MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 23, 2024
(Approved: February 20, 2024)

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, January 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

1) Call to Order. President Rintz called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Village Manager Rob Bahan called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Tina Dalman, Robert Dearborn, Kim Handler, and Bridget Orsic. Absent: Trustee Rob Apatoff. Also present: Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Community Development Director David Schoon, Fire Chief John Ripka, and approximately 6 persons in the audience.

2) Pledge of Allegiance. President Rintz led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Quorum.

   a) February 6, 2024 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Dalman.

   b) February 13, 2024 Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.

   c) February 20, 2024 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.

4) Public Comment.

      i. Ted Wynnychenko addresses Council regarding the Bertling-Hill-Woodland pathway vacation.

5) Reports.

   a) Trustees.

      i. Trustee Orsic, a member of the Evanston Hospital Community Advisory Committee, advises residents to be aware of mail correspondence from Endeavor Health Systems which is the new name for North Shore University Health System.

   b) Attorney. No report.

   c) Manager. No report.

   d) Village President. No report.

6) Establishment of the Consent Agenda.

   Trustee Dalman seconded by Trustee Orsic 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 December 29, 2023 – January 11, 2024 in the amount of $771,949.65.

   Trustee Dalman seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to approve the foregoing items on the

Consent Agenda by omnibus vote. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Dalman, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

8) Ordinances and Resolutions.

a) Ordinance No. M-17-2023: Granting a Variation from the Winnetka Zoning Ordinance to Allow the Construction of a Pickleball Court for an Existing Residence Within the R-2 Single Family Residential District (889 Sheridan Road) (Adoption)

At the December 5, 2023 Council meeting, the applicant was directed to consider a revised location for the pickleball court. Community Development Director David Schoon presents the amended site plan with the proposed relocation of the pickleball court as directed by Council.

The applicant's engineer addresses Council regarding the proposed relocation of the pickleball court, the locations, and the dimensions.

Council discusses matters related to front yard setback, scope of the property, court accommodations, various locations, and hardship.

After discussing concerns regarding the location of the pickleball court, Council directs the applicant to further consider additional revised plans regarding the location.

Without objection, Council defers the item to the February 6th Council meeting.

President Rintz asks for motion to defer the ordinance to the February 6th Council meeting. Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to defer the ordinance. By voice vote, the motion carried.

b) Ordinance No. MC-3-2024: Amending the Winnetka Village Code Concerning Electronic Attendance at Village Council Meetings (Introduction/Adoption) & Resolution No. R-3-2024: Approving a Policy Concerning Attendance at Village Meetings by Video or Audio Conference (Adoption)

Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas provides information regarding the Village's current electronic attendance policy stating that until March 17, 2020, the Village did not permit electronic attendance at public meetings. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Council passed Resolution No. R-34-2020 which approved a policy for electronic attendance by members of Village Council and subsidiary bodies. The Village has since been operating under the resolution to permit electronic attendance.

The Open Meetings Act was recently amended to allow electronic attendance at a public meeting should any unexpected childcare obligations arise. Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas advises Council that they may consider amending the electronic attendance policy to permit the additional reason and consider updating the Village Code to codify permitting electronic attendance. Additionally, Council may consider reviewing the number of times electronic attendance is permitted per term of office.

Council unanimously agrees to update the Village Code and codify that electronic attendance is permitted along with adding the OMA amended reasoning regarding unexpected childcare obligations. Additionally, Council discusses concerns related to the number of electronic attendances permitted per term of office such as limited interaction with the public, level of commitment and dedication, ability to govern in person, members of public bodies taking advantage of the policy, and future issues and conflicts.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to waive introduction of Ordinance

No. MC-3-2024. By voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adopt Ordinance No. MC-3-2024. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

c) Resolution No. R-3-2024: Approving a Policy Concerning Attendance at Village Meetings by Video or Audio Conference (Adoption)

Council discusses the number of times electronic attendance should be permitted per year, concluding that the policy be updated to allow for a total of six meetings to be attended remotely by members of Village Council per year. Council confirms the update to the policy only applies to Village Council, not subsidiary bodies.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-3-2024 subject to the amendment. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: Trustee Dalman. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

d) Resolution No. R-4-2024: Approving the Purchase of a Fire Engine from Macqueen Equipment, LLC (Adoption)

The Fire Department developed a 20 year fire apparatus plan in 2012 with the intent of spacing out the purchase of a fire/ems apparatus avoiding the replacement of multiple units in a short period of time. While the next fire engine purchase was scheduled for 2025, due to manufacturing delays, staff is requesting Council's approval for a new pumper engine this year.

Fire Chief John Ripka states that the Village did not receive any responses to the posted bid for a heavy-duty fire rescue apparatus and, therefore, joined the Houton-Galveston Area Purchasing Cooperative. Staff met with vendors to review quotes, specs, and options, and visited the manufacturing facility. Chief Ripka commends staff for their knowledge and background of the engine assisting with the purchase.

Chief Ripka reviews the safety and vehicle improvements of the pumper engine, purchase price, build time and delivery.

Council discusses pricing, manufacturing delays, and matters related to budgeting.

Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-4-2024. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: Trustee Dalman. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

9) Old Business. None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments: None.

12) Closed Session: None.

13) Adjournment. President Rintz asks for call to adjourn. Trustee Dearborn, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary