

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2009**

**A. CALL TO ORDER** at 7:05 pm by Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**C. ROLL CALL**

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

Also present: Chief Ricchio

**D. AGENDA ITEMS**

**Motion by Trustee Gadzinski, seconded by Trustee Schuepfer**

Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes of August 5, 2009 & August 24, 2009

**A roll call vote to approve the Committee of the Whole minutes resulted as follows:**

**A YES: Trustee Dobrzycki, Gadzinski, Mougolias, Schuepfer, Steiner**

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT: Trustee Szlendak**

**Motion Carried**

**Review Resolution for Drug Asset Fund**

- Chief Ricchio updated the board on the purpose of this resolution regarding a prior state asset seizure in 2005; the articles seized were cash, cannabis, clothing and gym shoes. The Police Department also had a search warrant to his safety deposit box which contained more cash. The total seized was about \$50,000 in cash, 2 vehicles, sports apparel and shoes; the Police Chief applied for civil seizure on all these items but the judge ruled that the Police Department return half of the clothing and shoes and \$20,000 in cash to the individual which netted the village's Police Department share to \$31,000.
- The Police Department is required to send the total village share to the Illinois State Police Drug Asset Forfeiture Fund. The Illinois State Police take 35% of the money recovered and send the balance back to the Police Department.
- The Chief only has \$19,300 in the drug asset account and based on the auditors recommendation and the resolution prepared by the village attorney, the Chief needs to borrow \$12,000 from the village's General Fund. When the Police Department receives their share from the state, the General Fund will be repaid.
- Consensus of the board to place the motion to adopt the Resolution on the September 10, 2009 board agenda.

**Liquor License Requests**

- Mayor Jezierny has received notification for 2 liquor licenses; a copy of the current liquor license listing will be distributed to the trustees for review before a decision is made. One will be a transfer (the old Mateo's) and one new request for a new Polish restaurant on Lawrence.

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**Ridgewood High School Banners**

- The board came to a consensus to purchase a banner in the village's name for Ridgewood High School's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; the motion will be placed on the September 10, 2009 board agenda for approval.

**Mayor's additional items**

- Mayor updated the board that the helper bus needed emergency repair on the stair lift; the cost for the repair is \$434. The motion will be placed on the September 10, 2009 board agenda for approval.
- The village should be receiving the 2<sup>nd</sup> new bus in mid-November.
- Discussed the possibility of providing one of our buses to the unincorporated area residents of the township; the board will continue to evaluate and discuss the advantages/disadvantages of providing this additional service.
- Made the board aware of a "Community Alert" that was issued for the Chicago area and placed on our website regarding the 6900 block of Olcott & the 7100 block of Odell. A white male driving a green minivan was asking children to come to his van. Chief Ricchio indicated that he spoke with the Superintendent of Union Ridge regarding this matter.
- The Police Department will continue to update the board and the community via the website on any Community Alert bulletins. Discussion ensued regarding how we can contact our local businesses to keep them in the loop when various alerts are received through the Police Department; ie: email, flyers, etc. Chief Ricchio is meeting with the Chamber of Commerce at their next meeting.

**"Not for Profit" User update**

- Trustee Steiner and Mayor Jezierny met with Union Ridge School and the Norwood Park Fire Department regarding the new procedures for "Not for Profit" entities. Union Ridge bill has been paid up to date and they will comply with the installation of the water meters; they will let the Mayor know when they can be installed after the school board meets to discuss and approve this matter. The new rate will start once the meters have been replaced.
- The Fire Department is satisfied with the change to a residential rate and with upgrading their meters; but they don't feel they should pay the commercial rate that was imposed on them since May 2008. They are asking that a residential rate be applied from the time the letter was sent in May 2008 and that the commercial rate was not approved by the board. The Fire Department has not paid on their water bill since the change to commercial rate was made in May 2008.
- Discussion ensued regarding amount owed by the Fire Department: Commercial rate with penalties - \$7,900; Commercial rate without penalties - \$4,000; Residential rate with no penalties - \$3,100; the Mayor did not have the figures for Residential rate with penalties. The 2 options agreed upon by the board was 1.) Pay the commercial rate without the penalties or 2.) Pay the residential rate with the penalties. The Mayor will present the 2 options to the Fire Department.

**Additional Items from Chief Ricchio**

- Updated the board regarding the Truck Enforcement Officer and indicated that the fine ordinance needs to be amended for truck over weights due to registration.
- Notified the board that on August 21, 2009 Officer Sharon Mortakis gave her formal resignation from the Harwood Heights Police Department.
- The new eligibility listing has been completed. Requested that the board please discuss and consider hiring a new officer to replace Officer Mortakis.
- A consensus of the board to place a motion on the September 10, 2009 agenda for a new police officer hire, based on appropriate funds allocated in the 2009/2010 budget.

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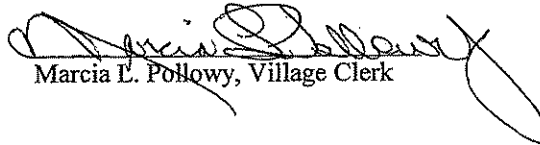
**Public Comment**

**Roy Schmidt, 4336 N. Rutherford:** Commented on the Fire Department's reluctance to pay their water fees. The Fire Department services not only Harwood Heights, but Norridge, Norwood Park Township and parts of Park Ridge. Wondered when the original \$1.00 fee was imposed and why? Agreed that they should be charged at least a residential fee at the single-family rate.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Trustee Mougolias, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski 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. Jezierny on Wednesday, September 2, 2009 at 8:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Clerk