

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:35 pm by Deputy Clerk Marcia L. Pollowy

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

Mayor	Margaret P. Fuller (Absent)
Clerk	
Deputy Clerk	Marcia Pollowy
Trustees	Mark Dobrzycki Michael Gadzinski Arlene Jezierny Demetrios Mougolias Therese Schuepfer Lester Szlendak
Attorney	Paul Stephanides

In the absence of Mayor Fuller, Deputy Clerk Pollowy requested a motion to nominate a Temporary Chair for tonight's meeting. Trustee Schuepfer nominated Trustee Jezierny as acting chair, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski; on a voice vote, all in favor.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT - Upon recognition to speak by the village president or acting chairperson, the person shall rise and state his or her name and address. An individual may speak for himself or herself or as a representative of a community group. No person shall speak longer than three minutes unless specifically authorized to do so by a majority vote of the board of trustees. The three minute time limit will be measured by a person selected by the village board. Thirty (30) minutes of meeting time will be the maximum time allowed for public comment. This according to Village Code, Section 2.12.090, Section D.

Danuta Wojcik Dobrzycki, 4733 N. Sayre: For the last two years I have built my life in Harwood Heights, working hard to fix a home that needed improvement, only to find out that home improvement in Harwood Heights is not welcomed and my family will be harassed because of it.

At the last board meeting a resident asked Arlene Jezierny to explain her senior freeze qualification for the property that she claims as her residency; she did not offer any explanation, so I will repeat the question for Arlene Jezierny to make her tax for June public, to show that in fact she qualifies for a senior freeze exemption.

My advice for a member of this board is to start explaining everything. Your approval rating is very low and if you don't explain people will be asking for your resignation. I have a copy here of some comments, two articles in Pioneer Press, and they're not painting a pretty picture for Harwood Heights; so I think you should all read it.

And the last what I have is for Lester Szlendak to explain his lifestyle, that according to Lester was exposed and to show proof or to apologize to my family for an unfounded vendetta towards my family; so, either show a proof or apologize.

Trustee Szlendak: What are you talking about?

Danuta Dobrzycki: Well, you've been accusing my family that somehow we exposed your family and you told me that. Show some proof.

Trustee Szlendak: I don't know what you're talking about.

Danuta Dobrzycki: Show some proof or stop, stop harassing my family; stop lying.

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Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny: I think it's very important for us to all really join our community together, I think that we're all proud to live in Harwood Heights. I think we want Harwood Heights to flourish and I think we all want to become "one" and help each other. I think the election is behind us; I think we all have to turn to each other, help one another and look forward in a positive direction.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report
Mayor Fuller

No Report - Absent

Information/Technology
Trustee Dobrzycki

No Report

Forestry/Recreation
Trustee Gadzinski

On tonight's agenda motions I-7 through I-12 are various expenditures for the Youth Commission. I ask for the board's support and approval.

On Sunday April 19, I attended and took part of the opening day parade and celebration for the newly combined Harwood Heights and Norridge Little League Baseball program. Even though it rained all day long there were hundreds of residents present with their children from both communities. I was excited to see so many participants including members of our board, Norridge board and the Norwood Park Township officials taking part of all festivities and showing so much support for our youth.

The WSSRA, the West Suburban Special Recreation Association is hosting its 8th Annual Derby Gala Fundraising event at the Hawthorn Race Track in Cicero Illinois, Saturday May 2, 2009 from 1:00pm-5:30pm. This will be a very special and fun filled event for all participants including all municipalities, villages and towns that take part of Special Recreation services through the West Suburban Special Recreation Association; I plan on attending. For more information please call the Village Hall.

Public Works
Trustee Jezierny

The following projects are either completed or in progress by our Public Works crew:

- New meters are now being installed on the 7400 and 7500 blocks of Argyle.
- The catch basins at Leland & Newcastle and on the 7400 block of Winnemac have now been rebuilt and completed.
- The semi-annual equipment maintenance on trucks to obtain the Illinois Safety sticker has been completed and passed inspection.
- Cold patching continues on our streets – and hot patching will begin once temperatures reach 80 degrees and above.
- Maintenance of the pump house continues during inclement weather when work cannot be done outside
- Catch basin cleaning is being done to be in compliant with the NPDES requirement.

As this is my last report as Chairperson of Public Works, I just want to say what a privilege it has been to work with such a fine group of employees who really truly care about our Village, who have taken every step to save our Village money and who have always been on call, no matter what time of day or night, rain, snow or freezing temperatures – they were there during floods, water breaks, snow plowing -- to do the job for us. I sincerely want to thank each and every one of them and appreciate their hard work and dedication.

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Public Health & Safety
Trustee Mougolias

On tonight's agenda is item I 3; an expenditure, not to exceed \$4,840.00, payable to the University of Illinois for Police Academy training. This is for our new recruit, our new officer who is on the street as of, I believe a month ago. We also have another officer coming out of the Police Academy in two weeks, on May 7th; these are the two officers that we had appropriated for last year. The board had gone through all the appropriations very closely and we made room for two officers; we tried to cut from other areas to make room for two new officers to try and alleviate some of the pressure from our current officers and to try to make the town a little safer place for everybody. We're also hoping that next year we can try and get some money to hire a few other officers; I know that acting Chief Biagi is looking at a grant and we are trying to work for a grant that can supply us with federal dollars to hire new officers. This would apply for 3-years; we would get money to pay for the officers for 3-years and then after that we would have to cover the expense of the officers. But, by that time we would have officers retiring, older officers retiring, so it would cover and it would overlap so that we won't be short officers and we don't have to wait until they retire to hire new ones.

Ordinance/License
Trustee Schuepfer

No Report

Finance
Sewer & Water
Trustee Szlendak

No Report

Clerk's Report

No Report

Attorney's Report

I'll be brief; I just want to say a few words because tonight will be my last meeting with you as the Village Attorney for Harwood Heights and I want to tell you that it has been a pleasure serving you, the trustees, Mayor Fuller, Clerk-elect Pollowy and Mayor-elect Jezierny.

I and the members of my firm wish you all the best in the future. I've enjoyed my time representing the village and I've endeavored to serve you to the best of my ability and will continue to do so during the transition period. And, I do wish Rob Bush and his firm all the best as serving as your new Village Attorney.

I will miss you all very much. Thank you again for the opportunity to serve you and the Village of Harwood Heights.

Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny: I just wanted to say I have been in contact with Village Attorney Paul Stephanides and he is more than willing to cooperate with all the transition that is required and to keep everyone totally informed as we move forward; so thank you for that cooperation.

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Gadzinski: I attended the 5th annual "Help Enzo Build a School" event at Vince's Italian Restaurant this past Tuesday. What a wonderful event it was. The event was sponsored by Nuccio D'Argento, owner of Vince's, along with his business partner Rocco DeFrenza. It was extremely nice to see the restaurant full of people all supporting the continued development of the new Therapeutic School and Center for Autism Research. The new Easter Seals School and

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Center for Autism Research is a one of a kind facility built in the heart of the Illinois Medical district. Its \$32 million price tag will create a campus unlike any other in the whole entire United States. I spoke to Nuccio this afternoon before attending the meeting this evening and he said that they raised, in that one night, close to \$40,000 and all proceeds, every dime goes to the Easter Seals. So I thank him and also some of the other board members were present and it all went to a good cause.

I would like to send my condolences to Trustee-elect Larry Steiner's family due to the passing of his mother-in-law. I ask you all to please keep his family in your prayers.

Trustee Jezierny: I also attended the event that was held for the autism fundraising and I just wanted to let everyone know that this month, the month of April is Autism Awareness Month. Many of us still wonder what autism is. Autism is a brain disorder that inhibits a person's ability to communicate and develop social relationships. Although a cause and cure is still unknown much is being done in the way of research to help families and children to search for the cause, prevention, treatments and a cure. And, the earlier a child is diagnosed, the earlier a child can begin to benefit.

A decade ago Autism affected 1 in every 10,000 children, today that number has increased to 1 in every 150. So Autism Awareness is becoming so important today.

Tuesday evening, as Trustee Gadzinski said, many of us were at the fundraising event for Autism sponsored by one of our business owners Nuccio D'Argento at Vince's Restaurant and his partner Rocco and their families. They have pledged to raise money for a Therapeutic School and Center for Autism Research through Easter Seals. Phase One of the School has now become a reality located in the Illinois Medical District and will add additional phases to even include an independent living facility.

I am proud to announce that to-date, the one event raised \$40,000, but to-date they have raised over \$200,000 for this cause, and now, they have announced that they've extended their goal to \$250,000. So I wish to say, congratulations on their achievements and dedication to such a meaningful cause. Nuccio D'Argento is also a Vice President and on the Board of Directors of Easter Seals and is also the President-elect on the Rotary Club. I am very proud of our community involvements with our businesses.

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Consent Agenda items I 1 thru I 18:

Trustee Dobrzycki pulled motion I 14 for a separate vote.

Trustee Szlendak pulled motion I 16 for a separate vote.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Consent Agenda items I 1-13, I 15 & I 17-18:

1. To approve the regular minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held April 14, 2009.
2. To approve a maintenance agreement of \$4,900.00, payable to Al Air, Inc. for heating and cooling of Village Hall and Police Department to be expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-06-00-7040 – Public Works and to authorize the Mayor to execute the agreement.
3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$4,840.00, payable to University of Illinois for Police Academy training for new recruit B. Cusack, to be expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-05-00-5025 – Police.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,560.00, payable to National Power Rodding Corp. to power rod sewer from Old Warsaw to Leland to Octavia to be expensed to FY08/09 line item 22-00-00-7036 – Water & Sewer.

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5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$5,207.80, payable to Third Millennium for programming and system set-up for the 2009/2010 Harwood Heights Vehicle sticker mailing expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-03-00-7030 – License & Decals.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$500.00, payable to Municipal Code Corp. for fee for annual code on internet, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-01-00-7048 – Village Code Recodification – Administration.
7. For the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$100.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for the purchase of beverages and deserts for volleyball awards party to be held on Tuesday May 12, 2009, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7034-Recreation.
8. For the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$150.00 payable to Vince’s Italian Restaurant for the purchase of pizza for volleyball awards party to be held on Tuesday May 12, 2009 (will receive bill invoice/bill from Vince’s), expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7034-Recreation.
9. For the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$400.00 payable to “Crown Trophy” for the purchase of awards/trophies for volleyball awards party to be held on Tuesday May 12, 2009, expensed to line item 11-08-00-7034-Recreation.
10. For the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$300.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for the purchase of food, candy, water/beverages for Spring Fling Dance to be held @ Union Ridge School on May 8, 2009, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7052-Recreation.
11. For the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$200.00 payable to Domino’s Pizza for the purchase of pizza’s for Spring Fling Dance to be held on May 8, 2009 @ Union Ridge School (Domino’s pizza will send invoice/bill) expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7052-Recreation.
12. For the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$230.00 payable to Dino Giolas for the service rendered as DJ for the Spring Fling Dance to be held @ Union Ridge School on May 8, 2009 @7:00pm- expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7052-Recreation.
13. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$23,600.00, payable to Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor, Ltd., for invoice 223248 billing through 3-31-2009; \$1,200.00 expensed to line item 11-02-00-7050 retainer; \$20,964.80 expensed to line item 11-02-00-7051 Legal; \$700.00 expensed to line item 11-05-00-7031 Police Legal; \$35.20 expensed to line item 11-07-00-7036 Bldg. Legal; \$700.00 expensed to line item 22-00-00-7022 Water Legal - FY08/09.
15. Motion to approve the Avon Walk for breast cancer “Mint Day” fundraiser at the intersection of Harlem & Gunnison/Lawrence on Saturday, May 9, 2009 (make up date to rain delay from April 19th) from 10:00am to 5:00pm, pursuant to complying with all village ordinances.
17. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$168,150.65 as they appear on check register #46263 thru #46320.
18. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$133,302.87 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1-13, I 15 & I 17-18 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Dobrzycki, Gadzinski, Jezierny, Mougolias, Schuepfer, Szlendak

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

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ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 14:

14. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$965.68**, payable to Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, P.C. for the February, March & April billing expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-02-00-7057 – Legal, Legislative Counsel.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 14 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Gadzinski, Jezierny, Mougolias, Schuepfer, Szlendak

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Trustee Dobrzycki

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 16:

Trustee Szlendak: This is the first time in our packet that I saw this resolution. I'm very much in favor of a Comprehensive Capital program; it's long overdue by the State of Illinois. The problem that I'm having here is that part of this motion we are supporting the tax increase on our fuel in order to fund this. The other states have considerably lower taxes than we do on lower fuel taxes and they're doing a much better job on the roads than we do. I think we should support this resolution but without the two parts, two "whereas" of raising the taxes, so I would like to make a motion to table this; take that part out about the taxes and then put it for another vote. So I make a motion to table it.

Motion to Table by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Dobrzycki on Consent Agenda item I 16:

Trustee Dobrzycki: Yes, I would like to add that since this resolution is prepared by the Illinois Municipal League, the organization that we as board members of Harwood Heights belong to, suggest that we contact the Illinois Municipal League and ask them for their reason behind this resolution and why they so request these increase in taxes; to find out, they have great resources. They're a statewide organization; we all know that we attended their conference in September. They must have some reason, I think we should inquire as to why they prepared this resolution in the manner that it has. According to what Trustee Szlendak has said, it is noted that it's requesting an increase in taxes. I think it would be advisable for us to find out why they so request and why they so advise.

Trustee Schuepfer: Before we vote on the table, I'd like to find out from Trustee Szlendak which "whereas" he believes says that we are supporting an increase as opposed to asking for a fare share of any funding; which "whereas?"

Trustee Szlendak: "Whereas the motor fuel tax has not been changed since it was raised to 19-cents a gallon, and that's since 1990."

Trustee Schuepfer: It doesn't say to increase it, it just is stating a fact that it hasn't been raised since 1990 and then it gives you the distribution by percentage to the different breakouts. The next one, again, is just reiterating that the governments, the local municipalities receive their fare share. This does not directly say "increase taxes," its indirect; so, again, I support with what Trustee Dobrzycki is saying that we might want to find the reason. But, I think we need to be clear, this does not directly say a "tax increase," it says an equitable distribution.

Trustee Jezierny: I guess I'll throw my comments in here too. I was a little leery of the wording of this resolution where it says, "whereas, regardless of a funding source, a motor fuel tax or income tax increase;" it kind of scares you a little bit when you're trying to support a resolution and send this resolution off to the Governor and the Senators and the state and you want them to represent your community. I just think it would be wise also to table, to get some clarification before we all put our names to a resolution that has anything to do with tax increases.

Trustee Mougolias: I would actually, reading it right now, where it says, "whereas regardless of funding source a motor fuel tax or income tax increase;" right there it's saying that we agree with either, it doesn't matter if they increase the motor fuel tax or the income tax.

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Trustee Schuepfer: You have a funding source already, and that's the motor fuel tax. It doesn't say an increase motor fuel tax, that currently exists, it's an "or" income tax increase. But again, the gist of this "whereas" is equitable distribution; but I understand the hesitancy of the politicians on the board.

Trustee Dobrzycki: I would request that in the table that it be included that we bring it back at the next board meeting, so we give a timetable as to get the information and get the explanation so we can act on this promptly.

Trustee Jezierny: If I can ask the Deputy Clerk, we have a Committee of the Whole set for the first Wednesday in May, if we could put this on the agenda for that and hopefully get some clarification before then.

16. To Adopt Resolution 09-05, A Resolution Urging Passage of a Comprehensive Capital Infrastructure Program.

A roll call vote to Table Consent Agenda item I 16 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Dobrzycki, Gadzinski, Jezierny, Mougolias, Schuepfer, Szlendak

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

J. NEW BUSINESS

None

K. OLD BUSINESS

None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None

M. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

N. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Jezierny: On Sunday most of us represented Harwood Heights and attended the "Norridge/Harwood Heights Little League Baseball" opening day along with the Village of Norridge and Norwood Park Township. And as Trustee Gadzinski said, despite the rainy day, it was certainly a bright day for those team players, they were cheering, they had balloons, they were all in their team outfits, the coaches were invigorating, they all throw out their first pitch representing their team and I'll tell you some of those girls with that underhand, it was amazing. This merger will allow more team building and additional game opportunities for our youth. Thanks to all the coaches, League officials who made this all possible; I think this is a great direction and camaraderie in keeping our youth busy and giving them the spirit of how to work as a team and how to work with each other. So I think this is a really great event and if you ever get a chance, come out to the ball games; they're mostly played at the Norridge Park District and Union Ridge, cheer them on, cheer our teams on, I think they'd appreciate that.

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O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski to adjourn. On a voice vote, all being in favor, the motion carried and the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Harwood Heights was adjourned by Temporary Chair Trustee Arlene Jezierny on Thursday, April 23, 2009 at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Deputy Clerk