

MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
November 18, 2025

(Approved: December 16, 2025)

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held at the Police Department on Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Dearborn called the meeting to order at 7:02 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, Chief Financial Officer Tim Sloth, Community Development Director Scott Mangum, Sustainability Coordinator Elyse Steiner and approximately 9 people in the audience.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Orsic led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Quorum.
 - a) December 2, 2025 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - b) December 9, 2025 Study Session Cancelled
 - c) December 16, 2025 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
- 4) Public Comment:
 - i) Rockey Flinterman provides Council a brief recap regarding the 2025 Farmer's Market.
 - ii) Warren James addresses Council regarding concerns related to a change order with DiMeo Brothers for the replacement of the Elder stormwater pipe.
- 5) Reports:
 - a) Trustees. No report.
 - b) Attorney. No report.
 - c) Manager. No report.
 - d) Village President. No report.
- 6) Establishment of the Consent Agenda.

Trustee Handler seconded by Trustee Apatoff moved to approve the Establishment of the Consent Agenda. By voice vote, the motion carried.
- 7) Approval of the Consent Agenda
 - a) Approval of the Village Council Minutes
 - i. October 7, 2025 Special Meeting
 - ii. October 7, 2025 Regular Meeting

iii. October 14, 2025 Study Session

- b) Approval of Warrant List October 31, 2025 to November 13, 2025 in the amount of \$1,058,753.71.
 - c) Resolution No. R-82-2025: Indemnification for Use of IDOT Sidewalks Along Illinois Route 131 (Green Bay Road) Between Tower Road and Scott Street Between November 19, 2025 - January 14, 2026 (Adoption)
 - d) Resolution No. R-85-2025: Approving a Settlement Agreement with Monsanto Company Regarding PCB Contamination of Stormwater (Adoption)
 - e) Resolution No. R-86-2025: Waiving Competitive Bidding and Awarding a Contract to ABB, Inc. for the Purchase of Two 15KV Circuit Breakers (Adoption)
 - f) Resolution No. R-89-2025: Approving the Disposal of an Existing Public Works Vactor and Purchase of a New Public Works Vactor from Standard Equipment Company (Adoption)
 - g) Resolution No. R-94-2025: Appointing Timothy J. Sloth as Village Treasurer (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, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

8) Ordinances and Resolutions.

a) Public Hearing - FY 2026 Village Budget

President Dearborn opens the Public Hearing at 7:13pm.

Chief Financial Officer Tim Sloth confirms that the Village Budget must be adopted before the commencement of the fiscal year, and, as part of the process, would require a public hearing to be held. In addition, the FY 2026 budget will be posted on the Village website and will be made available at the Library and Village Hall. The public hearing notice was advertised in the November 8th issue of the Chicago Tribune.

Mr. Sloth confirms that the Village Budget is balanced, and operating expenditures are fully funded by routine annual operating revenues, stating there is no reliance on fund balance or one-time revenue resources.

Council is informed of budget totals, capital spending, and funding, noting an overall increase of 23.08% for the proposed budget including capital project spending.

No public comment.

President Dearborn closed the Public Hearing at 7:20 pm.

Council commends Village staff on their budget presentations.

- i) Ordinance No. MC-08-2025: Enacting a Home Rule Municipal Retailers' Occupation Tax and a Home Rule Municipal Service Occupation Tax (Introduction)

Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to introduce Ordinance No. MC-08-2025. By voice vote, the motion carried.

- ii) Resolution No. R-90-2025: Adopting the Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 (Introduction)

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to introduce Ordinance

No. R-90-2025. By voice vote, the motion carried.

- iii) Resolution No. R-91-2025: Establishing Rates and Fees Related to Utility Services (Introduction)

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Apatoff, moved to introduce Ordinance No. R-91-2025. By voice vote, the motion carried.

- iv) Resolution No. R-92-2025: Amending General, Building, and Miscellaneous Service Fees (Introduction)

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to introduce Ordinance No. R-92-2025. By voice vote, the motion carried.

b) Property Tax Levy and Abatement Ordinances

- i) Ordinance No. M-15-2025: Levying Taxes for the Year 2025 (Introduction)

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-15-2025. By voice vote, the motion carried.

- ii) Ordinance No. M-16-2025: Abating the Tax Heretofore Levied for the Year 2025 to Pay the Principal of and Interest on Taxable General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020, of the Village of Winnetka, Cook County, Illinois (Introduction)

Trustee Apatoff, seconded by Trustee Myers, moved to introduce Ordinance No. M-16-2025. By voice vote, the motion carried.

c) Ordinance No. MC-07-2025: Amending the Winnetka Zoning Ordinance to Establish Regulations for Solar Energy Systems - Public Hearing (Introduction/Adoption)

At the October 21, 2025 Council meeting, a subcommittee of the Environmental, Forestry, and Sustainability Commission presented regarding updating the Village Code for solar energy systems, and during the discussion it was noted that it does not adequately address uses and standards for solar panels. A public hearing notice was published in the Winnetka Talk on October 30, 2025.

Community Development Director Scott Mangum provides Council an overview of the original ordinance, noting the current solar regulations, and providing an overview of the revised ordinance provisions, noting the proposed updates to the ordinance.

Council discusses special use requirements, permitted mounting, rooftop installation, and revised provisions.

With the upcoming winter season limiting solar panel installations, Council suggests that the EFSC provide a follow up report on ground-mounted solar by March 3, 2026.

Public Comment

King Poor, EFSC Commissioner, addresses Council regarding permitted solar installation, special use requirements, and matters related to mounting solar panels.

Peter Eck, EFSC Chair, expresses support for solar initiatives and notes the importance of observing future applications and requested changes.

Trustee Handler, Council Representative on the EFSC, advises Council that the purpose of the ordinance update was to modernize certain language, clarify regulations for residents, and support and advance solar installation within the community.

Council further discusses consideration of waiving building permit fees and consideration of incentives.

Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to waive introduction of Ordinance No. MC-07-2025.

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt Ordinance No. MC-07-2025 pursuant to the amendment of the red-line version of the ordinance that has been provided to the Council and subject to an additional amendment that would exempt solar energy systems from the standard building permit fees for one year. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

d) Ordinance No. No. M-17-2025: Granting a Special Use Permit for the Operation of a Hair Salon Within the C-2 Commercial Overlay District of the Village (986 Green Bay Road) (Adoption)

At the November 4th Council meeting, Still Kids Salon submitted an application seeking approval of a special use permit to operate a children-oriented hair salon at 986 Green Bay Road.

Community Development Director Scott Mangum advises the Council that Village staff continues to receive public comment regarding the request for a special use permit, both in favor and in opposition. Concerns expressed have been related to pedestrian safety crossing Green Bay Road and impacts to the building's plumbing infrastructure. Mr. Mangum notes that the phase II of the streetscape plan would improve the intersection and provide additional pedestrian safety measures. Additionally, the Village would request approval from IDOT to install pedestrian crossing signs at the intersection.

Council discusses permitting requirements, matters related to IDOT, pedestrian safety, and traffic safety.

Public Comment

Kathleen Geary addresses concerns related to pedestrian safety, sound proofing, and business operations.

Marlene Calders advises Council of concerns related to pedestrian and traffic safety concerns.

Terry Dason expresses support for Sit Still Kids and encourages Council to welcome such a business.

Brittany Jordan, Co-Owner of Sit Still Chicago, expresses commitment to engaging with neighbors in a professional, respectful, and cooperative manner.

Council discusses the added value of Sit Still Kids in the business district and addresses sound proofing, pedestrian and traffic concerns, confirming that pedestrian safety is a high priority within the Village.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adopt Ordinance No. M-17-2025. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None

9) Old Business. None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments: None.

12) Closed Session: None.

13) Adjournment. Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Orsic moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary