

VILLAGE OF DOLTON  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
June 6, 2016

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

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

Also present: Village Engineer Ronald E. Smith, Village Administrator Stan Urban and department heads. Village Attorney John B. Murphey arrived at 7 p.m.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/  
PRAYER

Prayer was led by Trustee Stubbs.

RECOGNITION

Chief Pete McCain asked Fire Engineer Chris Ill and Firefighter Anton Downing to step forward. Chief McCain announced that on May 3, 2016, at approximately 20:44 hours the Dolton Fire Department responded to an emergency call of an infant child not breathing. Upon arrival, Engineer Ill performed a pediatric Heimlich maneuver and dislodged a semi-solid blockage of the child's airway. The child regained consciousness and Engineer Ill and Firefighter Downing continued life support initiatives until the child could be handed off to paramedics. Chief McCain asked that the Mayor and Board of Trustees recognize Engineer Ill and Firefighter Downing for saving the life of the seven-week old infant. There was a round of applause and a standing ovation. Mayor Rogers read aloud the plaques of recognition presented to Engineer Ill and Firefighter Downing.

VILLAGE CLERK

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Village Clerk asked for approval of the following meeting minutes:

May 2, 2016 Regular Board Meeting  
May 16, 2016 Meeting of the Committee of the Whole

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES of May 2, 2016 Regular Board Meeting and May 16, 2016 Regular Board Meeting.

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

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

**B. COMMUNICATIONS**

Dolton Elite Basketball is requesting permission for tag days on June 10-12, June 17-19 and June 24-26 at Sibley Blvd and Chicago Road and Lincoln Ave. Proceeds will go to its AAU basketball program.

MOTION TO APPROVE TAG DAYS as requested.

Motion by Trustee Brown. Second by Trustee Pierson.

**ROLL CALL**

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Village Engineer Ron Smith announced that bids for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) street resurfacing project were opened by the Village Clerk at noon today at the village hall. Three contractors, Gallagher Asphalt, K-Five Construction and D Construction, submitted bids. The county has to review the bids before Mr. Smith may make a recommendation to the board.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Police and Fire—Trustee Pierson**

Trustee Pierson announced that the Dolton Fire Department Health and Wellness Fair will be Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at Fire Station No. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Chief Pete McCain announced that the ETSB Board had received four proposals for the 911 dispatch center: Bud's Ambulance, Calcomm, Orland Fire Protection District, and E-Com. The board will be meeting to make a recommendation to the board of trustees on June 20<sup>th</sup> for approval before the July 1<sup>st</sup> statutory deadline.

Chief Rob Collins reports that the police department has asked the Secretary of State's mobile unit to visit the Village of Dolton so that residents may take of minor SOS tasks without visiting one of the facilities. The police department is assisting the Cancer Walk taking place on Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. The police department will be conducting an outdoor roll call at 3 p.m. at Greenwood and Sibley Blvd. Residents are encouraged to come out. The next Community Policing Meeting will be at 7 p.m. on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The subject will be identity theft. Residents are asked to come out to support its police officers participating in the torch run for Special Olympics on Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 142<sup>nd</sup> and Torrence at 9 am.

**Public Works—Trustee Pierson**

Supt. Matt Stacey reports that Cook County SWAP workers were out picking up litter in the village on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and also demolished the old Eden's Rock on Chicago Road. They will be back out the week of June 13<sup>th</sup> to demolish two more vacant buildings. Public Works has gotten the Recycling

Center at Greenwood and Irving up and running. The street sweeper program has begun and will be following the garbage routes. Residents are asked to remove their garbage cans after pick-up. The department's curb drain cleaning and inspection project is now complete on the west side of the village and repair work will begin in the next few weeks. Public Works has taken down an old hazardous vacant building on the 143<sup>rd</sup> block of Greenwood. All public works vehicles are being inspected by mechanics and maintenance is being performed as needed.

Vehicle license stickers are now available for purchase.

**Housing—Trustee Stubbs**

Housing Director Denise Fields reports that the 2016-17 annual rental license year has ended and a \$100 penalty will be imposed on residents who do not comply. The housing department is currently verifying receipt of rental applications and payments as well as the required signed crime-free lease addendum. To report a vacant property in need of lawn care and/or property maintenance, residents may call the public works department at 708-201-3280, file a complaint form at the village hall or on the village website (vodolton.org/Report a Concern). There were 26 homes sold in the village in the month of May. The highest sale price was \$130,000. The lowest sale price was \$7,100.00. Trustee Stubbs thanked residents who came out for the first electronic recycling event on May 21st. The next collection date is June 11th.

**Melanie Fitness Center—Trustee Muhammad**

The Melanie Fitness Center celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a Membership Appreciation Day on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Trustee Muhammad presented a short video highlighting the day's events.

**Youth—Trustee Muhammad**

Rehabilitation of the old youth center building is still scheduled for mid-August. Trustee Muhammad presented a short video showing the work to date.

**Finance—Trustee Muhammad**

The auditors have been working on the fiscal year 2015 audit and are on target to have the audit completed this month. The proposed dates for the next budget meeting are June 7<sup>th</sup> through June 9<sup>th</sup>. Public hearing on the budget is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Once the budget is approved the finance department can begin to track budget to actual figures. The property tax collection rate for 2014 taxes payable in 2015 is 85.8%. Total taxes owed to the village are \$10,085,147.32, of which \$8,656,884.97 was actually collected. To date the village has received \$4,067,061.35 for the 2015 first installment.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Trustee Henyard and Trustee Brown announced job opportunities.

Trustee Henyard's Cancer Walk will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 11th. Volunteers or those who wish to participate may contact Trustee Henyard at 708-297-6859. All funds will be payable to Abundant Living CMA (Cancer Medicine Assistance). The free building permit holiday for owner-occupied homes was a huge success. Clerk of the Circuit Court Dorothy Brown's expungement summit last Saturday was also a success. Trustee Henyard expressed her thanks to Mr. Norwood for his encouraging words at board meetings.

Trustee Brown announced that the Chicago Far-South Suburban Branch of the NAACP sponsors a college preparation and scholarship application program ([www.naacpcfssb.org](http://www.naacpcfssb.org)). Thornton Township offers transportation to seniors 65 years and older throughout Thornton Township and to nearby medical providers. Suggested donation is \$1 per ride. Trustee Brown and other fathers have put together a dads and sons 16-inch softball league every Sunday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Dolton Park. Trustee Brown thanked Fathers and Blessings for bringing "Real Men Cook" to Dolton Park on Father's Day. He urged residents to support Trustee Henyard's Cancer Walk.

#### VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Stan Urban asked for a consensus of the board to purchase a new boiler and water softener for the Melanie Fitness Center in the amounts of \$15,000 and \$2,000, respectively, 50 percent down and the balance payable in three monthly installments at no interest. Mr. Urban confirmed that here is a 90-day warranty on labor and one year warranty on parts. In response to Trustee Henyard's question as to why a Request for Proposal (RFP) could not be issued, Mr. Urban explained that the equipment has been down since just before the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in May and management has received requests for refunds as a result. There was a consensus of the trustees to move forward with the purchases.

There was a consensus of the trustees that the board would be meeting to discuss the budget on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the village hall.

#### CORPORATE BILLS

MOTION TO APPROVE corporate payments in the amount of \$566,828.54, gross payroll of \$933,408.93, Melanie Fitness Center Bills of \$11,375.73 with gross payroll of \$3,692.30, for total corporate payments of \$1,515,305.50.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Pierson.

In response to Trustee Brown's question regarding a payment to "Barbeque Village," Mr. Urban explained that it was for the "Steppin' at the Fountain" event every Wednesday, and that there was another payment for the Melanie Fitness Center anniversary. Mayor Rogers confirmed that it was not his business. Trustee Brown said that he was not aware that the village was paying someone to barbecue. Mayor Rogers said that it happened last year. Trustee Stubbs said that hot dogs are grilled and distributed and that many children who come are hungry. Trustee Henyard said that the village should collect sponsorships and donations. Mayor Rogers asked Trustee Henyard to spearhead the effort. In response to Trustee Stubbs' question, Mayor Rogers confirmed that expenditures for the event were budgeted. Trustee Hunt said that the document just distributed shows a general fund negative of \$1.3 million and a positive two years ago of \$1.5 million.

#### ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

## OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance No. 16-015  
Amending Section 1-4-5(R) of the Dolton Village Code

MOTION TO APPROVE Ordinance No.16-015.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Brown.

Mayor Rogers noted that one of the last acts of the prior mayor and board of trustees was to take away the mayor's power to hire and fire. When Mayor Rogers took office, there was some division within the new board, and the majority decided to leave it in place. After the midterm election, the board voted to restore the mayor's power. Trustee Hunt said that the purpose of the prior ordinance was to include the trustees in the process. He noted again that two years ago the village was up \$1.2 million, and when the mayor acted alone, the general fund is down \$1.32 million. Also, the mayor, acting alone, terminated the police chief and named himself chief. Mayor Rogers replied that during this time the village entered into agreements to pay what was owed to Homewood Disposal for garbage and the City of Chicago for water. As a former police officer who had served in a command position, he assumed the responsibilities of the chief while the search for a new chief was put in place. That process led to the selection of the current chief. Mayor Rogers said that hiring Dolton residents is a priority, and pointed out that he insisted that new businesses coming in hire Dolton residents. He said he is trying to surround himself with good people. Most of what he has put forward to make the town better certain trustees voted against.

Trustee Henyard read the following statement for the record:

"There is no pride taken in dealing with tonight's subject matter. But if we were to go back in recent history, this board rose above our politics and voted as a majority to restore the Mayor's powers. While I disagreed with that decision, I respected my colleagues in their quest to be fair and rational.

However since that particular reversal, the management of the village has gotten progressively worse. The mayor and his administration have shown an absolute disdain for fairness in government. The integrity of the day to day governmental process should never be compromised. But that's exactly what we have experienced since granting the Mayor the authority to solely manage this Village.

Surely, at the very least my colleagues have concluded that we have a concrete vote of no confidence as it relates to this Mayor.

This coupled with rumors and issues of the Mayor and his personal ownership of numerous homes in Dolton at least brings into question the Mayor's alleged honesty and integrity. The people of this Village have a right to expect their Mayor and Village Board to be above reproach.

But I refuse to be held accountable by the voters for the inexcusable violation of the ethics by this administration. Again I find no pleasure in taking this vote tonight. Tonight is about advocating for good government. Every four years we are given the chance to do politics by canvassing the neighborhoods and campaigning. But this is the mid season.

This should be good government season. Not the Riley Rogers wacky world of questionable ties, questionable ethics and his morally defunct approach to managing our government.

I vote yes to remove the Mayors powers and I vote yes as it relates to a Vote of No Confidence in Mayor Riley's ability to effectively manage our Village."

Mayor Rogers responded that he believes in this town and that is why he has invested in it. Trustee Muhammad commented that board members should show respect for the mayor even if they disagree with him. He said that oard members should conduct themselves professionally at meetings. Trustee Muhammad said that while Trustee Hunt is correct that the village is in debt, the village, like everyone else, manages its debt. Trustee Muhammad referred residents to the most recent report by the auditor at the February 16, 2016 board meeting (on Youtube).

Trustee Stubbs quoted Ronald Reagan that those who do not make their own decisions risk others making them for them. She said that the board has gotten off course. Residents have expressed their dismay at many of the board meetings. She urged members to forgive one another and move on with the business of the village. She said that he village has a qualified H.R. Director and asked that she be allowed to do her job.

Mayor Rogers said that he does not do most of the hiring and terminating. He has hired the police and fire chiefs, superintendents of public works, his executive staff, and the building engineer, who has saved the village thousands of dollars. The majority of hiring has been done by the village administrator.

Trustee Hunt said that there is a true difference between profit and loss and total debt. In layman's terms, if you make \$1,000 a month and spend \$1,200, that's a loss. Trustee Hunt offered to go over the numbers with Trustee Muhammad. Trustee Muhammad acknowledged that the village could use Trustee Hunt's help, but to his knowledge, aside from some emails, Trustee Hunt has not come in to the village hall to crunch the numbers with the finance director. Trustee Hunt said that to say he has not offered his help is not true. Mayor Rogers said that despite Trustee Hunt fighting everything the mayor has tried to do, the village did reach a surplus a year ago, as Trustee Hunt had said. Mayor Rogers referenced purchase of new fire, police and public works vehicles and equipment.

Trustee Brown commented that to get respect you have to give respect and objected to Trustee Muhammad's reference to "these three trustees."

#### ROLL CALL

AYES: 4 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt, Stubbs

NAYS: 2 Trustees Muhammad, Pierson

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Request for Proposal for Village of Dolton Prosecuting Attorney

MOTION TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROSAL FOR THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

Motion by Trustee Hunt. Second by Trustee Henyard.

Trustee Hunt said that every time the village issues a RFP, it saves money. In response to Trustee Muhammad's question, Trustee Hunt said that this month the village paid \$7,422.29, and the bill is usually about \$6,495 a month. The village attorney explained that the prosecuting attorney handles cases at Markham Court and adjudication of tickets. Mayor Rogers noted that there was no change from what was paid the previous prosecuting attorney by the former administration. Trustee Henyard agreed with Trustee Hunt that if there is a possibility of the RFP saving money, she is for it.

Trustee Stubbs asked whether the mayor appoints the prosecuting attorney. Mayor Rogers said that was correct.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 4 Trustees Brown, Henyard, Hunt  
NAYS: 2 Trustees Muhammad, Pierson  
ABSTAIN: 1 Trustee Stubbs  
ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

Attorney Murphey confirmed that the prosecuting attorney is appointed by the mayor with the advice and consent of the board of trustees. The village clerk directed the trustees to their May 16<sup>th</sup> board packet, which includes the village code provision.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Recommendation for Project Award - CDBG Street Resurfacing Project  
Village Engineer

This item was pulled from the agenda at the request of Engineer Smith. (Village Engineer Report)

B. Acceptance of Donation of Workout Equipment by H.S. District 205

Chief Collins recommended the acceptance of a donation of workout equipment to the village for use in the youth center. There was a consensus of all trustees to accept.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Executive Assistant to the Mayor Ashahed Triche provided an update on the following events and programs in the village:

50/20 Summer Youth Employment Program  
Ice Cream Giveaway to Village Schools  
Dedication of Shawn K. Sims Crystal Ballroom at the Dorchester  
Steppin' at the Fountain

Town Hall Meeting June 15<sup>th</sup> at Faith United Methodist Church  
Father's Day Breakfast June 18<sup>th</sup> at the Dorchester  
Flea Market and Farmers' Market

Mr. Triche read aloud a thank you letter from Mrs. Dority, mother of Ariana and Emerson Dority, two of the summer youth workers. There was a short video presentation on the 50/20 program.

Mayor Rogers asked for a moment of silence on the passing of Muhammad Ali. Trustee Muhammad spoke in recognition of his friend and hero.

Mayor Rogers asked residents to participate in "Real Men Cook" at Dolton Park on Father's Day and CHARTERS Youth Commission's annual Father's Day event at the park as well.

#### CITIZENS ADDRESS

Dan Lee, resident, said that the village is going backwards by going back to the old hiring.

New resident expressed her concern about the store at 142<sup>nd</sup> and Woodlawn, loud music at the park across the street at night, littering, and an abandoned building next to her home being used as a drug house.

Resident, 17 years, said that she has watched how the mayor has done positive things for the village and has watched how the trustees have been very disrespectful to him. She is very opposed to the trustees taking away the mayor's ability to hire and fire police and fire officers in particular.

Kevin Griffin, 148<sup>th</sup> and Evers, said that every time it rains hard he gets over two feet of rain in his basement, and asked public works to come back and look at it again.

Cleo Jones, Vice-President of Dolton Park District, asked about the flashing stop light at 154<sup>th</sup> and Greenwood. Mayor Rogers answered that the traffic control box has to be rebuilt by Meade. Mr. Jones said he is often asked by residents about the division on the board. He said he agreed with Trustee Stubbs' earlier comments.

Resident, 142<sup>nd</sup> and Evers, reported drug activity on her block.

Linda, 24-year resident, said that more recently she is seeing more of the negative in Dolton. She saw on the news that two women in Dolton had been raped and robbed, and saw the description of the perpetrator. She said she called the Dolton Police Department non-emergency number and later the police chief to report the "second-degree" she received when she called. Chief Collins said that residents should call 911 and if they wish to be anonymous, say they do not want the police to come to their door. The police department received hundreds of calls regarding sightings matching the description.

Trini Alvarado said that she is sick at the trustees taking away the mayor's power tonight. The mayor deserves respect.

Herman Moore, resident, spoke about "expanding the moment against hate."

Kevin Boens, two-year resident and Cook County Sheriff's police officer, said that whatever problems exist among the elected officials should not be displayed to the public. He urged the trustees to respect the office if they do not respect the man.



Resident, Sunset Drive, said that the police department personnel have to be trained how to answer telephone calls. Resident further reported a street light on the block stays on 24-hours.

Arlecta, resident, expressed her thanks to Superintendent Stacy and Ms. Fields for cutting grass on the abandoned property across the street from Walamark Management's properties, and further thanked Trustee Muhammad for the improvements at the Melanie Fitness Center.

Mrs. Crayton, resident, said the positive things she sees outweigh the bad. She suggested that if board members are concerned about the cost of the 50/20 program, they should donate part of their stipends. She said that board members do not have to agree but should respect each other.

Resident, since 1983, agreed with earlier comments by Mr. Boens and others, as well as that response to telephone calls to the village is horrible. He urged the mayor and board members to "keep it in the back" and present a united front.

Resident said that the barbecue man has been coming to "Steppin' at the Fountain" for years as far back as the prior administration.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION for the purpose of discussing pending litigation and personnel matters.

Motion by Trustee Pierson. Second by Trustee Muhammad.

#### ROLL CALL

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

The Board of Trustees entered into Executive Session 9:37 p.m. and returned at 10:32 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, Mayor Rogers asked for a roll call to adjourn.

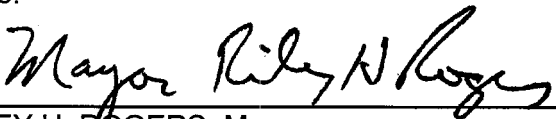
#### ROLL CALL

AYES: 3 Trustees Henyard, Muhammad, Stubbs  
NAYS: 0  
ABSTAIN: 0  
ABSENT: 3 Trustees Brown, Hunt, Pierson

Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

  
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MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

  
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RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor