

MINUTES OF THE VILLAGE OF WESTERN SPRINGS  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR MEETING  
Monday, December 1, 2025

President Heidi Rudolph, Presiding  
Call to Order, 7:00 pm  
Edward Tymick, Village Clerk

Board Members Present:

Amy Avakian  
Nicole Chen  
Al Fink  
Scott Lewis  
Karen Martin  
Phil Nawrocki

Board Members Absent:

None.

Village Attorney Present:

Anne Skrodzki, Village Attorney

Staff Present:

Ellen Baer, Village Manager  
Casey Biernacki, Deputy Village Manager  
Jeff Koza, Director of Engineering  
Sean Gilhooley, Director of Law Enforcement  
Kelsey Fawell, Senior Planner  
Brian Scott, Director of Fire and EMS  
Jill Izzo, Deputy Village Clerk

Electronic Attendance:

None.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

President Rudolph led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll call as noted above.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

President Rudolph noted that public comment regarding the Western Springs Park District item regarding the softball field and signage will take place when we get to that item on the agenda.

No public comment was made at this time.

## **TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2025 PROPERTY TAX LEVY**

Manager Baer gave a presentation regarding the Village of Western Springs 2025 property tax levy. Deputy Manager Biernacki presented the Thomas Ford Memorial Library tax levy on behalf of Library Director Ted Bodewes.

Trustee Martin made a motion to place the following ordinances on the December 15, 2025 agenda for action:

i. An Ordinance of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Western Springs, Cook County, Illinois providing for the levy, assessment and collection of taxes on property within the Village of Western Springs, Cook County, Illinois for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026 (2025 property tax levy)

ii. An Ordinance directing the Cook County Clerk's Office to reduce the 2025 tax levy in a certain manner according to the provisions of the tax cap

iii. An Ordinance directing the Cook County Clerk's Office to reduce the 2025 tax levy in a certain manner according to the provisions of the tax cap – separate calculation for Village and Library levy

iv. An Ordinance abating the tax heretofore levied for the tax year 2025 to pay the principal of and interest on \$3,000,000 General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source), Series 2015a of the Village of Western Springs, Cook County, Illinois

v. An Ordinance abating the tax heretofore levied for the tax year 2025 to pay the principal of and interest on \$5,720,000 General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue source), Series 2025 of the Village of Western Springs, Cook County, Illinois.

Motion seconded by Trustee Lewis. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Trustee Martin made a motion to close the public hearing regarding the 2025 property tax levy, seconded by Trustee Lewis. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

### **TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE 2026 BUDGET**

Manager Baer and Deputy Manager Biernacki gave a presentation regarding the proposed Village of Western Springs 2026 budget.

Trustee Martin made a motion to place the following ordinances on the December 15, 2025 agenda for action:

i. An Ordinance approving the Village of Western Springs Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Budget (beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026)

Motion seconded by Trustee Lewis. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

The November 17, 2025 President and Board of Trustees meeting minutes were approved as read and will be placed on the December 15, 2025 omnibus for action.

### **GENERAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Chen reported that the General Government Committee discussed and recommends an amendment to the consulting services agreement with MGT Impact Solutions, LLC.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

No report.

### **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Fink reported that the Planning and Zoning Committee discussed and recommends the Timber Trails Subdivision Supplemental Letter Agreement for the sale and development of eleven unfinished lots by McNaughton Builders.

Trustee Fink reported that the Planning and Zoning Committee discussed and recommends 2026 Professional Services Agreement with V3 Companies for construction observation for the Timber Trails Subdivision.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS & WATER COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Lewis reported that the Public Works and Water Committee discussed and recommends a resolution of support for the Surface Transportation Program (STP) Grant Application for Hillgrove Avenue roadway and streetscape improvements.

Trustee Lewis reported that the Public Works and Water Committee discussed and recommends a contract with G & M Cement Construction and HR Green for construction observation services related to the Woodland Avenue Reconstruction Project.

#### **PROPERTIES & RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Trustee Nawrocki reported that the Properties and Recreation Committee discussed and recommends the approval of contract with SW Cleaning Service for 2026 janitorial maintenance services for various Village buildings.

Trustee Nawrocki reported that the Properties and Recreation Committee discussed and recommends the renewal of the Right of Way Use License and Fiber Optic Cable Agreement between the Village of Western Springs and MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC (MCImetro/Verizon).

#### **PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT**

No report.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Trustee Fink reported that after discussions with the Village Manager it was suggested to take separate action on the Western Springs Little League application regarding the Spring Rock Park Championship sign and softball field. Trustee Fink made a motion to consider the construction of the softball field along with conditions A-E of Section 3 of the proposed ordinance which encompasses the conditions for the construction of the softball field.

Trustee Chen seconded the motion. Public comment took place regarding the softball field parking lot. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Village Attorney Jurusik gave a background on the original approval of the Championship Sign in Spring Rock Park indicating that the approval was for a one-sided sign with no expansion. Public comment took place regarding the Spring Rock Park Championship sign with commenters expressing their support for their application. Village Attorney Jurusik offered three options for this item going forward, approve, deny, or remand back to Plan Commission.

Village Board elected to remand this item back to Plan Commission with direction. Trustee Martin made a motion to remand the second part of the Western Springs Little League application for the Championship Sign conditional use permit back to Plan Commission for reconsideration of a sign plan. Trustee Lewis seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

## **REPORTS**

### Monthly Financial Report (Trustee Martin)

No report.

### Village President Rudolph

No report.

### Village Manager Baer

Manager Baer indicated that leaf collection has been suspended due to snow as our equipment had to be outfitted for salt spreaders to snowplows. The Village will likely not return to leaf collection due to the forecasted weather.

Manager Baer also reported that our holiday light recycling is ongoing through January 31 at Village True Value, Village Hall and Thomas Ford Memorial Library. Manager Baer also reported that Breakfast with Buddy the Elf is taking place at the Recreation Center, as well as extended open gyms during the Thanksgiving and Holiday break.

### Village Attorney Skrodzki

No report.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Trustee Chen made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Trustee Nawrocki. Motion passed on a unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jill Izzo

Deputy Village Clerk