

HOMER TOWNSHIP

STATE OF ILLINOIS

Will County,
Town of Homer,

ss.

MONTHLY BUSINESS/PLANNING
MEETING

November 1, 2010 Minutes Draft
Approved as Amended December 6, 2010

THE BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES met at the Homer Township Old Town Hall, 16057 Cedar Rd. Lockport, IL. 60491 on **November 1, 2010**
Meeting began at 7:00pm with the Pledge, and ended at 10:06pm

PRESENT:	Pam Meyers	Supervisor
	Stephen J. Balich	Town Clerk
	Linsey Sowa	Trustee
	Vicki Bozen	Trustee arrived 7:03pm
	John Kruczek	Trustee
	Christina Neitzke	Trustee arrived 7:01pm

Township Supervisor Pam Meyers and Stephen J. Balich Township Clerk conducted the monthly Township Board meeting where the following official business was transacted. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Supervisor Meyers with the pledge to the flag. Also present were Highway Commissioner DeVivo, and Attorney Sramek.

1. **Call the meeting to order**
2. **Pledge to the Flag**
3. **Roll Call**
4. **Amendments to the agenda**
5. **Open Forum**
 - A. Mayor Jim Daley and Trustee Mike Costa: Update on Bike path and new information concerning the proposed trail through Yangas Park property. Mayor Daley request the TWP. to join the Village in fixing problems at Yanges Pk. With drainage by forming a joint committee or task force. Robinson Engineering will donate their time to the project. Daley feel that there are grants that can be applied for. Supervisor Meyers will be the contact person, and trustee Kruczek's Park & Rec Committee will be used. Mike Costa, and others from the Village have been working over the weekend cleaning derbies from the creek.

- B. Resident Jim Lahey: To address trail development on Conservation Easement at Wedgewood Highlands. Lahey, claims he did not sign a letter drawn up by attorney Sramek, and did not know The TWP. had to approve putting in paths. Lahey said he wants to work with the TWP. not against us. He has not taken any trees out in constructing the 3 ft. wide walk path. He used granite for the path instead of the much less costly lime stone used by the forest preserve because it is not damaging to the trees like limestone can be. He was informed that the Board wanted the land restored back to the way it was, and that the forest preserve was contacted, and will be doing an assessment. He was told footpaths are allowed only with Board approval according to the agreement. The Board has not heard from the neighbors, and needs to know where this is going and where it will end. Lahey said he has a letter from neighbors in favor of his path. Neighbor Bill Clark, spoke in favor of the paths, and cited his question of liability if someone gets hurt there. {he sent an email the Nov. 2, 2010 saying Lahey's path is ok, but he and other neighbors don't want access to the public in their lots like Lahey proposed}. Lahey was told that the Board does not like his coming to the board after the work is already finished. The Board will wait for the forest preserve study before making a decision.
 - C. Will County Board Representative Kathleen Konicki: Will Co Forest Preserve District deer management proposal and changes to billboard ordinance {Konicki was not present}
 - D. William Soppert is upset with the Highway Dept. for trimming the trees in his sub-division. He claimed they were ruined, but Village of Homer Glen Arborist according to the Road Commissioner said there was no problem. Soppert, complained about no notice being given and was told by the commissioner that there is no notice given and there will not be any notice, since trees are trimmed for safety reasons. Trees are trimmed on all sides in an effort to make them look uniform.
 - E. Marvin Pickering tells us to watch the Budget because revenue will be dropping. He went on to discuss Dex phone books not being by area code are causing a loss of revenue to our area.
 - F. Steve Balich spoke as a citizen not the TWP. Clerk, explaining what a good job the volunteers at the Tea Party 10-27-10 at Elite fitness did. Balich summarized a letter from Homer Chief Schoefield indicating the professionalism of everyone involved.
 - G. John Kooi is still not happy with path alignment at Yanges Pk. The Board he is told has not agreed to any new agreements. Board is waiting for the Village to present what they want.
6. **Motion by Trustee Kruczek, Second by Trustee Sowa for Approval of Bills – October bills payable in November per discussion. All---Yes Motion Carries**
- A. Creek Enhancement
 - B. Equipment & Building

- C. Founders Crossing – Bonds
- D. Founders Crossing Operating Fund
- E. General Assistance
- F. Open Space
- G. Open Space Bond
- H. Park
- I. Park Equipment Rebuild
- J. Park Invest
- K. Road and Bridge
- L. Town

7. Plan Commission Chairman Cathy Boo:

- A. Shri Ganesha Temple on 151st Street in unincorporated Homer Township update is given by Kathy Boo. **Motion by Trustee Sowa, Second by Trustee Neitzke to have Supervisor write a letter of inquiry re3guarding zoning and building issues concerning Shri Ganesha Temple to the County. All ---Yes Motion Carries**
- B. Will County Land Use proposed changes and revisions to Billboard ordinance will be investigated.

Motion by Trustee Neitzke, second by Trustee Bozen to move item 16 to before item 8. All----Yes Motion Carries

16. New Business

A. Action Item: Request for a letter of support for the SQISITO Development property on 143rd west of Bell. Tom Booth, Barry Booth, and Bob Crain spoke for the project on 143rd St. and Bell. Booth explained that the Village under Petrizzo approved full access for the project. Under Daley he was asked to change the access, and they did at a big cost. Booth said that the school, car wash, and gas Station are fine with him having full access. Dominicks will not contest. The Village will be writing a letter in favor of the project. The County is holding the project up because they will not approve full access on 143rd citing IDOT standards, and safety. There is an official letter of denial from the county. Crain indicates killing the project will be reflected on our property taxes. Estimate \$200,000 for the schools, and 14 to 18 million in sales tax per year. **Motion by Trustee Kruczek, second by Trustee Neitzke for a letter of support to mirror the letter from Homer Glen for full access on 143rd and a right in and right in right out on Bell. Discussion of safety. Supervisor Meyers abstain for more information, All others---Yes Motion Carries**

8. Highway Commissioner Mike DeVivo Report:

Last day for branch pick up today. 2 snow plough routes added. Weber case is final, settled for \$200,000. Paving is finished for the year. Sewer Lining project signed today, Oak Trail culverts will be the first lined.

9. Assessor Karen Szykowski Report: none

10. Clerk Steve Balich Report:

- a. **Motion by Trustee Kruczek, second by Trustee Sowa for Approval of the October 4, 2010 Regular Board Minutes. All—Yes Motion Carries**
- b. **Motion by Trustee Kruczek, second by Trustee Bozen for Approval of the October 4, 2010 Executive Secession Minutes. All---Yes Motion Carries**

11. Supervisor Pam Meyers Report:

- A. **Status Report:** Purchase of maintenance department replacement truck under Illinois State Bid Program. FYI
- B. **Action Item:** Purchase of snowplows to outfit new truck and one for existing dump/salt spreading truck. **Motion by Trustee Sowa, second by Trustee Kruczek to purchase 2 plows and 1 truck within the parameters of the \$35,000 already approved. All---Yes motion Carries**
- C. **Status Report:** Senior Housing rental unit updates and status on Fire Dept/fire extinguisher compliance. The cost will be apx. \$2000 for all the units.
- D. **Status Report:** Preparation of levy, with the goal of keeping it the same as last year. Road Commissioner will do no increase the same as the last 3 years.
- F. **Status Report:** New federal mandates concerning employees older dependant healthcare benefits (different from Illinois State mandates previously addressed by township) if there is a change it will take effect April 2011.
- G. **Status Report: Tabled Action Item:** Proposals received to address the Village of Homer Glen's request to remove vegetation on township owned property between Senior Housing units and around Healing Garden (proposed Community Center). **Motion by Trustee Kruczek, second by Trustee Bozen to table. All---Yes Motion Carries**
- E. **Status Report:** Reconstruction of the park storage garage. No report

12. Township Committee Reports:

- A. **EVENTS COMMITTEE**, Chairman Trustee Linsey Sowa
 - a. **Status Report:** 2011 Parade & Fest Celebration of Township 175th and Village 10th Anniversary. Fest will be on property just purchased by Road Dist. Parking will be on 5 acre site next to fest site. This is a joint celebration with Homer Glen. The not to exceed \$35,000 is budgeted as the TWP. portion of the cost of the event. The Idea behind this is to make money not to loose any. The hope is that the \$35,000 seed money will not be lost, and in fact there is a profit.

b. **Status Report:** 2010 Halloween Party went well.

B. EM & PUBLIC SAFETY, Chairman Steve Balich : None

C. OPEN SPACE PLANNING & OPERATIONS, Chairman Bill Karn

a. **Status Report:** Trantina farmhouse exterior siding repairs and compliance with Will County Land Use Inspection report, we are getting proposals.

b. **Status Report:** Trantina vacancy of rental unit and Will County Land use Building Dept rental unit inspection of interior floor joist. We are getting a structural engineer to inspect.

c. **Status Report:** Trantina parcel volunteer task force for maintenance of native plant exhibition garden. Master Gardeners have things ready for Winter. Farm House roof looks good but trim is not up. I should have been replaced before the roof went up. Supervisor and Trustee Neitzke will check this out.

D. PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE, Chairman Trustee John Kruczek: next meeting will be 11-17-10 8pm at the Old Town hall. Seed is being put on the fields at the complex.

E. SENIOR COMMITTEE, Chairman Trustee Vicky Bozen: None

F. YOUTH & SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE, Chairman Trustee Christina Neitzke: Looking for a new chairman

13. Old Business

a. **Status Report & Potential Action Item:** Violation of agreement and Conservation Easement at Wedgewood Highlands subdivision. **Motion by Trustee Bozen second by Trustee Kruczek to not have any action until report from Forest Preserve is received. All—yes Motion Carries**

b. **Tabled Action Item:** Marcia De Vivo, President-Lower Des Plaines Ecosystem Partnership request for IEPA Grant partnership for Long Run Creek Watershed project. **Motion by trustee Kruczek, second by Trustee Sowa to remove this item from future agendas. All—Yes motion Carries**

Motion by Trustee Sowa, second by Trustee Bozen to go into executive secession to discuss personnel. All---Yes Motion Carries 9:57pm

14. Executive Session

A. Personnel

Motion by Trustee Kruczek, second by supervisor Meyers to return to the regular Board meeting, no action was taken. 10:06pm All---Yes Motion carries.

15. Motion by Trustee Neitzke, second by Trustee Sowa for Adjournment. All--yes Motion carries.

NEXT REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING

BUSINESS/PLANNING

December 6, 2010

7:00P.M.