

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2025  
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: President Hofeld called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: President Hofeld led trustees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Clerk Nakina Flores called the roll. Those present were Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, Trustee Julie Willis, Trustee Jay Heiferman, Trustee Patrick Siemsen, Trustee Phillip Mason, and Village President Richard Hofeld. Trustee Lauren Roman was absent.

President Hofeld introduced staff present: Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Village Attorney Chris Cummings, Chief of Police Denise McGrath, Economic and Community Development Director Angela Mesaros, Director of Finance Amy Zukowski, Director of Public Works Joshua Burman, Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah, Event Manager Marla Youngblood, Engineer for Public Works Maximilian Massi, Market Coordinator Christine Banks, Assistant Economic and Community Development Director Noah Schumerth.

MINUTES: The minutes of October 28, 2025 were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

A motion was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee Siemsen to approve the minutes as presented.

**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS –None.**

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$1,863,315.96 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

A motion was made by Trustee Harris-Jones and seconded by Trustee Heiferman to approve the Claims List as presented.

**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS –None.**

President Hofeld said four (4) items totaled 77 percent of the Claims List: \$341,000 to the City of Chicago Heights for water, \$293,000 for one month's employee health insurance, \$122,000 to Public Works for a backhoe, and \$685,000 for the 2024 Village bond interest and principal.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: Barb Whaler from GoodSpeed Cycles said there was an update to Illinois bicycle laws that now include electrical bikes.

## PRESENTATIONS:

Marla Youngblood and Terence Acquah presented certificates to the 2025 fall cohort of Citizen Civics Academy participants.

Marla Youngblood presented a check for \$2,650 to Spotlight Performance Academy from the proceeds of the Fall Fest Chili Cook Off for their tuition assistance program.

Marla Youngblood and Christine Banks gave a recap of the 2025 Farmers Market season. The market is open for 20 Saturdays with an average of 34 vendors per market. Christine announced that the Village of Homewood received second place in Illinois for "Best Farmers Market." She also announced that December 6, 2025 will be the Holiday Farmers Market.

Village Manager Napoleon Haney and Noah Schumerth gave an update on the Roadway Mitigation. Napoleon Haney said the Village will be implementing mitigation strategies to lessen traffic accidents that include a traffic light, no turn on red signage, targeted enforcements on all streets, lengthen left turn lanes, installing delineators, highly reflective signage, and radar signs that show and monitor speed. Chief of Police McGrath said the software that tracks traffic is called UrbanSDK. Chief McGrath reported that they received a grant from IDOT for \$70,950 for traffic safety. A resident reported that delivery trucks have been making U-turns on 183<sup>rd</sup> Street. Another resident wanted to know if these mitigations would help pedestrians and cyclists. A Resident reported a fence on Gottschalk that seems to be a visual hazard. Chris Cummings said he has reached out to the homeowner of that property.

Trustee Mason asked Maximilian Massi if they can try delineators on Hood Street and have the proposed street light synchronized with the other lights. Joshua Burman said the delineators should all be up in the spring. Trustee Heiferman suggested a three-way stop on Center Avenue and 183<sup>rd</sup> Street along with making Center Avenue one way.

OMNIBUS VOTE: The Board was asked to pass, approve, authorize, accept, or award the following item(s):

- A. M-2378/Zoning Map Amendment/18106-18124 Martin Avenue: Pass an ordinance approving a map amendment for the property at 18106 -18124 Martin Avenue from the B-1 Downtown Core zoning district to the B-2 Downtown Transition zoning district.
- B. M-2379/Donation of Surplus Property: Pass an ordinance authorizing the donation of abandoned, lost, or stolen property recovered by the Homewood Police Department to Restoration Ministries, Inc. located in Harvey, IL.
- C. MC-1092/Fine for Dogs and Cats at Large: Pass an ordinance amending Section 8-60 of the Homewood Municipal Code, Dogs and Cats at Large, to include the language; "Any person in violation of the provisions of this section, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined an amount not less than \$150.00 nor more than \$750.00 for each violation."
- D. R-3239/Release of Executive Session Minutes: Pass a resolution determining minutes or portions thereof from Executive Sessions no longer requiring confidential treatment.
- E. R-3240/Approval/Destruction/Executive Session Minutes: Pass a resolution approving executive session minutes from March 11, 2025 to September 30, 2025 and authorizing the destruction of executive session audio recordings from September 12, 2023 to April 23, 2024.
- F. Contract/Engineering Services/Lead Service Line Replacement Project FY2027/Burns & McDonnell: Approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$49,800; and, authorize the

Village President to enter into a contract with Burns and McDonnell, of Chicago, IL in an amount of \$49,800 to provide Engineering Services to assist the Village in submitting a multi-year Project Plan and Funding Nomination Forms for the State of Illinois FY2027 and preparing bid documents for the Lead Service Line Replacement Project FY 2027 which will be reimbursed through the Village's State Revolving Loan Fund allocation.

- G. R-3241/Civil Immigration Enforcement/Village Property: Pass a resolution prohibiting civil immigration enforcement activities on Village Property.
- H. MC-1093/Creation of Class 12B Liquor License/Bring Your Own: Pass an ordinance creating a Class 12B Bring Your Own (BYO) liquor license.
- I. M-2380/Class 12B Liquor License/Bring Your Own: Pass an ordinance amending the Table of the Number of Liquor License Limitations by Class to add a Class 12B liquor license.
- J. M-2381/Fee Schedule/Class 12B Liquor License/Bring Your Own: Pass an ordinance amending the "Liquor License" section of the Village of Homewood Fee Schedule.
- K. Bid Award/2025 Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining Program/Insituform Technologies USA, LLC: Award the 2025 Sanitary Sewer Slip Lining Program to Insituform Technologies USA, LLC, of Romeoville to the lowest responsible bidder, in a total amount not to exceed \$492,843.30 for the rehabilitation of approximately 261 service connections totaling 12,040 linear feet of sanitary sewer main.

Before the vote, President Hofeld invited comments.

Item A: Trustee Mason asked what the difference was between the B-1 and B-2 districts. Angela Mesaros answered that B-1 is a smaller area that is restricted to retail and restaurants.

A motion was made by Trustee Willis and seconded by Trustee Harris-Jones to approve the Omnibus Report as presented.

**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS --None.**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Amy Zukowski presented the request for a Class 12B Liquor License for Blue Pearl Candles at 2050 Ridge Road. If the request is approved, an ordinance will be agendized at a future board meeting subject to the petitioner successfully completing the application requirements. Kim Rowe owner of Blue Pearl said she wanted to bring BYOB with beer and wine to increase revenue and allow her customers to relax more.

A motion was made by Trustee Siemsen and seconded by Trustee Mason to approve the request to apply for a class 12B liquor license.

**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS --None.**

Amy Zukowski presented the request for a Class 12B Liquor License for Mahogany House Candle LLC at 1941 Ridge Road. If the request is approved, an ordinance will be agendized at a future board meeting once the petitioner successfully completes the application requirements. Owner Drew Osi said that if they were able to offer BYOB it would elevate the experience and bring more people downtown.

A motion was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee Harris-Jones to approve the request to apply for a class 12B liquor license.

**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS –None.**

Angela Mesaros presented a request from TP Luxe Studios at 18124 Martin Avenue for a special use permit to operate as a salon with private suites in the B-1 Downtown Core zoning district. The Planning and Zoning Commission denied the application on October 23, 2025 because they were concerned with the number of salons in this area. Owner Tatiana Perkins is requesting to be approved by the Board for a special use permit to operate the salon from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. The owner, Tatiana Perkins, said she will have two private suites and three beautician chairs where her services will be offered. She eventually wants to teach cosmetology and give back to the community.

President Hofeld asked for the number of salons in this building. Angela Mesaros answered that this would be number four if approved.

Trustee Harris-Jones asked if there was adequate parking for the customers. The building owner answered that there are 48 parking spots. Trustee Willis asked how many salons were in the downtown district. Angela Mesaros said there was 15. Trustee Heiferman supports the Planning and Zoning commission due to the saturation of salons. Trustee Siemsen believes that the building owner will not allow her tenant to fail. Ms. Perkins answered Trustee Mason that the private suites will have their own chair and wash bowl. Trustee Mason asked if these will be permanent renters and the building owner said she would like them to be long term renters.

President Hofeld asked for a motion to approve, deny, or refer this matter back to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

A motion was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee Siemsen to approve the request to ordinance to grant a special use permit for an indoor commercial place of assembly to the B-2 zoning district.

**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS –Trustee Heiferman**

**GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION:** Trustees thanked the residents for attending the meeting and voicing their concerns. The Board wanted to congratulate the participants of the Citizen's Academy. Trustee Willis was pleased to hear all about the Farmers Market. Trustee Heiferman wanted to thank Barb Whaler for the bike quiz and recommends it. Trustee Siemsen said Happy Veteran's Day, and he encouraged everyone to take a look at the website for the Village's resolution concerning immigration concerns. Trustee Mason wanted to thank Napoleon and staff for putting together traffic mitigations and safety strategies for 183<sup>rd</sup> Street. Trustee Mason will be working with staff doing the CERT program which is an eight-week course. CERT is a community emergency respond team that teaches residents how to be better prepared when responding to an emergency.

President Hofeld announced the leaf pick up program for all leaves that are bagged appropriately and left on the curb on November 12, 19, and 26.

**ADJOURN:** A motion was made by Trustee Mason and seconded by Trustee Harris-Jones to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees.

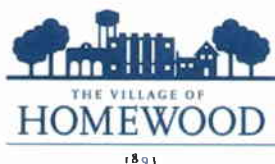
**Roll Call: AYES --Trustees Harris-Jones, Willis, Heiferman, Siemsen, and Mason. NAYS –None.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nakina Flores', written in a cursive style.

Nakina Flores  
Village Clerk



## PUBLIC COMMENTS – for the Tuesday, November 11, 2025 Board Meeting

From: Joan Stalick  
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 8:06 PM  
To: PublicComments  
Cc: generalinfo  
Subject: Speeding

I am writing about my deep concern about the speeding problem at 187th Street and Ashland Avenue. This intersection has become dangerous, especially after dark, given the lack of streetlights, and it feels like the Village has completely ignored it. Cars fly through here at 50 miles an hour or more in a 25 zone, and it happens constantly. Pedestrians, including kids, and cyclists trying to cross the street are being put at serious risk every single day. When we call 911, they ask for a description of the car and driver. We cannot see anything other than a blur in the dark. When it's daytime and we can see the make and model, we still can't see the driver given the illegal tinting on windows and lack of enforcement of window tinting plus the fact they are driving too fast to see anything.

At 187th and Ashland, we need stop signs and clearly marked crosswalks at this intersection. Separately, we need crosswalk buttons and pedestrian signals at 187th and Riegel Road. These are basic safety measures that should have been in place years ago and exist at most Homewood intersections, yet these intersections have been ignored for decades.

The police presence here is almost nonexistent, it's abysmal. We barely ever see patrols, and when we do, they aren't enforcing the speed limit. They are even often ignoring the speed limit. Who polices the police? School buses, delivery trucks, and regular drivers are all blowing through like it's a highway. This is supposed to be a residential area, not a racetrack. **YOU NEED TO DO SOMETHING!** Just because you put up those fancy speed signs doesn't mean the problem is solved. You're barely there.

The Village of Homewood is failing its residents by ignoring this. If our taxes aren't going toward protecting the people who actually live here, then what are we paying for? We expect better. **YOU JUST CUSHIONED THE POLICE RETIREMENT FUND.** Make them work for it... The lack of action on something this obvious and dangerous is unacceptable.

It's only a matter of time before someone gets seriously hurt, and when that happens, it will be on the Village for refusing to act, and we know you'll still do nothing about it. In all honesty,

Joan Stalick

From: Rosie Jones  
Sent: Thursday, October 30, 2025 6:04 PM  
To: PublicComments  
Subject: Speeding Cars

This Village is out of control with the traffic. Today around 5:30pm, I was tailgated by someone in a silver sedan on Ridge Road eastbound until it became two lanes near Halsted Street. Then, they drove 45 to go around me with no turn signals just to sit at the traffic signal. They weaved dangerously around other cars as well.

Coming home from shopping on Halsted, I took 187th Street Westbound, only to see the car in front of me driving 40 the entire duration of 187th Street to Dixie. I also witnessed at least 3 cars driving past that new speed sign at Ashland Ave on 187th and all of them were going so fast, it didn't register their speed.

I never saw a police vehicle the entire time I was out. There needs to be more speed patrols. There was little point in calling 911, I couldn't read the plate or make of this car. I couldn't see the driver, the windows were overly tinted, does Homewood even have the device to measure if a car's tinting is too much? Plus, there's very little Street lights. 18:02:57