



HOMER TOWNSHIP

Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

June 12, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151st Street,

Homer Glen, Illinois 60491

<http://www.homertownship.com/>

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order on June 12, 2023, by Township Supervisor Balich at 7:00 pm at the Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151st Street, Homer Glen, Illinois

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation¹

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Rob Rivera did the Invocation.

3. Roll Call for Quorum

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

4. Public Hearing

- a. Call for a motion to open the Public Hearing for the **Homer Township FY2023-24 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.**

1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly

Roll Call

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

Nay (0)

- i. Public Comments (Must sign in and are limited to one 3-minute comment per person): none

- b. **Homer Township FY2023/24 Tentative Budgets** as presented and published: Founders Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park, Park Developer Contribution and Town Fund for fiscal year April 1, 2023 thru March 31, 2024

- c. Call for Motion to adopt Homer Township FY2023/24 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance Number HT2023-0612-ORD1.

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo

Roll Call

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

Nay (0)

- d. Motion to end Public Hearing and return to regular meeting agenda.

1st Connelly 2nd Shake

Roll Call

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

Nay (0)

5. Public Comments (Must sign in and are 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.

Christina Neitzke-Troike commented on need of volunteers for dunk tank at Homer Fest

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.

Mike Carlson commented on the grass seed he placed at Trantina Dog Park but due to lack of rain the seed did not germinate. He will wait for the fall to do the other side.

6. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

a. Approval of Minutes

- i. Motion to approve May 8, 2023, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes
1st Connelly 2nd Rivera
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)
- ii. Motion to approve and to release or not release November 23, 2021 Executive Meeting Minutes
Not to release
1st Bonomo 2nd Shake
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)
- iii. Motion to approve and to release or not release May 19, 2022 Executive Meeting
Not to release
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)
- iv. Motion to approve and to release or not release October 17, 2022 Executive Meeting
Not to release
Ayes (5)
Nay (0)

b. Parade

- i. Please Join us for our Homer Parade which will be held Saturday June 24, 2023, with a rain date of Sunday June 25th at 10:30am, starting at 151st and Parker heading North to 143rd with the Grandstand at Culver Park. We hope to see you there!

c. Pet Expo

- i. Please join us this weekend for our 1st Annual PETFEST on Saturday June 17, 2023, at Town Center Park in Homer Glen (located by the Stallions football fields) from 12pm to 3pm. We will have over 30 vendors and crafters geared toward pets. Additionally, we will have pet contests and kid's activities. Food will be available for purchase. Admission is FREE!

7. Supervisor Report: Steve Balich

- a. Update: Trantina Farm going along well
- b. Update: Founders Crossing This is a CDBG grant and not going to be low income housing as falsely reported on social media. It is all about fixing the building that the previous administration did not maintain properly.
- c. Motion to approve contract for Cygan Hayes Certified Public Accountants and Consultants for a period of two years.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo
Roll Call
Ayes (5) Shake, Bonomo, Rivera, Connelly, Balich
Nay (0)
- d. Motion to approve a Temporary Construction Easement on part of Lot 4 in Founders Crossing situated on Bell Road for a total of \$325.00.
1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
Roll Call
Ayes (5) Connelly, Rivera, Shake, Bonomo, Balich
Nay (0)

8. Highway Commissioner Budget Hearing: Brent Porfilio

1. Public Hearing

- a. Call for a motion to open the Public Hearing for the **Homer Township Road District FY2023/24 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.**
1st Shake 2nd Rivera
Roll Call
Ayes (5) Shake, Connelly, Bonomo, Rivera, Balich

Nay (0)

- i. Public Comments (Must sign in and are limited to one 3-minute comment per person) none
- b. **Homer Township Road District FY2023/24 Tentative Budgets** as presented and published: Equipment & Building and Road & Bridge Funds for fiscal year April 1, 2023 thru March 31, 2024
- c. Call for Motion to adopt Homer Township Road District Budget and Appropriation Ordinance Number HTRD-06122023.
1st Connelly 2nd Shake
Ayes (5) Rivera, Bonomo, Shake, Connelly, Balich
Nay (0)
- d. Motion to end Public Hearing and return to regular meeting agenda.
1st Balich 2nd Connelly
Roll Call
Ayes (5) Connelly, Shake, Rivera, Bonomo, Balich
Nay (0)

9. Highway Commissioner Report: Brent Porfilio: presented by Dave Medema

a. **Smith Road/Long Run Creek Bridge Replacement**

In a joint effort with LTRD and Lockport, HTRD will be replacing this critical 2 lane bridge. IDOT will be paying for 80% of the project costs, while the remaining 20% will be shared with LTRD and Lockport via an IGA. The estimated cost will be \$150k per Agency over an estimated 3 years for this ~\$2.3M project. The Phase I Engineering will begin this Summer and was awarded to CBBEL thru IDOT's QBS process by HTRD, LTRD and the City of Lockport.

b. **2023 Roadway Paving Program**

This year we will be improving 1.5 miles of HTRD ROW. The 2023 Roadway Paving Program has been awarded to D Construction – construction will begin in June and will be completed in the Fall - we will be improving the following HTRD collector roadways:

- Meader Road (Bruce Rd. to the S. limit of HT)
- Bruce Road (W/Meader Rd. intersection)
- Gougar Road (Bruce Rd. to N. Prairie Ridge sub.)

c. **2023 Roadway Lighting Program**

We will be standardizing all roadway lighting in HTRD ROW to reduce electric costs, streamline maintenance, and provide roadway lighting in dark, unsafe areas of the HTRD roadway system. The 2023 Roadway Lighting Program was awarded to H&H Electric and will begin this month and will be completed this year. We will be investigating solar lights for locations where electricity is not readily available in 2024.

d. **2023 Roadway Striping Program**

The scope of this new program includes installing roadway grade paint striping to all turning lanes, ADA cross walks, striped medians, shoulder lines, and center lane lines as required within the HTRD roadway system. This program will be repeated every 3-5 years moving forward. The 2023 Roadway Striping Program has been awarded to Preform Traffic Control Systems and work will be completed after the Roadway Program is completed this Fall.

e. **2023 Homer Township Highway Commissioner's Grant**

We are still accepting applications for the 2023 HT Highway Commissioner Special Needs Grant for \$5,000 until August 1, 2023. The applicant needs to be a HS graduate, and Homer Township resident. The HTRD Grant application can be filled in via the following Homer Township Highway Department and Village of Homer Glen links:

<https://www.homerhighway.com/Data/Sites/1/media/grants/2023-special-needs-grant.pdf>

<https://www.homerglenil.org/FormCenter/Ability-Awareness-Committee-13/HTHC-Special-Needs-Grant-69>

f. **Muslim Ummah Cemetery**

The Will County Land Use Department approved a Site Permit for the Muslim Ummah Cemetery located at 18131 S. Meader Road in Homer Glen. Subsequent to their approval, and as a state law requirement, HTRD granted an Access Permit to the owner of the cemetery in order to construct an asphalt access road and cul-de-sac turnaround – a \$25,000 Surety Bond was requested from, and provided by, the owner to the HTRD for any repairs needed for Meader Road after their access road is completed.

10. Assessor Report: Carmen Maurella none

11. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports

- a. Homer Township Volunteer Committee: Trustee Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair, Clerk Vicki Bozen, Trustee Angel Shake, Patti Komar, Mark Gawron, and Rose Reynders.
- b. Senior Task Force: Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair
- c. Special Needs Committee: Angel Shake Chair, Brent Porfilio Co-Chair

- d. Land Use Committee: Assessor Maurella, Supervisor Balich, Highway Commissioner Porfilio, Clerk Bozen, Trustees Bonomo, Rivera, and Connelly, and Mark Gawron.
- e. Truck Task Force: Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio
Motion made by Supervisor Balich to eliminate Truck Task Force.
1st Bonomo 2nd Connelly
Roll Call
Ayes (5) Rivera, Connelly, Bonomo, Shake, Balich
Nay (0)
- f. Rob Rivera
- g. Matt Connelly

12. Accounting

- a. A motion to approve all payment of bills for May 2023: Founders Crossing 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) Shake, Bonomo, Connelly, Rivera, Balich
Nay (0)

13. New Business

- a.

14. Old Business

- a. Micro Pantry and Pet Pantry should be in place soon. The 2 locations will be the Homer Township Administration Center and the other by the strip mall off 143rd at the location of the Homer Township Republican Organization's office.

15. 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

16. Return to Open Session

17. Action Following Closed Session (if any)

- a.

18. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo

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.