



Village of Homer Glen

**14240 W. 151st Street
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491**

January 25, 2023

**Board of Trustees
Village Board Meeting**

**Village Board Room
14240 W. 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491**

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on January 25, 2023 by Mayor Yukich at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Board Room, 14240 W. 151st Street, Homer Glen.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

C. INVOCATION - Brett Westcott gave the invocation.

D. ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Yukich, Trustees Ruben Pazmino, Dan Fialko, Nicole La Ha, Trustee Beth Rodgers and Rose Reynders. Also present on behalf of the Village were, Village Attorney Eric Hanson, Legislative Counsel Cary Horvath, Director of Planning and Zoning Melissa King, Economic Development Director Janie Patch, Chief Building Official Joe Baber, Village Engineer Brett Westcott Assistant to the Village Manager Gia Cassin, Village Manager Carmen Maurella, and Village Clerk Christina Neitzke-Troiike.

A quorum was established.

Trustee Consolino Absent

E. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA – None

F. PUBLIC COMMENT –

- 1. Russ Petrizo** - Mr. Petrizo stated he received roughly one hundred phone calls regarding the part-time police department and felt it was necessary to speak. When the Village of Homer Glen incorporated, the Village's one motto was no municipal tax. The volunteers who worked hard, promised the people of the Village no municipal tax. The volunteers worked hard to bring businesses into Homer Glen to pay sales tax, so the residents did not have to pay a municipal tax. Mr. Petrizo stated the easiest and best thing to do was to negotiate with the Sheriff's office to avoid the expense of starting a Homer Glen police department. The Village currently pays \$4 million dollars for experienced Officers and SWAT teams. Mr. Petrizo stated it would roughly be \$10 million dollars to start a new police department. Mr. Petrizo asked why the Village is paying for two sets of attorneys.
- 2. Dave Medema** – Mr. Medema stated he has been hearing something has been going on the last few meetings regarding Trustee Pazmino. Mr. Medema stated he stands tall to say Trustee Pazmino is his friend, he is a man of integrity, he does what is right for the community, and the best for the residents. Mr. Medema stated if anyone disagrees on his comments, he will stay to the end of the meeting.
- 3. Sharon Sweas** – Ms. Sweas stated she recently watched the December 14, 2022 meeting regarding comments made by a trustee stating it is normal for employees to leave when a new Board takes control. Ms. Sweas stated she has been involved with the Village since 2008 in one aspect or another, and has not seen 21-22 employees leave in such a short period of time. Ms. Sweas has never seen such outbursts from the Village Board to residents as she did at the December 14, 2022 meeting. Ms. Sweas stated she believes some Trustees have been

electioneering. Ms. Sweas also stated the Village agenda was changed to move Public Comment before Reports, to not allow the public to comment after reports.

4. **Judy Van Lonkhuyzen** – Ms. Van Lonkhuyzen stated after the last meeting, when Trustee Fialko brought up FIOA's, she looked into the FOIA's online. Ms. Van Lonkhuyzen found the FOIA from May 25, 2022 interesting as it asked for personal information on Trustee Rodgers in the name Juby Moriarty. Ms. Van Lonkhuyzen stated everyone should be mortified. Ms. Van Lonkhuyzen stated one of the FOIA's from Trustee Consolino, asked why Ms. Bonecki and Ms. Moriarty were at the Village Hall meeting the Mayor. Judy alleged Trustee Consolino bullied her so much on Facebook that the Norma Ray Crusade page was taken down.

G. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND OTHER OFFICERS

Mayor Yukich – Mayor Yukich stated there was a lot of yelling at the last meeting. The Mayor stated he does not understand why there is a divide. Mayor Yukich alleged that Trustee Consolino started a rumor of him having an affair. Mayor Yukich stated the Board is putting out too many fires to service the residents. Mayor Yukich stated Broque Backal was misinformed on what Broque Backal stated at the last Board Meeting.

Trustee La Ha – Trustee La Ha stated it is hard to sit at the dais and hear allegations. Trustee La Ha stated she sees things from both sides. Trustee La Ha stated we have been in session for thirty minutes and have not talked about nothing but negativity. Trustee La Ha stated she has seventy days left and this is not how she wanted to spend her remaining days. She stated we need to start supporting each other. Some of these public comments are hurtful to listen to as Homer Glen is her home. She wants to inspire people to run for office one day, but it is hard to do with the negativity. The personal attacks are not worth it.

Trustee La Ha reported on the Ability Awareness Committee. Trustee La Ha stated the Ability Awareness Committee had a round table discussion and thanked Bob O'Conner and Mary Dixon from ARC. Trustee La Ha stated she still has residents calling looking for more information and more opportunities to find more information. Trustee La Ha thanked Village Manager Maurella for stepping up to help the Ability Awareness Committee. The Ability Awareness Committee is hosting a Valentine's Day social in February.

Trustee Pazmino – Trustee Pazmino stated he had reached out to the entire Village Board many of times, we are all good people.

The Village is in better shape than it has ever been. The Village is running on less staff, we have a surplus of money, we kept the taxes low, maintained and improved services, and created new committees. Trustee Pazmino stated we are no better or worse than anyone else. Trustee Pazmino stated Broque Backal's statements were lies. Trustee Pazmino wants to move forward and work for the residents and do what's right. Trustee Pazmino asked to hit the reset button for the third time and make Mayor Yukich's last seventy days positive and work productively.

Reporting for the Behavioral Health and Additional Recovery Committee:

Monday we had our first meeting and it was fantastic. We covered the finalization of our Committee Branding, we solidified our goals for the next meetings which included reaching out to The Will County Sheriffs Dept and the Will County Board of Health so that we can strengthen our ideas with their existing programs and perhaps even get them to come out and present at our meetings.

Just to give everyone an idea of exactly what this committee does, it:

- Explore partnerships with non-profit organizations, businesses, municipalities, and school

districts to increase educational and assistance offerings for residents.

- This committee will plan and execute addiction awareness campaigns, including but not limited to Village proclamations, fundraising drives, and digital content.
- Researches and assists with grant applications for the Village to fund these programs locally.
 - Most importantly, this committee will be a hub for Family, friends and loved ones to seek help give help and be even more aware of the horrible epidemic addiction has become and what we can do to prevent, detect and react.

I wish to thank our current committee members and Village Staff:

Mark Raber, Village Manager Carmen Maurella, Chief Inspector Joe Baber and Asst. Village Manager Gia Cassin for your hard work and dedication to get this very much needed program started.

If anyone would like to be a committee member or a volunteer, please reach out to myself or Carmen Maurella @ rpazmino@homerglenil.org or cmaurella@homerglenil.org. We are also working on a page on our village site and a Facebook page that will list all events and info.

Our next meeting February 27th at 6pm.

Trustee Reynders – Trustee Reynders reported on the CED committee. There were several proposals for the land planner for the proposed Town Center. The CED Committee narrowed it down to three proposals. They decided on the Dakota group. They had their finger on the pulse with community nature and harmony and keeping the character of the village. They placed the call to them on Friday and offered them the position. One of the things that really impressed Trustee Reynders was their community engagement.

Trustee Reynders reported on the Park and Rec Committee. There are three areas of importance in Heritage Park regarding parking. The inner circle parking was discussed and brought down so it is not so large but still serves the same purpose and not take up so much land. The three areas of importance are the inner circle of the park, the area where the cul-de-sac would go, and the parking adjacent to the Village Hall. The Village will lose some parking due to the widening of 151st street. Trustee Reynders and Brett Westcott sat down with Touch of Green, as they were the only ones who submitted a proposal for the Veterans Memorial. The Committee does plan to move forward with them. The cost of the Veteran's Memorial will increase roughly \$100k over the original estimated cost due to inflation of materials and labor cost. The Park Committee applied for a \$50,000 grant and is waiting to hear back. Moving forward, they will probably allocate another \$50,000 to the budget for the Veterans Memorial. The brick program is being put together by Brett Westcott and Trustee Reynders and they are moving forward.

Trustee Fialko – Trustee Fialko thanked Brett Westcott for his invocation and hopes it will resonate well, not only through the Village Board, but those in the audience who are sent to do the dirty work of others. Trustee Fialko stated everything the Board votes on is in public record. Trustee Fialko stated it is election time, they are getting a barrage of people coming up to speak and hopes it's the concerns of the individuals and not the work of others. Trustee Fialko stated they do want to work with the community. This Board has dropped the annexation fee, they kept taxes low, they took off a seven-million-dollar levy off the agenda, they are bringing business to empty strip malls, they brought gaming into Lenny's Gas and Wash to help supplement the cost of the road district coming that came in. Trustee Fialko would like to work together.

Trustee Fialko reported on the Homer Fest. They have twelve bands and fourteen performances lined up for Homer Fest. As soon as the contracts are signed they will be able to release that information

on January 30, 2022. The Fest Committee is waiting to hear back from a grant they applied for to bring a bigger and better fest to the community. They do not want to raise taxes to make that happen.

Clerk Neitzke – Troike – Clerk Neitzke – Troike stated the executive session minutes were supposed to be on the agenda for today’s meeting, however Manager Maurella requested it be rescheduled to the January 30, 2023, Special Board Meeting. Clerk Neitzke – Troike stated she agrees with the sentiments of Trustee Pazmino and hoped the Village can move forward.

Trustee Rodgers – Trustee Rodgers directed her comments to resident Mr. Petrizo by stating she was hopeful to have some questions answered in the workshop prior to residents voting on April regarding the part-time police department.

Village Manager Carmen Maurella – Manager Maurella reminded the residents that the Village of Homer Glen is collecting valentines for the Veteran’s and the seniors. Manager Maurella had the opportunity to hang out with the Ability Awareness Committee and discussed a lot of great ideas. There will be a fundraiser hosted by the SWSRA at Oak Prairie on February 28, 2023. It is a wheelchair basketball fundraiser and it would be a great idea for the Ability Awareness Committee to come and spend some time there as the Ability Awareness Committee discussed hosting something similar.

Attorney Horvath – No Report

Attorney Hanson – No Report

H. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider for Approval the Accounts Payable for the Period of January 13, 2023 through January 26, 2023 in the Amount of \$449,119.89.
2. Consider for Approval the Treasurer’s Report of Cash and Investments for the Period Ending October 31, 2022.
3. Consider for Approval the Treasurer’s Report of Cash and Investments for the Period Ending November 30, 2022.

Trustee Fialko motioned to approve, second by Trustee Reynders.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

H. LEGISLATION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. **Motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-004, an Ordinance approving an Extension of the Variances granted via Ordinance 22-009 for certain real property located at 13740 W**

Chicago Bloomington Trail, Homer Glen, Illinois.

Trustee Fialko motioned to approve, second by La Ha.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

2. **Motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-005 a request of [1] a Special Use Permit for a Major Amendment to the McDonald's Planned Unit Development (PUD) with certain exceptions, and [2] a Site Plan, for certain real property commonly known as 14298 S Bell Road, Homer Glen, Illinois (McDonald's Corporation and Franchise Realty Investment Trust – IL, a Maryland Corporation.)**

Trustee Rodgers motioned to approve, second by Trustee Fialko.

Trustee Rodgers and Trustee Fialko withdrew their motions.

Trustee Rodgers motioned to approve and adopt option one, second by Trustee Fialko.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

3. **Motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-006 a request for [1] an Amendment to a Special Use Permit for Outdoor Sales, [2] a Special Use Permit for Outdoor Storage and, [3] a Variance to reduce the required off-street parking space from three hundred and sixty-eight (368) to two hundred and ninety-five (295) spaces for certain real property located in the C-3 General Business District at 15830 S. Bell Road, Homer Glen, Illinois.**

Trustee Pazmino motioned to approve, second by Trustee Fialko.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

4. Motion to approve a reimbursement grant award under the Commercial Building Improvement Grant Program to Founders-Homer Glen, LLC for eligible improvements at 14845 S Founders Crossing in the amount of \$10,000.00.

Trustee Reynders motioned to approve, second by Trustee Pazmino.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

5. Motion to approve a Contract with HR Green for Engineering Services to Provide a Stormwater Study for Spaniel Lake in the amount of \$13,778.

Trustee Fialko motioned to approve, second by Trustee Reynders.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

6. Motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-007 Amending the Penalty for Violation of Regulations for Parking During Snow Emergencies.

Trustee La Ha motioned to approve, second by Trustee Pazmino.

The Village Board and staff felt the current fines were excessive. Trustee Fialko stated any time the Village of Homer Glen could reduce costs for the residents, it is a good thing.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

- 7. Motion to approve the Amended Mayor and Village Board Standard Operating Procedure No. 001 to reflect the removal of the Emergency Management Agency from committee status and creating the Emergency Management Department.**

Trustee Rodgers motioned to approve, second by Trustee Pazmino.

Village Manager Maurella stated EMA is looking to receive grants, it is harder to receive a grant when it is established as a committee instead of a department. Trustee Fialko stated there will be no extra cost by making this transition.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

- 8. Motion to approve the Amended Mayor and Village Board Standard Operating Procedure No. 003 to reflect the changes to the Village Staff Traffic and Parking Restriction Review Group.**

Trustee Rodgers motioned to approve, second by Trustee La Ha.

Trustee Reynders raised the question of why this was being changed. Manager Maurella stated this is more of an internal clean up.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

Present: (0)

The motion carried

- 9. Motion to approve Ability Awareness Committee Chair and Committee member(s) recommendation of Beth Rodgers to be appointed as the committee Co-Chair for the remainder of this term through May of 2023.**

Trustee La Ha motioned to approve, second by Trustee Fialko.

Trustee La Ha stated the Ability Awareness Committee is a very active committee and to allow it to proceed, a co-chair would be necessary.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha

Nays: (0)
Abstained: (0)
Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino
Present: (0)
The motion carried

10. Motion to approve Ordinance No. 23-003, an Ordinance amending the Code of the Village of Homer Glen, Chapter 138 “Land Use and Site Development”, amending Article 1: 138-1 and 138-5; and Chapter 220 “Zoning”, amending Articles VIII, IX, X, Attachment 1 (Table 1A) and Attachment 2 (Table 2A) [Case No. HG-2214-A].

Trustee Pazmino motioned to approve, second by Trustee Reynders.

Director of Planning and Zoning Melissa King, made a recommendation on how staff does the parking calculation. Director King requested the calculation portion be removed from the motion as she would like to review the calculation process.

Trustee Pazmino and Trustee Reynders withdrew their motions.

Trustee Pazmino motioned to Table Ordinance No. 23-003, second by Trustee Reynders.

The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Reynders, Rodgers, Fialko, and La Ha
Nays: (0)
Abstained: (0)
Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino
Present: (0)
The motion carried

J. OLD BUSINESS –

1. Trustee Fialko asked for Manager Maurella to give an update on Clarke Mosquito. Manager Maurella stated Clarke Mosquito gave an annual report on chemicals used, how many times they sprayed, along with more detailed information, which can be found on the Village of Homer Glen’s Website.
2. Trustee Rodgers asked Manager Maurella when the workshop would take place regarding the part-time police department. Manager Maurella stated they were planning to have the Workshop on the February 22, 2022 or March 8, 2022 meeting. Trustee Pazmino stated the purpose of the referendum regarding the part-time police department was to gather information and engage the residents for feedback. Trustee Pazmino stated we are in a different time right now and the Village Board would like to acquire more information. Trustee Fialko preferred to wait on the workshop until after the April 4, 2022. Trustee Fialko would like to know if Homer Glen residents are interested in a part-time police department prior to the workshop. Trustee Reynders stated residents came to them requesting to look into a part-time part time department due to the Safety Act soon to be in full force. Trustee La Ha agreed the referendum is easy to understand, but feels the Village of Homer Glen should provide some information for the residents to get the

facts straight. The Village Board of Trustees agreed to have the workshop at the March 8, 2022 meeting. Trustee La Ha stated she will not be in attendance for the March 8, 2022 meeting.

K. NEW BUSINESS – None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee La Ha motioned to adjourn, second by Trustee Fialko.

Voice Vote:

Ayes: (5) Trustees Pazmino, Rodgers, La Ha, Reynders, and Fialko

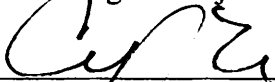
Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0)

Absent: (1) Trustee Consolino

The motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m..



Christina Neitzke-Troike, Village Clerk

Approved at the Board of Trustees Meeting dated March 22, 2023