

**MINUTES
WINNETKA VILLAGE COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
February 16, 2016**

(Approved: March 1, 2016)

A record of a legally convened regular meeting of the Council of the Village of Winnetka, which was held in the Village Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

- 1) Call to Order. President Greable called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Present: Trustees Andrew Cripe, Carol Fessler, William Krucks, Stuart McCrary, Scott Myers and Marilyn Prodromos. Absent: None. Also present: Village Manager Robert Bahan, Assistant to the Village Manager Megan Pierce, Village Attorney Peter M. Friedman, Fire Chief Alan Berkowsky, Deputy Fire Chief John Ripka, Public Works Director Steve Saunders, Community Development Director Mike D'Onofrio, and approximately 7 persons in the audience.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance. President Greable led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Quorum.
 - a) March 1, 2016 Regular Meeting. All of the Council members present indicated that they expect to attend.
 - b) March 8, 2016 Study Session. All of the Council members present indicated that they expect to attend.
 - c) March 17, 2016 Rescheduled Regular Meeting. All of the Council members present indicated that they expect to attend.
- 4) Approval of the Agenda. Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee McCrary, moved to approve the Agenda. By voice vote, the motion carried.
- 5) Consent Agenda
 - a) Village Council Minutes.
 - i) February 2, 2016 Regular Meeting.
 - b) Warrant List. Approving the Warrant List dated January 29 - February 11, 2016 in the amount of \$490,677.65.
 - c) Resolution No. R-4-2016: Agreement for Reimbursable Utility Adjustment – Sheridan Road Improvements (Adoption). A resolution approving an agreement with the Illinois Department of Transportation for relocation of Village utility facilities.

Trustee Myers, seconded by Trustee McCrary, moved to approve the foregoing items on the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Cripe, Fessler, Krucks, McCrary, Myers and Prodromos. Nays: None. Absent: None.

- 6) Stormwater Monthly Summary Report. Mr. Saunders apologized for Mike Waldron from Strand Associates, who was scheduled to report on the Stormwater Alternatives Study, but who was sick and couldn't be here tonight. He reviewed the January workshops held at Washburne School. Approximately 30 people attended each event; however, the feedback received from attendees affirmed the accuracy of the upgraded hydraulic modeling Strand has done.

Mr. Saunders explained that Strand is now working to develop preliminary conceptual alternatives, which will be presented at two more public workshops: March 3, 2016 and March 5, 2016. These alternatives are primarily for discussion purposes, to gain input about community acceptance of the recommendations. After one more community meeting in April, Strand is expected to deliver a final report later that same month.

Mr. Saunders said the Boal Parkway neighborhood improvements are getting underway, and engineering is expected to be completed in 2016, with construction anticipated in 2017. The Sheridan Road Ravine improvements will begin as soon as weather permits; the Illinois Department of Transportation will reimburse the Village for any expenses incurred during construction.

Finally, Mr. Saunders noted that the Northwest Winnetka stormwater improvement is now projected to come in approximately \$200,000 under budget, with final payouts being processed.

The Council asked a few questions and briefly discussed the Strand project.

- 7) Ordinances and Resolutions.

- a) Ordinance No. MC-2-2016: Fire Sprinkler Requirements Amendments (Introduction).

Chief Berkowsky reviewed the Fire Sprinkler amendments, which the Council requested after discussions at its January 12 Study Session. The Draft Ordinance contains the following proposed amendments:

- Deferred compliance. This would alleviate stress on building owners when undergoing a change of use by allowing up to five years to install a sprinkler system. An agreement would be executed between the Village and the building owner, and would be recorded with Cook County. The building would otherwise comply with current standards for a non-sprinklered structure.
- Fee rebate. A rebate program would refund the Village fees associated with a sprinkler installation to building owners; the applicant would pay the fees up front and receive a refund upon passing final inspection of the system.
- Permits temporary pop-up stores. The Fire Chief may approve a temporary use for a maximum of 90 days within a rolling 365-day period, without triggering the Village's fire sprinkler requirements.

In summation, the Chief explained that the amendments continue with Winnetka's policy of encouraging sprinkler protection in the Village's commercial districts, while softening some of the financial burden placed on building owners.

Trustee Fessler suggested rethinking the sunset provision associated with the fee rebate program; the Chief and Manager Bahan confirmed that the provision could be easily

revised. After a brief Council question period, President Greable called for public comment.

Glenn Weaver, 574 Lincoln. Mr. Weaver asked to contribute his thoughts about the Ordinance to help the Village solve the change of use provision.

Manager Bahan explained there will be a comment period before the Ordinance is adopted, and anyone is free to offer suggestions.

The Trustees weighed in, with a unanimous consensus to introduce the draft Ordinance, as it strikes a balance between public safety and providing relief for building owners.

Manager Bahan said the Fire Chief will provide some annual data about the fee rebates to get a sense of how many owners are taking advantage of the program, and what, if any, budget impacts occur.

Trustee Krucks, seconded by Trustee Cripe, moved to introduce Ordinance No. MC-2-2016. By voice vote, the motion carried.

8) Public Comment.

Richard Kates, 1326 Tower. Mr. Kates said he was concerned that there are very few building owners in attendance at the meeting and that special efforts should be made before adoption to reach out to the owners to get their feedback on the draft Ordinance. He also disagreed with language dealing with determination of fire hazard that was struck in Section 15.16.050 (B).

The Chief explained that this is the original language from the 1977 Ordinance, and in the absence of a clear definition of “greater hazard,” the language was struck until a “hazard” can be defined.

The Council agreed that Mr. Kates’ suggestion could be discussed at adoption.

9) Old Business. None.

10) New Business. None.

11) Appointments. None.

12) Reports.

a) Village President. President Greable reminded the community to attend a Strand workshop in March, and he also called for participation at the February 29 Downtown Master Plan Steering Committee meeting.

b) Trustees.

i) Trustee Myers reported on the last Environmental & Forestry Commission meeting.

ii) Trustee Krucks commended the Police Department on its 2015 Annual Report, which shows the dedication and focus of the Winnetka Police Department.

c) Attorney. None.

d) Manager. Manager Bahan reported that the Village takes every precaution to test and monitor lead in the Village’s drinking water, which is treated on a daily basis. He urged residents with concerns to call the Water Department.

- 13) Executive Session. Trustee McCrary moved to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss pending or probable litigation, purchase or lease of real property, and for setting a price for sale or lease of property owned by the Village of Winnetka, pursuant to Sections 2c(11), 2c(5) and 2c(6) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Trustee Fessler seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Cripe, Fessler, Krucks, McCrary, Myers and Prodromos. Nays: None. Absent: None.

President Greable announced that the Council would not return to the open meeting after Executive Session. The Council adjourned into Executive Session at 8:06 p.m.

- 14) Adjournment. Fessler moved to adjourn the Executive Session, and Trustee Myers seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the motion carried. Ayes: Trustees Cripe, Fessler, Krucks, McCrary, Myers and Prodromos. Nays: None. Absent: None. The meeting ended at 9:26 p.m.

Deputy Clerk