

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2009**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:30pm by Deputy Clerk Marcia Pollowy

B. ROLL CALL

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

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

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Boy Scout Troop 977 – volunteers from St. Paul Lutheran Church.

D. OATHS OF OFFICE: Three (3) Trustees, Village Clerk & Mayor

The Oath of Office was administered to the new Mayor, the Village Clerk and the 3 Trustees by Judge Dennis McGuire.

E. Roll Call of New Board

Mayor	Arlene C. Jezierny
Clerk	Marcia L. Pollowy
Trustees	Mark Dobrzycki (Absent) Michael Gadzinski Demetrios Mougolias Therese Schuepfer Lawrence Steiner Lester Szlendak

F. APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Appointment item F 1:

1. To concur with the Mayor's appointment of the law firm of Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Kraffhefer, P.C. to serve as the Village Attorney.

A roll call vote on Appointment item F 1 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Dobrzycki

Motion Carried

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Motion by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Mougolias on Appointment item F 2:

2. To concur with the Mayor's appointments of Village Official Appointees, list attached

A roll call vote on Appointment item F 2 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Dobrzycki

Motion Carried

3. Oaths of Office to Village Appointees in attendance.

Village Clerk Marcia L. Pollowy administered the Oath of Office to those Appointees in attendance.

G. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Consent Agenda item G 1:

1. To approve Door Access Security list as submitted and attached

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item G 1 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Dobrzycki

Motion Carried

H. MAYOR, CLERK & TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Mayor Jezierny: Dear Residents of Harwood Heights, family and friends,

What an overwhelming group that we have here tonight; it is truly an honor to have you all here, supporting us and we really, really appreciate it. We want to thank you for attending tonight's meeting and for sharing this special occasion with us this evening. To our friends, family, and residents, and my dad, we sincerely thank you for your support, your encouragement and your confidence in us.

Let me extend my congratulations to Trustees Szlendak and Trustee Mougolias on their re-election and to Larry Steiner on his election as Trustee. I also congratulate our Village Clerk Marcia Pollowy; and to all our Appointees who are all so willing to contribute their time and abilities to keep our community strong. Thank you all very much.

I wish to thank Mayor Fuller for her years of service and I wish her well. And my thanks to all the previous appointees who have served on various commissions and for their contributions to our community.

Although I was sworn in as Mayor this evening, I remain the same person -- your friend and neighbor who has been given the task of leadership and (like you), I want the very best for Harwood Heights. But one person cannot do it alone -- it takes a TEAM to work together to accomplish our goals.

We are about to embark on a "New Beginning". My leadership style requires the participation and commitment of all the elected officials. I am confident that each one brings a wealth of talent, knowledge and experience to this Board and stands ready to build our community....and with your help, your understanding and your ideas, I am confident that we "WILL" do it together!

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As we move forward with our plans, we will never forget that our primary goal is to build a better and stronger community for our residents. You have put your confidence in us and now we must deliver!

As we move forward --- I ask that we all put the campaign behind us. All of us have experienced winning and losing at some point in our lives, so we must now reach out to one another because this is OUR community to build. And, if we channel all our energies into positive goals -- we CAN all make a difference, we can ALL be winners -- and ultimately, isn't that what we all want?

As we take on future challenges as your elected officials, please give us your patience as we uncover the true financial status of the Village, plan our budget, set priorities and achieve financially viable goals. We must be realistic about what can be accomplished each year.

Each Board member must be involved and participate in the process through Chairing their committees and reporting on issues and accomplishments.

Board meetings will be a place of business, not attacks. Committee meetings are working committees for fact-finding and a work toward progress. We will also reach out to other municipality Boards to tap into added resources and ideas that would benefit our entire community.

Each department (Public Works, the Office, Building Department and Police) will be reviewed for a better project work flow and for the best use of our time value of money.

Each vacant parcel of land will be reviewed for economic opportunities; whether it's up for lease or for sale. We cannot allow vacant properties to drain us from much needed revenues. We will take an active approach to launch our Economic Development initiatives by using Grant Funds to hire an Economic Development Coordinator whose sole purpose will be to identify opportunities for increased REVENUE through retail development.

Our website will include information for potential businesses and developers so that they can learn about the growth opportunities right here in Harwood Heights for available retail leasing space or properties for sale. It will list its square footage and contact information, so we can connect our land owners with potential businesses opportunities.

Every contract will be reviewed as they become due with plenty of time for renewed bidding.

Our Building Department will be evaluated to streamline the process making it easier to do business with our residents and contractors.

Communication is the 'key' toward moving forward and solving problems -- and will be encouraged.

I vow to work with every member of this Board, our employees, our appointees, our surrounding community leaders and you our residents -- and do what is best to build Harwood Heights into a Community that we will all be proud of.

Once again, I thank you very much for your support, your encouragement, your enthusiasm for being here tonight; so let's ALL get the TEAM Spirit because "Together Everyone Will Achieve More."

Clerk Pollowy: It's so wonderful to see everybody here this evening. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everybody, as we did our campaigning door-to-door, we met wonderful, wonderful people and I'm so proud to have your trust that we can move this village forward. And at this time I would also like to announce my Deputy Clerk that will be serving with me for the next 4-years, and that's Mary O'Connor. I would like Mary to come here and I would like to give her the Oath of Office; (Mary O'Connor sworn in by Clerk Pollowy.)

Trustee Szlendak: I promise I will be much shorter than the Mayor. First of all, I wish to thank everybody for coming here. Campaigning was truly a pleasure meeting a great many of you. One of the things that I realized is that we have great many challenges facing us. One of the things that we know is that our residents don't have any more money in paying their taxes, so our village is going to have to do more with less. I'm looking forward to working with each one of you and looking forward for advice; I need it.

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Trustee Mougolias: First, I'd like to thank the Mayor for keeping it relatively short; Mayor Jezierny it was pretty nice. Next, I'd like to thank everybody who's here tonight and who voted for us and gave us your trust in doing a good job for this village. I know tonight a lot of you here are supporters of ours, some are not, and we thank the supporters that believe in us. But we would also like to have the people who didn't support us, or didn't vote for us; we'd like to win your trust and hopefully we can work for you also and try and get this village in the right direction so we're not two divided parts, we're one whole village and everyone works together. This is what I'd like to do, and I'm sure that the whole board is with me behind that thinking. So again, I'd like to thank everybody; I'm glad I got to speak with most of you going door-to-door, it was a very big honor for me and I would also like to say that I'm going to do the best I can for this Village of Harwood Heights.

Trustee Steiner: I would like to thank the citizens of Harwood Heights for giving us their vote of confidence on Election Day and we'll definitely work hard to not disappoint. I'd also like to thank the many, many wonderful people that supported us throughout our campaign, it was a lot of hard work, and it was a lot of hours and dedication and without that we couldn't have accomplished what we did tonight. And, to Trustee Mougolias' point, the people that did not support us, I simply ask that you welcome this administration with an open mind and give us our due. And I'd like to thank my wife for her support; it was a long road, but we did good, and my parents and my brother are here tonight; they came in to help celebrate this night and to the spirits who could not be here.

Trustee Gadzinski: Yes, thank you Mayor, for the first time; I'm going to miss you, I'm going to miss sitting next to her, but I gained a colleague and I'm really looking forward to getting to know him in the near future, starting next week. But I just wanted to start off by thanking everyone in this room for coming this evening and showing your support. I congratulate our new Mayor, newly elected and re-elected Trustees and all appointees; and I'm looking forward to working with all of you and putting our residents and community first. Congrats and God Bless you all.

Trustee Schuepfer: As you know, I talk for a living; I would prefer not to do it this evening. I'm just very pleased that the residents in Harwood Heights had enough confidence to know that we are a group of individuals who, while we've had some differences, all share the same goal and we hope that it's the same goal that you have as well. I look forward to a very creative, lively, brief and succinct series of board meetings in the future. So, I think with that said, thank you again for putting together a team that will work for everyone.

Mayor Jezierny: Before we make a motion to adjourn, I just want to make a brief announcement that the entertainment tonight, our goodies and our cake and our beverages have all been donated by the newly elected officials as a token of our appreciation for you being here with us tonight.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Schuepfer, seconded by Trustee Mougolias to adjourn. On a voice vote, all being in favor, the motion carried and the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Harwood Heights was adjourned by Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny on Thursday, April 30, 2009 at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Clerk