

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
TUESDAY, JULY 11, 2023  
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: President Hofeld called the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL: Clerk Marilyn Thomas called the roll. Those present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Lisa Purcell, Julie Willis, Trustee Anne Colton, Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, Trustee Jay Heiferman and Trustee Lauren Roman.

President Hofeld introduced staff present: Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Village Attorney Chris Cummings, Assistant Village Manager Tyler Hall, Public Works Director John Schaefer, and Police Chief Denise McGrath.

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting of June 27, 2023, were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Harris-Jones to approve the minutes as presented.

***Roll Call: AYES—Trustees Purcell, Colton, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, and Roman. NAYS -None. ABSTAINED-Trustee Willis. Motion carried.***

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$898,294.74 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

***Roll Call: AYES—Trustees Purcell, Willis, Colton, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, and Roman. NAYS -None. Motion carried.***

President Hofeld said four items totaled 81 percent of the Claims List: \$307,156.05 payment to Chicago Heights for Lake Michigan water; \$258,448.15 for employee insurance for July; \$89,653.51 for ECOM; \$73,550 for fire department turnout gear.

HEAR FROM AUDIENCE: Village Clerk Thomas said she had received a written comment from resident Kris Condon regarding the use of fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup> and the police response. Police Chief McGrath will address Condon's concerns in a private conversation.

OATH OF OFFICE: Clerk Thomas administered the oath of office to David Nelson, a new police officer. Prior to joining the Homewood Police Department, Officer Nelson was employed as a fulltime police officer in Hazel Crest and Crete. As a certified police officer, he immediately began the Homewood field training program.

Omnibus Vote: Consider a motion to pass, approve, authorize, accept, or award the following items:

- A. Agreement/Lobbying Services/Maren Ronan, Ltd.: Authorize the Village President to enter into an agreement between Maren Ronan, Ltd. (MR Ltd.) of Western Springs, IL and the Village of Homewood for lobbying services from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 in the amount of \$3,000 per month.
- B. Bid Award/Leaf Pickup Services/Homewood Disposal, Inc.: Award the bid for Contract Leaf Pickup Services to Homewood Disposal, Inc., the sole bidder, of Homewood, IL in the amount of \$28,779 for leaf pickup on November 1st, 15th, and 29th, of 2023.
- C. Budget Amendment/Emergency Repair to Central Water Tank/Ray's Welding Co, Inc.: Waive competitive bidding due to emergency repair work; approve a budget amendment for \$28,400; and, approve the payment of \$28,400 to Ray's Welding Co, Inc. of Benton Harbor, MI for completing emergency repairs on the central water tank.
- D. Budget Amendment/Emergency Purchase/Ford F250 Pickup Truck: Approve a budget amendment allocating \$72,000.26 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to purchase a 2022 Ford F250 pickup truck; waive competitive bidding as an emergency purchase due to limited vehicle availability; and, approve the purchase of a 2022 Ford F250 pickup truck vehicle from D'Orazio Ford of Wilmington, IL for \$53,109.26, with \$18,891 for additional vehicle equipment for a total of \$72,000.26.
- E. Budget Amendment/Emergency Purchase/Ford Police Utility Vehicle: Approve a budget amendment allocating \$51,011.26 of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the purchase of a 2023 Ford Police Utility vehicle; waive competitive bidding for an emergency purchase due to limited vehicle availability; and, approve the purchase of a 2023 Ford Police Utility vehicle from D'Orazio Ford for \$44,301.26, and \$6,710 for additional equipment.
- F. M-2257/Donation of Surplus Property/Bicycles: Pass an ordinance authorizing the donation of nine bicycles as abandoned, lost, or stolen property recovered by the Homewood Police Department to Restoration Ministries, Inc., of Harvey, IL.
- G. M-2258/Sale of Surplus Property/Chairs and Desk: Pass an ordinance authorizing the sale of surplus property consisting of 20 chairs and one desk to South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force for the price of one dollar.
- H. R-3150/Joint Task Force Agreement/South Suburban Emergency Response Team: Pass a resolution authorizing the Village President to enter into a Joint Task Force Agreement.

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

Trustee Roman asked if, in the future, it is possible for the bicycles to be given to Homewood residents rather than donated to a charity outside of the village. Attorney Cummings said he would check on whether that can be an option.

**Roll Call: AYES—Trustees Purcell, Willis, Colton, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, and Roman. NAYS – None. Motion carried.**

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION: Trustee Colton suggested the board's agenda be amended to allow for greater discussion of issues that do not necessarily require immediate board action. She pointed to the future of businesses, especially along Halsted Street, as online purchasing increases. She believes issues such as that deserve discussion.

Trustee Heiferman said he appreciates the idea, but the board should meet for a workshop on the issue and other topics.

President Hofeld said he would be willing to schedule a Committee of the Whole meeting to review and discuss the village's economic development efforts.

ADJOURN: A motion was made by Trustee Purcell and seconded by Trustee Roman to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

**Roll Call: AYES—Trustees Purcell, Willis, Colton, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, and Roman. NAYS – None. Motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Thomas

Village Clerk