

MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
March 3, 2026

(Approved: April 7, 2026)

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held at Council Chambers on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 7:00 PM.

- 1) Call to Order. President Dearborn called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM. Village Manager Kristin Kazenas called the roll. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Tina Dalman, Kim Handler, Scott Myers and Bridget Orsic. Absent: None. Also present: Deputy Village Manager Hannah Lipman, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Community Development Director Scott Mangum, and approximately 11 people in the audience.

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

Call to Order. Village Manager Kristin Kazenas called Trustee Apatoff for attendance.

- 2) Pledge of Allegiance. Trustee Handler led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Quorum.
- a) Thursday, March 19, 2026 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend with the exception of Trustee Dalman who will be participating remotely.
 - b) April 7, 2026 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - c) April 14, 2026 Special Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - d) April 21, 2026 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
- 4) Public Comment: No public comment.
- 5) Reports:
- a) Trustees.
 - i. Trustee Albinson attended an event hosted by the Winnetka Congregational Church as a stand against antisemitism and a show of unity for the community.
 - ii. Trustee Apatoff commends the professionalism and remarkable precision of the Winnetka Fire Department in response to a fire that occurred in the community.
 - b) Attorney. No report.
 - c) Manager.

- l) Resolution No. R-31-2026: Approving an Outdoor Dining Agreement with Paradise Foods, LLC (Adoption)
- m) Approval of Annual Outdoor Seating Area Permits

Trustee Orsic seconded by Trustee Dalman, 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. Resolution No. R-28-2026: Approving a Non-Exclusive License Agreement for Use of Winnetka Property for the Winnetka Music Festival (Adoption)

The Winnetka Music Fest is scheduled for Friday, June 19th and Saturday, June 20th and will take place on Lincoln Avenue between Pine Street and Elm Street along the Village owned parking lot on Lincoln Avenue.

Deputy Village Manager Hannah Lipman confirms that the non-exclusive license agreement remains generally consistent with minor adjustments related to timing, confirming that the Music Fest will open to the public at 4:00pm rather than 5:00pm on Friday, June 19th. Additionally, set up will be permitted to begin as early as 6:00am on Thursday, June 18th, as opposed to 6:00pm. The Village will ensure that any closures will be channeled through proper communications between businesses and residents.

The Winnetka Music Fest organizers and Village staff will coordinate logistics with One Winnetka project developers to ensure coordination of a safe and successful event during construction activities.

Council discusses business operations during the Music Fest festivities and patron access during the Winnetka Music Fest.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-28-2026. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: Trustees Handler and Myers.

- b. Resolution No. R-30-2026: Approving a Non-Exclusive License Agreement for the Use of the Elm Street Train Station Parking Lot for an Artisan Market (Adoption)

The Chicago Artisan Market is a curated, upscale market featuring local artisans and small businesses selling handcrafted food, fashion, home goods, and art. This would mark the first Artisan Market that would be held in Winnetka on May 30th and May 31st at the Elm Street Train Station Parking lot.

Deputy Village Manager Hannah Lipman confirms that organizers are currently completing a rental agreement with the Park District, separate from the non-exclusive agreement with the Village, for the use of Station Park. Council is informed of the agreement stipulations and key points identified in the license agreement.

Jonathan Smith, Managing Partner for the INV Marketing Group, addresses Council regarding the scope of the Artisan Market, locations, participating vendors, operations, and marketing.

Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-30-2026. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None.

9) Old Business.

a. 736 Elm Street – Solidcore – Special Use Permit – Policy Direction

At the February 17th Council meeting, Community Development Director Scott Mangum addressed Council regarding a request for a special use permit for Solidcore in the Commercial Overlay District, specifically in the One Winnetka building. Council requested that staff provide further clarification regarding the special use.

Deirdre Clein, Director at Murphy Real Estate, addresses Council regarding retailer selection process, retailer marketing, and financial costs, expenses, and stability.

Phil Golden, Retail Broker for Solidcore, addresses Council regarding business operations, client experience, class hours, foot traffic, and matters related to parking.

Council discusses the communities' wants and needs as surveyed by the Winnetka Caucus, various uses and businesses, parking concerns, One Winnetka's special uses, and parking stipulations.

Council provides policy direction to permit the special use with the condition to provide a 15-minute buffer between classes from 9:00am to 5:00pm on weekdays. Additionally, Council requests that Solidcore staff encourage patrons to park in the One Winnetka parking lot.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Albinson, moved to approve policy direction permitting the special use with the condition to provide a 15-minute buffer between classes from 9:00am to 5:00pm on weekdays and that Solidcore staff will encourage patrons to park in the One Winnetka parking. By roll call vote, the motion carried.

Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Myers and Orsic. Nays: Trustee Handler. Absent: None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments:

- a) Appoint Ben Dietz to the Environmental, Forestry & Sustainability Commission – (Ben Dietz is replacing Brendan Andrew) – his term will be effective March 3, 2026 and will expire on May 1, 2029.

Trustee Albinson seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to appoint Ben Dietz to the Environmental, Forestry & Sustainability Commission. By voice vote, the motion carried.

12) Closed Session for the Purpose of Discussing Specific Personnel and Probable and Pending Litigation Pursuant to Sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel and probable and pending litigation pursuant to sections 2(c)(1) and 2(c)(11) of the Open Meetings Act and to adjourn the Open Meeting automatically and immediately upon the conclusion of the special meeting without the conduct of any further business or comments. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

13) Adjournment. The Closed Session meeting ended at 8:42 p.m.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk
Recording Secretary