

VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK

14700 Ravinia Avenue
Orland Park, IL 60462
www.orland-park.il.us



Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 30, 2009

7:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

Village Hall

Board of Trustees

Village President Daniel J. McLaughlin

Village Clerk David P. Maher

*Trustees Bernard A. Murphy, Kathleen M. Fenton, Brad S. O'Halloran,
James V. Dodge, Jr., Edward G. Schussler, and Patricia Gira*

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

Present: 6 - Trustee Murphy, Trustee Fenton, Trustee O'Halloran, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira and Village President McLaughlin

Absent: 1 - Trustee Dodge

HEARINGS 7:00 P.M.**2009-0552 Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2010 Budget - Approval**

Notice of the public hearing for the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget was given in the Southtown Star and the Orland Park Prairie as required by law. Notice was also posted on the Village Hall bulletin board and given to the news media and Comcast Cable Services. The Tentative Annual Budget was published and made available for public review on November 17, 2009.

President McLaughlin commented like every other town, the Village of Orland Park is in a budget crunch. Every source of income that the Village receives is down considerable.

When the Board first began the budget process, the operating budget, which is the day-to-day services of the Village, was at a \$2.5 Million deficit. Several workshops took place and decisions were made on various areas to cuts which brought the deficit to \$1.3 Million.

President McLaughlin stated that the Village Board proposed ending the Dial-a-Ride Program, which would save approximately \$350,000 from the projected \$1.3 Million shortfall. This service has three buses, three full-time drivers and three part-time drivers.

President McLaughlin stated that he along with the Trustees have received numerous calls, emails, and letters asking to preserve this program.

President McLaughlin complemented the riders of this program for their understanding on the hard decisions that the Board must make. The correspondences that was received was not angry or critical, but informative and suggestive on how to save this program by charging more per ride or cutting the service down during the week.

President McLaughlin stated that at the November 16th Board meeting several residents/riders spoke before the Board on how important the PACE bus service is to them. The Board then requested staff to review this service and present to the Board different scenarios to consider keeping the Dial-a-Ride operating.

President McLaughlin stated that the Village Board is sympathetic with the issues.

This service began because the Village cares about our senior citizens and disabled individuals that have trouble getting around. This service is to help those individuals and the Board does not have an interest in cutting this service all together.

President McLaughlin explained that the Board will review the different scenarios presented by staff and decide how to continue this service at a lesser extent and still watch the Village's Budget. However, when the Board makes its decision on which scenario they will approve, he reminded everyone there is still a deficit and cuts will need to be made to other services in the Village so that the 2010 budget will be balanced.

President McLaughlin asked if anyone in the audience would like to make any comments.

Several residents/riders spoke before the Board and stated how vital the PACE service is to them. Without it they will lose their independence and will not have the opportunity to go into the community. This service gives the senior citizens and people with disabilities their self esteem and dignity. They do not want to be dependant on anyone by asking for a ride. Several riders stated how grateful they are that there is a service such as the PACE bus, that drives them where they need to go. If this program is eliminated it would be a step backwards for the Village.

I move to approve adjourning the Fiscal Year 2010 Budget public hearing.

A motion was made by Trustee Edward Schussler, seconded by Trustee Kathleen Fenton, that this matter be ADJOURNED. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Trustee Murphy, Trustee Fenton, Trustee O'Halloran, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, and Village President McLaughlin

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Trustee Dodge

ADJOURNMENT - 8:15 PM

A motion was made by Trustee Bernard Murphy, seconded by Trustee Kathleen Fenton, that this matter be ADJOURNED. The motion CARRIED by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Trustee Murphy, Trustee Fenton, Trustee O'Halloran, Trustee Schussler, Trustee Gira, and Village President McLaughlin

Nay: 0

Absent: 1 - Trustee Dodge

/nm

APPROVED:

Respectfully Submitted,

David P. Maher, Village Clerk