

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY MAY 13, 2025
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: President Hofeld called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7 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 Julie Willis, Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, Trustee Jay Heiferman, Trustee Phillip Mason, Trustee Lauren Roman and Trustee Allisa Opyd.

President Hofeld introduced staff present: Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Village Attorney Chris Cummings, Director of Community and Economic Development Angela Mesaros, Director of Public Works Josh Burman, Police Chief Denise McGrath, Fire Chief Bob Grabowski, Director of Finance Amy Zukowski and Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah.

MINUTES: The minutes of the regular board meeting of April 22, 2025, were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

A motion was made by Trustee Opyd and seconded by Trustee Mason to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, Mason, Roman and Opyd. NAYS –None. ABSTAIN –Trustee Willis. Motion carried.

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$1,495,730.86 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Willis, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, Mason, Roman and Opyd. NAYS –None. Motion carried.

President Hofeld said four items totaled 52 percent of the Claims List: \$303,656.78 to the City of Chicago Heights for Lake Michigan water; \$141,541.65 for E-COM; \$254,499.23 for employee health insurance for May; \$83,161.27 to Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: Resident Amy Crump addressed the board on the need to follow norms and rules as part of ethics in government. She warned that when persons in elected office, as well as lawyers, doctors and others in position of authority ignore ethics it is easy for society to be manipulated.

Several people again addressed the Board supporting Rabid Brewing's proposal to acquire the Village-owned property at 3003-3025 183rd Street. Supporters shared how the brewery is a special Homewood and has made a difference in their lives. The business is also a big supporter of Chicago

Knockouts roller derby team that has been using the Homewood Auditorium for its training and meets.

Rabid Owner Tobias Cichon thanked the many supporters who have written letters and given heartfelt messages regarding Rabid's efforts to acquire the building for its new location.

Rev. Doyle Landry shared that he attended the ribbon-cutting for the new science wing at Homewood-Flossmoor High School.

Before the board adjourned, outgoing clerk Marilyn Thomas and Allisa Opyd offered their thanks for the chance to serve the village. Trustee Opyd named staff members who do an extraordinary job for the village and residents. She encouraged residents to get involved and be engaged through the various links to village happenings.

Adjourn Sine Die:

A motion was made by Trustee Roman and seconded by Trustee Mason to end the meeting sine die.

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Willis, Harris-Jones, Heiferman, Mason, Roman and Opyd. NAYS – None. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY: Cook County Circuit Court Judge Barbara Dawkins administered the oath of office to President Richard Hofeld, Clerk Nakina Flores, Trustee Lauren Roman, Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, Trustee Phillip Mason, and Trustee Patrick Siemsen.

ROLL CALL: Clerk Flores called the roll. Those present were Village President Richard Hofeld, Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, Trustee Julie Willis, Trustee Jay Heiferman, Trustee Phillip Mason, Trustee Patrick Siemsen, and Trustee Lauren Roman.

Presentation: President Hofeld issued a proclamation declaring May 18-24, 2025 as Public Works week. Josh Burman announced an open house for public works from 10 am to 1 pm on Saturday, May 17. He urged the public to come out and explore public works and to ask any questions of staff..

Omnibus Vote: Consider a motion to pass, approve, authorize, accept, or award the following item(s):

- A. Agreement/Grass Cutting/C & T Landscaping: Waive competitive bidding due to utilizing a vendor that is currently under contract in the Village; and, authorize the Village Manager to enter into an agreement with C & T Landscaping of Lynwood, IL for grass cutting, nuisance vegetation trimming, and debris removal services for non-code compliant multi-family, commercial, and industrial properties within Homewood during calendar year 2025; for an amount not-to-exceed \$70,000. This amount will be allocated and shared between two contracted landscape companies (Utermark & Sons of Homewood, IL and C & T Landscaping of Lynwood, IL).
- B. Agreement/Grass Cutting/Utermark and Sons: Authorize the Village Manager to exercise an option to renew the existing contract with Utermark and Sons of Homewood, IL for grass cutting, nuisance vegetation trimming, and debris removal for privately owned non-

compliant properties during the 2025 calendar year; for an amount not-to-exceed \$70,000. This amount will be allocated and shared between two contracted landscape companies (Utermark & Sons of Homewood, IL and C & T Landscaping of Lynwood, IL). This agreement was originally approved in 2024 and provided that the Village could renew for two successive years under the same terms and conditions as in the original agreement.

- C. Bid Award/Pavement Marking/America's Parking Remarkings: Award the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 pavement marking bid to America's Parking Remarkings of Lynwood, IL, the lowest responsible bidder, for the unit prices of \$0.18/4" paint pavement marking, \$0.55/6" paint pavement marking, \$1.25/12" paint pavement marking, \$2.75/24" paint pavement marking, and \$3.05/paint letters and symbols, for a total amount not to exceed \$94,892.07.
- D. Change Order Approval/Water Rate Study/Burns & McDonnell: Approve a change order to the Agreement for Engineering Services with Burns & McDonnell of Chicago, IL previously approved on May 28, 2024, in the amount of \$23,500 to complete the Village's comprehensive water rate study.
- E. Budget Amendment/Police Department Radios/Motorola Solutions Credit Company LLC: Approve a budget amendment of \$45,400 to the General Fund for the final payment to Motorola Solutions Credit Company LLC for the Police Department radios.
- F. Lease Agreement/Cardiac Monitors/Stryker Inc.: Waive competitive bidding due to utilization of a single source supplier that meets specifications; and, approve a four-year lease agreement with Stryker Inc. of Portage, MI, in an annual amount of \$29,140.43 per year for a total amount of \$116,561.72.
- G. R-3221/Class 8 Real Estate Tax Classification/17627 Halsted Street: Pass a resolution supporting and consenting to a Class 8 Cook County Real Estate Tax Classification for the property at 17627 Halsted Street, owned by Jeffrey Vierra.
- H. R-3222/Class 8 Real Estate Tax Classification/2034 Ridge Road: Pass a resolution supporting and consenting to extension of the Class 8 Cook County Real Estate Tax Classification for the La Banque Hotel property at 2034 Ridge Road, owned by Gendreau Homewood Holdings LLC.
- I. R-3223/Cook County Hazard Multi-Jurisdictional Mitigation Plan: Pass a resolution adopting the 2024 update for the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- J. Budget Amendment/Contract/Prairie Lakes Stormwater Detention Facility/Fehr Graham: Approve a budget amendment in the amount not to exceed \$72,500; and, authorizing the Village President to enter into a contract with Fehr Graham of Aurora, IL to provide consultant services for work associated with the Prairie Lakes Stormwater Detention Facility in an amount not to exceed \$80,000; subject to final approval of the General Conditions by the Village Attorney. The original contract was \$100,000 but was reduced to \$80,000. Izaak Walton is paying \$7,500.00, bringing the village cost to \$72,500.
- K. Intergovernmental Agreement/Regional Transportation Authority/Interagency Signage: Authorize the Village President to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Regional Transportation Authority regarding the installation and maintenance of interagency (Metra and Pace) wayfinding signage.

Assistant Village Manager Acquah spoke about the partnership with Izaak Walton and the village to retain a consulting firm for testing and monitoring of the Prairie Lakes Stormwater Detention Facility. The goal is to support the long term environmental health of the basin. Two firms responded and Fehr Graham was selected to complete the water quality and comprehensive testing.

Matt Drabek, a project manager with Fehr Graham, said that the company has been operating for about 50 years and has worked with several local counties including Kendall, Kane, and DuPage. They have a lot of experience with storm water systems, water quality, and sediment sampling.

They plan to administer 3 rounds of sampling to take place in spring with heavy rains, in summer during drought conditions, and winter for water flows, base flow, and salting. A progress report is expected in August. The final report will be done in December after the last sample is taken, with results of overall environmental health and any recommendations.

Manager Haney thanked John Brinkman and Kevin Jennings from the Izaak Walton Preserve for supporting the Village's efforts to evaluate the water quality of the Prairie Lakes.

Before the vote, President Hofeld invited questions from the audience regarding items on the consent agenda. There were no comments.

A motion was made by Trustee Opyd and seconded by Trustee Harris-Jones to accept the Omnibus Agenda items as presented.

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, Mason, and Roman. NAYS – None. Motion carried.

General Board Discussion: Each of the trustees thanked Marilyn Thomas and Trustee Opyd for all of their years of wonderful service. Trustee Harris-Jones acknowledged Marla Youngblood the events manager along with police, public works and community partners for a job well done at the Homewood baseball parade.

Trustee Jay Heiferman congratulated the newly elected officials.

Trustee Patrick Siemsen looks further to extending his services.

Trustee Mason welcomed newly elected officials.

Trustee Roman welcomed newly elected officials and stated these are the meetings she enjoys.

President Hofeld thanked Marilyn Thomas for her service as Village Clerk and congratulated all Trustees and said he looks forward to working with everyone.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Trustee Roman and seconded by Trustee Mason to adjourn the regular session of the Board of Trustees.

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Mason, Siemsen and Roman. NAYS – None. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nakina Flores
Village Clerk