and professional. The lot was very organized and neatly arranged. Inside the facility and the customer area was neat and clean. W&W stated that a tow truck would be stationed in Dolton if chosen as the towing provider. W&W Towing tows for several police agencies. Their operation is not as large as the other two companies and the other two have been in business longer. When asked about heavy duty service such as a semi-tractor with a trailer, the owner stated that he has a working relationship with other agencies that he would call if a truck that large would be needed but does not keep a truck that large in his inventory.

Each towing agency operated in a professional manner suitable to the needs of the Village of Dolton. No one agency has a distinct advantage over the other, unless distance is a deciding factor. All agencies appear to be operating in compliance with the laws that govern tow agencies.

Chief Collins recommended the selection of Airline Towing.

Trustee Hunt asked Chief Collins if he had changed his earlier recommendation to rotate the towing companies. Chief Collins said that he did not know if Dolton had previously done a rotation but it could be done in rotation. If the board was to select one company, his personal selection would be Airline Towing, which had been recommended to the village by the Illinois State Police when the village ceased doing business with GTS Towing last year. The village has been doing business with Airline Towing since then. Chief Collins reminded the board that he had requested approval of Airline Towing a previous meeting and was directed to put out an RFP. Trustee Brown noted that Wes's Towing and W&W is located closer to the village than Airline. In response to Trustee Brown's question, Chief Collins said the typical response time is under 30 minutes from the call. Trustee Brown said that Airline Towing had an unfair advantage and recommended a rotation with Wes's Towing and W&W Towing. He said that if Chief Collins wanted Airline, he would like to see a rotation with Airline and W&W Towing

Mayor Rogers noted that the village went with Airline Towing because it was recommended by the State Police.

Trustee Hunt asked if he was correct in understanding that the chief was recommending the company thirty minutes away when the other companies appear to be quicker. Trustee Henyard recommended that the chief research the companies for complaints to the ICC, which regulates towing companies. She said that residents have reported to her that Airline does not pick-up parts from automobiles damaged in accidents. Trustee Henyard agreed with Trustee Brown that going with Airline was unfair.

Administrator Urban confirmed that Sgt. Brian Koppel of the Illinois State Police recommended the selection of Airline Towing. The issue will be presented to the board at its May 2nd meeting.

Trustee Henyard said that the board should act this evening. She said this discussion could have been deferred to the May 2nd meeting and the board could have had a budget meeting this evening instead as she had recommended.

Trustee Hunt recommended rotation of Wes's Towing and W&W because they seemed to be quicker and would offer the same service. Mayor Rogers explained that there a number of variables in responding to a call.

Trustee Muhammad said he would defer to Chief Collins' recommendation. Trustee Pierson agreed, and said he had not heard anything about auto parts being left behind.

Trustee Stubbs said that after reading Chief Collins' report she was prepared to agree to a rotation and still agrees with a rotation.

CITIZENS ADDRESS

Kenneth Williams, owner of Silk 'N Classy Barbershop announced that the shop is relocating to 114 E. Sibley Boulevard, and will open on Sunday, May 1st.

Resident expressed his thanks to Supt. Stacey and his team, as well as Chief of Staff Elizabeth Scott, for their assistance in taking care of an ugly site in the neighborhood.

Representative from Wes's Towing noted that Wes's was closest of the three proposed towing companies. She also noted that Wes's was the one towing company willing to give back to the village. Administrator Urban explained that there was no request for payment to the village in the RFP, but Wes's had included such a proposal.

Resident Barbara Parker distributed a letter to the board requesting responses to her questions set forth.

Resident Herman Moore announced that he had donated three handguns to the village.

Mrs. Crayton, resident, announced that there would be a fundraiser for the Thornridge High School Band from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 23rd, at the Dolton Park Scouts Building.

A representative from Fathers and Blessings (FA) announced that FAB is sponsoring a "Real Men Cook" event on Father's Day at Dolton Park. It is in the process of opening a thrift store. FAB will also reach out to local businesses.

Billy Beck, 154TH and Diekman Ct., said he had asked for village assistance to clean up Greenwood Avenue south of 154th Street, but no one had gotten back to him. He would like to see the area turned into a park. He also said that the sewer in front of his home is collapsing and has collapsed numerous times over the years because the repair was never done correctly.

Dallas Gordon, resident, announced a Youth Job Readiness Workshop on Friday, April 22nd, at the Washington Heights Workforce Center, at 10325 S. Halsted in Chicago. He will forward flyers on the event.

Resident reported that he had not received the rain barrels he had ordered. He also reported that lawn service companies in his area are leaving lawn bags at the curbs instead of taking the debris with them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION for the purpose of discussing pending convening of a grand jury.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Hunt. There being no discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 2 Trustees Henyard and Hunt
NAYS: 4 Trustees Brown, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion failed.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Roll Call

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

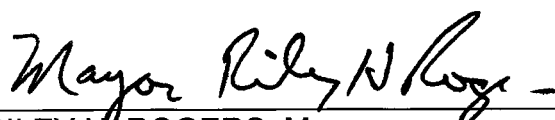
Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 2nd day of May, 2016.


RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor