

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2010
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Richard Hofeld called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. There were forty-eight people in the audience and one member of the press in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Village President Hofeld led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Deputy Village Clerk Sandy Ruhlander recorded the Roll Call. Those responding were Trustees Glenn Tienstra, Tom Kataras, Barbara Dawkins, Ray Robertson, and Village President Richard Hofeld. Trustees Joe Casella, Anne Colton, and Village Clerk Gayle Campbell were absent.

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF: Village President Hofeld introduced the present staff members: Village Manager Mark Franz, Village Attorney Christopher Cummings, Police Chief Larry Burnson, Fire Chief Bob Grabowski, Director of Finance Dennis Bubenik, Director of Community Development Paula Wallrich, Director of Public Works John Schaefer, and Assistant Village Manager Jim Marino.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF HONOR: HAZEL CREST FIRE LIEUTENANT KEVIN SEARS AND HAZEL CREST FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC JAMES SHIELDS: Fire Chief Grabowski stated the Homewood Fire Department experienced their first line of duty fatality when Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Carey lost his life at a house fire in a valiant rescue attempt on March 30, 2010. He then highlighted the honorable acts Hazel Crest Fire Lieutenant Kevin Sears and Hazel Crest Firefighter/Paramedic James Shield performed while assisting in this fatal fire in an attempt to rescue Firefighter/Paramedic Karra Kopas, who suffered burns, and Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Carey.

Fire Chief Grabowski then presented Certificates of Honor to Fire Lieutenant Sears and Firefighter/Paramedic Shields, who were thanked by the Board and audience.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF HONOR: HOMEWOOD FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC KARRA KOPAS: Fire Chief Grabowski presented the Certificate of Honor to Firefighter/Paramedic Karra Kopas, who was then congratulated by the Board, audience and members of the Homewood Fire Department.

RENAMING OF THE TRAINING/EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (EOC0 – 1023 191ST STREET:

RESOLUTION NO. R-2080/RENAMING OF THE TRAINING/EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (EOC) – 1023 191ST STREET: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Dawkins to pass a resolution renaming and dedicating the Training/Emergency Operation Center (EOC), 1023 191st Street, Homewood, Illinois as the Brian Carey Training Center. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

Deputy Fire Chief Clint Johnson read the resolution recognizing Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Carey for his bravery, valor and his supreme sacrifice while in the line of duty and honoring Brian Carey by dedicating the Training and Emergency Operations Center as the “Brian Carey Training Center”.

Fire Chief Grabowski then presented the resolution to the Carey family. He stated the formal dedication ceremony is being planned at the training center in the spring of 2011. Also in attendance for this presentation were South Holland Fire Chief Don Bettenhausen, Glenwood Fire Chief Kevin Welsh, Frankfort Assistant Fire Chief Larry Rauch and State Fire Marshall Larry Matkaitis.

Village President Hofeld called for a short recess at 7:16 p.m. The Board meeting resumed at 7:22 p.m.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Robertson to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, November 9, 2010. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

CLAIMS LIST: Following questions from the Board, which were answered by staff, a motion was made by Trustee Robertson, seconded by Trustee Dawkins, to approve the Claims List of Tuesday, November 23, 2010, in the amount of \$151,710.99. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

APPOINTMENTS: A motion was made by Trustee Tienstra, seconded by Trustee Robertson to approve the reappointment of Elaine Egdorf to the Heritage Committee for a term ending 10/13/2013 and the reappointments of Al Guger and Aaron Montecki to the Tree Committee for terms ending 11/13/2013. . **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

MEET YOUR MERCHANTS: Allisa Opyd, from the Economic Development Committee, introduced the following two Homewood businesses:

Art Trevino, owner of Cilantro, 18755 Dixie Highway, informed the Board and audience his restaurant was recently featured on WTTW’s Check Please, offering a variety of Mexican food. They are open Monday through Saturday, with Sunday reserved for

private parties. Visit Cilantro's website at www.homewoodcilantro.webs.com for more information.

Jerry Spindler, a representative from Southgate Pharmacy, 18659 Dixie Highway, stated they are a full service, family owned pharmacy and have been in business for fifty-four years. They pride themselves as focusing on customer's needs, offering a variety of services Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Each business was given a Certificate of Recognition for participating in this portion of the meeting.

Allisa Opyd announced the first Small Business Saturday event being held on November 27, 2010 as a day to support local small businesses. Every dollar spent locally re-circulates within the community at least three times.

Another upcoming event is Holiday Lights in Homewood on December 3, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. taking place in the downtown area. The annual tree lighting ceremony is scheduled at 7:00 p.m. in Irwin Park, with the Antique Car Parade traveling from the park to Hickory Road where vendors have set up their wares in Homewood's very own Christkindlemarket. Holiday Luminaria sales and Homewood's newest holiday souvenir mugs will also be featured. For more event details, go online and visit www.homesweethomewood.com or www.dhba.biz.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: No one came forward.

OMNIBUS VOTE: Deputy Village Clerk Ruhlander read the following items "A" through "D" for the Board's consideration:

- A. ORDINANCE MC-839/CHAPTER 10/ILLINOIS LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION BASSET TRAINING PROGRAM: An ordinance amending Chapter 10, Article II of the Homewood Municipal Code to require training classes for persons selling alcoholic beverages.
- B. BID AWARD/WINTER TREE TRIMMING: Award the bid for the sectional tree trimming program to Winkler's Tree & Landscaping, LaGrange Park, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$48.37 per tree, not to exceed \$50,000.
- C. 17600 HOFFMAN WAY/LIGHTING DISTRIBUTORS, INC.: An application by Lighting Distributors, Inc., as part of the Go Green Reward Program for the property located at 17600 Hoffman Way in an amount not to exceed \$8,325 and direction to staff to draft an incentive agreement with the property owner.

- D. MEETING CANCELLATION: The cancellation of the regular Board meeting scheduled for December 28, 2010.

Following questions and concerns, which were addressed by staff, a motion was made by Trustee Tienstra, seconded by Trustee Robertson to pass, approve, accept or award the Omnibus Vote items "A" through "D", with language added to item "D" that within ninety days every new hire must also take the program. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

WASHINGTON PARK RACETRACK HISTORICAL MARKER: Village Manager Franz led in the discussion of the construction of an Illinois State Historical Marker on the southwest corner of Maple Avenue and Halsted Street to commemorate the Washington Park Racetrack. He stated that earlier this year Elaine Egdorf, Chairperson of the Heritage Committee, recommended that the Village consider constructing an Illinois State Historical Marker on the southwest corner of Maple Avenue and Halsted Street to commemorate the Washington Park Racetrack in recognition of the important part the racetrack made to Homewood.

The Village had contacted Inland American Retail Management, owners of this property, to determine if they would be interested in allowing access to this location. They had requested a preliminary design be given to them before agreeing to support the concept. The design incorporated some of the same features found at the original track including rail fencing similar to what is customary at racetracks, a miniature track of similar material as well as boxwood hedge. Also included were stones in a walking path that could commemorate who raced at Washington Park such as Whirlaway and Citation, both Triple Crown winners.

This project would not only provide some historical recognition for the Washington Park Racetrack, but would also provide an attraction that would help the local businesses and provide some name recognition for the Plaza, which was named after the racetrack. Inland was very impressed with the concept and has agreed to support the project contingent upon an acceptable easement agreement.

The estimated costs, without the statue, are approximately \$41,000 and would be funded through the Washington Park TIF District. The design would be phased in over time to control costs, and the Village was hopeful that Inland would potentially donate to this project in the future.

Elaine Egdorf addressed the Board and audience expanding on the role the racetrack played in the history of Homewood. As a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois State Historical Society, she stated this location has easy access and would be a great attraction for the Village.

Following comments and discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Robertson, seconded by Trustee Tienstra to approve the creation of an Illinois State Historical marker

commemorating the Washington Park Racetrack and allocate \$41,000 for this project. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Robertson and Village President Hofeld. NAYS: Trustee Kataras. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT / REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT / INX INTERNATIONAL INK COMPANY: Village Manager Franz presented a request from INX International Ink Company for conveyance of a two acre site on Hoffman Way adjacent to their property located at 1000 Maple Avenue. In 2008, Village staff sent a letter to all existing businesses in the Prairie Lakes Business Park inquiring if there was any interest in the two acre site on Hoffman Way. A response from INX International Ink Company was received stating that they were interested in the two acre parcel adjacent to their property. The Village has been meeting with representatives from INX on multiple occasions, and they have now completed the Redevelopment Agreement and Real Estate Conveyance Agreement.

Representatives from INX International Ink Company were present to answer questions from the Board. They stated they have experienced growth since locating in Homewood and need this acreage for future expansion.

Trustee Tienstra asked about allowing soil to be placed on other Village properties and access to the water main located on the two acre site.

Attorney Cummings responded it is at the Village's discretion as to the relocation of soil to Village property. The Village also has access to the water main as stipulated in the language of the easement as required with all easements in Homewood. It will be their responsibility to pay for moving the main if necessary.

There were more questions and comments, which were addressed by staff.

ORDINANCE M-1823 / REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT / INX INTERNATIONAL INK COMPANY: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Tienstra to pass an ordinance approving a Redevelopment Agreement between the Village and INX International Ink Company. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE M-1824 / REAL ESTATE CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT / INX INTERNATIONAL INK COMPANY: A motion was made by Trustee Robertson, seconded by Trustee Kataras to pass an ordinance approving a real estate conveyance agreement between the Village of Homewood and INX International Ink Company. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

PRAIRIE LAKES WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT: Director Schaefer led in the discussion of moving forward with the wetland restoration and pond creation project

in the western portion of the Prairie Lakes Business Center site located south of 175th Street, east of Ashland Avenue and west of Halsted Street.

In the 1990's, most of the open space of this area had been restored to native prairie and wetlands as part of a wetland mitigation project. This project will restore and create a variety of wetland communities by removing existing non-native and low quality trees and shrubs, excavating areas to remove underlying fill or concrete and restore a diverse wetland ecosystem.

For the past year, while developing the plans, Village staff has been working extensively with the Army Corp of Engineers and the IEPA obtaining the appropriate permits and approvals. Staff has also worked closely with Bob Ahlf, of the Izaak Walton League, and has incorporated many of his thoughts and ideas towards the plans.

There were eleven bid proposals submitted for this project, with EarthWerks Corporation being the lowest responsible bidder in an amount not to exceed \$589,062. The proposed completion date for this project is December 31, 2010.

Bob Ahlf of the Izaak Walton League thanked the Board for their consideration and also thanked Director Schaefer for all the work he has done on this project. He stated this project had been identified as a priority of the League and highlighted the reasons it needs to be done, along with the benefits to the Village, local schools and Izaak Walton. He then distributed before and after drawings showing the potential improvements this project would have on the area.

Trustee Tienstra stated he was happy to support the Izaak Walton and Prairie Lakes.

Trustee Kataras stated that while he also supports the Izaak Walton, he had concerns of the cost of this project and the use of TIF funds during these difficult economic times.

Attorney Cummings responded that State Statutes allow for investment to develop the community as a use of TIF funds.

Trustee Dawkins stated the Board had been discussing this project for a period of time. She expressed her concerns of how long it would take the Izaak Walton League to accomplish the same results if the Village didn't assist in this project.

Trustee Robertson also expressed his concern of the cost presented and asked if this project was scalable. Director Schaefer stated the Army Corp of Engineers has looked at this as an entire project. A phased-in plan would have to be presented. There was discussion of possibly doing a portion of the project now and more of it at a later date.

Village President Hofeld reminded the Board and audience about the benefit to the Village of storm water retention being addressed with this project and the enhancement of the Preserve for the future.

Following more discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Tienstra, seconded by Trustee Dawkins to award the bid for the Prairie Lakes Wetland Restoration Project to the lowest responsible bidder, EarthWerks Corporation, in the amount not to exceed \$589,062.00.

Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra and Dawkins. NAYS: Trustees Kataras and Trustee Robertson. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion failed.

Village President Hofeld asked the Board if they would like to reconsider this matter. After more discussion, Director Schaefer was directed to review the bid and permits to address questions and concerns and present his findings at the next Board meeting.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Village Manager Franz had nothing further to report.

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION:

Trustee Dawkins encouraged all to attend Holiday Lights in Homewood on Friday, December 3, 2010.

Village President Hofeld announced the snow flake decorations have been placed on the poles and invited residents to find the different one. He has gift cards from a local merchant available for the first twenty people to come to the Village Hall on Saturdays beginning November 26, 2010 and tell him where the different snow flake is located.

Director Schaefer informed the Board and audience of a company mailing out letters encouraging the purchase of a water-line protection insurance policy. This is not a common issue and very seldom is there a problem with service lines. He encouraged homeowners to research this before purchasing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Robertson, to enter into Executive Session to discuss probable litigation, the purchase or lease of real property, and collective negotiation matters at 8:50 p.m. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

The Board took a short recess at 8:50 p.m. prior to entering into Executive Session and returned to open session at 9:25 p.m.

ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Dawkins, seconded by Trustee Tienstra. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Kataras, Dawkins and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustees Casella and Colton. Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m. There was no one in the audience.

Village Clerk