



# Homer Township Minutes

Monthly Board of Trustees Meeting

June 9, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Homer Township Administration Office

14350 W. 151<sup>st</sup> Street

Homer Glen, IL 60491

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Township Supervisor Steilen at 7:00 p.m.

## 3. Pledge of Allegiance

## 4. Moment of Silence

## 5. Roll Call for Quorum

Present were Supervisor Sue Steilen, Clerk Tami O' Brien, Trustees Keith Gray, Ken Marcin, Don Melody and Chris Sievers, Assessor Carmen Maurella, Highway Commissioner John Robinson and Attorney Jason Guisinger. *A quorum was established.*

## 6. Public Comments (must sign in)

None.

## 7. Reports and Communications from Elected Officials

### a. Supervisor Steilen Report:

Supervisor Steilen thanked Joe Baber, Homer Glen Village Manager, for noticing a small fire at the Purdy Farm. After a call to 911 Baber used a Fire Extinguisher to contain the fire.

Sean Reardon, one of our maintenance workers, retired. We are now down to one maintenance person. An ad has been placed for a Maintenance Foreman. Here is wishing Sean Reardon the best on Retirement.

The Quick Take Bill for the widening of 143<sup>rd</sup> Street is still viable for the next legislative session; Supervisor Steilen is working with the Village to stop the Bill. Thank You to Christina Neitzke-Troike, Jim Richmond, State Representative LaHa, and Steve Balich for working with the Township and residents to find a solution for the widening project. Thank you to County Executive Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant and staff listening, though the issue is not resolved.

Senior Bingo will be continuing June 10 at Cross of Glory Church, 14719 West 163<sup>rd</sup> Street, Homer Glen. Doors open at 11:30 am

The Senior Expo is on hold for now.

Parks need repair. Vandalism has occurred at the Healing Garden, Morris Park, and Trantina Farm.

Vehicle Update – will be covered under Highway Commissioner John Robinson's report.

On June 5' Supervisor Steilen and Trustee Gray met with Jay Bradarich from Landmark Construction to discuss the Civic Center. The building cannot be occupied. There is no septic system. The drywall needs to be taped and painted. Electrical boxes were installed but the wiring is not completed. There is no duct work for heating or cooling. Bathroom floors are needed. The parking lot has not been completed. There is no fire suppression or sprinkler

system. We have requested the septic system to be designed to accommodate a kitchen. It will cost approximately \$500,000 to make the building occupiable.

**b. Trustees**

**Trustee Gray**

Trustee Gray was a part of the Civic Center meeting with Jay Bradarich from Landmark. They ran out of money. He stated, we hopefully can get a better understanding of the funds needed to make the building usable. Basketball will not be a part of Phase II, just Senior Bingo.

**Trustee Marcin**

The mini food pantry was cleaned out. A lot of food was expired. There are currently two Narcan packages and two bags of rice.

Trustee Marcin looked at Morris Park. There is some old equipment along the fence that needs to be thrown out. He spoke with Pete from Jr Porters, and they are a go for using Morris Park.

**Trustee Melody**

Trustee Melody had no report. He questioned asked if the food pantry (by the administration office) is being utilized?

**Trustee Sievers**

Trustee Sievers gave a report on our local sports accomplishments. Acapella at Lockport took fourth Place in New York. In April, Boys Baseball were Regional Champions. Girls Lacrosse were Sectional Champions. Girls Soccer were Conference Champions. Boys Tennis, Ryan Moran and Tyler Massey were State Qualifiers. Girls Track - Mckenna Miglioni, State Champion Pole Vault. We had a 9<sup>th</sup> Place 4 x 8 relay consisted of Katie Peetz, Mary Sola, Lexi Shea, Sydney Fontaine. Boys Track Nolan Lamoureux was 800 State Champion. A4x 4 relay took 2<sup>nd</sup> Place consisting of Nolan Lamoureux, Xavier Adeniyi, Fope Omisare, and Michael Nicholson. Jacob Soderstrom took 8<sup>th</sup> Place Pole Vault. Girls Softball is still going. They are Sectional Champions and they are playing in Peoria on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>.

**c. Clerk O'Brien**

Trustees OMA/FOIA training is ongoing.

The Township officials of Illinois (TOI) training is on June 17 in Naperville. Supervisor Steilen, Clerk O'Brien, Trustee Gray, Marcin, Sievers, Melody, Collector Sara Palermo and Highway Commissioner John Robinson will attend.

**d. Highway Commissioner Robinson**

Robert LePretre will be retiring in August. Applications are out for hiring another Highway Department employee. There are two IGA's for paving: 167<sup>th</sup> South Bell to Parker, and Bruce Road East of Cedar. Our Portion is \$27,000. We traded in the former commissioner's pickup truck for new truck, which is more "suitable" and more practical for everyday use. With the trade-in, the cost to the Township for the new truck was \$17,000.

**e. Assessor Maurella**

Update on Property Assessment Appeals

1. Horner Township Soft Appeal Process - Update

The Homer Township Soft Appeal process is now closed. This process served as a valuable opportunity to engage with residents and review property assessments.

Thank you to all who participated and provided feedback.

2. Upcoming Board of Review Appeal Period

The Will County Board of Review Appeal Portal will be open for submissions. From August 6, 2025, through September 8, 2025. Residents who wish to formally appeal their property assessment should prepare documentation and file through the portal during this period.

**f. Collector Palermo**

No report.

**8. Public Hearing**

**a. FY 2025-2026 Town Budget and Appropriations**

Supervisor Steilen opened the Public Hearing at 7:19 p.m.

Per Supervisor Steilen, the former Board for Township Funds prepared Budget.

Angie Dryer, resident of Founders Crossing, asked about work being done on the units at Founders Crossing. One street is done; the other streets are not done. Will other units be done? Landscaping, garage doors, painting? She stated she "heard" there was a grant done by former Supervisor Balich, and since he is no longer in office the Grants were pulled back. Trustee Gray replied, the grant monies were expended. Right now, we are trying to find out if those were multi-stage grants and if money is still available.

**b. FY 2025-2026 Road District Budget and Appropriations**

Per Commissioner Robinson, He discussed the Budget with Road District Staff - Budget looks good.

There were no additional public comments. Trustee Marcin made a motion to close the Public Hearing; seconded by Trustee Sievers. Motion carried, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:40 p.m.

**9. Action Items**

**a. Approval of Bills for Payment**

Trustee Gray motioned to approve bills for payment and seconded by Trustee Melody.

Discussion:

Trustee Gray had a question whether TOIRMA payment was monthly or yearly? Per Supervisor Steilen is yearly.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody, Sievers and Supervisor Steilen Nays (0)

*The motion carried.*

**b. Approval of Resolution 2025-0609 RES1**

Trustee Sievers made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-0609 RES1Clarification & Restatement of Highway Commissioner Compensation for the 2025-2029 Term, seconded by Trustee Melody.

Discussion:

Per Commissioner Robinson, in 2020 there was a Resolution passed under former Township Supervisor Pam Myers and her Administration that stated "If the responsibilities fell below 20 miles, the Highway Commissioner would be Part Time with a \$15,000 salary with no insurance or pension benefits. Per Highway Commissioner Robinson when the previous

board passed their ordinance, there was a statement made that there were "no changes to the ordinance," and everything would stay the same, but somehow all the "Part Time" verbiage was left out.

Trustee Melody commended Highway Commissioner Robinson for trucing Part Time pay. Commissioner Robinson is saving the Township money. He doesn't know for sure if it was "inadvertently" left out. He did not want to make any allegations but wanted to make a statement that we just don't know either way. The full-time salary was \$61,094 and benefits.

Trustee Gray also commended Highway Commissioner Robinson.

In March 2025, the total mileage was 18.2. Since then, New Lenox acquired approximately one mile after annexing a portion of Meader and Chicago Bloomington Trail. Now, the Road District controls about seventeen miles of road.,

Roll Call vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody, Sievers and Supervisor Steilen

Nays (0)

*The motion carried.*

**c. Adoption of Ordinance HTRD-06092025**

The motion to approve Adoption of Ordinance HTRD-06092025, Homer Township Road District Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2025-2026, was made by Trustee Gray and seconded by Trustee Marcin.

Roll call vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody, Sievers and Supervisor Steilen.

Nays (0)

*The motion carried.*

**d. Adoption of Ordinance HT2025-0609 ORDI**

Motion to approve Adoption of Ordinance HT2025-0609 ORDI, Homer Township Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year 2025-2026, was made by Trustee Melody and seconded by Trustee Sievers.

Roll call vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody, Sievers and Supervisor Steilen. Nays (0)

*The motion carried.*

**e. Approval of Resolution 2025-0609 RES2**

Motion to approve the Appointment of Susanna Steilen for the Authorized Agent of IMRF was made by Trustee Marcin and seconded by Trustee Melody.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody, Sievers and Supervisor Steilen. Nays (0)

*The motion carried*

**f. Approval of Lockport Junior Porters Football Club use of Morris Park.**

Per Trustee Marcin the Park would be used on Sundays for Practice only. Summer Camp and games at High School. Need to make sure everything is in working order.

The motion for Approval of Lockport Junior Porters Football Club use of Morris Park was made by Trustee Melody and seconded by Trustee Marcin.

Roll call vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody, Sievers and Supervisor Steilen. Nays (0)  
*The motion carried*

**10. Old Business – None**

**11. New Business**

Per Supervisor Steilen at next month's meeting Committees will be appointed. Volunteer forms were available at the meeting and are available on the website and at the Township office.

There is a Lockport Zoning Meeting on June 10, 2025, for a Special Use permit for a planned 260 Unit Residential Development (Sadie Ridge) to include rezoning for property north of Bruce Road, east of 355 and South of Cedar Ridge Estates.

There is also a proposed 120 Unit Assisted Living Senior Apartment Community to be located on 163<sup>rd</sup> Street and east of 355 (known as Heritage Woods).

**12. Roll Call Vote to Enter Closed Session**

Motion to enter Closed Session made by Trustee Melody and seconded by Trustee Sievers.

Roll Call vote:

Ayes (5) Trustees Gray, Marcin, Melody Sievers and Supervisor Steilen. Nays (0)  
*The motion carried.*

**13. Return to Open Session**

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

None.

**15. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Trustee Gray and seconded by Trustee Melody Voice vote. All were in favor.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 pm

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Tamara O'Brien, Township Clerk

Approved at the Board of Trustees Meeting dated July 14, 2025  
notice.