

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:30 pm by Mayor Arlene Jezierny

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

Mayor	Arlene C. Jezierny
Clerk	Marcia L. Followy
Deputy Clerk	Mary O'Connor
Trustees	Mark Dobrzycki (Arrived 7:39pm.) Michael Gadzinski Demetrios Mougolias (Arrived 7:38pm.) Therese Schuepfer Lawrence Steiner Lester Szlendak
Attorney	Rob Bush

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Roy Schmidt, 4336 N. Rutherford: Stated that the parking lot at Las Palmas is very nice and that it is a great restaurant; also commented on the AT&T box by the alley.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report
Mayor Jezierny

Projects:

I am pleased to once again announce an IKE Grant that we received in the amount of \$807,300 for a Flood Storage Facility Project for the East Side of Harlem. We have already taken a number of steps that are required to satisfy the grant requirements. We obtained Requests for Proposals from 11 Engineers and approved Christopher Burke as our Engineer for this project at our last Board meeting. Tonight there is a motion on the agenda to approve the proposal for Christopher Burke's professional Engineering and Construction Observation Services. I am also pleased to report that the Grant will cover these costs.

There will be a bid opening for the Sidewalk program on Sept 13 at 10:00 am

A number of street and alley projects will be covered under an ERP Grant (Emergency Repair Program Grant). We anticipate a bid opening mid-winter to be ready for a Spring construction.

The Engineer for the CDGB project was also approved at our last Board meeting. Following a construction meeting, we should be ready to begin these projects in October. This is for the resurfacing of Ainslie and Argyle from Oketo to Harlem.

Movie in the Park

On Saturday, September 10th, please join us at Union Ridge School grounds for an outdoor movie showing of "Yogi Bear" at 7:00 pm. I want to thank our Events Committee and Chairperson Collette Scaletta for coordinating all the details of this event in such a short time period including its funding. I also thank the Trustees and Clerk for contributing to this event. In case of inclement weather, the movie will be held in the gym of Union Ridge. We also want to thank Union Ridge for working with the Village to provide a fun event for all.

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Storm Meetings Held

At the end of August Storm meetings took place to hear the concerns of our residents and give them the opportunity to hear and ask questions of representatives from ComEd, Water Reclamation, Cook County Homeland Security, our Engineer, and our Public Works Superintendent and Foreman of Water. It was a well-attended meeting. Flood Control tips were also distributed. We need to provide flood storage areas throughout our Village and continue to pursue grant funding like we recently received for the East Side detention as I mentioned earlier.

Fire Dept – 911 Ceremony

The Norwood Park Fire Department will be holding a tribute on the 10th Anniversary of 911 honoring the firefighters, police and all those that lost their lives. The ceremony will be held on Sunday, September 11th beginning promptly at 8:45 am.

Union Ridge – 911 Ceremony

Union Ridge School is also conducting a brief 911 memorial ceremony honoring those who have perished 10 years ago, also remember those who have lost lives and the families who suffered. This event is taking place tomorrow at 9:15 am at Union Ridge School's gym.

Comprehensive Plan

On Wednesday, August 3rd, a Public Meeting was held as we rolled out our new Comprehensive Plan to serve our community and give us a detailed roadmap for future plans. The Plan was explained in detail by our Planning Consultant John Houseal from Houseal-Lavigne. A Plan Commission meeting soon followed on Wednesday, August 24th. I am pleased that the Plan Commission unanimously approved the Plan and complimented the detailed work that went into it.

Zoning Code Meeting

We also held a Public Meeting on Wednesday, July 27th to address the new Zoning Codes. Mr. Houseal also presented the details of the new Code. Members of the Zoning, Planning and Building Departments were present as well as some Trustees. The new Zoning Code will now go before the Zoning Board of Appeals this Monday, September 12 at 7:00pm.

The next process to complete the Plan is to Re-Zone areas from some Commercial properties to Retail to enhance development opportunities for sales revenue.

McDonalds

I am pleased to announce that a donation in the amount of \$10,000 was received at the Ronald McDonald House Charities in honor of the Village of Harwood Heights by the owners and operators of McDonald's. It was mentioned to me at the Grand-reopening of our McDonald's and now we officially received a framed memo from Doug Porter who is the CEO of the Ronald McDonald Charities. The donation helps families of children being treated at local hospitals, provides free medical care to underserved youth and awards college scholarships to help local students achieve their educational dreams. So thank you McDonalds!

Financial Report on Police Department

At this time, I would like to call upon our Chief of Public Safety, Chief Mario Ricchio to give us an overview of the Finance position within the Police Department and actions taken for departmental improvements.

Chief Ricchio: I wanted to take this opportunity to report to the Mayor and the Board a summary status report of the Police Department as we complete the first quarter of the fiscal year.

As you all know this fiscal year has been impacted by several factors, some unexpectedly, that have increased the budgetary challenges to the Police Department:

1. A Sergeant was injured on duty March 4, 2011 and remains off on medical.
2. A Lt. under-went knee surgery and was off for nearly 2 months.
3. Sgt. Tyrpak retired May 31, 2011.
4. Ofc. S. Biagi was promoted to the rank of Sergeant
5. Det. DeVries was promoted to the rank of Commander
6. Raises were approved for all ICOPS members as well as for the command staff.
7. The Illinois Supreme Court ruled that local jurisdictions could not self-adjudicate truck overweight violations.

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HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

One of the major tasks that faced me as Chief of Public Safety was to rebuild the Police Department as far as moral, professionalism, customer service, productivity as it relates to job performance and budget control.

Moral can be viewed as an abstract entity but one that can be measured by factors such as union grievances, personal attitude, sick leave, citizen complaints and job performance. I believe I can comfortably state that employee moral department wide has improved.

Police Department professionalism and customer service are excellent in my opinion which I think is supported by the recent resident survey conducted by students from North Eastern University. Although I am certainly proud of every member of the Police Department, I will admit that there is always room for improvement and refinement.

As to job performance, I am pleased to report that officers across the board are improving. At the onset of this calendar year, I had advised all supervisors that they would be held accountable for job performance of the officers on their respective shifts and that statistical data would be used to measure each officer's progress.

In comparing the second three months of this year to the first three months, Compliance citations increased by 2.1%, Moving violations increased by 13.6%, parking citations increased by 88%, police reports decreased by 1.3% and traffic arrests increased by 7.5%.

As to Budgetary issue, the one chief line item that is constantly monitored is the overtime budget. Last year this time we had paid out \$29,088.00 in overtime and \$5,292.00 in court time. (Court time was strictly supervised and officers were not allowed to go to court unless their presence was warranted (i.e.) number of traffic tickets and/or misdemeanor arrests.) This year we have paid out \$35,082.00 in overtime (which includes MCAT & NIPAS call outs) and \$7,193.00 in court pay. Additionally we incurred officer in charge (OIC) expense in the amount of \$7,951.00. I attribute the increase in overtime, court time and OIC as a direct result to the reasons cited above. Overtime in August 2011 is down by 20% as compared to August 2010. The increase in overtime occurred in the months of June and July which typically are higher due to vacations. This year that figure was impacted due to the loss of manpower. Court time is increased due to higher productivity and the need for court appearance.

Last year, I projected that the Police Department met projected revenue from all sources. Because of continued uncertainty in traffic fines and Red Speed, the projected revenue for this fiscal year was reduced to \$764,500.00. As to the issue of self-adjudication of truck over weights, upon hearing of the Illinois Supreme Court ruling I immediately stopped our overweight enforcement actions. After conferring with our Village attorneys I adopted a new protocol that would both comply with the Supreme Court ruling and best serve the village. Under the new protocol truck overweight's are still written under local ordinance, however, some bonds are not immediately collected for all violations again due to Supreme Court rules. Those that are collected bonds are transmitted to Rolling Meadows Court where, the cases are prosecuted by our Village prosecutor in front of a circuit court judge. We have yet to realize the proceeds from this new protocol as the first cases were recently heard. I have a meeting scheduled with the new Chief Judge to further discuss the matter.

Overall, collected revenues have increased by \$67,024.00 as compared to the same period last year as follows despite the truck overweight issue:

1. Parking citations +\$40,079.00
2. Compliance citations +21,380.00
3. Impound fees resulting from traffic arrests +\$865.00
4. Overweight truck enforcement -\$25,013.00
5. Red Speed citations -\$417.00
6. Local Ordinance violations +\$1,935.00
7. DUI arrests +\$502.00
8. DOC View (MVA reports) -\$30.00
9. RHS pay reimbursements -DNA at this time
 - * All collections made by MSI (\$12,630.00) are reflected in the above figures.
 - ** Collections were slowed due to the change over and implementation of new software.

On another matter, the \$300,000.00 technology grant received in 2009 has just about been spent. The following is a list of the items that were purchased and have aided our department:

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1. New computers, monitors, scanner copier for records and antivirus software.....	\$85,467.76
2. In car camera systems.....	\$29,970.00
3. New Records management and dispatch software.....	\$92,879.03
4. Computerized firearms training system.....	\$26,500.00
5. Radar units.....	\$ 5,448.00
6. Ink cartridges for computers.....	\$ 9,826.38
7. Radios and programming to comply with the 2013 narrow banding federal mandate.....	\$11,696.36
8. Street cameras.....	\$37,056.05
TOTAL.....	\$298,843.58

** The monies spent on the radios also included upgrading several radios for public works which also come under the narrow banding mandate.

Forestry & Green Initiatives

Trustee Dobrzycki

Hendrickson has been out trimming trees; requested reports on past and present activities on tree trimming, Contacted by several residents complaining about their trees being trimmed; they were concerned that their trees were healthy and being cut. Stated that with the 10th anniversary of 911 coming up, it reminds us of what occurred that year. Asked that all residents keep in mind all the police officers, firemen, and emergency personnel that dedicate themselves everyday for our protection and safety and those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Recreation

Trustee Gadzinski

Villages of Oak Park and River Forest, along with the WSSRA, are hosting their annual Making Tracks 5k Community Run and Walk on September 17th. If interested, please register no later than September 12th by calling 708-366-6660. A WSSRA finance committee meeting will be next month where they will be discussing the 2012 budget as well as IMRF updates. Will keep everyone informed. On October 15th from 8am-1pm at Ridgewood High School, the Junior Rebels Cheerleaders will hold a garage sale. Those who wish to sell their things may reserve a table for \$20.00. Table fees will benefit the Jr. Rebels Cheerleaders. Looking forward to attending the IML Conference coming up next weekend.

Public Works

Water & Sewer

Trustee Steiner

Public Works has been getting caught up on hot patching and striping of the streets. They are making great progress on changing residential water meters. Saw two dead skunks on the street. If you see any dead animals, please contact Public Works.

Public Health & Safety/Building

Trustee Mougolias

The Harwood Heights Police Department swore in a second officer on Tuesday. He is glad the new police officers are getting training prior to attending the police academy. He received a call about a suspicious car on Octavia. While he encourages residents to contact him, he also wants them to call the Harwood Heights Police Department in emergencies. There were two gentlemen trying to do something to the cars or casing the area.

Ordinance/License

Trustee Schuepfer

Motion I 19 is an ordinance that incorporates the Smoke Free Illinois Act that was put in place several years ago. She has been working on the handicapped parking sign database and has done a partial run around the Village to see what signs are up and which ones are down. Should have the database completed after one more run around the Village.

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Finance

Information & Technology

Trustee Szlendak

Requested the Clerk to send Board meeting packets by email; felt it was nicer to read the packet on his computer. The retention facility on the east side according to his calculations will hold approximately 750,000 gallons of water which is inadequate. The retention on the west side is not big enough either. We have to solve the east side problem. We have to do more than what is being done right now with the grant. Financing the solution is extremely expensive. We have to look at federal and state money via a loan or a grant. We need to go back and prove that our project is shovel ready. We need to start working on this immediately in order to get available grant money. Recommends that we go back to the engineering firm that did our flood survey on the east side and have them get the work ready so we can get that money ASAP. The dollar amount for the solution will probably be 2 or 3 million dollars. It is very expensive but needs to be done.

Clerk's Report

Union Ridge PTA will be having a car wash on Saturday, September 10th, from 9-12pm in the schools north parking lot. Cars are \$5.00 and SUV's are \$7.00. Reminded the Trustees to make sure they bring the confirmation letter that she placed in their mailboxes for the IML conference; they will need it to pick up their conference materials at the registration desk.

Attorney's Report

No Report

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Dobrzycki: In addition to having frequent electrical outages there have also been frequent internet outages. Commented that whenever he is going to be late for a meeting or absent he calls the Clerk to let her know and stated that he missed a meeting in July because it was his mother's 75th birthday. He wished his brother Chris a Happy Birthday and stated that he will be attending his birthday party as soon as this meeting is over. Asked for Chris' forgiveness for not being at his birthday at this time but will be there as soon as possible.

Trustee Gadzinski: Congratulated the Special Events Committee for their hard work in organizing the "Movies in the Park".

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Gadzinski seconded by Trustee Mougolias on Consent Agenda Items I 1-22 as amended. Trustee Gadzinski asked that agenda item I 13 be deleted; duplicate motion.

Motion by Trustee Gadzinski seconded by Trustee Mougolias on Consent Agenda Items I 1-12 & I 14-22.

1. To approve the regular minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held August 25, 2011.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$6,790.00**, payable to Great Lakes Landscape Company, Inc to furnish and install materials for the TOT Park Playground expensed to FY 11/12 line item 11-13-00-7999 – Contingency.

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OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,905.70**, payable to Municipal Code Corporation for update of all ordinances passed in 2010 and the 1st 6 months of 2011 for the Ordinance books and online village website expensed to FY 11/12 line item 11-01-00-7048 – General Administration.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$650.00**, payable to SpecEvent Entertainment for the deposit for the Movies in the Park scheduled for Saturday, September 10, 2011 expensed to FY 11/12 line item 11-08-00-7052 – Recreation.
5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$650.00**, payable to SpecEvent Entertainment for balance of cost for the Movies in the Park scheduled for Saturday, September 10, 2011 expensed to FY 11/12 line item 11-08-00-7052 – Recreation.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$6,000.00**, payable to NAPCO for June 2011 and July 2011 billings for Economic Development relating to the FAA Grant for Land Use Compatibility Plan expensed to FY 11/12 line item 13-15-00-7130 – FAA Grant Expenditures. (80% to be reimbursed back to the village).
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$2,000.00**, payable to Public Sector Solutions, LLC for Lobbyist Services for the month of August 2011 expensed to FY 11/12 line item 11-01-00-9502 – General Administration.
8. To approve a Single Family Flood Grant FY 11/12 for **4451 N. New England Avenue** in the amount of **\$1,500.00** pending all licenses, inspections and approval from the plumbing inspector to be expensed to FY 11/12 line item 22-00-00-7075 – Water & Sewer.
9. To approve a Settlement Agreement and General Release of **\$2,000.00**, payable to Joseph G. and Gwendolyn A. Fiorentino to settle Case No. 2008 CH 21065, regarding the water connection at the property commonly know as 7320 W. Argyle expensed to FY 11/12 line item 11-13-00-7999- Contingency.
10. Motion for the Board to re-hire Kevin Hilton to coach Beginning Basketball @ \$10.00 per session. **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation.**
11. Motion for the Board to hire Vincent Soriano to coach Beginning Basketball @ \$10.00 per session pending necessary background check **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation.**
12. Motion for the Board to re-hire Kevin Hilton to referee Advanced and Intermediate Basketball @ \$10.00 per session. **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation.**
14. Motion for the Board to approve and expenditure not to exceed the amount of **\$800.00** necessary for the purchase of supplies needed for the Advanced, Intermediate and Beginning Basketball programs. (t-shirts, whistles, scorebooks) **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation.**
15. Motion for the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed the amount of **\$400.00**, payable to “World’s Oldest Sports” for the purchase of t-shirt/jerseys needed for volleyball program. **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7034-Recreation.**
16. Motion for the Board to approve an expenditure not to exceed the amount of **\$450.00**, payable to “World’s Oldest Sports” for the purchase of t-shirt/jerseys needed for the soccer program. **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7036-Recreation.**
17. To concur with the Plan Commission’s recommendation to Adopt the Strategic Comprehensive Plan as presented by Houseal Lavigne Associates at a Public Hearing on August 24, 2011 as the Village’s New Comprehensive Plan.
18. To approve the proposal by Christopher B. Burke Engineering for the IKE Grant Professional Engineering and Construction Observation Services – Flood Storage Facility Project **and to authorize the Mayor to sign the proposal.**

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HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011**

19. To Adopt **Ordinance 11-36**, An Ordinance Implementing the Smoke Free Illinois Act.
20. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$58,256.74** as they appear on check register **#51010** thru **#51055**.
21. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$112,995.36** to Parkway Bank Payroll Account.
22. Electronic transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$12,672.39** for August 2011 IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1-12 & I 14-22 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda item I 13 deleted; this motion was included in Consent Agenda item I 12.

13. Motion for the Board to re-hire Kevin Hilton to referee the Advanced Basketball program @ \$10.00 per session. **Appropriated to FY 11/12, Line item 11-08-00-7031-Recreation.**

J. NEW BUSINESS

None

K. OLD BUSINESS

None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None

M. TRUSTEE COMMENT

Trustee Szlendak: Recommends that everyone goes to Las Palmas as it is a very good restaurant and advised them not to over order as the portions are very large.

Dobrzycki: Was approached while dropping off his daughter at Union Ridge School and contacted by several residents regarding a rumor. Will only say that any rumors that you may have heard are not true. If you want to specifically ask me about the rumor because I am not mentioning what the rumor is as I do not want them to continue to spread. If they are true I think the Police Department would probably be announcing them on TV. The events that allegedly occurred would probably cause a commotion everywhere. I can tell you none of these rumors are true and ask if you do hear them ask that person to stop and report it to me.

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Trustee Mougolias: Most of our local businesses in Harwood Heights support this community very generously and asked that all our residents support our local businesses. Not only do you help them, but you help yourself by keeping your sales tax in our town. Will be asking the Board and local businesses about maybe starting a Shop Harwood Heights page on our website? He will contact the local businesses and ask them if they are willing to give anyone with a Harwood Heights ID a discount. We could advertise these businesses on the website and this will encourage our residents to shop Harwood Heights.

Mayor Jezierny: The Special Events Committee is also working on some special events to include our village restaurants. The participants would take the village bus and have appetizers, dinner, and desserts at various restaurants in Harwood Heights. Thank you to the Special Events Committee.

So far, in the last two years, I have been able to secure over 3 million dollars in grants. Each grant that you apply for are for different purposes. For example, if you are getting a grant for sidewalks, you can't use it on flooding. If you are getting a grant to resurface the streets, you can't fix what's underneath the street. There is an EPA loan grant that we are investigating for 2.7 million dollars but detentions are not included in this grant. I'll be watching the tape from President Obama's speech tonight and will see what grants are available and we will try to utilize whatever is available.

N. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski at 8:19pm; on a roll call vote, all in favor

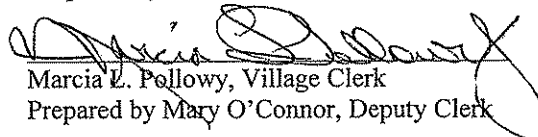
Motion to enter into Executive Session: pursuant to (5 ILCS 120/2) Sec. 2. Open meetings © Exceptions. A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects: (2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Motion by Trustee Dobrzycki, seconded by Trustee Gadzinski, all in favor to Reconvene open session at 8:41pm.

O. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Schuepfer, seconded by Trustee Steiner 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 Arlene C. Jezierny, on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 8:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Clerk
Prepared by Mary O'Connor, Deputy Clerk