

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:00pm by Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL –

Mayor	Arlene C. Jezierny
Clerk	Marcia L. Pollowy
Trustees	Annette Brzezniak-Volpe

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Lewandowski to allow Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki to attend the meeting by Electronic Attendance; on a voice vote, all in favor.

Anna Brzozowski-Wegrecki (Electronic Attendance)
Zbigniew Lewandowski
Therese Schuepfer
Lawrence Steiner
Giuseppe Zerillo

Also present: Chief John DeVries
Public Works Foreman/Project Manager George Assimakopoulos
Treasurer Joe Russo

D. AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes for the meeting held on July 2, 2020

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Steiner:

- Approval of Committee of the Whole Minutes for the meeting held on July 2, 2020.

On a voice vote, all in favor (Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki – Abstained), the motion carried and the minutes of July 2, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting were approved.

Electric Aggregation

- Sharon Durling representing our broker Mr. David Hoover of NIMEC (Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative) reviewed the past program that village voters approved an electrical aggregation program in 2012; but the program was suspended in 2014. NIMEC on behalf of the village continued to look at programs over the past 6 years that would benefit the residents of Harwood Heights with electrical cost saving measures. Sharon provided the board with a PowerPoint presentation on a new Aggregation Program describing in detail the various benefits to the village and its residents and its advantages; there are currently 51 communities that have opted-in to this new program. The new program allows the village the option of selecting green energy which trades at a premium as a percentage of the total program; ie: 10%, 50%, 100% green etc.
- Sharon stated that it takes about 2-months to implement the program and there is no fee to NIMEC if the village wishes to provide a new aggregation program to its residents.
- A short discussion ensued regarding residents opting in or out if the village approves a new aggregation program.
- Mayor Jezierny requested that NIMEC obtain figures from ComEd on how much money the annual civic grant would generate for the village. The money can be used for a variety of village expenses. Once information is received and reviewed by village board on whether to proceed with this new program.

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Reviewed Mayor's Message

- Mayor Jezierny provided the board with a copy of her August "Mayor's Message" newsletter that was mailed to the residents and businesses earlier this week. The newsletter highlights the 2020 Census, the Tree Planting Grant Program, extended payment due date for Property Tax's second installment, and Harwood Heights Youth Commission Programs that will be starting in mid-September with sign-up scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2020 here at the Village Hall.

Village Hall Hours

- Mayor Jezierny informed the board that the Village Hall will be closed on Saturday's during August and September or until further notice. Residents can deposit their mail or checks in the drop box just outside the main doors.

Tree Types Available

- Mayor Jezierny, Public Works Superintendent Tom Wolfe and Trustee Lewandowski are continuing to work with the Morton Arboretum on offering "free" trees to the residents of Harwood Heights. The Mayor has been promoting this program in the past 2 or 3 "Mayor's Message" newsletters to encourage the program.
- A description with pictures of the appropriate trees available for parkway planting is on the village website.
- Mayor Jezierny stated that there isn't much time and that the tree orders must be made by August 24, 2020 with trees scheduled to be planted at the end of September.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Theresa Giffin: Stated that the parking situation on the 4800 block of Octavia has not improved and a few cars are parked for days with no village stickers. Indicated that it's over the 6-month trial period with no improved parking results.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the nightly "No Parking" signs on Oconto and only parking on the south side of Ainslie and the problems now affecting the 4800 block of Octavia.

Chief DeVries: Stated that he has done surveillance checkups at varies hours of the day and night and that most cars are registered to Harwood Heights' residents, mainly from the apartment buildings on Harlem Avenue.

The village will continue to monitor the situation with additional solutions to alleviate the problem.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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:

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Steiner to adjourn. On a voice vote, all present 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 Jezierny on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Polowy, Village Clerk