

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
TUESDAY – October 14, 2014  
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Hofeld called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 50 people from the public were present. One press representative was in the audience.

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 present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Barbara Dawkins, Trustee Lisa Purcell, Trustee Karen Washington, Trustee Jay Heiferman, and Trustee Ray Robertson. Trustee Anne Colton was absent.

INTRODUCTION OF STAFF: Village President Hofeld introduced staff members in attendance: Village Attorney Christopher Cummings, Village Manager Jim Marino, Director of Finance Dennis Bubenik, Director of Public Works John Schaefer, Fire Chief Robert Grabowski and Chief of Police Lawrence Burnson.

MINUTES: There were no comments or corrections to the minutes of September 23, 2014. A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Heiferman to approve the minutes of September 23, 2014.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, and Heiferman. NAYS – None. ABSTAIN – Trustee Robertson. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. Motion carried.***

CLAIMS LIST: A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Washington to approve the Claims List of October 14, 2014 in the amount of \$765,630.75. There were no questions.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

APPOINTMENT TO PUBLIC OFFICE: A motion was made by Trustee Heiferman and seconded by Trustee Robertson to approve the appointment of Marilyn Thomas as Village Clerk for the Village of Homewood. Marilyn Thomas' term will end with the installation of newly elected officials following the spring election in 2015.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

Deputy Village Clerk Ruhlander administered the Oath of Office to Marilyn Thomas, who took over the duties of Village Clerk.

APPOINTMENTS: It was moved by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Washington to approve the re-appointments of Arla Blocker to the Beautification Committee for a term ending October 1, 2019; Nancy Spaniak to the Community Relations Commission for a term ending August 31, 2017; and Jack Levitt to the Senior Advisory Committee for a term ending September 23, 2017.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

PRESENTATIONS: Village Clerk Thomas administered the Oath of Office to Eric Stojakovich as Street Maintenance Worker, Brett Proctor as Part-time Firefighter, Zachary Cook as Part-time Firefighter, and Aaron Denman as Police Officer for the Village of Homewood.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: No one came forward.

OMNIBUS VOTE: Village Clerk Thomas read the following items “A” through “H”, with the exception of Item “F” which was deferred to the next meeting pending further information:

- A. RAFFLE LICENSE / HORIZON HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE: Authorize the issuance of a raffle license to Horizon Hospice & Palliative Care for a single raffle to be held on November 2, 2014, waive the fidelity bond requirement, and allow for the sale of raffle tickets at \$5.00 or \$10.00.
- B. CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT TIF DISTRICT – NOTICE OF TERMINATION: A notice to taxing districts of termination of the Central Business District Redevelopment Project Area.
- C. BID WAIVER / PURCHASE OF THREE (3) CHEVROLET TAHOE POLICE VEHICLES: Waive competitive bidding due to joint governmental purchasing program and purchase three (3) Chevrolet Tahoe police pursuit vehicles from the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative Contract #147 through Currie Motors in an amount not to exceed \$91,610.52.
- D. CONTRACT RENEWAL / STICKER FREE LEAF PICKUP PROGRAM: Renew the contract for Leaf Pickup Services for 2014 with Homewood Disposal Service, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$20,300.00.
- E. ORDINANCE M-1938 / SALE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT: Pass an ordinance providing for the sale of certain personal property owned by the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois.
- F. AMENDMENT TO MABAS AGREEMENT: Deferred.

- G. RESOLUTION R-2193 / IMRF - VILLAGE TRUSTEES: Pass a resolution terminating participation in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund by Village Trustees.
- H. RESOLUTION R-2194 / TOM KATARAS / SERVICE ON BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Pass a resolution honoring Tom Kataras for his service on the Board of Trustees of the Village of Homewood.

A motion was made by Trustee Dawkins and seconded by Trustee Purcell to pass, approve, accept, or award items “A” through “E”, “G” and “H”.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

OLD/NEW BUSINESS:

FAÇADE & PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM / HERMAN TIERI / 2048 RIDGE ROAD: Village Manager Marino reported to the Board of Trustees on a request from property owner Herman Tieri for financial assistance through the Façade and Property Improvement Program for exterior work on a building at 2048 Ridge Road. The Village’s share is \$3,250 and will be paid from TIF funding. Mr. Tieri said the money will be used for tuckpointing.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Heiferman to authorize the Village President to enter into an agreement with Herman Tieri, owner of property located at 2048 Ridge Road, for TIF funding under the Façade & Property Improvement Program in an amount not to exceed \$3,250.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

FAÇADE & PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM / FRATELLO’S / 18201 DIXIE HIGHWAY: Village Manager Marino reported to the Board of Trustees on a request from Marco Caso and Adriano Martino for funding from three TIF funds for property improvements at 18201 Dixie Highway as it is converted to Fratello’s Imports and Eatery. The Village would provide funding in an amount not to exceed \$40,000 through the Retail Enhancement Program, the Façade and Property Improvement Program and the Go Green Reward Program for electrical, plumbing and HVAC work, and business signage.

Owners Mr. Caso and Mr. Martino said the business will be a deli, have prepared foods for carryout, and serve lunch and dinner in a sit-down restaurant.

A motion was made by Trustee Heiferman and seconded by Trustee Purcell to authorize the Village President to enter into an agreement with Marco Caso and Adriano Martino, on behalf of Fratello’s Imports and Eatery located at 18201 Dixie Highway, for TIF funding under the Retail Enhancement Program, Façade & Property Improvement Program, and Go Green Reward Program in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

CONTRACT / HARVEY WATER PLANT INSPECTION SERVICES / BAXTER & WOODMAN, INC.: Public Works Director Schaefer asked the Board to consider a contract with Baxter & Woodman, Inc., to inspect the water system in the City of Harvey. The City of Chicago draws water from Lake Michigan and sells it to surrounding communities. Harvey is the Lake Michigan water supplier to Homewood and neighboring communities. Homewood pays Harvey for its water, and Homewood is a conduit for water supplied to Flossmoor. However, Harvey has been sued by the City of Chicago for failure to pay for the water (since 2008, the debt has accumulated to \$20 million owed to Chicago). Director Schaefer said there is concern on how well Harvey is maintaining its water system. Although the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) does inspections, it relies on the City of Harvey paperwork and IEPA agents do a walk-through of the Harvey plant.

Director Schaefer said Homewood's contract to purchase water from Harvey allows for an in-depth inspection, and he believes it would be in Homewood's best interest to conduct an inspection to make certain residents are getting safe potable water. The last inspection of Harvey's facility by Homewood was 15 years ago. The contract sets out 15 tasks for the inspection.

Trustee Heiferman asked if there was any way Homewood could recoup a portion of the cost of the inspection with the Village of Flossmoor. Manager Marino said he is in contact with Flossmoor staff and expects an answer shortly. He has also been in contact with East Hazel Crest and Hazel Crest about the inspection.

A motion was made by Trustee Dawkins and seconded by Trustee Purcell amending the budget to transfer \$88,050 from the Water Purchased account to the Water Acquisition-Contracting Services account and authorizing the Village Manager to enter into a contract with Baxter & Woodman, Inc. for the Harvey Water Plant Inspection Services project in an amount not to exceed \$88,050.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

FISCAL YEAR END 4/30/2014 AUDIT PRESENTATION / ACCEPTANCE: Finance Director Bubenik introduced Ron Amen of Lauterbach & Amen, LLP which conducted the Village's audit for the year ending April 30, 2014. Amen told Trustees the Village has filed in a timely fashion all necessary reports according to State Statutes. He informed Trustees that its pension funds (Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund-IMRF, Police Pension Fund, and Firefighters Pension Fund) are all very healthy and strong. The Village's fund balance is 30 percent of total expenses in the General Fund, which is in line with expectations.

The Trustees gave special thanks to Director Bubenik for his outstanding efforts on this project.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Robertson to accept the audit by Lauterbach & Amen, LLP for the year ending April 30, 2014.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

2014 REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY: Finance Director Bubenik explained that the Village, as a non-home rule community and following the State's tax cap mandates, is limited in how much money it can raise. He expects the Village will show a 1.5 percent increase in keeping with the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI); a 1 percent increase for new construction; and a 1.5 percent increase as the Central Business District TIF ends. These increases will allow the Village to show a 4 percent increase in its tax levy. He reminded the audience that the Village's portion is just 10 percent of the homeowner's tax bill.

As a result of the 2008 recession, property values dropped. That has complicated budgeting, but projections for 2013 were just slightly off. The levy was set at 99.7 percent, and the actual was 99.2 percent collection. Director Bubenik recommended allocating a bit more next year for pensions. That will mean no increase for day-to-day Village operations based on tax cap rules.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Manager Marino said this year's Hobo Night at Homewood's Rail Park on Saturday, October 11, 2014, was a success. He also reported attending the ribbon-cutting ceremony Tuesday, October 14, 2014, at CN's Training Center in Homewood.

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Washington to move to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss the purchase or lease of real property.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

The Board returned to open session at 9:10 p.m.

ADJOURN: Trustee Dawkins moved and Trustee Purcell seconded to adjourn the regular meeting at 9:10 p.m.

***Roll Call: AYES – Trustees Dawkins, Purcell, Washington, Heiferman, and Robertson. NAYS – None. ABSENT – Trustee Colton. The motion carried.***

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Thomas  
Village Clerk