



WILMETTE PARK DISTRICT
Committee of the Whole
Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 28, 2025
6:30 p.m. – Mallinckrodt

PRESENT

Commissioners: President Patrick Lahey, Patrick Duffy, Cecilia Clarke, Kara Kosloskus

Absent: Commissioners Murdock, Frazier and Goebel

Secretary/Executive Director: Chris Lindgren, Interim Executive Director Margaret Resnick

Staff: Superintendent Sheila Foy, Superintendent Dave Merrill, Superintendent Josh Wallace, Superintendent Lindsay Thomas, Adam Kwiatkoski

Visitors: Mary Smoley, Alan Golden, Aly Jiwani, Paula Acuna

1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL TAKEN

2.0 COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE

President Lahey says there was no further correspondence beyond what is in the packet.

3.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

None.

4.0 OLD BUSINESS

None.

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 JUNE 2025 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Superintendent Foy states that we are at YTD through June \$4.7M, and budget is at \$1.7M. We are running at \$2.9M surplus versus budget. We will have a detailed budget variance from the managers by August 1st, which will include explanations.

Miscellaneous revenue is ahead by \$522,000. Part of that is the OSLAD Grant at \$283,000. Interest Income is over budget YTD by \$147,000. Through June we are at \$275,000 in interest income. The budget for this year is \$320,000. We will be having a permanent difference, but we don't know what that is going to be.

Donations are up \$10,000 over 2025 budget, so any more donations we collect will continue to add to that. We have a \$17,000 unbudgeted electricity rebate from all the work we've been doing changing the lightbulbs over to LED. Superintendent Foy pulled

the electric bills from the first six months of 2024 to compare to the first six months of 2025. Budget: we were getting a lot of quotes because the contract was coming up. We were budgeting a 28% increase in the commodity for electricity and a 20% increase in the non-electricity part of the bill. We are not experiencing that and we aren't sure why. Our electricity usage is down this year versus last year a little over 11%. It appears we budgeted too much this year based on the information we had in October. Superintendent Foy will keep working on the projections so we can figure out where we need to be.

Commissioner Clarke asks if the changeover to LED lights can explain the variance. Superintendent Foy says that her understanding was that the biggest changeover to LED lighting was in the 2nd half of the last quarter of 2024 at Centennial. Right now, she is only comparing Jan-June of 2024 to Jan-June of 2025. Superintendent Foy negotiated a commodity rate that will go into effect in August and last two years.

Commissioner Duffy cites lower temperatures in May and June this year, which could be impacting our electric bills.

Commissioner Duffy asks about another line item – the Capital Special Rec Fund.

Commissioner Clarke asks about the surplus being ahead of budget. She asks if that is expected to be a timing difference or if it will catch up by the end of the year. Superintendent Foy says she believes we will end up very close to budget.

5.2 BUDGET TIMELINE

Superintendent Foy explains that the Leadership Team met and talked about the timeline. It's important that we have an established timeline so those making the budgets know what their deadlines are for presenting them to the board.

We would like to know the percentage increase in wages and expenses so that can be conveyed to staff who are putting together the budgets. Commissioner Kosloskus says she would like the new Executive Director to weigh in on the budget cycle as it has been scheduled the last couple years. She believes the last couple of years it has gotten to be late in the process and big questions arose. President Lahey agrees that it may be worth taking a look at the scheduled work plan. Superintendent Foy says that last year the rates were not agreed upon and communicated until September 26th, which caused a delay. So if we could move that up by about four weeks, that would be helpful. Interim Director Resnick says that when budgets are being presented to the board, they are going to the Executive Director and department heads 2-3 weeks prior to that date.

5.3 VEHICLE LIFT DISCUSSION

Superintendent Wallace explains that the current automotive lift is 18 years old, with an anticipated useful life of approximately 20 years. It is a 31-foot-long, four-post lift rated at 25,000 pounds. The lift is primarily used by the Parks and Planning mechanic, but it also serves as a shared resource for the golf mechanic. This multi-use lift accommodates a wide variety of vehicles, including sedans, the Zamboni, and the park district buses. The

lift as-is would not pass inspection. We looked at several different vendors and we are confident in the scope of work. Staff explored having the lift repaired, as opposed to replaced, but the manufacturer would not certify a repair of this magnitude.

Given the extent of the repairs needed, the age of the equipment, and the essential role the lift plays in maintaining equipment and snow and ice equipment during the winter months, staff is recommending replacement of the lift as soon as possible to ensure continuity of services. We have received two joint purchase quotes for a new automotive lift. The lowest responsive quote was submitted by Standard in the amount of \$79,897. Commissioner Kosloskus asks if we will be finding something to offset this change. Interim Director Resnick explains that there was \$350,000 budgeted for the cooling tower at Centennial, which is being postponed due to inaccurate budget amount and scope of work.

5.4 RECREATION INTERN REPORT – PRESENTATION BY TJ BECHTOLD

TJ was not able to join us tonight for his presentation due to a personal matter. The board reschedules his presentation to the August board meeting.

6.0 ONGOING DISTRICT PROJECTS

6.1 GILLSON PARK COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

The majority of the work has been completed. The yard hydrant has been installed, and many of the punch list items have been addressed. Stop signs are scheduled to be installed the week of July 21. Gewalt Hamilton still needs to provide complete as-builts to the Village and close out the permit with MWRD, including submission of the Plat of Easements. Primary outstanding items are landscaping items. The contractor will be coming back in September to do some seeding.

6.2 LANGDON SHORELINE PROTECTION PROJECT

The siding has been installed on the guard hut, but still needs to be stained. Staff is currently working on the sail fence to help with the sharp curve and slope; once completed, the fence will be installed.

6.3 SOLAR PANEL PROJECT AT CRC

Installation is complete on Roofs 1, 2, and 3, except for the ray tray used for wire management. On Roof 4, racking and ballast block installation is complete, and home run pulls are in progress. The ComEd shutdown is tentatively scheduled for the second week of August.

6.4 CRC RESTORATION

A small portion of mitigation work remains. The adjuster for LJ Shaw is currently on vacation, and we are awaiting a final decision regarding full floor replacement in the main lobby. Staff is working with two vendors to obtain quotes for the full scope of reconstruction.

6.5 HIBBARD PARK OSLAD DEVELOPMENT

The pickleball courts are currently curing and will require an additional three weeks. Fencing behind home plate at the baseball field is being installed. Pathway construction is expected to be completed by mid-August. Playground features are being delivered as they are received from the manufacturer. President Lahey asks about the acoustic fencing on the pickleball courts; Superintendent Wallace will verify how many sides of the courts will have acoustic fencing. President Lahey wants to make sure the acoustic fencing is up prior to play on the courts.

Commissioner Kosloskus makes an announcement that she will be stepping off the board due to her family relocating outside of the village. The board will determine their next steps in order to fill the vacancy and convey that to the public in the coming weeks. There is not an official timeline to fill the vacancy as of now.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The board foregoes their ability to go into closed session.

There being no further business to conduct, Commissioner Duffy moves and Commissioner Clarke seconds a motion to adjourn the Committee of the Whole.

By a voice vote; **Motion Carried.**

Minutes Approved on **September 8, 2025.**