

**APPROVED MINUTES - REGULAR BOARD MEETING
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF OAK PARK
HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 6, 2013 AT 7:30 P.M.
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF OAK PARK VILLAGE HALL**

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Pope called the meeting to order at 8:15 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Trustees Hedges, Johnson, Lueck, Salzman and Tucker; President Pope
ABSENT: Trustee Brewer

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda for the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the agenda was approved as presented.

IV. RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ELECTION RESULTS

Village Clerk Powell read the resolution aloud. It was moved and seconded that the **RESOLUTION CERTIFYING ELECTION RESULTS** be adopted.

The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Hedges, Johnson, Lueck Salzman and Tucker; President Pope

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustee Brewer

The resolution was adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gail Moran, 906 N. Taylor Ave. Ms. Moran thanked President Pope and Trustee Hedges for their years of service and congratulated and welcomed President-Elect Abu-Taleb and Trustee-Elect Barber.

V. OATH OF OFFICE

A. VILLAGE CLERK

1. Village Clerk Teresa Powell (4-year Term)

Sworn in by Interim Deputy Village Clerk MaryAnn Schoenneman.

2. Remarks from Clerk Powell

Village Clerk Powell thanked the residents for the opportunity to serve as Clerk and looked forward to another four years. She also thanked staff for being helpful as she familiarized herself with Village Hall and spoke about how much she learned during her first term. She thanked President Pope and recollected how she first met him through his daughter while working at Alcuin Montessori. She also thanked Trustee Hedges for all his years of service to the community and looked forward to working with President-Elect Abu-Taleb and Trustee-Elect Barber.

B. VILLAGE TRUSTEE**1. Remarks from Mid-Term Trustees****a) Remarks from Trustee Ray Johnson**

Trustee Johnson stated that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Trustee, adding that Oak Park has made him a better person in ways he couldn't imagine when he was very young and moved here from rural Michigan. He commended Trustee Hedges for his devotion to the community and praised President Pope for projects completed due to his efforts, determination and tenacity while serving on the Board. Trustee Johnson added that he is committed to working with President-Elect Abu-Taleb in making Oak Park a business-friendly community and also with Trustee-Elect Barber in his efforts to create greater governmental collaboration.

b) Remarks from Trustee Adam Salzman

Trustee Salzman commented that when one serves on the Board, their family serves as well and extended gratitude to the families of President-Elect Abu-Taleb and Trustee-Elect Barber. He spoke about the first time he met President Pope and noted that he is still continually struck by his skills and abilities and the genuineness of his feelings for the Village. Trustee Salzman also stated that Oak Park has improved in countless ways, particularly financially, because of Trustee Hedges and his service on the Board.

c) Remarks from Trustee Bob Tucker

Trustee Tucker read comments on behalf of Trustee Brewer. He described Trustee Hedges as the consummate public servant, having dedicated his life to serving the community. He added that he will miss his professionalism, deep concern for the community and deep understanding of the Village's budget. Trustee Brewer commended President Pope for his leadership qualities and compassion, adding that this is needed in other areas of government as well. He also looked forward to working with President-Elect Abu-Taleb and Trustee-Elect Barber.

Trustee Tucker stated that Trustee Hedges is a model for public service and took his work very seriously. He will miss him at the Board table but will continue to seek his advice, as Trustee Hedges will remain a trusted friend to him and his family. Trustee Tucker thanked President Pope for his countless hours of dedication and for helping him through difficult times with his calmness and voice of reason. He stated that he is looking forward to working with Trustee-Elect Barber and his fresh perspective and acknowledged President-Elect Abu-Taleb's accomplishments, from his beginnings in the Gaza Strip to being a successful businessman in the community to becoming Village President.

2. Remarks from Outgoing Trustee John Hedges

Trustee Hedges thanked his family for their support and understanding through the years. He acknowledged respect for the current and previous Board members and Clerks that he served with, and said that he is proud of the work they did together. Trustee Hedges stated that the Village has one of the, if not the most, professionally dedicated staffs that he has seen in the 33 years he has been around Village government and he can only see it getting better under the leadership of Village Manager Cara Pavlicek. He thanked the members of the Citizen Advisory Boards and Commissions for the good work that they do. Trustee Hedges thanked the citizens of

Oak Park, referring to them as a wonderful, diverse, outspoken, intelligent, well-read, patient and understanding community that demands and deserves the best from their local governments and institutions. He congratulated Trustee-Elect Barber, President-Elect Abu-Taleb and, in closing, President Pope for his great work that the entire community will continue to benefit from.

3. **Swearing in of Village Trustee Collette Lueck (4 year term)**
Sworn in by Village Clerk Teresa Powell.
5. **Swearing in of Village Trustee Peter Barber (4 year term)**
Sworn in by Village Clerk Teresa Powell.

C. VILLAGE PRESIDENT

1. **Remarks from Outgoing Village President David Pope**

President Pope spoke about the role of the Villager President at the local, regional, state and national levels and relationships built with others at those levels of government that helped advance the interests of the community. He looked to his current and newly elected colleagues to continue that mission of driving forward the opportunities for the community to continue to be a beacon for this region and this nation. President Pope acknowledged staff, noting that in addition to being highly professionally competent, they also care deeply about the community. He stated that he has been fortunate to serve on this Board, and recognized each member for the unique qualities they bring.

President Pope also spoke about his background. Being adopted by his parents has given him the perspective that he could have been walking in anyone's shoes depending on the household in which he grew up. Oak Park borders on the east to one of the poorest communities in the county and one of the wealthiest to the west. The children born in those communities are not different in terms of what they could do if surrounded by similar circumstances and provided the same level of love, support and educational opportunities that he and so many others were fortunate to have. The role of Village President has allowed him to be actively committed to help provide that opportunity for every child in this community to reach their highest potential.

In closing, President Pope thanked his wife and daughters for their love and support. He looked forward to seeing the future accomplishments of the new Board.

2. **Swearing in of Village President Anan Abu-Taleb (4-year term)**
Sworn in by Village Clerk Teresa Powell.

VI. RESOLUTIONS OF APPRECIATION & SERVICE AWARDS

A. **Resolution in Appreciation of Trustee John Hedges**

It was moved and seconded that a **Resolution in Appreciation of Trustee John Hedges** be adopted. Trustee Johnson read the resolution aloud. A voice vote was taken and the resolution was adopted.

B. Resolution in Appreciation of Village President David Pope

It was moved and seconded that a **Resolution in Appreciation of Village President David Pope** be adopted. President Abu-Taleb read the resolution aloud. A voice vote was taken and the resolution was adopted.

VII. DIVERSITY STATEMENT**A. Resolution Adopting the Diversity Statement**

It was moved and seconded that a **Resolution Adopting the Diversity Statement** be adopted. President Abu-Taleb read the resolution aloud. A voice vote was taken and the resolution was adopted

VIII. LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT**A. Resolution 2013-R-77 entitled RESOLUTION APPOINTING LOCAL LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSIONER**

In accordance with Section 5/4-2 of the Liquor Control Act of 1934, President Abu-Taleb directed the Board of Trustees to appoint by majority vote a person other than himself to serve as the Local Liquor Commissioner. He recused himself from all activities of the Oak Park Liquor Control Review Board and from the role of Local Liquor Commissioner. He asked Trustee Tucker to serve as President Pro Tem for consideration of this resolution.

Village Manager Pavlicek explained that the Village Board has the ability to appoint a Local Liquor Commissioner pursuant to local ordinance. State law specifies that the individual must be a licensed attorney in the State of Illinois. Acting Village Attorney Simone Boutet added that they must vow not to legally represent liquor applicants before the Village Board or the Liquor Control Review Board. Their term shall not exceed that of President Abu-Taleb.

It was moved and seconded that Trustee Adam Salzman be appointed as Local Liquor Commissioner. There was discussion regarding term length. Trustee Barber suggested it be through the end of Trustee Salzman's term.

The roll call on the vote was as follows:

AYES: Trustees Barber, Johnson, Lueck and Salzman; President Pro Tem Tucker

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Trustee Brewer

ABSTAIN: President Abu-Taleb

The resolution was adopted.

President Abu-Taleb rejoined the meeting.

IX. REMARKS FROM THE RE-ELECTED AND NEWLY ELECTED**A. VILLAGE TRUSTEE**

1. Remarks from Trustee Colette Lueck

Trustee Lueck commended Former Trustee Hedges for his conservative fiscal approach and understanding of the budget, noting several of his accomplishments and his love of Oak Park. She spoke about her respect for Former President Pope and how his knowledge and logic helped move issues forward that the Board was initially reluctant to support. Trustee Lueck stated that she is proud of the intergovernmental support for early childhood care as well as the housing collaboration, as one of her first term goals was to bring people together to build a stronger community.

3. Remarks from Trustee Peter Barber

Trustee Barber thanked Former President Pope and Former Trustee Hedges and congratulated re-elected Trustees Lueck and Brewer. He also thanked his family. Trustee Barber looked forward to working on economic development and intergovernmental collaboration with the new Board, adding that he would like to see residents become prouder of Oak Park.

B. VILLAGE PRESIDENT**1. Remarks from Village President Anan Abu-Taleb**

President Abu-Taleb congratulated Trustees Barber, Lueck and Brewer and Village Clerk Powell. He thanked Trustee Hedges and President Pope, as well as his wife and acknowledged his mother and mother-in-law. He thanked the residents and spoke about his love of Oak Park, where residents respect each other, embrace diversity and work hard to build strong futures for their children and looked forward to giving back to the community. He asked the Board to join him in his efforts to attract new businesses and encourage private investment, improve customer service, streamline building permits and update parking policies. President Abu-Taleb stated he is committed to transparency in government, holding open forums and ensuring a positive work environment among the Board as well as within the Village workforce at every level. In closing, he asked for the community's support and thanked them for giving him the opportunity to serve as their Village President.

X. ADJOURN

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 P.M. Monday, May 6, 2013.

SUBMITTED AND RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF:

By: MaryAnn Schoenneman
Interim Deputy Village Clerk

Teresa Powell, Village Clerk