

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2026
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 Julie Willis, Trustee Jay Heiferman, Trustee Patrick Siemsen, Trustee Phillip Mason, Trustee Lauren Roman, and Village President Richard Hofeld. Trustee Vivian Harris-Jones, was absent.

President Hofeld introduced staff present: Village Manager Napoleon Haney, Village Attorney Chris Cummings, Chief of Police Thomas Johnson, Director of Finance Amy Zukowski, Director of Economic and Community Development Noah Schumerth, Director of Public Works Joshua Burman, Assistant Village Manager Terence Acquah, Assistant to the Village Manager Anne Mitchell, Communication and Engagement Manager Antonia Steinmiller.

MINUTES: The minutes of August 11, 2026 were presented. There were no comments or corrections.

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

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

CLAIMS LIST: The Claims List in the amount of \$781,895.84 was presented. There were no questions from the Trustees.

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

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

President Hofeld said four items totaled 80 percent of the Claims List: \$96,000 for pavement markings in the village, \$365,000 for one month's employee health insurance, \$89,000 for one month to Thorn Creek Basin Sanitary District, \$77,000 to Trees R Us for storm-related tree removal service.

OATHS OF OFFICE: The Village Clerk administered the oath of office to Connie Youpel for the position of Utilities Division Supervisor in the Public Works Department.

PRESENTATION: Antonia Steinmiller presented the refresh of the Village of Homewood's style guide with brighter colors and bolder fonts. There will be a new website and the Home Sweet Homewood logo will be formally adopted. The last refresh was in 2011.

HEAR FROM THE AUDIENCE: A resident thanked the electrical line crews for all their work restoring the power outage. He asked for 28 South Suburban communities to support the United Coalitions infrastructure grid.

to help all communities. Trustee Roman thanked Antonia Steinmiller for the refresh. President Hofeld said there is an enormous pile where all the debris is being taken for now until Cook County can assist with them. He encouraged residents to drive down 175th Street to look at it.

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nakina Flores', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nakina Flores
Village Clerk

From: Edward Allen
Sent: Friday, August 14, 2026 8:09 PM
To: PublicComments

To All,

I am writing this 84 hours into our latest power outage, reading the absolutely tone-deaf comments made by our Town President.

Let's do a quick recap of the so-called "leadership" we are currently suffering under. On July 31st, while we were dealing with the fallout of the previous storm, the President puffed out his chest and promised us accountability, stating: "In the months after cleanup has been completed, we shall be having some very serious talks with ComEd."

Fast forward exactly two weeks to today, August 14th, and he does a complete, spineless 180. Now he is singing their praises: "I will say, ComEd's response was a heck of a lot better this time. Their trucks and those of their contractors appeared quickly and their monumental task of removing trees from power lines and replacing downed poles took place."

Is he delusional? Did he hit his head in the dark? Because from where I am sitting, still without power after three and a half days, ComEd is absolutely not doing a "great job."

Here is the infuriating reality that our out-of-touch President refuses to acknowledge:

We are going backwards: During the last major outage, we were left in the dark for 75 miserable hours. We are currently sitting at 84 hours and counting for this current outage. It is taking longer and longer to recover every single time we get a storm.

We are dead last: Every single time the power goes out, our neighborhood is the absolute last on the list to get restored.

We are being fleeced: ComEd's rates keep skyrocketing, yet we see zero actual improvements for the money they bleed out of us. We need these antiquated power lines buried, but instead, we get band-aid fixes, downed poles, and higher bills.

The fact that our Town President thinks an 84-hour ongoing outage is "a heck of a lot better" proves he has completely lost his mind and touch with the reality of the people living in this town. We don't need a cheerleader for a monopoly utility company that takes our money and leaves us rotting in the dark; we need an advocate who will actually hold them accountable.

If the President thinks almost four days without electricity is something to be applauded, then it is past time for the old man to retire. We need a leader who will stand up to ComEd, not fold like a cheap tent the second a single utility truck finally rolls into town.

Sincerely,

Edward Allen