

**MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 21, 2023**

(Approved: December 19, 2023)

A record of a legally convened regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 21, 2023, at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Chris Rintz called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Village Manager Rob Bahan called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, Robert Dearborn, Kim Handler, and Bridget Orsic. Absent: Trustee Tina Dalman. Also present: Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Finance Director Tim Sloth, Assistant Finance Director Dell Duckworth and approximately 3 persons in the audience.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Apatoff led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Quorum.
 - a) December 5, 2023 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - b) December 12, 2023 Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Dearborn.
 - c) December 19, 2023 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
- 4) Public Comment.
 - a) David Seaman, former park district commissioner, addresses Council regarding Elder and Centennial and Orchard 2020.
 - b) Julie Peterson addresses Council regarding transparency related to elections. President Rintz confirms that the Village is not affiliated with the Winnetka Caucus.
 - c) Theresa Lucas, owner of Good Grapes, addresses Council regarding concerns related to parking and communication between the Village and retail owners.
- 5) Reports:
 - a) Trustees.
 - i) Trustee Handler commends the holiday lighting and thanks staff for their efforts.
 - b) Attorney. No report.
 - c) Manager. No report.
 - d) Village President.

President Rintz addresses draft documents presented to Council by the Winnetka Park District related to the Elder Centennial improvements, and asks the Park District staff to meet with Village staff to review the requirements of the special use permit process before submitting a formal permit application to the Army Corps of Engineers.

6) Establishment of the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Albinson seconded by Trustee Apatoff moved to approve the Establishment of the Consent Agenda. By voice vote, the motion carried.

7) Approval of the Consent Agenda

a) Approval of Warrant List Dated November 3, 2023 – November 16, 2023 in the amount of \$1,946,188.58.

b) Resolution No. R-101-2023: Approving a Fifth Amendment to a License Agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (Adoption)

Trustee Handler seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to approve the foregoing items on the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

8) Ordinances and Resolutions.

a) Public Hearing – FY 2024 Village Budget

President Rintz opened the Public Hearing at 7:27 pm.

No public comment.

Finance Director Tim Sloth confirms that the Village Budget must be adopted before the commencement of the fiscal year, and, as part of the process, would require a public hearing to be held. In addition, the FY 2024 budget will be posted on the Village website and will be made available at the Library and Village Hall. The public hearing notice was advertised in the November 9th edition of the Winnetka Talk.

At the November 3rd budget review meeting, the proposed budget was updated with the following changes; changes to the Advanced Meter Reading project timeline and fund reductions, fund adjustments, and adjustments to the property tax levy. Tim Sloth confirms that the Village Budget is balanced and operating expenditures are fully funded by routine annual operating revenues, confirming there is no reliance on fund balance or one-time revenue resources.

Council is informed of the budget totals, information regarding the capital portion of the budget, fund expenses, and rate resolutions for both the general and utility fees adjustments and changes. In addition to updating the rate resolution, additional adjustments were made to the code amendment ordinance regarding building permit fees and bonds and utility fee increases.

Mr. Sloth provides information related to the property tax levy including revenue totals and increases. Staff recommends directing Cook County to implement a loss collection factor of 2%. Council is provided additional information regarding the loss collection factor.

No public comment.

President Rintz closed the Public Hearing at 7:37 pm.

Council discusses concerns related to implementation of the Cook County loss collection factor, budget expenses and revenue, project costs, and matters related to the property tax levy.

Council commends Village staff on their budget presentations.

- i. Resolution No. R-98-2023: Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 and Ending December 31, 2024 (Introduction)
Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to introduce Resolution No. R-98-2023. By voice vote, the motion carried.
 - ii. Resolution No. R-99-2023: Amending General, Building, and Miscellaneous Service Fees (Introduction)
Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Dearborn, moved to introduce Resolution No. R-99-2023. By voice vote, the motion carried.
 - iii. Resolution No. R-100-2023: Establishing Rates and Fees Related to Utility Services (Introduction)
Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to introduce Resolution No. R-100-2023. By voice vote, the motion carried.
 - iv. Ordinance No. MC-11-2023: Amending Title 15 of the Winnetka Village Code Concerning Building Permit Fees and Bonds (Introduction)
Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Dearborn, moved to introduce Ordinance No. MC-11-2023. By voice vote, the motion carried.
- b) Property Tax Levy and Abatement Ordinance
- i. Ordinance No. M-14-2023: 2023 Tax Levy as Amended (Introduction)
Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-14-2023 as amended. By voice vote, the motion carried.
 - ii. Ordinance No. M. 15:2023: Directing Cook County to Apply a Loss Collection Factor to Property Tax Levies Commencing with Fiscal Year May, 2023, and Ending on the Thirtieth Day of April, 2024, and Subsequent Years, for the Village of Winnetka (Introduction)
Trustee Albinson moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-15-2023. There was no second. Motion fails.
 - iii. Ordinance No. M-16-2023: Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2023 to Pay the Principle of and Interest on Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020, of the Village of Winnetka, Cook County Illinois (Introduction)
Trustee Dearborn, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-16-2023. By voice vote, the motion carried.
- c) Ordinance No. M-17-2023: Adopting the Village of Winnetka's Current Paid Leave and Benefits Policy and Opting Out of the Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act (820 ILCS 192/1 et seq.) for all Village of Winnetka Employees (Introduction/Adoption)
- On March 13, 2023, the Illinois Paid Leave for All Workers Act was enacted, establishing a mandatory paid leave standard for all employees in Illinois with limited exceptions. Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas briefed Council regarding the existing benefits package including paid leave policies and states that adopting the act would place undue financial, staffing, and operational burdens on the Village.
- However, due to the Village standing as a home rule municipality, the Village can opt out of the requirements of the Act.

Trustee Apatoff, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to waive introduction of Ordinance No. M-17-2023. By voice vote, the motion carried.

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt Ordinance No. M-17-2023. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

9) Old Business. None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments:

a) Appoint Trustee Albinson to the Hubbard Woods Streetscape Council Liaison.

Trustee Apatoff, seconded by Trustee Dearborn, moved to appoint Trustee Albinson to the Hubbard Woods Streetscape Council Liaison. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

12) Closed Session: None.

13) Adjournment. President Rintz asks for call to adjourn. Trustee Dearborn, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary