



HOMER TOWNSHIP

Meeting Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

September 11, 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 September 11, 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. Mike Bonomo did the Invocation and Moment of Silence for the 9/11 victims.

3. Roll Call for Quorum

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

4. Moment of Silence for 9/11 victims.

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

Shirley Crafton commented on the website and reporting of wages.

6. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

a. Approval of Minutes

i. Motion to approve August 14, 2023, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo

All in Favor

Ayes (4)

Nay (0)

b. Volunteers

i. We are seeking volunteers for the Senior Lifestyle Expo ~ please refer to our website for the volunteer waiver.

Clerk Bozen commented on the Homer Parade for 2024: applications were submitted to the Village of Homer Glen three times and all were denied by the mayor. When Homer Township spends money, we go in front of the board to get approval, and this has not gone in front of the Village board for a vote. There should be transparency for our constituents and the board should make the decisions. Homer Township did the parade in conjunction with the Village of Homer Glen and were able to work together and accomplish a lot of things together.

7. Supervisor Report: Steve Balich

Trustee Rivera made a motion to amend 7 e to include: Create a task force to update the inventory management system including all tools, supplies, and equipment at Founders and Maintenance Garage.

1st Rivera 2nd Shake

Roll Call

Ayes (4) Bonomo, Rivera, Shake, 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.

- a. Motion to approve the creation of a Founders Crossing Task Force with Angel Shake and Mike Clausen.
1st Bonomo 2nd Rivera
Roll Call
Ayes (3) Rivera, Bonomo, Balich
Abstain (1) Shake
Nay (0)
- b. Discussion of R.F.Q. for architectural and engineering services for the Trantina Farm Civic Center.
- c. Motion to approve a R.F.Q. for architectural and engineering services for the Trantina Farm Civic Center.
Moved to 12a
1st Rivera 2nd Shake
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Rivera, Bonomo, Shake, Balich
Nay (0)
- d. In honor of the Governor signing a bill making the month of October Italian Heritage Month we will raise a flag on October 1, 2023, at 3pm for this inaugural event. All are welcome.
- e. Motion to approve duties of Trustees: Auditing all bills and records, budget and levies, spending Township Funds, and evaluating inventory needs. All bills, receipts, documents, contracts, credit card bills, and access to QuickBooks are available to any Trustee during business hours. The Board may at their discretion ask the Supervisor to create a task force to specifically address any aspect of these responsibilities. Management of our Township's resources are being used to deliver the best possible services to our community.
Motion with amendment
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Shake, Rivera, Bonomo, Balich
Nay (0)
Motion to create a Resource Management Task Force with all Trustees
1st Bonomo 2nd Shake
Roll Call
Ayes (4) Shake, Bonomo, Rivera, Balich
Nay (0)
- f. Status on Hadley Road
Road Commissioner Porfilio, Assessor Maurella, and Supervisor Balich told Village that Homer Township is willing to take over the road. The mayor then announced that the Village is going to do it. If the Village is going to do it, then we will let them.
- g. Status on Welter Property: Homer Township Board voted to fix the wrong created by the previous politicians years ago. They zoned the property E1 and so it was not Open Space as everyone thought.

8. Highway Commissioner Report: Brent Porfilio

- a. **Smith Road/Long Run Creek Bridge Replacement**
The Phase I Engineering has begun and is scheduled to be completed in 2024. We are waiting for temporary bridge shoring options from the Phase I Consulting Engineer for stabilizing the bridge until construction which is not anticipated until 2025-2026
- b. **2023 Roadway Paving Program**
The 2023 Roadway Paving Program has been completed by D Construction for the following streets – a final walk thru will be performed this month:
 - 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**
The 2023 Roadway Lighting Program is scheduled to begin in September and 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 2023 Roadway Striping Program is scheduled to be completed this month – a final walk thru will be performed upon completion.
- 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 link:

<https://www.homerhighway.com/grant>

f. **Muslim Ummah Cemetery**

The access road/cul-de-sac and driveway serving this site have been completed, however HTRD has sent comments last month to the Owner of deficiencies in their driveway work in the HTRD ROW. The HTRD Site Access Permit remains valid, however only for addressing the driveway deficiencies.

g. **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 tons available through the current salt contract for the upcoming winter.

h. **Trantina Farm Clay Fill Project**

We are waiting for the IEPA NOI to be processed so we can start back up with receiving more clay fill to be used for the future Community Center parking lot and grading. We have received ~2,000 CY thus far and are looking for another 2-3,000 CY from local projects to continue to fray costs for the development.

9. Assessor Report: Carmen Maurella: no report

10. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports

- a. Senior Task Force: Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair
Senior Lifestyle Expo coming up September 16th from 10am to 2pm: all are welcome
- b. Special Needs Committee: Angel Shake Chair, Brent Porfilio Co-Chair, and Collector Mike Gondek
- c. Land Use Committee: Assessor Maurella, Supervisor Balich, Highway Commissioner Porfilio, Clerk Bozen, Trustees Bonomo, Rivera, Shake, and Clausen, and Collector Gondek.
- d. Founders Crossing Task Force: Angel Shake and Mike Clausen
- e. Trustee Reports

11. Accounting

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

12. New Business

- a. Supervisor Balich has been in discussions with the Village of Homer Glen in regard to transferring of land which would be beneficial to both parties. The mayor feels that it is not in the best interests of the Village. There has been no vote and nothing on the agenda by the Village of Homer Glen board to approve or disapprove this transfer.

13. Old Business

- a. Micro Pantry

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 8:19pm

1st Bonomo 2nd Rivera

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 708-301-4534. 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.