



HOMER TOWNSHIP

Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

December 13, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.

Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151st Street,
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491

The meeting will be conducted at the Homer Township Office located at 14350 W. 151st Street, Homer Glen, Illinois, 60491 in accordance with Illinois Gubernatorial Executive Orders, Restore Illinois Phase 5 and CDC Guidelines.

An audio recording of the meeting will be available on the website:
<http://www.homertownship.com/>

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order on December 13, 2021, by Township Supervisor Balich at 7:00 pm at the Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151st Street, Homer Glen, Illinois 60491.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation¹

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. John Walters did the Invocation.

3. Roll Call for Quorum

Present were Supervisor Steve Balich, Trustees Matt Connelly, Rob Rivera, and Michael Bonomo, Clerk Vicki Bozen, Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio, and Collector Mark Gawron. Trustee Angela Adolf arrived at 8:06pm. Absent was Assessor Karen Szynkowski. *A quorum was established*

4. Public Comments (Limited to one 3-minute comment per person)

a. Individuals who signed up are allowed to talk for 3 minutes during public comment

b. Please no interruptions or talking out of turn

John Walters commented on the deer culling by the Will County Forest Preserve and that they are not heading our request

Joe Turrise commented on the deer culling and said a referendum was passed in 2012 that there would be no deer culling in Homer Glen,

Kathleen Konicki commented on the deer culling and mentioned the lack of notice

Randy Juras commented on the deer culling and mentioned about birth control or other options

Karen Wirth commented on Mr. Porfilio's Special Needs Grant and protecting the privacy of the recipients

Darren Deskin commented on Lockport residents subsidizing the road in Homer Township

Supervisor Steve Balich clarified that Homer Township will not be giving money to anyone except for what is required according to State Statute.

5. Clerk Vicki Bozen Report

a. Approval of Minutes

i. Motion to approve the November 8, 2021, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes

1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly

All in Favor

Ayes (4)

Nay (0)

ii. Motion to approve November 23, 2021, Special Board Meeting Minutes

1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo

All in Favor

Ayes (4)

Nay (0)

iii. Motion to approve but not release November 23, 2021, Closed Meeting Minutes

¹ Homer Township does not endorse religious faith. The prayer is intended to lend solemnity to the public meeting and invite an attitude of respect and consideration.

- 1st Balich 2nd Rivera
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- iv. Motion to approve October 13, 2021, Special Board Meeting Minutes
1st Connelly 2nd Rivera
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- v. Motion to approve August 31, 2021, Special Board Meeting Minutes
1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- vi. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated January 14, 2019
1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- vii. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated February 11, 2019
1st Connelly 2nd Rivera
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- viii. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated April 8, 2019
1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- ix. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated May 13, 2019
1st Rivera 2nd Connelly
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- x. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated July 22, 2020
1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- xi. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated August 10, 2020
1st Connelly 2nd Rivera
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- xii. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated September 14, 2020
1st Rivera 2nd Bonomo
All in Favor
Ayes (4)
Nay (0)
- xiii. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated September 29, 2020
1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
All in Favor

- Ayes (4)
- Nay (0)
- xiv. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated November 9, 2020
 - 1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo
 - All in Favor
 - Ayes (4)
 - Nay (0)
- xv. Motion to release Executive Minutes dated February 8, 2021
 - 1st Rivera 2nd Connelly
 - All in Favor
 - Ayes (4)
 - Nay (0)
- xvi. Motion to approve and release Executive Minutes dated April 12, 2021
 - 1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
 - All in Favor
 - Ayes (4)
 - Nay (0)

Clerk Vicki Bozen read the letter from the Attorney General in regard to the Open Meetings Act with access to meetings and mandates

6. Supervisor Steve Balich Report

- a. Motion to adopt Ordinance No. HT2021-1213-ORD1, an ordinance levying taxes for all Town purposes for Homer Township, Will County, Illinois for the tax year 2021 collectible in 2022.
 - The 2021 Levy will have a decreased spending of over \$260,000.00.
 - 1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
 - Roll Call
 - Ayes (4) Rivera, Bonomo, Connelly, Balich
 - Nay (0)
- b. Motion to approve Ordinance Number HT2021-1213-ORD2, abating a portion of taxes heretofore levied to pay principal of and interest on certain General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2012A of Homer Township, Will County, Illinois.
 - This is done every December regarding the Alternative Revenue Bonds for the Founders Crossing Senior Housing facility and, while the Township is obligated to continue levying for this, it has sufficient revenues to cover bond payments and, therefore, abates the taxes.
 - 1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
 - Ayes (4) Bonomo, Connelly, Rivera, Balich
 - Nay (0)
- c. Motion to direct Supervisor to send a letter to the Will County Forest Preserve to ask them to halt the culling of deer in Homer Township.
 - 1st Rivera 2nd Bonomo
 - All in Favor
 - Ayes (4)
 - Nay (0)
- d. Motion to allow the donation of Welter Barn from Trantina Farm to Walter Konow. The barn is rotting and in need of major repair. Mr. Konow will remove, reassemble, and restore the barn at no cost to the Township.
 - 1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
 - Roll Call
 - Ayes (4) Connelly
- e. Motion to direct Supervisor to get necessary surveys and appraisals for Township properties.
 - 1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo
 - Roll Call
 - Ayes (4) Bonomo, Connelly, Rivera, Balich
 - Nay (0)
- f. Motion to allow Supervisor to obtain a survey of Trantina farm as there are neighbors encroaching on the

property.

1st Rivera 2nd Connelly

Roll Call

Ayes (4) Bonomo, Connelly, Rivera, Balich

Nay (0)

- g. A Cease-and-Desist letter has been sent to the property owners of those encroaching on Trantina Farm.
No Action
- h. Explanation of conservation easement in Wedgewood Highlands. No Action
- i. A Big Thank You to our outgoing Assessor Karen Szykowski for her many years of service to Homer Township and a Big Welcome to our new Assessor Carmen Maurella who will take office January 1, 2022.

7. Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio Report

- a. Motion to adopt the 2021 Road Levy Ordinance No. HTH-121321.

The 2021 Road Levy will have a substantial decrease going from over \$5,600,000.00 in the 2020 Levy to an amount of only \$1,750,000.00.

1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly

Roll Call

Ayes (4) Rivera, Connelly, Bonomo, Balich

Nay (0)

- b. Project for concrete and asphalt repair at Founders Crossing completed.

- c. HTRD site build out is in progress – currently in permitting phase.

Additionally Commissioner Porfilio commented on the Special Needs Grant that he is spearheading due to lack of resources for special needs adults.

8. Assessor Karen Szykowski Report: Absent

9. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports

- a. Senior Committee: Trustee Bonomo, Trustee Rivera, and Trustee Connelly
- b. Truck Enforcement Committee: Trustee Bonomo and Road Commissioner Porfilio
- c. Land Identification Committee: Trustee Adolf, Carmen Maurella and Mark Gawron

10. Accounting

- a. A motion to approve all payment of bills for November 2021: Founders Crossing Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park Developer Contribution, Park, Town, Road & Bridge, and Equipment & Building.

1st Adolf 2nd Connelly

Roll Call

Ayes (5) Adolf, Connelly, Bonomo, Rivera, Balich

- b. A motion to approve a line-item transfer in Open Space Budget and the Open Space Fund of \$800.00 from 990 Contingency to 740 Accounting.

1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo

Roll Call

Ayes (5) Connelly, Bonomo, Adolf, Rivera, Balich

Nay (0)

11. New Business

- a.

12. Old Business

- a. A long-term license agreement for Lockport Jr. Porters for a portion of Morris Park, still in progress.
- b. Check out “What’s Happening” which is a blog for the Township elected officials to post additional information regarding current events
- c. Supervisor, working with Bernardi Securities, to finalize the refinancing of the Founders Crossing Bonds

13. Roll Call Vote to Enter Closed Session (If Necessary)

- a. Approval to convene into Closed Session of the Homer Township Board to consider one or more of the following subjects under the Open Meetings Act: Section 2(c)(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the Township or legal counsel for the Township, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the Township or against legal counsel for the Township to determine its validity; Section 2(c)(11) pending, or probable

or imminent litigation against, affecting or on the behalf of the Township; Section 2(c)(21) minutes of prior meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of review, approval or release of such minutes

14. **Return to Open Session**
15. **Action Following Closed Session (If Any)**
 - a.
16. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:09pm
1st Connelly 2nd Adolf
All in Favor
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)

NOTICE UNDER THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

Persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations in this meeting should contact the Township Supervisor's Office, 14350 W. 151st Street, Homer Glen, IL 708-301-4534. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Please give at least 48 hours notice prior to the meeting. Request for ASL interpreters require five (5) working days advance notice.