

**MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS  
HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER** at 6:00pm by Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**C. ROLL CALL –**

Mayor	Arlene C. Jezierny
Clerk	Marcia L. Pollowy
Trustees	Eugene Brutto Annette Brzezniak-Volpe Anna Brzozowski-Wegrecki Zbigniew Lewandowski Lawrence Steiner Giuseppe Zerillo (Absent)
Attorney	Absent

Also present: Deputy Chief Sam Palazzo  
Accountant Mary Ventrella  
Public Works Superintendent Ron Maslo  
Public Works Chief Water Operator Orlando Velasquez

**D. AGENDA ITEMS**

**Village Employee Insurance – Steve Curry**

- Steve Curry, our insurance broker from NFP presented the board with the insurance rates with our current carrier BC/BS and was able to negotiate a 15.56% renewal rate. Steve also did rate and coverage comparisons with Aetna, Gravia, United Healthcare and Cigna which were lower than the BC/BS rate but did not have the same coverage that the employees have now under BC/BS. Steve also reviewed the rates for Dental, Vision and Basic Life & AD&D for Police officers.
- A short discussion ensued with the board to meet again at our next Committee of the Whole to decide on continuing with our current BC/BS carrier at the new rate or change carriers. The Dental, Vision and Basic Life & AD&D for Police officers' coverages will renew with the current carriers.

**Public Works – Water Problems and Meter Replacements**

- Public Works Chief Water Operator Orlando Velasquez updated the board on a new 5-year BSI Renewal Agreement to perform certain notification and data management functions for backflow systems in the village. The new annual premium is \$495.00, which is less than what we are currently paying for this service.; this program is an IEPA program and we are required to use this program. Orlando explained the new system and that the village will now be getting a \$5.00 administrative fee in the form of a monthly rebate that will be paid by the tester.
- Orlando commented that we have an aging watermain infrastructure and we are anticipating replacing the watermains on Foster Avene and Forest Preserve Drive and the board just approved a loan application with IEPA for \$4.5m to help cover the cost on these projects.
- Orlando also commented that in the next year or two we anticipate to drain the water tower and replace the piping that goes to the water tower.
- Orlando also stated that the City of Chicago is going to require us to replace our Chicago meters, the meters we input our water from Chicago; that will be another cost.

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- Orlando also reviewed in detail an overview of some of the issues relating to water usage, indicating that it seems our water meters that were installed over 10-years ago are starting to fail and not recording the actual amount of water being used. Need to create a plan on how to replace meters, the cost to replace them and if we pass it on to the residents. Orlando also commented on our revenue on the current sewer rate to the residents/businesses/commercial properties is far less than what the City of Chicago charges us and explained possibly removing the cap on all billings across the board to make up some of the difference.
- Orlando stated that Public Works would like to do a rate study to determine what we would have to do to improve our water system.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

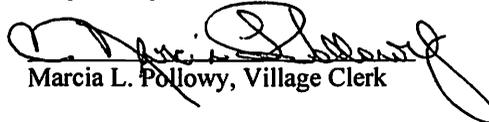
**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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 (Trustee Zerillo – Absent), 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 Monday, November 17, 2025 at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Marcia L. Pollowy, Village Clerk