

MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 19, 2024

(Approved: January 7, 2025)

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 19, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Chris Rintz called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. Village Manager Rob Bahan called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, Tina Dalman, Robert Dearborn, Kim Handler, and Bridget Orsic. Absent: None. Also present: Assistant Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Economic Development Coordinator Liz Dechant, Finance Director Tim Sloth and approximately 11 persons in the audience.

President Rintz confirms that Trustee Handler has provided the required notice that she will be unable to attend the regular meeting due to work obligations. The Village's policy provides that Trustee Handler may participate remotely unless 2/3 of the Council objects. With no objections, Trustee Handler participated remotely fully in the meeting.

- 2) Pledge of Allegiance. President Rintz led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Quorum.
 - a) December 3, 2024 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - b) December 10, 2024 Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - c) December 17, 2024 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.

- 4) Public Comment:

- a) Carolina Polo advises Council on a few concerns regarding the One Winnetka project.

- 5) Reports:

- a) Trustees. Trustee Dalman confirms the RED Invitation Sale begins December 5th and the grand opening of Smith's Men's and Styles and Smiles. Additionally, Trustee Dalman urges community members to see the nutcracker displays around various businesses in the Hubbard Woods business district.
 - b) Attorney. No report.
 - c) Manager. No report.
 - d) Village President. President Rintz, along with Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi and Finance Director Tim Sloth, met with the Alliance for the Great Lakes regarding initiatives lakefront stabilization.

- 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 the Warrant List dated October 19, 2024 – November 14, 2024 in the amount of \$758,195.24
- b) Approval of Village Council Meeting Schedule for 2025 (Adoption)

Trustee Albinson 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, Apatoff, Dalman, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

8) Ordinances and Resolutions.

a) Public Hearing - FY 2025 Village Budget

President Rintz opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 pm.

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 2025 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 7th issue of the Chicago Tribune.

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 the general and utility services. Mr. Sloth advises Council of key changes regarding utility services confirming electric rate increases, water rate increases, sanitary sewer rate increases, and refuse rate increases.

Mr. Sloth provides information related to the property tax levy including revenue totals, increases, and matters related to funding and the abatement ordinance.

No public comment.

President Rintz closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 pm.

Council commends Village staff on their budget presentations.

i) Resolution No. R-83-2024: Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2025 and Ending December 31, 2025 (Introduction)

Trustee Apatoff, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to introduce Ordinance No. R-83-2024. By voice vote, the motion carried.

ii) Resolution No. R-84-2024: Establishing Rates and Fees Related to Utility Services (Introduction)

Trustee Dearborn, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to introduce Ordinance No. R-84-2024. By voice vote, the motion carried.

iii) Resolution No. R-85-2024: Amending General, Building, and Miscellaneous Service Fees (Introduction)

Trustee Dearborn, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to introduce Ordinance No. R-85-2024. By voice vote, the motion carried.

b) Property Tax Levy and Abatement Ordinances

i) Ordinance No. M-14-2024: Levying Taxes for the Year 2024 (Introduction)

Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-14-2024. By voice vote, the motion carried.

ii) Ordinance No. M-15-2024: Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2024 to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020, of the Village of Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois (Introduction)

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-15-2024. By voice vote, the motion carried.

c) Resolution No. R-79-2024: Approving a Lease Agreement with Hofherr Meat Depot for a Portion of 754 Elm Street (Adoption)

Economic Development Coordinator Liz Dechant advises Council of a request from Hofherr Meat Depot to lease the retail space currently occupied by Café Fleurette at the Elm Street Train Station, 754 Elm Street. Owners Sean and Arielle Hofherr plan to sell quick-serve foods, including Café Fleurette breads and pastries, coffee, cold beverages, ready-made breakfast and lunch sandwiches, and small, curated selection of prepackages vacuum-sealed butcher shop staples.

Council is advised that the Village staff has proposed a one-year lease term from January 25, 2025 to January 24, 2026. Liz Dechant confirms that employees will be provided zoned parking permits and parking signage will be displayed.

Hofherr Meat Depot owner, Sean Hofherr, advises Council of the proposed business plan, various menu items, matters regarding signage display, staffing, and anticipated date of the opening.

Council discusses proposed signage, hours of operation and staffing.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-79-2024. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Dearborn, Handler, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

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 Dalman, moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk
Recording Secretary