

Village of Winthrop Harbor
President and Board of Trustees Meeting
December 19, 2023
Village Hall Council Chambers

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bruno at 6:00 PM

The following Elected Officials were present:

Mayor: Dr. Michael Bruno

Trustees: Kim Braden, John Levin, Robert Marabella, Dana McCarthy, Hartmut "Fritz" Weiss, Alanna Whitmore

Also present:

Robert Long, Attorney
Julie Rittenhouse, Village Clerk
Anthony Velardi, Police Chief
Rocco Campanella, Fire Chief
Tim Neargarder, Superintendent of Public Works
Scott Fuller, Recreation Director
Mike Sheedy, Director of IT

The Invocation was led by Mayor Bruno, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ABSENT OFFICIALS WISHING TO ATTEND REMOTELY

None Reported

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1 - A motion was made by Trustee Braden and seconded by Trustee Marabella to approve the **November 21, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (4) Braden, Marabella, McCarthy, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (2) Levin, Weiss

MAYOR'S REPORT

RESOLUTION 2023-R-26 An Appointment Resolution Appointing Debra Melesio as Village Clerk

2 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **Resolution 2023-R-26** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

RESOLUTION 2023-R-27 An Appointment Resolution Appointing Debra Melesio as FOIA Officer

3 - A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and seconded by Trustee Levin to approve **Resolution 2023-R-27** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

RESOLUTION 2023-R-28 An Appointment Resolution Appointing Al Grider as Part-time Police Officer

4 - A motion was made by Trustee Levin and seconded by Trustee Braden to approve **Resolution 2023-R-28** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

RESOLUTION 2023-R-29 A Resolution Regarding the Release and Non-Release of Certain Minutes of Closed Session

5 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Braden to approve **Resolution 2023-R-29** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

RESOLUTION 2023-R-30 A Resolution Honoring Donna Kauppi and Wishing Her Happiness in Retirement

6 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve **Resolution 2023-R-30** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Fire Chief, Rocky Campanella, on behalf of the Village, presented Donna with an engraved retirement trophy. He then went on to say, when he started 2 ½ years ago, he doesn't know what he would have done without Donna. She is the heart and soul of the Department.

Josh Keene and Travis Ring from the Firefighter's Association presented Donna with a plaque.

Mayor Bruno said that whenever Donna passes by his office she always stops and says "hi". Thanked Donna and said he was going to miss her.

RESOLUTION 2023-R-31 A Resolution Honoring Julie Rittenhouse and Wishing Her Happiness in Retirement

7 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **Resolution 2023-R-31** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Mayor Bruno gave Julie an award of appreciation.

Julie said she appreciates her co-workers and colleagues. Without them she wouldn't look as good as she does. We have a small group of people but they are fantastic. I will miss everyone. Thank you so much!

Mayor Bruno said he appreciates Julie and will really miss her.

- The Santa Run was on December 2nd. It was very successful. Mayor Bruno thanked all of the Departments for everything they did to make sure it was successful.
- Monday night we wrapped gifts for Toys 4 Our Tots. Thanked everyone who came out to wrap.

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

None Reported

CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

None Reported

OLD BUSINESS

None Reported

NEW BUSINESS

Accounts Payable Warrant

8 - A motion was made by Trustee Braden and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **Accounts Payable Warrant W2023-9** in the amount of **\$341,899.09**. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Approval of Worker's Compensation Insurance Renewal

9 - A motion was made by Trustee Braden and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve the **Worker's Compensation Insurance Renewal** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

ORDINANCE 2023-O-20 Approval of the Tax Levy Ordinance

10 - A motion was made by Trustee Braden and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to set aside the rules of the President and the Board of Trustees and waive the first and second reading of **Ordinance 2023-O-20** and approve as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Approval of Payment to Healthcare and Family Services (GEMT) for \$34,545.31

11 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Braden to approve **Payment to Healthcare and Family Services (GEMT) for \$34,545.31** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Approval of Payment to Stryker for Powerload Cot System - \$27,041.93

12 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Braden to approve **Payment to Stryker for Powerload Cot System - \$27,041.93** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

An Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Village of Winthrop Harbor and Winthrop Harbor Fire Protection District

13 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Marabella to approve the **Agreement Between the Village of Winthrop Harbor and Winthrop Harbor Fire Protection District** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Approval to Adopt a Safe Driving Policy for the Fire Department

14 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Levin to approve **Adopting a Safe Driving Policy for the Fire Department** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Authorization of Expenditure for Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command - \$4,400.00

15 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Levin to approve **Expenditure for Northwestern University Center for Public Safety School of Police Staff and Command - \$4,400.00** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

ORDINANCE 2023-O-21 An Ordinance Extending a Water Recapture for Another 5 Years – William Stried

16 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Levin to set aside the rules of the President and the Board of Trustees and waive the first and second reading of **Ordinance 2023-O-21** and approve as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval to Upgrade the Light Fixtures Through the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program for the Schlader Building at a Cost to the Village of \$23,131.71 to be funded through Capital Improvement Bond

17 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve the **Upgrade the Light Fixtures Through the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program for the Schlader Building at a Cost to the Village of \$23,131.71 to be funded through Capital Improvement Bond** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval to Upgrade the Light Fixtures Through the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program for the Village Hall Complex Including, Administration, Community Development, Police Department and Fire Department at a Cost to the Village of \$45,141.48 to be funded through Capital Improvement Bond

18 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and Seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve the **Upgrade the Light Fixtures Through the ComEd Energy Efficiency Program for the Village Hall Complex Including Administration, Community Development, Police Department and Fire Department at a Cost to the Village of \$45,141.48 to be funded through Capital Improvement Bond** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval of the Partial Payment to Peter Baker and Sons Co. in the Amount of \$253,137.95 for the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Project

19 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve the **Partial Payment to Peter Baker and Sons Co. in the Amount of \$253,137.95 for the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Project** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval of the Final Payment to Peter Baker and Sons Co. in the Amount of \$68,379.90 for the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Project

20 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve the **Final Payment to Peter Baker and Sons Co. in the Amount of \$68,379.90 for the 2023 Street Rehabilitation Project** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval to Purchase 2025 Peterbilt 567 Single Axle Chassis from Lindco Equipment Sales for \$150,696.44

21 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve the **Purchase 2025 Peterbilt 567 Single Axle Chassis from Lindco Equipment Sales for \$150,696.44** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore

Regular Board Meeting Minutes 12/19/23

Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Request Approval of the Snow and Ice Control Manual – Revised 2023

22 - A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Braden to approve the **Snow and Ice Control Manual – Revised 2023** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

Ayes: (6) **Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore**
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

Announcement of the Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

Trustee Whitmore said there were 14 participants for our annual Decorating Contest. She thanked David for putting the map and pictures are on-line and making it better. There were a lot of amazing houses.

The winners are:

- 1st Place – 2300 5th Street
- 2nd Place – 441 Holdridge
- 3rd Place – 118 Park Avenue
- Inflatables – 1221 Franklin Avenue

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None Reported

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Trustee Whitmore

- Happy retirement to Julie and Donna. Julie will definitely be missed.
- Congratulations to Debra and Al
- Thank you to everyone who participated in the home decorating contest
- Thank you to everyone in the Village who put in so much effort and work for Santa Day. There was a lot of participation that day.
- Merry Christmas to everybody.

Trustee Braden

- Congratulated Donna and Julie on their retirement
- Congratulations to Al and Debbie
- Congratulated all of the holiday decorating contest winners
- Expressed her sincere appreciation to the Fire Protection District

Regular Board Meeting Minutes 12/19/23

Trustee McCarthy

- There was a lot of participation for the Santa Day. It was amazing how everything is getting bigger each year. More houses in the decorating contest, the reverse Santa Run. We have great staff who volunteer. Neighboring towns are seeing what we are doing. Thanked David, Mayor, Staff, Volunteers, Trustee Whitmore and everyone involved.
- Thanked Julie for everything she’s done. Her leadership is a big part of our team. Appreciated anytime he called or needed something, he could count on her. We’re going to feel that hole. You are appreciated.

Trustee Weiss

- Congratulated Julie and Donna. He appreciated her work and the relationship they had. Have a happy retirement
- Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year to everyone

Trustee Levin

- Congratulations to Julie and Donna. You both will be missed.
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Be safe.

Trustee Marabella

- Congratulations to Donna and Julie. We are going to miss you Julie. Its been a good run. You have stepped up. She’s going to be truly missed.
- Thanked Alanna and everyone who participated in all of the Christmas events.
- The leaf pick-up got better at the end.
- Hopes everyone has a good Christmas.
- The team is ready to plow

Mayor Bruno

- The hardest part of being Mayor is replacing Department Heads. Going to miss Julie.
- Wished the entire Village a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, safe, healthy New Year.

ADJOURNMENT

23 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Braden to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Bruno declared the meeting adjourned at 6:49p.m. on the following roll call vote:

Ayes: (6) Braden, Levin, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore
Nays: (0)
Absent: (0)
Passed: (0)

APPROVED:

DR. MICHAEL BRUNO, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Regular Board Meeting Minutes 12/19/23

JULIE RITTENHOUSE, VILLAGE CLERK

Note: This is not a verbatim record.