

**MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
July 15, 2025**

(Approved: August 19, 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, July 15, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Dearborn called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Village Manager Rob Bahan called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Tina Dalman, Kim Handler, Scott Myers and Bridget Orsic. Absent: Trustee Rob Apatoff. Also present: Deputy Village Manager Kristin Kazenas, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Community Development Director Scott Mangum, and approximately 14 persons in the audience.

Trustee Myers has provided the required notice that he will be unable to attend the regular meeting due to family or other emergency. The Village's policy provides that Trustee Myers may participate remotely unless 2/3 of the Council objects. With no objections, Trustee Myers participated remotely fully in the meeting.

Call to Order. Village Manager Rob Bahan called Trustee Myers for attendance.

- 2) Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Dalman the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Quorum.
- a) August 5, 2025 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Handler due to work obligations.
 - b) August 12, 2025 Study Session Cancelled.
 - c) August 19, 2025 All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Dalman due to family obligation.
- 4) Public Comment:
- a) Ted Wynnychenko addresses Council regarding sustainability, lakefront permitting matters and closed session meeting minutes.
- 5) Reports:
- a) Trustees.
 - i. Trustee Handler, liaison to the Environmental, Forestry, & Sustainability Commission, advises Council of the commissions recent meeting, new members, and sustainability discussions.
 - ii. Trustee Orsic, Winnetka Park District liaison, along with Trustee Apatoff, advises Council on their recent meetings with the Park District regarding lakefront matters.
 - iii. Trustee Dalman, liaison to Hubbard Woods, along with Trustee Apatoff, addresses Council on discussions regarding the health of the district.
 - b) Attorney. No report.
 - c) Manager.

- i. After 15 years of unwavering service, Village Manager Rob Bahan announces his retirement. Reflecting on this significant chapter, he expresses profound gratitude for the honor of serving such an exceptional organization, remarkable community, and serving along such dedicated staff and elected officials. Working alongside an exceptionally professional staff whose commitment and collaboration brought countless initiatives and major projects to life despite the challenges along the way to make Winnetka stronger, more resilient and well positioned for the future. Rob Bahan pledges his commitment to ensuring a smooth and thoughtful transition with Kristin Kazenas, incoming Village Manager, as the Village prepares for the next chapter of its history.
- d) Village President. President Dearborn commends Manager Bahan's 15 years of exceptional service and representation of the Village. On behalf of Council, President Dearborn expresses appreciation, gratitude and unanimous support to Kristin Kazenas on her transition as Village Manager.

Additionally, President Dearborn advises Council of meetings with Laura Freehack, President of the Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District, Jean Hahn, Board President of the New Trier Township High School District 203, Elise Gibson, President of the Winnetka Park District, Dan Waters, President of Winnetka School District 36, and one-on-one meetings with Village staff. President Dearborn believes that a collaborative approach will ensure the Village moves forward.

Additionally, President Dearborn advises Council of meetings with the presidents of the Village of Kenilworth and Village of Glencoe, Congressman Brad Schneider, State Representative Robyn Gabel, Cook County Commissioner Scott Britton, and Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi.

6) Establishment of the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Albinson seconded by Trustee Dalman moved to approve the Establishment of the Consent Agenda. By voice vote, the motion carried.

7) Approval of the Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of Village Council Minutes
 - i. June 17, 2025 Regular Meeting
- b) Approval of the Warrant List dated June 27, 2025 – July 10, 2025 in the amount of \$1,545,072.23
- c) Ordinance No. M-07-2025: Implementing a Municipal Grocery Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Municipal Grocery Service Occupation Tax to Replace the Existing State Tax (Adoption)
- d) Resolution No. R-53-2025: Approving Closed Session Minutes, Determining the Need to Keep Minutes of Certain Closed Meetings of the Village Council Confidential and Authorizing the Destruction of Verbatim Recordings of Certain Closed Meetings and of the Village Council (Adoption)
- e) Resolution No. R-60-2025: Waiving Bidding and Approving an Agreement with Dunnet

Bay Construction for Elm Street Structural Repair (Adoption)

- f) Resolution No. R-61-2025: Approving a Contract Extension for Interim Economic Development Coordinator Services (Adoption)

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, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

8) Ordinances and Resolutions.

- a) Ordinance No. M-09-2025: Granting a Special Use Permit and a Certificate of Appropriateness for the Renovation of the Existing Hubbard Woods Train Depot and Train Platform and the Construction of Improvements Within the R-5 and R-3 Single Family Residential Districts and the C-2 General Retail Commercial District of the Village (1065 Gage Street – Hubbard Woods Metra Train Station) (Introduction/Adoption)

Village staff has received an application submitted by Metra regarding proposed renovations of the existing Hubbard Woods train depot and train platform as well as the construction of various exterior improvements. Metra also requests renovation and improvements of the Hubbard Woods Train Station.

Community Development Director Scott Mangum advises Council of the Hubbard Woods Metra Train Station zoning and location maps, comprehensive plan land use, proposed site plan, review of the pedestrian bridge railing, landscaping plans, and elevator tower refinements.

The Zoning Board of Appeals, Plan Commission, and Design Review Board recommended approval of the special use permit and certificate of appropriateness.

Glen Peters, Metra's Senior Director of Capital Projects, advises Council that the Hubbard Woods Train Station is a historic station and that the Illinois State Historic Preservation Office recommended preserving the existing ticket office.

Council discusses the potential process for a coffee shop occupying the space, construction timeline, approval, fence height, and the complexities of the project involving Metra and Union Pacific.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to waive introduction of Ordinance No. M-09-2025.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to adopt Ordinance No. M-09-2025. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

- b) Resolution No. R-62-2025: Approving an Employment Agreement with Kristin Kazenas for the Village Manager of the Village of Winnetka (Adoption) and Resolution No. R-63-2025: Approving a First Amendment to the Employment Agreement with Robert M. Bahan (Adoption)

Village Manager Rob Bahan formally announced his retirement at the end of September 2025. Village Council has determined that the appointment of Deputy Village Manager Kristin Kazenas would be in the best interest of the community effective October 1, 2025. To ensure a seamless transition, Council will consider an employment agreement with Kristin Kazenas and a first amendment to Manager Bahan's employment agreement

providing certain considerations and retirement benefits through approximately March 31, 2026.

Village Attorney Peter Friedman provides a review of the key operational and financial provisions of the agreements.

Deputy Village Manager Kristin Kazenas expresses her sincere appreciation to the Village Council, emphasizing her commitment to ensuring a smooth transition, maintaining high standards and moving the Village forward.

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-62-2025. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-63-2025. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Apatoff.

9) Old Business. None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments:

- a) Appoint Louisa Hernandez as student representative to a full term on the Environmental, Forestry and Sustainability Commission – her term will expire on August 31, 2026.

Trustee Dalman seconded by Trustee Myers, moved to appoint Louisa Hernandez to a full term as student representative on the Environmental, Forestry and Sustainability Commission by omnibus vote.

12) Closed Session: None.

13) Adjournment. Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Orsic moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary