

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2026
VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER: President Hofeld called the meeting of the Board of Trustees to order at 7:40 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, Trustee Lauren Roman, and Village President Richard Hofeld.

President Hofeld introduced staff present: Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Village Attorney Chris Cummings, Chief of Police Thomas Johnson, Fire Chief Bob Grabowski, Director of Finance Amy Zukowski, Director of Economic and Community Development Angela Mesaros, Director of Public Works Joshua Burman, and Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah.

MINUTES: The minutes of March 24, 2026 were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

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

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

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$1,300,269.55 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

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

President Hofeld said two items totaled 40 percent of the Claims List: \$294,000 for one month of employee health insurance, and \$232,000 for two snow plows.

PRESENTATION: The Village Clerk read a proclamation from the Village President declaring April 24, 2026 as Arbor Day in the Village of Homewood.

Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah presented the 27 graduates of the first Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program with certificates.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: Jacob from Scout Troop 342 announced a pancake fundraiser taking place on April 18, 2026. He says the purpose of scouting is to teach life skills and build confidence. Troop 342 is always looking for new members and urges any boys age 5-18 to inquire.

Resident Amy Crump read an opinion piece from The Guardian.

Tanja Harper spoke about an unlawful search warrant that was issued at her home following an incident with her daughter and grandson. She said she was not charged with anything but is looking for more information.

Mike Dickover said that even though fines have been raised since voicing his concerns over loose dogs, he does not think residents know about the laws for animals. He has seen numerous loose dogs and has heard of other dog attacks.

Jody would like to fly more pride flags.

A saxophone player played a musical excerpt.

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

- A. Reappointment/Planning and Zoning Commission/Maureen Alfonso: Approve the reappointment of Maureen Alfonso to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a five-year term ending on April 14, 2031.
- B. Agreement/Plan Review and Inspection Services/HR Green LLC: Approve the renewal of an agreement for plan review and inspection services with HR Green LLC of New Lenox, IL for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.
- C. Agreement/Grass Cutting Services/C & T Landscaping: Authorize the Village Manager to enter into an agreement with C & T Landscaping of Lynwood, IL for grass cutting, nuisance vegetation trimming, and debris removal services for non-code compliant multi-family, commercial, and industrial properties within Homewood from May 1, 2026 through November 30, 2026.
- D. Agreement/Grass Cutting Services/Utermark and Sons: Authorize the Village Manager to enter into an agreement establishing a renewal of the existing agreement with Utermark and Sons of Homewood, IL for grass cutting, nuisance vegetation trimming, and debris removal for privately-owned non-compliant properties from May 1, 2026 through November 30, 2026.
- E. Agreement/Professional Services/HR Green Inc.: Authorize the Village Manager to enter into a professional services agreement with HR Green, Inc. of New Lenox, IL in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for Phase II of engineering and design services related to the design and installation of high visibility crosswalks in the downtown area.
- F. R-3252/Purchase and Sales Agreement/Grand Prairie Services/18157 Dixie Highway: Approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$100,000; and, pass a resolution authorizing the Village President to enter a real estate purchase contract with Grand Prairie Services for the acquisition of the property at 18157 Dixie Highway.
- G. R-3253/Renewal of Class 8 Real Estate Tax Classification/850 183rd Street: Pass a resolution supporting and consenting to the renewal of a Class 8 Cook County tax classification for the Culver's property located at 850 183rd Street, owned by Born Again Burgers, LLC.

- H. M-2407/Increase of Liquor Licenses/A & P Restaurant, Inc./18755 Dixie Highway: Pass an ordinance amending the Table of the Number of Liquor License Limitations by Class to increase the allowed number of Class 5 liquor licenses by one for the proposed A & P Restaurant Inc., d/b/a 3B Burger-Bird-Brew House location at 18755 Dixie Highway, subject to an approved background check.
- I. Contract/Water Meter Data Management Software/Sensus Analytics: Accept a proposal from Core and Main of St. Louis, MO; and, authorize the Village Manager to enter into a contract with Core and Main, the vendor of Sensus Analytics, in the amount of \$52,476, for the software migration of Sensus Logic to Sensus Analytics, subject to Village attorney review.
- J. M-2408/Amendment to Redevelopment Agreement/Joaquin Anguiano/18134-18138 Dixie Highway: Pass an ordinance approving an amendment to the December 10, 2024 Redevelopment Agreement between the Village of Homewood and Joaquin Anguiano for the property at 18134-18138 Dixie Highway.

Before the omnibus vote, President Hofeld invited comments. There were no comments.

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

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

GENERAL BOARD DISCUSSION: Trustees thanked residents for coming out to the meeting. The Board congratulated the graduates of the CERT program. They thanked Jacob from the scout troop for sharing the information. Trustee Siemsen said he has spoken with the police chief about the loose dogs and agrees that more can be done to raise awareness of the laws regarding loose dogs. He said that the police department is currently looking into several cases and they take this very seriously. Trustee Mason stated that he was proud to lead the first CERT program and looks forward to the next one. Trustee Roman said there was an aggressive dog next door to her and she encouraged the residents to contact police. President Hofeld said he is concerned about loose dogs and he will make residents more aware of the process.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: A motion was made by Trustee Roman and seconded by Trustee Siemsen to enter into executive session to discuss following: Purchase or lease of real property under 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5).

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

The board moved to Executive Session at 8:23 p.m.
The board returned from Executive Session at 8:39 p.m.

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 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nakina Flores
Village Clerk

From: Joan Stalick
Sent: Monday, April 13, 2026 2:14 PM
To: PublicComments
Subject: RE: Crosswalk Engineering for Phase II of the Downtown Crosswalk Improvement Plan

External Sender: Use caution with links/attachments. Use caution when replying. If you are unsure please contact IT.

I am writing to express my concern regarding the current allocation of resources within our village, particularly the continued investment in downtown Homewood while other areas remain significantly underserved and, in some cases, unsafe.

Downtown Homewood already benefits from highly visible crosswalks, pedestrian push buttons, clear signage, and enhanced lighting. These improvements have made that area safer and more accessible for residents and visitors alike. However, this level of infrastructure is not reflected throughout the rest of the village.

A clear example of this disparity is the intersection of Riegel Road and 187th Street. This intersection presents serious safety concerns for pedestrians. While crosswalks are present, they lack essential features such as pedestrian crossing signs and push buttons to safely signal for the right of way. Instead, pedestrians are forced to rely on vehicle-triggered loop sensors, often waiting extended periods for traffic to activate a green light. There are also no "Walk" signals to guide or protect those crossing.

Additionally, the crosswalk markings at this intersection have faded significantly, reducing their visibility to drivers. It is not uncommon to witness vehicles running red lights or stopping directly within the crosswalk, further endangering pedestrians. Traffic speeds along both Riegel Road and 187th Street frequently exceed safe limits.

These dangers are even more pronounced at night. The area is poorly lit, with only a fraction of the street lighting available in downtown Homewood. While continued improvement of downtown is valuable, it should not come at the expense of basic safety in other parts of the community. All residents deserve safe, accessible infrastructure regardless of where they live within the village. Maybe you should work on bringing the rest of the village up to date with safety features first.

I respectfully urge the Board to reassess current priorities and allocate funding toward critical safety improvements in underserved areas such as the Riegel Road and 187th Street intersection. Enhancements such as proper pedestrian signals, updated crosswalk markings, improved signage, traffic calming measures, and increased street lighting would significantly improve safety and quality of life for residents.

Yours,
Joan Stalick