

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS  
HELD ON THURSDAY AUGUST 12, 2021**

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

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Mayor Arlene C. Jezierny

Clerk Marcia L. Pollowy

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

Trustees Eugene Brutto  
Annette Brzezniak-Volpe (Electronic Attendance)  
Anna Brzozowski-Wegrecki  
Zbigniew Lewandowski  
Lawrence Steiner (Absent)  
Giuseppe Zerillo

Attorney Rob Bush

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY**

**Mayor's Report**

**Mayor Jezierny**

This week George and I met with the Engineers, the Contractor and a Community Development Block Grant representative to address the street, some sidewalks and ADA improvements along Carl Cassatta (from Oak Park to Sayre), Rutherford, Senior Place and Newcastle (from Carl Cassatta to Sunnyside). A state date is yet to be determined based upon the Contractor's submittal of paperwork and their sub-contractors.

Union Ridge will soon begin classes on September 7th. Two additional Crossing Guards are on the agenda to assist children with the new school year.

**Finance**

**Trustee Brutto**

Stated that the April 30, 2021 Audit Report is in progress and the field work is almost completed and we are waiting for some outstanding actuarial reports to finalize the audit for board review.

**Ordinance & License**

**Trustee Steiner**

**No Report - Absent**

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**Building Committee**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe**

Stated that she hasn't had a chance to meet with the Building Department personnel. Stated that there are a number of negative comments regarding the proposed Taco Bell instead of rebuilding the Carson Ribs on their old site. Residents are worried about excessive trash, noise, congestion and added traffic.

Thanked the Harwood Heights Police Department for their constant trolling up and down the streets during and after the storms during the last couple of nights, stopping and clearing the streets of debris and moving the debris to the side so nobody's cars were damaged.

Commented on the tragic death of Chicago Police Officer Ella French in the line of duty saying that traffic stops are the riskiest or one of riskiest of all police calls. My prayers go out to Ella French and her family and friends. Please keep our police officers in your prayers because all those traffic stops are very difficult to navigate.

**Public Works/Public Health**

**Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki**

No major report at this time. I have not touched base with Public Works yet in regards to any updates but I know they were out and about working hard after the storm on Monday; so we're always grateful for their work coming out and cleaning up the neighborhood after such a storm.

**Forestry & Green Initiative**

**Trustee Zerillo**

Stated that he will be meeting with Trustee Lewandowski soon to give me an update on what he has been handling with Forestry & Green Initiative's for the past couple of years. I believe with the storm that we had we lost many branches but I'm told we did lose two trees that were on public property.

**Police & Public Safety**

**Trustee Lewandowski**

Thanked Trustee Volpe regarding her police comments, she said pretty much what I wanted to say. Thanked our Police Department with the assistance of Public Works during the storm. Encouraged the residents of Harwood Heights to be cautious and careful with a lot of crime going on so be aware of your surroundings, lock your car doors and just be smart.

**Clerk's Report**

**No Report**

**Attorney Rob Bush**

**No Report**

**Chief John DeVries**

Expressed his thoughts and prayers for Chicago Police Officer Ella French that passed away and her partners who is still in the hospital.

**Mayor Jezierny:** Asked for a moment of silence for the officer that did lose her life; thank you. From what I understand she was a wonderful and caring person

**F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

**None**

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**G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe:** MCD did not meet this month, we are now meeting every other month. MCD will be reviewing preliminary census numbers for each partner.

**H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

**Motion by Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki, seconded by Trustee Brutto on H1 Appointments/Reappointments:**

1. To concur with the Mayor's Appointment of Mary Ventrella as Village Treasurer at \$1,800.00 a year effective 8-13-21.

**A roll call vote on Appointment/Reappointment item H 1 resulted as follows:**

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

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:** Trustee Steiner

**Motion Carried**

**Motion by Trustee Lewandowski, seconded by Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki on H2 Appointments/Reappointments:**

2. To concur with the Mayor's Appointment of Mary Ventrella as Pension Board Member effective 8-13-21.

**A roll call vote on Appointment/Reappointment item H 2 resulted as follows:**

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

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:** Trustee Steiner

**Motion Carried**

**Motion by Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki, seconded by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe on H3 Appointments/Reappointments:**

3. To concur with the Mayor's Appointment of Cynthia Kobylt & Anthony Laskero as Crossing Guards effective 9-7-21.

**A roll call vote on Appointment/Reappointment item H 3 resulted as follows:**

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

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:** Trustee Steiner

**Motion Carried**

**I. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Zerillo on Consent Agenda Items I 1-19:**

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held July 22, 2021.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$20.00, payable to Municipal Clerks Association – North & Northwest Suburbs for Annual Membership Dues for 2021/2022 for the Village Clerk expensed to FY 21/22 line item 11-01-7027.00 – General Administration.

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
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HELD ON THURSDAY AUGUST 12, 2021**

3. To approve an expenditure, not to exceed \$2,675.00, payable to Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management, Inc. for spraying on July 28, 2021 expensed to FY 21/22 line item 11-09-7061.03 – Health.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed 9,490.45, payable to Clark Dietz Engineering for professional services May 29, 2021 to June 25, 2021 for the Argyle Street Construction Engineering expensed to FY 21/22 line item 44-00-9610.00 – MFT Fund.
5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,011.52, payable to Allied Asphalt Paving Company for hot patching materials expensed to FY 21/22 line item 11-06-6007.00 – Pubic Works.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,002.09, payable to State Treasurer for quarterly payment to Illinois Department of Transportation for the traffic signal maintenance located at Harlem & Wilson and the traffic signal maintenance located at Forest Preserve Drive & Montrose expensed to FY 21/22 line item 44-00-9558.00 – MFT Fund.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$2,830.00, payable to Midland Masonry, Inc. for masonry/tuckpointing the front entrance of the Village Hall expensed to FY 21/22 line item 11-14-8510.00 – Village Properties.
8. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$319,568.83, payable to J.A. Johnson Paving Co. for Pay Request #1 for the Argyle Street Improvement Project for work completed through June 12, 2021 expensed to FY 21/22 line item 12-25-8530.00 – Cook County Intergovernmental Grant Proceeds.
9. To approve the DACRA Web Based Payment Services Contract for online payment of fines and to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.
10. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$4,982.97, payable to Harwood Heights Auto Body, Inc. for repairs on 2006 Ford Explorer - Squad # 492 due to accident expensed to FY 21/22 line item 11-05-7044.00 – Police. (Insurance Proceeds rec'd minus Deducible).
11. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$10,000.00, payable to Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd for professional services for preparation of the April 30, 2021 Financial Report expensed to FY 21/22 line items 11-03-9602.00 - \$8,000.00 – Finance & 22-00-9602.00 - \$2,000.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
12. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,308.00, payable to BS&A Software for Annual Service/Support for the Payroll System August 1, 2021 to August 1, 2022 expensed to FY21/22 line items 11-03-9527.00 - \$1,046.00 & 22-00-9527.00 - \$262.00.
13. To approve a Block Party to be held on Saturday, August 28, 2021 for the 7400 block of Strong from 12pm until 10pm 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.
14. To approve a Single Family Flood Control System Grant FY21/22 for 4543 N. New England Avenue in the amount of \$1,500.00, pending all licenses, inspections and approval from the plumbing inspector to be expensed to FY 21/22 line item 22-00-7075 – Water & Sewer Fund.
15. To approve the Salvation Army's "Red Kettle Campaign" for Monday - Saturday, November 1, 2021 - December 24, 2021 pursuant to complying with all village ordinances.
16. To Adopt Ordinance 21-14, An Ordinance Amending the Garbage Fee in Chapter 8.16.024 of the Harwood Heights Code of Ordinances.
17. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$231,017.40 as they appear on August 12, 2021 check register #69904 thru #69973.
18. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the estimated amount of \$150,000.00 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account. (August 13, 2021).

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19. Electronic transfer from Parkway General Savings Account on the estimated amount of \$16,176.32 for July 2021 IMRF Pension Fund.

**A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1-19 resulted as follows:**

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

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT: Trustee Steiner**

**Motion Carried**

**J. NEW BUSINESS**

**Mayor Jezierny:** Stated that we will not have a “Fest” this year; however next year is our 75th Anniversary, so in the beginning of the year we will start planning for that. The “Craft Fair” is October 2nd and 3rd and will be held in the Rec Center. The “Auto Show” we have coming up is Sunday, August 22nd that will be held in the Art Van area. The “Garage/Yard Sale” is a repeat due to all the rain we had on the original weekend, so there is a “Garage/Yard Sale” the weekend of August 27th thru the 29th. Requested what board members will be attending the IML Conference, September 23<sup>rd</sup> thru the 25th so reservations can be made. At the Art Van property you will start noticing semi’s pulling in with mattresses/furniture, “Choice Furniture” is taking over the Art Van building on a temporary basis and they will be doing liquidation sales and they may be opening August 15th, I don’t have a confirmed date on that. This Friday the Village Inspectors are going out to inspect the electrical system. Even though this might be temporary for 6-months, they have the option to renew for maybe another 6-months to a year; after that the owners of Art Van are looking for a more permanent lease or purchaser for that property. “Halloween” – asked for suggestions – last year we had a drive-thru due to COVID and in year’s past we had the Haunted House but now with the completion of our Rec Center that may not be feasible. We might have to put it off for this year; just make sure that the kids are safe and have the police officers go around as they “Trick & Treat.” Hope Pantry sent us an invitation that they are providing vaccines on Tuesday, September 7th from 9:30am to 1:00pm and the Hope Pantry is located at 7115 W. Hood in Chicago. The Ridgewood Hall of Fame event is scheduled for Saturday, September 11th at 11:00am in the Ridgewood High School Cafeteria with one of the inductees being our very own Sam Palazzo and Ace from Allegretti’s and Russell Stokes; asked the board to let her know who would be attending so we can make reservations. The Norwood Park Fire Department is holding a 9/11 Memorial Ceremony on Saturday, September 11th at the fire station starting at 8:30am; this event is open to the public. Norridge Park District is hosting a “Fall Fest” Friday thru Sunday, October 1st thru October 3rd on the park grounds. It’s sort of a scaled down “Island in the City” event.

**K. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**L. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**M. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

None

**N. TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe:** Stated that Harwood Heights’ vaccine rate is one of the lowest in the area; encouraged our residents to go out and get vaccinated so our kids can go to school and not be remote this year. Cook County has a number of sites for available vaccinations, a copy will be posted on our village website.

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**O. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

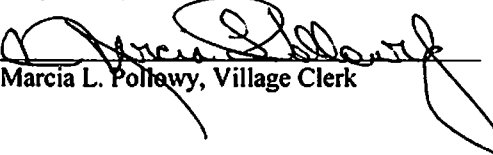
**P. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion to enter into Executive Session:** pursuant to (5 ILCS 120/2) Sec. 2. Open meetings C Exceptions. A public body may hold closed meetings to consider the following subjects:

**Q. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki, seconded by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe to adjourn. On a voice vote, all being in favor (Trustee Steiner – Absent), 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, August 12, 2021 at 7:49pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Marcia L. Pollewsky, Village Clerk