



Stephen J Balich
Supervisor

Vicki Bozen
Clerk

Michael Bonomo
Michael Clausen
Robert Rivera
Angel Shake
Trustees

Carmen J Maurella, III
Assessor

Brent Porfilio
Highway Commissioner

Michael Gondek
Collector

Administration Office
14350 W 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491
Phone: 708.301.0522

Assessor's Office
Phone: 708.301.8166

Highway Department
14500 W 151st Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491
Phone: 708.301.0246

www.homertownship.com

HOMER TOWNSHIP

MINUTES

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting
January 8, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.
Homer Township Office, 14350 W. 151st Street,
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
<http://www.homertownship.com/>

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order on January 8, 2024, 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. Micheal Clausen did the Invocation

3. Roll Call for Quorum

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

Ellen Moriarty commented on prayer, executive orders, and levy on road tax.

Jessica Barnes commented on the open meetings act and speech.

5. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

a. Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve December 11, 2023, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes

1st Shake 2nd Clausen All in Favor Ayes (4) Nay (0)

b. PETFEST

- Motion to approve PETFEST for June 15, 2024

1st Clausen 2nd Bonomo All in Favor Ayes (5) Nay (0)

- Motion to approve up to \$25,000 for PETFEST.

1st Bonomo 2nd Clausen Roll Call Ayes (4) Shake, Bonomo, Clausen, Balich Nay (0)

6. Supervisor Report: Stephen J Balich

- Discussion of Hadley Road and 143rd Street expansion.
- Motion to approve a legal objection to the expansion of 143rd Street.

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (4) Clausen, Bonomo, 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.

c. Motion to approve Supervisor to issue Executive Orders as necessary

1st Bonomo 2nd Clausen Roll Call Ayes (4) Bonomo, Clausen, Shake, Balich Nay (0)

d. Motion to approve Homer Township Organizational Chart

1st Bonomo 2nd Shake Roll Call Ayes (4) Shake, Clausen, Bonomo, Balich Nay (0)

e. Motion to approve Standard Operating Procedure for Founders Crossing

1st Clausen 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (4) Bonomo, Clausen, Shake, Balich Nay (0)

7. Highway Commissioner Report: Brent Porfilio

a. **2024/2025 Tax Levy:** For the 3rd year in a row, we are reducing your HTRD tax levy – it will be \$1.2M for R&B and \$150k for E&B totaling \$1.35M, of which the HTRD will only receive \$750k after the half shares for the R&B levy are redirected by the County to the municipalities within HT – including Homer Glen, Lockport, New Lenox and Lemont

b. **2024 Roadway Paving Program** We have completed our annual HTRD ROW infrastructure assessment and are pleased to announce the 2024 Roadway Paving Program. We are focusing on an area within a 1-mile proximity to each other in NW HT (totaling 1.25 miles) in order to minimize bids by cutting down on mobilization and transportation costs: off Smith Road 138th St - 0.23 miles and 140th St - 0.15 miles, off Lockport Heights 136th Ave - 0.25 miles and 147th Pl – 0.47 miles, and off Archer Ave Basham Ave - 0.15 miles

c. **2023-2024 Roadway Lighting Program** The 2023-2024 Roadway Lighting Contract is now scheduled for completion in the Spring/Summer of 2024

d. **2023 Homer Township Highway Commissioner's Grant** We have closed the for the HT Highway Commissioner Special Needs Grant as of 12/31/23 and will be announcing the winner at our February 2024 meeting.

e. Winter Plowing & Salt

We now have 4 trucks equipped with salt spreaders and plows to best serve you and take on the worst of winter storms, including having trucks on reserve for breakdowns. We are operating at a 2.5-3-hour salt and plow cycle, and prioritize arterials roadways first – we typically make our first rounds at 4-5AM well before rush hour. If there are ever any issues with our salting and plowing operations, please contact us at 708-301-0246. We ask that you please avoid parking in the street during snow events, so we have a clear path to salt and remove snow, and always watch out for black ice.

f. **Smith Road/Long Run Creek Bridge Replacement** We are waiting for the temporary bridge shoring options from the Phase I Consulting Engineer for stabilizing the bridge until construction begins - which is not anticipated until the 2026 construction season.

8. Assessor Report: Carmen J Maurella III

a. The 2024 Soft Appeal will be open February 1-May 30, 2024. The Soft Appeal process is available to assist taxpayers in reviewing their assessments. Please keep in mind that the assessments are as of January 1, 2024. The assessments are based on 3 years of valid sales, not including the current year. For example, 2024 values are based on 2023, 2022, and 2021.

9. Collector Michael Gondek

a. Motion to retire our old logo and approve the new Homer Township logo as presented.

1st Bonomo 2nd Clausen Roll Call Ayes (4) Shake, Bonomo, Clausen, Balich Nay (0)

10. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports

a. Senior Task Force: Trustee Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair

Senior Christmas party well attended which included entertainment and several donated prizes

b. Special Needs Committee: Trustee Angel Shake Chair, Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio Co-Chair, and Collector Mike Gondek

c. Resource Management Task Force: Trustees Michael Bonomo, Michael Clausen, Rob Rivera, and Angel Shake

d. Land Use Committee: Assessor Maurella, Supervisor Balich, Highway Commissioner Porfilio, Clerk Bozen, Trustees Bonomo, Rivera, Shake, and Clausen, and Collector Gondek.

e. Founders Crossing Task Force: Trustees Angel Shake and Michael Clausen

f. Trustee Reports

11. Accounting

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

12. New Business

- a.

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 or 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 7:48pm

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo

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.