



Village of Oak Park

123 Madison Street
Oak Park, Illinois 60302
www.oak-park.us

Meeting Minutes

President and Board of Trustees

Monday, March 11, 2024

7:00 PM

Village Hall

I. Call to Order

Village President Vicki Scaman called the Special Meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Trustee Enyia joined the Meeting at 7:03 P.M.

Present: 5 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 2 - Village Trustee Parakkat, and Village Trustee Robinson

III. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining

It was moved by Trustee Straw, seconded by Trustee Buchanan, to adjourn into Executive Session. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 4 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 3 - Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Parakkat, and Village Trustee Robinson

V. Reconvene to Special Meeting in Council Chambers and Call to Order

The meeting reconvened at 7:57 P.M.

VI. Roll Call

Present: 5 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

Absent: 2 - Village Trustee Parakkat, and Village Trustee Robinson

VII. Agenda Approval

It was moved by Trustee Straw, seconded by Trustee Wesley, to approve the Agenda. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

VIII. Non-Agenda Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Regular Agenda

- A. [RES 24-165](#) **A Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Funding Grant Agreement with the Oak Park-River Forest Community of Congregations to Provide an Additional \$100,000 in Village General Funds to the Community of Congregations to Provide Short-Term Rental Assistance for Asylum Seekers for a New Total of \$250,000 and Authorizing its Execution**

Village Manager Kevin Jackson and Deputy Village Manager Lisa Shelley introduced the Item.

President Scaman requested that her colleagues consider the potential that Oak Park will be in good standing with the state to continue funds into the future. She requested the amount be increased to \$200K. She thanked Senator Don Harmon for always being a strong advocate for the Village of Oak Park and helping us with the flexibility needed to work with the state.

Trustee Buchanan requested context for needing the additional \$100K. President Scaman said this motion was made in conversation with our faith-based community that we were pursuing a match that they would raise \$100K and we would commit \$100K. Since that time, President Scaman has had conversations with Sen. Harmon who has strongly advocated for us to receive the flexibility. The \$200K was always the need but we will now have the ability to recoup the funds.

Village Attorney Paul Stephanides explained that this can be a friendly amendment to add the additional \$100K.

Trustee Wesley asked if this would cover the residents at Grace Episcopal Church, which Deputy Manager Shelley confirmed it will. He clarified that this will shut down our current shelter program and there are no plans by the Village to reinstate a shelter program after this vote. He said he supports the \$200K.

Trustee Straw asked if this would also include the possibility to recoup what we have previously allocated to the Community of Congregations from Village funds. President Scaman said she thinks it is possible because it is allowing us to continue to work with IDHS so that we have the flexibility needed. Trustee Straw noted that if that happens, the entirety of the village's migrant response would be paid for by the state and the county.

Trustee Enyia expressed his gratitude to the Community of Congregations, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, and everyone who made this happen.

It was moved by Trustee Buchanan, seconded by Trustee Enyia, to make a

friendly amendment to increase the amount in the original motion from \$100K to \$200K.

President Scaman thanked Jack Crowe with Migrant Ministries and Pastor Colin Knapp for their attendance.

It was moved by Trustee Buchanan, seconded by Trustee Enyia, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion was approved. The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: 5 - Village President Scaman, Village Trustee Buchanan, Village Trustee Enyia, Village Trustee Straw, and Village Trustee Wesley

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 2 - Village Trustee Parakkat, and Village Trustee Robinson

X. Adjourn

It was moved by Trustee Straw, seconded by Trustee Wesley, to Adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 P.M., Monday, March 11, 2024.

**Respectfully submitted,
Deputy Clerk Hansen**