MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS, COUNTY OF COOK
HELD ON August 19, 2019 7:00 P.M.

Administrative Staff Present: Mr. Shawn Staples, Police Chief; Mr. Brian Kolosh, Fire Chief; Mr. Frank Knittle, Director Community Development; Mr. Ed Stewart, Director Recreational Services; Mr. George Gunkel, Director Public Works; Mr. Tim Lapp, Village Attorney; Mr. John Hilsen, Village Engineer; Mr. J Wynsma, Village Administrator; Ms. Pat Mahon, Deputy Village Administrator; Mr. John Watson, Director of Economic Development; Ms. Beth Herman, Village Treasurer

President De Graff called the meeting to order and Clerk Penman called the roll.

Present: Trustees Larry De Young, John Russell, Andrew Johnson and Prince Reed

Absent with Notice: Trustees Vickie Perkins and Cindy Nylen

Pastor Richard Zekveld of Covenant Fellowship Church opened our meeting with prayer. President De Graff thanked Pastor Zekveld.

Special Presentation
Bonita Parker, our ComEd Government Affairs Representative, who is also a South Holland resident, presented a symbolic check to the Village as part of Com Ed’s rebate program for conversion to LED streetlights. The check is in the amount of $26,000. We have largely completed our conversion to LED streetlights on our major east/west and north/south roads.

Minutes
Trustee De Young moved that the reading of the Minutes of the August 5, 2019 meeting be dispensed with, copies thereof having been distributed to each trustee, and the Minutes as presented be approved.

Trustee Reed seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees De Young, Russell, Johnson and Reed

Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff

Resident Comments
A resident expressed concern with the condition of 170th street and asked whether the Village would soon make repairs. President De Graff explained that 170th is a county road. We do not repair county roads however we can contact the county. Ms. Jackie Franklin, the chief of staff for Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller was in attendance. She volunteered to take the matter back to Commissioner Miller. President De Graff thanked her for her assistance.

Mr. James Johnson expressed concern regarding cars speeding through his neighborhood. He shared that this has been a problem since the Thornton gas station opened. Cars have run into his trees twice and has sideswiped two of his cars. He would like to see speed bumps installed. President De Graff shared that speed bumps have be known to damage cars, even at normal speed. Chief Staples also shared that residents in the area would have to have input before speedbump could be installed. Typically, we have an officer in the area, but his focus is on the semi-trucks. Chief Staples assured him that an officer will be place there to monitor the area.

Ms. Shirley Harris, 171st and Cornell, expressed concern regarding a warning letter she received informing her to address the siding on her home. She shared that she couldn’t afford to at this time, so she went to Code Enforcement to ask for an extension. She felt that the letter and the way she was treated was too harsh. All she wants at this time is an extension. President De Graff assured her that the department means well. We take code enforcement very seriously, but we are not trying to be hurtful in any way. He asked Director Knittle to meet with her after the board meeting to see what can be done.

Engineer’s Report
Mr. Hilsen had no report this evening.

Attorney’s Report
Mr. Lapp had one item this evening. Ordinance 2019-15, Prohibiting Recreational Cannabis Establishments. This ordinance precludes business that cultivate, grow, dispense, process or transport recreational cannabis. Trustee Reed moved to adopt the Ordinance as presented. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees Reed, Johnson, De Young and Russell

Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff
Community Development
Trustee De Young moved for approval of Building Permits Nos. 19-785 – 19-892 as presented, representing a value of $424,000 in community investments. Trustee Russell seconded the motion.

Among these permits, Trustee De Young highlighted the following: $16,000 – blacktop for Thornwood Plaza.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees De Young, Russell, Johnson and Reed
Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff

Parks and Recreation
In Trustee Perkins’ absence, Trustee Reed reported that the Fall program books are now available at the Community Center or you can view all program information on line at southholland.org.

Fall program registration will take place on Thursday August 29 from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm for residents only, Friday August 30 from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and Saturday August 31 from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm for open registration.

As always please remember that you can register and pay for all programs online at southholland.org. Online registration begins on Friday August 30th at 9:00 a.m.

Community Coordination
In Trustee Nylen’s absence, Trustee De Young shared details on the following upcoming events. The Town Center Social & Cruise Night cruise night in July 27 was a success. If you missed it, we are having another one on Saturday, August 24, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at South Park Ave. north of Route 6. Numerous vehicles, from antiques to newer models, will line South Park Ave for spectator viewing. There will also be a live band, food vendors and kids’ activities.

Movie in the Park: The Lego Movie will be Saturday, Aug 24th in Veterans Memorial Park at 8:00 p.m.

The next Mayor’s Coffee is in the evening on September 10, 7:00 p.m. at the South Holland Community Center. Residents can meet with the Mayor and enjoy coffee and refreshments.

The 14th Annual Heritage Haul is coming up next month. This is a 5K run/walk, 10K, and Half Marathon. There are new routes this year that allow for better safety and scenery. Visit southholland.org for the route maps. Fifty percent of every registration fee benefits Special Olympics Illinois. Register by August 31 to receive 20% off your entry fee. Visit southholland.org to sign up.

Finance
Trustee Russell moved for Approval of payments of vouchers as listed on Register No. 986 for $1,438,012.97 covering day-to-day operations, vendor payments and salaries. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Trustees Russell, Johnson, De Young and Reed
Nays: None

Motion carried, approved and so ordered by President Don A. De Graff

Public Safety
Trustee Johnson reported that the Police Department is seeking motivated high school age students that are interested in learning about law enforcement. Open enrollment has begun for the 2nd annual Student Police Academy. The Academy is a mix of classroom and hands on activities. Participants will learn about safety and law enforcement procedures and tactics. The program will be held at the South Holland Police Department and is approximately 2 hours long, one class per week, for 8 weeks. Class dates to be determined. To register please contact Officer Megan Norris at 331-3131 Extension 2.

Trustee Johnson asked whether there were any course credits attached to the Academy. According to Chief Staples, there isn’t at this time however they are in conversation with school administration.

Public Works
Trustee Reed reported that Public Works personnel removed the old stairs and ADA ramp at the Legion Hall next to Van-O Park and is in the process of rebuilding it.

Old swing sets and playground equipment were removed from area parks after new equipment was installed this past summer.

Lastly, Bob Boomsma, our Head Water Operator, will be retiring this Friday after 23 years of service at Public Works. His efforts and dedication will be missed and we wish him well going forward.
President De Graff asked if there were any additional business.

While acknowledging the great summer the Village has had, President De Graff highlighted some of the activities that has provided for community engagement and networking with the churches, businesses and schools. He expressed excitement about District 205, after meeting at length with representatives from both the School Board and Administration regarding plans for the coming year. He is impressed with what they are trying to do, in working through the feeder school system, which is much broader than South Holland schools. If the South Holland schools were the only feeder schools, District 205 would have a much easier task, but they are working hard to bring equivalency in test scores and growth with all of their feeder schools. Hopefully some of the things they talked about will bring about positive results, as time moves on. They are trying hard and we as a Village, need to support them in every way we can.

There being no additional business to come before the President and Board of Trustees, Trustee Reed moved that this meeting adjourn. Trustee Johnson seconded the motion. Ayes all on the roll. Meeting adjourned. Next regular meeting of the President and the Board of Trustees will be held on Tuesday, September 3, 2019, at 8:00 PM, in the Council Room of the Municipal Building, County of Cook, South Holland, Illinois.