

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY –DECEMBER 9, 2014
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Hofeld called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 70 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: Clerk Marilyn Thomas recorded the roll call. Those present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Barbara Dawkins, Trustee Lisa Purcell, Trustee Karen Washington, Trustee Jay Heiferman, Trustee Anne Colton and Trustee Ray Robertson.

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 Bob Grabowski; and Assistant Village Manager Michael Marzal.

MINUTES: There were no comments or corrections to the minutes of November 25, 2014. A motion was made by Trustee Colton and seconded by Trustee Purcell to approve the minutes of November 25, 2014.

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

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List of \$486,676.79 was reviewed. President Hofeld said three-quarters of the expenses were attributed to \$94,039.22 for new water meters; \$184,706.54 for staff health insurance; and \$67,070.91 to Thorn Creek Sanitary District.

A motion was made by Trustee Colton and seconded by Trustee Purcell for the Board to approve the December 9, 2014 Claims List in the amount of \$486,676.79.

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

PRESENTATIONS:

OATH OF OFFICE – FIREFIGHTERS: Fire Chief Grabowski introduced part-time firefighters Matthew Regan and John Swietek. They were sworn in to office by Clerk Thomas. The Chief also introduced firefighter/paramedic Joseph Exline. He was sworn in to office by Clerk Thomas.

PROCLAMATION – 2014 H-F VARSITY VIKING FOOTBALL TEAM: The Homewood-Flossmoor High School 2014 football team was honored by proclamation for its outstanding season which took the team all the way to the Illinois High School Association’s Class A8 championship game November 30, 2014. The team took second place. The proclamation was read by Adam Lewandowski, a member of the H-F 1994 state championship team, who told team members football is the one time that hard work pays off because it gets players to give their maximum effort, and it helps members recognize that they are there for each other working as a team.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: President Hofeld invited members of the audience to address any issues not on the agenda. Resident Eric Crump announced the formation of a new online publication, *The Chronicle*, which he is working on with three others to give residents news of Homewood and Flossmoor events, schools, government, parks and organizations. The publication’s online address is www.homewoodchronicle.org

OMNIBUS VOTE: Village Clerk Thomas read the following items:

- A. BID REJECTION / 2014 CBD TREE GRATE REPLACEMENT PROJECT: Reject the bids for the 2014 CBD Tree Grate Replacement Project due to insufficient funding.
- B. BID REJECTION / SCRAP BRASS: Reject the bids for the sale of scrap brass due to a change in specification requirements.
- C. RESOLUTION R-2200 / JAN KASPER / 25 YEARS OF SERVICE / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT: Pass a resolution honoring Jan Kasper for 25 years of service to the Village of Homewood.
- D. RESOLUTION R-2201 / MFT ROCK SALT PURCHASE SUPPLEMENT: Pass a supplemental resolution for maintenance of streets and highways by municipality under the Illinois Highway Code appropriating \$209,000 of Motor Fuel Tax funds for the purchase of rock salt.
- E. 2014 REAL ESTATE TAX LEVY ORDINANCES:
 - i. ORDINANCE M-1945: An ordinance levying taxes for corporate purposes and for special funds for the fiscal year commencing on the first day of May 2015 and ending on the thirtieth day of April, 2016 for the Village of Homewood, Illinois.
 - ii. ORDINANCE M-1946: An ordinance increasing the 2014 Street and Bridge Tax Levy in the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois.

- iii. ORDINANCE M-1947: An ordinance directing the Cook County Clerk to reduce the Village of Homewood's 2014 Levy, if necessary, to comply with the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law.

A motion was made by Trustee Colton and seconded by Trustee Purcell to approve the Omnibus Report as presented.

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

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE M-1948 / PUD AMENDMENT – MULTI-TENANT BUILDING / 17725-17727 HALSTE STREET: Village Manager Marino brought to the Board a request for approval of an ordinance that would allow for an amendment to the Halsted Street Planned Unit Development (PUD). Trustees were asked to consider the redevelopment of property at 17725-27 Halsted Street. The site formerly was an Arby's Restaurant, which was demolished. Shiner Group LLC proposes to build a 6,000 square foot building. It has Sleepy's as one tenant. A second tenant has not yet been named.

The Appearance Commission unanimously approved the development with the condition that a show window be on the west side (facing Halsted Street), a plan be in place for landscaping and lighting fixtures by dark bronze. The developer also is asking for a sign variance for a larger sign outside the 300-square-foot requirement.

Architect Jim Wagener, a representative for Shiner Group LLC, said the company would not need the sign variance it had initially requested. Feedback from several Trustees to the design of the building was not favorable.

Trustee Heiferman said the design left much to be desired, especially as it will be a recognizable out-building along Homewood's major business district. He criticized that the building was cinder block design, and it had a blank wall facing Halsted Street. Trustee Robertson said he assumed the front of the building faced Halsted. Instead the building faces into the parking lot.

The architect said the design restricted other layouts because of where he can put utilities and a dock and turn around for truck deliveries.

Trustees Heiferman and Robertson both urged the architect to "try again." Other Trustees agreed with their assessments and action on the ordinance was postponed.

MARTIN AVENUE GREEN SPACE: Village Manager Marino presented the final designs for the redevelop of Martin Avenue from just south of Chestnut Road to Hickory Road. The Board has been working on this project for over a year, and Scott Freres of the

Lakota Group presented the final designs. This project includes major work on the street, as well as sewers, electrical and other public works issues.

The area of Martin Avenue south of Chestnut to Ridge Road will be closed off. The area will be redesigned as a plaza with special paving, benches, decorative lighting and electrical outlets that will allow for special events. Trees and plantings will be installed and a special irrigation system will allow for regular maintenance. Removable bollards will be installed to give access to Martin Avenue when necessary.

The area south from Ridge Road to the Village parking lot will get new brick paving. Specially designed poles will allow for decorative Tivoli lighting for special events. Trees and planters will be updated. A fire pit surrounded by benches will be installed at the northeast corner where the parking lot driveway intersects with Martin Avenue.

The cost for the base project is \$985,590. Contingencies bring the cost up to \$1,231,988. If the Village does everything that is planned, it is estimated to cost \$1,307,425.

Trustees applauded Lakota Group for making various adjustments to the plans after several public hearings and input from the Village Board. Trustee Heiferman called it “a home run.”

However, Attorney Cummings asked the Board not to take action on the plan because he needed to check on whether the Village could meet the required December 31, 2014 deadline on contract bids for the work. Martin Avenue work will be funded from the Downtown Business District tax increment financing (TIF) fund. Because the CBD TIF expires at the end of this year, the Board must authorize execution of the construction contract before December 31, 2014.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Dawkins for the Board to approve the design of the Martin Avenue green space project as presented.

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

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION R-2202 / REVISED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN: Fire Chief Grabowski asked the Board to approve the Emergency Operations Plan for 2014. He said the plan is designed as a guide for efforts by local and regional emergency service providers. The plan was initiated in 2007, and amended in 2009 and 2011. This plan involves not just regional fire districts, but Cook County and the State of Illinois. He said for Homewood services, he will be working with Public Works Director Schaefer to include an outline of how the Fire Department and Public Works staff will coordinate in the event of a power outage.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Colton to approve the Emergency Operations Plan for 2014.

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

MANAGER’S REPORT: None

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD: Trustee Heiferman thanked Village staff for its work on the Holiday Lights program December 5, 2014. He said it went very well. President Hofeld said he had heard positive comments from community members and downtown businesses.

A motion was made by Trustee Colton and seconded by Trustee Purcell that the Board adjourn to executive session to discuss: the Purchase or Lease of Real Property.

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

The Board adjourned to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

The Board adjourned the regular meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Thomas
Village Clerk