



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

Rose Fialko
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

November 18, 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 November 18, 2024, by Township Supervisor Balich at 7:00pm 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, Clerk Vicki Bozen, Trustees Michael Bonomo, and Angel Shake, Assessor Carmen Maurella, and Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio. Absent were Trustees Robert Rivera, and Michael Clausen, and Collector Rose Fialko. *A quorum was established.*

4. Public Comments Must sign in and are limited to one 3-minute comment per person, please no interruptions or talking out of turn. None

5. Clerk Report: Vicki Bozen

a. Approval of Minutes

- i. Motion to approve October 7, 2024, Monthly Township Board Meeting Minutes.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo All in Favor Ayes (3) Nay (0)
- ii. Motion to approve October 9, 2024, Special Town Hall Meeting Minutes.
1st Bonomo 2nd Shake All in Favor Ayes (3) Nay (0)
- iii. Motion to approve the 2024 Levy for Town Fund, General Assistance Fund, Park Fund, and Debt Service.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Bonomo, Shake, Balich Nay (0).
- iv. Motion to approve the 2024 Levy for the Road & Bridge Fund and the Building & Equipment Fund.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Shake, Bonomo, Balich Nay (0).
- v. Motion to approve the Meeting Schedule for 2025 as presented.
1st Bonomo 2nd Shake All in Favor Ayes (3) Nay (0)

6. Supervisor Report: Stephen J Balich

- a. Discussion of Civic Center and 143rd Street.
- b. Motion to approve the Holiday Display Program Use Guidelines.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo All in Favor Ayes (3) Nay (0)
- c. Motion to approve changing Township Policy regarding fees to allow Political Organizations to use Town Hall at no cost. No Motion
- d. Motion to approve an IGA with Lockport Township Park District for the conveyance of the Lockport portion of Morris Park.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Shake, Bonomo, Balich Nay (0)
- e. Motion to approve Will County Zoning Case ZC-24-077 for a Special Use Permit for rural events.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Bonomo, Shake, Balich Nay (0)
- f. Motion to approve an updated contract with Landmark.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Shake, Bonomo, Balich Nay (0)

7. Transfer

- a. Motion to approve line-item transfer of the amount of \$12,000 from 847 Capital Improvements in the Homer Township Highway Department Budget, Road & Bridge Fund to 716 Legal for \$10,000 and 830 Julie for \$2,000 in Homer Township Highway Department Budget, Road & Bridge Fund.
1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Bonomo, Shake, Balich Nay (0)

8. Highway Commissioner Report: Brent Porfilio

a. Smith Road/Long Run Creek Bridge Replacement The Phase I Report is scheduled for completion this Fall and Phase II Design is anticipated to start upon approval of the Phase I Report and selection of a new consultant. Construction is anticipated to begin in the 2025/2026 construction season. The

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.

project is being funded 80% by IDOT, and HTRD is only paying 7% of the costs due to participation in a 3-way IGA with the City of Lockport and the Lockport Township Road District for the remaining 20% project expenditure – saving HT taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars.

- b. **2025 HTRD Solar Lights Program** We have received bids for, and are evaluating, installing solar lights at critical intersection locations in the HTRD ROW in dark areas where power is not available in 2025. So far this past summer the solar light in the HTRD yard is functioning adequately, however as the winter season has less light and harsher conditions a decision will be made in the Spring on whether to move forward. This program will save HTRD taxpayer's money by using solar power rather than power supplied locally by COMED.
- c. **2024 HTRD Crack Sealing Program** We have completed our new 2024 Roadway Crack Sealing Program which was developed to further reduce our annual maintenance budget and taxpayer levy. HTRD staff performed crack sealing to extend the life of our pavement and extend the time period for performing roadway milling & overlay improvements – this will allow us to reduce our long-term annual Capital Improvement Program budget. Doing the crack sealing with HTRD staff and equipment is saving HT taxpayer's money for this extremely important ongoing annual roadway maintenance. This will be instituted as an annual tax saving program moving forward.
- d. **2024 HTRD Signing Program** We are starting a new signing program throughout all of the HTRD ROW which will include assessing all existing signs (regulatory signs, warning signs, guide signs, street name signs, etc.). Their locations, conditions, mounting heights, and reflectivity will be assessed throughout the winter as required to conform to MUTCD Standards in keeping all of our roadways and traveling public safe. Doing the assessment in-house is saving HT taxpayer's money from hiring an engineering firm to perform this service.
- e. **143rd Street Widening Project TRO – status** Until the current lawsuit against the County Executive is resolved, we ask that all property owners along the 143rd street ROW avoid signing any eminent domain papers or offers to sell their property to the WCDOT.
- f. **Annual HTRD Roadway and Infrastructure Assessment** The annual HTRD Roadway and Infrastructure Assessment will be performed this month - it is used as a tool to plan for annual expenditures for our Capital Improvements Program, as well as for tax levy purposes. The Assessment includes all infrastructure in the HTRD ROW including roadways, bridges, signing, striping, drainage, ditching, sidewalk, and curb and gutter. I am personally performing this assessment with my staff again saving HT taxpayers tens of thousands of dollars in place of retaining an engineering firm to perform this work as was done by our predecessors.
- g. **Inaugural HT Trunk or Treat/Touch a Truck Event** A big shout out to my staff and HT officials for helping plan and run the inaugural Homer Township/HT Road District Trunk or Treat/Touch a Truck Event at the Road District on 10.29.24 – it was a huge success, with so many children and adults in costume enjoying the event - visiting the decorated trunks and climbing and taking pics on the HTRD trucks and equipment.

9. Assessor Report: Carmen J Maurella III

10. Collector: Rose Fialko

11. Homer Township Committee & Trustee Reports

- a. Senior Task Force: Trustee Michael Bonomo Chair, Cindy La Ha Vice-Chair
- b. Special Needs Task Force: Trustee Angel Shake Chair and Highway Commissioner Brent Porfilio Co-Chair
- c. Land Use Committee: Assessor Maurella, Supervisor Balich, Highway Commissioner Porfilio, Clerk Bozen, Trustees Bonomo, Rivera, Shake, and Clausen, and Collector Rose Fialko
- d. Founders Crossing Task Force: Trustees Angel Shake and Michael Clausen
- e. Trustee Reports

12. Accounting

- a. A motion to approve all payment of bills for October 2024: Certificate of Deposit, Equipment & Building, Founders Crossing Bond, Founders Crossing General, General Assistance, Open Space, Park Developer, Park, Road & Bridge, and Town.

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo Roll Call Ayes (3) Shake, Bonomo, Balich Nay (0)

13. New Business

- a.

14. Old Business

- a. Micro Pantry for people & pets

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 7:27pm

1st Shake 2nd Bonomo All in Favor Ayes (3) 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.