



# HOMER TOWNSHIP

## Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

July 10, 2023, at 7:00 P.M.

Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151<sup>st</sup> Street,

Homer Glen, Illinois 60491

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

### MINUTES

#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order on July 10, 2023, by Township Supervisor Balich at 7:00 pm at the Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151<sup>st</sup> Street, Homer Glen, Illinois

#### 2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation<sup>1</sup>

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Michael Bonomo did the Invocation.

#### 3. Roll Call for Quorum

Present were Supervisor Steve Balich, Trustees Michael Bonomo and Angel Shake, Collector Michael Clausen, Assessor Carmen Maurella. Trustee Rivera arrived at 7:01pm. Clerk Vicki Bozen and Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio were absent. *A quorum was established.*

#### 4. 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

Sue Steilen commented on Trantina Farm soil donation.

Supervisor Steve Balich said we put the clay reports on the website.

#### 5. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

##### a. Approval of Minutes

i. Motion to approve June 12, 2023, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes

1<sup>st</sup> Bonomo 2<sup>nd</sup> Shake

Roll Call

Ayes (3) Shake, Bonomo, Rivera,

Nay (0)

##### b. Parade

i. Thank you to all who attended and participated in the Homer Parade on Saturday June 24, 2023.

The streets along Parker Road were filled with parade attendees. It was a huge success!! An

Expense/Revenue report will be available at the August meeting.

##### c. Pet Expo

i. Thank you to all who attended and participated in our Inaugural PETFEST on Saturday June 17, 2023, at Town Center Park. We estimate there were approximately 700 attendees. It was a huge success!! As of 7/7/2023 the revenue is \$3,481.00 and the expense is \$6,398.44.

#### 6. Supervisor Report: Steve Balich

Mentioned Curt Mason's FOIA regarding the Supervisor's W2 and other personal information.

Michael Bonomo mentioned that Curt's actions are questionable and absurd.

a. Micro Pantry looking/accepting for donations to be dropped off at the Homer Township Administration Office. Supervisor Balich mentioned it is for people and pets and in conjunction with the Homer Township Republicans.

b. Update on Trantina

c. Homer Township Parade 2024: Application has been submitted to the Village of Homer Glen in

---

<sup>1</sup> 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.

- preparation for next year.
- d. Motion to approve the resignation of Matt Connelly, he is moving and will no longer be residing in Homer Township.  
1<sup>st</sup> Rivera      2<sup>nd</sup> Bonomo  
All in Favor  
Ayes (4)  
Nay (0)
  - e. Motion to accept the resignation of Mike Clausen as Homer Township Collector.  
1<sup>st</sup> Bonomo      2<sup>nd</sup> Shake  
All in Favor  
Ayes (4)  
Nay (0)
  - f. Motion to approve the appointment of Mike Clausen as Homer Township Trustee.  
1<sup>st</sup> Shake      2<sup>nd</sup> Bonomo  
All in Favor  
Ayes (4)  
Nay (0)
  - g. Motion to approve the appointment of Mike Gondek as Homer Township Collector.  
1<sup>st</sup> Shake      2<sup>nd</sup> Bonomo  
All in Favor  
Ayes (4)  
Nay (0)
  - h. Motion to get costs of returning to gas for heat in the Maintenance Garage.  
1<sup>st</sup> Clausen      2<sup>nd</sup> Shake  
Roll Call  
Ayes (3) Bonomo, Rivera, Clausen  
Nay (0)
  - i. Motion to approve updated Employee Handbook.  
1<sup>st</sup> Bonomo      2<sup>nd</sup> Clausen  
All in Favor  
Ayes (4) Shake, Bonomo, Clausen, Rivera  
Nay (0)
  - j. Motion to approve 2011 Ford F250 surplus property with a Kelly Blue Book Value range of \$18,871 to \$23,400 with a typical list of \$22,154.  
1<sup>st</sup> Bonomo      2<sup>nd</sup> Clausen  
Roll Call  
Ayes (4) Shake, Bonomo, Rivera, Clausen  
Nay (0)

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

### **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 this month 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 in September (due to the long lead time on material orders right now) 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 has begun and 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. 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. **Trantina Farm Community Center**

Pursuant to the passing of the Homer Township Referendum for a Community Center, the HTRD will be assisting Homer Township with the start up for the Trantina Farm Civic Center – the initial public presentation/meeting is planned for this Summer, along with updates on project grants and funding. In order to pay over \$200k in site construction costs, HTRD has secured an Agreement with M&J Underground, Inc. wherein HT will be paid for surplus clean clay hauling/placement on site, and will receive free topsoil stripping for an estimated 5,000 cubic yard of clay fill which will be used for the future Community Civic Center parking lot/s and building pad. For this work, a site permit was secured from HG for the clay delivery/placement and topsoil stripping/stockpiling. The clay borrow site was tested prior to excavation to verify it was clean (a Geotechnical Report was sent to the Village Engineer), in addition the clay is randomly field tested prior to placement, plus there will be formal CCDD testing with soil borings on site upon approval of the Civic Center Engineering Plans before construction.

g. **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. Their access road/cul-de-sac and driveway are scheduled to be completed this week and after completion the HTRD Site Access Permit will no longer be valid for them to mobilize heavy equipment & vehicles to/from their site using HTRD roadways which exceed the posted roadway load limits.

h. **2023-2024 Winter Salt**

The HTRD has a 2-year contract for roadway blended salt which will continue thru this Winter. We have leftover salt from our previous mild winter and have an additional 300 ton available thru the current salt contract for the upcoming winter.

**8. Assessor Report: Carmen Maurella**

**9. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports**

- a. Senior Task Force: Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair
  - i. Per the current Budget there is \$15,000.00 budgeted for Senior Lifestyle Expo  
Mike Bonomo talked about Senior Day at Homer Fest and thanked all the volunteers. There were five World War II vets that attended aged 88 to 102 years old.  
Senior Lifestyle is Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 2pm...Please join us.
- b. Special Needs Committee: Angel Shake Chair, Brent Porfilio Co-Chair
- c. Land Use Committee: Assessor Maurella, Supervisor Balich, Highway Commissioner Porfilio, Clerk Bozen, Trustees Bonomo, Rivera, Clausen, and Mike Gondek
- d. Rob Rivera
- e. Mike Clausen

**10. Accounting**

- a. A motion to approve all payment of bills for June 2023: Founders Crossing Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park Developer Contribution, Park, Town, Road & Bridge, and Equipment & Building.  
1<sup>st</sup> Shake            2<sup>nd</sup> Clausen  
Roll Call  
Ayes (4) Shake, Bonomo, Rivera, Clausen

Nay (0)

**11. New Business**

a.

**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 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

**14. Return to Open Session**

**15. Action Following Closed Session (if any)**

a.

**16. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm

1<sup>st</sup> Bonomo 2<sup>nd</sup> Clausen

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.