



## Public Comments for the July 9, 2024 Board Meeting

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**From:** Kris Condon  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 7, 2024 7:39 PM  
**To:** PublicComments  
**Subject:** (Thank you) For Public Comment, July 9, 2024

Good Evening, President Hofeld and Members of the Board of Trustees:

As you are by now aware, I am not reluctant to bring issues of personal concern to this body, as evidenced by my message of June 25, 2024, regarding consistent enforcement of the Village fireworks ordinance. At the same time, I am equally compelled to share my thanks and appreciation to Chief McGrath, Deputy Chief Johnson, and Officer Dean for their assistance over the July 4 holiday.

At the June 25 meeting, you heard my neighbor express concern about neighbors (and I use that term loosely, as the behavior was not remotely neighborly) firing Roman candles and bottle rockets at her wooden deck and my frame garage. Mrs. Townsend's concerns were well-founded this past week. We had a repeat performance from another neighbor who was shooting fireworks into a 70-foot tall tree; attempting to shoot bottle rockets between transformer lines; and aiming for her deck, another neighbor's backyard, and over my frame garage roof onto my patio. My call to 911 was handled quickly and professionally by Officer Dean, who called me after the fireworks confiscation occurred. Officer Dean was forthcoming about what he could and could not tell me and further understood my fear of retaliation given this person's history of verbally abusive interactions with other neighbors. While there was admittedly activity in the rest of the neighborhood over the July 4 holiday, the situation was infinitely improved over last year, and I attribute that in great part to the assurances the Chief offered the Board on June 25.

Homewood did not need home rule on July 4 to have a safer holiday. This was all about choices and consequences, with the individual in question understanding that the act of thumbing his nose at neighbors and the Village would be addressed accordingly, irrespective of home rule. What we needed this past week was enhanced communication, enforcement of existing ordinances, and Village leadership's support of those law enforcement officers who had a completely thankless job that evening. That's what I witnessed. For my part, I thank Homewood Police Department for delivering as promised. I am a grateful resident.

Sincerely, Kris Condon

**Dr. Kristine M. (Kris) Condon**  
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