



HOMER TOWNSHIP

Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

February 6, 2023, 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 February 6, 2023, 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. Michael Bonomo did the Invocation.

3. Roll Call for Quorum

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

4. Public Comments (Must sign in and are limited to one 3-minute comment per person)

- Individuals who signed up are allowed to talk for 3 minutes during public comment
- Please no interruptions or talking out of turn
Angie Dryer commented on Senior Housing

5. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

a. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve January 9, 2023, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes
1st Connelly 2nd Gawron
All in Favor
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)

b. Parade: update by Clerk Bozen

- Parade will be held Saturday June 24, 2023 with a rain date of Sunday June 25th to coincide with Homerfest:

c. Pet Expo: update by Clerk Bozen

- Update on the PETFEST on Saturday June 17, 2023, at Town Center Park in Homer Glen.
 - Micro Pantry for Animals
 - IGA with the Village of Homer Glen to be approved at next meeting

d. Landscape

- Motion to approve landscape proposal for the Homer Township Administration Office.
Motion was made to approve Dahl's Landscape Company proposal for a total of \$15,395.00
1st Connelly 2nd Gawron
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Gawron, Connelly, Bonomo, Balich
Nay (0)

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.

e. **Outdoor Sign**

- i. Motion to approve outdoor sign proposal for Homer Township Administration Office.
Motion was made to approve Van Bruggen Signs, Inc for a total of \$8,146.00
1st Connelly 2nd Bonomo
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Connelly, Bonomo, Gawron, Balich
Nay (0)

f. **ComEd:** update by Clerk Bozen

- i. The following Township property lighting has been upgraded under the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program with no cost (\$0) to Homer Township and a **savings of \$15,763.63**
 - 1. Township Office upgraded and valued at \$10,999.13
 - 2. Town Hall and Maintenance Garage upgraded and valued at \$4,764.50

6. **Supervisor Report: Steve Balich**

a. Town Hall

- i. We will be having an open house/ribbon cutting at our newly updated Town Hall on February 16th at 5pm.

b. Micro Pantry

- i. Food pantry for Homer Township
Supervisor Balich commented on the Food Pantry that will be hosted at the Homer Township Administration Office.

7. **Highway Commissioner Report: Brent Porfilio**

- a. **2023 Roadway Program** - The scope of this annual program includes improving ~1 mile of roadways in the HTRD ROW, with an approximate budget of \$250k – this includes the entire ROW which includes not only the roadways (which is the only element done under previous administrations), but also driveway aprons, sidewalk, signing, drainage and parkways as needed. The recent January snow events have delayed our assessment to later this month, however at this time we have narrowed it down to looking at streets rated as a 2 or a 3 last year; and after the assessment will be deciding whether to improve subdivision roadways in the NW section of HTRD - east of Archer Ave. (~1.3 miles consisting of 138th Street, 147th Place, Bosham Avenue, Rickerman Rd, Rynberk Ct. & Shaeffer Ct. OR improving HTRD collector roadways (~1.25 miles consisting of Meader Road from Bruce Road to the HT border and Oak Avenue w/Gougar Rd.). The 2023 Roadway Program will be bid out this Spring.
- b. **Smith Road/Long Run Creek Bridge Replacement** – The IGA between HTRD/Lockport Township RD/City of Lockport was signed last week for this bridge replacement project. IDOT will be paying for 80% of the project costs, while the remaining 20% will be via a local agency funding match shared between the 3 IGA local agencies wherein each agency will be paying an estimated \$150k spread out over an estimated 3 years, on a monthly basis, based on an estimated total project cost for Engineering, CM and Construction of ~\$2.3M.) There was a QBS process used by all 3 agencies to select the Phase I engineering firm from a pool of 5 engineering companies, and this QBS process will be used for each project Phase, along with construction bidding. The Phase I engineering will begin shortly. There will be a 3-4 year project process from Phase I thru construction completion.
- c. **2023 Lighting Program** – The scope of this program includes standardizing all roadway lights in HTRD ROW to the same system, to reduce electricity bills, and provide roadway lighting in dark, unsafe areas of the HTRD roadway system. With respect to the solar lights, they will be used in locations where electricity is not readily available – and as a pilot test, a few will be installed along the HTRD entrance road for monitoring prior to the feasibility of installing them in HTRD areas where needed. The 2023 Roadway Lighting Program will be bid out this Spring.
- d. **2023 Striping Program** — The scope of this program includes installing roadway grade paint to all turning lanes, ADA cross walks, and lane lines as required within the HTRD roadway system. This program should be repeated every 3-5 years moving forward. The 2023 Roadway Striping Program will be bid out this Spring.
- e. **2023 HTHC Grant** – We are preparing a press release for this month for accepting applications for the 2023 HT Highway Commissioner Special Needs Grant for \$5,000. The HG Ability Awareness Committee will be assisting us with selection.

8. **Assessor Report: Carmen Maurella:** commented on the major software updates at the office

9. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports

- a. Homer Township Volunteer Committee: Trustee Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair, Clerk Vicki Bozen, Trustee Mark Gawron, Collector Angel Shake, Patti Komar, Rose Reynders and Sheree Kozel-La Ha.
- b. Senior Task Force: Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair
- c. Rob Rivera
- d. Matt Connelly
 - i. Multi-Cultural Event at Homer 33C
- e. Land Use Committee: Assessor Maurella, Supervisor Balich, Highway Commissioner Porfilio, Clerk Bozen, Trustees Bonomo, Rivera, Gawron and Connelly
- f. Truck Task Force: Highway Commissioner Porfilio

10. Committee on Local Government Consolidation and Efficiency Act: Clerk Vicki Bozen Chairman, Angel Shake Vice-Chair, Supervisor Steve Balich Trustees: Mike Bonomo, Matt Connelly, Mark Gawron, and Rob Rivera, Carmen Maurella, Brent Porfilio, Jim Shake, and Karen Roti

- a. Motion to exit Homer Township Regular Board Meeting TIME 7:26pm
1st Gawron 2nd Connelly
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Gawron, Connelly, Bonomo, Balich
Nay (0)
- b. Motion to enter Committee on Local Government Consolidation and Efficiency Act. TIME 7:27pm
1st Bonomo 2nd Gawron
Roll Call
Ayes (9) Porfilio, Maurella, Shake J, Shake A, Balich, Bonomo, Connelly, Gawron, Roti
Nay (0)
- c. Public Comments: (Must sign in and are limited to one 3-minute comment per person) None
 - i. Individuals who signed up are allowed to talk for 3 minutes during public comment
 - ii. Please no interruptions or talking out of turn
- d. Motion to approve January 9, 2023 meeting minutes.
1st Shake J 2nd Roti
All in Favor
Ayes (9)
Nay (0)
- e. Discussion on Township efficiency and possible improvement.
 - i. Local efficiencies
 1. Office Staff comments: Vicki Bozen Chairman commented on the following:
 - a. We are a smaller unit of government and because of this we are able to address the needs of the community in a more efficient and timely manner. Quicker response time and fulfilling more community needs which give our constituents better service.
 - ii. An analysis of whether consolidation should be an option with another unit of government
 - iii. Create a report with recommendations covering efficiencies, accountability, and consolidation explanations
 - iv. Paper surveys will be passed out to residents who attended for input on matters discussed and handed in to Clerk Bozen before leaving the meeting.
- f. Motion to exit Committee on Local Government Consolidation and Efficiency Act. TIME 7:29pm
1st Shake J 2nd Roti
Roll Call
Ayes (9) Roti, Shake J, Gawron, Connelly, Bonomo, Balich, Shake A, Maurella, Porfilio
Nay (0)
- g. Motion to enter Homer Township Regular Board Meeting TIME 7:30pm
1st Gawron 2nd Connelly
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Bonomo, Connelly, Gawron, Balich
Nay (0)

11. Accounting

- a. A motion to approve all payment of bills for January 2023: Founders Crossing Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park Developer Contribution, Park, Town, Road & Bridge, and Equipment & Building
1st Connelly 2nd Gawron
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Connelly, Gawron, Bonomo, Balich
Nay (0)

12. New Business

- a.

13. Old Business

- a. Mark Gawron mentioned we were going to do another Township Food Drive. Ran a successful one last time with over 2500 items for the Lockport Fish Food Pantry which also serves Homer Township. We will do one in Spring and one in the Fall.

14. 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 approved under the Open Meetings Act
 - i. Call Closed Session to Order
 - ii. Roll Call
 - iii. Discussion
 - iv. Motion to Adjourn Closed Session and return to regular meeting

15. Return to Open Session

16. Action Following Closed Session (if any)

- a.

17. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm

1st Bonomo 2nd Gawron

All in Favor

Ayes (4)

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 708-301-0522. 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.