



HOMER TOWNSHIP

Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

July 11, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

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

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 July 11, 2022, 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. Bridget Albert did the Invocation

3. **Roll Call for Quorum**

Present were Supervisor Steve Balich, Trustees Matt Connelly, Rob Rivera, Michael Bonomo, and Mark Gawron, Clerk Vicki Bozen, Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio, Assessor Carmen Maurella and Collector Angel Shake. *A quorum was established*

4. **HTHC Special Needs Grant Award**

Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio presented the Special Needs Grant Award of \$5,000.00 to Bridget Albert of Homer Glen. Bridget was in an accident when she was 20 years old and a junior at DePaul University. Her accident left Bridget in a coma for 27 days emerging with a mental handicap that she will have for the rest of her life. At Providence High School she was a Kairos leader and a sacristan and went to Italy with her youth group. After her accident she had to re-learn everything including walking, talking, eating and the things in life we take for granted. She is now living at home with a good support group. There isn't a day that goes by that Bridget isn't talking to someone about how God touched her life and about how He wants to touch their life as well. She loves Jesus and loves to talk about him. She loves horseback riding at the Hanson Center in Burr Ridge and her hobbies include making potholders, candles and holiday gifts. Her family will use the grant to set up a trust in her name.

- a. Awarded to Bridget Albert
- b. Coverage to be provided by local media
- c. Check to be presented

5. **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

Gail Snyder commented on the new tab on the Township's website called Welter Farm stating that it had old documents and minutes from 2002. She also commented on the planned unit development and the rezoning of property from A1 to E1 and A1 to C2. She also discussed the Illinois State Statute for open space. Additionally, she thanked us for addressing the problem with the video recording at the previous meeting.

Christina Neitzke-Troiike commented on the American Legion Post 2011 and that Lou would ask for our support in attending, promoting, and getting the word out about their events.

Sherri Boniecki-Cooling commented on the Spring Newsletter saying that it needed to include all the flags that were flown and must include all neighbors and beliefs. Also curious about the late fees from the May bills.

Ellen Moriarty wanted to know the status of the Sheriff's investigation into the papers that were placed on the cars of the seniors at the last senior gathering. She wants to also know why the meetings are now being

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.

held at Konow's as the gatherings can't be political and that is where they (Konow's) hosts political events and all the political signs are up. She also questioned where are the other 4 winners to the Special Needs Grant award. Road Commissioner Porfilio commented that there was only 1 application submitted.

6. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

a. Approval of Minutes

- i. Motion to approve June 13, 2022, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes
1st Connelly 2nd Gawron
All in Favor
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)

- b. Update on the Homer Township Annual Parade which was held on rain date June 26, 2022 along the Parker Road route.

Clerk Bozen asked for a moment of silence for the Highland Park Parade.

7. Supervisor Report: Steve Balich

- a. City of Lockport has approved 69 residential homes to be built in Oak Meadows of Lockport. Supervisor Balich explained this is for information only as there is no change in zoning or variance in building code so we have no objection to this development.
- b. Homer Township is to receive ARPA funds in August and CDBG funds in October for Founders Crossing Senior Housing. Supervisor Balich explained that we are still waiting for the funds.
- c. Early voting was a success
Supervisor Balich mentioned that the Township will remain as a place to early vote and the County had their people run the early voting.

8. Highway Commissioner Report: Brent Porfilio

Highway Commissioner Porfilio explained that the Special Needs Grant is in the Highway Commissioner's name and not his name.

a. UOE Labor 150 Strike and impacts

- i. More than 300 members of Local 150 remain on strike against Vulcan Materials, Lehigh Hanson and Lafarge Holcim.
Highway Commissioner Porfilio explained this is crippling a lot of projects.

b. HTRD Facility Buildout Update

- i. Building Build out – Landmark (June/July 2022 Completion)
- ii. Paving – PT Ferro (startup is dependent on HMA, PCC availability per 150 strike; completion 6-8 weeks after start up pending weather)

c. 2022 HTRD Roadway Program Update

- i. Pending award to Austin Tyler
- ii. August 2022 Construction Completion dependent on HMA, PCC availability per 150 strike
Highway Commissioner Porfilio explained this will be an 8 to 10 week completion.

d. Farrell Road Improvements

- i. Completion TBD due to lack of HMA availability – HMA Surface Course needs to be placed.
- ii. Limits - S/Bruce Road to 151st Street
- iii. Lockport/HTRD/LTRD IGA – 2 year payment cycle
- iv. \$100k – 0.8 miles – HMA mill and overlay, concrete r&r, cross walks, drainage improvements, etc.

Highway Commissioner Porfilio explained that the \$100,000 has a 2 year pay back cycle.

e. FPDWC/I-355 Bike Trail (East ROW)

- i. FPDWC/HTRD IGA – needed to avoid maintenance responsibilities/costs
- ii. Gougar Road bike trail spur under construction (163rd street to Gougar Road)
- iii. Bruce Road tunnel crossing completed last week

f. HTRD Staff

- i. Ongoing culvert replacements, ditch regarding/cleaning, roadway patching, resident call response, coordination of mowing w/ HGPW, evaluation and mitigation of sight distance triangles within 21 miles etc.

g. Tameling Drive traffic/truck issues

- i. Conducted meeting with residents 6/20/2022
- ii. Peak AM/PM Traffic counts to be taken week of 7/12/2022 (6-9 AM, 3-6 PM)

- iii. Vote to be conducted door to door on solution recommendations (next week)
Highway Commissioner Porfilio explained that many solutions were provided and that a vote will take place among residents to determine which action is taken. Also staff is doing a traffic count to document traffic. There are no sidewalks in this area for kids so they have to walk on streets.

9. Assessor Report: Carmen Maurella

Assessor Maurella explained that he signed over his books to the County and they will use these books to determine the multiplier. This multiplier will come from the State and the County and Township have no control over this matter.

10. Accounting

- a. A motion to approve all payment of bills for May 2022: Founders Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park Developer Contribution, Park, Town, Road & Bridge, and Equipment & Building.

Clerk Bozen explained that the May 2022 bills were presented at the June 13th Homer Township Town Board Meeting but the Agenda had stated it as the April 2022 bills. Clerk Bozen also explained that all bills for May 2022 were paid on time and no late fees were assessed.

1st Bonomo 2nd Rivera

Roll Call

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

Nay (0)

- b. A Motion to Approve all payment of bills for June 2022: Founders Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park Developer Contribution, Park, Town, Road & Bridge, and Equipment & Building

1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo

Roll Call

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

Nay (0)

11. New Business

- a. Supervisor Balich commented that American Legion Post 2011 to be put on the Agenda for August meeting to vote to recognize them as the Homer Township American Legion.
- b. Highway Commissioner Porfilio, in regards to the Special Needs Grant, wanted to thank Nicole LaHa, the members of the Ability Awareness Committee and the Village of Homer Glen HR Director Stacy.
- c. Trustee Bonomo commented that running the Bingo for the Homer Seniors is a lot of work and that he volunteers his time as well as several other people. Pastor Dana from Cross of Glory Church is nice enough to let us use her facility and the only reason we are now allowed to have it there tomorrow, July 12, 2022 is that she has an event taking place at her church. The senior luncheon is changed to Konow's only for this month and Joey's Red Hot will be donating the food as well as an Ice Cream Truck. The Seniors seem to be very happy with the events and it is attended by 65 to 85 people. The volunteers are very important to the continued success of this event and would like to see others helping out as opposed to criticizing an event they have never even attended or illegally posting flyers on cars of the seniors. Clerk Bozen also commented on how she has heard a lot of praise from the seniors as to how wonderful the events are to attend.

Note: this comment was made after Highway Commissioners report

12. Old Business

- a.

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 7:42pm

1st Connelly 2nd Gawron

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.