MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
June 17, 2025

(Approved: July 15, 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, June 17, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

1) Call to Order. President Dearborn called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Village Manager Rob Bahan called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, Kim Handler, Scott Myers and Bridget Orsic. Absent: Trustee Tina Dalman. Also present: Deputy Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Chief Financial Officer Tim Sloth, Sustainability Coordinator Elyse Steiner, Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi, Assistant Water & Electric Director Sam Carrasco, Community Development Director Scott Mangum, and approximately 26 persons in the audience.

2) Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Albinson the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Quorum.

    a) July 1, 2025 Regular Meeting This meeting will be canceled.

    b) July 8, 2025 Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Albinson due to work obligations.

    c) July 15, 2025 All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Myers due to work obligations.

4) Public Comment:

    a) Ted Wynnychenko addresses Council regarding legal correspondence received by the Village related to 205 Sheridan Road.

5) Reports:

    a) Trustees. No report.

    b) Attorney. No report.

    c) Manager. No report.

    d) Village President. President Dearborn encourages the community to attend the 4th of July events in the Village.

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.

President Dearborn advises that Council will be approving the Contract with DiMeo Brothers, Inc. to repair the elder storm sewer outlet and that the Village and Park District have been collaborating on necessary actions to reopen the beaches. The Village will complete the repairs needed in a timely and coordinated manner once the Park District has a contractor for their portion of the work.

7) Approval of the Consent Agenda

   a) Approval of Village Council Minutes

      i. May 13, 2025 Study Session

      ii. May 20, 2025 Regular Meeting

   b) Approval of the Warrant List dated May 30, 2025 – June 12, 2025 in the amount of $863,067.65.

   c) Resolution No. R-49-2025: Approving a Contract with DiMeo Brothers, Inc. for Construction Services for the Elder Storm Sewer Outfall Replacement Project (Adoption)

   d) Resolution No. R-50-2025: Approving a Contract with M.E Simpson Co., Inc for Leak Detection Service (Adoption)

   e) Resolution No. R-52-2025: Approval of MFT Resolution for the Rebuild Illinois Funds – Willow Road Project (Adoption)

   f) Resolution No. R-54-2025: Approving a Contract with Superior Road Striping for Pavement Marking Services (Adoption)

   g) Resolution No. R-56-2025: Ratifying a Grant Agreement between the State of Illinois, Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board and the Village of Winnetka for Police Department Cameras (Adoption)

   h) Resolution No. R-59-2025: Approving a Contract with Wesco Distribution, Inc. for the Purchase of 15kV Underground Cable (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, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

8) Ordinances and Resolutions.

   a) Ordinance No. M-08-2025: Approving a Final Plat of Subdivision and Granting a Variation from the Winnetka Zoning Ordinance (557 and 561 Orchard Lane) (Introduction/Adoption)

   Community Development Director Scott Mangum advises Council of a request to consolidate two existing lots into a single lot of record. The applicant intends to demolish the existing residence and shed at 557 Orchard Lane and the existing detached garage at 561 Orchard Lane and consolidate the two parcels into a single lot.

   Scott Mangum provides information regarding the proposed consolidation, zoning, consolidation plat, and the advisory board reviews recommending approval.

   Katherine Kirkpatrick advises Council of the intent to request demolition and consolidation of the existing lots as a result of the narrow driveway and access to additional space for family visitation.

   Council commends the consolidation and design of the project.

   Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to waive introduction of Ordinance No. M-08-2025.

   Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to adopt Ordinance No. M-08-2025. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

b) Resolution No. R-58-2025: A Commitment to Implement Pillar 4: Sustainability and Climate Action of the Village Comprehensive Plan (Adoption)

As a result of the Comprehensive Plan, Council engaged with the community to identify key themes or pillars that serve as a guide throughout the visioning and planning process. Specifically, Pillar 4, Sustainability and Climate Action of the Village, provided sustainability initiatives that include a sustainability coordinator, installation and commissioning of the Village's 7^{th} public EV charging station, sustainability and climate action plan, advanced metering infrastructure and the electric generation study.

Public Comment

Marcus Wedner addresses matters related to permitting and the potential expiration of tax credits regarding solar installation and use.

Trustee Myers suggests amending the resolution, specifically item d; assist homeowners and businesses with rooftop solar by streamlining the approval process, to reflect the following; assist homeowners and businesses with implementation of rooftop solar or other green energy technology.

Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-58-2025, as amended; d) assist homeowners and businesses with implementation of rooftop solar or other green energy technology. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

c) Ordinance No. M-05-2025: Authorizing the Execution of a New Power Sales Contract and a New Capacity Purchase Agreement with the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency for the Delivery Period Commencing October 1, 2035 (Introduction)

Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi provides an overview of the IMEA item transparency process including the initial review of the draft contract by IMEA board members, study sessions held as well as a regular meeting, participation in the Winnetka Future Energy Coalition forum, evaluation of alternate grid supply approaches, the Village's history with IMEA, and IMEA's goal to reach net zero by 2050.

Council discusses matters related to take or pay with IMEA, billing, smart metering, costs and power usage.

Public Comments

a) King Poor urges Council to consider engaging an energy lawyer to review the IMEA contract.

b) Roger Hochschild urges Council to reconsider the contract extension as it relates to costs, power, and risks.

c) Ken Bayliss advises Council of the risks related to the IMEA contract extension and urges Council to engage an energy lawyer.

d) Bob Zabors urges Council to reconsider the IMEA contract extension given the risks and lack of community engagement and consultation with energy expertise.

e) Katie Scullion addresses contract terms and urges Council to consider an extension before reaching a decision on the IMEA contract.

f) Ivy Sundell expresses concerns related to the Village's transparency and urges Council to reconsider the approval of the IMEA contract extension.

g) Ted Wynnychenko addresses concerns related to coal use and costs.

h) Patrick Hanley addresses concerns related to IMEA member contract extensions, costs and risk.

i) Rory Hackbarth urges Council to delay adopting the ordinance and further engage the community.

j) Linda Rel expresses concerns regarding uncertainty surrounding future energy supply.

k) David Mulligan urges Council to reconsider the contract extension and expresses concerns regarding the risks of extending the IMEA contract.

Council discusses community concerns, consultation of an energy attorney, contract extension term similarities to those of the previous agreement, importance of the Village to maintain representation on the IMEA board, and the Council's obligation to ensure the community has access to reliable and affordable power.

Council convened into closed session for the purpose of discussing municipal utility contracts relating to the purchase, sale, or delivery of electricity or natural gas pursuant to section 2(c)(23) of the Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to adjourn to closed session for the purpose of discussing municipal utility contracts relating to the purchase, sale, or delivery of electricity or natural gas pursuant to section 2(c)(23) of the Open Meetings Act. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Handler, Myers, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

The Council adjourned into closed session at 8:46 p.m.

Following the closed session, the Council reconvened into the regular meeting at 9:02 p.m.

President Dearborn advised of an amendment to the ordinance; whereas, additionally, IMEA has committed to transition from a carbon-based portfolio to a net-zero generation portfolio by 2050, and to properly plan for this transition, while ensuring generation resources are in place to meet future power needs, IMEA has implemented a detailed sustainability plan to achieve zero carbon status, which requires resource planning and transitioning in the near future to secure favorable renewable energy power purchase agreements.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt Ordinance No. M-05-2025, as amended; whereas, additionally, IMEA has committed to transition from a carbon-based portfolio to a net-zero generation portfolio by 2050, and to properly plan for this transition, while ensuring generation resources are in place to meet future power needs, IMEA has implemented a detailed sustainability plan to achieve zero carbon status, which requires resource planning and transitioning in the near future to secure favorable renewable energy power purchase agreements. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Dalman.

9) Old Business. None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments:

a) Appoint Michael Ritter to a full term on the Zoning Board of Appeals (Michael is replacing Kate Casale-MacNally) – his term will be effective July 1, 2025 and will expire on May 1, 2026.

b) Appoint Peter Evanich to the Design Review Board – (Peter is replacing Michael Ritter) – his term will be effective July 1, 2025 and will expire on May 1, 2027.

Trustee Albinson seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to appoint the said members to their respective boards as set forth by appointments a and b, by omnibus vote.

12) Closed Session: None.

13) Adjournment. Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Myers moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary