



# **Village of Homer Glen**

**14933 South Founders Crossing  
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491**

**December 13, 2011**

**Board of Trustees  
Board Meeting**

**Village Board Room  
14917 South Founders Crossing  
Homer Glen, IL**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on December 13, 2011 by Mayor Jim Daley at 7:32 p.m. in the Village Board Room, 14917 S. Founders Crossing, Homer Glen.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG****C. ROLL CALL**

Present at 7:32 p.m. were Mayor Jim Daley, Trustees Mike Costa, Marcia DeVivo, Tedd Kagianas, Mary Niemiec, Margaret Sabo and George Yukich. All remained throughout the meeting. Also present on behalf of the Village were Village Clerk Gale Skrobuton, Village Manager Cameron Davis, Community Development Director Ed Cage, Development Services Director Mike Salamowicz and Village Attorney Cary Horvath.

A quorum was established.

**D. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Trustee Sabo made a motion to add Discussion of Homer Harvest Days Planning for 2012 to *Old Business*; second by Trustee Costa.

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES*****November 22, 2011 Village Board Meeting***

Trustee DeVivo made a motion to approve the November 22, 2011 Village Board meeting Minutes; second by Trustee Yukich.

Voice Vote:

All in favor: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich.

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion Carried.*

**F. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND OTHER OFFICERS****1. Mayor Daley reported:**

- . In November the Mayor attended a Joint Action Water Agency meeting with other JAWA representatives and officials from Illinois American Water. The intention of the meeting was to discuss a way in which IAW could deliver sewer and water services at reasonable rates; however, this did not occur and the meeting was unproductive. The only solution offered by IAW was rate consolidation which they feel will allow them to invest in needed water system improvements while stabilizing rates over the long term. Hopefully at the next JAWA meeting IAW they will provide answers on how we can receive quality water for a reasonable price.
- . The Mayor read a letter from the Will County Forest Preserve District on the deer culling issue that he received in response to the Village's request to reconsider the District's deer management program at Messenger Woods and Messenger Marsh Preserves. The District responded that they will conduct aerial counts of the deer and refrain from culling at these two preserves in the event that the deer numbers are much lower than previously estimated.
- . Parking on the Village roads is prohibited when there is over 2" of snow on the ground. Parked vehicles may be towed and/or ticketed.
- . The Mayor congratulated:

- Homer Glen residents Samantha Gillooly and Dani O'Connell for assisting the 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball team at Cardinal J. Bernadine School in taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the South Suburban Basketball League.
  - Mississippi State freshman volleyball player Lainey Wyman, a Homer Glen native, was recently named Freshman of the Week by the SEC.
  - Homer Stallions Super Pee Wee 5<sup>th</sup> grade squad for winning its first competition. The Stallions also defeated their peers at the IRCA Spirit spectacular where they came in 1<sup>st</sup> place and qualified for the State Competition.
  - Homer Glen resident Ryan Ward was named to the 2011 Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Class 7A All-State Football Team. Ryan was the only student from Providence High School to receive the honor.
  - Homer Glen resident Alexandra Hoye helped her volleyball team from Noonan Academy win 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Queen of Peace School Volleyball Tournament.
- . The Village Hall will be closed on December 26<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Holiday. The Mayor wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

2. Trustees:

a. Trustee Costa reported:

- . The Village of Homer Glen and Homer township Community Festival is scheduled for June 21-24, 2012. The Festival and Parade Committee is reviewing the contract for the carnival and is also looking at bands for the event.

b. Trustee Yukich reported:

- . The Public Services and Safety Committee met and discussed the problem with the presence of coyotes in the subdivisions. At this time we have no options to address this issue and Trustee Yukich reminded residents to keep the weeds trimmed around fences.
- . The Committee addressed the issue of speeding throughout the subdivisions. The Will County Sheriff Police is issuing more tickets in order to help keep the speeding down.
- . The Committee discussed the issue of burning leaves throughout the Village. Trustee Yukich noted that burning is not allowed within 50 ft. of any structure and the fire must be attended to at all times. He stated that if anyone notices a fire that is burning out of control and is unattended to call 911 and the police will issue a ticket.

c. Trustee Sabo reported:

**ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:**

The Village of Homer Glen is included in the quarantine area of concern for the Emerald Ash Borer. The Environment Committee has been proactive in seeking a grant to find ways to address the problem. In the spring of 2011 the Homer Glen application ranked very high but was not awarded; however, another opportunity for a grant is available with a due date of January 20, 2012. The grant provides 80% funding with a 20% match by the Village. Work on the application continues and more information will be provided.

**International Dark Sky Association**

Since the announcement of Homer Glen being recognized as the International Dark Sky Community by the International Dark Sky Association, an abundance of organizations have spread the news on their web sites along with positive comments commending the Village for its position. Homer Glen is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Dark Sky Community in the United States, the first one east of the Mississippi and the 4<sup>th</sup> one in the world after the Isle of Sark, one of the Channel Islands. However, the Isle of Sark website

titles their status as the first Dark Sky Island and mentions many locations for Dark Sky Parks specifically for viewing of the night sky.

The Environment Committee is recommending that the following ideas be presented to the Village Board for recognition locally.

- . Recognition on the Homer Glen web site featuring the article from the International Dark Sky Association and other appropriate related information.
- . Signs at the entrances (similar in size to Tree City & Clean Air Counts signs) or somewhere else in the Village.
- . A letter of appreciation and/or a small plaque for those commercial developments that were included in the IDA Dark Sky Community application and the same recognition for future developments.
- . An informational letter announcing the recognition to the Governor, state, federal and other appropriate elected officials.

In the future there will be a presentation of the award to Homer Glen by an IDA Board member.

d. Trustee Kagianas reported:

- . On Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> a ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 2:00 p.m. at South Suburban Hearing which is located at 143<sup>rd</sup> and Will-Cook Road. Trustee Kagianas welcomed them to the community.
- . ACT Scores came in for the Lockport Township High School and they achieved the highest level in nine years. The attendance rate of 95.5 % is also the highest for the high school in nine years.

e. Trustee Niemiec reported:

- . Homer Glen resident Patrick Ward who is a junior at Northwestern University was named Academic All American First Team Honors. Patrick is an offensive lineman for Northwestern and is majoring in mechanical engineering with a 3.92 average.
- . At last night's meeting the Sewer and Water Task Force met with a representative from Illinois American Water to discuss the proposed rate increase that is going before the ICC. If successful the increase will appear on our resident's bills in October 2012. There would be about a 27% increase in sewer and an 8% increase in water. Members of the Task Force asked IAW how they justified the large increases in previous years. IAW responded there were going to be some upgrades in the sewer systems in the community, in particular Derby Meadows to increase the capacity. The Task Force questioned where they would be expanding and IAW responded that they were considering all options including an analysis of off loading the sewer systems to the Oak Valley sewer plant. The Task Force commented to IAW that this would mean a decrease in expenses and costs which would then be passed on to consumers, to which IAW responded that this wasn't necessarily so, but could happen eventually. Trustee Niemiec applauded the efforts going forward for the Village to do an analysis on looking at a collaborative effort with the other communities with the proposed Joint Water Agency and she commented that she is looking forward to the results of the study that Robinson Engineering is conducting to look at the infrastructure and operational costs of local distribution, which is the system that will most impact the rates in Homer Glen. A tentative report should be available in January.

f. Trustee DeVivo reported:

- . The Parks and Recreation Committee meeting for December has been cancelled

Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich wished everyone a Happy Holiday Season and New Year.

3. Village Treasurer – No Report
4. Village Clerk – No Report
5. Village Attorney – No Report
6. Task Force Chairperson(s) – No Report
7. Public Safety Officials:
  - . Lt. Mark Fisch reminded residents to observe the speed limits and to leave a little driving distance between their car and the vehicle in front of them now that the winter season is approaching. He also asked for residents' cooperation in removing all valuables from their cars and to lock all vehicles.
  - . Lt. Fisch introduced the Sgt. Dan Jungels who will be working the afternoon shift. Sgt. Jungels commented that he has been with the Sheriff's Department for 13 years and looks forward to working in Homer Glen
8. Village Manager Davis reported:

On Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> he will be meeting with a number of representatives from other Illinois American Water serviced communities at a meeting sponsored by the Metropolitan Mayors' Conference. The group will be meeting to discuss strategies for joint responses to the proposed rate increases.

On behalf of the entire Village Staff, Manager Davis wished everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

## G. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mike DeVivo, 15658 Janas Drive spoke regarding Item H-3 on the Village Board agenda. Mr. DeVivo stated that he was part of the Zoning Board that wrote the original zoning ordinances and noted that the intent of creating the C1 Commercial Zoning District was to designate an area that would be compatible with adjacent residential areas. The ordinance was very restrictive with what type of businesses would be allowed. When the Zoning Board finished writing the ordinances they were told that these ordinances would be applied to the entire map of the Village, the areas would be rezoned and it would be presented to the Board; however this never happened and while the ordinances were written they were never applied, in his opinion, correctly. Mr. DeVivo commented that it was never the intent of the Zoning Board to zone any areas along 143<sup>rd</sup> Street as a restrictive C1 area.
2. Kathleen Konicki, 13325-167<sup>th</sup> Street asked the Board to approve the resolution to provide for a referendum concerning the continuance of the Will County Forest Preserve district's existing deer culling program. She suggested that former Mayor Russ Petrizzo serve as the independent observer when the aerial count of deer is conducted.
3. Laura Bradley, 14511 Walnut Avenue voiced her support of placing the referendum for the deer culling program on the March 2012 ballot
4. Steve Brown, 16234 Marmel Drive volunteered to pilot his plane and take aerial photos for the recount of the number of deer in the Messenger Woods and Messenger Marsh preserves. Mr. Brown asked that the Village address the issue of hunting within the boundaries and make it illegal to hunt in Homer Glen.
5. Greg Grimm, 14308 Bruce Road asked the Board to approve the Resolution to place the question of the continuing of the existing deer culling program on the March 2012 ballot.

6. Kristine Torma, 14267 Carriage Station, Lockport asked the Board to approve the Resolution on the deer culling program and suggested that the Village support having the Will County Forest Preserve District have Messenger Woods and Messenger Marsh upgraded to the status of a wildlife sanctuary.
7. Linda Ryan, 15709 Trailside Drive asked that the Board to approve the Resolution on the deer culling program, for the Village to be involved in the aerial count of the deer and to be certain that an independent observer is present.
8. Ray Holland, 16360 Lakewood Path voiced his support of stopping the deer culling program and asked for the Board's to approve the Resolution.

## H. LEGISLATION

1. **Ordinance No. 11-040 – An Ordinance Providing for a Referendum Regarding the Question of Whether the Village Should have the Authority, under Public Act 096-0176, to Arrange for the Supply of Electricity for its Residential and Small Commercial Retail Electric Customers who have not Opted Out of Such a Program.**

Trustee Kagianas made a motion to approve the Ordinance; second by Trustee DeVivo.

Village Manager Davis noted that a number of steps are required for this electric aggregation, but this first step will allow the Village Clerk to deliver the referendum question to the Will County Clerk so it can be on the March ballot. We will still need an agreement with the County group.

Mayor Daley asked what the estimated savings could be.

Manager Davis stated that it depends on what the group is able to achieve in the bulk purchasing of electricity. Some groups that have already gone through this process and have seen rates at a saving of up to 27%, but the rate varies greatly and it may be much lower. The actual saving depends on the size of the group. If the residents decide not to support the referendum, the Village will continue to have ComEd; however, there is currently a debate as to whether Com Ed would have the ability to step out of the current rate and increase the rate structure if the number of customers they actually serve falls below a certain number.

Trustee Niemiec noted that the Ordinance refers to the Village as a Home Rule municipality and asked if the Village would still be able to exercise this authority if we did not remain a Home Rule community.

Village Attorney Horvath stated that electric aggregation is available to both home rule and non-home rule municipalities.

Trustee Sabo asked if the price would go down as more people are involved.

Manager Davis stated that this would be joint purchasing and typically the more potential clients there are the better the price will be.

Trustee Sabo commented that some residents have been receiving individual offers from companies offering reduced electric rates and questioned who these companies are and how long they have been in business.

*The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:*

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich

Nays: (0) None

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The Mayor did not vote.  
*Motion Carried.*

**2. A Motion to Consider for Approval the Mayor and a Village Board Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) #003 – Procedure for Resident Initiated Requests for Traffic and/or Parking Changes.**

Trustee Yukich made a motion to approve the Standard Operating Procedure #003; second by Trustee Costa.

Village Manager Davis commented that the Public Services and Safety Committee is completely committed to dealing proactively with questions and concerns that we receive from residents about speeding and other issues. This SOP will guide the staff as we process those concerns and develop recommendations for the Public Services and Safety Committee.

*The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:*

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich.

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The Mayor did not vote.

*Motion Carried.*

**3. Ordinance No. 11-041 - An Ordinance Approving a Text Amendment to Ordinance No. 08-048 "The Village of Homer Glen Zoning Ordinance" amending the Table of Permitted and Special Uses in the C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District to make Restaurants (excluding drive-in service) a Permitted Use.**

Trustee DeVivo made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 11-041; second by Trustee Kagianas.

Village Manager Davis stated that on December 5, 2011 the Plan Commission conducted a public hearing on the Text Amendment and recommended approval to the Village Board by a unanimous vote. If approved, this action will make "Restaurants" a permitted use in the Village's C-1 zoning district.

Manager Davis cited the example of Enzo's Pizza, which is located in a C-1 Commercial Zoning District, who would like to expand into an adjoining space that is available. Under our current ordinance, in order to expand they must go through a public hearing, the process of requesting a Special Use Permit at a cost of approximately \$1,000. There is also a business from another community that is looking at another space to open a restaurant in the same shopping center. Village Manager Davis commented that by approving this text amendment, the Village will create a more business friendly streamlined development environment.

Trustee Kagianas noted that by streamlining the process for permitted and special uses in the C-1 Zoning District the applicant will still be required to have Village approval for parking, landscaping, hours of operation, liquor license, lighting, etc.

Trustee Costa voiced his concern that the Board does not have documentation from the past Zoning Commission and their reasons behind their recommendations for establishing the zoning districts and any input from the Commission and residents. Trustee Costa stated that while the current discussion pertains to restaurants, the Zoning Commission had a specific reason to keep the restaurants as a special use and he suggested that the Board look at what was discussed by the Commission before he makes a decision. Trustee Costa suggested that the Board might want to change the zoning in the

areas where restaurants currently exist rather than adding restaurants as a permitted use in a C-1 zoning district.

Trustee Niemiec questioned why another special use is required for an existing restaurant if there was a permitted use for an existing restaurant in that building. Trustee Niemiec suggested that the Board might want to consider amendments that look at existing uses, but she voiced her concern about any future consequences of making zoning changes.

Trustee Sabo asked if the Board could amend the Ordinance in such a way that it would affect just the existing C-1 zoning districts and do something at a later date for the other businesses that should not be C-1. Trustee Sabo commented that she does not support changing the C-1 zoning districts as a whole. She suggested that the Board discuss how we can accommodate the businesses that are immediately making requests to the Village before putting this issue to a vote.

Attorney Horvath commented that this particular amendment deals with what the Village currently has. If someone comes in and proposes a new development on a vacant property they have to comply with the regulations in that district and also present a PUD. This amendment allows for a permitted use in structures that are presently zoned C-1. This is a very limited change that allows a restaurant to be a permitted use in the C-1 district in an existing structure.

Trustee Niemiec asked if we could include a “grandfather clause” for existing restaurants to clarify that this amendment only applies to current restaurants in the C-1 zoning district

Trustee DeVivo commented that C-1 zoning came from Will County and was here when we incorporated. The Zoning Commission tried to create a different type of zoning district to be specific to Homer Glen by putting on all these restrictions; however, at that time staff and the village attorney said that it would be difficult to do and recommended that C-1 be changed. The Board never went back through the process of changing the properties that would fall into the C-1 category, and one of those properties might have been on 143<sup>rd</sup> Street and other parcels that had residential areas around them.

Trustee Niemiec asked the Village Manager how many vacant parcels are zoned C-1. She suggested that if the Board is looking at changing this zoning now that staff be directed to look at working with owners to rezone those properties from C-1 to a more appropriate zoning at some point in the future.

Manager Davis stated there were approximately five or six C-1 vacant properties and staff could look into rezoning.

*The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:*

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich.

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The Mayor did not vote.

*Motion Carried.*

Trustee Sabo made a motion to direct staff to examine the remaining undeveloped parcels in the C-1 Neighborhood Commercial Zoning District and report back to the Board with a recommendation regarding if those parcels should remain zoned C-1 or should carry another zoning classification; second by Trustee Niemiec.

Village Manager Davis recommended that staff be directed to look at all of the parcels that are zoned C-1 and not just the undeveloped ones.



Trustee Sabo amended her motion to include all parcels in the C-1 Zoning District; Trustee Niemiec amended her second.

*The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:*

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich.

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The Mayor did not vote.

*Motion Carried.*

**4. A Motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Marxman & Associates, Inc. for the 2012 Farmers' Market.**

Trustee DeVivo made a motion to authorize the Mayor to enter into the Agreement; second by Trustee Niemiec.

Trustee Costa asked if the proposed new location for the Farmers' Market, west of the Village Hall, included any Homer Township property.

Village Manager Davis stated that potentially some of the Township's property may need to be utilized. The Village owns the road and the road right-of-way which expands beyond the curb line. Manager Davis commented that he has met with Township Supervisor Pam Meyers and whether or not we use any of the township property or not we are asking Marxman & Associates to indemnify them and hold them harmless.

Trustee Costa asked if the fire department and police department are aware of the road closures and redirection for access in and out of the parking lots.

Manager Davis noted that every precaution will be taken and there will be complete access to the parking lots, buildings, businesses, etc.

Trustee Sabo commented that this year's market did not have enough booths, and asked if different vendors will be contacted by Mr. Marxman.

Manager Davis stated that staff conveyed to Mr. Marxman that we did not want to move forward with the Farmers' Market unless he added more vendors. Mr. Marxman stated that he has contacted new vendors to look at the new site.

Trustee Sabo asked if more signage would be provided by Marxman & Associates.

Manager Davis stated that staff is working on a new logo and additional signage to draw more attention to the Farmers' Market.

*The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:*

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich.

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

The Mayor did not vote.

*Motion Carried.*

**5. Resolution No. 11-014 – a Resolution Providing for an Advisory Referendum by the Electors of the Village of Homer Glen, Will County, Illinois Concerning Whether the Will County Forest Preserve District Shall Continue its Existing Deer Culling Program.**

Trustee Sabo made a motion to approve Resolution No. 11-014; second by Trustee DeVivo.

Village Manager Davis noted that if the Board approves the Resolution and the Forest Preserve District then makes a final decision not to proceed with the deer culling this season prior to the Village submitting the referendum to the Will County Clerk, the Village could choose not to submit the referendum for the March 2012 ballot. The Village Board decided not consider this option.

Trustee Costa commented that the question to be put before the voters asks the Will County Forest Preserve District to discontinue the deer management program in our community, but is not written for the deer culling to be permanently discontinued.

Trustee Sabo commented that the residents have requested that an independent observer be included in the aerial count of the deer and she recommended that the Village Board agree to send a letter to the Will County Forest Preserve District for this action.

The Village Board discussed the proposed wording for the referendum that was included in the letter prepared by the attorney retained by the residents who are support the referendum.

Village Attorney Horvath stated that in his opinion the word “killing” should not be used in the referendum as ballot questions should be neutral and not suggestive.

Trustee Sabo commented that the deer management program is a positive way to address the issue; however, deer culling is already being done and is the term most commonly used.

Trustee Yukich commented that if we say “deer management” people might think that we are trying to relocate the deer or continue with some other type of positive program and they might not understand that we are referring to deer culling.

Trustee Niemiec questioned how the Will County Forest Preserve District defines their deer management program as she wants to make certain that the Village is not looping something into the referendum that means more than the deer culling and there are ways to manage a deer population other than the culling program. Trustee Niemiec commented that she does not believe that the Village should put out an advisory question that extends beyond what the issue is. If the issue and the concern is the deer culling program, then that is what we should say.

Attorney Horvath commented that culling does not mean killing and this is a management program by using the term that is used most often when referring to this management program the referendum question remains as neutral as possible.

The Board concurred that the proposed question to be presented by the Village Board for the referendum to the electors of the Village of Homer Glen should be: “Shall the Will County Forest Preserve District continue its existing deer culling program within the boundaries of the of the Village of Homer Glen.”

Trustee Sabo amended her motion to change the language to: “Existing Deer Culling Program”; Trustee DeVivo amended her second.

*The Mayor asked the Clerk to call the Roll:*

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich.

Nays: (0)

Abstained: (0) None

Absent: (0) None  
The Mayor voted Aye.  
*Motion Carried.*

The Mayor directed staff to send a letter to the Will County Forest Preserve District asking for an independent observer from the Village of Homer Glen to be present for the aerial count of the deer.

The Board recessed the meeting at 10:02 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:13 p.m.

## **I. WORKSHOP ITEMS**

There were no Workshop Items.

## **J. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Homer Harvest Days Planning for 2012**

Trustee Sabo commented that the Homer Harvest Days Committee has been working on the plans for the 2012 event and questioned why the Mayor has met with the Finance Director, Administration and Finance Committee and the Township Supervisor about turning the event over to the Township and Village staff will no longer be involved in assisting the committee with this event.

Mayor Daley stated that the Village will be working on many issues including the Home Rule status and the 1% sales tax, and we do not have enough staff to continue assisting with Earth Day/Arbor Day, the 4-day Community Festival and Homer Harvest Days.

Mayor Daley stated that he met with Township Supervisor Pam Meyers about the Township taking over the Homer Harvest Days event. If the Village Board agrees to pass this event on to the Township, it would require approval by the Township Board. The committee would no longer be a joint committee of the Village and Township and all members would be appointed by the Township Board in compliance with their ordinance and policy and the Township would be responsible for the administration of the event. The Village will continue to match funds through an intergovernmental agreement; however, instead of the Village providing \$10,000 for the event the Board may suggest that the Village only match the Township's contribution of \$5,000.00.

Trustee Sabo commented that at the time the 4-day Community Festival was being planned there was never a concern or discussion by the Mayor or Village Board that this event would have any affect on continuing with Homer Harvest Days. Trustee Sabo asked for discussion and direction from the Board on how the Homer Harvest Festival Committee should proceed with their plans for the 2012 event.

Trustee Costa stated that the Homer Harvest Days event was originally planned as part of the grand opening of the Trantina Farm. The decision to make this a 2-day event was suggested by the Village who then took the lead because of the financing with the receipt and expensing of funds received for this event. Trustee Costa stated that he is in favor of keeping this a joint committee and there are still funds coming from the Village and we need to have representation on the Committee. He commented that he does not have an issue with the Township if they are willing to take on the staff time that the Village doesn't have. Since Homer Harvest Days is held on Township property and their staff spends time preparing the site before and after the event, Trustee Costa stated that he is not in favor of reducing the Village's funding to \$5,000.00. He believes the Village funding level should remain \$10,000.00

Mayor Daley stated that he would also like to see the event continue, but the Village does not have enough staff to take on the added responsibilities of working on special events.

Trustee Sabo suggested that the Board look at everything they are doing that involves staff and to try to reduce their use of staff and not take on any new projects; however, in many situations staff time is used in order for the Village to save money.

Trustee Niemiec commented that she supports the Mayor's position of talking to the Township to take a leadership role in Homer Harvest Days because it is their property. Trustee Niemiec stated that she still feels we need a joint committee and does not support reducing the Village's funding from \$10,000.00 in the middle of this fiscal year when plans are already being made for the 2012 event. Trustee Niemiec stated that the issue of community events and what the Village does is a policy decision by the Board on what we want to do for this community which then factors into resource issues. As we begin the next budget planning cycle we need to begin thinking policy-wise where do we want to go with our community events and we need to make certain that we have adequate staff .

Manager Davis stated that he is beginning to clock the amount of time staff spends on working on special events in order to evaluate the actual number of hours spent.

Manager Davis summarized the recommendations and discussions of the Board:

- . Talk to the Township about taking over the financial and administrative side in a joint committee.
- . The Village still donates \$10,000 for the event.
- . The Township shall prepare a financial report with copies given to the Village.
- . Encourage everyone who is currently on the Village Homer Harvest Days Committee to continue helping with the event under the township's lead.

Manager Davis will prepare an agreement for review by the Village and Township's Boards.

Trustee Sabo stated that she would also like to show management and staff how the Committee has reorganized Homer Harvest Days.

#### **K. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no New Business

#### **L. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Yukich made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by Trustee Costa.

Voice Vote:

All in favor: (6) Trustees Costa, DeVivo, Kagianas, Niemiec, Sabo and Yukich

Nays: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 p.m.

  
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Gale Skroboton, Village Clerk

*Approved at the Board of Trustees Meeting dated December 27, 2011*