MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 7, 2025

(Approved: November 18, 2025)

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

1) Call to Order. President Dearborn called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Village Manager Kristin Kazenas called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, Tina Dalman, Kim Handler, Scott Myers and Bridget Orsic. Absent: None. Also present: Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Police Chief Brian O'Connell, Chief Financial Officer Tim Sloth, Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi, Assistant Water & Electric Director Sam Carrasco, Sustainability Coordinator Elyse Steiner and approximately 10 persons in the audience.

2) Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Orsic led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) Adoption of Procedural Guidelines for Village Council Meetings

   a) Procedural Guidelines for Village Council Meetings

   Village Attorney Peter Friedman reviews amendments to the current procedural guidelines for Village Council meetings specifically the addition of rules that govern public comment. While the Illinois Open Meetings Act requires that public comment be permitted, the Attorney General and the Courts have allowed municipalities to establish rules, however, they must be in writing.

   The Village has considered specific rules during the COVID pandemic, and it is the suggestion of the Village Manager to adopt official written rules. Village Attorney Peter Friedman discloses the amendments reflecting best practices for public comment and participation in public meetings.

   Village Attorney Peter Friedman confirms that the amendments are intended to apply to all subsidiary public bodies of the Village.

   Public Comment

   Ted Wynnychenko addresses concerns related to the proposed public comment amendments.

   Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt the amended procedural guidelines for Village Council meetings. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

4) Quorum.

   a) October 14, 2025 Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.

   b) October 21, 2025 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Handler due to work obligation.

c) <u>October 30, 2025 All Day Budget Review Meeting</u> All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.

5) <u>Public Comment</u>:

   i) Roy Burlin addresses Council regarding concerns related to the condition of the pier at Tower Road Beach.

   ii) Ted Wynnychenko addresses matters related to a letter received by the Village in response to a public comment made at a previous Council meetings.

6) <u>Reports</u>:

   a) <u>Trustees</u>.

   Trustee Dalman suggests the removal of a wasp nest at the Metra train station.

   b) <u>Attorney</u>.

   Village Attorney Peter Friedman provides an update regarding litigation filed by a number of lakefront property owners as a result of the steep slope and lakefront construction ordinances. Attorney Friedman confirmed that in response to the Village's request to dismiss the complaint, the judge had ruled in favor of the Village, and permitted the plaintiffs to file a amended complaint if they so choose.

   c) <u>Manager</u>. No report.

   d) <u>Village President</u>.

   President Dearborn, on behalf of Village Council, gives a warm welcome to Kristin Kazenas in her new role as Village Manager.

7) <u>Establishment of the Consent Agenda</u>.

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

8) <u>Approval of the Consent Agenda</u>

   a) Approval of the Village Council Minutes

      i. September 9, 2025 Regular Meeting & Study Session

      ii. September 16, 2025 Regular Meeting

   b) Approval of Warrant List September 12, 2025 to October 2, 2025 in the amount of $3,324,108.10

   c) Resolution No. R-73-2025: Approving an Agreement with Safe-Way Tuckpointing LLP for Masonry Repairs to Structures at the Winnetka Electric Plant (Adoption)

   d) Resolution No. R-75-2025: Approving Funding Authorization and Change Order No. 4 to the Contract with Maple Cable Construction Inc. for Directional Boring Work (Adoption)

   e) Resolution No. R-77-2025: Appointing a Director to the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (Adoption)

   f) Resolution No. R-78-2025: Approving and Authorizing a Class A Liquor License for Lil Miguel LLC, D/B/A Fondita Miguel (Adoption)

Trustee Apatoff seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to approve the foregoing items on the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote with an amendment to the September 9, 2025 Regular Meeting & Study Session to reflect Trustee Dalman as present. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

9) Ordinances and Resolutions.

a) Ordinance No. MC-13-2025: Amending Title 10 of the Winnetka Village Code Regarding Electric Bicycles (Introduction/Adoption)

In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the use of low-speed electric bicycles within communities causing concerns related to those who are inexperienced with the rules of the road. In response to these concerns, several municipalities have proposed the approval of ordinances regulating permitted use of low-speed e-bikes.

Police Chief Brian O'Connell informs Council of the operating regulations specific to the business districts. Chief O'Connell provides information related to the various classes of e-bikes, age requirements, restrictions, and limitations, permitted Village areas for the use of e-bikes, compliance with the Illinois Vehicle Code and rules of the road, and safety regarding e-bike operations.

Council discusses limitations to attachments to e-bikes, permitted areas of use within the Village, matters related to signage, State laws, operation in business districts, protective equipment, and communications regarding community engagement.

Public Comment

Elise Gibson, President of the Winnetka Park District Board, requests that Council consider amending and clarifying language distinguishing the Village versus Park District property within the Village.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to waive introduction of Ordinance No. MC-13-2025.

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to adopt Ordinance No. MC-13-2025 with the amendment to section B1 from "public" to "Village" and section B2 "any other public property" to "any other Village property within corporate limits of the Village". By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

b) Resolution No. R-68-2025: Approving a Contract with RPG Energy Group for the Design and Installation of a Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) Array (Adoption)

Assistant Water & Electric Director Sam Carrasco provides Council information regarding the Village's initiative to create a more sustainable environment by self-generating renewable energy to serve the Village Yards. Mr. Carrasco provides information regarding project overview, advising that on August 21, 2025, IMEA Board of Directors approved a limited variance of small renewable generation resource policy for the Village to allow a maximum aggregate kilowatt limit of 275 kW.

Mr. Carrasco provides additional information regarding solar panel installation at the Village Yards, projected production of electricity, matters related to warranty, contract stipulations, and project cost and funding.

Sustainability Coordinator Elyse Steiner advises Council on matters regarding federal tax credits, project costs, renewable energy credits, and the Village's ongoing commitment to its sustainability and climate action commitment as set forth in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Resolution No. R-58-2025: A Commitment to Implement Pillar 4: Sustainability and Climate Action of the Village Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Steiner confirms that there will be system performance data and educational resources available to the public designed to support learning, community events, and ongoing outreach.

Council discusses market sales, operation and maintenance, matters related to warranty and contract stipulations, insurance policies, contractor evaluations, project financials, and energy production.

Trustee Myers and Trustee Apatoff urge Village staff to review the financial health of RPG, in addition to insurance coverage.

Public Comment

Dave Kerns addresses Council regarding federal tax credits and concerns related to contract issues.

Ms. Steiner advises Council regarding the bidding process and evaluation and selection of a vendor.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-68-2025 contingent on a financial review of the stability of RPG to support the operation and maintenance commitments and insurance coverage. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

10) Old Business. None.

11) New Business.

a) Winnetka Power Generation Long Term Planning

Water & Electric Director Nick Narhi advises Council on the history of generation in the Village, current fleet and redundancy, demand for generation, PJM market dynamics; recent capacity auctions and load shedding, amendments to the IMEA capacity payment structure, steam generation financials, renewables and sustainability, and longer term generation planning.

Brad Schmidt, PE, PMP, Project Manager at Stanley Consultants, advises Council regarding the goal of the generation study, various options regarding the generation study, generation study approach including the screening analysis, air permitting assessment, technical analysis, economic analysis, and the implementation plan.

Council discusses matters related to credits, project phases, capacity payment structure, and long term planning.

Public Comment

Christina Codo addresses matters related to auctions results for the cost of power.

Council provides policy direction to maintain steam generation through 2035 and that phase 1 and 2 will be reviewed during the budget review.

12) Appointments:

Appoint King Poor as Environmental, Forestry, & Sustainability Commission representative on the Plan Commission; King is replacing Liz Kunkle – his term will expire on May 1, 2028.

Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to appoint King Poor as Environmental, Forestry, & Sustainability representative on the Plan Commission by omnibus vote.

13) Closed Session: None.

14) Adjournment. Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Orsic moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk
Recording Secretary