

**AGENDA FOR THE REGULAR
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2007**

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

MAYOR FULLER ()	CLERK LARSON ()
	DEPUTY CLERK POLLOWY ()
TRUSTEES: DOBRZYCKI ()	MOUGOLIAS ()
GADZINSKI ()	SCHUEPFER ()
JEZIERNY ()	SZLENDAK ()
ATTORNEY _____ ()	

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

MAYOR'S REPORT	MAYOR FULLER
TRUSTEE DOBRZYCKI	INFORMATION/TECHNOLOGY
TRUSTEE GADZINSKI	FORESTRY/RECREATION
TRUSTEE JEZIERNY	PUBLIC WORKS
TRUSTEE MOUGOLIAS	PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY
TRUSTEE SCHUEPFER	ORDINANCE/LICENSE
TRUSTEE SZLENDAK	FINANCE SEWER & WATER
CLERK LARSON	CLERK'S REPORT
ATTORNEY	ATTORNEY'S REPORT

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

I. CONSENT AGENDA

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held Thursday, June 28, 2007.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$2,970.00, payable to North East Multi-Regional Training, Inc. for membership dues for period of 7/01/07 to 7/01/08 to be expensed to FY 07/08 General Fund – Police Department.
3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$6,865.25, payable to Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor, Ltd. for legal consulting to be expensed to the FY 07/08 General Fund – Legal with \$232.50 reimbursed by developers.
4. To allow Police Chief Martin Podosek to enter into contract for the installation of five wireless electronic security cameras strategically placed throughout the village, designated Phase 1 at a cost of \$81,987.12 from line item #11-05-9002 – Police Department.
5. To approve handicapped parking at the address commonly known as 7213 West Leland Avenue and to direct public works to erect the sign in a timely manner.
6. To approve Ordinance 07-14, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 15.04 of Title 15 of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Harwood Heights, Cook County, Illinois.
7. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$87,107.03 as they appear on check register #43187 thru #43249.
8. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$148,608.56 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account.
9. Electronic Transfer from Parkway General Savings in the amount of \$12,145.82 to IMRF Pension Fund.

J. NEW BUSINESS

K. OLD BUSINESS

L. CORRESPONDENCE

M. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

N. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss: (5ILCS 120/2) Sec. 2, Open meetings.
©Exceptions: A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects: (1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

P. ADJOURN

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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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	Dianne H. Larson
Deputy Clerk	Marcia Pollowy
Trustees	Mark Dobrzycki Michael Gadzinski Arlene Jezierny Demetrios Mougolias (Absent) Therese Schuepfer Lester Szlendak
Attorney	Howard Metz

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Herman Wu, 4746 N. Odell: It's been several months since the election and no new plans have been put on the table for moving this village forward. What revenues do you expect to bring in to fill our coffers, what's happening? Can somebody explain? That's all we hear is the village is in the red.

Also, since when do two members of the Finance Committee and one former employee of this village meet together in one's office outside of this hall especially a day or two before the finance meeting? That person brings all the papers and the meeting lasts for several hours into the night; that person being the biggest complainer of the Mayor and former trustees for "supposedly misdeeds".

And finally, when does a spectator get to question a committee member or his witness during the committee meeting in progress? I thought they were there to observe and listen.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report

Mayor Fuller

As I reported previously there has been concerns about out water billing; as part of the review, our Director of Administration, Larry Noller scheduled special meter readings and made new hang tags for houses for where the people are not home. It's been a big improvement, we reached many homes where owners are not home during the day and also because of the new tags more people have called in their readings than ever before. Mr. Noller will need to schedule another reading next month so that he can compare the two readings and analyze the results.

Yesterday I received a call from the Superintendent of Public Works which resulted in an emergency expenditure approval for leak detention on Oak Park Avenue at Sunnyside. The water leak was found and repaired but a sewer problem with a hole in it also was found, so the sewer also needed to be repaired. Today there was another water break on Forest Preserve Drive.

This morning the water tower was low, both pumps were off and we did not have fire protection for a short while; this is an emergency that shows the need for a new water tower.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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Hopefully I will be introducing a draft ordinance to collect impound fees, shortly; several months ago Chief Podosek brought to us the possibility of collecting the fees for the impounded vehicles and he has done a lot of research on this. It is a detailed process that will need a procedure; we will need specific record keeping, mail notifications and accounting records. It will also need a hearing process and a hearing officer. Our Director of Administration, the Police Chief and I are working on the process so the ordinance can be prepared in draft form and brought to the trustees for review. This will be a new draft ordinance and will allow for the village to collect fees.

We just had a committee meeting so I'm not going to talk about the ordinance that's on the agenda because it's going to be removed and looked at again.

I also urge all the residents to attend the public hearings on July 26th for the 2007/2008 Appropriation Ordinances; the trustees' version of an Appropriation Ordinance will be heard at 6:30pm and the Mayor's version will be held at 7:00pm on July 26th.

Don't forget to stop at St. Rosalie's Carnival tonight or over the weekend, I think it's a tradition that the board stops by after the board meeting.

Information/Technology
Trustee Dobrzycki

Information and Technology report; our village continues to lag in keeping up with modern efficient technologies. We continue to proceed through our budgeting appropriations review and I stress to all the members of the board that attention has to be given to efforts to update and modernize our villages' office's work environment. Larry Noller, our village's Director of Administration, who is a critical part of this process, has stressed the importance of this project in creating greater efficiency within the work staff and giving them the tools to succeed. The integration of the village wide operations using software and technologies will lead to more information with greater detail to be recorded, sorted, compared and analyzed. With a Real Time System, RTS, we will be better able to make informed decisions among the many choices and projects that are presented before us and to make them wisely and with the most benefit and value for each dollar spent on behalf of the village.

One example is the Municipal Software, Inc. software package. For the village, it is an investment that will allow more work to be done with less effort. The program was chosen based on a complete review including the input of village staff and board members. It will make possible the integration of the village's financial and administrative functions. The trustees were given a special presentation on May 16th about the program and the board members were very impressed with its capabilities and ease of use.

The march of innovation and technological change continues and the village will pay a hefty penalty if it does not catch up and stay in step with it, let alone allow itself to fall behind.

One step was actually very simple and the reward was very great. As the Mayor mentioned, under the auspices of Mr. Noller, a new notice he has developed has been getting residents to report on water meter readings that the water department staff was unable to obtain prior. Instead of using a plain white postcard, a bright fluorescent yellow door hanger is now being used requesting the resident call the meter reading instead of writing it on the card and mailing it in. It is clearly written with simple instructions on to how to record and call in the reading. The results have been overwhelming. It is a great success and will help as we transition over to new water meters.

We must be prepared to embrace the new methods and technologies that are continually being developed. This for example will allow that payments to the village by residents and businesses through the internet will be possible. It will make possible that residents can directly report problems on-line in real time to the village's various departments and with the ability for the staff and residents to see what happens through follow-ups and updates available to all; basically a customer service department with rapid response just like any other business or service. Another example is the ability to apply for building permits electronically through the internet. The possibilities are almost limitless. The prize for this greater efficiency is the bonus the village will receive in saved time and effort. This will allow us to provide the residents with more and greater quality services.

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Forestry/Recreation
Trustee Gadzinski

Reporting from the Forestry and Recreation Committees: Once again Tom Schroeder and the Public Works crew have been picking up lots of branches that have been knocked down due to the high winds and storms that we had in the past week and they have also removed any decayed or dead trees. The company, Hendrickson, has also been trimming branches and removing dead trees on a daily basis.

As representative of the WSSRA, I have had the privilege to attend the pool party this last Tuesday at the Forest Park Aquatics Center. This was lots of fun, the weather turned out to be really nice after it rained and it was just absolutely delightful to see all these kids from surrounding suburbs taking part and having fun, swimming, going down the water slides and just enjoying themselves; being kids and doing what kids like to do. I even had a chance to jump in the water and race a few of those kids coming down some slides but eventually he always won.

The WSSRA will be holding the Wacky Quaky Duck Splash next Saturday, July 21, 2007 from 2:00pm to 6:00 pm; that's the official Wacky Quaky Duck Splash. Please bring the whole family to a good old fashion fun filled day and enjoy all the events such as Pony Rides, Carnival games and children's crafts that they can make and take home.

The WSSRA offers programs for persons with a wide range of disabilities and handicapping conditions. I highly encourage any residents with children or family members of any disabilities or any special needs to take part of the WSSRA program, that's why we have it and why we belong to it. Please contact the Village Hall for any further information.

Just a reminder, Soccer Registration will be held at the Village Hall on this Saturday, July 14, 2007 from 10:00am until noon for children ages 5 to 12. Cost for residents is \$25.00 and Non-residents is \$35.00. Also, there are still some Great America tickets sponsored by the Harwood Heights Youth Commission that are available; ticket costs are \$32.00 each and there is limit of 6 per household. Once again, please contact me or the Village Hall for any further information.

Public Works
Trustee Jezierny

For Public Works, I just wanted to say that the employees of the Public Works Department spend a majority of their time pertaining to projects that are related to the Forestry Department and to the Water Department, so I'll leave it up to the respective chairman to report on that as Trustee Gadzinski just did on Forestry.

I will though add to that indicating that Public Works is out there hot patching, they've done a number of alleys; if you do see any potholes in the street or the alley, please call the Village Hall.

Public Health & Safety
Trustee Mougolias

No Report - Absent

Ordinance/License
Trustee Schuepfer

I'd like to thank the Mayor for providing us an update on the impound fee ordinance since we've been asking for information about this for the last two board meetings and I anticipate reviewing that ordinance, I hope within the next month.

I encourage all of us to continue to work cooperatively in the review and revision and creation of new ordinances. An update on the smoking ordinance that we had proposed, it's been submitted to the Village Attorney for review with the attention that it's placed on the agenda for the July 26th meeting.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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The committee continues to review the code book, identifying those ordinances that have kind of been pushed to the side with an eye really for looking at what works and what doesn't work. I also received the recommendation for the Appropriation Ordinance from the Finance Committee chair last Friday.

Finance
Sewer & Water
Trustee Sziendak

On Monday, July 10th, Superintendent Tom Schroeder noticed that there was no pump shutdown during the night, he immediately dispatched his crew and what they discovered was a substantial leak at Oak Park and Sunnyside. What complicated the situation was that there were utilities lines in the drains and the break itself was under the street. At 7:00 I stopped to take a look at it and everybody was still working at it, Tom Schroeder was in the hole helping his man. The unfortunate thing that the size of the hole, about a 4 inch hole in a 6 inch pipe and we lost about 200,000 to 250,000 gallons of water per day and that's money down the drain. It just emphasizes the need to replace that water main on Oak Park because it going to continue causing us to send the money down the drain, literally.

For the Finance, from May 23th until July 6th we had seven meetings, we spent over 20 hours working on the appropriations for this year; unfortunately the Mayor did not make any of those meetings, it's too bad. All of the Department Heads were there; we had to make some very, very tough decisions and I greatly appreciate their help, without that we would never have succeeded in closing up the gap. In our general fund when we started out we had a 2-1/2 million dollar deficit, a gap, appropriation gap; what truly complicated the situation is that a majority of the expenses that we have are fixed expenses. Expenses that we are under contract for bills that we have to pay over the next four or five years so the cuts were extremely, extremely difficult. Example of some of the cuts that we made: We delayed the hiring of three new police officers; we delayed hiring of additional dispatchers for our Police Department; we delayed purchasing of two new police cars for the Police Department and they are needed; we had to eliminate a position in our Village Hall; we had to delay hiring of a Village Engineer; eliminated 3 part-time positions in Public Works; we decided not to buy a new truck for the snow removal, a truck with a snowplow; delayed buying a new pickup truck. In fact, we decided to appropriate the money for a used helper bus, not a "new" one, to replace our current one. This is just a small sample of cuts that we had to make.

The Finance Committee finally approved an appropriation on July 6th at 9:15 in the morning with still approximately \$675,000 in the red. We're going to have to borrow that money from the bank in order to balance the budget. We gave that work to our Village Accountant and asked him to display it and submit it to the local newspaper for publishing. Unfortunately, Mayor Fuller on her own gave a "direct order" to our Village Accountant to change three of the budget line items and that changed appropriation was the one that was published in our village. Now, my question to our counsel is that can a trustee or Mayor by themselves change an appropriation once it was approved by the Finance Committee?

Clerk's Report
Clerk Larson

No Report

Attorney's Report

The only thing I was going to mention in my report this evening was the ordinance that we discussed in the Committee of the Whole meeting which is no longer relevant.

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

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H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Fuller: Before we go into the Consent Agenda there are several things that I would like to address; first of all I did not attend the Finance Committee meetings because the first one was called on a night that we already had reservations for the Northwest Municipal Conference meeting and we already paid for those seats and Trustee Gadzinski also paid, the village paid for him but he did not come or tell anyone that he was not going to come so the village paid for that reservation without any knowledge that he wasn't going to attend. That was reserved way before, way before the committee meeting was held. The other two I believe I was on vacation; the last meeting was scheduled, was posted for 8:00 in the morning on a Friday. So I ask the trustees who claimed to want a transparent government and openness in government, who would know that there's a Finance Committee meeting at 8:00 in the morning and what residents would come, unless you personally brought them.

As far as your other concerns, there was only one line item that I told the accountant to leave in because I listened to the tapes of the meeting and there was no consensus from the committee; it was one trustee who decided to make this cut, there was no vote or anything and it was done very unprofessionally. So that's something, the whole point of this, it was an issue that the whole board needs to vote on at the next meeting if we want to proceed with that.

Attorney Howard Metz: Trustee Szlendak and I talked about this issue; I think when dealing with legal advice it would probably be more appropriate to deal with it in closed session when appropriate or outside the context of a public meeting. To answer in general, my understanding of the situation it depends, you ask a certain question, you get a certain answer, you ask a different question about the same thing, you get a different answer, the facts change. That being said, I think given the personal nature if legal advice is misappropriately given outside the context of a public meeting, I'd be happy to speak with you or any other trustee individually.

Motion I 6 removed from the Consent Agenda by Mayor Fuller for further review.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Jezierny on Consent Agenda items I 1-I 5 & I 7-I 9:

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held Thursday, June 28, 2007.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$2,970.00, payable to North East Multi-Regional Training, Inc. for membership dues for period of 7/01/07 to 7/01/08 to be expensed to FY 07/08 General Fund – Police Department.
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4. To allow Police Chief Martin Podosek to enter into contract for the installation of five wireless electronic security cameras strategically placed throughout the village, designated Phase 1 at a cost of \$81,987.12 from line item #11-05-9002 – Police Department.
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9. Electronic Transfer from Parkway General Savings in the amount of \$12,145.82 to IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1-I 5 & I 7- I 9 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Mougolias

Motion Carried

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

6. To approve **Ordinance 07-14**, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 15.04 of Title 15 of the Code of Ordinances of the Village of Harwood Heights, Cook County, Illinois.

J. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Dobrzycki: I would like to introduce for consideration to better foster the spirit of cooperation and the will of the board as said to work together I'm recommending a resolution that will solicit the spirit of goodwill among all members of the board, that the resolution read in part "that any and all committee meetings called by any committee chair or board member give notice, more than the required public notice and as a gesture in spirit of cooperation it is suggested that contact be made to inquire about date and time availability of committee members; that also email notification be used to inform the Mayor, trustees and other interested parties about the upcoming meetings". So, that's something we can work for in a resolution or maybe if possible within the context as a new ordinance through the Ordinance & License Committee.

Trustee Szlendak: I would like to make a motion to place the Harwood Heights Smoking Ordinance on our next meeting, on the July 26th board meeting.

K. OLD BUSINESS

None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None

M. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

N. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Gadzinski: I would just like to say that things come up and sometimes we can't make certain meetings and sometimes we can't make them the last minute, but I believe that the meeting that I attended here at the Village Hall with the budget was more important than attending the Municipal Conference and I intend on repaying the village whatever it cost, \$30, \$40 or \$50 out of my own pocket, so I will reimburse the Village Hall for that. And I have been in contact with the people running the conference through email, over the phone and I intend on also participating next month whether it's down south, Bloomington, Normal, whatever it is.

Mayor Fuller: It was \$65.00

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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Trustee Gadzinski: Then I intend to pay \$65.00; you'll get a check from me this week.

Trustee Jezierny: Question, you bypassed Consent Agenda item I 6 shouldn't we have formally pulled or withdrawn

Mayor Fuller: There was a consensus to remove it from the agenda so I thought that was appropriate to do. Do we need to take any other action on it? Item I 6 has been removed from the agenda based on a Committee meeting that was held prior to the board meeting.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss: (5ILCS 120/2) Sec. 2, Open meetings. ©Exceptions: A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects: (1) The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak at 7:55pm.

A roll call vote to enter into Executive Session resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Trustee Mougolias

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski to close Executive Session at 8:47pm.

Mayor Fuller called to order the Open Session for July 12th, 2007, returning from Executive Session at 8:49pm.

P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski to adjourn. On a voice vote, all being in favor, the motion carried and the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Harwood Heights was adjourned by Mayor Margaret P. Fuller on Thursday, July 12, 2007 at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne H. Larson, Village Clerk