

MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 21, 2026

(Approved: May 19, 2026)

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, April 21, 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. Present: Trustees Kirk Albinson, Kim Handler, Scott Myers, and Bridget Orsic. Absent: Trustee Dalman. Also present: Deputy Village Manager Hannah Lipman, Deputy Village Clerk Berina Gradjan, Village Attorney Peter Friedman, Sustainability Coordinator Elyse Steiner, Community Development Director Scott Mangum, Public Works Director Tom Powers and 28 persons 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) May 5, 2026 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - b) May 12, 2026 Special Study Session All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.
 - c) May 19, 2026 Regular Meeting All of the Council members present said they expect to attend.

- 4) Presentations.

- a) Winnetka-Northfield Public Library Presentation

Library Board President Laura Freehack advises Council regarding library initiatives, services provided, ADA accessibility improvements, security enhancements, staffing updates, and matters related to interlocal collaboration.

- b) Arbor Day Proclamation

President Dearborn declares April 24, 2026, as Arbor Day in the Village of Winnetka.

Trustee Handler, seconded by Trustee Dalman, moved to adopt the proclamation. By voice vote, the motion carried.

- c) Environmental, Forestry, & Sustainability Commission Green Awards

EFSC Liaison Elyse Steiner, Chair Peter Eck, and Commissioner King Poor present the 2026 Green Awards to the Winnetka Park District for completing LED lighting retrofits for five outdoor tennis courts at the A.C. Nielsen Tennis Center, Stacy Lucier for demonstrating environmentally sound landscape practices, and North Shore Country Day

School for renovation of the Mac McCarty Athletic Center following adaptive reuse principles.

d) Mayors' Monarch Proclamation

President Dearborn declares April 21, 2026 as Monarch Butterfly Remembrance Day in the Village of Winnetka.

Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to adopt the proclamation. By voice vote, the motion carried.

5) Public Comment:

- i. Rocky Flintermann announces the opening of the Farmer's Market on June 6th and the 48th Annual Recognition Lunch on April 22nd.
- ii. Ted Wynnychenko addresses Council regarding civil transparency.

6) Reports:

- a) Trustees. No report.
- b) Attorney. No report.
- c) Manager. No report.
- d) Village President. No report.

7) Establishment of the Consent Agenda

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

8) Approval of the Consent Agenda

- a) Approval of Village Council Minutes
 - i. March 19, 2026 Regular Meeting
- b) Approval of Warrant List Dated April 3, 2026 – April 16, 2026, in the amount of \$510,508.98.
- c) Approval of Annual Outdoor Seating Area Permits
- d) Resolution No. R-41-2026: Waiving Bidding and Approving a Purchase of Software Licenses from Liftoff, LLC (Adoption)

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

9) Ordinances and Resolutions.

- a) Resolution No. R-43-2026: Awarding a Contract for Village Hall HVAC Replacement Design and Miscellaneous Architectural and Engineering Items (Adoption)

The Public Works Department oversees maintenance and capital planning for Village facilities and, as part of a larger initiative, Village Hall was studied to determine long term capital needs. Staff identified the need for replacement of the HVAC system, fire alarm system, and ADA improvements. Due to the specialized nature of working in a historic building and specialized competency for a high-efficiency, energy efficient HVAC system,

a request for architect and engineering qualifications was utilized.

Public Works Director Tom Powers advises Council that staff entered into negotiations with Studio GC and came to an agreement on a contract to perform the design services in an amount not to exceed \$244,185. The next steps include the commencement of the project, schematic design, and a detailed presentation overview of the HVAC system and scope of work.

Council discusses project cost, design and scope of work, and utilizing a historical construction consultant.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-43-2026. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Albinson.

b) Resolution No. R-44-2026: Regarding Permits Granting by the State of Illinois Department of Transportation for the Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Street Improvements on State Highways Maintained by the Village (Adoption)

Public Works Director Tom Powers advises Council that the Village maintains various IDOT routes and needs to undertake or permit for repairs on roadways under IDOT's jurisdiction. Rather than the Village paying for a bond, the Village adopts a resolution in place.

Council discusses various repair work under the resolution.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Orsic, moved to adopt Resolution No. R-43-2026. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: Trustee Albinson.

10) Old Business. None.

11) New Business.

a) 730 Elm Street – DUET Special Use – Policy Direction

Council is advised of an application submitted by DUET Audiology seeking approval of a special use permit to operate a medical office at 730 Elm Street. The audiology clinic operates out of Lake Forest and is looking to relocate their Northfield office to Winnetka.

Community Development Director Scott Mangum provides information regarding the proposed floor plan, parking matters, and the Plan Commission recommendation.

Deirdre Clein, Murphy Real Estate Services, addresses Council regarding occupancy, special use applications, zoning code compliance, parking impacts, and retail sales in addition to the medical office.

Dr. Lori Halvorson, DUET Audiology, advises Council that DUET is part of a charity called Hearing the Call, selling retail handmade by mothers across the world and providing hearing aids to different communities around the world. Dr. Halvorson addresses design and aesthetic, utilizing design services from architects out in Switzerland, clinical work, staffing and parking matters.

DUET patient, 40-year professor of artificial intelligence and cognitive science at Depaul University, discussed the effects of long-term noise exposure throughout his career as a musician, including hearing loss and cognitive symptoms such as memory challenges and brain fog, crediting DUET with helping him regain his hearing and reconnect with his

everyday life.

John Murphy, Murphy Development Group, expressed support for DUET while addressing the need for a special use permit.

Scott Mangum addresses Council regarding the DUET special use process, requirements, and advisory board recommendations.

Public Comment

Cindy Monig expresses support for DUET Audiology.

Member of public, did not state name, stated concern that Council appeared to be gatekeeping and limiting the types of businesses permitted to operate in One Winnetka.

Andy Cripe expresses support for DUET Audiology and considerations of special use permits.

Council discusses medical services provided and retail sales and revenue.

Council provides direction regarding the special use permit directing the Village Attorney and staff to prepare necessary documents for approval.

Trustee Dalman, seconded by Trustee Myers, moved to direct the Village Attorney and staff to prepare an ordinance approving the special use permit. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

b) 829 and 833 Foxdale – Lot Consolidation and Zoning Variations – Policy Consideration

An application submitted by the property owners of 829 and 833 Foxdale Avenue seeking approval of zoning variations to demolish 829 Foxdale Avenue and consolidate the two parcels into a single lot. The existing residence at 833 Foxdale would remain, however, an addition on the south end of the resident would be constructed.

Community Development Director Scott Mangum advises Council regarding variations and matters related to the plat of consolidation, land use, zoning, proposed consolidation, lot patterns, pre-existing zoning nonconformity, and advisory board reviews.

Chip Hackley, Hackley & Associates Architects, addresses Council regarding proposed characteristics, additional green and permeable space, and preservation of 1920s architectural character of Foxdale homes.

Deanna Nied addresses Council regarding the importance and intention of the proposed lot consolidation and construction, expressing concerns related to a shared driveway.

Council discusses the importance of preservation of historical homes.

Council directs the Village Attorney and staff to prepare necessary documents for approval of the requested consolidation.

Trustee Albinson, seconded by Trustee Handler, moved to direct the Village Attorney and staff to prepare an ordinance approving the consolidation. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Albinson, Apatoff, Dalman, Handler, Myers, and Orsic. Nays: None. Absent: None.

12) Appointments: None.

13) Closed Session for the Purpose of Discussing Specific Personnel Pursuant to 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act.

Trustee Orsic, seconded by Trustee Myers, moved to adjourn to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing specific personnel pursuant to 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act and to adjourn the Open Meeting automatically and immediately upon the conclusion of the Closed Session 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.

The Council adjourned into Closed Session at 9:25 p.m.

14) Adjournment. The Closed Session meeting ended at 10:07 p.m.

/s/ Berina Gradjan, Deputy Village Clerk

Recording Secretary