



# **Village of Homer Glen**

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

**March 10, 2009**

**Board of Trustees**

## **Board Meeting**

**Village Council Chamber  
14917 South Founders Crossing  
Homer Glen, IL**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on March 10, 2009 by Mayor James Daley at 7:35 p.m. in the Village Council Chamber – 14917 South Founders Crossing, Homer Glen.

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

Present at 7:35 p.m. were Mayor James Daley, Trustees Marcia DeVivo, Russell Knaack, Christopher Locacius, Mary Niemiec, Margaret Sabo, and Laurel Ward. All remained present throughout the meeting. Also present on behalf of the Village were Village Clerk Gale Skrobuton, Village Manager Paula Wallrich, and Village Attorney Cary Horvath.

A quorum was established.

**D. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

There were no amendments to the agenda.

**E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

## 1. February 25, 2009 – Special Meeting

Trustee Ward made a motion to table approval of the Minutes of February 25, 2009 Special Meeting; second by Trustee Niemiec.

Voice Vote:

All Ayes: (6) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, Sabo, and Ward

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

## 2. February 25, 2009 – Board Meeting

Trustee Ward made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 25, 2009, as amended; second by Trustee DeVivo.

Voice Vote:

All Ayes: (6) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, Sabo, and Ward

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

**F. RECOGNITION**

## 1. Lockport Township High School Wind Symphony-Sudler Flag Award

Mayor Daley read a Proclamation Recognizing the Lockport township High School Wind Symphony's Outstanding Musical Excellence. Band Director Brian Covey accepted the Proclamation and thanks the Village for this special recognition.

**G. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND OTHER OFFICERS**

## a. Mayor Daley reported:

- . Thanked Grant Spooner for volunteering his time and talent to videotape the Board meetings. The Board is working with Grant to see if the Village can begin to create our own Video Crew. The

Mayor asked residents who would like to get involved with the Village cable programming to contact the Village Manager.

- Residents received a notice from Illinois American Water regarding another increase in water rates that amounted to \$.14 per 1,000 gallons of water used. This was in addition to the 2007 increase from the reconciliation charge that increased the rate by \$.42 per 1,000 gallons. The Village has hired an attorney to assist us on the current reconciliation case and much research has been done on the issue of unaccounted-for-water. Illinois American plans to file another rate increase in April of this year.

The Village will continue to work on the feasibility for the acquisition of IAW facilities as well as working with several other communities in acquiring the Bedford Transmission Line.

- We have submitted letters to our representatives and state agencies to ensure we have every opportunity to capture some of the President's Economic Stimulus Package funds identified for public improvements. We have requested funding for resurfacing of 151<sup>st</sup> Street, and Parker Road. Senator Christine Radogno informed us that the construction engineering for 159<sup>th</sup> Street is in the IDOT 5-year plan. We are also petitioning the IEPA regarding stimulus money for the proposed sewer project along Fiddyment Creek.
- Expressed our condolences to the family of Bill Ward who recently passed away. Bill was a senior environmental engineer with Geosyntec Consultants and his knowledge and expertise with respect to water resource management and watershed restoration was immensely helpful with the development of the Village's recently adopted Storm Water Management ordinance.

## 2. Trustees:

a. Trustee Locacius – No Report

b. Trustee DeVivo reported the Parks and Recreation Committee will meet on Monday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 p.m.

c. Trustee Ward thanked all the citizens who sent their comments to IDOT regarding 159<sup>th</sup> Street. It is encouraging news that we are now on the 5-year plan for improvements.

d. Trustee Knaack reported the Trails Master Plan Task Force will hold an Open House on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. and will be seeking input from residents on what type of trails they would like to see in the Village and where they would like to see them.

e. Trustee Niemiec reported:

- The Sewer and Water Task Force meeting on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- The Village has identified residences, businesses and non-profit organizations that have not been metered for water which contributes to the unaccounted-for-water. Illinois American Water recently held an audit and discovered this unmetered water, and hopefully this will have a positive impact on Illinois American's next reconciliation filing.
- The Community and Economic Development Committee will meet Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss strategies and measures to look at new business orientation, how we can help encourage new businesses and help them survive, and strategies that address issues that relate to our community as a whole.
- Trustee Niemiec commented about a recent article in the Daily Southtown that inferred that because the Village is putting efforts into a sewer line to encourage economic development along 159<sup>th</sup> Street we have strayed from our Incorporation efforts. Niemiec stated that she is in total disagreement with this statement and the Comprehensive Plan not only looks at a full approach to building this community which includes the environmental protections that we safely guard, but the fact that we have to be a viable, economic community.

- . Suggested that we look at the recent list of flooding priorities when discussing the next budget, as flooding has become a public safety issue.
  - . Mayor Daley commented on the Southtown article in the Southtown and stated that this sewer line will allow us to open our commercial corridor and create sales tax dollars so we can bring more services to our residents. There will be a 3-mile walking path that will eventually connect to Cedar Road to Gougar Road through a walking path, and the County plans to extend that walking path to another path at I-355.
- f. Trustee Sabo reported :

#### ***EARTH HOUR 2009***

- . More than 43 local businesses are participating in Earth Hour and more are anticipated. The list includes school districts, Homer Township and Northwest Homer fire departments, Homer Township Library, and Homer Township Administration who will be turning off their non-essential lights on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> between 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.
  - . Residents are encouraged to participate in Earth Hour and show their support for saving energy. All residents and businesses can sign up on the Homer Glen web site home page by clicking on Earth Hour. Participants will be and will be listed on our web site.
  - . The Environment Committee will be photographing before non-essential lights are turned off and during Earth Hour to show a comparison. These photos will be placed on the web site.
  - . Dominick's will be distributing Earth Hour flyers in shopping bags. Pepe's and Chesdans will be serving by candlelight. The First American Bank will be having a celebration on March 27<sup>th</sup> and holding a raffle on March 28<sup>th</sup> for a gift basket full of earth friendly products. The Lockport Township Interact Group and the Photography Club are participating in a project.
  - . Environment Committee member Debra Norvil will be lecturing on March 18<sup>th</sup> to Mrs. Gwen Flood's five science classes on light pollution and presenting a power point program.
  - . Bill Ward was involved with the Environment Committee, GIS grant as a collaborator, and the Green Vision as a stakeholder and presenter on water resources and conservation design.
3. Village Clerk Gale Skrobuton reported that Early Voting for the April 7<sup>th</sup> Consolidated Election will be available starting Monday, March 16<sup>th</sup> thru Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 9 am to 4 pm, Monday thru Friday at the Village. Absentee voting will be available Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9-4 pm.
4. Village Manager: No Report
5. Attorney: Village Attorney Cary Horvath commented on the Homer Horizon article that stated the Village was not in compliance with the Public Notice laws. He assured the Board and residents that the Village is in compliance with the laws of the State of Illinois.
- Attorney Horvath stated that the Homer Horizon is not registered to do business in the Village; the paper is not published in Homer Glen; and the Horizon is not entitled to any better treatment when it comes to the Village placing Public Notice in its paper than any other paper published in Will County and circulated in Homer Glen.
7. Task Force Chairperson(s): No Report
8. Sheriff: No Report

#### **H. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Debra Norvil 13154 West Creekside Drive stated that the Environment Committee would like to encourage Homer Glen, Homer Township and surrounding communities to participate in "Globe at Night", March 16<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>. This is a chance to participate in an annual global sky observation

sponsored by NASA, The National Science Foundation, and the US State Department. Information is available at [www.globe.gov/gan](http://www.globe.gov/gan).

## I. LEGISLATION

### 1. Ordinance No. 09-004 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of a Special use Permit for T-Mobile, 12121 West Derby Lane.

Trustee DeVivo made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 09-004, second by Trustee Ward.

Village Manager Paula Wallrich stated that this is a request by T-Mobile to place a 10' antenna on an existing 105.5' ComEd tower. This meets the Village's first criteria for looking for co-location possibilities in the community. The proposal is to include the equipment storage shed that is 12.5' tall. They will occupy approximately 240 sq. ft. The storage facility is 12' x 20' with a brick façade and a roof on the building. Low maintenance landscaping will surround the shed. The Plan Commission recommended approval to the Village Board, conditioned upon a cash in lieu of contribution for \$7,797.00.

Trustee Ward commented about concerns of some residents regarding the antenna, and stated that having T-Mobile co-located on the ComEd line camouflages them and is better than having them build a new tower.

Trustee Knaack commented about the right angle of the drive-way and suggested putting in a radius to make it easier for truck to make the turn.

ComEd representative Mark Lane stated that once construction is completed on the site, traffic will be basically nonexistent.

Trustee Knaack asked is the air conditioning units on the side of the building would be too loud as to disturb the neighbors.

Mr. Lane stated that the units are no louder than a fan in a house.

Trustee Knaack questioned if the coax bridge could be buried underground.

Mr. Lane commented that the size of the cable limited its flexibility and therefore the 'ice bridge' was necessary.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, Sabo, and Ward

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

### 2. Homer School District 33C – 1.5 Mile Review

Trustee DeVivo made a motion of support of the special use request for a bus lot in an R-1 district and the five variance requests by the Homer School District 33C, per the recommendation that additional landscaping be provided along Cedar Road; second by Trustee Niemiec.

Village Manager Paula Wallrich stated that District 33C is building their school on Cedar Road and this motion of support is for a bus parking lot. The Plan Commission reviewed the plans and recommended unanimously to support it, but had some concerns about the landscaping. District 33C is providing landscaping, including evergreen trees that will allow some screening on Cedar

Road. Wallrich stated that the Village has requested that they prioritize evergreen plantings and look at the east side of the detention pond and move around some of the proposed plants to provide for more screening on Cedar Road.

Trustee Ward asked what five variances were being requested.

Village Manager Wallrich read the variances:

- . Lot coverage from 20% to 51.8%.
- . A 4' height variance to allow an 8' high chain link bus lot fence on the east side of the property.
- . Additional dense landscaping not be required along Cedar Road.
- . Wheel guards or bumper guards be provided so no part of parked vehicles will extend beyond the parking space.
- . Parking space be 9' x 18', instead of the required 9 ft. in width and 19 ft. in length.

Trustee Ward questioned why we would allow 51.8% lot coverage when there was concern with other cases that requested greater lot coverage. She stated that increasing lot coverage impacts stormwater requirements and the perception of open space and density.

Village Manager Wallrich stated that the plan met storm water requirements and they are utilizing some best management practices, including bio swales. She also mentioned that the school was in negotiation for purchase of additional property for recreational purposes.

Trustee Knaack asked if another type of fence could be used instead of an 8' chain link fence.

Village Manager Wallrich commented that we requested additional landscaping with evergreens to allow for more screening of the fence.

Trustee Sabo asked if the school district was looking to purchase more land.

Village Manager Wallrich stated that they are looking for additional property off of the fire district to the west.

Mike Morrow, superintendent from the school district stated:

- . Additional lot coverage is needed for the buses.
- . Water detention has been considerably increased.
- . Landscaping plan is being modified to include taller trees and evergreen on the Cedar Road side.
- . Ground water will be absorbed from rain and snow runoff into the bioswales and will run into the larger detention areas.

Trustee Knaack asked if the school would consider complying with our Outdoor Lighting Ordinance, particularly the full cut-off style fixtures.

Trustee Ward commended that she agrees the schools provide a valuable benefit to our communities, but she cannot support the lot variance request because we have turned down commercial properties because of lot variance requests.

Trustee Knaack asked if the school acquires property from the fire department for recreation fields, would it affect lot coverage.

Village Manager Wallrich stated that the school district partitioned their project into two phases, and decisions have been based on each lot.

Trustee Niemiec voiced her concern about increased traffic with two schools being so close to each other, and questioned if the school had looked at traffic control, turning lanes or staggered starting times. She suggested that the school district negotiate with Will County for traffic control.

Mr. Morrow reported a traffic study had been completed.

Trustee Sabo stated that the Lighting Ordinance doesn't encourage over lighting or the use of metal halide and requested that the school district not only look at the full cut-off, but lighting intensity.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (5) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, and Sabo

Nays: (1) Trustee Ward

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

**3. Ordinance No. 09-005, An Ordinance Approving and Adopting the Official Map of Homer Glen.**

Trustee DeVivo made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 09-005; second by Trustee Ward

Village Manager Paula Wallrich stated the map will be updated as zoning occurs. There are a few parcels off of 167<sup>th</sup> Street on the south side that were never part of the deannexation, and are included on the map.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, Sabo, and Ward

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

**4. Payment to Bowen Engineering in Consideration of "Release of all Claims" as related to additional permit fees for 16230 South Bell Road.**

Trustee Ward made a motion to approve payment; second by Trustee DeVivo.

Village Manager Paula Wallrich stated the complaint concerned the additional permit fee for work commencing without a permit at 16230 South Bell Road. As a result of negotiation with Bowen Engineering the Village's legal counsel is recommending a payment of \$15,000 in consideration of the Release.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, Sabo, and Ward

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

**5. CMAQ – Request for Additional Funding.**

Trustee Knaack made a motion to approve the request; second by Trustee DeVivo.

Village Manager Paula Wallrich stated that after review, Robinson Engineering determined that the costs were in excess of what was originally applied for with the CMAQ east/west Bike Trail extension. There was an additional \$850,920 in costs. Supplemental funding was requested and approved in the amount of \$787,716 with the Village's additional match being \$196,928.

Trustee Ward requested a spread sheet of all grants the Village has accepted and applied for, and what our obligations would be and the time frame.

Mayor Daley stated that will be identified at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustee Niemiec agreed that we need to be strategic and look at long range plans, and asked if the \$196,928 would come out of the park fund.

Village Manager Wallrich stated that these funds are currently in the park fund.

Trustee Knaack asked if the \$196,928 money would be budgeted in the park fund, as the park fund is not adequate to support the current parks. He commented that this is the first major component of the Homer Glen Trail System and will be the core of our trail system. It will connect many of our residents to the business and recreation areas, and in the future will connect to the forest preserves, parks and other areas. Construction should begin late summer or fall of this year.

Trustee Niemiec suggested that a poster be put up in the Village to show the progress of the trail system, so we can "Track the Trail".

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

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: (6) Trustees DeVivo, Knaack, Locacius, Niemiec, Sabo, and Ward

Nays: (0) None

Abstain: (0) None

Absent: (0) None

*Motion carried.*

#### **J. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no Old Business.

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

There was no New Business.

#### **L. ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Sabo made a motion to adjourn the meeting; second by Trustee DeVivo.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gale Skroboton, Village Clerk

*Approved at the Board of Trustees Meeting dated March 24, 2009*