

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

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*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, June 12, 2024
6:00 p.m.
NWMC Office and Via Videoconference**

I. Call to Order

NWMC Vice President Craig, filling in for President Dailly, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Craig led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Ms. Durso called the roll.

Members Present:

- Arlington Heights, Mayor Tom Hayes
- Bannockburn, Administrator Stephanie Hannon
- Barrington, Trustee Todd Sholeen
- Bartlett, Administrator Paula Schumacher
- Buffalo Grove, President Eric Smith
- Deerfield, Deputy Village Manager Andrew Lichterman
- Des Plaines, Mayor Andrew Goczowski, Manager Dorothy Wisniewski
- Elk Grove Village, Village Manager Matt Roan
- Glencoe, Deputy Village Manager/CFO Nikki Larson
- Hanover Park, Mayor Rod Craig
- Highland Park, Manager Ghida Neukirch
- Hoffman Estates, Mayor Bill McLeod
- Libertyville, Mayor Donna Johnson
- Lincolnwood, Mayor Jesal Patel
- Morton Grove, Administrator Ralph Czerwinski
- Mount Prospect, Mayor Paul Hoefert
- Niles, Trustee John Jekot
- Northbrook, Manager Cara Pavlicek
- Northfield, Trustee Matt Galin
- Northfield Township, Supervisor Shiva Mohsenzadeh
- Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen
- Prospect Heights, Administrator Joe Wade
- Schaumburg, Manager Brian Townsend
- Skokie, Manager John Lockerby
- Streamwood, Manager Sharon Caddigan
- Wheeling, Manager Jon Sfondilis
- Wilmette, Manager Michael Braiman

Others in Attendance:

- Crispina Ojeda Simmons, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
- 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 – May 8, 2024

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

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

A. NWMC Annual Gala Reminder

Mr. Fowler reminded members to RSVP for the Gala by Friday, June 14. He said that 125 have registered and sponsorships currently stand at \$50,000.

B. FY2024-2025 NWMC Committee Assignment Packet

Mr. Fowler reported that, following the Gala, a packet will be emailed to the membership to solicit committee assignment requests for FY2024-2025.

C. FY2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan – Q4 Report

Mr. Fowler presented the report, noting that the fourth quarter covers the period of February 1 to April 30. Under legislative items, Mr. Fowler reported on the 2024 Legislative Program roll out meetings, Legislative Days in Springfield, activities of the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition, pension briefings for legislators, participation in the Invest in Communities Coalition, weekly “Bills in Committee” documents and preparation for President Dailly of materials for a meeting with Governor Pritzker and testimony in the House Cities and Villages committee.

He noted other items completed during the quarter, including subregional mayors’ meetings in Grayslake, Glencoe and Lincolnwood, significant transportation activity, approval of the FY24-25 NWMC Budget with no dues increase for the 11th consecutive year, the July 31 SPC Supplier Showcase, and a new evaluation process for the NWMC Executive Director.

D. Proposed FY2024-2025 NWMC Work Plan

Mr. Fowler reported on a number of items on the proposed FY24-25 NWMC Work Plan and said that the Executive Board recommended approval. He said that the organization will conduct a new strategic planning process and incorporate recommendations into the FY25-26 NWMC Budget. He said staff will begin planning for the 2025 NWMC Elected Officials Institute as well as the SPC Supplier Showcase.

Legislatively, Mr. Fowler said that the Legislative Committee will strategize on priority alignment given the state legislative landscape resulting from the 2024 election. He said the work of the Pension Fairness Coalition will continue, including additional educational presentations to legislators. He said staff will continue to advocate for LGDF restoration and engage in member/regional discussions regarding the proposed Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act. Finally, he said that staff will continue to identify and advocate for transportation funding opportunities for the membership.

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

E. NWMC Summer Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction

Ms. Dayan reminded members to register vehicles equipment for the July 23 auction. She said the next live auction will be held on October 22 and members can always sell online through America’s Auto Auction Internet auction.

F. Treasurer Frerichs' Annual Local Officials Appreciation Picnic

Mr. Fowler reported that the Conference was invited to be a "Participating Organization" at this year's Annual Local Officials Appreciation Picnic hosted by Treasurer Frerichs during the Illinois State Fair on August 17. He noted that a number of other regional councils of government were participating and that the Executive Board recommended that the Conference also participate.

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

G. Authorization to Act During the Summer

Mr. Fowler reported that the Executive Board recommended approval of a motion empowering the Executive Board to act on all issues requiring approval during the summer NWMC Board meeting recess which begins following the June membership meeting.

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

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. Legislative Update

Mr. Bury reported that the House adjourned early on Tuesday, May 29 after the Senate adjourned on Sunday, May 27. He said the General Assembly approved a \$53.1 billion budget for FY 2025 that does not include an increase or decrease in the Local Government Distributive Fund, continues reductions in the Personal Property Replacement Tax and eliminates the grocery tax. He provided details on the timing of the grocery tax elimination and ability for local governments to adopt a local replacement tax as well as the ability of non-home rule municipalities to increase local sales taxes without having to go to referendum.

Mr. Bury reported on bills that did not advance, including crime free housing, fire fighter paid leave and a Deferred Retirement Option Plan for firefighters. He credited members for educating legislators as to the impact of these bills but noted that they may still be considered during the upcoming veto and lame duck sessions of the General Assembly. He said that the veto session is scheduled for November 12-14 and November 19-21, with the lame duck session to be held in early January, 2025. Mr. Bury thanked members for their responsiveness during the spring session, which significantly impacted important legislation.

2. Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition Update

Mr. Fowler reported that, before the end of session, the House unanimously approved House Bill 3765, which introduces Deferred Retirement Option Plans (DROP) for public safety employees. He said the Senate did not take up the bill; however, he said that Senate leadership does intend to move the bill either in veto or lame duck session. Mr. Fowler said that the Coalition will continue to work over the summer to continue educating legislators and crafting messages/communication strategy leading to veto/lame duck sessions.

**B. Finance Committee – John Lockerby, Manager, Village of Skokie, Chair
Budget Report and Purchase Journal**

Mr. Lockerby reported that the Executive Board and Finance Committee recommend acceptance of the Monthly Budget Report and Purchase Journal for April 2024.

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

**C. Transportation Committee – Rodney Craig, President, Village of Hanover Park, Co-Chair and Donna Johnson, Mayor, Village of Libertyville, Co-Chair
Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act**

Mr. Larson reported that the Metropolitan Mobility Authority Act (HB5829) proposes to consolidate the Chicago Transit Authority, Metra, Pace, and Regional Transportation Authority into the new Metropolitan Mobility Authority (MMA), governed by a nineteen-member board with simplified majority voting. He said that he and Mr. Czarnota presented a memo on the legislation for discussion with the Transportation Committee and Executive Board. Mr. Larson and Mr. Czarnota then gave a detailed overview of the proposed legislation.

Mr. Bury noted that the legislation will be discussed over the summer during a series of Senate subject matter hearings and that this item will be on the Legislative Committee's meeting agenda for next week. Mr. Fowler summarized discussions held with the regional councils of government. Mayor Johnson outlined concerns with the act as identified by the Transportation Committee. Other members expressed concerns with the legislation, including suburban representation on the governing board and imposing financial issues of one or more service boards on the entire region.

VII. Other Business

No report.

VIII. For the Good of the Order

Mr. Fowler noted that Morton Grove Administrator Ralph Czerwinski was retiring on July 1, and he congratulated and thanked him for his service to the village and the Conference. Mr. Czerwinski thanked everyone and said that it was a pleasure to work with the membership and staff and encouraged everyone to keep up the good work.

IX. Next Meeting

Mayor Craig said that the next NWMC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 6:00 p.m. at the NWMC Offices and via videoconference.

X. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2 to conduct the Executive Director's performance evaluation was made by Mayor Goczkowski. The motion was seconded by President Smith and unanimously approved. The Board convened Executive Session at 6:57 p.m.

The Board reconvened regular session at 7:01 p.m. Motion to approve the recommendation of the Executive Board was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by Mayor Goczkowski and unanimously approved.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Mohsenzadeh and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.