

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 6, 2023**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:01pm by Mayor Arlene Jezierny

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL –

Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny

Clerk Marcia L. Pollowy

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Brutto to allow Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki to attend the meeting by Electronic Attendance; on a voice vote, all in favor (Trustee Zerillo – Absent).

Trustees Eugene Brutto
Annette Brzezniak-Volpe
Anna Brzozowski-Wegrecki (Electronic Attendance)
Zbigniew Lewandowski
Lawrence Steiner
Giuseppe Zerillo (Arrived 7:20pm)

Attorney Rob Bush

Also present: Chief John DeVries
Sergeant Sam Palazzo
Accountant Mary Ventrella

D. AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Committee of the Whole minutes for August 9, 2023

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Lewandowski on August 9, 2023 COW minutes:

- Approval of the Committee of the Whole Minutes for the meeting held on August 9, 2023.

On a voice vote, all in favor (Trustee Zerillo – Absent), the motion carried and the minutes of the August 9, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting were approved.

7444 W. Wilson Avenue

- Daniel Pappano from Zwelling Law make a detailed presentation on behalf of 7444 W. Wilson Avenue’s request for renewal of their current Class 6b exemption that will expire next year.
- Mr. Elly Latinik stated that there are currently nine tenants who operate various local businesses within the healthcare industry. When the board approve the current Class 6b almost 10 years ago, he was hoping to bring in a pharmaceutical company that was supposed to produce huge sales tax revenue; that deal fell through.
- Mr. Pappano stated that he will provide the board a letter detailing the reasons for the Class 6b request and the amount of the property tax with and without the Class 6b exemption.
- Discussion ensued with the board asking a number of questions that were answered by Mr. Pappano and Mr. Latinik.
- Mayor Jezierny would like the names of the companies now under 7444 W. Wilson’s umbrella to make sure that they are all licensed.
- Mayor Jezierny stated that the board will review the information and would not make any decisions at tonight’s meeting. After reviewing the documentation that Mr. Pappano would be providing to the board the Mayor will instruct our Village Attorneys on how to respond.

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Permit Fees

- Mayor Jezierny stated that at the last board meeting we approved demolition and building fees for residential and commercial projects based on fees charged by the Village of Norridge so we would be more in line with current fees.
- Mayor Jezierny was hoping that Building Commissioner Jo Ann Krupa would be attending tonight's meeting to review our current permit fees and provide recommendations on fee increases. A copy of our current permit fees was distributed to the board for review.
- Discussion ensued as to whether fees should be based on a percentage of a project cost as is done in a number of surrounding communities or keeping our current schedule of fees and revising accordingly.
- Mayor Jezierny stated that it will take time to review all the current permits and suggested that we should get permit fee schedules from our surrounding communities and assigned each trustee with a village/town to contact for their current permit fee schedule.
- Discussion will continue at our next Committee of the Whole with a review of permit schedules obtained from other surrounding communities. We need to revise our fee schedule by the beginning of the next year to anticipate residents starting to do home improvements work.

Village Staff Openings

- Mayor Jezierny informed the board that Linda DiMaso has retired and Accountant Mary Ventrella will be placing a job posting on the village website for a full-time replacement handling accounts payable. She also stated that we will be looking for a part-time building inspector to take the load off of our Building Commissioner.
- Public Works also lost one of their laborers, so Superintendent Ron Maslo will be looking for a full-time replacement. That job posting will also be on the village website.
- A motion will be placed on the September 14, 2023 Consent Agenda to authorize the Fire & Police Commissioners to begin the process for hiring 2 new Police Officers for the Harwood Heights Police Department.

Update Police Ordinances – Loitering/Disturbances

- Sergeant Sam Palazzo stated that the Village of Norridge has a separate ordinance for loitering and a separate ordinance for disorderly conduct. Our village loitering ordinance is under disorderly and we can write a ticket for loitering under the disorderly code so we have it already on the books; it is under disorderly item "M" – "Any person found loitering about the public ways or parks, either by day or by night, who remains on, or returns to the premises after having been requested to leave by the police, or any other appropriate official."
- Discussion ensued on the loitering and loud music in the parking lots of Raising Canes, Portello's and Steinhafels or the owner of those properties. The Harwood Heights Police Department will contact the businesses and the owner of the properties to work on a plan to curtail these types of events.
- Discussion also ensued on repeat offenders, writing citations and when the Police Department can arrest the offender and impounding the car.
- Mayor Jezierny stated that the next newsletter will include information regarding upcoming "Crime Prevention" Seminars in the months of October and November.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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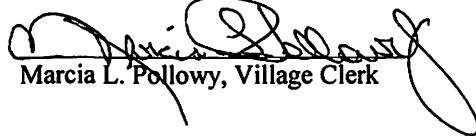
EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Brutto 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 Wednesday, September 6, 2023 at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Clerk