

# HOMER TOWNSHIP

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STATE OF ILLINOIS

Will County,  
Town of Homer,

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MONTHLY BUSINESS/PLANNING  
MEETING

Accepted 2-4-2008

**THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES** met at the Town Hall (16057 S. Cedar Road, Homer Glen IL.) on January 7, 2007.

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Andrew Fazio	Supervisor
	Evelyn K. Walano	Town Clerk
	Stephen J. Balich	Trustee
	Mike Costa	Trustee
	Nancy Strack	Trustee
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Pam Meyers	Trustee

Township Supervisor Andrew Fazio and Evelyn K. Walano Township Clerk conducted the monthly Township Board meeting where the following official business was transacted: The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by Supervisor Fazio who asked Trustee Balich to lead the pledge to the flag. Also present were Attorney Gerald Sramek and Tax Assessor Karen Szykowski.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** Supervisor Fazio asked for an amendment to the agenda for the purchase of stamps under Supervisors report **MOTION** by Trustee Balich to add purchase of stamps to Supervisors report 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Strack **ROLL CALL** Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED**

**OPEN FORUM:** Todd Fonfara Lieutenant for Northwest Homer Fire Fighters. They service an area in Homer roughly 10 miles along 143<sup>rd</sup> Street. Station #1 is just west of I355 and Station #2 is next to Goodings Grove School. He handed out a flyer that will be mailed to all effected residents. The increase they are asking for will be 6cents/\$100 of assessed value. They need to add personnel to service the growing population. The last referendum was in 1980 to build the 2 stations. There will be 2 informational meetings Tues. January 22, 7pm at Goodings Grove School and Tues. January 29, 7pm at station #2.

Bill Bonnar Deputy Chief from Homer Fire District gave out a handout regarding their tax referendum. Their last tax increase was in 1990. They are asking to keep the rate at .85%. The bond issue from 1990 will be taken off of the tax bills next year. This referendum would keep it on. They also need to add personnel due to unfunded mandates and increased cost for fuel, insurance and increases in call volume. Boundaries are 147<sup>th</sup>

north, Will Cook Rd. on the east, Farrell Rd. to the west and I355/159<sup>th</sup> St to the south border of the Township. Any questions please contact Chief Schofield.

Lieutenant McCormack Training and Safety Officer for medical, physical and emotional fitness discussed the wellness and fitness program. This is a total commitment to health, safety and longevity. At this time they use the facilities of Cardinal Fitness. The cost of using Cardinal Fitness is \$5,182.00 annually. The cost of 3 treadmills alone would be \$15,000. The improvements in performance and longevity of firefighters who have a fitness and wellness program are well documented and cost effective.

**PLAN COMMISSION REPORT: No report**

**SUPERVISOR REPORT: Need for stamps \$132.00 for 300 stamps MOTION** by Trustee Costa to purchase stamps at the cost of \$132.00 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Strack **ROLL CALL** Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED**

**1. Administration Office:** Town Clerk has changed the hours and location of early voting. Supervisor Fazio feels this is illegal. Hand outs were given out from the Clerks handbook. References were made regarding requirement of hours for voting. Trustee Costa asked why the location was moved and hours changed. Clerk Walano clarified that the handout is a guide, not the state statutes. The hours must be within the hours of the election authority. Since none of the administration staff was allowed to be sworn in as a helper, the secretary from the Highway Department was to be sworn in. Since she is the only one at the Highway Department it was moved there. There is also an issue with handicapped parking at the Township office. Supervisor Fazio felt the Clerk was being dishonest. He said she misled the Clerk regarding the location, stating it was only a door or two away. Clerk Walano felt she was pretty clear in explaining to the County Clerks office that the Highway Department was the next door down the drive way about 300 feet. Supervisor Fazio stated that the office has been doing her work from day one. Clerk Walano stated she does all the postings, filings, agenda's, minutes etc. Supervisor Fazio brought up that the address on the schedule posting is incorrect and that it was brought up last year also. Clerk Walano had never been told that before and hadn't noticed it.

**MOTION** by Trustee Balich to have the Clerk call the County Clerk and add hours and change the location of early voting 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Costa **ROLL CALL** Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Trustee Balich to have the Clerk call the County Clerk tomorrow and have it followed up by Supervisor Fazio 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Costa **ROLL CALL** Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**2. Annual Audit:** At the last meeting Supervisor Fazio said the current auditor was semi retiring and he has been looking into other auditors to do this job but he is not ready to make a recommendation yet.

**3. Heritage Corridor:** They are asking for a letter of certification that the Homer Township Board would like to have the Heritage Corridor continue to represent the Township. **MOTION** by Trustee Strack to have the Heritage Corridor represent the

Township 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Balich **ROLL CALL** Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**3.Furnaces:** Two of the furnaces are out at the Township office and need to be replaced. Best price is \$5055.00 for 2 furnaces. That covers the air conditioning and all that goes along with it. The other prices; one company wants to do all 5 furnaces for close to \$16,000.00. If we can get by with fixing just 2, let's give it a shot and see what happens. Breaking down the figure it would come to \$5,398.80 for the 2. **MOTION** by Trustee Balich to go with the lowest bid for the furnace repairs 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Costa **ROLL CALL** Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**4.Lawn Tractor:** Working toward going back to taking care of the parks in house. There is a tractor that can do the work of 3 tractors. This can be purchased off of a State bid. The tractor would run \$40,851.75. **MOTION** by Trustee Balich to purchase this tractor 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Costa Discussion: Trustee Costa asked if the money would come from the Park or Park invest account? Supervisor Fazio thought it would come from the Founders account. There was a demo for \$36,999. which came with a one year warrantee. In the past they had a lease now they don't have that. He would like to see the sports groups handle more of the field cutting like it used to be. **ROLL CALL** Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**5.Tax Form:** To use the sales tax form the Township has to purchase the materials.

**6.Committee Appointment:** Add Ray Horwath to the Event committee **MOTION** by Trustee Costa to add Ray Horwath to the Events committee 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Balich **ROLL CALL** Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **TRUSTEE REPORTS :**

**Trustee Balich:** Fox News has radar on top of the water tower across the street from the Homer Fire Station #5. He has been talking to Mayor Murphy of Lockport about negotiating to allow the Homer Fire Department to get the Doppler radar from the site. January 19, 2008 at 10 am there will be a senior meeting for the people who live in the Founders Crossing.

**Trustee Costa: 1. Sports Group Field Usage Policy Update:** A draft usage policy was handed out. Trustee Strack asked if the requirement of 80% of the children signing up live in Homer could be increased. Trustee Costa said it has always been 80% however the actual number of children living in Homer who participate is probably over 80% already. Some of the figures regarding how much HAC has spent on the fields for 2005/06 \$84,000 in maintenance and upkeep, 2005/06 \$8,000 was spent for utilities, 2006/07 \$87,288 in maintenance, 2006/07 \$4,800 was spent for utilities, already this year since October 2007 until now they have spent \$15,000.

**Trustee Meyers:** Absent

**Trustee Strack:** nothing

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** by Trustee Costa to approve Regular Board meeting Minutes from October 15, 2007, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Balich **ROLL CALL** Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**MOTION** by Trustee Costa to approve Regular Board meeting Minutes from November 5, 2007, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Balich **ROLL CALL** Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Trustee Strack – abstain, Trustee Balich – yes, Supervisor Fazio – yes. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER BILLS PAYABLE IN JANUARY**

**MOTION** by Trustee Balich to approve all fund expenditures 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Costa  
Discussion: Trustee Balich wanted to find out about Joann who was fired 8 or 9 months ago, it looks like ghost payroll because there is still payroll being paid to her. **ROLL CALL** Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Supervisor Fazio – yes, **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Resolution of Previous Months Bills: none**

**HIGHWAY COMMISIONERS REPORT:** Highway Commissioner asked if Supervisor Fazio could do the line item transfer for PACE: **MOTION** by Trustee Balich to approve the line item transfer not to exceed \$25,000 from the Bridge reserve line item # 876 to the PACE line item #831, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Strack **ROLL CALL** Trustee Strack – yes, Trustee Balich – yes, Trustee Costa – yes, Trustee Meyers – absent, Supervisor Fazio – yes, **MOTION CARRIED.**

**ASSESSOR REPORT:** none

**CLERKS REPORT:** In regard to some of the items brought up earlier. I am accessible by phone, fax, and email. If there is a FOIA request you are allowed 7 days to respond to it. I will come in and take care of it as soon as possible. Other items, questions or need me to do something or information you need, I can be contacted any time. I answer the phone day, night, evenings or weekends. It has become extremely difficult for me to be in the office, for myself and for everybody else. Everything is in my office and the Supervisor and Joann both have keys to my office and the file cabinets. Trustee Balich asked if the Clerk would be there for voting. I had always planned to be there for voting. To clarify, we were never behind 3 months. The minutes were approved tonight for October and November. We were behind at most 2 months. Supervisor Fazio requests that if you have an item to discuss it be put on the agenda.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**MOTION** to adjourn by Trustee Balich 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Strack. VOICE VOTE All in favor, apposed – none **MOTION CARRIED** Meeting adjourned 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted

Evelyn K. Walano  
Homer Township Clerk