

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

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

President Hofeld introduced staff present: Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Village Attorney Chris Cummings, Chief of Police Thomas Johnson, Director of Finance Amy Zukowski, Director of Economic and Community Development Noah Schumerth, Director of Public Works Joshua Burman, Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah, Assistant to the Village Manager Anne Mitchell, Communication and Engagement Manager Antonia Steinmiller.

MINUTES: The minutes of August 11, 2026 were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

A motion was made by Trustee Siemsen and seconded by Trustee Roman to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, Mason, Roman. NAYS –None. ABSENT-Trustee Harris-Jones.

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$781,895.84 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, Mason, Roman. NAYS –None. ABSENT-Trustee Harris-Jones.

President Hofeld said four items totaled 80 percent of the Claims List: \$96,000 for pavement markings in the village, \$365,000 for one month's employee health insurance, \$89,000 for one month to Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District, \$77,000 to Trees R Us for storm-related tree removal service.

OATHS OF OFFICE: The Village Clerk administered the oath of office to Connie Youpel for the position of Utilities Division Supervisor in the Public Works Department.

PRESENTATION: Antonia Steinmiller presented the refresh of the Village of Homewood's style guide with brighter colors and bolder fonts. There will be a new website and the Home Sweet Homewood logo will be formally adopted. The last refresh was in 2011.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: A resident thanked the electrical line crews for all their work restoring the power outage. He asked for 28 South Suburban communities to support the United Coalitions infrastructure grid.

OMNIBUS VOTE: The board was asked to pass, approve, authorize, accept, or award the following item(s):

- A. Reappointment/Ethics Commission/Gerald Fritz: Approve the reappointment of Gerald Fritz to the Ethics Commission for a three-year term ending on August 25, 2029.
- B. Reappointment/Tree Committee/Tony Greep: Approve the reappointment of Tony Greep to the Tree Committee for a three-year term ending on August 25, 2029.
- C. R-3272/Extension of Disaster Declaration: Pass a resolution extending the August 11, 2026 Disaster Declaration for the Village of Homewood through September 18, 2026.
- D. Budget amendment/Phase II Engineering and Design Services/Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Plan: Approve a budget amendment of \$100,000 to the Downtown TOD Tax Increment Financing Fund for the completion of the engineering and design services associated with Phase II of the Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Plan.
- E. M-2447/Suspending Water Bill Penalties/August 2026: Pass an ordinance suspending the imposition of the ten percent (10%) penalty for all current water charges that are unpaid as of August 21, 2026, in order to provide financial relief to water and sewer customers due to the recent severe weather events.
- F. Contract/Roof Restoration/Village Hall and Auditorium/Weatherproofing Technologies, Inc.: Waive competitive bidding due to utilizing a cooperative purchasing program; and, authorize the Village President to enter into a contract with Weatherproofing Technologies, Incorporated (WTI), for roof restoration at Village Hall and Auditorium, located at 2020 and 2010 Chestnut Road, in an amount not to exceed \$399,598.40.

Before the vote, President Hofeld invited comments. There were no comments.

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

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, Mason, Roman. NAYS –None. ABSENT-Trustee Harris-Jones.

NEW BUSINESS: Amy Zukowski said that Jiao 66 is requesting a class 4A liquor licenses for the Jiao 66 Mongolian Grill at 2018 Ridge Road. The liquor commissioner is in support. Katy from Jiao 66 said they will be doing a soft opening on Sept 1, and a grand opening two weeks later.

A motion was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee Siemsen to pass an ordinance amending the Table of the Number of Liquor License Limitations by Class, increasing the allowed number of Class 4A liquor licenses by one for the Jiao 66 Mongolian Grill and Dumplings subject to successful completion of the liquor license application process.

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, Mason, Roman. NAYS –None. ABSENT-Trustee Harris-Jones.

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION: Trustees thanked residents for coming to the board meeting and invited residents to the Back to School Bash and food giveaway for families affected by the storm, and the Cook County Multi Agency Resource Center for people in need of debris removal, food assistance, and other benefits. Joshua Burman said each street has had at least one pickup of debris on parkways. He said at this time residents are responsible for grass restoration. Trustee Siemsen commended the Village for their staff recruitments and thanked Trustee Mason for all of his efforts

to help all communities. Trustee Roman thanked Antonia Steinmiller for the refresh. President Hofeld said there is an enormous pile where all the debris is being taken for now until Cook County can assist with them. He encouraged residents to drive down 175th Street to look at it.

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

Roll Call: AYES --Trustees, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, Mason, Roman. NAYS –None. ABSENT-Trustee Harris-Jones.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nakina Flores
Village Clerk