

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS  
HELD ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2022**

**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. Pollowy
Trustees	Eugene Brutto Annette Brzezniak-Volpe Anna Brzozowski-Wegrecki Zbigniew Lewandowski Lawrence Steiner Giuseppe Zerillo
Attorney	Rob Bush

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Peter Magnelli, 4735 N. Oketo:** Concerned about how the village is handling the changing of lead service in the estimated 210 homes in Harwood Heights and how he can find out if his home has lead service. Asked if the homeowner's water/sewer rates would be increasing.

**Mayor Jezierny:** Stated she will have Public Works Superintendent Ron Maslo let Peter know if his home has been identified. Stated that the village is applying for a grant to cover some if not all of the cost of replacing the lead pipes; if we don't get the grant this year we will reapply again next year. The only time the rates are increased is when the City of Chicago increases our rates.

**Peter Magnelli:** Also asked about the dim lighting on Oketo from Wilson to Lawrence and if additional lighting can be added.

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

**Mayor's Report**

**Mayor Jezierny**

The Village's Tree Program together with Morton Arboretum and Chicago Region Trees Initiative received and planted all 50 trees yesterday. I want to thank all the volunteers and Public Works for their help. I also want to thank Trustee Ziggy Lewandowski and Trustee Joe Zerillo for all their coordination with Morton Arboretum and the Tree program. A job well done!

To help slow traffic, the agenda includes the purchase of 3 Solar Speed structure which is reimbursed by a grant that pays for all 3 items. They will be place around the Village where they will have the biggest impact.

**Some Reminders:**

Our Anniversary continues on September 25th, this Sunday, with a Car show in the lot next to Portillo's. A Craft Show is planned for October 1st and 2nd at the Village Hall in our Recreation Center. There will be a Movie shown on Sunday, November 20th at 2:00pm, "The Miracle on 34th Street."

We still have 75th Anniversary shirts available to purchase at a low price of \$10. They are available at the Village Hall. Stop by and promote our 75 years.

The Senior Assistance Center is having their Fall Festival in our Recreation facility on Sunday, October 16th. Tickets are \$35 and include European food, music, drinks and bingo from 1:00 – 3:00pm.

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Trustees be available for Halloween judging at 7:00pm on Sunday, Oct 30th. Trick or Treat is until 8:00pm on Halloween. Norridge Park is having a Halloween "Spooktacular" on Friday, Oct 21st from 4-6pm. Resident \$10; Non-Res \$16

Tax Appeal Seminar – Wednesday, October 12th from 5:30 – 7:30pm in the Village Hall Recreation Center.

Flu Shots are available at the Fire House Open House on October 2nd from noon to 3:00pm.  
Drive thru Flu shots available Tues & Wed Oct 4th & 5th from 2:00 – 7:00pm.

**Finance**

**Trustee Brutto**

Stated that we received the second installment of our AARP Funds for a total allotment of approximately \$1.1 million dollars. These funds are currently earmarked for resurfacing projects for the 4900 through 5100 blocks of Oconto, Octavia & Odell and the staff is currently working with the engineers on the initial planning stages and these projects are slated for 2023.

**Ordinance & License**

**Trustee Steiner**

**No Report**

**Police/Public Safety**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe**

The mailbox signs that went up seem to be working, we haven't had as many complaints as there were previously, so it was a good idea, people are taking advantage of reading it before they place their mail in the boxes. My second requests is if anybody knows of anyone that wants a job at MCD, they are hiring there. The starting rate is \$24.40 per hour which is \$50,752. \$25.40 after their training is complete and after their probationary period they go up to \$26.59; so they jump quite a bit throughout after that first year. So if anybody knows of anyone looking, send them over to MCD to pick up an application.

**Public Works/Public Health**

**Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki**

Thanked Public Works for helping out with the planting of the trees and all the volunteers who also helped.

**Building**

**Trustee Zerillo**

I have discussed with our Building Commissioner Mr. Cahill regarding a couple of ordinances. I also spoke with Lee Unger at the Norwood Park Fire Department regarding some of our fire district codes. I have asked Building Department Commissioner George Cahill to come to our next Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss a few topics.

**Forestry & Green Initiative**

**Trustee Lewandowski**

Stated what a great day we had this past Tuesday and the great turnout of volunteers for the planting of 50 trees to compensate for the sick trees we've removed each year over the past few years. Thanked Trustee Zerillo for working with me to make this project a success; it took a lot of communications, a lot of meetings together and it worked. I also want to thank Superintendent Ron Maslo and his Public Works team; without them it would have been very difficult to plant all those trees. Thanked the Harwood Heights Police Department for patrolling the streets and made sure we were safe as we went from site to site. Thanked Sergeant Palazzo for recruiting volunteers from School District 80, staff and Board Members; it was greatly appreciated. Also I want to thank Mayor Jezierny, Trustee Steiner, Trustee Brutto and Trustee Zerillo who participated in the tree planting. We took a lot of pictures and we shoveled and we dug holes and everything worked out. Thanked Trustee Zerillo and Katie for using their property as a command center and providing us with snacks and water.

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**Clerk's Report**

Tickets for the Seniors Assistance Center Fall Food Fest are available here at the Village Hall or at the SAC Center on Irving Park. Tickets can also be purchased online at [www.sac-il.org](http://www.sac-il.org)

**Attorney Rob Bush**

**No Report**

**Chief DeVries**

Stated that the theft of catalytic convertors is getting worse. Yesterday on the 4700 block of Cumberland at 11:00 in the morning a car load of undesirables showed up and started cutting off catalytic convertors on commercial trucks. While they were doing this a witness pulls up and asked them what were they doing and to get up from under that truck at which two of them open up their shirts and show weapons. Please if you see something that's not right please, please dial 911 and call the police and we will handle it, don't attempt to stop them yourself. Since the pandemic to get policeman to go back doing their jobs like we did in the past, it's very rough because there's a lot of scariness out there. My officers are out there every day and they are doing a good job.

**Sergeant Palazzo:** What happened today was very similar to what happened yesterday. Yesterday as the Chief mentioned in the 4700 block of Cumberland was a black Lexus, today it was a black Chief Cherokee right around 1:45 – 1:50 in the afternoon the car entered the north lot of Union Ridge School; they did not see it happening at the time, I guess it was brought to Mr. McGuire's attention, he reviewed the cameras. What happened was the car was circling the lot, it found the victim's car, they jacked up the car, two males went underneath the vehicle, cut the catalytic convertor, put the car back down on the ground, got in their vehicle which was the Chief Cherokee and left south on Oak Park. It was brought to the Police Department's attention at about 2:30pm, about 40 minutes later. School was in session, so it was probably better that nobody saw them doing it because they are firing rounds, they are shooting at police and they are shooting at people. So god forbid there were no kids out there when this was happening.

**Chief DeVries:** Stated that some towns if they have a scrap metal yard in their town they are really putting restraints, they're doing ordinances on these scrap metal shops. I've asked Chicago about 5-years ago to do this to no avail. The thief's are cutting off the catalytic convertors and they're going to the scrap metal yards and if they don't get anyone to buy them there would be no reason for them to take them. I heard they're getting anywhere between \$200 to \$450 dollars per catalytic convertor depending on the amount/type of precious metals in them. It's the victim when they come out to their car and starts it up, it is very loud; they don't even realize what's going on. If they go to a repair shop the price to repair it, the price can range anywhere from an after-market catalytic convertor that doesn't work really well for emissions at \$350 dollars to an OEM (factory catalytic convertor) being \$1,500 to \$3,000 dollars, if it's in stock.

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe:** Stated that Chicago had a program where they were spray painting the catalytic convertors and asked if that helped at all, does it help at all?

**Chief DeVries:** Stated that he doesn't believe so. Stated that the SAFE-T bill that was approved by the House earlier this year is only in the State of Illinois effective in January. Mentioned the 12 items contained in the bill. Asked where's the rights for the victims? There's rights for the offenders but there's no rights for the victims. The Mayor and I have talked and we're going to go to some meetings on this and we're going to have to address some of these issues. If it goes through it will be a lawless state and a lawless county if it goes through the way it's written right now. The whole State of Illinois has to work on this over the next few months

**F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

**Trustee Zerillo:** Thanked everyone involved with the tree planting program; the groups of workers had it down to a science in the planting process. Thanked Sergeant Palazzo and all the volunteers he brought with him, Chief DeVries, Sergeant Smith and Officers Gadzinski for keeping everyone safe, Trustees and Mayor. Stated that we have additional 15-20 trees coming to be planted in November.

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**G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe – MCD Update:** MCD does not have a meeting until November.

**Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki/Zerillo – WSSRA Update:** WSSRA is currently working on the preliminary shares for all the partners with the WSSRA Finance committee recommending no rate increase for the 2023 partner shares. WSSRA has not increased shares since 2019. In 2020 there was a reduction due to COVID-19, in 2021 a \$75,000 reduction, in 2022 a \$50,000 reduction and 2023 there is a proposed 0% based on the 2022 level. Now again, that can increase in 2024. Reminder that the overall partner shares have been reduced in the last two years by \$125,000 due to the efforts of staff to reduce expenses in the current climate. As WSSRA returns to normal levels of service and the increase in minimum wage go in effect, WSSRA will need to increase the shares accordingly. The share chart presented to us show the 2021 carry over reduction of \$27,002. The shares show the 2020 EAV's as the 2021 EAV's are not available and will likely not be available until as late as December 2022.

**Trustee Steiner – Norridge/Harwood Heights Chamber of Commerce:** Our meeting at Las Palmas was very well attended and Representative LaPointe was there and gave a presentation. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 18, 2022, 5:30pm to 7:30pm at Cucina Biagio's.

**Trustee Zerillo – O'Hare Technical Committee:** We met last Tuesday for the first time this Summer. We went through a number of things, one item was the final approach when an aircraft comes into O'Hare Airport they have been receiving complaints regarding low flying planes. According to their representatives they are not flying low, they gave us charts regarding six final approaches and planes should be in a three degree incline when they reach the final approach. That final approach the plane should be no lower than 2,000 feet above sea level, Chicago being already 700 feet above sea level, if the plane is lower than that when it reaches its fixed approach they have to do a circle around. They presented one chart that shows the approach, but it was coming in from the westside of the airport, so I requested a chart coming in from the eastside of the airport so we could see the Harwood Heights side. They should have that chart for me at the next meeting if not emailed to me before that. Our next meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2022 which will be held on the airfield; there will be a tour on the airfield instead of a regular meeting that day. We also went through items regarding the "Fly Quiet" Program; the average start time for the second-quarter was 11:06pm, the average stop time was 5:57am. There are really no calls coming in from Harwood Heights, there was a total of 12 calls/complaints/inner actions from Harwood Heights residents. When you look at the towns surrounding us, Norridge had 780, Park Ridge had over 2,300 and the 41<sup>st</sup> Ward had over 3,200. There's an 800 number to call or you can do it off of the fly quiet app and they will record your complaints from there.

**H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/HIRES**

None

**I. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mayor Jezierny pulled Consent Agenda item I 15 for further review.**

**Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Lewandowski on Consent Agenda items I 1-14 & I 16-20:**

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held September 8, 2022.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$10,061.17**, payable to West Central Municipal Conference for the 2022-2023 membership dues expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-01-7027.00 – General Administration.
3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,217.30**, payable to H&H Electric Co. for repairs for no power to camera pole on westside of Foster Avenue expensed to FY 22/23 line item 44-00-7031.03 – MFT Fund.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$111,085.83**, payable to ALamp Concrete Contractors, Inc. for final payment for the 2021 CDBG Road Program expensed to FY 22/23 line item 12-25-8530.00 – Capital Projects Fund.

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5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,687.50, payable to ALTA Equipment Company for the purchase of a 12” HD Tooth Bucket for the Bobcat expensed to FY 22/23 line item 22-00-7038.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,394.75, payable to Iggy’s Custom Muffler Shop for transmission/front ball joint repairs on the Public Works 2011 Ford – Pickup F250 Super Duty truck expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-06-7044.00 – Public Works.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$8,140.30, payable to Santander Leasing LLC for 22nd payment on the new street sweeper expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-12-7097.00 -\$7,862.25 & 11-12-7096.00 - \$278.05 – Capital Projects Fund.
8. Motion to purchase (3) Solar Speed structures for \$31,189.83 to be reimbursed through IPRF Grant.
9. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$3,000.00, payable to Major Case Assistance Team for the 2022-2023 Annual Dues expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-05-7060.01 – Police.
10. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,498.00, payable to The Printing Station II for the 2023 Resident/Truck Mirror Hangers expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-05-7022.00 – Police.
11. Tom approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,398.87, payable to Fredriksen Fire Equipment Co. for annual maintenance and purchase of 2 fire extinguishers expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-14-7051.02 – Village Properties.
12. Motion to hire Elisabeth Giolas at \$10.00 per hour as Soccer Coach for the Soccer Program. Background check already completed.
13. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$275.00, payable to CivicPlus LLC for Municode Administrative Support Fee 6-1-22 to 5-31-23 for village code update services expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-01-7048.00 – General Administration.
14. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$902.89, payable to CivicPlus LLC for codification of ordinances passed and approved through June 30, 2022 for hardcopy code books and online updates expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-01-7048.00 – General Administration.
16. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$2,000.00, payable to Associated Trust Company for annual fees for the Village of Harwood Heights Revenue Notes DTD 7-2-12 expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-12-7010.00 – Debt Service.
17. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$11,531.50, payable to West Suburban Special Recreation Association for the 4th Quarter 2022 Share Payment & Inclusion Payment expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-08-7037.01 – Recreation.
18. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$410,831.07 as they appear on September 22, 2022 check register #71679 thru #71769.
19. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the estimated amount of \$180,000.00 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account. (September 23, 2022).
20. Electronic Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$265,728.52 as they appear on the EFT Register thru September 20, 2022.

**A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1-14 & I 16-20 resulted as follows:**

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

**NAYS:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

**Motion Carried**

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**ITEM PULLED FOR FURTHER REVIEW**

15. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$16,281.25**, payable to Ancel Glink P.C. for billing through August 31, 2022 expensed to FY 22/23 line item 11-02-7051.00 – Legal.

**J. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**K. OLD BUSINESS**

None

**L. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**M. TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

None

**N. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

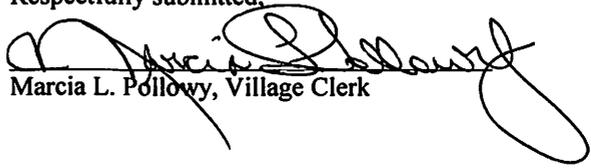
**O. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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, September 22, 2022 at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Marcia L. Polowy, Village Clerk