

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY MAY 14, 2026**

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

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL

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

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ivan Lugo, A.B.A.T.E (A Brotherhood Aimed to Educate): Thanked the board for the Proclamation in support of Motorcycle Awareness Month and explained his involvement in A.B.A.T.E. He and his wife give educational speeches at high schools regarding motorcycle safety.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report

We are pleased that the Police Contract is on the agenda for board approval. It was already ratified by the officers.

May 10th – May 16th is Police Week in honor of those serving in law enforcement and protecting our families and communities. So reach out to your local officers and thank them for their service. Tomorrow morning at 7:30 am we are honoring Peace Officers Memorial Day. Join us as we lower the flag in honor of our fallen officers who gave their lives in the line of duty.

As an update to the Housing Act stating mandated changes in land use. To-date, bills have not moved to the House or Senate, so that's good so far. As a Board we passed a Resolution at our last Board meeting and sent it to all of our representatives including the House and Senate leaders and the Governor.

There is an Ordinance on the agenda that allows local adjudication to hear speeding violations thus eliminating the need to attend court in outside suburbs.

On June 2nd, the Senior Assistance Center will be holding an Open House from 4:00pm – 7:00 pm. Stop in a learn what services they provide for our community.

I would like to congratulate Jay's Beef on their 50th Anniversary. Last month they were featured on WGN along with Jay Fortuna his 2 sons and nephew. We wish them continued success as one of our businesses in Harwood Heights.

Kitchen Social recently had their soft opening but would like to expand their invite to Schiller Park, Norridge, River Grove and Harwood Heights officials on Tuesday, June 9th. They plan a "Grand Opening" with outdoor entertainment on Saturday, June 20th.

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Finance

Trustee Brutto

As the Mayor mentioned, the Police Union Contract is on tonight's agenda and thanked everyone who participated in the Police Union negotiating meetings. Like everything, nobody got exactly everything they wanted but I think it was a very professional agreement. Also, we're meeting with the Public Works Union tomorrow afternoon and hopefully we can finalize their contract. Also, the fiscal year ended April 30, 2026 and the auditors will be in house on Tuesday, May 19th to start the annual audit.

Ordinance & License

Trustee Steiner

As mentioned, we have item I 15 the ordinance to provide administrative adjudication of moving violations here in house as opposed to going to outside courts.

Police/Public Safety

Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe

On May 7th our Honor Guard attended the annual Police Memorial Ceremony in Springfield. And then on May 8th Officers Horner and Graber attended the mass and funeral procession for Officer Bartholomew, the CPD Officer that died in the line of duty.

Coming up on our May 28th meeting, Detective Andy Cionzynski will be promoted to Sergeant of the Detective Division, and the Honor Guard will be presenting colors for his promotion.

And lastly, Sergeant Scott Morawski is retiring after 26 years of service and there is going to be a luncheon on May 29th for his last day.

Public Works/Public Health

Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki

No Report

Building

Trustee Zerillo

Just to piggyback on what you said about the Housing Act, as part of the top bid there is over \$250 million for grants for 1st time buyers and for development. And the Realtor's Association of Illinois has actually changed their stance and are opposing it now. There are several different bills and they are opposing part of it now; so hopefully it will change a little more, but that's some good news that they just released.

And to our residents, just be vigilant with Spring weather and people or contractors pulling up to your home trying to get you to do work quickly. We've heard some horror stories, obviously the Chief has talked about plenty of those.

Forestry & Green Initiative

Trustee Lewandowski

I'm schedule to follow up with Robert Hendricksen next week regarding our tree planting program, so I will give you an update following our meeting.

Clerk's Report

No Report

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Attorney Margaret Kostopoulos

No Report

Chief John DeVries

Thanked all those involved in the negotiations for the Police Union Contract. I know we went back and forth for many days, but it turned out to be good. If some of the Officers are unhappy, you know what, too bad. I consider this a really good place to work.

What I was asked yesterday, Sergeant Rameriz runs a great program, and Paul that we had a contract with years ago, he was very impressed with our village and we were able to get a hold of IDOT, and not only one street, but two streets to turn the speed limit down. He didn't know how we did that because many towns are trying to do that through IDOT and they haven't been successful. So he asked if I would be willing to speak to the Cook County Commissioners regarding our LPR's (license plate readers). At first, I said I didn't know if I could talk on ZOOM, I don't even like ZOOM, but I didn't realize that Sam was in my office when this was going on. There were hundreds of people, this was a big Committee Meeting like you see on TV when the President's giving a speech. They told me I had 3 minutes to speak. I explained the LPR's, I explained why it's a necessity that we need it. When the Board and the Mayor approve it for us, literally right after its approval, we had a horrific homicide. I explained the homicide and how we had the offender in custody within an hour and forty-three minutes in Urbana, Illinois because of these LPR's; if we weren't connected to all these other towns, it was in the middle of a corn field, we would of never ever been able to take this guy in custody and give this family closure on a 67 year old woman that was strangled with a zip tie. "And so, because of that, we police cannot have any more tools taken away from us. So, I'm asking everybody, all of you Commissioners, first thank you for the opportunity to speak and second of all we need this to do our jobs." And the way society's going, I said we already have enough laws that are going against us. We feel like sometimes we're the victims because our hands are tied and we can't do our jobs the way police need to do our jobs.

Deputy Chief Sam Palazzo

Thanked all those involved in the police union negotiations, the experience was professional, it was timely, the contract was ratified right when the current one was expiring, so that was one of our objectives

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Steiner: We had a scam that was very close to home this week, my mom's computer locked up so she called my brother who lives nearby and in the mean time a window popped up saying to call Microsoft at this number and we will help you to unlock your computer. She gave them remote excess to her computer and when my brother got there, my mom was on the phone with this woman, she didn't speak with an accent and built up all her trust and what not, so my brother got on the phone and asked what do you want, what are you doing and the woman hung up. My brother and mom had to go to the bank and close all of her accounts. That's what these people do, they prey on the elderly and I'm so glad she called my brother before she called another number. She had to change all her passwords and disposed of the computer. I just want people to be aware of these scams.

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe – MCD Update: We passed a raise for the dispatchers, a 4% raise, and they were looking at possibly doing longevity and we decided for right now to give them a \$5,000 bonus to anybody who has been there 3 years or longer because they have a problem with their retention and getting people to stay. And the people that have worked there for the longest are the ones doing all the overtime and coming in all the time. So, in appreciation for that, they're going to get a \$5,000 one-time bonus and a 4% raise for everybody and they we're going to revisit longevity next year and see if its something that we want to do or not.

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Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki/Zerillo – WSSRA Update: We just had a meeting this past Tuesday. We went over some budget things, nothing's approved, just first round on the budget talks and then we did finally approve they will be purchasing a bus rather than leasing, so there'll be a new bus that they are working on. The Deby Gala was very successful this year, they raised about \$53,000 possibly \$75,000.

Trustee Steiner – Norridge/Harwood Heights Chamber of Commerce: Our next meeting is June 9, 2026 at 11:00am at Zabaadi Kebabs in Norridge. Our next meeting will be in September.

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

H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/HIRES

None

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Brutto on Consent Agenda items I 1–18:

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held April 23, 2026.
2. To approve the minutes of the Public Hearing Meeting held on April 23, 2026.
3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$4,128.00, payable to Core & Main for water replacement supplies expensed to FY 26/27 line item 22-00-6018.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$4,993.50, payable to A&E Landscaping Inc. for concrete removal and replacement work at the addresses listed on the invoice expensed to FY 25/26 line item 22-00-7036.06 – Water & Sewer Fund.
5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,998.22, payable to Mid American Water for the purchase of a 8” TPS encapsulation sleeve for the Water Department expensed to FY 26/27 line item 22-00-6014.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,377.50, payable to Gasvoda & Associates, Inc. to install a PLC processor upgrade at the Harwood Heights Water Tower expensed to FY 25/26 line item 22-00-7051.02 – Water & Sewer Fund.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,056.44, payable to John DeVries for reimbursement for Lunch for Telecommunication Week/Vehicle Maintenance/Office Supplies expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-05-6000.00/11-05-7044.00/11-05-7052.01 – Police.
8. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$5,001.82, payable to Streicher's for NIPAS uniform and equipment expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-05-7060.01 – Police.
9. Motion to Ratify the Agreement between the Metropolitan Alliance of Police and the Village of Harwood Heights Covering Harwood Heights Police Officers and Sergeants May 1, 2026 through April 30, 2029 and to authorize the Mayor to counter-sign the agreement.
10. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,600.00, payable to the Franklin Park Police Department for use of their gun range for training on 1/20, 1/21, 4/9 and 4/10 expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-05-7065.00 – Police.
11. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$77,787.12, payable to NobleTec for Dell Server Hardware/Dual Servers, Dell Sans Drives and Microsoft Licensing expensed to FY 26/27 line item 12-00-8536.00 – Capital Projects Fund.

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12. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$9,112.50, payable to Ancel Glink P.C. for billing through April 30, 2026 expensed to FY 25/26 line item 11-02-7051.00 – Legal.
13. Motion to allow alcohol consumption for a “Baby Shower” to be held on Sunday, June 14, 2026 in the Village Recreation Center from 1:00pm to 6:00pm.
14. To approve a **Block Party** to be held on Saturday, July 25, 2026 for the **7500 block of Strong** with permission to block the street from 10am to 10pm and to direct Public Works to clean the street and also provide barricades as well as orange cones for use that day.
15. To Adopt **Ordinance 26-04**, An Ordinance Amending the Village of Harwood Heights Code of Ordinances to Provide for Administrative Adjudication of Moving Violations.
16. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$386,478.93 as they appear on the May 12, 2026 check register #77116 thru #77185.
17. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the estimated amount of \$270,000.00 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account. (May 15, 2026).
18. Electronic transfer from Parkway General Savings Account on the amount of \$17,155.60 for April 2026 IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1 – 18 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 Brzozowski-Wegrecki: Commented and read a news article regarding motor bikes and what New York is doing about it. In New York yesterday, they had a big truck drive over 5,700 confiscated mopheads/motorbikes, they have no tolerance for those types of vehicles; if it's not registered, if it's faulty registered or not insured, they take it right there on the spot and you never see it again. The crushed parts will be taken to a recycling park.

Trustee Steiner: The State of Illinois is the only state in the union that allows home equity theft. Every other state has some sort of guidelines in place where people can't come in and steal your home.

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N. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

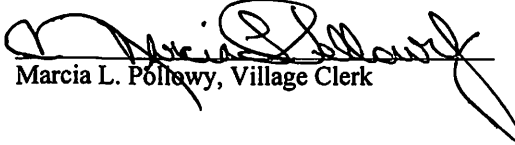
O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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 Brutto 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, May 14, 2026 at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Polnowy, Village Clerk