

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 2010
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Richard Hofeld called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. There were thirty-seven 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: Village Clerk Gayle Campbell recorded the Roll Call. Those responding were Trustees Glenn Tienstra, Barbara Dawkins, Joe Casella, Anne Colton, Ray Robertson, and Village President Richard Hofeld. Trustee Tom Kataras was 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, and Director of Public Works John Schaefer.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Colton, seconded by Trustee Casella to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, June 8, 2010. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella and Colton. NAYS: None. ABSTAIN: Trustee Robertson. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

CLAIMS LIST: Following questions from the Board, which were answered by staff, a motion was made by Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Robertson, to approve the Claims List of Tuesday, June 22, 2010, in the amount of \$188,181.63. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella, Colton and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

MEET YOUR MERCHANTS: Economic Development Committee member Allisa Opyd introduced the following Homewood business owners:

Tondalah Stroud, owner of FOG Cosmetics located at 2049 Ridge Road, introduced her business stating she offers a full color cosmetic line, as well as a complete skin care line, customizing a look for both women and men. Workshops and makeovers are available.

Karen O'Donnell, D.D.S., whose dental office is located at 18124 Martin Avenue, informed the Board and audience that she has been practicing in Homewood for twenty-six years, focusing on complete adult dentistry. Office hours are by appointment Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Both businesses were presented with a Certificate of Recognition for participating in this portion of the Board meeting.

PRESENTATIONS:

PRESIDENT'S ART CONTEST WINNERS: Rachael Jones, Community Information Coordinator, stated there were over forty entries in this year's annual President's Art Contest, with the two categories of "Here's Homewood" for artwork depicting life in Homewood and "Four Seasons of Isaak Walton".

She then announced the following winners of the 2010 President's Art Contest: Children's Division: First Place: Ella Ermshler; Second Place and Third Place: Sally Pauss; Youth Division: First Place: Alexa Brown; Second Place: Emily Green; Third Place: Jessica Scropo; Adult Division: First Place: Megan Green, Second Place: Lindsey Sandbothe, Third Place: Crystal Lesimple; Honorable Mention: Janet Kruzel.

The awards were given to those winners present at the meeting, who were then congratulated by the Board and audience.

Mrs. Jones reminded everyone to read the Village Key and visit the website to be kept informed of upcoming events in Homewood.

HOMEWOOD INTERNATIONAL CYCLING CLASSIC/BIKE RACE: Mike Garrison, Marketing Director from Breakaway Event Productions, announced the International Cycling Classic bike race to be held in downtown Homewood on July 11, 2010. More than five hundred cyclists and thousands of spectators are expected to attend this event.

Fred Sierzega, from Suzie's Hallmark Shop and Joe Aurelio, from Aurelio's Pizza, expressed their concerns of the proposed route of the race and the affect it will have on their businesses.

Village Manager Franz stated this event is to promote businesses in the downtown area. He will meet with Mr. Sierzega, Mr. Aurelio and other businesses on the route to discuss the impact of the race on the businesses along the proposed route.

Mr. Garrison added that they will work with the Village and businesses to make this a long term relationship. Any modification to the proposed route to accommodate the businesses in this area will be considered. This event is a great way to support Homewood.

After expressing some concern, the Board thanked Mr. Garrison for promoting Homewood both locally and internationally.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE:

Bill Frank addressed the Board regarding his new tenant's location and the required modification needed for a second bathroom, which must be handicapped accessible. He wanted to make the Board aware that he would like to begin the work so that the tenant can open for business on July 1, 2010 and appear before the Board at the next meeting to make a formal request for financial assistance for these renovations.

Kathy Nussbaum, Executive Director of the Homewood Area Chamber of Commerce, announced this year's Homewood Days will be held on July 8, 9, and 10, 2010. The downtown area will have restricted access with specified entry points. All participants will be required to wear a wristband. There is no admission fee prior to 4:00 p.m. After 4:00 p.m., the admission fee is \$5.00, with children eleven and under free. For more information and a complete list of entertainment visit their website at www.homewoodareachamber.com.

On Saturday the Chamber of Commerce, along with the Homewood Veterans Committee, will be hosting a parade to welcome home the 308rd Civil Affairs Brigade from their tour of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan. The parade honoring the soldiers and their families will begin at 10:00 a.m., starting at the Marie Irwin Center on Ridge Road and continue to the entertainment stage on Dixie Highway.

Trustee Casella added Police Chief Burnson has been working with Bill Frank in preparation of the parade. He thanked those involved for helping to facilitate the recognition of these returning soldiers.

OMNIBUS VOTE: Village Clerk Campbell read the following for the Board's consideration:

- A. ORDINANCE MC-832/HANDICAP PARKING FINES: An ordinance amending Chapter 106 of the Homewood Municipal Code concerning fines for unauthorized use of parking places reserved for persons with disabilities.
- B. ORDINANCE MC-833/FEEES TO VACATE FINES THROUGH ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION: An ordinance amending Chapter 3, "Administrative Adjudication of Municipal and Building Code Violations" of the Municipal Code of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, imposing a \$50 fee to reinstate a case after default.
- C. BID WAIVER/DUMP TRUCK: Waive the competitive bidding requirements and purchase one single axle dump truck through the State of Illinois Purchasing Contract #4015050 at a total purchase price of \$65,616.00.

A motion was made by Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Colton to pass, approve, accept or award the Omnibus Vote items "A" through "C" as presented. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella, Colton and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.***

ORDINANCE MC-834/RIGHT-OF-WAY SOLICITATION: Village Manager Franz presented an amendment to Chapter 74 of the Municipal Code to prohibit right-of-way solicitation in the Village of Homewood. Soliciting charitable contributions on street corners poses a significant hazard both to pedestrians and motorists and has been a concern for some time. The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to prevent dangers to persons and property, avoid interference with normal flow of traffic, and limit Village liability. The Village carrier, IRMA, supports this decision and has identified many other communities that have similar restrictions, most notably Hazel Crest.

Streets, such as Halsted, that have center medians were designed to deal with specific traffic flow problems, not provide a location for solicitors to stand. Any delay or distraction interferes with the traffic planning and poses a hazard not only to the immediate area, but such obstructions result in backups at distant points as well.

In addition to the safety issue, liability is also a major concern. Statistics show the dangers that exist when vehicular traffic and pedestrians compete for the same space. Also, some motorists view right-of-way solicitation as harassment and are intimidated by the practice and therefore, such activities deteriorate from their quality of life.

The Village of Homewood realize some civic groups rely heavily on street solicitation to raise money for their cause and are aware of the challenge such legislation will create for them in meeting their goals. Communities that prohibit solicitation on roadways encourage reputable organizations to use train stations or shopping district for these fund raising activities. This alternative is safe for the participants and eliminates liability issues for the Village.

Ann Fratto, from the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), expressed her concerns of the approval of this amendment to the ordinance and the impact it will have on their Fill-The-Boot fundraising campaign.

Kristen Ryan and another Homewood resident also expressed their concerns of the possible decline of money raised to support muscular dystrophy if the Board approved the amendment.

Village President Hofeld stated the Village is not taking anything away. The Board is looking at alternatives and safety aspects.

Trustee Tienstra agreed with the changes but would like to exclude the Fire Department and the Police Department because they are aware of traffic safety. Attorney Cummings stated certain groups cannot be excluded because of content of what they are doing or who they are.

Trustee Dawkins asked if there was an incident that precipitated this request to which Village Manager Franz answered there was no one incident but reports of near misses.

Trustee Casella stated he supported the amendment to the ordinance.

Trustee Colton stated this is not the right time to cut off a revenue stream. The solution would be to develop a better process to identify who is approved so the Police Department knows who can solicit on the streets.

Trustee Robertson also supported the amendment and suggested it be reviewed in a year and changes made if necessary. This amendment to the ordinance is not directed at the Fire Department. It is strictly about safety.

Following more discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Casella, seconded by Trustee Robertson to pass an ordinance amending Chapter 74, Division 3 Right-of-Way Solicitors, of the

Homewood Municipal Code prohibiting street solicitation. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Dawkins, Casella, Robertson and Village President Hofeld. NAYS: Trustees Tienstra and Colton. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

ITEP LANDSCAPING PROJECT (DIXIE HIGHWAY LANDSCAPING IMPROVEMENTS):

Director Schaefer led the discussion of Phase III of the ITEP Landscaping Project which will consist of the engineering and completion of shrub and tree plantings, sign installation, modular block retaining wall installation, parkway restoration and incidental work along Dixie Highway at the north viaduct.

RESOLUTION R-2072/MFT FUND APPROPRIATION: Following comments and questions from the Board which were answered by Director Schaefer, a motion was made by Trustee Colton, seconded by Trustee Casella to pass a resolution appropriating \$81,000 from the motor fuel tax fund for improvements along Dixie Highway to augment the north viaduct entranceway. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella, Colton and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

APPROVAL/ENGINEERING AGREEMENT/BAXTER & WOODMAN: A motion was made by Trustee Tienstra, seconded by Trustee Dawkins authorizing the Village President to enter into an Engineering Services Agreement with Baxter & Woodman, Inc. in connection with the Dixie Highway Landscape Improvement Project. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella, Colton and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

MANAGER'S REPORT: Village Manager Franz thanked Rachael Jones, Chris Beele, other Village employees, the Downtown Business Association, and the many volunteers for their efforts in the success of the Art and Garden Street Fair over the past weekend.

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION:

Trustee Tienstra thanked Director Schaefer for the great job Public Works did with the cleanup of the last storm.

Trustee Dawkins also thanked those involved with the Art and Garden Street Fair. She asked for clarification regarding Mr. Frank's informal request and asked if this was proper procedure. Attorney Cummings stated Mr. Frank will have to come back before the Board for formal approval and follow the same required procedures. Mr. Frank is taking a risk that the Board may or may not approve his request.

Trustee Casella asked Mr. Frank to submit his request for the entire job.

Trustee Colton stated the Art and Garden Street Fair was fantastic, and she was happy to see so many attend. She also hoped to see everyone out celebrating Independence Day on July 3rd.

Trustee Robertson also commended Rachael Jones and Chris Beele for the outstanding job they do.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Colton, seconded by Trustee Casella, to enter into Executive Session to discuss collective negotiation matters and performance of specific employees at 9:06 p.m. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella, Colton and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

The Board took a short recess at 9:06 p.m. prior to entering into Executive Session and returned to open session at 9:43 p.m.

ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Dawkins, seconded by Trustee Tienstra. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Tienstra, Dawkins, Casella, Colton and Robertson. NAYS: None. ABSENT: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 9:44 p.m. There was no one in the audience.

Village Clerk