

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 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 Lauren Roman, and Village President Richard Hofeld.

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, Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah, and Assistant Director of Finance Lindsay Cabay.

President Hofeld announced Mayor of Ford Heights Freddie Wilson and his guest in the audience.

MINUTES: The minutes of November 11, 2025 were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

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

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

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$492,365.42 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

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

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: Resident Amy Crump thanked staff for all the information she received at the Hot Topic meeting about TIF districts. She also spoke of President Donald Trump's Nov. 14 comment to a reporter.

Rev. Doyle Landry shared that on October 4, 2025 when riding the red line in Chicago he was shot at due to mistaken identity.

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

- A. Acceptance/2024 Annual Report/Homewood Police Department: Accept the 2024 Annual Report of the Homewood Police Department.

allocated toward the \$27 million operating budget as well as police and fire pensions. Amy Zukowski stated that staff is proposing two options. Option 1 would increase by 0.0%; as a result, the Village General Fund would receive less funding towards the day-to-day operations of providing high-level services, or Option 2 to increase the tax levy by a total of 3.4% to allocate funds for mandated pension contributions and provides resources to the general fund for operations. Staff recommends option 2 which is consistent with past levies. This is not an increase on the entire tax bill, it is only an increase to the Village's 11% portion of the bill.

President Hofeld asked for any questions or comments.

Resident Amy Crump in the audience said she agrees to the increase.

The Board expressed their support of Option 2. Trustee Roman added that the Trustees have met with staff either individually or with one other Trustee in order to have a better understanding of the levy. While evaluating her own property taxes, she realized that the increase to the Village's portion of the taxes would have a minimal effect on her tax bill.

A motion was made by Trustee Willis and seconded by Trustee Roman to approve Option 2, publish a Truth in Taxation Hearing notice in the local newspaper to be held prior to the December 9, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting, and prepare ordinances for the 2025 Real Estate Tax Levy for Board approval.

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

**GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION:** Trustees thanked residents for attending the meeting and wished all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving. The Board wanted to encourage all to attend the Holiday Lights Celebration on December 5, 2025 and the Holiday Market on December 6, 2025. Trustee Heiferman wanted to express his gratitude to staff, fellow Trustees, the press, and guests for their support this year. The Board urged consumers to shop small business in Downtown Homewood for Black Friday.

President Hofeld said the levy presentation noted that most of the Village's revenue is from sales tax and encouraged all to shop Homewood and have a blessed Thanksgiving.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nakina Flores  
Village Clerk



**PUBLIC COMMENTS –**  
**for the Tuesday, November 25, 2025 Board Meeting**

From: Bob Robertson  
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2025 10:53 PM  
To: PublicComments  
Subject: 187th and Ashland

Despite the new speed beacons, the traffic at 187th and Ashland is horrendous. Especially the eastbound traffic. The speeding muscle cars with illegal exhaust and tinting is constant. Does Homewood have the devices to check for illegally tinted windows? The school buses, FedEx trucks, Amazon vehicles, and average soccer moms are driving like maniacs. We just watched five cars drive well over 40 going eastbound here in less than 60 seconds. Twenty-five is already too high for a residential street like this.

We rarely see the police here anymore, do they think the speed beacons are doing their jobs? When we do see the police, they themselves are speeding on 187th in both directions and not stopping cars.

We need real safety measures at this intersection. That includes a four way stop sign at 187th and Ashland, marked crosswalks, and proper protections for pedestrians and cyclists. These changes would only affect the people who are already driving too fast, and they would improve safety for everyone else.

You have a responsibility to ensure the safety of your residency and you have failed us massively. We pay too much in taxes for your lack of action on the matter of dangerous driving in this town.

Sincerely,