

VILLAGE OF DOLTON
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
August 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL Mayor Riley H. Rogers called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:37 p.m.

The following trustees were present: Deborah Denton, Tiffany Henyard, Jason House, Duane Muhammad, Robert E. Pierson, Jr., and Valeria Stubbs.

Also present: Village Attorney John Donahue and Village Engineer Ron Smith, and department heads except Finance Director Yvonne Redmond and Housing Director Denise Fields.

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE

PRAYER Prayer was led by Elder Edward Crayton.

GENERAL
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Police Chief Robert M. Collins, Jr. reminded residents that it is a violation of village ordinance to interfere with a public meeting. Copies of the ordinance have been placed on the chairs for the public and an officer will be present to enforce.

Mayor Rogers recognized Trustee Muhammad.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Henyard.

The village clerk asked the village attorney if this motion was sufficient. The village attorney advised that it was. There being no further discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

The Board of Trustees entered into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. Mayor Rogers and all trustees returned at 7:35 p.m.

VILLAGE CLERK
REPORT

A. Approval of the Minutes

May 15, 2017 Regular Board Meeting
May 17, 2017 Special Board Meeting

The village clerk asked for a motion to approve the minutes either separately or together.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MAY 15, 2017 REGULAR BOARD MEETING and the MAY 17, 2017 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Pierson. There being no discussion:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

B. Communications

1. Request for Tag Days by Dolton Bears and Dolton Elite Basketball on Saturday and Sunday, August 26-27th and September 2nd-3rd, respectively.

In response to Trustee Henyard's question, the village clerk confirmed that there have been recent reports of tagging by Dolton Elite basketball without permission. Its representative said that these had not been sponsored by the club. Chief Collins is aware of unauthorized tagging.

MOTION TO APPROVE TAG DAYS REQUESTS BY DOLTON BEARS and DOLTON ELITE BASKETBALL.

Motion by Trustee House. Second by Trustee Pierson.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 5 Denton, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 1 Henyard

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Village Engineer Ron Smith reported that street resurfacing under the 2016 Cook County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grant is almost complete. The village had received a grant of \$220,000. The following areas were resurfaced: Evers and Princeton; 146th, 147th and 149th Streets; and the alley between Indiana and Edbrooke from 146th to 148th Streets.

Mr. Smith will be seeking more information on a grant offered by FEMA for flood hazard mitigation, due in October.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Human Services – Trustee Muhammad

Trustee Muhammad said that he will give a report on the status of the 50/20 summer youth employment program at the next board meeting

Planning – Trustee Henyard

Trustee Henyard announced that the committee had met recently to discuss moving the Code Enforcement department from the police department back to the village hall, and terminating one of the lawn care service providers. Code Enforcement Director Brian Thigpen reports that there were 381 tickets issued in July and 14 complaints were received.

Departmental Operations – Trustee Stubbs

Supt. Matt Stacey read the public works report for July: cut/clean Vacant Homes-134; pick up/install street signs-7; cut down dead trees-4; trim trees-40; street light repair-22; bebox repair-8; sewer-3; hazard condition repair-4; water main breaks-3; and pothole fills-24. Public Works also serviced 15 village vehicles.

Police and Fire – Trustee Pierson

Trustee Pierson encouraged residents to attend the police department's Project Connect meetings held on the third Thursday of each month.

Chief Robert M. Collins, Jr. reports that the Dolton Police Department responded to 958 incidents and calls for service in July.

Chief Steven McCain reports that the Dolton Fire Department has responded to 2,611 incidents and calls for service in 2017 through July.

Finance – Trustee Muhammad

Finance Director Yvonne Redmond reports that the board approved its fiscal year 2018 budget on August 3, 2017. The budget shows a deficit of almost \$3 million. As a result the village has implemented a hiring freeze and furlough days for non-union village employees. The projected savings from furlough days is \$65,380. The second installment of property taxes was due on August 1st. The village has received \$5,035,072 to date. At a collection rate of 85%, there would be an additional \$2,252,522 coming in.

Special Events – Trustee Henyard

Trustee Henyard announced her annual Cancer Walk will take place on October 14th.

CORPORATE BILLS

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE PAYMENTS in the amount of \$969,064.20, Gross Payroll in the amount of \$384,165.99; Melanie Fitness Center Payments in the amount of \$12,631.33, Gross Payroll in the amount of \$2,565.75; for Total Corporate Payments of \$1,368,427.27.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee House.

Trustee Henyard asked to remove payment to Eric Stallworth for grass cutting as he has not authorized by the board of trustees.

Mayor Rogers responded that he had hired Stallworth to cut public properties overdue. Trustee Henyard said that there must be checks and balances on village expenditures.

Mayor Rogers responded by referencing the recent trips at village expense by Trustees Henyard and Stubbs to a conference in Las Vegas, for which they have submitted no report.

MOTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO ELIMINATE PAYMENT OF \$1,150.00 to ERIC STALLWORTH.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 3 Henyard, Pierson, Stubbs
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 3 Denton, House, Muhammad
ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

In response to Trustee Pierson's question re payment of \$1,572.00 to Fountain Tech, Ltd., Supt. Stacey confirmed that it was for a needed repair of the "waterfall."

MOTION TO APPROVE CORPORATE BILLS AS AMENDED.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee House.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Ordinance No. 17-027
Imposing a Sewer Maintenance Fee (Amending Ordinance No. 17-024)

The village attorney explained that this ordinance increases the sewer charge for multi-family residential units to \$5.00 per month (\$15 per quarter) per unit. There being no further discussion:

MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 17-027.

Motion by Trustee Henyard. Second by Trustee Pierson.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION TO APPROVE NEW BUSINESS ITEMS A-D.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Henyard.

- A. Ordinance No. 17-028
Amending Section 1-4-1 of the Dolton Village Code to Authorize the Costs of Collection to be Added to Delinquent Fines and Penalties
- B. Ordinance No. 17-029
Amending 7-6-7-5 of the Dolton Village Code, "Bills for Service: Delinquencies", by adding a New Subsection F Relating to Costs of Collection
- C. Ordinance No. 17-030
To Repeal Ordinance No. 17-023, "An Ordinance Amending the Dolton Village Code to Regulate Electronic Product Promotions, Sweepstakes Kiosks"

Mr. Corey Aranovitz, attorney for Mackey's at 800 E. Sibley Blvd., addressed the board of trustees. He pointed out that it upon the board passing the ordinance permitting sweepstakes kiosks, his client invested in the vacant space. He asked about the board's position on promotion/sweepstakes offers by other village businesses and suggested this ordinance would impact them as well. He asked if it was possible to continue discussion before the board reached a decision. Trustee Stubbs noted that his client had not paid the annual \$1,000 fee charged to gambling devices. Mr. Aranovitz cited a recent court decision that a sweepstakes kiosk was not a gambling device and again requested negotiation of the license fee amount.

- D. Resolution No. 17 R-018
Appointment of Janice Johnson as Acting Village Treasurer

The village attorney summarized each item. Discussion followed on Item C as above.

ON THE MOTION TO APPROVE ITEMS A-D:

ROLL CALL

AYES: 5 Denton, Henyard, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 1 House

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

E. Cancellation of Lawn Maintenance Contract with Fathers and Blessings

MOTION TO CANCEL CONTRACT WITH FATHERS AND BLESSINGS.

Motion by Trustee Muhammad. Second by Trustee Henyard.

Mayor Rogers allowed Trustee House's request for Mr. Demetrius Walker of Fathers and Blessings (FAB) to address the board.

In response to Trustee House's question as to why FAB's monthly bills exceeded those of the other village contractors, Mr. Walker said that the square footage of the properties assigned to FAB exceeded those assigned to the other contractors by 20-30 percent.

Trustee Henyard said that she went down the list of assigned properties and that FAB's billing was \$15,000 "out of whack."

ROLL CALL

AYES: 5 Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson

NAYS: 1 Stubbs

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

F. Approval of Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Patrol Tentative Agreement

MOTION TO APPROVE TENTATIVE AGREEMENT with FOP PATROL OFFICERS.

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

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6 Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

No report.

CITIZENS ADDRESS

Kevin Boens, resident, noted that two businesses in Dolton had recently closed, and that the attorney for the kiosk business had threatened a lawsuit, as had Fathers and Blessings. He asked about the ordinance prohibiting public interference at meetings.

Sandra Wells, resident, asked about notice of the recent planning committee meeting. She asked for more frequent housing committee meetings. She said that BP Capital should have been vetted, and that the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority has a good reputation. The village could work with both.

Earlene Branch, resident, asked if the ordinance against outbursts applies to the trustees, and asked why there was such hatred for the mayor. She objected to residents being kept waiting for over an hour while the board of trustees was in executive session.

Cary F. Coens, resident, Sunset Drive, asked about the status of the burned-out house at 152nd and Hasting. He has been waiting for publics to take care of the tree leaning over his property since he called in February.

Beth McBride, resident, reported irregular activity and a shooting at a home on her street.

Barbara Morris, resident, reported neighbors placing their garbage cans at the curb and do not bring them back in the rest of the week, and asked about the Project Connect starting time.

Josephina Anderson, resident, said she is upset about businesses being closed and said that the board should be working on more positive things.

Resident asked about the next electronics recycling event. She said that the board meetings are a fiasco.

Barbara Parker, resident, asked why she was receiving estimated bills when she has an outside water meter.

Yvonne Covington, resident, also objected to having citizens wait while the board is in executive session.

Resident asked why the village would be closing a business because it asked for a reduced license fee, or cutting payment to the lawn care service provider who has already paid for a license. He added that businesses will go elsewhere when the news gets out.

Mrs. Crayton, resident, asked about improving the flea market and doing more to advertise it. She questioned the \$60 participation fee for Gospel Fest.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Held earlier in the evening as per above.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board of Trustees, on a motion by Trustee House, second by Trustee Henyard, to adjourn the Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Mayor Rogers asked for a roll call to adjourn.

ROLL CALL

AYES: 6

Denton, Henyard, House, Muhammad, Pierson, Stubbs

NAYS: 0

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: 0

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.



MARY KAY DUGGAN, Village Clerk

APPROVED by the Board of Trustees this 5th day of March, 2018.



RILEY H. ROGERS, Mayor