

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2008**

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

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

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

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

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

Joe Carpino, 7420 W. Lawrence: Asked for additional time.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak; all in favor.

Joe Carpino: Posed two questions to the board. The first question was what is the anticipated completion date of the Lawrence Avenue streetscape project? The second question was directed to the Mayor and the trustees regarding the cost overruns on the agenda tonight and whether the village would be able to pay for the overruns and how it will affect the village finances?

Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny: Stated that some of the other people requesting public comment might have additional questions and that the engineers from Christopher Burke were here tonight to try to answer some of those questions later in the meeting.

Paula Cutri, 7259 W. Lawrence: Owns a business on Lawrence Avenue which has been impacted by the Lawrence Avenue project. Indicated that she lost 12 parking spaces for her clients and the difficulty of entering her salon because of the sidewalk improvements and has lost 50% of her clientele; also asked when the project would be completed and if the engineers could come to her shop so she could show them the problem areas.

Leopold Sosnowski, 5127 N. Oriole: Upset about the current real estate tax increase that he received on his 2nd installment and is questioning why they went up?

Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny: Stated that the Village of Harwood Heights board did not raise taxes. The increase is due to the increased assessments and referred Mr. Sosnowski to the Assessor's office at the Norwood Park Township office on Lawrence Avenue.

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Monika Wozniczka, 7337 W. Foster: Also asked about the increased taxes and if the village itself could fight on behalf of the residents to help fight the increases?

Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny: Again, referred the resident to the Assessor's office at the Norwood Park Township office for advice and the necessary forms that would be needed to file an appeal.

Trustee Mougolias: Indicated that there are tax attorney's that can help resident's fight the increased amounts with little or no charge; the charge would be based on the success of the appeal.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Referred to an article in Sunday's Tribune regarding how to appeal and that he had some additional information that he could give to her.

Monika Wozniczka: Had a second question wondering whether the village would be holding any presentations or seminars on how to appeal your taxes?

Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny: Indicated that the Norwood Park Township office could provide her with a possible list of anticipated seminars regarding the tax issues.

Roy Schmidt, 4336 N. Rutherford: Questioned why the legislative attorney is not following their own ordinance regarding billing items having the initials of the person requesting or initiating information from the attorney to make sure that it's a true expense. After a previous meeting, Mr. Schmidt questioned the attorney regarding Trustee Dobrzycki's request for information and why he wasn't receiving it. In reviewing the bills, Mr. Schmidt indicated that there were items marked as correspondence yet no correspondence was available.

Commented that the Union Ridge School band will be playing in the Columbus Day Parade on Monday.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report
Mayor Fuller

- I am away on a family obligation. I have asked the Deputy Clerk to read my report into the record for tonight's meeting.
- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for Illinois to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding during the period of September 13, 2008, and continuing. A representative from FEMA provided information for residents, renters and business owners so they can now register on line at www.fema.gov , or call, and the information is on our website and in the lobby in English, Polish, and Spanish.
- The Police Department 911 Coordinator will attend the October 23rd, 2008 Village Board meeting to give an informational presentation regarding the 911 surcharge referendum that will be on the November 6th ballot.
- By now we've all received our tax bills. Please be aware that the revised 7% solution is phasing out for many taxpayers due to the changes specified in the renewal legislation, which will result in receiving higher tax bills. Call the County Taxpayer Information Department at 312-443-5300 with your questions or you can file an appeal. Harwood Heights did not raise taxes.
- The Rain Barrels are now available on Tuesdays, at the Water Reclamation Plant, 3500 Howard, Skokie, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Sales are PREPAID ONLY, no on-site cash or checks. Sales are only on-line through the website with a credit or debit cards. Call or go to www.MWRD.org for more information.

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- The Harwood Heights Police Department will be participating in the Suburban Elder Justice Coalition which is a non-profit coalition lead by AgeOptions, the Area Agency on Aging for Suburban Cook County, and comprised of local law enforcement, the Cook County Sheriff's Department, and representatives from the court system and the aging network. They purpose to adopt the following protocols:
 1. To institute a coordinated law enforcement response, so as to promote a comprehensive method of addressing abuse, neglect and exploitation of older persons;
 2. Provide model guidelines and investigation procedures for law enforcement responding to abuse, neglect and exploitation against the elderly;
 3. Improve law enforcement's overall coordinated response to elderly victims of crime and enable officers to more clearly focus on the safety and well-being of the victim and the accountability of the offender; and
 4. Ensure a more coordinated community response with law enforcement by bringing together health care, social service and elder protective services in serving older victims of abuse, neglect and financial exploitation.
- Chief Podosek received a letter of thanks from Chief Ghiloni of Norridge thanking us for our assistance on August 17, 2008.
- Since the last reported update for the Lawrence Avenue Project, Martam Construction and LPS Pavement Co. have been installing the remaining sidewalk, brick pavers and brick paver crosswalks. Due to the nature of this work, multiple traffic lanes on Lawrence Avenue had to be closed. The contractor expects to have all the crosswalks completed this Friday. Once this work is complete, all lanes should remain open to traffic.
- Trittech has completed the installation of all utility conduits and AT&T and Comcast have installed their lines.
- ComEd is still working and anticipates completing the portion that is affecting the project on October 24th.
- The engineers for the Lawrence Avenue streetscape are here tonight; both Mr. Orion Galey and Lee Fell are here to answer any questions regarding the change orders on the agenda which were given to the trustees on October 1st.
- Our Village Clerk Dianne Larson is still very ill, surgery is expected. On her behalf, the office staff will be taking over the food drive for the Salvation Army's food pantry that we know she would want us to continue. You will be able to drop off the food at the Village Hall and we will have the information on the website and in the lobby for Thanksgiving and Christmas donations. Please keep Dianne in your thoughts and prayers.
- The Public Works Department was called on a water break at 6413 Sunnyside on Oct. 7th and another one Wed. Oct 8th at 4700 Olcott.
- The Public Works Department continues their village wide maintenance getting ready for winter and overseeing the tree program.
- Public Works repaired the lighting connection for the water tower and will soon oversee the winterizing of the tower.
- Received a letter from ITW regarding an update of their intentions for their property at 7301 Ainslie. They have chosen to work with a Harwood Heights developer to purchase our property. They have informed the developer that we would like to meet in the Spring of 2009 to determine if he can move forward with the purchase.
- The CALEA consultant is still waiting for a phone call from the trustees or payment of the bill.

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Information/Technology
Trustee Dobrzycki

- Reported that on September 25th he attended the dedication and opening of Runway 1028 at O'Hare Airport. Runway 1028 is the new runway that runs east and west and has contributed to an increase in noise affecting the Village of Harwood Heights.
- Recommended that all residents of Harwood Heights call the O'Hare Noise Hotline at 1-800-435-9569 to complain about the noise; this could impact the possible monetary funding that the village could receive for noise reduction. Trustee Dobrzycki had some O'Hare Noise Hotline decals available for the residents in attendance at tonight's meeting.
- As the alternate representative of the West Suburban Special Recreation Association he attended their meeting this past week and informed the board that the WSSRA discussed the budget proposal for 2009 and that all 11 members, participating towns and villages, are facing increases. The Village of Harwood Heights will face a 17% increase. Our approved budget appropriation was \$51,004; the new amount is \$59,434. The payments for the 15th of January and the 15th of April 2009 will be at the increased rate. The increase for the last 2 payments should be appropriated accordingly in the next budget appropriations.
- Reported that the City of Chicago has installed a red-light camera system at the corner of Harlem and Higgins for traffic traveling northbound and to be careful when driving through that intersection.
- Commented that Norridge Park District Superintendent, Mark DeSalvo commented and congratulated Harwood Heights for our foresight regarding the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape Project.
- Contacted CALEA and was told they've completed about 80% of the work to get the Police Department recognized and the reason we fell behind was due to the actions which were occurring within the Police Department at that time and indicated that there was more than enough leeway and to follow through with the contract that we signed to get recognized and accredited.
- Read a letter from the Command Officer from the Fort Lauderdale Police Department regarding CALEA and who also complemented the Village of Harwood Heights Police Department under the leadership of Chief Martin Podosek.

Forestry/Recreation
Trustee Gadzinski

- Reported that there are a number of expenditures for various Harwood Heights Youth Commission activities that need supplies and equipment to run the programs smoothly. These programs will start in the next few weeks and will run throughout the end of the year.
- Basketball for all levels began on Monday, October 6.
- The bowling program started last Saturday and has 20 participants. The Gymnastics program has 43 participants, the soccer program has 51 participants and Volleyball has 44 participants.
- Some participants require special needs; that is why the Village pays to belong to the WSSRA. This way kids that require special services are not left behind and they too can take participation of sports and the programs the Village Youth Commission has to offer.
- There is a Halloween Party scheduled for Sunday, October 26 from 12:00-2:00pm at the Village Hall. There will be a costume contest, coloring contest, and an arts and crafts project. Pizza and refreshments will be served along with a "goodie bag for each child."
- All of the services rendered by the Tree Company, Hendrickson's, were completed.

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- Commented on the motion to withdraw from the Suburban Tree Consortium Program. Belonging to the Suburban Tree consortium requires the Village to buy and plant a numerous number of trees each year. This year, with the decline for residents requests to plant trees, this would be a huge expense burden on the village to continue this practice, however residents can still request to have trees planted on their property on a “as need basis.”

Public Works

Trustee Jezierny

- The Public Works crew attended to 2 water breaks. One was on Sunnyside and another water break occurred on the 4700 block of Olcott, some problems were encountered due to a ComEd pole and the sewer that were to close in proximity. Indicated that is important that Public Works should review plans to be certain that utilities and sewer lines leave some distance from water mains.
- Hot patching will continue throughout the Village and should be completed soon. There are only a few blocks to complete on each side of Harlem Avenue.
- Commented on two motions relating to the Lawrence Avenue Project and the high and rising costs of the project. Indicated that the village needs infrastructure improvements, including lighting, street, sidewalk and alley repairs and flood control especially on the same streets in the village that keep flooding over and over again.

Public Health & Safety

Trustee Mougolias

- Spoke with the representatives of FEMA regarding the flooding we experienced last month. Also had information brochures available for anyone who wanted to submit a claim.
- Informed the board and the residents in attendance that the Community Service Officer had given the village notice that he would be leaving. With the absence of a Community Service Office Trustee Mougolias will be recommending to the board to add one additional officer instead of replacing the Community Service Officer. Would like to discuss this recommendation in the next Committee of the Whole meeting.
- Requested to pull check #45340 from the check register in the amount of \$5,521.11 to E & C Citgo for Police repairs; was not aware of any repairs approved by the board.

Ordinance/License

Trustee Schuepfer

- The Ordinance & License Committee has not met since the last board meeting.
- Requested that the Mayor include a time for discussion regarding an Administrative Officer on the October 1st Committee of the Whole meeting; that meeting was cancelled. Hopes that it will be on the next Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.
- Indicated that the trustees received information on the 2 motions on tonight’s agenda relating to the streetscape cost overruns on October 1st but due to the cancellation of the Committee of the Whole meeting did not have a chance to discuss them prior to tonight’s meeting.

Finance

Sewer & Water

Trustee Szlendak

- Stated that he attended the Illinois Municipal League Conference two weeks ago and spoke with a number of representatives of the state and other consultants regarding the need to address and work on flooding issues on the 4700 blocks of Newcastle and New England.

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- Will prepare a list of ideas regarding the flooding issues to be discussed at the next Committee of the Whole or the next Water & Sewer Committee meeting for possible solutions.
- Commented on the 2 motions on tonight's agenda relating to the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape cost overruns. Referred to the minutes of a public hearing that took place on January 19, 2006 referencing to cost estimates projected by the consultants from Vanderwalle & Associates.
- Stated that the consultants stated that the project would be \$3.4 million and included side street improvements for \$545,000 and a parking garage structure for \$800,000; both items are not being done as part of this project.
- Indicated that the current costs of the project is 5.4 million and does not include the 2 motions on tonight's agenda totally another \$109,000.

Clerk's Report
Clerk Larson

No Report

Attorney's Report

No Report

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Gadzinski: Gave a report on his recent trip to China as the guest violinist with the Ensemble Espanol Flamenco Dance Company.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Stated that effective November 1, 2009 texting while driving will be illegal in the City of Chicago; the first offense will result in an \$80.00 fine and if texting and involved in an accident will result in a \$200.00 fine.

Will ask the board to amend the minutes from the last meeting; he was not able to attend the last board meeting due to a family emergency.

In answer to Mr. Schmidt's question during public comment; he has still not received any correspondence from the legislative counsel, he only received a brochure.

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Consent Agenda items I 1-25:

Trustee Dobrzycki pulled I 6 for a separate vote.

Trustee Schuepfer pulled item I 1 for a separate vote.

Trustee Szlendak pulled items I 3 & I 4 for a separate vote.

Trustee Mougolias pulled item I 23 for a separate vote.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski on Consent Agenda items I 2, I 5, I 7-22 & I 24-25:

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2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,125.00 payable to Innovative Software Services Inc. for one year contract maintenance fee period of October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009 to be expensed to line item 22-00-00-7035.
5. To ratify an emergency expenditure not to exceed \$6,477.00 payable to Metropolitan Pump Company for a replacement pump and labor to install on Oriole Avenue drainage system to be expensed to line item 22-00-00-6014 Water & Sewer Fund.
7. To approve an expenditure, not to exceed \$2,500.00 payable to Harwood Heights Senior Citizens Club for annual contribution, line item 11-08-00-7053 to be expensed to FY 08/09.
8. To approve an expenditure, not to exceed \$20,000.00 to the Senior Citizens Assistance Center for annual contribution, line item 11-01-00-7033 be expensed to FY 08/09.
9. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$75.00 payable to Mary Pelarenos for needed Arts & Crafts supplies for Halloween party, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7038-Recreation
10. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$400.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for pizza, beverages and plates for Halloween party, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7038-Recreation
11. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$90.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for "Halloween costume coloring contest" prizes (18 x \$5.00 McDonald's gift certificates), expensed to line item 11-08-00-7038-Recreation
12. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$20.00 payable to Jennifer Udischas for 3 whistles need for soccer program expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7036-Recreation.
13. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$400.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for "goodie bags" for Halloween party, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7038-Recreation
14. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$25.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski to cover the cost for a tarp to cover the basketball nets at Union Ridge Elementary School, expensed to line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
15. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$100.00 payable to "World's Oldest Sports" for the purchase of score books & whistles needed for basketball program, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
16. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$220.00 payable to "World's Oldest Sports" for the purchase of tee-shirts needed for the beginning basketball program, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
17. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$400.00 payable to "World's Oldest Sports" for the purchase of tee-shirts needed for the intermediate basketball program, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
18. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$400.00 payable to "World's Oldest Sports" for the purchase of tee-shirts for the advanced basketball program, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
19. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$50.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for the purchase of 2 basketball duffel bags, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
20. To approve expenditure not to exceed \$50.00 payable to Lisa Wilczenski for the purchase of disposable towels used to wipe down gym floor, expensed to FY 08/09 line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation
21. To approve a motion to withdraw from the Suburban Tree Consortium membership.
22. To approve Handicap Parking at the address commonly known as 6805 W. Montrose and to direct Public Works to erect the sign in a timely manner.

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- 24. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$152,758.57 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account.

- 25. Electronic Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$10,327.39 for September IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 2, I 5, I 7-22 & I 24-25 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 1:

Trustee Dobrzycki: Requested that the minutes state the he was absent at the last meeting due to a family emergency.

Trustee Schuepfer: The Consent Agenda indicates the motions that were pulled for separate vote and to avoid duplicate entries, remove the items from the Mayor's report regarding pulling various motions and any non-business references.

Motion to amend by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 1:

- 1. To approve the regular minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held September 25, 2008 as amended.

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

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda items I 3 & I 4:

Trustee Dobrzycki: Asked engineers Lee Fell and Orion Galey to explain the need for the change orders and the village's responsibility for paying for these changes.

Trustee Jezierny: Asked if the engineers could also answer the questions posed by the 2 residents in public comment.

Engineer Lee Fell, Christopher B. Burke: Stated that the completion date is November 1, 2009, but due to ComEd having to relocate their poles and pulling wires there will probably be an extension on the original date. At this date, he is not aware of any extension request from ComEd.

Trustee Jezierny: Asked if the engineers could address the question regarding the corner of Octavia and Lawrence.

Resident: Indicated that there was no parking or access for her disabled clients.

Engineer Lee Fell: Stated that the parking configuration was submitted to and approved by IDOT. Indicated that there should be a handicap ramp on the sidewalk; suggested that engineer Orion Galey stop by tomorrow to inspect the area with the business owner and address any other questions she may have. Lee Fell stated that additional work is scheduled to

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be done on the side street which will include parking. Lee Fell also referred to the memo that he prepared and sent to the Mayor explaining the scope and reasons for the change orders.

Trustee Mougolias: Questioned when the engineers were informed about the change orders and when they notified the village about the changes.

Engineer Lee Fell: Stated they were informed about 2 months ago.

Engineer Orion Galey: Informed the village at that time but did not know the total cost or the extent of the soil contamination to determine the final cost.

Trustee Szlendak: Asked if it was unusually for a project of this scope to experience these types of cost overruns.

Engineer Lee Fell: Indicated that he hasn't had this type of experience on a project and that he was not involved in the original estimates for this project and that normally you don't double your costs.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Questioned the \$3.2 million dollar amount that engineer Lee Fell referred to.

Engineer Lee Fell: Stated that the amount was Martam Constructions contract value for the streetscape project.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Asked the Village Attorney if there was any way the village could recoup the costs of the soil contamination by possibly going after the owner of the property or any other means.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: Spoke with the engineers about this and he is contemplating what the legal remedies could be and what the village's rights are in this matter.

Engineer Lee Fell: Indicated that they contacted the state for possible funds because Lawrence Avenue is a state route but was told that it was not a state project and not their responsibility. The other option was in regards to the property owner and the third option was that the engineer also sent a letter to the Council of Mayors requesting additional funds. The village has already received about \$250,000 in STP funds.

Trustee Schuepfer: Commented that the property owner where the soil contamination was discovered is also one of the SSA taxpayers and that this could possibly open up a potential lawsuit regarding the removal of the soil.

Trustee Gadzinski: Feels that there are other areas of the village that need immediate attention besides the Lawrence Avenue streetscape project, especially the areas that continually have problems with flooding.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Addressed the issue that this work has already been completed and the village is liable to pay these bills. Asked the attorney how we are liable.

Attorney Paul Stephanides: We are liable under the contract.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Referred to other properties in our village and possible health problems to our residents; sighted the new Library building and that the previous owner, Dor-A-Matic paid for the remediation.

Trustee Szlendak: Asked who authorize this work.

Engineer Lee Fell: The work was part of the overall project and when the new storm sewers were being installed the extent of the soil contamination was discovered.

Trustee Mougolias: Asked if the board could hold off on paying the bill until after we get a response to the three options presented by engineer Lee Fell for possibly additional funds.

Trustee Szlendak: Commented that this expense would have to come out of the General Fund because all the SSA Funds have already been committed.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Asked the engineer how the expenses get paid through the course of the project period.

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Engineer Lee Fell: The engineers review the contractors pay requests and then submit them to IDOT, IDOT submits a bill to the village for payment and then IDOT pays the contractor. The final pay requests would probably be in June 2009 which IDOT would pay and then the last bills to the village would be about 2 or 3 months thereafter.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Requested that the board table these 2 items for further discussion.

Motion to Table by Trustee Schuepfer, seconded by Trustee Dobrzycki on Consent Agenda items I 3 & I 4:

3. Motion to approve an expenditure not to exceed \$10,666.25 payable to the Illinois Department of Transportation for a Change Order for the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape Project pursuant to additional work and materials required by Com Ed; and authorize the Mayor to sign the change order to be expensed to line item 56-00-00-7027 SSA underground utilities.
4. Motion to Approve an expenditure not to exceed \$98,433.90 payable to the Illinois Department of Transportation for a Change Order for the Lawrence Avenue Streetscape Project pursuant to an increase in the plan quantities for IDOT pay items Special Waste Ground Water Disposal and Non-Special Waste Disposal and authorize the Mayor to sign the change order. To be expensed to line item 56-00-00-7000 SSA Landscaping in the amount of \$2,966.66; line item 56-00-00-7003 SSA Parallel parking and bulb outs in the amount of \$6,145.85; SSA line item 56-00-00-7006 SSA storm sewer in the amount of \$83,820.62; 56-00-00-7027 SSA Underground utilities in the amount of \$5,500.77.

A roll call vote to Table Consent Agenda items I 3 & I 4 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS: Trustee Szlendak

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Motion to Table by Trustee Dobrzycki, no second.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 6:

6. To approve an expenditure in the amount of \$955.42, payable to Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, P.C. for invoice 12960 dated September 17 for the August, 2008 billing with \$212.92 expensed to line item 11-05-00-7031 (Police-Legal) and \$742.50 expensed to line item 11-02-00-7057 (Legislative Counsel) FY 08/09.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 6 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS: Trustee Dobrzycki

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Motion to Amend by Trustee Mougolias to pull check # 45340, seconded by Trustee Szlendak on Consent Agenda item I 23:

23. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$49,795.15 as they appear on check register #45324-45339 thru #45341-45398.

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A roll call vote on Consent Agenda item I 23 as amended resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

J. NEW BUSINESS

None

K. OLD BUSINESS

None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None

M. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None

N. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Dobrzycki: Commented on setting a new precedent on the vote for paying the legislative attorney bill which goes against the village ordinance.

Trustee Mougolias: Requesting the Mayor to give the board a copy of the invoice for the \$5,521.11 check that was pulled; item not on the consent agenda for board approval.

Trustee Jezierny: Attended the Illinois Municipal League Conference over the weekend of Sept 26-27; it was very informative with much emphasis on good budgetary practices, development strategies and economical development as an increasing critical issue for municipalities. These conferences also open up the doors to hear professional presentations and make contacts.

Referred to Trustee Dobrzycki's comment regarding the new runway and an increase in the noise level and encouraged the residents to call in their complaints.

Commented on RedSpeed and the board's decision to implement this program and to educate our residents in the anticipation of the City of Chicago installing these safety measures in the Village of Harwood Heights.

Trustee Dobrzycki: Indicated that the attorney's bill indicated correspondence in regards to one of the Mayor's veto messages and as a member of the board he should be included in receiving the correspondence that was indicated on the attorney's billing.

O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Executive Session by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski at 9:25pm:

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2008**

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.

Motion to Close Executive Session by Trustee Mougolias, seconded by Trustee Schuepfer at 10:11pm; all in favor.

Return to open session; motion by Trustee Mougolias, seconded by Trustee Szlendak at 10:15 pm; all in favor.

P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Mougolias to adjourn. On a voice vote, all being in favor, the motion carried and the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Harwood Heights was adjourned by Temporary Chair Trustee Jezierny on Thursday, October 9, 2008 at 10:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne H. Larson, Village Clerk

Village of Harwood Heights
Trustee Michael J. Gadzinski
Regular Board Meeting
October 9, 2008 7:30pm

Report from Trustee Gadzinski on his recent trip to China

As you may or may not know, my lack of attendance at the last Board meeting in September was because I was traveling overseas in China as a guest violinist under contract performing with the Ensemble Espanol Flamenco Dance Company. I did promise everyone that upon my arrival I was going to share some of my experiences throughout my trip.

We gave a total of 4 concerts, 2 in Shenyang and one each in Anshan and Qinhuangdao. All theaters seated a minimum of 1500 people and were entirely sold out with standing room only. Each of our performances was given a tremendous, heartwarming response.

Working with the other musicians was incredibly inspiring—I learned a lot! The 4 other musicians included world renown guitarists, Pansequito, Paco Fonta, Scott Davis, and world ethnic percussionist Mick Labriola.

The Cities I was delighted to tour with the Ensemble were Beijing, Shenyang, Anshan, and Qinhuangdao. Some of our free time in between rehearsals and performances allowed for sight seeing and getting to know the culture of this magnificent country. The people were so genuine, focused, attentive, kind, polite, always smiling and unassuming; having such a profound respect for their culture and their glorious historic past.

Among the many attractions, I visited The Great Wall of the Ming Dynasty built between 1368-1694 which was truly a marvel, and the Forbidden City, was very mysterious in its massive complexity of many gates and buildings; architecture unlike anywhere else in world and an extremely beautiful final resting place of the emperor Abahai. I was amazed to hear that the tomb itself built in 1643 apparently has not been unearthed and remains sealed to this day.

Among other sites was the Jade Buddhist Temple in Anshan which is home to the largest statue of Buddha made from a single piece of jade, weighing in @ just about 261 Ton (260.76 ton) and measuring at almost 8 meters high (7.95 m) and approximately 7 m wide (6.88 m). This was astonishing.

I had enough time to walk around, take many pictures, eat traditional cuisine, and browse the open air markets and second-hand stores; maneuvering around this vast sea of humanity and gentility. Many of the sites where I have visited were consciousness-expanding and ultimately mind boggling.

The food was absolutely delicious. Almost every vegetable you could think of cooked in ingenious, delectable ways. There was seafood, chicken, duck, beef, lamb and pork. Many varieties of omelets filled with things akin to spinach or chard. There was also an enormous assortment of baked goods and dumplings.

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A country of 1.4 billion and let me tell you...they can eat! The tea was not surprisingly, very good and the coffee shockingly was not so good, which made me wish I was back home in the land of Lincoln brewing up a fresh pot of Stewarts finest. There were plenty of good varieties of Chinese beer and I found an excellent, low-priced and potent plum brandy.

I also wanted to mention something else I found extremely charming, as well as thought provoking. These were slogans that embellished roadsides, and streets. Jewels such as: Construct Harmonious Traffic with Kind Heart or Abandon Bad Habits-Embrace Civility. Also: World Vision, Chinese Wisdom. Then there's the ubiquitous slogan of the 2008 Olympics: One World. One Dream.

Ladies and gentlemen I have enjoyed this cultural exchange immensely, and I have seen and experienced what many people are unable to see in a life time.

China was not what I thought it was to be and it was definitely not what people said it would be. The people... their culture... their discipline and respect for one another showed me the true meaning of harmony and allegiance to a country united by the same hopes and dreams shared by everyone worldwide.

In Closing I would like to add that I am happy to be back in our great country and in our great Village of Harwood Heights and it's a great feeling to be able to see my family, girlfriend, friends and all of you tonight.

Thank you, and God Bless.