

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2011
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Richard Hofeld called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. There were eleven people in the audience and two members 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 present and responding were Trustees Tom Kataras, Barbara Dawkins, Lisa Purcell, Anne Colton, Jay Heiferman, Ray Robertson, and Village President Richard Hofeld.

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

MINUTES: A motion was made by Trustee Colton, seconded by Trustee Purcell to approve the minutes of the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

CLAIMS LIST: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Robertson, to approve the Claims List of Tuesday, , in the amount of \$132,407.76. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

MEET YOUR MERCHANTS: Deirdre Robinson from the Economic Development Committee highlighted the importance shopping locally in Homewood.

The second Annual Small Business Saturday will be held on November 26, 2011. A promotional campaign, launched by American Express, rewards cardholders for shopping at small, independently owned businesses. Residents are encouraged to participate by supporting Homewood's small businesses, especially during these difficult economic times.

Ms. Robinson then introduced Brian Latman, owner of Just Turkey, located at 17947 S. Halsted Avenue. Mr. Latman informed the Board and audience their business hours are Monday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Sundays from 12:00 noon

until 9:00 p.m. Their menu includes burgers, tips, ribs, salad, wraps and much more, with day time delivery to Homewood residents. Catering is also available.

Alissa Opyd reminded everyone of the next Village event taking place on Friday, December 2, 2011. Holiday Lights will be featuring trolley rides, ice sculptures, tree lighting, non-for-profit vendors at the Kris Kringle Market and much more. Also, the second annual souvenir mug will be available at this event.

On December 10, 2011 the Downtown Homewood Business Association is sponsoring a Holiday Cookie Walk. Tickets are available at any Homewood business with the Cookie Walk poster displayed.

PRESENTATIONS:

OATH OF OFFICE / VILLAGE MANAGER / RALPH DeWITT: Village Clerk Campbell administered the Oath of Office to Ralph DeWitt as Village Manager for the Village of Homewood. The Board welcomed Village Manager DeWitt.

Village President Hofeld announced an Open House will be held in honor of Village Manager DeWitt on Saturday, December 10, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Residents are invited to attend and meet the new Village Manager.

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION: Finance Director Bubenik began the presentation on a voluntary opt-in energy savings program to help residents reduce energy costs.

It is estimated that seventy percent of the electric bill is for providing electricity and thirty percent is for transmitting electricity. The State now allows the same deregulation of electric power to smaller residential accounts, determining that the local governments are in the best position to participate in this deregulation on the resident's behalf.

Local government involvement requires a referendum be placed on the ballot for the whole community to be included. This referendum process is referred to as "opt-out".

The State has also provided an "opt-in" alternative for those local governments that do not want to go through the referendum process. The opt-in alternative still allows the residents to benefit from electric power deregulation but under opt-in it is a voluntary program.

Emmitt George, energy consultant for Energy Choices and Eve Pytel from Metropolitan Mayors Caucus addressed the Board.

The programs are designed with two primary purposes. First to assist in reducing particulates in the air, and second to offer a reasonable alternative to the aggregation process.

Mr. George then highlighted the process and benefits of the Clean Air Counts program to residents and small businesses in the Village.

Village President Hofeld stated the Village will be promoting the “opt-in” program which does not require a referendum and allows the resident to make their own decision to participate in the program.

Trustee Kataras expressed his concerns that the rates given are not much lower than his present residential rate and questioned if their rate would be better for the entire community through a referendum.

Mr. George stated Commonwealth Edison’s rates are published.

Ms. Pytel presented the Board with additional material supporting these programs.

Several Trustees stated they were in favor of letting residents have the option of participating in the program.

The rates would be locked-in until June 2013 and are guaranteed to not exceed Commonwealth Edison’s rates. Though residents can opt-in anytime prior to May 2013, there is a fee for early cancellation of a signed contract.

Materials are available to anyone interested. A link can be placed on the Village’s website directing residents further.

Following more discussion the Board thanked Mr. George and Ms Pytel for their presentation.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: No one came forward.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

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

- A. BID AWARD/CLEANING CONTRACT AGREEMENT: Award the bid for Custodial Cleaning Services for five municipal buildings to Service Master, the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$29,393.00.
- B. MEETING CANCELLATION: The cancellation of the regular Board meeting scheduled for December 27, 2011.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell, seconded by Trustee Colton to pass, approve, accept or award the Omnibus Vote items “A” and “B” as presented. **Roll Call: AYES:**

Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCES / EAST CBD TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) DISTRICT:
Acting Village Manager Marino stated on October 17, 2011 the Joint Review Board held a meeting to consider the establishment of two new TIF Districts. They voted to recommend approval of both TIF Districts.

As required by law, the Village held a public hearing on November 18, 2011.

Trustee Purcell recused herself from all matters regarding the East CBD TIF District.

ORDINANCE M-1845/APPROVAL - EAST CBD TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Dawkins to pass an ordinance of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, approving the Redevelopment Plan and Project for the East CBD Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. RECUSED: Trustee Purcell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

ORDINANCE M-1846/DESIGNATION - EAST CBD REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA: A motion was made by Trustee Robertson, seconded by Trustee Heiferman to pass an ordinance of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, designating the East CBD Redevelopment Project Area. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. RECUSED: Trustee Purcell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

ORDINANCE M-1847/APPROVAL - EAST CBD TAX INCREMENT FINANCING:
A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Dawkins to pass an ordinance of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, adopting tax increment allocation financing for the East CBD Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. RECUSED: Trustee Purcell. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

ORDINANCES / 175TH STREET TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) DISTRICT:

ORDINANCE M-1848/APPROVAL – 175TH STREET TAX INCREMENT FINANCING REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA: A motion was made by Trustee Dawkins, seconded by Trustee Purcell to pass an ordinance of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, approving the Redevelopment Plan and Project for the 175th Street Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: Trustee Colton. Motion carried.***

ORDINANCE M-1849 / DESIGNATION – 175TH STREET REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA: A motion was made by Trustee Robertson, seconded by Trustee Dawkins to pass an ordinance of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, designating the 175th Street Redevelopment Project Area. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: Trustee Colton. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE M-1850/APPROVAL – 175TH STREET TAX INCREMENT FINANCING: A motion was made by Trustee Robertson, seconded by Trustee Dawkins to pass an ordinance of the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, adopting tax increment allocation financing for the 175th Street Tax Increment Financing Redevelopment Project Area. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: Trustee Colton. Motion carried.**

FAÇADE AND PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM / 18243 HARWOOD AVENUE: Community Development Director Wallrich presented a request from Burdyke Construction, owner of property located at 18243 Harwood Avenue, for financial assistance through the Façade and Property Improvement Program to replace the existing water and sewer service lines that do not meet current code.

John Jenson, co-owner property owner was present to address questions and comments from the Board. He thanked the Village for the considerations given to them.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Colton, seconded by Trustee Robertson to approve an application by Burdyke Construction for the Façade and Property Improvement Program for property located at 18243 Harwood Avenue, with direction to staff to draft an amendment to the TIF Agreement dated October 25, 2011 with the property owner in an amount not to exceed \$12,000.00 of which the Village's cost would be half. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. RECUSED: Trustee Kataras. Motion carried.**

FISCAL YEAR END 4/30/11 AUDIT PRESENTATION/ACCEPTANCE: Finance Director Bubenik led in the discussion of the 4/30/11 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), often referred to as the audit.

Steps were taken to address issues resulting in a positive net change in the 2011 budget.

Matt Geerdes, from the auditing firm of Crowe Horwath, addressed the Board, highlighting certain key points, auditing process, basic financial statements and funding status of the Village's fiscally healthy audit.

AUDIT ACCEPTANCE: A motion was made by Trustee Kataras, seconded by Trustee Colton to accept the 4/30/11 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. **Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.**

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

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION:

Trustee Colton congratulated School Board President Shelly Marks on receiving the award for School Board President of the Year in the State of Illinois.

Village President Hofeld reminded everyone of the community meeting to welcome new Village Manager DeWitt on Saturday, December 10, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon.

Once again the annual contest to find the different snowflake in the Village has begun. Come to the Village Hall on a Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon and tell Village President Hofeld where it is located to receive an appetizer gift card donated by Eat Rice Chinese Restaurant.

The Board extended congratulations to Trustee Dawkins on her recent engagement and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Colton, seconded by Trustee Purcell, to enter into executive session to discuss collective negotiation matters and potential litigation at 8:54 p.m. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.***

The Board took a short recess at 8.54 p.m. prior to entering into Executive Session and returned to open session at 9:36 p.m.

ADJOURN: A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Purcell, seconded by Trustee Robertson. ***Roll Call: AYES: Trustees Kataras, Dawkins, Purcell, Colton, Heiferman and Robertson. NAYS: None. Motion carried.*** The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m. There was no one in the audience.

Village Clerk