

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS  
HELD ON THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 2024**

**A. CALL TO ORDER** at 7:35 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	Margaret Kostopoulos

**D. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Peter Wala, 6453 W. Sunnyside:** Presented a list of residents on his block experiencing an influx of rats and asked the village if they could help with the problem.

**Mayor Jezierny:** The Village baits alleys where rodents are found. We do not bait private properties as this could result in a liability to kids or other pets. According to our code it is the responsibility of the homeowner.

However, I spoke to our Health Inspector and he will be happy to make contact with you or your neighbors to obtain approvals to encroach on private property and try to identify where the rats are burrowing. Then the homeowner can target that area.

We include action in newsletter; to pick up feces from pets, eliminate bird feeds on ground, as well as standing water to aid rodents providing drinking water

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

**Mayor's Report**

The agenda tonight includes routine bills for repairs, purchases, youth programs. It also includes new stops sign placed on the O streets (Oconto, Octavia & Odell) approaching Ainslie. There is also an Ordinance that addressed the length of leash for dogs to prevent injury to others or to the pets themselves.

Also to allow Salvation Army to collect on their "Red Kettle Day" from November 1st – December 24th

Here are a number of events coming up:

- October Fest this weekend in the St. Rosalie's parking lot by TOT Park area.
- Coffee with a Cop – Oct 2nd at Family Palace at 9:30am and Rocco Vino's at 6:30pm It a great time to meet our officers and share any concerns you may have.
- Craft Fair – Oct 5th & 6th in our Recreation Room.
- Senior Assistance Fall Festival on Oct 20th from 1pm-3pm in our Recreation Center. Trustee Brutto has tickets available for \$40.00.

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**Project Updates:**

Update on the “O” Streets

The final surface coat is complete as well as landscaping. A punch list is being compiled and will be reviewed.

**Ainslie**

For the 7400 and 7500 blocks of Ainslie, We still await the MFT approvals and will make the determination when we will go out to bid and what timeframe the contractor suggests to performs the work.

**Finance**

**Trustee Brutto**

As the Mayor mentioned the street projects and the Village Hall improvements are nearing completion and the village staff and engineers continue working on preparing the paperwork for reimbursement from the various grant funding from the state including DCEO, IEMA and MWRD.

**Ordinance & License**

**Trustee Steiner**

Stated that there are 2 ordinances on tonight’s agenda; item I 21 deals with maximum length of 6’ (6 feet) for retractable dog leashes to keep more control on their pets when out walking and I 22 deals with stop signs to be placed along Ainslie at the “O” streets.

I was told the wrist bands at the October Fest at St. Rosalies are \$15.00.

**Police/Public Safety**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe**

I received an email about Drano Explosions and I don’t know if the Police Department has heard about this that kids are putting Drano, tin foil and a little water in plastic drinking bottles and capping it up leaving it on lawns, in mail boxes, gardens, on driveways just waiting for you to pick it up and with the shaking it will explode and can actually hurt you, damage your fingers, you can blow off a finger. If you see something inside of a water bottle, don’t pick it up, call the police and have them come out and check it out.

Another thing I’ve been reading about is Kratom and Kava, some new drinks that are out. These drinks are banned in Indiana. Their from the Middle East and they’re like a hallucinogenic and it’s very addictive; it’s made from leaves or tree bark. The drink is called “New Brew” and we may want to think about banning this/these products; they are being sold in vape shops and stores that sell cigarette. These products are very addictive and once you start drinking them you want more and more. This is something else we should consider banning.

**Public Works/Public Health**

**Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki**

In speaking with the Public Works Superintendent, he is considering waiting until next Spring for the bids to go out and for the board’s final approval.

**Mayor Jezierny:** We are still waiting for final MFT approval and by the end of next month it will be too late to go out to bid.

**Building**

**Trustee Zerillo**

I sent the permit fee updates to our Village Attorney for updates to the draft ordinance. As soon as I receive the new draft ordinance, I will forward it to the board for further review.

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**Forestry & Green Initiative**

**Trustee Lewandowski**

Due to our efforts and promotion for free trees to be planted this Fall with little feedback, I have informed the Morton Arboretum that we will not be planting any trees this Fall and will work the project for next year.

**Clerk's Report**

**No Report**

**Attorney Margaret Kostopoulos**

**No Report**

**Chief John DeVries**

Commented on the rash of car break-ins in the surrounding areas and we did have few incident in our town. One incident involved a car not having locked doors where a purse and a loaded gun were stolen. Encouraged everyone to please lock their car doors if left on the street and please call the police, don't take the matter into your own hands. Unfortunately, when my officers do catch them, the resident does not want to press charges. If your house has an outdoor porch light, leave it on at night to deter the suspects.

**Deputy Chief Palazzo:** Thanked the Mayor and Board regarding his promotion at the last board meeting and stated that the transition has been good working with the Chief on a few things and learned a couple of new things along the way. Had some one-on-one interviews with the current personal.

**F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

**Trustee Steiner:** Commented on the gun stolen from the unlocked car and asked if the resident has any responsibility if someone uses that gun.

**G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe – MCD Update:** Next meeting is November 12, 2024.

**Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki/Zerillo – WSSRA Update:** The next WSSRA board meeting where we will be finalizing our budget and I will be voting in support of the budget. Our portion this year will be a 4% less carry over for a total of 52,650.00. Also in the works is for River Grove to join WSSRA.

**Trustee Steiner – Norridge/Harwood Heights Chamber of Commerce:** The next meeting is scheduled for December 10th will be our Christmas meeting; don't have a location yet.

**Trustee Zerillo – O'Hare Technical Committee:** The Technical meeting met last Tuesday and reviewed the noise monitors. Reviewed an update on the second-quarter Fly Quiet Report and the Airport Utilization Report which included the construction on the south airfield, so it wasn't used much this summer because of the construction. Discussed why there is more traffic on the south airfield when there's no construction.

There will be an Airport 101 Seminar on October 17, 2024 right after our next meeting.

**H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/HIRES**

**None**

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**I. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Lewandowski on Consent Agenda items I 1–25:**

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held September 12, 2024.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$11,305.72**, payable to West Central Municipal Conference for the 2024-2024 membership dues expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-01-7027.00 – General Administration.
3. Motion to approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,138.55**, payable to Al Warren Oil Co., Inc. for the purchase of diesel fuel for the Public Works vehicles ordered in the month of September 2024 expensed to FY 24/25 line item 22-00-6005.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$2,385.00**, payable to Al Air Inc. for repairs to the air conditioner main blower motor for the Police Department expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-14-8505.02 – Village Properties.
5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$3,980.31**, payable to Harwood Heights Auto Body, Inc. for repairs on 2017 Ford Police Interceptor, squad #496, expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-05-7044.00 – Police.
6. To approve estimated expenditure, not to exceed **\$4,766.43**, payable to Area Towing Inc. for repairs on the 2018 Ford Police Interceptor Utility expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-05-7044.00 – Police.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,393.00**, payable to The Printing Station II for the 2025 Resident and Truck Mirror Hangers & file set-up for 2025 expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-05-7022.00 – Police.
8. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$1,708.88**, payable to John DeVries for T-shirts and rental generator for the September 15th Car Show Event expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-05-7044.00 – Police.
9. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$150.00**, payable to World’s Oldest Sport for the purchase of T-shirts for the Chess Program expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-08-7039.01 – Recreation.
10. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$50.00**, payable to Lisa Mignogna for the purchase of Chess Keychains for the Chess Program expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-08-7039.01 – Recreation.
11. Motion to hire Adam Prestigiacomo to coach and referee the Basketball Program at \$15.00 an hour.
12. Motion to hire Sean Loutos to coach and referee the Basketball Program at \$15.00 an hour.
13. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$425.19 a quarter**, payable to Pitney Bowes for a 60 month term to replace the postage machine for the Village Hall expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-01-8855.00 - Administration.
14. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$425.19 a quarter**, payable to Pitney Bowes for a 60 month term to replace the postage machine for the Police Department expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-01-8855.00 - Administration.
15. To approve expenditure, not to exceed **\$7,140.00**, payable to Ancel Glink P.C. for billing through August 31, 2024 expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-02-7051.00 – Legal.
16. To approve the Salvation Army’s **“Red Kettle Campaign”** for **Monday - Saturday, November 1, 2024 - December 24, 2024** pursuant to complying with all village ordinances.
17. To approve the removal of **Handicap Parking Sign #03-25** at the address commonly known as **4339 N. Oak Park Avenue** and to direct Public Works to remove the sign in a timely manner. (Resident passed away).

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18. Motion to allow alcohol consumption for a “Baby Shower” event to be held on Saturday, October 12, 2024 in the Village Recreation Center from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.
19. Motion to allow alcohol consumption for a “Baby Shower” event to be held on Sunday, November 10, 2024 in the Village Recreation Center from 3:00pm to 8:00pm.
20. Motion to allow alcohol consumption for a “Birthday Party” event to be held on Saturday, November 23, 2024 in the Village Recreation Center from 1:00pm to 4:00pm.
21. To Adopt Ordinance 24-10, An Ordinance Establishing Leash Length Regulations to Assure Control Over Animals.
22. To Adopt Ordinance 24-11, An Ordinance Authorizing Installation of Stop Signs Controlling Southbound Traffic at Intersections of Oconto & Ainslie, Octavia & Ainslie, and Odell & Ainslie Streets.
23. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$1,110,675.76 as they appear on the September 26, 2024 check register #74780 thru #74839.
24. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the estimated amount of \$170,000.00 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account. (September 27, 2024).
25. Electronic Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$276,310.08 as they appear on the EFT Register thru September 24, 2024.

**A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1 – 25 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**

None

**N. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

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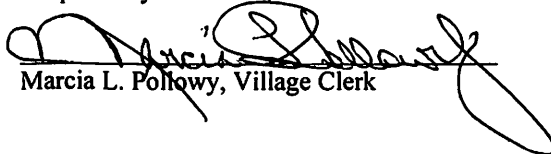
**O. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**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 26, 2024 at 8:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Marcia L. Polfowy, Village Clerk