

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY APRIL 9, 2026**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:32 pm by Mayor Jezierny

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

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

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report

The agenda tonight covers 3 hires: one for Crossing Guard, an Auxiliary Office and a Building Inspector; we look forward to working with our new staff.

Earlier this month we met with our vendor for property insurance costs and as a result the agenda covers our commercial insurance package, property, casualty, liability for buildings, vehicles and cyber security. We are making a cost adjustment to this package which includes the value replacement of vehicles within 10 years old.

For "Kindness Day" which is April 25, 2026 we are collecting needed items. There is a playpen in our lobby and will be there through April 24, 2026 collecting items such as diapers, pullups, wipes, etc. which will be given to the Salvation Army to be distributed to families in need of these items. So, thank you to all those who have contributed or will contribute.

Finance

Trustee Brutto

As the Mayor mentioned, there is a motion on the agenda tonight to renew our insurance for the village. Also, we are continuing negotiations with both the Police Union and Public Works Civilian Unit, we have follow-up meetings with both of them in the next week to two weeks. Also, Mary, Rob and staff are continuing to work on the budget.

Ordinance & License

Trustee Steiner

No Report

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Police/Public Safety

Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe

The Police Department is sponsoring their law enforcement event, "Tip a Cop" on Sunday, May 3, 2026 from 12:00pm to 6:00pm at Red Robin in Norridge. The Harwood Hights Police and Norridge Police are teaming up to raise money for the "Special Olympics." Anybody that goes there, if they mention this, a donation will be made to "Special Olympics" in Harwood Heights and Norridge's name.

Public Works/Public Health

Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki

No Report

Building

Trustee Zerillo

As you already stated we have a new hire on the agenda this evening a new Building Inspector. Secondly, Margaret I don't know if you've hear of this yet, but I received an email earlier regarding a "Built Plan" that the State of Illinois is trying to eliminate local housing guidelines to allow smaller build on lots. I'll keep following this, but it pretty much stated to eliminate housing bans to allow to build small in-law units, backyard cottages on residential lots and to allow more townhomes and duplexes on residential lots. I don't know what that will do to our ordinances?

Attorney Margaret Kostopoulos: If you would like, we could have a report for our next meeting and what the impact would be to this community.

Forestry & Green Initiative

Trustee Lewandowski

We are going to be ending our relationship with the Morton Arboretum, Chicago Region Tree Initiative. After we presented a list of requested trees for our Spring planting, they came back and basically they said they're not going to be able to deliver the trees that we requested. So, I'm going to be working to find different ways to provide our residents with trees. I reached out to Robert Hendricksen to see if they could help us our or if they could refer us to nursery where we can establish a relationship; I think it will be a better program where we have more control of what we can do and how we can do it.

Clerk's Report

I would like to amend motion I 9, the new cost for the Insurance Package proposed by Marsh McLennen is \$522,897.00 for a \$7,500.00 increase. The increase allows for the total replacement cost of any vehicle up to 10-years old.

Attorney Margaret Kostopoulos

No Report

Chief John DeVries

First, I want to thank you for the new hire on the Auxiliary, he's a fine young man and he's going to be able to help us out with the school events; I look forward to working with him.

Second thing, and I hope you can spread the word at Ridgewood. The Park District is having an overwhelming time with these e-bikes; these kids just don't have any respect anymore. I don't know if we blame it on the parents that are at home that there is no policing going on in the house, but it's not our job to police these kids but it turning out to be our job. Last night we got a call from the park that kids were being destructive, the were causing a problem and as soon as my officers got on the scene the kids took off; now, who runs from the police at this age? Just because of what's going on TV, there's no consequences?

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I told my Sergeants there is no such thing as kids taking off on e-bikes, I don't care what you have to do to get those bikes, you stop them. And then we'll get the parents in and find out exactly what the problem is. Is it the kids? Is it the parents? And then, we're going to correct it. That's what we have to start doing because the parks going to have a problem and they haven't even opened the park yet to really begin this problem it just started with the warm weather. So please, pass it on to any of your friends who have e-bikes they can't go into the park. We want kids to go to the park to have a good time, but we have an ordinance on it now. You saw what happened in Norridge last year, a young girl got run over by a kid on an e-bike and it's going on all over the place.

Third, I've been seeing this scam that people are getting, my wife just got it, the toll is sending out these text messages that you owe for unpaid toll charges. It's all a scam, please do not send money or don't call and give them a credit card number because that's what they're looking to get. They want your bank routing number and your credit card number, and they won't send you anything in the mail.

Nat Brown, the Director at Norridge Park, is asking our Police Department to go from school to school to talk about safety and what's going on. So, we're going to be knocking on the doors of all the schools and doing presentations. We want kids to be able to have a good time, but they have to understand the safety behind it. So Sam went and talked to Union Ridge, I'll let him talk about that, that's what he handled today.

Deputy Chief Sam Palazzo

Today was Union Ridge, as the Chief said, the grades were from kindergarten to 8th grade, this pertains primarily from 5th to 8th grade as the Chief said, so there's consequences to decisions we make and they were educated on those today, so I thought it was productive. Yesterday it was Pennoyer. We have 2 schools to go to next week, Giles and Lee. So all the grade schools in which kids from Harwood Heights attend will be spoken to by Norridge Park and the Harwood Heights Police Department.

On the 15th of May there will be a "Cop on a Rooftop" event at the Dunkin Donuts on Lawrence Avenue from 5am to noon. Also, on Monday June 22nd is our Golf Outing if you have a foursome or need a foursome or want to volunteer or come for lunch let Sergeant Ramirez know.

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe – MCD Update: National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week April 12th – 18th, we will have to decide what we'll do this year. Our next board meeting is May 12, 2026.

Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki/Zerillo – WSSRA Update: Our next board meeting is May 12, 2026.

Trustee Steiner – Norridge/Harwood Heights Chamber of Commerce: Our next meeting is next Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at the Nest on Irving Park, it's an after-hours event starting at 5:30 – 7:00pm.

Trustee Zerillo – O'Hare Technical Committee: Next meeting is May 19, 2026.

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/HIRES

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Brutto on H 1:

1. Motion to hire Auria Soto as a fill-in Crossing Guard effective 3-9-26.

A roll call vote on Appointments/Reappointments/Hires item H 1 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Brutto, Steiner, Brzezniak-Volpe, Brzozowski-Wegrecki, Zerillo, Lewandowski

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

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Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Lewandowski on H 2:

2. Motion to hire David Scafidi as a new Auxiliary Officer effective 3-18-26.

A roll call vote on Appointments/Reappointments/Hires item H 2 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Brutto, Steiner, Brzezniak-Volpe, Brzozowski-Wegrecki, Zerillo, Lewandowski

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

Motion by Trustee Steiner, seconded by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe on H3:

3. Motion to hire Patrick Brenner as Part-time Building Inspector effective 3-30-26 at a salary of \$50.00 an hour.

A roll call vote on Appointments/Reappointments/Hires item H 3 resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Brutto, Steiner, Brzezniak-Volpe, Brzozowski-Wegrecki, Zerillo, Lewandowski

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Zerillo, seconded by Trustee Brutto on Consent Agenda items I 1–13 as Amended:

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held March 26, 2026.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,955.49**, payable to Al Warren Oil Co., Inc. for the purchase of diesel fuel for the Public Works vehicles ordered in the month of March 2026 expensed to FY 25/26 line item 22-00-6005.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,415.69**, payable to Damiano Diesel Service for repairs on the PW Dump Truck expensed to FY 25/26 line item 22-00-7038.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
4. To approve a Second Amendment to the Agreement Between the Village of Harwood Heights and Robinson Engineering, LTD. for Engineering Services Related to Lead Water Service Line Material Inventory in the amount of \$40,000 to be paid from the IEPA Grant and to Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign the Amendment.
5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,126.84**, payable to Municipal Electronics Division, LLC for radar equipment/antenna cable for the Police Department expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-05-8510.00 – Police.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,047.38**, payable to CivicPlus for Annual Municode Codification Municipal Code Online Renewal 4-1-26 to 3-31-27 expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-01-7048.00 – Administration.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,750.00**, payable to PMA Securities, LLC for the 2025 disclosure filing expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-12-7010.00 – Debt Service.
8. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,400.00**, payable to the Polish American Police Association for the board's attendance to the 61st Annual PAPA Banquet and AD Booklet on Friday, May 1, 2026 expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-01-7025.00 – General Administration.
9. Motion to approve the annual renewal from MarshMcLennan Agency of the Commercial Insurance Package (Property/Casualty/Liability) at a cost not to exceed **\$522,897.00** for the period May 1, 2026 – April 31, 2027.

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10. To Adopt **Resolution 26-03**, A Resolution of the Village of Harwood Heights in Support of the Illinois America250 Commemoration.
11. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of **\$155,780.47** as they appear on the April 9, 2026 check register **#77012** thru **#77064**.
12. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the estimated amount of **\$250,000.00** to Parkway Bank Payroll Account. (April 17, 2026).
13. Electronic transfer from Parkway General Savings Account on the amount of **\$17,706.57** for March 2026 IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1 - 13 as Amended resulted as follows:

A YES: Trustee Brutto, Steiner, Brzezniak-Volpe, Brzozowski-Wegrecki, Zerillo, Lewandowski

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

J. NEW BUSINESS - NONE

K. OLD BUSINESS - NONE

L. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

M. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Lewandowski: One of the residents on Oconto told me that a big chunk of a tree snapped off in front of her home and on Monday morning the Harwood Heights Police and Public Works were able to clean it up and the resident was happy and thanked everyone involved.

N. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

O. 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:

P. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, 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 Jezierny, on Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Polowy, Village Clerk