

# Meeting Minutes

Village of Downers Grove - Council Meeting

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**Council Chambers**

**April 16, 2019**

**07:00 PM**

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In order to give as many visitors as possible an opportunity to speak and in the interest of adjourning the meeting by 9:00 p.m., please limit your comments to 5 minutes in length, unless further time is granted by Council. Thank you.

## 1. Call to Order

Mayor Martin Tully called the regular meeting of the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Downers Grove Village Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Mayor Tully led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## 2. Roll Call

**Council Attendance (Present):** Commissioner Barnett, Commissioner Walus, Commissioner Earl, Commissioner Waldack, Commissioner White, Commissioner José; Mayor Tully

**Absent:** None

**Non-Voting:** Village Manager David Fieldman, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca, Village Clerk April Holden

The Council meeting is broadcast over the local FM radio station, WDGC. In addition, a tape recording and videotape of the meeting are being made using Village-owned equipment. The videotape of the meeting will be used for later rebroadcast of the Council meeting over the Village cable television Channel 6.

The Council will follow the rules of conduct for this meeting as provided in Sec. 2.5 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code. These offer the public the opportunity to comment at several points in the meeting. First, immediately following approval of the minutes of past meetings, an opportunity will be given for public comments and questions of a general nature. If a public hearing is scheduled for this meeting, an opportunity is given for public comments and questions related to the subject of the hearing. Finally, an opportunity is given for public comments and questions on items appearing on the Consent Agenda, the Active Agenda and the First Reading.

At the appropriate time the presiding officers will ask if there are any comments from the public. Individuals wishing to speak, should raise their hand to be recognized and, after acknowledgment from the presiding officer, approach the microphone and state their name. Remarks should be limited to five minutes, and individuals are asked to refrain from making repetitive statements.

Agendas are located on either side of the Council Chambers, and he invited the audience to pick up an agenda and follow the progress of the Council meeting.

## 3. Minutes of Council Meetings

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**MIN 2019-8147** — A. Minutes: Council Meeting - April 9, 2019

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried by voice vote.

#### **4. Public Comments**

1. Kathy Nybo, 5253 Blodgett, commented to Commissioner Waldack that she was hoping he would be present for the new building, to address ADA concerns, and she hopes his voice will be heard later. She thanked him for giving up his Tuesdays.

She commented that Commissioner White will be missed, as he is the voice of common sense and clarified many issues.

Ms. Nybo said to Mayor Tully that she appreciated his 16 years of service. She said the Community Events Commission was the fun Commission and the Mayor was a part of that and made it better. She thanked him for his sacrifices, saying he will be missed.

2. Liz Chalberg, 1132 Curtiss, spoke on behalf of the Historical Society and thanked those leaving for their service, and for their support of the landmark application for the Main Street cemetery. It will be noted at the Founders Day event. Henry Carpenter is the Person of the Year for Founders Day. She reviewed his history in Downers Grove. She noted that both Mayor Tully and Mayor-elect Barnett will speak on May 4 at 11:30 a.m.

3. Marty Acks, 5217 Fairmount, said he is a volunteer and Board member of the Downers Grove Historical Society. He announced a new app for the Main Street Cemetery at [www.mainstreetcemetery.com](http://www.mainstreetcemetery.com). Mr. Acks reviewed the features of the app including biographies of those buried there. He thanked the Village for their support.

#### **5. Consent Agenda**

**BIL 2019-8148** — A. Bills Payable: 6450, April 16, 2019

**RES 2019-8146** — B. Resolution: Authorize an Extension to the Agreement with MC Squared Energy Services, LLC for the Purchase of Electric Utility Service

**Summary:** This authorizes an extension to the agreement between the Village of Downers Grove and MC Squared Energy Services for the purchase of electric utility service.

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN EXTENSION TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND MC SQUARED ENERGY SERVICES, LLC**

**RESOLUTION 2019-31**

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, Hosé, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

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## 6. Active Agenda

**RES 2019-8140** — A. Resolution: Grant Historic Landmark Designation for 5158 Main Street

**Summary:** This grants historic landmark designation for 5158 Main Street.

### **A RESOLUTION GRANTING HISTORIC LANDMARK DESIGNATION FOR 5158 MAIN STREET**

#### **RESOLUTION 2019-32**

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to adopt “A Resolution Granting Historic Landmark Designation for 5158 Main Street” as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

Commissioner Waldack said he is very happy to see the cemetery landmarked as it is important to save this area and not allow it to become retail. It is extremely appropriate.

Mayor Tully noted that this is the 26<sup>th</sup> landmarked property.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, José, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

**ORD 2019-8115** — B. Ordinance: Authorize a Special Use for 1225 Warren Avenue to Permit a Veterinary Clinic with a Variation

**Summary:** This authorizes a special use for 1225 Warren Avenue to permit a veterinary clinic with a variation.

### **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL USE FOR 1225 WARREN AVENUE TO PERMIT A VETERINARY CLINIC WITH A VARIATION**

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 5756**

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to adopt “An Ordinance Authorizing a Special Use for 1225 Warren Avenue to Permit a Veterinary Clinic with a Variation” as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, José, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

**ORD 2019-8074** — C. Ordinance: Adopt Amendments to the Institutional Master Plan for Downers Grove South High School Campus, 1436 Norfolk Street

**Summary:** This adopts certain amendments to the Institutional Master Plan for the property located at 1436 Norfolk Street commonly known as the Downers Grove South High School Campus.

### **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1436 NORFOLK STREET COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE DOWNERS GROVE SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS**

#### **ORDINANCE NO. 5757**

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**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to adopt “An Ordinance Adopting Amendments to the Institutional Master Plan for Downers Grove South High School Campus, 1436 Norfolk Street” as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, José, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

**ORD 2019-8073** — D. Ordinance: Adopt Amendments to the Institutional Master Plan for Downers Grove North High School Campus, 4436 Main Street

**Summary:** This adopts certain amendments to the Institutional Master Plan for the property located at 4436 Main Street commonly known as the Downers Grove North High School Campus.

**AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE INSTITUTIONAL MASTER PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 4436 MAIN STREET COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE DOWNERS GROVE NORTH HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 5758**

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to adopt “An Ordinance Adopting Amendments to the Institutional Master Plan for Downers Grove North High School Campus, 4436 Main Street” as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, José, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

**ORD 2019-8127** — E. Ordinance: Grant a Stormwater Variance for 4436 Main Street, Downers Grove North High School

**Summary:** This grants a stormwater variance for the property located at 4436 Main Street.

**AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A STORMWATER VARIANCE FOR 4436 MAIN STREET**

**ORDINANCE NO. 5759**

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to adopt “An Ordinance Granting a Stormwater Variance for 4436 Main Street, Downers Grove North High School” as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

Mayor Tully extended his congratulations to District 99 as well as Downers Grove North and Downers Grove South high schools.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, José, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

**ORD 2019-8105** — F. Ordinance: Amend Ordinance #5720 and the Village of Downers Grove Budget for Fiscal Year 2018

**Summary:** This adopts certain amendments to the 2018 Budget.

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**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #5720 AND THE  
VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018**

**ORDINANCE NO. 5760**

**Motion:** Commissioner White moved to adopt “An Ordinance Amending Ordinance #5720 and the Village of Downers Grove Budget for Fiscal Year 2018” as presented. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

Commissioner Waldack noted that this is in regard to the 2018 budget. Because the Village received more in revenue than what was budgeted, we are required to amend the budget to comply with State law that dictates municipalities cannot spend more than authorized unless a budget amendment is adopted.

**Votes:** Yea: Commissioners White, Waldack, Walus, Earl, José, Barnett; Mayor Tully

Nay: None

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried.

## **7. First Reading**

## **8. Recognition of Mayor Tully, Commissioner Waldack and Commissioner White**

Mayor Tully called upon the Village Council members for comments they wished to direct to outgoing Commissioner Bill Waldack.

### **Commissioner Bill Waldack**

Commissioner Earl said that Bill Waldack has been the conscience of this community for as long as she has known him. He has fought for continued funding for seniors, the disabled, and Meals on Wheels, which was re-funded almost solely because of Commissioner Waldack. She said he has fought for people who can't fight for themselves, and he's done that with both hands tied behind his back as he is legally blind and has managed to get through volumes of Village reading materials over the years. She said she and Commissioner Waldack have not always agreed, but she respects his opinions and knows they will always remain friends. She can't say goodbye to him, but knows that he'll be tuning in to the Council meetings, or working with some other area in the Village to represent the citizens. She extended her heartfelt thanks to him, and said she wished him and his family the best.

Commissioner Walus explained that she has written personal notes to the Mayor and Commissioners, adding that it has been an honor serving with Bill Waldack. She's learned a lot from him and will miss sitting next to him. She appreciates all that he has taught her in this position.

Mayor-elect Barnett said that everyone should recognize, whether or not he and Commissioner Waldack have agreed, that Bill's service to the community cannot be understated. There has been no one that he knows who has taken up subjects near and dear to his heart and advanced those subjects forward as forcefully as Commissioner Waldack. On behalf of the entire community, Mayor-elect Barnett thanked Commissioner Waldack for his service.

Commissioner José echoed that Commissioner Waldack's dedication to the community is second to none. He has worked incredibly hard and deserves all the credit for that. There has not always been agreement, but Commissioner José thanked Commissioner Waldack for giving him a start in Village government by suggesting that Commissioner José run for Council. He learned much through that first campaign, and he thanked Commissioner Waldack for all he's done for the Village and for himself personally.

Commissioner White said for background that there are many people in the Village living in difficult financial circumstances earning less than \$1,000 per month. At the same time there are homes being built for \$2 and \$3 million, and families that spend more on a family vacation than some people have for their entire annual budget. Commissioner Waldack has never forgotten those people. He cares about them more than anyone Commissioner White has served with on this Council, or on the prior Council. Hopefully the Council will always remember that those people living on limited incomes are citizens of this community too. Commissioner White said that for those reasons he will always admire Commissioner Waldack for his service.

Mayor Tully spoke about Commissioner Waldack's habit of using props to make his point about a particular issue. Those props were used to make sure that those listening fully appreciated what he was trying to convey, and his technique always worked and signified the research and mindfulness of Commissioner Waldack's dedication. The Mayor said he hoped that after 12 years in public service that Commissioner Waldack might break away from his shy and retiring manner and use social media or a website to help him better communicate with people. The Mayor said that he and Commissioner Waldack have not always agreed, but no one could ever question his skills or commitment. He has been a champion for those who don't have a voice, or who are not being heard. Mayor Tully thanked Commissioner Waldack for causing other members of the Council to be more cognizant of different viewpoints. The Mayor also thanked Mrs. Waldack and his family for sharing him with the community. The Mayor then presented Commissioner Waldack with some items including a Village flag, a street sign of William Waldack Way for his den or office, and a plaque in honor of Commissioner Waldack's service to the community.

Commissioner Waldack thanked everyone present for the appreciation they expressed for his efforts. He said he has had the honor of sitting with many people over the years, and hopes more of the good things he's done are remembered than the negative things. He learned about 30 years ago that he was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa, saying he was very lucky that it was a slower progression. His first thought was what do people do in DuPage County when they cannot drive. Commissioner Schnell informed him that the Village had a taxi subsidy program to assist people with disabilities. He was thrilled to live in a community that gave a damn about seniors and people with disabilities. He also supported the Village's Commuter Shuttle service with the Mayor, which continued for a while and was finally taken over by PACE. He became a member of a County commission called the IAPCC to coordinate transportation facilities for seniors and people with disabilities. It has become Ride DuPage, providing over two million rides since its inception. It was a great achievement by many people.

When he first got onto the Council Commissioner Waldack said he realized that it is not a thankless job. He's heard good things from many residents, even though occasional issues arise. But the people who serve on the Council and in other areas of government are doing the best they can. Commissioner Waldack thanked his wife, Judy, and the spouses of all Council members. He said his wife has the added challenge because she's not thrilled about driving and prefers to be in the background. They will be married 45 years in just a few months. He also thanked all the Village employees, from the top to the bottom including those who make decisions, and those who have to put those decisions to work. He noted that when you call 911 you get a response from a well-trained, well-informed individual. The Village has been fortunate to have great Police Chiefs and Fire Chiefs. The challenge for this Council and all councils is to find a way to have retired Police or Fire Chiefs take their retirement and remain in the Village. Commissioner Waldack thanked the Public Works Department that has such a wide variety of responsibilities from plowing or street repair to putting up decorations. It's led by one of the top Public Works Directors in the country, Nan Newlon, who holds the respect of many agencies and their leaders. She is an asset to our community. He also thanked the Village's Planning Department for meeting so many challenges to keep the community safe through intelligent planning. He noted that the IT Department has helped him serve by providing special programs for him to be able to better see the documents and materials he has had to review.

Commissioner Waldack expressed his thanks to the Executive Staff, stating that the new Council should have a Resolution naming April Holden “our fine Village Clerk” and make it official. Mike Baker has survived three Village Managers and is an asset to the Village. The Legal Department works hard to keep the Village out of trouble, and he appreciates their help. Dave Fieldman is a great leader. The Council addresses policy issues. Dave has to execute those policy decisions. As for the Council members, Commissioner Waldack commented that he worked together with Commissioner Hosé on Meals on Wheels. Commissioner Walus has brought life to the Council with her attitude and decision-making. She’s done a splendid job in making connections in the community and he is glad that she will be there another four years. He and Commissioner Barnett have occasionally disagreed but have agreed more often than not. Commissioner White has been a good Mayor Pro Tem, highly intelligent, presenting his “White papers” on issues to present his views. Commissioner Waldack noted that he and Mayor Tully have worked together a long time and he’s been a good Mayor for the community. He has known Commissioner Earl for 12 years and they’ve shared many conversations about Village-issues, family issues, and friendship issues. He appreciates her friendship.

Commissioner Waldack then opened a bag of props to address the new Council. He brought out an apple core that represents core services after cuts are made. It’s easy to make cuts. He challenged the new Council not to give into making cuts to the whole apple. He thanked all the residents for honoring him. It has been his honor and privilege to serve.

### **Commissioner Bill White**

Commissioner Walus said that Commissioner White was the first person she truly connected with when she arrived here. He welcomed her and her family into his home and she has learned so much from him. She’s honored to have served with him.

Commissioner Waldack said he appreciates Commissioner White’s service, his intelligence and his approach to the issues. He hopes that will continue.

Commissioner Hosé said that it doesn’t take long in serving with Commissioner White to learn that his greatest strength is his absolutely boundless creativity. When they are faced with a challenge, Commissioner White has idea after idea after idea on how it can be fixed. Whether it comes as a phone call, text message or three-page memorandum he will advocate for those ideas. Commissioner Hosé thanked him for his fountain of ideas, passion and service to Downers Grove.

Mayor-elect Barnett thanked Commissioner White saying that service is a person’s highest calling. His time on the Council has been just a small part of his service to the community, whether as a Commissioner, with District 99, coaching baseball, FROG or other services, Commissioner White has devoted many years of service to Downers Grove. No one pays attention to detail more than Bill does and it’s because he truly cares.

Commissioner Earl said she and Bill go way back, having worked together on the Zoning Board of Appeals for many years. She considers Bill to be the ultimate collaborator, looking for the middle ground to make everyone happy. She appreciates his enthusiasm, intelligence, friendship and his example. She will miss him dearly.

Mayor Tully said that Commissioner White and he go back a long, long ways and have engaged in discussions about issues involving Downers Grove long before Facebook and Twitter even existed. The Mayor said he always knew he was dealing at a minimum with a peer if not more, because the conversations were always right on point, they were relevant and they were backed up with facts, and not accusations or supposition. He has always enjoyed those conversations and the mental challenges. The consequence is that Commissioner White pushes people to be better at governing, better at decision-making, even if they ultimately disagree with him. He causes people to stop and think and revisit their own positions to make sure they are duly supported, and that is very valuable in any organization. The Mayor said that he also has always admired Bill White because as someone who has a reputation for having an opinion on just about every issue that’s related to policy, unafraid to speak his mind, he is not one to stand in the background and lob hand grenades and rocks and arrows. He has always stepped up and put his money where his mouth is. He’s put his time and his effort in following through on the things he actually thinks, believes and talks about, from his long term as Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals, his service on the District 99 Board, and President of that organization and on the

Village Council. It's easy to criticize and demand more, but it's a lot tougher to actually do something. Commissioner White has never shied away from that. The Mayor said that Commissioner White is a storyteller, he loves telling stories sometimes more than once, and it is rumored that Commissioner White was giving odds on a successful on-line site as to how long the Mayor's reports would last. Mayor Tully said that Commissioner White is absolutely a policy wonk, identifying issues, challenged others to share them and think differently, and view an issue or a problem in a different way. Mayor Tully said he appreciated not only serving with Commissioner White, but also having him serve as Mayor Pro Tem. The Mayor served as Mayor Pro Tem under two different mayors and knows what is involved in that job. It is a varied job that means communicating and connecting with all the Council members, identifying the issues, and assuring that the Mayor is informed when something important is about to happen. Commissioner White has a talent for that position, for dialogue and building consensus among people with disparate views, and moving forward channeling to solve a problem for the good of the Village. He has always been ready to be the face of the Village when Mayor Tully was not available. Mayor Tully expressed his thanks to Commissioner White's wife, Karen and their family for the sacrifices they made sharing him with the Village. The Mayor presented Commissioner White with his street sign for Bill White Court, the Village flag, and a plaque for service to the Village.

Commissioner White relayed a story about Newt Gingrich, that he was known for having an enormous number of ideas. In fact, you needed a giant warehouse to store all the cabinets to contain all of Newt Gingrich's ideas. And in that warehouse was a very small room with a tiny file cabinet to store all his good ideas. Commissioner White said hopefully he had a higher ratio of good ideas to ideas in general. Commissioner White noted that six years ago he decided not to run again for the District 99 Board of Education, and two years later he was on the Council. He doesn't know what the future will be. Commissioner White said he especially wanted to thank the Village staff, and relayed an incident a few years ago when an angry constituent e-mailed him because the Village wasn't doing the types of things he wanted them to do. Commissioner White explained all that was being done, and the constituent replied the Council wasn't doing that, the Village staff was doing it, and the Village practically runs itself. Commissioner White's reply was "that's the point" of a Council/Manager form of government. The Council sets high-level directions and the staff sees them accomplished. Commissioner White stated that Downers Grove has an outstanding staff, at all levels and everybody on staff deserves to be mentioned. There are three senior leaders who have created a phenomenal organization. That makes the Council's job easy. Staff doesn't rubber stamp what is done. They proceed to do the job right. He appreciates every member of Council as well. Commissioner Walus brings a passion and commitment to caring about the community that is very impressive. Bill Waldack cares about people that most residents don't know exist. Because of Bill Waldack those people get the proper attention. Bob Barnett and he haven't always seen eye-to-eye, but were on numerous unanimous decisions on issues. He and Marge Earl served a long time together on the Zoning Board of Appeals. He extended his thanks to every member of the Council.

### **Mayor Martin Tully**

Mayor-elect Bob Barnett said that commenting on the Mayor's leadership would be challenging to fit all the comments on one tape. The Mayor's service has been exemplary in every fashion, and the Village is better for it. He asked Commissioner Earl for her comments.

Commissioner Earl said she has watched Mayor Tully since his Council days, and the issue that brought her to the Council Chambers was one in which she and the Mayor did not see eye-to-eye, yet she appreciated and respected his views and how he always laid out the argument as Mayor Pro Tem at that time, and when he left there was nobody she missed more than him on the Council. She remarked on how he always tried to explain the issues in plain English so everyone actually understood what the issue was. She was hopeful that he would run for Mayor at that time. As leader of this community, the shoes that he is leaving to fill are immense, and Mayor-elect Barnett has a hard row to hoe ahead of him. Mayor Tully has been everywhere and time and time again has tossed himself on grenades for this community, picked himself up, dusted himself off and moved forward representing the Village with dignity and honor. He has led the Council and Village to places they didn't know they needed to be. She thanked him for the example he has set, and for championing everyone's rights.

Commissioner Walus said she often writes the Mayor notes on his own notepad. She remembers when she was first appointed and Mayor Tully called her to meet with him. She was terrified. She was not a political person

and didn't know what to expect. Since then she has truly come to know the Mayor and he is extremely generous, intelligent, welcoming to her and has been a wonderful mentor. She can't imagine what it will be like to follow him and his charisma. He will obviously continue to be engaged and will do well in anything he does because he is truly a fantastic person.

Commissioner Waldack said that Commissioner White brought up something that made him realize that none of his comments tonight will be going out on Cable TV because Commissioner Waldack forgot to thank Doug Kozlowski! When issues have to be distributed to the people they call it "being Dougitized" as Doug and his staff do a tremendous job in getting word out to the community. As does Mayor Tully. Commissioner Waldack said the Mayor's job only gives him one vote, and the Mayor cannot make motions or second a motion, so it's one vote with one hand tied behind your back. Another thing that makes him a hard act to follow is his availability and how he conducts himself. He's ubiquitous, he's all over and willing to step up and take the tough questions people ask. He'll stand up and provide well thought out responses. It's a tough act for anyone to follow, and he wished Mayor Tully and his wife the very best in the future. The Village will miss him as a Mayor.

Commissioner José said that no one could put it better than Michael Cassa did at last week's EDC meeting when he said something to the effect that if Hollywood were casting a mayor it would be Martin Tully. He hit it on the head. There's a presence, whether it's the sense of humor, music references, being on the dais, lyrics on the white board, sports radio announcer voice, TV and movie references—there's always something there that will make you laugh. It's his consummate professionalism. There's no one better prepared, no one better reasoned and nobody better spoken. Commissioner José expressed to Mayor Tully that we are better off as a Village for his leadership, better off as a Council for his leadership, and he is a better Commissioner now than when he joined the Council because of the Mayor's example. He thanked the Mayor for his service.

Commissioner White echoed Commissioner José's word of "professionalism." As long as he's known the Mayor he has been the consummate professional and that is why he believes he's been such an outstanding Mayor. He thinks that the Mayor truly understands what the role of the Mayor really is, and he understood the need to subordinate his own personal opinion when he thought the Council wasn't going in the same direction. The success of the organization, of this Council and of this Village was more important to the Mayor than getting his way on various issues. Commissioner White said he's always respected the Mayor's professionalism and his ability to set aside his personal wants to move forward for the best interests of the community. He added, referencing Michael Cassa's comments of last week, that there is no one in the Village who has a better Mayoral presence than Mayor Tully. He presents himself as the Mayor, and has been an outstanding representative of the Village of Downers Grove to the numerous organizations to which he belongs. And no one will ever light their Christmas Tree with more enthusiasm, or take such great pleasure of drawing the first beer at Ballydoyle on St. Patrick's Day. Commissioner White then referenced the autobiography of Pete Buttigieg, Mayor of South Bend and Presidential candidate. He wrote that he started off as mayor thinking policy mattered. Then as he grew into the job he came to realize that his presence as mayor was often more important than the ideas he brought or the policy. Commissioner White said he was proud to work with Mayor Tully and has always respected him. He wished Mayor Tully the best of luck.

Christina Martin, representative of the Friends of the Edwards House, thanked the Mayor for his support in developing the Ad Hoc Committee on Historic Preservation. Mayor Tully, Commissioner White and Commissioner Waldack were all part of that program. She said she was blessed to get to know the Mayor and is always in awe listening to him speak off the cuff because he has such a commanding presence.

Mayor-elect Barnett reminded the Mayor of sitting across the park bench across from the Tivoli in 2009. He said that he had the challenge of following in Mayor Tully's footsteps in 2009 on the Council, and again now as Mayor-elect. He noted that it will be impossible to fill his shoes, and the best they can hope for is to work hard and do an honorable, admirable job. The Mayor is an impossible act to follow and does a fantastic job. Mayor Tully is the 28th Mayor of the Village. Mayor-elect Barnett quoted leadership expert and author Pastor John Maxwell saying, "The pessimist complains about the wind, the optimist expects it to change, the leader adjusts the sails." Adjusting the sails might be the best description of what municipal government does, and Mayor Tully has led our community successfully adjusting our sails for nearly two decades.

Mayor-elect Barnett noted that Mayor Tully was a 1983 graduate of Downers Grove North High School, and was first elected to the Council in 2001. He was an unstoppable force when he jumped into the seemingly immovable object called politics and Village government. Under Martin, politics, and more importantly policy on behalf the Village moved for the better. He served as Village Commissioner from 2001-2009 and led the transformation and rejuvenation of Downers Grove from being a sleepy fading bedroom community to becoming a vibrant leader in all of DuPage County. In 2011 Martin returned to serve as Mayor and continued to lead with hard work and maintain the balance between tradition and progress, often reminding the Council that 50% of something is often better than 100% of nothing. Martin has served Downers Grove well—well beyond the dais. Mayor-elect Barnett said with all sincerity that there is perhaps no bigger cheerleader in the history of Downers Grove than Martin Tully. He said it is fantastic to watch Martin cheerlead on behalf of our community, both in our community and outside of it as well. He has been Director of the Economic Development Corporation Advisory Board, an Advisory Council Member of Family Shelter Services, Member of the Downers Grove Lions Club, the Friends of the Edwards House, Grade School District 58 foundation, and the list is endless. Every time you turn around Martin is there representing our Village and cheerleading everyone that's there to do better on behalf of the community. Martin's leadership extends well beyond the Downers Grove community. He's attended hundreds of meetings and put in thousands of hours to present the community and its interests to those outside of Downers Grove, bringing our community's values and work ethic to other organizations. Mayor-elect Barnett noted that Mayor Tully has served as President of the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, and served on the DuPage County Stormwater Committee, the DuPage Public Safety Communications Committee, DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau, DuPage County Department of Public Health Services, and more. He also served this community through education as a member of DePaul University College Law Center for Public Interest. Martin's presence is felt everywhere. In 2015 Martin was named Governmental Leader of the Year by the DuPage County Mayors and Managers Conference specifically for, they said, "his voice of reason and leadership during challenging times." Downers Grove couldn't agree more, as it has been the Village's experience to witness and benefit from Martin's leadership.

Mayor-elect Barnett then presented the Mayor with the Village flag, a plaque and a street sign for Martin Tully Drive. Mayor-elect Barnett thanked Shanon Tully and the Tully family for their dedication and sacrifices that allowed Martin's years of service to the community. Mayor-elect Barnett thanked Mayor Tully repeatedly for his service to Downers Grove.

Mayor Tully called to mind the date of May 1, 2001 when he first stood in front of the same dais and was sworn in by an Appellate Judge as Commissioner of the Village Council. On that first night the new Council had a motion to appoint an acting Village Manager. He served two four-year terms as Commissioner, and then left office. Then on May 3, 2011 he was sworn in as Mayor and the first thing he voted on was the new requirement for term limits. He wasn't sure if a message was being sent to him, but he knew that he had to make the best of his coming years as Mayor. He's grateful to the residents of Downers Grove for giving him the opportunity to lead this community. It's has been an amazing journey. He noted that this is an incredibly engaged, informed and demanding community and we are all the better for it. The community makes the Council better because they are those things. Whenever he's asked by a reporter or anyone "what's the best part about being Mayor," his answer always is, "the best part of being Mayor of Downers Grove has been the people that I've met, the organizations that I've come into contact with, and the issues I've seen undertaken." It's about the people—people he would never have met who have helped make him a much better person. All of them have impressed him in some way.

Mayor Tully expressed pride at the things that they've accomplished together, through dialogue and consensus. That's what it's about. There are seven people up at the dais for a reason. If everyone agreed with everything and everyone had the right answer you wouldn't need a council of seven people. You have to work with a lot of folks both here and beyond in order to get things done. He said he has learned greatly from the experience and it has made him better both in his professional life and personal life. He truly appreciates the comments made about his professionalism.

The Mayor then quoted Robert Baden-Powell who said "Try and leave this world a little better than you found it, and when your turn comes to die you can die happy feeling that at any rate you've not wasted your time but have done your best." He said he is not ready to shuffle off this mortal coil any time soon, but he is fairly

confident that the Village is better off than when he found it since being first elected Commissioner in 2001, and being elected Mayor in 2011. There are surely more things to be done. The new Council has their work cut out for them, no question about it. But they've made great strides in a lot of places since 2001. Mayor Tully said he began making a list but realized the list was so long that most people would leave. He gave some examples. The Village didn't have an AAA Bond Rating in 2001, but it does now. There have been continuous balanced budgets during that period of time. There's been no property tax increase for operations for eight years running. He said he read somewhere that the Downers Grove budget since 2001 has shrunk by 21% while the Village itself has expanded. Since 2001 the Village upgraded its Comprehensive Plan, which hadn't been changed since 1965. It has since won awards and is updated regularly. Today's Downtown Downers Grove is thriving, when years ago it had the nickname of "Downers Grave" because everything closed at 6:00 p.m. Ogden Avenue has been revamped and revitalized. Major corporations have adopted Downers Grove as their corporate headquarters. The previous Economic Development Commission in 2001 was struggling. Today there is an independent Economic Development Corporation that other communities seek to emulate. The Village now has a fantastic Long-Range Plan that almost runs itself because the planning is so well done and so expertly done that it makes for a beautiful budget process. Since 2001 our Police are COLEA rated Excellent, the Fire Department is rated ISO 1, we have a Top Ten Public Works Director, and Stormwater Management has been awarded for its excellence. In 2001 there was no Historic Preservation Ordinance. It wasn't adopted until 2007, and in 2015 only two places had been landmarked. Today there are 25 landmarked. The Village has dedicated Stormwater funding and more enhanced Stormwater regulations. The Belmont underpass was developed. There are improved governmental relationships between other governmental agencies and the Village. Downers Grove's Village Manager received two governmental leader of the year awards. Mayor Tully read a favorite quote of his. "When you run a part of a relay and pass on the baton, there is no sense of unfinished business in your mind, but just a sense of having done your part to the best of your ability." (N.R. Murphy) Mayor Tully then thanked the people who deserve the awards including his past and present Village Council colleagues whom he named. He also thanked the members who served on Boards and Commissions over the years, all the residents who helped make the Council better public servants. He expressed his gratitude to all the men and women who are part of Village staff. He mentioned that over the years he has worked with three different Village Managers, two Village Attorneys, several directors of Public Works and Community Development, Fire Chiefs, Police Chiefs, Finance Directors, one Village Clerk, one voice of the Village Doug Kozlowski, and the Zen Master Mike Baker who has been the hub of the spoke of the wheel on which the universe turns.

Mayor Tully noted that he's often asked what he considers his best decisions as Mayor. He decided to hire Dave Fieldman, and he decided to hire Enza Petrarca. The Village has exceptional leadership and staff in this community. He said that Dave Fieldman and Enza Petrarca are looked upon by more than 35 other communities as leaders, and when they speak, others listen. The Mayor said he will deeply miss working with all of the staff, but he won't hesitate to pick up the phone and complain about something. He reminded them that he also has their cell phone numbers and advised them to change them!

He then thanked his family for their support, their tolerance, and their humbling perspectives. He said he could never have imagined doing something as audacious as being Mayor of Downers Grove without his parents behind him. He thanked his siblings for their work on campaigns in every way imaginable. He expressed his appreciation and love to his sons, Martin and Ryan, who also were conscripted into all kinds of campaign work that they really didn't want to do, but it was worth it because of all they've learned about what happens in local government. He then mentioned his grandfather, Richard Brozinski, who celebrated his 95th birthday on the day Mayor Tully was first sworn in as Mayor. They only recently lost him at the age of 102. To his wife Shanon, he said she has been his sounding board, his toughest critic and his most vocal defender and she deserves the awards more than he does.

Over the years since he joined the Council there have been power outages, several 100-year floods, tornadoes, a recession, a new parking deck, a new fire station, the 175th anniversary of the Village, and surviving 9/11 which changed the world. Discussions ranged from compassion to chickens, tree canopies, public pensions, LPDAs, garbage pickup, Heritage Festival and no feeding of squirrels. In his first Council member report he said "these are exciting times for the Village and he looks forward to working with Council members, staff and residents." Today these are still very exciting times for the Village, and paraphrasing William Shakespeare, the

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Mayor said, "The world is your oyster." Mayor Tully said he has immensely enjoyed working with everyone. It has been an honor and a privilege.

Mayor Tully then reminded everyone that there are only 65 days left until the Tenth Annual Rotary Grove Fest. He closed by saying God Bless you and God Bless Downers Grove.

## **9. Council Member Reports**

Commissioner José reported that the Economic Development Corporation met on Friday. Their annual luncheon will be held on June 25, 2019 at the DoubleTree Suites. The EDC was the top sponsor of the annual dealmakers forum of the commercial alliance of Mainstreet organization of realtors. On May 10 the DuPage Convention and Visitor's Bureau will unveil its plan at Cantigny in Wheaton to promote sports tourism in the County.

Commissioner Earl announced that the Pierce Downers Heritage Alliance will have a guided Wilderness Walk on Saturday, April 27. More information can be found at [pdha.org](http://pdha.org).

Commissioner White said that the DuPage Senior Citizens Council partners with Kane County to provide services to Senior residents. On Saturday, May 11 from 6:00 p.m. to midnight, they are sponsoring a Dancing with the Starz Benefit Gala. Commissioner White is one of the celebrity dancers. He said that people can buy dinner tickets or sponsor one of the celebrity dancers. Additional information can be obtained by either contacting Commissioner White, or going to the DSSC website.

## **10. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Tully announced that Coffee with the Council will take place at the Downers Grove Library on May 20, 2019 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Next month the CWC will move to the Farmers Market.

The Mayor also announced Hope's Front Door-Hands of Hope Luncheon is scheduled for May 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Seven Bridges Golf Course. More information can be obtained at [hopesfrontdoor.org](http://hopesfrontdoor.org). This is an immediate needs organization helping residents in Downers Grove in need of emergency services.

Mayor Tully also announced that the Village of Downers Grove has had a 34-year cultural exchange with students from the City of Bissingen, Germany, just north of Stuttgart. He met with the students from Bissingen this past week. He said that next week their Mayor (also known as a Burgermeister) and his Council will visit Downers Grove next week in a further cultural exchange. They have a sister city in Overland Park, Kansas. He suggested that the new Council might want to consider using "Burgermeister" for the Mayor at the same time they change the Village's Clerk's title.

The Mayor then mentioned that the Village had to survive wearing certain shirts for Heritage Fest which did not work. Residents came up and asked what zoo they worked for. He wanted the forthcoming Council to be aware of avoiding the same fashion mistake in the future.

## **11. Adjournment**

Commissioner White moved to adjourn. Commissioner Waldack seconded the motion.

Mayor Tully declared the motion carried by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

April Holden

Village Clerk