

**MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
SPECIAL STUDY SESSION
February 10, 2026**

(Approved: April 7, 2026)

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 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 of the Village Council. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Rob Apatoff, and Scott Myers. Absent: Trustees Tina Dalman, Kim Handler, and Bridget Orsic. Also present: Deputy Village Manager Hannah Lipman, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Courtney Willits, Engineering Director Jim Bernahl, Chief Financial Officer Tim Sloth, and approximately no persons in the audience.

- 2) Public Comment. None.

- 3) Stormwater Project Update.

Trustee Handler enters at 7:03 pm.

Engineering Director Jim Bernahl provides program overview and objectives regarding the stormwater management study in an effort to improve the Village's storm sewer and sanitary sewer systems. Since implementation of the overall program, the Village has partnered with New Trier High School District 36, Winnetka Park District, Forest Preserve District of Cook County, and secured permitting from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. While major storage infrastructure has been completed, Council is advised of the Hibbard Preserve wetland restoration and monitoring program status and next phases related to stormwater conveyance improvements.

Mike Waldron, Senior Associate at Strand Associates, advises Council on project progression related to both stormwater storage and stormwater conveyance for Western and Eastern Winnetka, advancement, and conceptual planning, related to the next stages in efforts to continue commitment towards proactive infrastructure investments and improvements, updated project cost estimates and budgeting. This includes contingency costs, various sources of project funding and comprehensive funding strategies. Additionally, anticipated project timelines including jurisdictional transfers, obtaining financial aid from IDOT towards roadway improvements, and advancing key implementation actions.

Council discussed various regulatory factors, resident impacts, project and design scope, and anticipated timelines. Additionally, Council discussed financial implications, budgeting matters, grants and available funding to mitigate project costs, as well consideration of a second opinion by an independent engineering firm.

- 4) Adjournment. Trustee Apatoff, seconded by Trustee Handler moved to adjourn the meeting. By voice vote, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 pm.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk
Recording Secretary