

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2010**

A. **CALL TO ORDER** at 7:02 pm by Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny

B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

C. **ROLL CALL –**

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

Also present: Chief Mario Ricchio

D. **AGENDA ITEMS**

Approval of COW Minutes for March 31, 2010

Motion by Trustee Gadzinski, seconded by Trustee Steiner

- Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes for March 31, 2010

On a voice vote, all being in favor, (Trustee Dobrzycki & Szlendak - Absent), the motion carried and the minutes for the March 31, 2010 Committee of the Whole meeting were approved.

Director of Emergency Management Team

- Trustee Mougolias recommended resident William Pelarenos, at the last board meeting, as the Coordinator for the Village of Harwood Heights Emergency Management Team. Mr. Pelarenos has 20-years in law enforcement training and service and is willing to serve as the Coordinator for the Emergency Management Team.
- Mr. Pelarenos will organize all of the functions relating to the team. He has been in contract with the Village of Morton Grove for training and participation in their ongoing training classes.
- Mayor Jezierny would like the Coordinator to also work with the Norwood Park Fire Protection Agency for additional help and assistance.
- Discuss ensued regarding volunteers, equipment and possible grants associated with this emergency team. The request for Volunteer Recruits will be placed on the village website and the cable channel.
- The motion will be placed on the May 13, 2010 board agenda for board approval.

Village Wide Garage Sale

- Trustee Mougolias recommended having the “Village Wide Garage Sale” as an annual event on the 1st weekend after the Father’s Day weekend.
- Trustee Mougolias will prepare flyers for the website, cable and to be posted in businesses throughout the village.

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Community Room Use Policy

- The current policy relating to use of the Community Room for outside activities, not village activities, does not include any revenue fees.
- The Ordinance Committee will review the current policy and make the necessary changes. An application form was not included with the proposed draft ordinance from the Village Attorney.

Island in the City Festival

- Norridge Park applied for the necessary permits for the July 8-11, 2010 "Island in the City Festival." The permit fees totaled about \$1,500; the participation event fee from the village is \$2,500. The total cost from the village would be about \$1,000.
- The Norridge Park is doing their own security this year so the Harwood Heights Police Department will not have to do security.

Water Meter Ordinance

- Trustee Schuepfer and Trustee Steiner met with Tom Wolfe and George Assimakopoulos to discuss and review the current ordinance regarding the replacement of residential and commercial water meters in the village.
- Trustee Schuepfer reviewed the changes to the draft water meter ordinance suggested by the George Assimakopoulos and Tom Wolfe.
- Discussion ensued regarding the fine structure for the first offense for tampering with the meter or seals, any subsequent offense and what denotes a criminal offense.

WSSRA

- Mayor Jezierny reviewed the 4 alternative repayment options authorized by the WSSRA Finance Committee. Reimbursement in 2 installments in 2010 and 2011 with interest waived. 2.) Reimbursement by offsets in equal amounts against the 2010 & 2011 annual contribution with interest waived. 3.) Reimbursement in 3 installments in equal amounts for 2010, 2011 & 2012 with interest included. 4.) Reimbursement by offsets in equal amounts against the 2010, 2011 & 2012 annual contributions with interest.
- Discussion ensued regarding the 4 options with the consensus of the board agreeing to 2 options for either "full payment this year" or "2-year repayment with interest." Mayor Jezierny will contact Ms. Sandy Gbur with the options.

Water Bills/Foreclosures

- The Deputy Clerk, Mary O'Connor, since February has been working with the non-payment of water bills; the amount due the village was over \$81,000.
- Since February, she has collected \$35,012.27 which does not include the payments that were received yesterday and today.
- Some of the non-payments of water bills are due to foreclosures.
- Chief Ricchio indicated that he is working with a board-up company to secure any properties that are vacant. He indicated there have been 2 arrests of teenagers found in abandoned homes that were left unsecured.
- The Police Department visited all the foreclosure properties and created a list indicating what properties are totally vacant and which are still occupied.
- Discussion ensued regarding the ordinance that was passed last year regarding the foreclosure registry and the procedures for shutting off water in foreclosed properties.

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WCMC

- The Annual West Central Municipal Conference dinner meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night at 6:00pm at the Donald Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont.

Union Ridge Graduation

- The Board members have been invited to Union Ridge's 2010 Graduation Ceremony on Thursday, June 3, 2010 at 7:30pm. The regular Committee of the Whole meeting is also scheduled for that night. Consensus of the Board to reschedule the COW meeting to Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at 7:00pm.
- The Clerk will post the changes on the village website and also post the changes on the village bulletin board.

Truck repair expenditure

- Mayor Jezierny authorized an emergency expenditure for \$1,400 to repair the radiator on the 1991 truck.
- The expenditure will be on the 5-11-10 board agenda for board approval.

Cheerleaders

- Mayor Jezierny found out that "no girls" play on the NYA football league teams.
- The subsidy amount will be reviewed at an appropriation's meeting to determine the individual subsidy cost per cheerleader.
- Baseball subsidy is \$20 per player and \$40 per football player (only Harwood Heights' residents).

Martin Boyd

- Mayor Jezierny gave an update on the Martin Boyd situation. Mr. Boyd was officially indicted yesterday morning as announced by State's Attorney Anita Alvarez in her "Operation Cookie Jar" investigation.
- Mayor Jezierny indicated that she, the temporary accountants and the auditors have been working on this case for almost the whole past year.
- The cost to the village is not only the \$135,000 that Mr. Boyd embezzled, but all the additional costs to discover and rectify the situation; cost of attorney fees, cost of bringing in temporary accountants, cost of a forensic audit, cost of extending our 2008 audit, etc.
- The 2008 audit has been completed and the auditors are completing the work on the 2009 audit; the auditors will begin working on the 2010.
- Check and balances have been put into place so that this can never happen again.

Tech Grant

- Chief Ricchio updated the board on his request for a Records Management System that would be funded by a Tech Grant from the Department of Justice.
- The current system is outdated, not user friendly, limited to the data that can be retrieved and it cost over \$21,000 a year with funds from the 911 System.
- Chief Ricchio negotiated with a couple of companies and chose ID Networks because of a current affiliation with the One Live Scan System.
- The new system allows the offices to write their reports electronically, the reports will be more efficient with less paper being generated and merges information from the system database.
- Chief Ricchio was able to negotiate the original cost of \$185,000 down to \$128,930 with the initial payment of \$92,000 coming from the Tech Grant and then over the next 4-years \$21,000 from the 911 System. The new maintenance agreement for Live Scan will also be reduced from \$4,000 a year to \$2,000 a year.
- After 5-years the cost savings to the 911 System will be \$8,000 a year.

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Public Comment

Margaret Cannon: Stated that a request was sent to the board last year requesting funding for the NYA cheerleading and nothing was approved; indicated that about 15 girls, residents of Harwood Heights', signed up for cheerleading. Would like the board to consider funding the cheerleaders this year because the other groups, the NYA Football and Harwood Heights/Norridge Baseball are all subsidized.

Mayor Jezierny: Not aware that the NYA cheerleaders had request any funding last year. The village is currently working on the 2010/2011 Appropriations and a subsidy amount will be reviewed for the upcoming NYA cheerleading fall season. Asked Mrs. Cannon to supply the board with the name of the contact regarding the NYA cheerleaders.

Roy Schmidt: Asked if "Michaels" has approached the village? Wanted to know if any developer approaches the village if they need to go to the Economic Development Committee? Do the Economic Development Group charge an extra fee?

Mayor Jezierny: The village is accepting all developer requests. Because of the Land Use Compatibility Plan the Planners, Economic Development Group and the Mayor are meeting with all interested parties. They are working on a couple possibilities right now. The Economic Development team works for the village so there is no extra fees associated with any potential developer.

Bill Heinzinger: Asked if the village is planning a "Big Garbage Day" and when? Is it going to be tied in with the Village-wide Garage Sale?

Trustee Mougolias: Will contact ARC and set something up for the "Big Garbage Day" for the week after the Village-wide Garage Sale.

Peter Magnelli: Asked how many foreclosures were on the Chief's list? What was the purpose of the survey that the Planning Consultants conducted last month? Questioned why we still have empty properties and not bringing in new businesses?

Mayor Jezierny: Indicated that we are actively working with interested parties on some open properties, many of them are not village owned so we have no dealings with the sale price.

Joan White: Referred to the Tribunes transfer of property report for our area in last weeks paper, only 4 towns showed an increase in sale prices of homes over last year sale prices, Harwood Heights was one of the four.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Trustee Gadzinski, seconded by Trustee Mougolias to enter into Executive Session at 8:30pm; on a roll call vote, all in favor – (Trustee Dobrzycki & Sziendak – Absent).

Motion to enter into Executive Session: pursuant to (5 ILCS 120/2) Sec. 2. Open meetings © Exceptions. A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects: (11) Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

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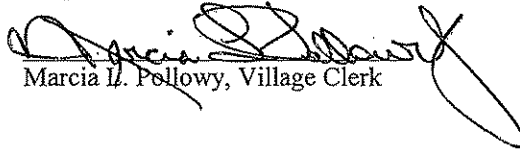
Motion by Trustee Mougolias, seconded by Trustee Steiner to close Executive Session at 9:05pm; on a roll call vote, all in favor – (Trustee Dobrzycki & Szlendak – Absent).

Return to open session at 9:07pm; Motion by Trustee Gadzinski, seconded by Trustee Steiner; all in favor – (Trustee Dobrzycki & Szlendak – Absent).

Adjournment

Motion by Trustee Mougolias, seconded by Trustee Schuepfer to adjourn. On a voice vote, all being in favor, the motion carried and the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Harwood Heights was adjourned by Mayor Arlene C. Jeziemy on Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 9:07pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Clerk