

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016
(847) 296-9200 • Fax (847) 296-9207
www.nwmc-cog.org



*A Regional Association of Illinois
Municipalities and Townships
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

MEMBERS

- Antioch
- Arlington Heights
- Bannockburn
- Barrington
- Bartlett
- Buffalo Grove
- Deer Park
- Deerfield
- Des Plaines
- Elk Grove Village
- Evanston
- Fox Lake
- Glencoe
- Glenview
- Grayslake
- Hanover Park
- Highland Park
- Hoffman Estates
- Kenilworth
- Lake Bluff
- Lake Forest
- Lake Zurich
- Libertyville
- Lincolnshire
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mount Prospect
- Niles
- Northbrook
- Northfield
- Northfield Township
- Palatine
- Park Ridge
- Prospect Heights
- Rolling Meadows
- Schaumburg
- Skokie
- Streamwood
- Vernon Hills
- West Dundee
- Wheeling
- Wilmette
- Winnetka

- President*
Tom Dailly
Schaumburg

- Vice-President*
Rodney Craig
Hanover Park

- Secretary*
Donna Johnson
Libertyville

- Treasurer*
John Lockerby
Skokie

- Executive Director*
Mark L. Fowler

**NWMC Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 10, 2024
6:00 p.m.
NWMC Offices and Via Videoconference**

I. Call to Order

President Dailly called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Dailly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Ms. Durso called the roll.

Members Present:

Arlington Heights, Mayor Tom Hayes
 Bannockburn, Manager Stephanie Hannon
 Barrington, President Karen Darch
 Buffalo Grove, President Eric Smith
 Evanston, Manager Luke Stowe
 Glencoe, Manager Phil Kiraly
 Hanover Park, Mayor Rod Craig
 Highland Park, Manager Ghida Neukirch
 Hoffman Estates, Mayor Bill McLeod
 Lake Zurich, Manager Ray Keller
 Libertyville, Mayor Donna Johnson
 Mount Prospect, Mayor Paul Hoefert
 Niles, Trustee John Jekot
 Northbrook, Manager Cara Pavlicek
 Northfield, Trustee Matt Galin
 Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen
 Rolling Meadows, Manager Rob Sabo
 Schaumburg, Mayor Tom Dailly
 Skokie, Manager John Lockerby
 Streamwood, Manager Sharon Caddigan
 Wilmette, Manager Mike Braiman

Others in Attendance:

Pat Eaves-Heard, Nicor Gas
 Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director
 Larry Bury, NWMC Deputy Director
 Eric Czarnota, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation
 Ellen Dayan, NWMC Purchasing Director
 Marina Durso, NWMC Executive Assistant
 Brian Larson, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – November 8, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 8 meeting was made by Mayor McLeod. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hoefert and unanimously approved.

V. President's Report – Tom Dailly, NWMC President and Mayor, Village of Schaumburg

A. CMAP Board Appointment

Mr. Fowler reported that the Executive Board, as authorized by the NWMC Board in November, appointed Mount Prospect Mayor Paul Hoefert to replace Barrington Village President Karen Darch as the NWMC's Cook County appointee to the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Board of Directors.

Mr. Fowler said that he and Mayor Hoefert met on December 19 with Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, and then with CMAP senior staff on December 22. Mr. Fowler said that staff received a letter on January 3 from President Preckwinkle formally concurring with the appointment. President Dailly thanked Mayor Hoefert for his willingness to serve.

B. Response to Migrant Arrivals in Region

Mr. Fowler provided an update on the issue and what had transpired since the last NWMC Board meeting. He said the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) Executive Board conducted a special meeting with Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson on December 22 to discuss the growing number of migrant buses from Texas dropping off passengers in suburban locations to avoid the Chicago ordinance. He said staff sent an email to the membership on the 23rd recapping the meeting and outlined efforts by members to adopt ordinances as suggested by Chicago to regulate unscheduled bus arrivals. He said staff also sent a survey to the membership asking who has adopted ordinances/executive orders or other plans regarding arrivals by asylum seekers and to discuss experiences.

Mr. Fowler reported that the NWMC Managers Committee met on January 5 to discuss the issue, recent experience with migrant arrivals and coordination of efforts/responses. The committee asked the Attorneys Committee to issue guidance on the tenets of a standard municipal ordinance to regulate bus arrivals. He said the document was finalized earlier that day and would be distributed to the members.

Mr. Fowler said the Mayors Caucus also formed a working group to discuss the issue and asked for an appointee from each council of government. He said that Libertyville Mayor Donna Johnson volunteered to represent the NWMC at last week's Executive Board meeting. He said the working group met earlier in the day with the goal to share information, discuss regional coordination and consistent ordinances as recommended by Chicago representatives. Mayor Johnson provided additional information on the meeting and discussions to engage the federal government to provide additional resources and assistance to address the issue. A number of members discussed the issue, with President Darch mentioning a potential meeting and press conference scheduled with the Mayors Caucus and Chicago at the United Center. Mr. Fowler noted that staff had not yet received details on the meeting and would forward information as appropriate.

Mr. Fowler noted that there were a number of members who had experience with asylum seeker drop offs. Mr. Braiman described Wilmette's experience, which he noted has been positive. He said everyone has been cooperative in getting individuals down to the Chicago landing zone. He noted that one concern was that individuals were not dressed for the weather, which is being addressed via solicitation of coats, etc. from residents and dropped off at the Wilmette Metra station.

C. FY 2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan – Q2 Update

Mr. Fowler presented the second quarter update to the FY 2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan. He highlighted development of the 2024 NWMC Legislative Program and significant amount of

advocacy for the Paid Leave for All Workers Act in terms of veto session attendance, analysis, working with non-traditional stakeholders, action alerts, etc. He noted that the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition had been reactivated and held their first meeting. He said the Northwest and North Shore Councils of Mayors issued their calls for projects and highlighted other transportation activities. He reported on the Holiday Celebration held on December 13, noting that it was the largest attendance to date. Finally, he said that staff added a new feature to the NWMC Director's Weekly Briefing entitled "Newsy Items of the Week".

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee – Dan Shapiro, Mayor, Village of Deerfield, Co-Chair and Eric Smith, President, Village of Buffalo Grove, Co-Chair

1. 2024 NWMC Legislative Program

President Dailly reported that the Executive Board and Legislative Committee recommended approval of the 2024 NWMC Legislative Program. Mr. Bury reported that the program focuses on three primary areas: restoration of the Local Government Distributive Fund; opposing costly enhancements to Tier 2 public safety pension benefits; and, support for effective implementation of state mandates. He said the document would be supported by infographics to illustrate each initiative.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor McLeod. The motion was seconded by President Smith and unanimously approved.

2. 2024 NWMC Legislative Program Rollout

President Dailly reported that the Executive Board recommended conducting Zoom meetings with NWMC area legislators to introduce the 2024 NWMC Legislative Program during the weeks of January 22 and 29. Mr. Bury noted the challenge of scheduling these meetings due to the legislative calendar, but these dates provided the best opportunity meet with legislators.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by Mayor Craig and unanimously approved.

3. Spring Session Preview

Mr. Bury reviewed the legislative calendar and potential issues to be considered by lawmakers in the spring session. He said items under consideration may include property tax omnibus legislation; pensions; LGDF; paid leave for all workers act; migrant funding and transportation funding as noted in CMAP's Plan of Action for Regional Transportation (PART) report.

4. 2024 NWMC Legislative Days in Springfield

President Dailly said that the Executive Board and Legislative Committee recommended that the NWMC Legislative Days in Springfield be held Tuesday, February 20 through Thursday, February 22. He said the Governor will give the State of the State/Budget address on Wednesday, February 21. Mr. Bury noted that members will need to contact legislators for ticket in order to attend the budget address. He also highlighted other opportunities to interact with legislators and said staff will work on a full schedule of meetings. President Darch noted the importance of being in the capitol and encouraged members to attend.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Smith. The motion was seconded by Mayor Johnson and unanimously approved.

5. Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition

Mr. Fowler reported that the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition (PFIC) Partners met on December 14 for the first time since the Coalition was reactivated. He said that the partners agreed on work plan components including messaging, communications, data development and lobbying strategy.

Mr. Fowler said that Mayor Darch informed staff that the IML has asked for an IRS private letter ruling to ensure that the safe harbor issue has been addressed. Mr. Fowler noted the data being generated by staff for presentation to legislators at a meeting to be convened by Representative Carty and at the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association legislative breakfast.

B. Finance Committee – John Lockerby, Manager, Village of Skokie, Chair

1. NWMC Financial and Investment Policies

Mr. Lockerby reported that the Executive Board and Finance Committee recommended approval of the Financial and Investment Policies. He said amendments to the Financial Policy include clarification as to when to consider the full cost of services in user fees and a new section on the use of the Tenancy/Capital Replacement Fund for lease payments to Oakton College. He noted there are no recommended changes to the Investment Policy.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor McLeod. The motion was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved.

2. NWMC Financial Procedures and Controls

Mr. Lockerby reported that the Executive Board and Finance Committee recommended approval of the Financial Procedures and Controls document as amended. He said the amendment provides a refinement of the ACH account verification process to prevent fraudulent activity.

Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Darch. The motion was seconded by Mayor McLeod and unanimously approved.

VII. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by President Smith and unanimously approved.

VIII. Other Business

No report.

IX. For the Good of the Order

No report.

X. Next Meeting

President Dailly announced that the next NWMC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 14, 6:00 p.m. at the NWMC Offices and via videoconference.

XI. Executive Session

Mayor Hoefert moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 to determine the employment and compensation of specific employees. Mayor Johnson seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The Board convened Executive Session at 7:02 p.m.

The Board reconvened regular session at 7:12 p.m. Motion to approve the recommended staff compensation adjustment was made by Mayor Craig. The motion was seconded by President Smith and unanimously approved.

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.