

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY—JUNE 27, 2017
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: Village President Hofeld called the regular meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. There were 40 members of the public and 3 press representatives present.

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

ROLL CALL: Deputy Village Clerk Jessica Salvador called the roll. Those present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Barbara Dawkins, Trustee Lisa Purcell, Trustee Anne Colton, Trustee Jay Heiferman and Trustee Larry Burnson. Trustee Karen Washington 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, Fire Chief Bob Grabowski, Police Chief Bill Alcott, Director of Community Marketing and Events Zach Thomas, and Public Works Director John Schaefer.

MINUTES: The minutes of the regular meeting of June 13, 2017, were deferred.

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List of \$423,259.13 was reviewed. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

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

President Hofeld said three items made up approximately 54 percent of the Claims List: \$87,988.31 to Santander Leasing, Inc.; \$30,510 to Continental Construction for work on the Police Department building entrance; \$109,773.50 and \$10,268 payments to D. Construction Inc. for street resurfacing and general maintenance.

PRESENTATIONS:

ERIC CRUMP RESOLUTION: President Hofeld issued a proclamation honoring Eric Crump for his work in founding the Homewood-Flossmoor Chronicle online and getting it into print. The paper is delivered to each home in Homewood.

LOTZ RETIREMENT: A motion was made by Trustee Burnson and seconded by Trustee

Purcell to approve a resolution thanking David R. Lotz on his 33 years with the Homewood Public Works Department as he retires.

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

Public Works Director Schaefer thanked Mr. Lotz for his many years of excellent work with the Village. He said Lotz was one of the dependable employees who could be counted on to be on the team for every emergency in the village.

OATH OF OFFICE: Fire Chief Grabowski asked that the oath of office be administered to three new lieutenants on the Fire Department. Ms. Salvador administered the oath to Larry Lipinski, Tom Gaskin and John Elashik.

Chief Grabowski said these three officers have been a credit to the department. Each has taken on special duties and been trained or certified in various department functions giving the Fire Department assurances that it is capable to handle all emergencies. Each of the new lieutenants has extended service with the Fire Department.

OATH OF OFFICE: Public Works Director John Schaefer asked that the oath be administered to Eric Fritz and Kurt Ginder, Homewood Public Works Street Division maintenance workers. Ms. Salvador administered the oath to the two staff members.

WEBSITE PRESENTATION: Zach Thomas, Director of Community Marketing and Events, gave a presentation on changes made to the Village website. The current website design has been in place for about six years. Thomas said the Village solicited bids in November 2016 from four web designers before deciding on a new approach. The new website was presented to staff and Village officers in April for review. Changes have been made, and final reviews are being done. He expects the new website will be posted in mid-July.

Thomas said the goal was to improve users' abilities to find information. The new site also is easier for staff to use and make updates.

Manager Marino thanked Director Thomas for his work on the project. He said it is an impressive way for the village to communicate with residents.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: President Hofeld invited members of the audience to speak on any subject not on the agenda. No comments were offered.

OMNIBUS REPORT: Clerk Thomas presented the Omnibus Vote:

- A. BUDGET AMENDMENT/HOMEWOOD SCIENCE CENTER: Approve a budget amendment transferring \$41,600 from the Homewood Science Center full-time salary account 01-1-126-51-1000 to the Homewood Science Center contracting account 01-1-126-53-1100 to cover the rate of a contracted position.

- B. PERFORMANCE MERIT BONUS/ VILLAGE MANAGER: Grant the Village Manager a merit bonus in the amount of \$10,000 for exceptional performance in leading negotiations for economic development projects, guiding development of the Homewood Science Center and fulfilling additional responsibilities during recruitment for vacant positions.
- C. ORDINANCE M- 2039 / TELECOMMUNICATIONS LICENSE AGREEMENT: Pass an ordinance approving a license agreement between McLeod USA Telecommunications Services LLC and the Village of Homewood, Cook County, Illinois, for installation of telecommunications equipment within village-owned right-of-way.

President Hofeld opened the floor to questions. Residents asked whether the village would get any money from Item C – telecommunications lease and for information on Item B - Manager Marino’s salary increase.

Manager Marino said the telecommunications lease is allowing CN to lay new fiber optics. It will not bring additional revenue to the Village.

President Hofeld, addressing the salary increase, said Mr. Marino has been taking on double-duty for months since both the Assistant Village Manager and the Director of Economic Development resigned at the beginning of the year. Trustee Dawkins added that Mr. Marino is an excellent manager and the Trustees have great respect for him and the work he does. She said the bonus was justified. The other Trustees concurred with her.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Colton for the board a pass, accept, award, authorize and approve the Omnibus Vote Items A through C as presented.

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

MANAGER’S REPORT: Mr. Marino thanked the board for its vote of confidence and his salary bonus. He said he has a great staff behind him. Over his years with the Village he has worked on various projects, and he continues his efforts for progress on projects and developments the Village is pursuing.

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION: Trustee Dawkins encouraged everyone to come out for the Fourth of July parade, and she thanked the Public Works Department for the appearance of Ridge Road. Trustee Heiferman also commented on the beautiful flowers lining Homewood streets.

A motion was made by Trustee Burnson and seconded by Trustee Colton to move to Executive Session to discuss actual and probable litigation.

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

The Board moved to Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 9:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Dawkins and seconded by Trustee Heiferman to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Approved by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Thomas
Village Clerk