Public Services & Safety Committee

Minutes of the Meeting on
June 3, 2020

Village of Homer Glen
14240 W 151st Street, Homer Glen, IL 60491
Village Board Room
1. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by co-chairman Carlo Caprio.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Roll Call.

Members present at 6:33 p.m. were Co-chairman Barque Backal, Development Services Director Mike Salamowicz, Homer Township Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Dave Bricker, Homer Township Fire Protection District Chief Chris Locacius, Will County Sheriff's Department Lt. Jim Holuj, Northwest Homer Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Todd Fonfara, Homer Township Highway Commissioner Mike DeVivo, and EMA Director John Robinson. Also present was Mayor George Yukich, Village Manager Karie Friling, and staff liaison Chief Building Official Joe Baber.

4. Approval of Amendments to the Agenda.

A motion was made by Chris Locacius to move item 8.d, Creek clean up discussion to be the first item under Old Business. Motion was seconded by Mike DeVivo. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Minutes.

a) March 4, 2020

Co-chairman Carlo Caprio stated that the minutes from the March 4, 2020 Public Services & Safety Committee meeting were being presented for approval. Chris Locacius made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2020 meeting; seconded by John Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Reports and Communications.

a) Chairman’s Report

Carlo Caprio reported there is increased traffic and lines at Bellside Seven Auto due to the closing of other emission facilities in the area.
Barque Backal reported he attended the Joey Farbo memorial ride which occurred last Saturday. It was well attended and was an emotional and moving event.

b) Fire District Reports.

Homer Township Fire Protection District reported the has been no public education occurring due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Their supplies of PPE’s are good. They have
also met with representatives from Silver Cross Hospital and the Village of Homer Glen on a regular basis. Northwest Homer Fire Protection District also reported they have attended the same meetings.

c) Will County Sheriff Report.

Lt. Jim Holuj reported call volume is down since the onset of the Coronavirus situation. He reminded everyone there is a lot of misinformation on social media. The deputies continue to have a visible presence in the community. They also attended the Joey Farbo memorial ride.


John Robinson reported they provided traffic control Friday evening for a graduation event at Reed School. They also assisted on Sunday dealing with the civil unrest concerns.

e) Homer Township Road District Report.

Mike DeVivo reported they are in the process of their summer maintenance program. This involves paving, concrete and other repairs which should be completed by the end of June. Mike also reported they are evaluating the Parker Rd. signage and will explore an engineering study for this location.

f) Development Services Director Report.

Mike Salamowicz reported there was record rain totals reported for the month of May and the Village has received numerous drainage complaints. Areas with standing water should subside within 48 hours of the event. The Village is currently on a number of drainage projects and have applied for DECO grants for two projects, Chickasaw Hills and Eagle Ridge.

g) Building Official Report.

Joe Baber reported that permits are up significantly during the Coronavirus Outbreak. Joe additionally provided updated traffic data reports for Parker Rd. It showed traffic coming from the north, Lemont, are close to 10mph over the posted limit.

7. Public Comments.

Resident Arlene See thanked trustee Sharon Sweas and Mike DeVivo for their assistance regarding flooding concerns in the Spring Creek Woods area along Long Run Creek. She stated she has been a resident for 42 years and has not experienced the type of flooding which has recently occurred. She requested the Village’s assistance in looking into this problem which does have some safety concerns.
Resident Agnes Kleplzarek echoed the concerns of Arlene and added the standing water she has experienced does have a bad odor when it is present.

Resident Martha Martin also voiced her concerns regarding flooding. She added they have cleaned a lot of debris from the creek.

Susan Dudek requested direction regarding a memorial cross being install on Parker Rd. where a motorcycle accident occurred resulting in the death of Joey Farbo. Staff will work with them regarding installation location.

Resident Joh Lobick wanted to thank the Sheriff's Department and Highway Department for the quick response during the most recent flooding event.

Resident Marta Mgkoła also voiced her concerns regarding flooding along Long Run Creek and they too clean the creek as much as possible.

Resident Karol Staszeczka also asked if some clean up can occur along the creek. His property is highly impacted by the blockages which he has observed in the creek.

8. Old Business.

d) Creek clean-up discussion – Discussion occurred regarding what can occur to address the flooding problems along Long Run Creek. It was communicated that the creek is on private properties and the Village of Homer Glen or the Highway Department cannot provide equipment to clean the creek on the private properties. It was suggested that the residents work together to address the problems associated with the creek. The Village will work on getting an inventory of properties along the creek. The condition of drainage pipes will also be evaluated and residents will be provided with do's and don'ts information for along the creek. The Village would also assist in drafting a letter regarding the condition of the creek and request feedback from residents regarding interest in working with the Village in a Creek Clean-Up Days event.

a) Covi-19 Update- Representatives from the Village of Homer Glen, Highway Department, Will County Sheriff's Department, EMA have been conducting weekly tactical meetings regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

b) South Bell Rd./ DeBoer Woods Forest Preserve Walkway Update – Discussion occurred regarding the challenges at the proposed location for a walkway connecting to the Forest Preserve trail. A motion was made by Chris Locacius that it was not feasible at this time to provide access to the Will County Forest Preserve trails due to costs, engineering difficulties and safety concerns at the Mackinac Rd./ South Bell location. Second by John Robinson. Motion passed unanimously.

c) EOP Update- Continued work on the Emergency Operations Plan was slowed due to the Coronavirus outbreak. Additionally, a new EOP template will need to be used as required by Will County. Also training once the EOP is finalized will
need to occur.

e) SOP #3 discussion – Joe Baber reported that the Standard Operating Procedure of procedure for resident-initiated requests for traffic and/or parking changes will be reported to the committee as outlined in the SOP.


a) Heritage Circle Traffic Calming- Discussion occurred regarding the installation of traffic calming devices on Heritage Circle. It was suggested that the devices be installed for determination on the impact to Emergency responder vehicles.

b) Traffic Calming Discussion- Joe Baber reported on a number of resident-initiated requests of locations which will be evaluated for speeding or the need for stop sign installation. Traffic data will be reported and forwarded to the committee for determination on which additional steps will be taken.

10. Adjournment.

Motion by Mike Salamowicz, seconded by Barque Backal. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

[Signature]

Joseph D. Baber
Chief Building Official