

**WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 13, 2024**

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Police Department Conference Room, 410 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois, Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order:

Chair Hanley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Voting Members present: Chair Patrick Hanley and Commissioners Elizabeth Kunkle, Tim Ring, David Varca, Greg Frezados, and Brendan Andrew. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative present: Bob Dearborn. Student Representative Present: None. Interim Staff Liaison present: James Bernahl, Director of Engineering

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chair Hanley welcomed the group and asked everyone to confirm their availability to attend the December regular meetings with the new Sustainability Coordinator Liaison.

2) Public Comment:

None

3) Review and Approval of Minutes

a) Approval of the October 9, 2024, special Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Andrew, seconded by Commissioner Ring to approve the minutes as presented.

AYES: KUNKLE, RING, VARCA, ANDREW, FREZADOS

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: ECK.

4) Old Business Updates:

a) Energy forum Update

Chair Hanley overviewed the topic and discussed the presentation materials that were presented. He also indicated that the information is also available online to be reviewed.

Discussion of what is the schedule for the IEMA contract. Chair Hanley provided a high-level overview, and Representative Dearborn indicated that the Village will be hosting a meeting on December 10th to further discuss this contract.

b) Green Bay Trail Update

Chair Hanley presented the topic, and representative Dearborn provided an update to the commission on the clearing activities by the volunteer groups to date, and the planting programs scheduled for next spring.

5) New Business

Chair Hanley noted there is one item on the agenda for the evening and the topic was on power alternatives.

a) Commissioner Initiatives & 2025 Planning

Chair Hanley briefly overviewed the Commissioner Andrew was intersected in providing a presentation on Power Alternatives. Commissioner Andrew provided a high-level overview of the items that he will be presenting at a future EFC meeting. Topics to be presented include residential energy programs, the prospect of selling this energy back to IEMA, offering utility credits, and future pilot projects

6) Communications:

a) December Communications Items

There were no comments.

b) January Communications Items

To be presented as part of the December agenda materials. There were no comments.

Chair Hanley stated Communications would be an area of focus and discussion next year for the Commission.

7) Commission/Staff Reports:

None

8) Open Forum:

Non topics

Commissioner Andrew indicated that he would be ready to present his findings at the next EFC meeting in November.

9) Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Hanley asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Andrew. The motion passed unanimously on a voice vote; the meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.