

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE VILLAGE OF HARWOOD HEIGHTS
HELD ON THURSDAY JULY 11, 2024**

A. CALL TO ORDER at 7:30 pm by Clerk Pollowy.

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	Mark Heinle

D. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mike Holzer, 4337N. Newcastle: Asked if the village had any ordinances/regulations as to how long a dog leash can extend when walking your dog? Encountered an incident that happened to him on Oketo where a dog was on an extended leash and started running across the street as he was driving. Also commented on bike riders on sidewalks and if we had any restrictions. Thanked the police for responding to a person who would not leave his property.

E. REPORTS OF MAYOR, TRUSTEES, CLERK AND ATTORNEY

Mayor's Report
Project Updates:

A reminder that the Harwood Heights Fest & Carnival is coming soon on August 1-4th at St. Rosalie's grounds.

Project Updates:

"O" Streets

Work continues on the sewer work on Odell. The contractor has begun the proper aligning of the street with new curbs and driveways on Oconto and Octavia. Residents are notified when NOT to use their driveways.

Ainslie

For the 7400 and 7500 blocks of Ainslie, we continue to await IDOT's approval of the plans and the Environmental testing. Once received we will go out for bidding. This project will overlap onto Oketo between Lawrence and Ainslie completing any areas not paved by ComEd.

Montrose Alley

Today we had a pre-construction meeting with the contractor A Lamp for the Montrose Alley (between Forest Preserve Dr. & Nashville). Upon IDOT's final approval, work should begin very soon. Residents will be notified when cars should be out of garages, what streets to park, and directions on garbage pickup.

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Panda Express

The sale for Panda has been done with final paperwork to be completed. They will soon be scheduling a meeting with Planning/Zoning.

Green Rose Cannabis is scheduled to open upon receipt of State approval. All renovations are complete.

Future Restaurant

Nickki's Café and Bar applied for their liquor and gaming license and should be opening soon.

Village Hall

The contractor started tuckpointing the south side of the Police Department this week and will soon be testing some paint colors.

Finance

Trustee Brutto

The new auditors will be starting their field work this coming Monday.

Ordinance & License

Trustee Steiner

No Report

Police/Public Safety

Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe

No Report

Public Works/Public Health

Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki

No Report

Building

Trustee Zerillo

Thanked all of our Inspectors who were out today at the Norridge Park preparing for the "Island in the City Fest" this weekend to make sure that the rides and food vendors are being inspected for safety and proper handling.

Forestry & Green Initiative

Trustee Lewandowski

I have been in touch with the Morton Arboretum regarding future grants and our future fall and spring tree planting program especially once the work is completed on the "O" streets project. We will be reaching out to the village residents in the next few issues of the Mayor's Message to compile a list for future planting.

Clerk's Report

No Report

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Attorney Mark Heinle

Stated that part of the budget package that was passed and signed into law earlier by Governor Pritzker was the Illinois state 1% grocery tax that is distributed to municipalities is going to go away effective January 1, 2026. Due to municipalities losing revenue the legislature authorized municipalities to essentially reenacting it but it is not automatic, you would have to appeal the tax. Each municipality would have to see how much they would be losing and adopt an ordinance by October 1, 2025 to repeal the tax.

Chief John DeVries

Talked about the scams that are going on around our area especially the Romanian Travelers with scams involving home fraud to black top asphalt. This has been an ongoing problem happening every year but now it's getting more violent. If someone comes to your home, please dial the police and let us come out and make sure it legit. If it's legit company they'll stick around and answer our questions; it saves you a lot of money in the long run.

The next thing I'm having problems with our residents, is this, my midnight shift is going out on a lot of calls which is generating a lot of paper and if the paper is investigative papers my officers are spending a lot of time making arrests and when the time comes nobody signs a complaint and all we're going is putting the work back on the streets coming and violating us again. My officers can't do anything if nobody signs a complaint. All we can do is catch them and release them, it's like fishing. We need everyone to dial 911 and let us do our job and support us through it.

F. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Zerillo: Asked the Chief how often it happens with the scammers? I know when we discussed the permit fees we didn't put anything in there about seal coating. Do we want to put something in for a permit for seal coating to try to alleviate this? Mayor can you include that in your next Mayor's Message?

Mayor Jeziorny: I can do that! Another thing I wanted to do for a long time is having a guidebook/pamphlet for residents both in hardcopy and on our website which will tell them what they need permits for, watering & sprinkling hours, recycling, garbage and so on.

G. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe – MCD Update: We had a meeting this past Tuesday. Director Ron Gross was up for a review, we review him annually, and he made all of his goals, so he did get an increase in salary. I did find out that "Text to 911," the places that have it right now, are getting it through a third-party vendor, which is very expensive, it's something like \$70,000 a month or a quarter. The "Text to 911" will eventually go through the state and then be routed to the correct Police Department or Dispatch Center so they can send the police or Fire Department to answer the call. The agencies that currently have "Text to 911" have a private agency that they are paying for that are routing these calls to them. Because of that issue we are going to do it, it is currently delayed to 2025 or 2026. We are ready for "Text to 911" but we have to wait for the state to open it up and gather all these other localities together.

Trustee Brzozowski-Wegrecki/Zerillo – WSSRA Update: WSSRA will have their "Lucky Duck" event coming on July 17th. There's also a TR Softball Tournament they're hosting this Sunday from 9am to 3pm.

Trustee Steiner – Norridge/Harwood Heights Chamber of Commerce: The next meeting will be in September with a lunch at Las Palmas.

Trustee Zerillo – O'Hare Technical Committee: No meeting since my last report.

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H. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/HIRES

None

I. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Trustee Brzezniak-Volpe, seconded by Trustee Brutto on Consent Agenda items I 1–14:

1. To approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees meeting held June 27, 2024.
2. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$2,640.00, payable to Robert W. Hendricksen Co. for the purchase of 120 yards of mulch for the “Tot Park” expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-14-7051.02 – Village Properties.
3. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$4,500.00, payable to Al Air Inc. for new compressor and 1-yr warranty for the Community Room A/C Services expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-14-8505.02 – Village Properties.
4. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,252.66, payable to Republic Services for dump fees expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-06-7056.00 – Public Works.
5. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$2,988.50, payable to Clarke Environmental Mosquito Management for spraying on June 24, 2024 expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-09-7061.03 – Health.
6. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,000.00, payable to Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for Annual NPDES fee July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025 expensed to FY 24/25 line item 22-00-7057.00 – Water & Sewer Fund.
7. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$225.00, payable to North East Multi-Reginal Training for Sergeant Ryan Swartzendruber’s attendance June 3 – June 6, 2024 for the Supervising/Managing the Field Process Course expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-05-7065.00 – Police.
8. Motion to accept per ordinance a rental increase from MCD from \$7,848.84 to \$9,026.16 for each quarter effective July 1, 2024 with a 4% increase every 2-years thereafter.
9. To approve expenditure, not to exceed \$1,500.00, payable to Ancel Glink P.C. for billing through June 30, 2024 expensed to FY 24/25 line item 11-02-7051.00 – Legal.
10. Motion for an increase of \$420 a month for the Mayor and a \$400/month increase for Clerk and Trustees both effective 5/1/25 in lieu of expensing a Village Manager and/or Village Administrator.
11. To Adopt Ordinance 24-06, An Ordinance Creating the Offices of Cannabis Commissioner and Video Gaming Commissioner.
12. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the amount of \$366,173.18 as they appear on the July 11, 2024 check register #74451 thru #74525.
13. Transfer from Parkway General Savings Account in the estimated amount of \$170,000.00 to Parkway Bank Payroll Account. (July 12, 2024).
14. Electronic transfer from Parkway General Savings Account on the amount of \$14,407.36 for June 2024 IMRF Pension Fund.

A roll call vote on Consent Agenda items I 1 – 14 resulted as follows:

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Motion Carried

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J. NEW BUSINESS

None

K. OLD BUSINESS

None

L. CORRESPONDENCE

None

M. TRUSTEE COMMENTS

None

N. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Kawell: Informed those present that a resident who mailed his payment envelope at the Post Office had his check stolen and whitewashed for a different amount.

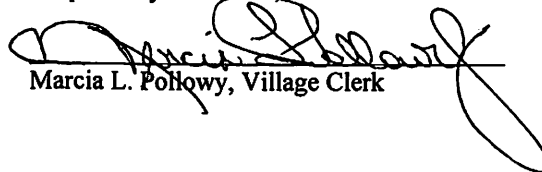
O. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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, July 11, 2024 at 8:01pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Marcia L. Polowy, Village Clerk