

**MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION
May 13, 2025**

(Approved: June 17, 2025)

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Dearborn called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Village Manager Bahan called the roll of the Village Council. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, Tina Dalman, Kim Handler, Scott Myers, and Bridget Orsic. Absent: None. Also present: Village Manager Robert Bahan, Deputy Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Village Attorney Courtney Willits, Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi, Assistant Water & Electric Director Sam Carrasco, Sustainability Coordinator Elyse Steiner, and approximately 49 persons in the audience.

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) Public Comment

- a) Ted Wynnychenko advises Council on his intent to enter the construction site at 205 Sheridan Road, as stated in the letter he sent to Council.

3) Discussion.

a) IMEA Contract Renewal Follow Up – Winnetka Future Energy Supply Considerations

The Village's current Power Sales Contract and Capacity Purchase Agreement are set to expire on September 30, 2025, and, in efforts to transition from a carbon-based portfolio to a net-zero generation portfolio, IMEA has requested contract extensions.

Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi provides a brief recap of the Village's history with IMEA, IMEA capacity credits, market indicators, power supply costs, and updates related to the IMEA members contract extensions. Additionally, Mr. Narhi advises Council on sustainability measures.

Mark Pruitt, Principal at the Power Bureau, addresses matters regarding the wholesale market basics, PJM market requirements, alternate providers, staffing expectations requirements and costs. Mr. Pruitt additionally advises Council on the Village's option to bid out its electric load, procurement, bidding constraints, bidding options, and risks.

Laith Amin, Winnetka resident and member of the Future Energy Coalition, advocates for the need to transition from coal-based energy to more sustainable and environmentally friendly alternatives. Mr. Amin advises of the contributions to pollution and harmful effects to the environment while investing into the transition of renewable energy sources is crucial for a cleaner and healthier future.

Public Comment

John Anderson addresses matters regarding energy costs, importance of greener energy and urges Council to consider various options.

Tim Berard confirms that the City of Naperville, an IMEA member, will not sign the contract extension with IMEA.

Liz Kunkle welcomes the newly elected Council members and commends the Council for their service.

Ted Wynnchenko reflects on the Village's discussions regarding energy options, energy usage, and matters related to costs.

Patrick Hanley expresses concerns related to coal usage and cost matters.

Bob Zaber expresses concern regarding the contract extension, market fluctuations, transition to green energy, and cost efficiency.

Meredith White expresses concern related to the environment as a result of the IMEA extension.

Scarlett Harper expresses concern regarding the IMEA contract extension and urges Council to reconsider alternate options.

Council discusses the PJM market, pricing, energy usage and transmission, use of power marketers, Village's flexibility on time of use rates, solar installations, and risks with opting out of the IMEA contract extension as well as risks with proceeding with various other power suppliers. Additionally, Council discusses the future of IMEA, transition of future resources, market transactions and grants.

President Dearborn states that the Council will take proactive measures to discuss community priorities regarding energy.

Council unanimously agrees to consult with the Village attorney to prepare an ordinance regarding the IMEA power sales contract and capacity purchase agreement.

- 4) Adjournment. Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Orsic moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 pm.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary