

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2009**

- A. **CALL TO ORDER** at 7:30 pm by Mayor Margaret P. Fuller
- B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- C. **ROLL CALL**

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

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.

Roy Schmidt, 4336 N. Rutherford: I attended a meeting the other day for the village and I wasn't sure if was an ordinance meeting or a meeting of the whole. Four trustees attended and basically that creates a forum. I'm not sure why they don't want to have meetings of the whole to discuss issues instead of separate meetings, considering so many are there anyway. Trustee Szlendak even went on to discuss these policies, stating that he would send an email to the Chief and recommend what the Chief should do. But the most amazing thing about the meeting was that after hearing for many months about how bad the finances of the village is, Trustee Szlendak offered to have a policeman in one area even if it cost overtime. Now the Chief, the Mayor and others have often asked for more officers and the board has not agreed because of money, yet Trustee Szlendak was always one of the loudest; now, he is offering police even with overtime. Maybe if we hired more officers we could have more people watching, more officers watching the streets and what goes on. We can maybe raise more money in regards to the weight station if we had more officers as I mentioned at the last meeting. Of course maybe this is all posturing around election time.

I was happy to hear a resident discuss ways to bring in new revenue; he mentioned increasing the parking fines. Once again, I continue to ask, how many times the Finance Committee has met to discuss bringing in revenue? And nothing; yet residents keep coming up with ideas, nothing is discussed.

Now on another subject, I've also talked about the Olcott/Wilson project and the overpayments made to the contractor and the engineers. Trustee Jezierny after a meeting said that she would help me look into it. She asked me the other day though why I was interested in it now. First, I didn't know there was a time limit for being concerned about paying someone more than you agreed to. But the reason I started looking into it was because of the trustees' interest. One of the first things they talked about was about having to get FOI's to get information; I reminded them that there was a precedent. Then they stated to ask about who signs off on change orders; I decided to look into that. I can tell you that it seems like anyone can. As some of you know, I'm an underwriter by trade and what I do is I look at histories of physicians right now and try to decide the proper rate for them; so I think you can tell a lot of things about history, which is why I started looking into the history. Now, back to the overpayments; I have been trying to find out why we overpaid the engineer and contractor. But the village does not have all the necessary documents; imagine that. Trustee Jezierny said that she would help me after the tax season, or maybe the election.

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And to end on a good note, for the past two years this board has ignored Trustee Dobrzycki's comments or requests and sometimes just doesn't inform him at all of what is going on the agenda. However, I have noticed that in the past few meetings some of the trustees have been asking him for his opinions, sometimes he has to answer them for the third time. I'm glad the board is reaching out for other reasonable opinions and they are not just listening to the same five voices. Or could this be another one of those election things; not from this board.

Joan Krzywicki White, 7429 W. Winona: I would like to ask the board for some additional time.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by trustee Mougolias; all in favor.

Joan Krzywicki White: Last week a village taxpayer handed me several pages which were printed from the website of the Cook County Assessor. The details contained on these pages were quite disturbing, and tonight I bring copies from the website to the Mayor and Board for their comments. This data reads that Mark & Danuta Dobrzycki own a dwelling at 4733 North Sayre in Harwood Heights. It further shows that for real estate tax purposes, this property is being assessed as a one-story structure, and that the Dobrzycki's have been enjoying a senior citizen discount on their taxes since the year 2005. My taxpayer friend asked me, "How can this be possible? Isn't this illegal?" I, myself, do not have the answer, and that is why I bring this to you, Mayor, knowing that you will immediately call for an investigation, and get an explanation for us. I'm sure you would consider something like this just as important as the Schroeder case which you've been investigating since 2007.

Question, doesn't the assessor's office wipe out all prior exemptions when they are given the names of the new property owners? Don't they require new exemption forms to be filled out and filed? And secondly, doesn't the assessor's office get copies of all permits issued by the village for either new construction or for remodeling?

Mayor, this property was purchased in 2005, just after you first took office as Mayor. Village records must be handy, and I'm sure some questions might be answered by inspecting the initial permits issued. I have been led to believe that if an original house foundation remained intact, and at least one wall was still standing, a project like this could be considered a "remodeling" job. But I also was given that understanding that any renovation over \$75,000 would quickly bring out someone from the assessor's office to give the property a new re-assessment. Apparently, that did not happen with this property.

There definitely appears to be certain questions which must, and can only be answered by the village. Were all permits filled out and signed correctly? Do they identify a two-story structure? Were these permits filed promptly with the county office?

It seems to me that the senior citizens in this community would be very upset to learn that the Dobrzycki homeowners did not have to wait until they were over 65 years of age to get the senior exemptions. And most likely, there would be many young homeowners wanting to know how they, also, might get this early discount. And, if someone here tries to say that this was some kind of an honest oversight, or some kind of a "county assessor office" mistake, I openly ask another question. If our village, after investigation, gives the assessor notice showing what the permits really describe in cost and size, will the Dobrzyckis' be required to pay back the proper taxes that should have been collected since 2005? Or, will our village taxpayers be permanently deprived of this money, and find that we are the ones who again have to foot the bill for another so called "oversight" in our town?

It seems clear, Mayor, that you must find the answers for us as soon as possible. There must be accountability on this matter before you leave office in April.

I will now distribute some copies of the website information I have described tonight.

Kevin Shuttleworth, 6677 W. Montrose: I'm the certain one-sided individual such as Mr. Shuttleworth according to Mr. Gadzinski. According to him I had some nerve at a meeting to try to distract everyone, including himself. I asked him to do his job, to talk about West Suburban, to talk about Youth Committee items; not about township, not about your life, not about anything else. Also, I guess he's referring here to me that there's rumors that West Suburban is going to be shutdown; I don't know where that came from. And he continues to say he'll faithfully deliver "meals on wheels" and gives a phone number. My son, myself and my wife have all volunteered for West Suburban, which is not a Norwood Park Township; it is a Harwood Heights item. Why don't you give the number to West Suburban? Why am I concerned? Because this narrow minded person has a son with special needs.

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Then down here, talking about knowing your job Mikey; now the Youth Commission and we talk about Harwood Heights youth little league. That's not a Youth Commission item; it's not Mikey. It's a separate identity, it's not a Harwood Heights youth item. And that's all I have to say, except for I guess Mikey and Arlene, thank god you live with mommy and daddy because you don't have to worry about paying taxes.

Trustee Szlendak: Mayor! What's going on?

Kevin Shuttleworth: And by the way, this narrow minded person....(inaudible)....who claims to be on the right side of the street.

Mayor Fuller: Please! If there's another outburst you'll be asked to leave.

Concerning the Cook County property taxes, I do have some information here that Trustee Arlene Jezierny doesn't pay any taxes, she lives with her father who gets two exemptions, actually three exemptions; the homeowners exemption, the senior citizen exemption and the senior freeze. So she's not paying any taxes. And we have Trustee Szlendak, who shows his address at 4451 North Newcastle, but those taxes are in the name of John Szlendak; so he's not listed as paying any taxes. Then when I looked on, dated March 9th, Trustee Mougolias was past due in his most recent tax bill, he hadn't paid it.

Trustee Mougolias: That makes him stealing right! That makes him stealing from the taxpayer's correct, right!

Trustee Dobrzycki: Excuse me, what did you say?

Trustee Mougolias: You stole from the taxpayer's if you didn't pay your taxes; that's what I said.

Mayor Fuller: You're both out of order. Trustee Dobrzycki has the right to reply at his comments, and I'll let him respond to the accusations. Trustee Gadzinski also does not pay any taxes and he is also listed as living with Jerzy Gadzinski at 4241 North Newcastle.

Trustee Gadzinski: Is there anything else you would like to say about my property?

Mayor Fuller: That's all I have to say about the property taxes; Mark Dobrzycki can supply his own answers.

Trustee Mougolias: Mayor, have you paid all your taxes?

Mayor Fuller: Is there anyone else who'd like to speak because now is the time for public comment; this time has been especially set aside to allow for the freedom of speech. Anyone who speaks out during the meeting will be asked to leave; if you refuse to leave I will ask a police officer to escort you out. The village meeting is a business meeting; I was instrumental in moving public comment to the beginning of the meeting so that the public can comment and influence their elected officials before they vote.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report
Mayor Fuller

The unveiling of the honorary streets signs honoring our beloved Ed Connelly Sr., former trustee, former building commissioner, Historian, village founder and community volunteer will be unveiled this Saturday at 1:00 p.m. I have been in contact with Ed's son and daughter and this is the day and time that worked for them. The Historical Committee, myself, and the Village Board are proud to honor him in this manner. Edward Connelly Sr. passed away last year on March 22, 2008. On June 1, 1949 Ed Connelly Sr., purchased a lot at 5046 N. Oconto, an area that was the original section of the Village of Harwood Heights, and built a home where he and his wife raised their family. From 1949 when Mr. Connelly became a member of the all volunteer organization that would found the Village of Harwood Heights, to becoming the as official Village historian, Ed Connelly Sr. is being recognized for devoting his life to serving his community and for preserving its history.

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I want to thank Mark Fritch, Mortgage consultant for running the Credit Scoring and Foreclosure seminar last night. I was ill last night so I apologize but thank him for helping me out. I had contacted him a few months ago because of all the foreclosures in the village and we put together the seminar. Only 10 people showed up and it is disappointing for the low attendance but we understand that there is a stigma attached to these issues that some people don't want to make public if they are getting foreclosure advice. Therefore I would like the public to know that they can contact Mr. Fritch at Talman Mortgage for information about the seminar or the Attorney Generals office directly because they can negotiate with the bank on your behalf. We will have that information on the village website. There is help out there and I tried to bring that help to residents who may need it, so let's spread the word around so people can discreetly find the help they need.

Motion I 14, our water billing staff needs an extension in order to complete the motion the board approved at the 2/12/09 board meeting. The water biller was required to compare the Cook County property tax list with the water billing list. So far she has run into many time consuming problems while she also completes her regular duties. She is about ½ complete and found over 600 inconsistencies.

On the agenda is motion I16, To approve Resolution 09-04, An Illinois Department of Transportation Resolution for Improvement by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$13,685.40 to appropriate MFT funds to pay for the local share of construction and construction engineering from the villages allotment of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the pedestrian and traffic improvement at Union Ridge School. *This is so that the matching portions of the construction and the engineering for the CMAQ project by Union Ridge School can be paid with MFT funds otherwise it will come from the General Fund, the contracts were already approved and the project is complete.*

In other good news the Illinois Department of Transportation approved our request for Do Not Block Intersections signs on the eastbound Lawrence Avenue at Oconto. The signs will be installed when weather permits.

Public Works has been very busy cold patching pot holes, cleaning and repairing collapsed catch basins, installing remote water meters, they did some sewer rodding and building maintenance. Hot patching can begin once the weather improves.

I'm please to report that all the businesses in Harwood Heights that sell cigarettes passed the second round of tobacco enforcement that I over see through the Illinois Liquor Control Commission as the Liquor Commissioner, I want to thank Sgt. Tyrpak once again for maintaining and enforcing this program.

I am also pleased to make the appointment of Dino Giolas to the Fire & Police Board as a Commissioner for a term to expire 4/30/2010. Dino was formally our Community Service Officer and left to pursue a sworn officer position with Triton College where he was trained, graduated and is working as a sworn officer. Dino already received two accommodations for his service at Triton. Dino's personal experience within the Police Department will be a great advantage for the Fire & Police Commission. The current Chairman of the Police Commission term ends April 30, 2011, the other members term ends April 30, 2009. The new police hiring list must be posted by July 1st and the Fire & Police Commission members will need to advertise, test, interview and compile a new list for posting the Police Department hiring as required by law but they won't have a quorum to conduct business. So it is imperative we get someone appointed and in training. I can't think of a better candidate. By the way, I have discussed this appointment with the village attorney, and there is not conflict of interest with this appointment. In a bit of village board history, on April 23, 2003 after the April 2003 election, Mayor Pabich appointed to a 3 year term to the Police & Fire Commission, a trustee who had just lost his bid for re-election, with the votes being Trustee Jezierny, another trustee and the appointee voting for himself and the Mayor breaking the tie to make the appointment.

The Police Department was recently advised that a registered sex offender registered with them as required by law and to live at 7171 W. Gunnison. The Montclair apartment management informed the Police Department that once they realized that their new tenant was a registered sex offender; they were reviewing their lease agreement. The information is on our web site under the Police Department as in the past.

Chief Martin Podosek is leaving the Harwood Heights Police Department, his last day will be March 20th; he will be officially appointed Chief of Police on Monday, March 23rd for a city of 13,000 residents; the city received over 80 applications, Chief Podosek was selected from six other qualified candidates and his appointment was unanimous: the city encompasses 16 square miles, incorporates (4) townships, (14) churches, (4) pre-schools, (5) elementary schools, (2) high Schools, (140) acres of city parks, (6) public golf courses (2) conservation district sites, (38) member city fire department that covers 107 square miles, and rescue squad: Chief Podosek will be managing a Police Department of (35) full-time employees with an operating budget of \$4.7 million; the city is presently in the planning stages to build a new municipal

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complex. They expect the city's projected population will be 20,000 by 2019. I congratulate Chief Podosek on his new career and I wish him the best. He will be sorely missed and very hard to replace. I am proud to have worked with him for my term as Mayor. He is always professional yet strong. He has been an exceptional leader for our Police Department. Chief Podosek implemented many great things including the first Police Department General Orders Manual, he also obtained many grants for the department. I am very happy for him.

I want to report that I received the Villages Risk insurance loss run for the period ending 12/31/08. I want to make sure the public is aware that the lawsuit that Trustees Jezierny and Szlendak brought against me which was dismissed with prejudice, because neither one of them could swear under oath that I said what they accused me of, cost the village \$18,623.52 in payments made on behalf of the village by our insurance carrier. Remember that Trustee Szlendak submitted an affidavit which said “

4. I did not hear the Mayor public accuse me personally of corruption at the Meeting, nor did I hear the Mayor accuse Trustee Arlene Jezierny (“Jezierny”) personally of corruption at the Meeting.

Additionally Trustee Jezierny did not even submit a sworn affidavit. So she filed a lawsuit and then could not back it up by a sworn oath. How's that for wasting our tax dollars. I have copies of the affidavit of Trustee Szlendak with me tonight if anyone is interested it also includes the case numbers on it so you can find the cases yourself. I am giving every trustee a copy of the insurance loss run report in their bins.

Regarding the override of my vetoes on the agenda tonight; in the minutes of the last meeting and an article in the local paper reports that Trustee Szlendak said the money transfer amount was given to him by Village Accountant Martin Boyd. To correct that statement, what was given to Trustee Szlendak and the entire Finance Committee, myself and the treasurer was the current Due to –Due From amounts. I was at the meeting where this took place. I don't recall any recommendations with those amounts. When I wrote my veto messages, I conferred with our accountant. I write the veto messages to protect the village. No documentation was included with the motion as to how the \$268,000 transfer of MFT was or will be used. Still until this date, NO IDOT resolution has been supplied by Trustee Szlendak. Neither Trustee Szlendak nor the board have the authority to expend MFT funds without the prior approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation. The accountant is the one responsible for the audit, he is responsible to report how our money was spent and record it accordingly. The recommendations should come from him detailing the transfer. So why can't the trustee's let the accountant do his job? I spoke with the accountant and his recommendation is to transfer the \$75,000 due from MFT to General for the annual installment covering the Olcott/Wilson Project.

I recall from last year's budget ordeal that Trustee Jezierny and Trustee Szlendak wanted to use the MFT funds to liquidate the advance which the General Fund made to MFT several years ago for the Olcott/Wilson Project rather than repaying it in \$75K annual installments as called for. According to the minutes of the 1/22/09 Finance Committee Meeting it looks like this is what they are doing – transferring funds from MFT to cover what is owed for the Olcott/Wilson Project? Why should we pay off a 0% loan when we can pay it off in \$75,000 a year increments and use the MFT funds where needed? MFT money needs to be identified and directly related to an approval from IDOT and the accountant needs to make the recommendations because he will be working with the auditors to explain these transfers. I ask the board to amend motion I 11 to authorize the accountant to move \$75,000 from the MFT Fund account to the General Fund to cover the annual installment for the Olcott/Wilson Project.

Additionally, Motion I 8 which I vetoed and the board is overriding, also transfers an un-audited amount of \$817,000 from the Water Fund Account to the General Fund Account, again this amount was given to us by the accountant as the Due to /Due from amount – not the recommendation to transfer. In fact, the accountant advised me that if the purpose is to fund the general account from payments made for Water & Sewer expenses from the General Fund account, a percentage of the amount due to the General Fund from the Water & Sewer fund should be made at up to 75% of the total amount estimated due. This would cover any miscalculations or account code errors until the audit is complete and approved. For example, in the event that the 04/30/08 un-audited balance due to the General Fund from the Water Fund of \$1,306,360.76 was transferred to the General Fund at that time, the General Fund would owe the Water and Sewer Fund \$488,803.93. Therefore, the accountant does not recommend transferring the entire amount due from the Water Fund to the General Fund, but only a portion of it until the audit is complete. I ask the board to amend the motion I11 to authorize the

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accountant to move the amount of \$ 600,000 to the General Fund from the Water/Sewer Fund which is approximately 73% of the Due to/Due from the Water/Sewer Fund account, as of December 31, 2008 balance of \$817,556.83. The accountant will then have an audit trial to work with and hopefully everyone will be happy. Remember we do not even have the 4/30/08 audit completed yet because the trustees decided to change auditors and took their time about it. Again it is the accountant who is responsible when the auditors come in to show why this certain amount of money was transferred. Let him do his job and make the recommendations. There needs to be back up info for the transfers. These are two compromises I ask the board to amend the vetoes tonight.

Trustee Szlendak also placed a motion on the agenda to override my veto of Resolution 09-02. Was a public meeting held to discuss overriding the vetoes? If not when did the trustees discuss their decision to override, when did Trustee Szlendak get the approval of the Finance Committee? Recently we received another letter from the Attorney General questioning the Trustees about where and when they conduct village business. You see all village business must be discussed in the public with public notice and an agenda indicating what will be discussed. I found no such agenda.

The Resolution the board will adopt when overriding my veto, accepts a proposal to pay the auditors extra money for performing work they are already under contract to perform, at a rate of \$350 to \$150 per hour, (per person, less 20% discount plus direct expenses) calling it a "special accounting consultant service." But the fact is, the streetscape project is a fund that is already to be audited. Therefore it should not be a special accounting consultant services item and cost the village extra. Anyway, why doesn't the Finance Chairman, Trustee Szlendak know how much money he has spent? He gets all the same financial documents everyone else gets, he receives the check register for every meeting, he's received reports from the accountant, from the engineer, he's received bank balances, reconciled bank balances, — and remember he voted to approve the spending for the project. It was the trustees who increased the cost of the streetscape project by adding work for areas that could have waited until it was developed and paid for by a developer. It is the trustees who have taken developer to court because the developer told them he can't build the condos that they said they didn't want, but now the trustees want condos, therefore we have not been reimbursed for their portion of the streetscape, losing quite a bit of revenue, I believe the legal documents shows over \$435,000 that would have been due us which we have not received. Plus the legal fees are up to \$20,000 for that case, that we may not get reimbursed for. So let's quit wasting taxpayer money. I welcome an audit of any account, project or fund, but we should not be paying extra for it.

Additionally, the trustees are already paying more for the audit this year to bring in their own auditor, Miller Cooper. The village previously engaged a highly qualified auditing firm and received its first financial award. And the 2008 audit proposal from Miller Cooper was \$24,120 with an extra \$500 for a comptrollers report, add the possible \$1,500 for previous auditor information and we are already at \$26,120 — our previous auditor's cost for the same years audit was 25,400.

The trustees previously eliminated the position of Director of Administration/Mgr Finance & Technology and left the village without an office manager, without a finance manager, and they also eliminated the staff engineer position. The accountant has no help or back up person. This does not follow generally accepted accounting practices when one person is entering the data and reporting on his own data. Projects have no in house management. The reporting software was cancelled stagnating technology and the villages' reporting capabilities. The trustees each make \$12,000 a year but refused to vote on a pay cut so that we can hire professionals. The village would be better served if the trustees would allow me to hire a part time finance director or part time accountant to assist the village accountant so that everyone has up to date financial information for all accounts. The village has one full time professional, and one person cannot do it all.

The accountant is here tonight to clear up any misconceptions.

Additionally, the original engineers opinion of probable cost for the streetscape was \$3.9 million, when it was bid out in came in under budget at \$3,245,825.25. I have copies of those documents right here for anyone interested — No FOIA required. The bond issuance was for \$3 million. The \$3 million was not enough to pay for the engineering, the underground utilities, the water main, the water main engineering, the bond costs, etc, these were not part of the actual project that was bid out. I think before money is wasted on an audit, the board needs to sit down and decide what they are looking for. For example, what the board needs to decide is when all other water mains throughout the village were paid from the water fund why was the Lawrence water main paid from the SSA bond fund, when there was not enough money in the bond issuance to cover this? It's these things that need to be clarified. SSA bond issue funds were used to pay for items not in the \$3.2 million dollar contract.

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While filing in my office I found a memo from the previous Mayor Pabich to the board of trustees and staff, it reads as "Chief Executive Officer, I submit the following Executive Order: Effective Immediately all work requests made of village personnel will be directed to the office of mayor for processing." This is a common request to maintain general office management. It's important to note that Trustee Jezierny did not object when her ally former Mayor Pabich made this request.

For an update on the Redspeed traffic light camera enforcement, the Lawrence (E) & Harlem/Gunnison location received its (IDOT) - IDOT permit on 3/6/09, this site is moving along and it looks like the camera installation will begin March 23 or March 24. Redspeed will advise us so that we can handle a two week warning period for violators which we agreed upon. The other locations are still under review.

I would like to advise the public that if you are not getting the a response to a Freedom of Information Request with either what you asked for or the exemption for denial you can appeal to the head of the public body which in the village's case would be me.

Harwood Heights residents can join in Earth Hour 2009 on March 28th from 8:30-9:30 p.m. when households, organizations and businesses across Illinois will turn off their lights and turn their attention towards the need for substantial long term action to raise awareness about energy efficiency and global climate change. Cities across the country and the world will be participating.

As the Liquor Commissioner I am responsible to make sure owners of Liquor licenses are acting within their license and the law. So tonight, I want to talk about the local bars in Harwood Heights, or rather some of the problems that have arisen. It is important to note that all the bars in Harwood Heights are located in or adjacent to residential areas.

Some time ago the Ordinance Committee held a meeting to discuss increasing the hours of operations to even later than the current hours. I did not and do not agree with this. Recently a bar's public internet and a social site was advertising scantily clad go-go dancers at one of the bars in Harwood Heights, along with liquor specials. Hundreds of photos taken inside the bar were posted with inappropriate scenes that demonstrated that this bar would be better placed in an adult use area. The photos showed dancers engaging in explicit simulation of certain sexual activities, all in violation of certain Sections of Chapters 17.44 and 4.04 of the Harwood Heights Village Code. What is more disturbing is that it appears that a trustee knew about what was taking place at this bar - before I or the police knew. One photo on this internet site showed Trustee Mougolias with the owner. Another photo showed a person with a cigarette. As Liquor Commissioner it is my duty to regulate these types of actions, therefore I threatened to bring action against the owner unless the adult use and smoking ceased. I met with one of the owners to discuss the issues and they agreed to cease. But I must continually have the police monitor the bar for compliance and for public safety.

Now this past weekend a brawl took place in the parking lot of a local bar, this brawl included a person hitting another over the head with a bottle and with shots fired. The Harwood Heights police found 3 spent casing from a 40 caliber semi automatic laying in the parking lot. This was basically mod action with over 50 people involved. The owner had video surveillance and the police are in process of identifying the shooter. This took place at about 1:30 a.m. just this past Sunday.

This can't continue, as the Liquor Commissioner, the Mayor and a village resident I am requesting that the village board assist me in providing for the safety of our residents, businesses and the public who visit Harwood Heights. In this economy crime will only increase. Let's lower the hours of operation not increase the hours as trustees suggested. I have instructed the police to continue the premise checks as often as possible. I met with the owner of the bar where the shots were fired and I asked him to purchase and have his bouncers use a security wand to scan every patron looking for weapons - he agreed for everyone's safety they will be scanning for weapons. He is also implementing a dress code not allowing hats, hoodies or gym shoes.

This is our neighborhood, our village, and its shame it has come to this. I can't do much more without the board's cooperation. I can't change laws; I can only ask that the owners scan for weapons, I can't make it a requirement. I can and will bring action to suspend licenses if I need to. To the trustees, I say, join me in doing something for our community, such as require the security scanning, require the owners to be responsible by law. I asked Trustee Dobrzycki to see if he would support some changes and he agreed. What is more important to you as village officials- the revenue from exotic dancers and from gang bangers or maintaining a safe and respectable community?

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I wish everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Wherever you celebrate, designate your sober driver before the party begins and be responsible.

Information/Technology
Trustee Dobrzycki

Report of the Information & Technology Committee; I have two items to report this evening. The neighborhood newspaper, Pioneer Press, had enclosed in their most recent edition, today's, a copy of the Community Guide, which I am proud to say is part of the work of the Harwood Heights and now Norridge Chamber of Commerce. So, please refer to this when you have any questions, need some information, it's a very good guide. Second of all, following up on what the Mayor had mentioned, in my normal contact with the Mayor on a weekly basis I found out and was made aware of the incident that was at the bar, the shooting, and I had asked our Village Attorney to prepare an ordinance that would help in providing greater security for our village; so please pass this along, so everyone has a copy. In the ordinance, which will be submitted to our chair and also the next meeting of the Committee of the Whole; it will require that bars screen entrance to the bars, checking for any type of weapons using a metal detector type device. Hopefully that will prevent any type of disturbances or shootings as occurred this past weekend.

Forestry/Recreation
Trustee Gadzinski

Reporting from the Recreation Committee; the West Suburban Special Recreation Association will be hosting their 8th Annual Derby Gala Fundraiser on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Hawthorne Race Course in Cicero, Illinois. Please feel free to call the Village Hall for further information or feel free to call the WSSRA at 847-455-2100.

Also, on tonight's agenda, number I 6 is an expenditure not to exceed \$12,880.72 payable to the WSSRA Association for the second quarter 2009 payment.

Public Works
Trustee Jezierny

No Report - Absent

Public Health & Safety
Trustee Mougolias

I just want to report on the police negotiations; on the negotiating committee there are 3 members; myself, the Mayor and Trustee Schuepfer. Trustee Schuepfer and I have been making all the effort we can to get these negotiations moving forward, but the Mayor has been blocking them in usual fashion. And I would just like to read a quote from the ICOP's, which is a union that is representing the police, they have in their newsletter according to ICOP's President Norm Friese, "the villages politics, especially that of the Mayor, are getting in the way of negotiations which began in mid-2008."

I just want the people to know because the Mayor has been saying that it's not her blocking it. The Mayor is blocking these negotiations, we want to get them done, we want to get our officers a contract and finish it and move forward for this village; but, with this type of leadership we cannot move forward.

Ordinance/License
Trustee Schuepfer

I have a very brief report from the Ordinance & License Committee; on March 10th, this Tuesday, we had an Ordinance Committee meeting and on the agenda was the discussion of two requests for "Residents Parking Only" on Leland Avenue and on Sunnyside; it was quite a lively discussion as former Trustee Schmidt mentioned. At this point what we're looking for was to inform the residents who had requested "Residents Parking Only" what the restrictions were, if in fact that was placed in their area; for the Sunnyside site, we in fact have completed all but one part of the process and for the Leland site, we have two pieces of information yet to gather.

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**Finance
Sewer & Water
Trustee Szlendak**

A report for the Finance Committee; on our agenda we have items I 10, 11, 12 & 13; those are to override the Mayor's veto. Let's address 12 & 13 first; the streetscape project on Lawrence Avenue started out in 2005. Originally, this thing was going to be financed with the grant money plus the \$3 million dollar SSA assessment; that's the one that we voted on. And, during that period of time, it was also said that with that money we were going to be able to put the electric underground and at the same time we were going to be able to improve the water mains. Unfortunately, the project ballooned to, according to the Mayor's numbers to \$5.5 million dollars. One of the things that the trustees, that our Village Treasurer recommended, we need to find out exactly how much was spent, where did the money come from and the most important part is, we have to get this accounting done so we'll know exactly how much MFT money and how much Water money we can use to finance this project. That's the reason why we're asking Miller Cooper to come in with a non-partisan objective look and get us some numbers. To save my life, I cannot understand why the Mayor is fighting it so hard.

Now, let's take a look at the items 10 & 11. I called our Village Accountant and I asked him how much we should transfer from the MFT into the General Fund, and how much we should transfer from the Water Fund into the General Fund. He gave me those numbers; \$268,000 from MFT, that money is approved by IDOT and \$817,000, we do not need an approval by IDOT or anybody there.

Why was this money transferred? Why did it have to happen at that time? Because we, a.) do not have enough money in our General Fund for the day-to-day operation and the real problem came in is that we started refunding that \$300,000 overcharge. Because the Mayor did not transfer the money, the checks went out to our residents, our residents went to the bank and the bank told them there is no money; we issued rubber checks to our residents. Some of these residents, let's say the resident that talked to me, they got a \$72.00 refund, now her bank is charging her \$35.00 for submitting an NSF check into her account. When is this going to stop? All we wanted to do is transfer the money, just like the auditors on our last audit said you should not wait until the end of the year to transfer the money; you should transfer the money periodically. It is March and we are writing rubber checks. Let's stop playing games. Let's get the job done.

Mayor Fuller: I'm sorry, we have a good relationship with the banks and they call us immediately if there is an overdraft; we received no such phone call. I just can't believe some of the things that are brought up here. There was no problem, the fund balances are being monitored and as far as the resolution for the audit, I have no problem with any audits, I have a problem with the village board paying for it twice. They've already hired the auditors to do the audit, that's one of the funds to be audited and now they're paying the same auditors more money to audit that fund. I don't know what's going on here but it doesn't look good. And then Trustee Szlendak is saying the Mayor's number is 5.5; that's not the Mayor's numbers. The engineer gave us a breakdown of the streetscape that's very accurate. The streetscape is not completely paid for, so as those bills come in, but as I said in my report they need to decide what they want to include in the streetscape project. Going back to 2005 there was 5 or 6 different options of how much we wanted to have the taxpayer's fund. That's where those different ideas came from, but if you look at those old options, what was put in there for just the street work was like a million dollars less than what it actually was. So, those were not the official estimates and I do have a copy of the official engineers probable cost that they added up what the costs would be for that work before they bid out and that was 3.9 million. The accountant is here, Martin did you want to add anything about anything?

Trustee Mougolias: I'd like to ask the accountant a question, since he's here.

Mayor Fuller: Okay.

Trustee Mougolias: Martin, monthly do we have overdraft charges on a regular basis? Do you have an idea? Have we had overdraft charges?

Accountant Martin Boyd: Yes, this is when, I monitor the daily balances and consider what checks we have outstanding that would influence that balance and transfer funds within the Parkway bank accounts to make sure that they're covered.

Trustee Mougolias: But this village has bounced checks? We have bounced checks on people?

Mayor Fuller: No we have not.

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Trustee Mougolias: We haven't had overdraft charges, we don't get overdraft charges?

Mayor Fuller: They notify us if there's an overdraft and we.....

Trustee Mougolias: I'm asking if the village has paid an overdraft charge? Have we paid.....

Accountant Martin Boyd: Yes...

Trustee Mougolias: We've paid; so we've had people go to the bank and there's been no money in the account?

Accountant Martin Boyd: No, you're putting words in my mouth trustee. The arrangement we have with Parkway is that in the event a check presented would exceed the balance, Parkway will honor the check and charge us the standard overdraft fee. They also call us.

Trustee Mougolias: So to me....

Accountant Martin Boyd: They also call us.

Trustee Mougolias: To me that means though, that the check has been written and there's not enough money in the account; the check has actually, maybe they didn't return the check but we were overdraft.

Mayor Fuller: When it was brought to my attention what the problem was is the moving of the money from the State of Illinois, we keep most of the money downstate, so making those transfers sometimes overlap.

Trustee Mougolias: If we would have transferred this money a month ago I don't think we would have had this problem then, that's what I'm trying to get at.

Mayor Fuller: There is no problem; I haven't seen an overdraft in a long time.

Trustee Mougolias: If the taxpayer's are paying for overdrafts I think there's a problem Mayor.

Mayor Fuller: It must be their account because we have not been notified of an overdraft, the bank would call us.

Trustee Mougolias: What confidence can the taxpayer's have if a check from the village cannot clear?

Mayor Fuller: I have to take your word for it that this actually happened, which I couldn't really rely on. So if you want to bring some proof.

Accountant Martin Boyd: I am personally not aware of it trustee, of the situation that you're referring to or Trustee Szlendak. What happens when you are personally responsible for making sure that the balances are adequate and either wire transfers or inter-account transfers at Parkway Bank are made, now whether Parkway posts them on the spot, I can't attest to that one way or the other? But in the time I've been here we have never knowingly sent out a check with not having adequate funds for it.

Clerk's Report

No Report

Attorney's Report

No Report

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F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Mougolias: I have many comments tonight. First, I would like to ask the Mayor, I'm in receipt of a letter from, and I'd like to ask the attorney also, from Attorney Neal Smith that was copied to the Mayor also, asking for information for the Attorney General; I want to know, did all the trustees get this letter?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: I believe so; that each trustee received a separate letter, yes.

Trustee Mougolias: Six of us?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: Yes.

Trustee Mougolias: Okay; because it's asking for information from the Finance Committee and many of us are not on the Finance Committee.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: I'm sure that each one of you received one.

Trustee Mougolias: Okay, that's my first comment. The second thing is, is the Mayor's comments on all these taxpayer's and Trustee Szlendak not paying his taxes. I believe the property that he lives in, his family owns it, the taxes are paid; they shouldn't have an issue. The same thing with Trustee Jezierny, I believe her father is maybe 80-years old, I think he would be entitled to a senior exemption, if he is not, I don't know who would be Mayor, and also the senior freeze. I don't know what type of point you're trying to make and myself, also; all I'm claiming is a homeowner exemption. So, just because my payment wasn't there on the 9th, doesn't mean that there's any issue.

Now, Trustee Dobrzycki on the other hand, here he's telling me that he's claiming a senior exemption; something you had to fill out, meaning that you're stealing. So, you cannot say, you cannot compare what the Mayor is trying through her smoke and mirrors as usual, to Trustee Dobrzycki's situation here. I have not seen all this paperwork but I will look into it. And, from what I'm understanding if he has, and what it says here, is he's claiming a senior exemption. Someone, I'm sure all the seniors here can attest to it, someone had to fill out a paper and check "yes, I am a senior, I get this exemption," when you get your homeowners exemption. This is fraud! I don't know if the attorney can answer the question but I would believe its fraud, to me. That's all I have of that until we can investigate and see what is going on with that.

But my last issue is, the Mayor keeps talking about a village with Trustee Dobrzycki, keep going around talking about a Village Manager. How wonderful it would be to have a Village Manager; to pay a Village Manager \$150,000 a year, what a good idea, what a great idea to run the village perfect, everything will go smooth. I would like to ask them, "What do we need you for?" Weren't you elected to be the manager? Weren't you elected, aren't you elected Trustee Dobrzycki to run this village? You need to spend the taxpayer money? If you guys can't run the village you shouldn't be here.

Trustee Szlendak: Looking at this information, I'm extremely disturbed. Trustee Dobrzycki, I'm sorry, you say the square footage of your building is 1,103 feet. You have a large multi-level brand new building; buildings built at that time, your size, I mean they have taxes \$8,000 to \$9,000. It's beyond me that... I mean you were there in classes translating and teaching people how to decrease their taxes. I mean, I just cannot understand how this can happen and I'm hoping that the Mayor will investigate this case and find out what's going on.

Trustee Gadzinski: I would like to first thank everyone for their comments every meeting. I take notes and I take them all into consideration so I highly urge everyone always to comment. I strongly believe that's what makes a democracy; is that people should come and if they have some issues or problems or if they have some concerns they should come to the village and present it to the board and we should help them as much as possible. So thank you again.

To my understanding the qualifications to run for office and to hold an office in the State of Illinois and also in the great United States of America, does not require someone to own a home, but requires someone to have a residence, a certain limit of many months, I believe it's 6-months prior to an election.

And yes, I do live with my father, who is disabled. I grew up and I was brought up with the values of having a close-knit family and supporting your family. And my father is disabled, I help contribute to pay his bills and I help contribute to pay his mortgage; I take him to the hospital. I'm sure many of you also have people like that in your families and I'm sure

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most of you know people that help the families and want to do best for the families. I think it's very, very important; that's my father, I'm his son, I love him dearly and I will continue to live with him as long as he needs my help.

Next, I contribute to the "Meals-on Wheels, the "Senior Assistance Center. Harwood Heights donates a lot of money to the Senior Assistance Center, to provide services for not only the Village of Harwood Heights but....I'm sorry, I'm just kind of saddened by some of these comments today. Harwood Heights pays a lot of money each year to the Senior Assistance Center to supply the services to residents of Harwood Heights. Norridge pays a lot of money from their village to supply services to Norridge. And, the Township donates a lot of money so that people in Norwood Park, Unincorporated, are also supplied by these services. These are great services. I will continue to supply these services as long as I live in this village and even if I move or consider to move in the future, I will still continue to supply these services. These services offer meals to people that are hungry; senior citizens, just like my grandmother, just like the residents, like neighbors that live down the block from me, that live on my block. I will continue to supply these services and it only takes a few hours. I wish there were more people contributing to the Senior Assistance Center. I know Larry Steiner in the audience here has helped out also; I know a lot of people that help out and I thank you all for that. I wish to always have people join in on the team and help with the Senior Assistance Center. I think it's a good deed; it supplies food for people that are less fortunate and homebound. So, once again, there are certain one-sided individuals, I'm not going to name names, they know who they are, and I do respect their comments at every meeting. That's that.

I have one more comment I have to make. I'm really disgusted with Trustee Dobrzycki, because I contribute to helping out my grandmother fill out senior exemption and senior freeze so that she can afford paying for her medications, so she can afford her bills and her utilities and I also helped out many residents in the past 2-years and prior to that, also helping them fill out paperwork for the freeze and also helping them fill out paperwork for applications for exemptions and also prescription medications and I will continue to do that also. But what I'm disgusted with Trustee Dobrzycki is that he lives in a home where there's no seniors living in the home. And some of you may laugh about that but that's serious, in my opinion fraud. And, I would like to ask the attorney, what do you think, is that fraud? There's no senior, to my knowledge, I'd like to ask Trustee Dobrzycki, is there a senior citizen living with you in your home?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: I don't any of the facts that anybody's talking about here. I can say that the assessor does not update their... in the middle of this process right now the Cook County Assessor office on several properties owned by villages where properties, and were sold by villages, where properties that should be tax exempt are not reflected as tax exempt properties; are tax exempt, are actually owned by private individuals. So I cannot vouch for the Cook County Assessor's records whatsoever here, so without knowing the facts there could be a multitude of reasons here why this could be the case and I haven't even looked at the paperwork myself, so I don't know.

Trustee Gadzinski: You should take a look at it, because right here, I don't know if that could be a mistake, it's in black and white, it says senior citizen exemption received 2004 - "yes;" 2005 - "yes;" 2006 - "yes;" 2007 - "yes." So, to my understanding that's the pin number of the address and this is a printout from the Cook County Treasurer's office, Maria Pappas.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: That doesn't mean that the property owner filled out any forms to reflect any type of exemption he applied for; the Cook County Assessor's office might not have updated their records whatsoever.

Trustee Gadzinski: For 4-years straight? Okay.

Mayor Fuller: Before I give it to Trustee Dobrzycki, I just want to add that from my knowledge that at the end of every year the Building Department has to submit all the permits and that it takes several years before the assessor actually assess those properties with the changes in the remodeling and things like that. But I'll have to find out more about that.

Trustee Gadzinski: Always try to found out, you never stick to the facts you like to spin things around, as usual.

Mayor Fuller: You're out of order. I just recently talked to the Building Department about this issue from somebody else's questions; that's why I'm familiar with it. Also, the elected officials who do not pay taxes, my point with that is they're elected officials in Harwood Heights, they don't pay any taxes so maybe that's why they're so loose with our tax money, in using it for.....

Trustee Gadzinski: There you go again, there's a sip around...

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Mayor Fuller: In using it for lawsuits, wasting our money on lawsuits and things like that. And I don't know where Trustee Mougolias got some Village Manager for \$150,000 a year; I never said that. But, I was elected as a part-time Mayor; I'm working full-time...

Trustee Mougolias: You were elected to run this town, that's what you were elected....

Mayor Fuller: No, I was elected....

Trustee Mougolias: Yes!

Mayor Fuller: I was elected as a part-time Mayor just like the previous Mayor who had a full-time job working for a school district as a teacher and a coach; he had a full-time job and he came in whenever he could and he had an office manager who was running the village.

Trustee Mougolias: You mean to tell me you weren't elected to run this town?

Mayor Fuller: So, I don't mind running the town, but you've got a multimillion business that you should have more professionals keeping up with everything.

Trustee Mougolias: I agree.

Trustee Gadzinski: I'm not finished though....

Mayor Fuller: And... you're not done with your comments?

Trustee Gadzinski: Not before you interrupted me. Just one more little comment is that, that's why in my opinion you're stepping down as Mayor is because you just can't handle it, that's all. You haven't done a good job and you know it, so. And I strongly believe that there's certain people that are following in your footsteps very closely.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Ms. White, I'm glad that you brought this subject to the light. It is on public record, it's easily accessible by everyone. Unfortunately, you didn't bother to call and ask me about this and now I see Ms. Schroeder making faces and so forth, I'm glad to hear that and see that, but it would be good to know all the details of this. My wife and I bought this house at the end of February, March of 2005. The previous owner, the original owner of the house lived in that house on January 1st. Taxes are determined who lives at the house on January 1st of every year; that's why an escrow account is setup at closing to make sure the taxes are appropriately assigned to those individuals who lived that certain period of time and those who will remain for the rest of the year. That individual not only had a senior exemption, she also had a senior freeze. If you look at that record, the senior freeze was no longer there. Now, taking note of Mr. Mougolias' comments about me stealing and filling out forms; Mr. Mougolias I have not filled out any senior exemption forms, in fact I have inquired several times, not only by telephone, by correspondence, by written correspondence with the assessor's office. The first time I received.....

Trustee Mougolias: When was that?

Trustee Dobrzycki: Did I interrupt you Mr. Mougolias?

Trustee Mougolias: I'm just asking.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Okay, would that be appropriate, could you consider to handle yourself and your comments without knowing the facts and Trustee Gadzinski, shaking your head and so forth, being ashamed of everything that goes on here. Maybe you might....

Trustee Gadzinski: It's your actions, not everything that goes on here; every things fine, it's just your actions.

Mayor Fuller: You're out of order, Trustee Dobrzycki has the floor.

Trustee Gadzinski: It's sad, it's disgusting....

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Trustee Dobrzycki: You sir are sad and disgusting, okay; if you'd let me finish you might know and learn something. Previously.....

Trustee Szlendak: Yes, I would like to learn how I can do this.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Well, I don't think you need to learn because you don't pay any taxes Trustee Szlendak, so I do, I own a property and if you'd let me finish without your snide comments I could do that. Would you like to keep on interfering? Okay, thank you.

Trustee Szlendak: Trustee Dobrzycki, please go ahead.

Trustee Dobrzycki: The senior exemption use to be filled out, you had to fill out a form and then every year the assessor's office would send you a card, which you'd have to, a postcard, where you'd have to sign and return back to them; they no longer do that. Budgetary cuts. Once it's applied for it remains with the property. I.... thank you very much Mr. Schroeder, maybe you might call them up and ask, because I did call them up and ask, in fact I visited them and I asked ...

Trustee Mougolias: ...two days ago?

Trustee Dobrzycki: You fill out a form and they no longer send you postcards to reconfirm that, okay. I filled out no forms asking for a senior exemption, I filled out no postcards asking for an exemption, okay. In fact the property was still listed with the previous owner. I called the Treasurer's office when I received my first bill and it still had the previous owners name on it. I recorded the deed with the County Recorder's office; it took me over a year to get my name on the tax bill, first point. Then when I called the Treasurer's office, they tell me they only collect the money; if there's some changes to that, I need to contact the assessor's office, which I did. I called them. I told them that Ms. Lillian Izycki, the woman who we purchased the home from, no longer lives there, the senior exemption should be taken off. I was told that a new bill would be sent out. I said if I paid the greater amount, the full amount, she said, the woman who answered the phone, that my taxes would be listed as overpaid. Now, I called and sent in a letter and as you know the first part of the tax bill comes at the beginning year with no details; it's only the second part of the year that the details come on the bill. Receiving the second bill from last year I saw the senior exemption on there again and I called and I wrote to them. There is no form to fill out to request to remove a senior exemption; there's only a form to fill out to ask for senior exemption. I went down to the assessor's office. I found out that the property was still listed with the previous owner. For me to remove the senior exemption, which I called and sent letters to do, I found out because the senior exemption was listed with the previous owner and they still had listed the previous owner, the first thing I had to do was make sure that they had myself and my wife listed as the owners. Then, to withdraw the senior exemption, the homeowner's exemption had to be removed and now I had to re-apply for the homeowner's exemption: which I all did. The assessor's office told me with the amount of homes that were sold, that some homes don't get updated. And there's probably several people in this audience have had similar experiences trying to update the tax bills and in fact the Mayor had mentioned in the past that there are times when the tax bill is not sent to the owner of the property, to the people who pay the taxes. So, even though I was able over a year's time to have my name put on the tax bill, the assessor's office still did not have me listed as the owner of the building, the property.

The comments about the upgrading, once again, an issue of law; and we have our Building Commissioner here and you could maybe ask him after the meeting when you make improvements and Ms. White, not only did one wall of my home stay up, but all four walls and the foundation and the floor and the drywall and everything else; we added to the building, okay. Not only did someone from the assessor's office come and check the outside of my building but they also rang my doorbell and came into my house to make those measurements. To give you, once you make an improvement to your home, they give you a 4-year, I say like a kind of an exemption, okay. 4-years....

Trustee Gadzinski: Seniors?

Trustee Dobrzycki: No 3-years; oh that's very good, than the Director of the Exemption Division that I spoke to lied to me, correct? I can tell him that? And I could use your name, right? Okay, very good Mr. Schroeder, I will call him tomorrow.....

Mr. Tom Schroeder: It's reassessed every 3-years.

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Trustee Dobrzycki: No, the exemption for improvements is 4-years and if you don't believe me you can check. No, reassessments take place every 3-years; the exemption on home improvements, you can ask the Building Commissioner in the back of the room; 4-years. So, I hope, you may not believe me, you don't have to believe me. You can go online and you can check it yourself. You can actually call the assessor's office, you can ask to speak to the head of the Exemption Department and ask him yourself, okay. Maybe I got the information wrong. Maybe they misinformed me when I asked about it, okay. But, since I moved into that house I have tried to update my tax bill, I have tried to correct the information. The assessor's office told me that they were the one's responsible, not I, okay. And Trustee Mougolias, I did not fill out any senior exemption forms, okay; if you want you can FOI the assessor's office and you can ask them for the senior exemption forms that Mark Dobrzycki or Danuta Dobrzycki filled out on that house, because there are none. There's no senior exemption, no senior freeze exemptions, you make these accusations and if I could borrow a few words from Trustee Gadzinski, put a spin on it, okay. Or put a spin on it; put the truth on it that would be the best. Be truthful and honest; that would be the best. And if you bothered to ask and inquire about this maybe you might find out and maybe I could borrow a few words from another famous person, "and that's the rest of the story."

Trustee Schuepfer: I don't really have any comment about Trustee Dobrzycki's situation; but I would like to make a comment on behalf of Trustee Jezierny and that is that, I would hope she would say this in her own defense since the Mayor has chosen to attack her. Arlene's father has dementia. The social security that he receives is not enough to pay the taxes on the house and Arlene for years has paid for the majority of the expenses of keeping and maintaining her father in an environment that is familiar and will not induce more confusion. I think that instead of castigating her and implying that she is some kind of freeloader, that she really exemplifies many of the values that residents in our village embrace, and that is, trying to maintain the environment of an aging parent, instead of sending them off to live in a nursing home, assisted living and each of us makes choices. But in this case, she is doing her best to keep a gentleman accustomed to a very specific way of living. And I don't know if there's anybody in here who has ever tried to live 24-hours a day with someone who has advancing dementia and to still do and work as hard as Trustee Jezierny.

So, I'm very sorry that the Mayor felt compelled to engage in character assassination on behalf of Trustee Dobrzycki; I don't think he would have asked for that either.

Mayor Fuller: I just read the tax reports just like someone else did here; so I don't see that as any kind of character assassination, I read what is on the assessor's....

Trustee Schuepfer: You have no idea who pays the taxes.

Mayor Fuller: Well that's right, so why do the trustees not let me check who was paying the taxes when we wanted to refund the money? You know, you want to just mail out the checks, you didn't want to verify, when I told you...

Trustee Schuepfer: Mayor. Mayor...

Mayor Fuller: The taxpayers are different.

Trustee Schuepfer: Try to keep to the point, I know it's impossible; but keep to the point.

Mayor Fuller: You're out of order.

Trustee Schuepfer: Well I understand that, but you have a tension deficit disorder.

Mayor Fuller: Is there any special committee reports? Then I have some other comments to make before we move on. There were some comments by Trustee Mougolias regarding the union negotiations, that I was holding up the union negotiations and I think there's some relationships here that deserve scrutiny and this is very important. And, I know they like the change of events thing, so that's how I've got it laid out here. The trustee's hired their own attorney, Ancel Glink, as their alleged legislative counsel at taxpayer's expense. Trustee Mougolias is the only person to receive an alleged anonymous letter from the police asking for help. Then the police joined this ICOP's union instead of FOP. The union attorney for ICOP's and the trustees alleged legislative counsel from Ancel Glink, both work for the same town. Trustees use their attorney from Ancel Glink, who already knows the union attorney, to prepare ordinances and resolutions taking over police discipline and putting Ancel Glink at the table for the union negotiations without the Chief of Police or any police management at the table, and the union attorney does not object to the unbalanced negotiating table. The union brings in their own insurance broker. This broker starts calling village employees at work and on their personal cell

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phones asking for information the village does not have. Now, where did he get the office staffs personal cell phone number? Both the attorney from Ancel Glink and the attorney for the ICOP's union request information be given to the ICOP's union insurance broker; information the village does not have and has never had. It is never gotten for other insurance brokers including the alternate broker the trustees interviewed last year. Mougolias puts a motion on the agenda and trustees approve to direct the Mayor to give the union insurance carrier information the village does not have. My question to Trustee Mougolias and the trustee's is what exactly is your relationship with the attorney you hired, with the ICOP's union attorney and with the insurance agent for the union? What is the relationship between Ancel Glink's attorney, the ICOP's attorney and the ICOP's insurance broker?

Trustee Mougolias: Mayor, I don't think there is any relationship; that answers your question.

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, no second; Motion Failed

To concur with the Mayor's appointment of Dino Giolas to the Board of Fire & Police for a term pursuant to 65 ILCS 5/10-2.1-1, for a term ending 4/30/10.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda items I 1 thru I 22:

Trustee Dobrzycki pulled motions I 10, I 11, I 12 and I 13 for a separate vote.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda items I 1-9 & I 14-22:

1. To approve the regular minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held February 26, 2009.
2. Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute 3-year contracts for Voice & Data services through Cbeyond Communications for the Police Department, Village Offices, and Public Works and to authorize an estimated annual expenditure of \$23,000.00 – billed monthly on actual services used, payable to Cbeyond Communications.
3. Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a contract for Maintenance Agreement covering Comdial Digital phone systems for the Police Department, Village Offices, and Public Works: Motion to authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$3,511.00 – 12 monthly payments of \$321.85 payable to Forward Telecommunication Services.
4. Motion to authorize expenditure not to exceed \$2,731.95, payable to Forward Telecommunication Services, for the purchase and installation of ISDN-PRI Card necessary for the new phone service to be used effective May 2009.
5. Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into and execute a 1-year contract for IT service through NABTECH for the Police Department, Village Offices, and Public Works and to authorize an expenditure of \$36,186.12 – (\$3,015.51 billed monthly).
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$12,880.72, payable to the West Suburban Special Recreation Association for the 2nd quarter 2009 Share Payment and Inclusion Payment to be expensed to line item 11-08-00-7037 FY 08/09 – Special Recreation.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$70,000.00, payable to HD Waterworks Supply to replenish stock of meters and hardware supplies, to be expensed to line item 22-00-00-6016 FY 08/09 – Water & Sewer.

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8. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$2,480.18**, payable to Morton Salt for an additional purchase of salt, to be expensed to line item 11-06-00-7040 – Building Repairs & Maintenance.
9. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,988.68**, payable to Municipal Code Corporation for the 2008 supplemental service to the Village's Municipal Codes, to be expensed to line item 11-01-00-7048 for FY 08/09 – Village Code Recodification.
14. To approve a two week extension for the water biller to complete the requirements of Motion I 12 approved at the February 12, 2009 board meeting: To approve that at the Accountant's completion of creating the list of names by mailing addresses, the Accountant shall give this list to the Village's water billing clerk who shall, within seven (7) days thereafter, generate a water payer list sorted by mailing address. The Village water billing clerk shall then, from the information prepared by the accountant and by the water billing department, create three (3) lists as follows: **List 1:** Where the name on the mailing list and the water paying list are the same or substantially the same, a check for the overcharge shall be issued to the taxpayer as soon as is practicable. **List 2:** Where there is any indication that the taxpayer has not paid the relevant property tax, a letter shall be sent to the taxpayer advising that, upon proof of payment of said property taxes, a refund check will be issued as soon as practicable. **List 3:** Where the name of the taxpayer and water payer are different, a letter will be sent to the taxpayer advising them that upon their providing the name of the proper taxpayer and evidence that the taxes were paid, a refund check will be sent as soon as practicable.
15. To direct the village attorney to prepare all documents, forms, and legal documents to develop and maintain a vacant building registry pursuant to Ordinance 08-25 adopted by the village board.
16. To approve **Resolution 09-04**, An Illinois Department of Transportation Resolution for Improvement by Municipality Under the Illinois Highway Code in the amount of \$13,685.40 to appropriate MFT funds to pay for the local share of construction and construction engineering from the villages allotment of Motor Fuel Tax Funds for the pedestrian and traffic improvement at Union Ridge School.
17. To approve the Salvation Army's "**Donut Day**" on **Friday and Saturday, June 5th and June 6th, 2009**, pursuant to complying with all village ordinances.
18. To approve the Salvation Army's "**Red Kettle Campaign**" for **Friday, November 13th, 2009 through Saturday, December 26th, 2009**, pursuant to complying with all village ordinances.
19. To approve the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer "**Mint Day**" fundraiser at the intersection of Harlem and Gunnison/Lawrence on **Saturday, April 18th from 10:00am to 5:00pm and Sunday, April 19th from 11:00am to 5:00pm**, pursuant to complying with all village ordinances.
20. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$83,440.93** as they appear on check register **#46037** thru **#46117**.
21. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$112,831.65** to Parkway Bank Payroll Account.
22. Electronic transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$10,388.16** for February 2009 IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1-9 & I 14-22 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Jezierny

Motion Carried

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ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Mougolias on Consent Agenda item I 10:

Trustee Schuepfer: Just a clarification, I thought you said I 9 but you're really referring to I 10?

Mayor Fuller: That was the number of the motion at the time.

Trustee Dobrzycki: I just wanted to inquire and to ask and make sure that I understood correctly, the transfer of the \$268,000 from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund to the General Fund that was approved by IDOT, is that my correct understanding? To Trustee Szlendak and our accountant, to make sure that's correct?

Trustee Szlendak: I say yes; Martin is that correct?

Accountant Martin Boyd: Did IDOT transfer that amount? Is that the question?

Trustee Dobrzycki: Yes sir.

Accountant Martin Boyd: To my knowledge yes; as I recall. I'll give you a qualified "yes" that to the best of my recollection IDOT did approve a transfer of funds; yes. The amount, I'm having trouble recalling the precise amount.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Should we not have that question to the Village Attorney, should we not have that in written form? I believe I understood that should be in writing to make sure that it's properly done. Is that correct? Is that my correct understanding?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: That's correct, that's IDOT's regulation as adopted in the Illinois Administrative Code that they would approve in writing any transfer of MFT Funds.

Trustee Dobrzycki: And that should be submitted when the motion is presented, correct?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: Yes.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Thank you. I'd like to make a motion to table this until we can get that in writing so we can do the business as required by IDOT, so we make sure that we follow the regulations on that.

Trustee Szlendak: I believe the IDOT motion was approved on August 28, 2008 to make the transfer; I don't see a problem there; we need the money in the General Fund.

Mayor Fuller: There's a motion to table, is there a second? I'm waiting for somebody to ask me so I can say something.

Trustee Dobrzycki: I think this might be the suggestion we might all recess and find out if we can find that paper? I'm willing to make sure that we do this correctly. I have no problem; I could stay here all night.

Mayor Fuller: This motion that was, this resolution or this approval you're talking about from August, what was it for? What is this, this \$268,000, what was it used for that you're transferring from MFT to the General? Is this for the Olcott/Wilson?

Trustee Szlendak: For the streetscape!

Mayor Fuller: Well, then there's no problem there; yes, there was a resolution approved for \$275,000; but you said you were transferring the balance of the Olcott/Wilson project?

Trustee Szlendak: No. Where does it say that I'm transferring the balance of the Olcott project?

Mayor Fuller: That's what it says in the minutes of your Finance Committee meeting. Here's the resolution.

Trustee Mougolias: It's amazing, you have it with you; you're well prepared.

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Mayor Fuller: I have no problem transferring money that was approved by IDOT, but you didn't identify what you were transferring.

Trustee Mougolias: No, you were trying to make it a political issue, which is prohibited in our ordinance.

Mayor Fuller: No, the minutes from your meeting talked about the Olcott/Wilson project. The only thing I found in the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting was referring to the Olcott/Wilson project.

So there's a motion and a second to approve the transfer of \$268,000 from the MFT account to the General account and \$817,000 from the Water Fund to the General Fund, there was no second to table; is there a second to table? No.

Trustee Dobrzycki: A question for the Village Attorney, do we incur any liability because we approved this without the proper documentation?

Trustee Mougolias: The documentation is right here! She just gave it to you.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: To answer your question trustee, in general the Illinois Department of Transportation could withhold future MFT funds.

Trustee Mougolias: Attorney.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: Yes.

Trustee Mougolias: This is not proper documentation?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: I was asked....

Trustee Mougolias: I understand; but I'm asking for this answer. This is not proper documentation?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: I can't answer it because I'm not aware of this situation where there's somebody in your committee or what your committee....

Trustee Mougolias: This letter from IDOT is not what we need; is this not an approval from IDOT?

Attorney Paul Stephanides: If I could take a look at that; if in fact this is a....

Mayor Fuller: The problem with this is you haven't, we don't know how much MFT fund we're going to need for the streetscape project because all the bills haven't come in yet; so you might not need to transfer the whole thing.

Trustee Mougolias: We know that the project was \$2,000,000 over budget, so we're going to need a lot of money.

Mayor Fuller: It wasn't over budget. It had water mains and underground utilities and all kinds of things that were not included in the streetscape.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: To answer your question, if this is a transfer of, in fact, of the \$275,000 amount that is reflected in this correspondence dated September 23, 2008, this would suffice as approval for the transfer; so this is what you would be after from the Illinois Department of Transportation, to approve the transfer of MFT funds, but I don't know if that's in fact what you are transferring.

Mayor Fuller: I would ask the trustees to just amend the motion to include, to approve the transfer of \$268,000 from MFT for the streetscape project pursuant to this documentation; that would really help when the auditors come in and Martin's got to explain why that money was transferred.

Trustee Szlendak: Fine, we can amend it to transfer \$275,000 then, instead of \$268,000.

Mayor Fuller: What I'm looking for is the language in the motion that it refers back to the approved resolution; pursuant to the resolution approved by IDOT, September 17, 2008.

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Trustee Szlendak: Fine.

Trustee Schuepfer: September 23rd?

Trustee Mougolias: September 23rd?

Mayor Fuller: Actually, it's stamped on the second page; it was actually approved September 17th.

Trustee Szlendak: Okay.

Trustee Dobrzycki: I just wanted to make sure that this was done in accordance with what IDOT required and I thank you for providing the documentation so this is properly done.

Trustee Schuepfer: I would like to call the question.

10. Motion to reconsider motion I 9, passed at the February 12, 2009 meeting of the board of trustees, entitled "To approve the transfer of \$275,000 from our MFT Fund Account to our General Fund Account and \$817,000 from our Water Fund Account to our General Fund Account;" pursuant to the resolution approved by IDOT September 17, 2008 for the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 10 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Jezierny

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 11:

11. Motion to override mayoral veto of motion I 9, passed at the February 12, 2009 meeting of the board of trustees, entitled "To approve the transfer of \$275,000 from our MFT Fund Account to our General Fund Account and \$817,000 from our Water Fund Account to our General Fund Account;" pursuant to the resolution approved by IDOT September 17, 2008 for the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 11 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Jezierny

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Mougolias on Consent Agenda item I 12:

Trustee Dobrzycki: I still feel it's inappropriate that we should have a special accounting when it's supposed to be included in the general accounting that the firm was hired. Spending money, especially since it's been noted that times are tough and that we're tight; I believe the accounting firm should be able to handle and accomplish this within their normal work.

12. Motion to reconsider Resolution 09-02, passed at the February 12, 2009 meeting of the board of trustees, entitled "A Resolution Accepting Proposal and Retaining Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd. To Provide Special Accounting Consultant Services Relating to the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape Project."

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A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 12 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Gadzinski, Mougolias, Schuepfer, Szlendak

NAYS: Trustee Dobrzycki

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Jezierny

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Szlendak, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Consent Agenda item I 13:

13. Motion to override mayoral veto of Resolution 09-02, passed at the February 12, 2009 meeting of the board of trustees, entitled "A Resolution Accepting Proposal and Retaining Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd. To Provide Special Accounting Consultant Services Relating to the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape Project."

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 13 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Gadzinski, Mougolias, Schuepfer, Szlendak

NAYS: Trustee Dobrzycki

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Jezierny

Motion Carried

J. NEW BUSINESS

None

K. OLD BUSINESS

None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None

M. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

N. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Mougolias: I'd just like to ask Trustee Dobrzycki when he contacted the Cook County Assessor's office; because I know, and most of us know, your wife is a real estate agent and I know the Illinois Real Estate Board, you have to know about real estate taxes, you have to know stuff to get your real estate license and I don't think they would approve of you having a mistake like this on your real estate taxes so many years.

But, other than that, on a better note I would like to, since we have her here, congratulate Corporal Yolanda Smith, since she's here; she's the first women Corporal in Harwood Heights. The Mayor chose to acknowledge her without the board present, but I would like to give her our congratulations, she deserved it.

Trustee Szlendak: One of Trustee Dobrzycki's comments, he closed his comments by saying "Let's be truthful and honest;" I think we should be truthful and honest. What he would like us to believe is that over the last 3-years, from the years 2005, 2006, 2007 and now it's 2009, he was doing everything humanly possible, contacting the assessor's office and he was aware of it and he was never able to correct that oversight; the little oversight that his building happens to be probably a little bit larger than 1,103 square feet. Now, the rest of our residents are much more, what, lucky; because

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they're getting taxes on the full property and they're constantly complaining that they have to pay \$9,000 to \$10,000 for properties that were built or renovated at the same time. I find it very hard to believe and I will find out from the assessor's office if you come to them and say "look, there's a problem," that they're going to say "let's look in the other direction." I think, yes, let's be truthful and honest. I mean, you're getting a senior citizen exemption when you're not entitled to it. Could it be that a trustee cannot get the job done but the rest of the residents in our village can get the thing done and the corrections come through?

Trustee Dobrzycki: I take umbrage at the statement that Trustee Mougolias made about my wife and I will make sure that I inform her of your comments. If you're curious as to the amount of that senior exemption, I believe it is \$209 for 2007, the last payable tax year and \$236 for the year before that; those that I'm responsible for. And once again, I remind you that Trustee Mougolias asked me, I've been contacting for the last 3-years, both by phone and both by letter. The property continued to be in the previous property owner's name. I learned all this, and next time, instead of contacting the assessor's office, I'll contact Trustee Szlendak and Mr. Schroeder because they seem to know more than those individuals working at the assessor's office and.....

Mrs. Schroeder: We pay our taxes!

Trustee Dobrzycki: So do I, so do I; there's some on this board who don't pay their taxes, so. So do I madam and so does my mother and so does my brother and so does my entire family; thank you very much.

Trustee Gadzinski: I understand that you pay your taxes but they're at a very, very discounted level.

Trustee Mougolias: I'd like to ask one more question. Trustee Dobrzycki, you attended the tax reduction seminar, whatever you would call it, at Ridgewood; did you apply for a tax reduction also to lower?

Trustee Dobrzycki: Well, if you look at your form right here, it says "none" that I applied for; how about that. You seem to know everything else, so.

Trustee Szlendak: But you're wrong. That doesn't mean that they're wrong. Right? Isn't that what you're contending that they're completely, all these documents that we're showing they're not correct, they're completely wrong?

Mayor Fuller: You didn't ask for the floor Trustee Szlendak.

Trustee Dobrzycki: If I could just finish; at the bottom of the form, 2008 assessment appeal information, "no appeals found for current year." Thank you very much.

Trustee Szlendak: And on this form it also says 1,103 square feet and your home is considerably larger than that, is that true also?

Trustee Dobrzycki: Yes it is, but you would have to check with the assessor's office.....well, thank you very much for keeping it brief, but as I told you, the assessor's office visited my home, so they know, okay. Once again, check to make sure you have your facts straight. This is the information that I got from the assessor's office; you can check on your own. Obviously I see that Mr. Schroeder, you seem to know better than them; maybe I was misinformed, maybe I was misled, I can tell you for a fact that for the last 3-years I've been trying to get this straightened out. And, once again I can repeat and you probably had several individuals in this audience right now who've had similar situations, in fact, at the meetings that we've had, I met individuals telling me that for the past, there's a gentleman for the past 10-years, his tax bill was being sent to the previous owner on Peterson Avenue even though he lived in Harwood Heights.

Trustee Szlendak: I would like to find out, how many of our residents sitting here are under paying their taxes? You are? Oh, I guess you're right you have to be a trustee to get a discount.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak 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 Mayor Margaret P. Fuller on Thursday, March 12, 2009 at 9:18pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Marcia L. Followy, Village Deputy Clerk