

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTERN SPRINGS
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING
Monday, January 27, 2025

President Heidi Rudolph, Presiding

CALL TO ORDER

The opened at 7:00 p.m.

Edward Tymick, Village Clerk

Board Members Present:

Amy Avakian, Trustee

Nicole Chen, Trustee

Alan Fink, Trustee

Scott Lewis, Trustee

Phil Nawrocki, Trustee

James Tyrrell, Trustee

Michael T. Jurusik, Village Attorney

Staff Present:

Ellen Baer, Village Manager

Casey Biernacki, Deputy Village Manager

Daisy Chavez, Asst. to Village Manager

John Mastandona, Director of Finance

Sean Gilhooley, Director of Law Enforcement

Heather Valone, Director of Community Development

Aleks Briedis, Director of Recreation

Jeff Koza, Director of Engineering

Matt Supert, Director of Municipal Services

Brian Scott, Director of Fire & EMS

Kelsey Fawell, Senior Planner

Jill Izzo, Deputy Village Clerk

ROLL CALL

CITIZEN COMMENTS

President Rudolph advised that there will be separate public comment for the 5600 Wolf Road development.

No citizen comments were made at this time.

COMMISSION REAPPOINTMENTS

President Rudolph acknowledged the reappointments of both Martin Healy and Winifred Lyday to the Recreation Commission and stated the items will be considered for approval under New Business.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Tyrrell indicated that the previously discussed Employee Leasing Agreement with MGT Impact Solutions, LLC and the IRMA Alternate Delegate Resolution will be on tonight's omnibus.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

No report.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Nawrocki reported that the Downtown Western Springs Market Assessment Update was discussed at the last meeting and that Director Valone and Teska representatives were present tonight for any questions. There were no questions or comments, and Director Valone indicated that the item will be on the agenda for formal acceptance at the February 10, 2025 Board of Trustees meeting.

Trustee Nawrocki reported that the 5600 Wolf Road, McNaughton Development, LLC project was discussed at the last meeting and introduced Director Valone to provide additional information on the project. Director Valone introduced, John Beary with McNaughton Development, LLC, who provided an update on the proposed plans for the development. There were no questions at the time. Director Valone then presented information on the proposed development. Following Director Valone's presentation and discussion with the Trustees, the meeting opened to citizen comments on the item.

CITIZEN COMMENTS – 5600 WOLF RD., MCNAUGHTON DEVELOPMENT, LLC

Resident George Rogers provided comments regarding the proposed development including his concerns for flooding and parking.

Resident Berry Allen provided his comments regarding the proposed development including his concerns for the development's proposed variances, as well as density and flooding.

Resident Debroah David provided comments regarding the proposed development including flooding, parking and her concern for maintaining the charm of the Western Springs.

Resident Anthony J. Perino provided comments regarding his concerns for the proposed development including flooding, density due to the square footage of the proposed units, as well as the stairs in the units that are not suitable for empty nesters. Mr. Perino also commented on his concern for the construction methods and aesthetics. Mr. Perino stated he prefers less density and is concerned about potential stormwater issues.

Resident Rachel (last name inaudible) provided comments regarding her concerns for the construction disruption and traffic. She expressed her concern for safety of young children and other pedestrians during construction. She commented that young families would be interested in the units of the proposed development and believes there would be a lot of cars coming in and out of the development.

Director Valone indicated that the draft development agreement contains provisions that construction traffic is only permitted on site. Attorney Jurusik further stated the developer would not be allowed to have any its contractors, etc. to park in Ridgewood and parking must be contained within the development.

Director Koza provided information regarding a planned study that was requested by the Village to determine a plan forward regarding stormwater that comes down from La Grange Highlands. Director Koza further stated that Ridgewood stormwater project is currently being engineered to address flooding on Ridgewood Drive.

Resident George Rogers provided additional comments regarding his flooding concerns and the need to increase retention.

Resident Laura Jost provided comments regarding her disapproval of the proposed development and her concerns for flooding and safety of children walking to school. Ms. Jost expressed her appreciation for the Board listening to public opinion.

Resident Erin Miller commented on the potential increase in traffic its effect on the safety of young children and pedestrians walking and crossing Wolf Road. Ms. Miller also expressed her concern for construction traffic and the safety of young children commuting.

CLOSE PUBLIC COMMENT

RESUME PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT

Director Valone indicated that items A, B, E and F were previously discussed and were on tonight's Omnibus.

PUBLIC WORKS & WATER COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Fink stated that agenda items A – G were previously discussed and were on tonight's Omnibus for approval.

PROPERTIES & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Avakian stated the previously discussed contracts renewals with Vega Building Maintenance, Inc., The YMI Group, Inc., Winkler Tree & Lawn Care, Beary Landscape Management, LLC., and Desiderio Landscaping & Tree Removal LLC were on tonight's Omnibus for approval.

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT

Trustee Lewis stated that agenda items A and B were previously discussed and were on tonight's Omnibus for approval.

Trustee Lewis reported on the Training Participation Agreement between the Village of Western Springs and Adventist Midwest Health to conduct safety active shooter training and that the item will be considered for approval tonight under New Business.

EXPLANATION OF OMNIBUS VOTING PROCEDURE

President Rudolph stated the Illinois State Statutes allow a municipality to collectively on a group of ordinances, resolutions, and other motions, such as awards of contracts, appointments, etc. This is known as an omnibus vote. All the items in the omnibus vote list have been previously discussed by the President and Board of Trustees on at least once occasion, and often on several occasions. By placing them on the omnibus vote list, a single vote may be taken to approve them. A Trustee may remove any item from the list and have it discussed and voted on separately, prior to the omnibus vote.

There were no changes to the omnibus vote list.

CONSIDERATION OF AN OMNIBUS VOTE:

Trustee Tyrrell moved that the ordinances, resolutions and motions as contained on the meeting agenda for January 27, 2025, be adopted and/or approved under an omnibus vote. Trustee Tyrrell read the omnibus in its entirety and motioned it be approved.

Trustee Nawrocki seconded the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, Tyrrell and President Rudolph

Voting Nay: None

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Avakian made a motion to approve the reappointment of Martin Healy as a member of the Recreation Commission for a three-year term to expire February 28, 2028, seconded by Trustee Fink.

Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None

Trustee Avakian made a motion to approve Winifred Lyday as member of the Recreation Commission for a three-year term to expire on February 28, 2028, seconded by Trustee Fink.

Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None

Trustee Lewis made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-2870 authorizing the execution of a training participation agreement between the Village of Western Springs and Adventist Midwest Health d/b/a UChicago Medicine AdventHealth La Grange Hospital regarding conduct of training exercises, seconded by Trustee Chen.

Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None

REPORTS

Monthly Financial Report (Trustee Chen)

Trustee Chen presented the December 2024 Financial Report highlighting investment activity, the General Fund including upcoming adjustments and water consumption.

Trustee Chen made a motion to approve the December 2024 Financial Report, seconded by Trustee Lewis.

Motion passed on a roll call vote.

Voting Aye: Trustees Avakian, Chen, Fink, Lewis, Nawrocki, and Tyrrell

Voting Nay: None

Village President Rudolph

President Rudolph discussed the water main breaks and how busy January has been repairing the water main breaks. President Rudolph thanked the Public Works staff for all of their hard work. President Rudolph expresses concern that the projected breaks may continue at the pace they are currently failing. President Rudolph also mentioned that some of the breaks happened under already improved roads that had to be torn up to make the repairs. President Rudolph reminded residents to visit the Village website for more information about infrastructure.

Village Manager Baer

Manager Baer stated that the Village hosted a virtually open house providing information regarding the 2025 Referendum and that you can rewatch the open house on the Village website. Manager Baer indicated that there are two additional open houses planned. One to take place in-person at the Thoms Ford Memorial Library on February 11, 2025 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. along with a third in-person open house to take place in March with the location to be determined.

Manager Baer reported that the Village of Western Springs was awarded the Asset Management Award by the American Public Works Association Suburban Branch. Manager Baer congratulated staff, and the Board of Trustees for their guidance. Manager Baer then announced that the American Council of Engineering is also planning to award their Special Achievement Award for the Capital Infrastructure Plan to be bestowed on February 27, 2025.

Manager Baer reminded residents that the holiday lights recycling program ends on January 31, 2025.

Village Attorney Jurusik

No report.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Tyrrell made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Nawrocki. Motion passed on a voice vote. Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Izzo

Deputy Village Clerk