

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*

**NWMC Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 14, 2024
6:00 p.m.**

NWMC Offices and Via Videoconference

- 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

I. Call to Order

President Dailly called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President Dailly led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Mr. Fowler called the roll.

Members Present:

- Arlington Heights, Mayor Tom Hayes
- Barrington, President Karen Darch
- Buffalo Grove, President Eric Smith
- Des Plaines, Mayor Andrew Goczkowski
- Elk Grove Village, Deputy Village Manager Maggie Jablonski
- Evanston, Manager Luke Stowe
- Hanover Park, Mayor Rod Craig
- Highland Park, Mayor Nancy Rotering
- Hoffman Estates, Manager Eric Palm
- Lake Zurich, Manager Ray Keller
- Libertyville, Mayor Donna Johnson
- Morton Grove, Administrator Ralph Czerwinski
- Mount Prospect, Mayor Paul Hoefert
- Niles, Trustee John Jekot
- Northbrook, Manager Cara Pavlicek
- Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen
- Prospect Heights, Administrator Joe Wade
- Rolling Meadows, Manager Rob Sabo
- Schaumburg, Mayor Tom Dailly
- Skokie, Manager John Lockerby
- Streamwood, Manager Sharon Caddigan
- Wheeling, Manager Jon Sfondilis

Others in Attendance:

- Erin Aleman, Executive Director, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- Ryan Gougis, Intergovernmental Affairs Specialist, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
- 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 Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2024

Motion to approve the regular and executive session minutes of the January 10 meeting was made by Mayor Johnson. The motion was seconded by Mayor Goczkowski and unanimously approved.

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

A. February NWMC Board Meeting Presentation

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Executive Director Erin Aleman provided an update on the agency’s Plan of Action for Regional Transit (PART), FY25 budget and the role of local contributions. She reviewed various programs that support municipalities in partnership with the councils of mayors and councils of government.

Ms. Aleman outlined how municipal and county contributions provide the local match to unlock additional IDOT dollars for transportation-only projects in the region. She reviewed the agency’s budget and funding for core programs including councils of mayors staffing, Surface Transportation Program (STP-L), Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ), Carbon Reduction Grants and local Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP-L).

Ms. Aleman reviewed the Plan of Action for Regional Transit and the options contained in the document. President Dailly asked about the agency’s advocacy plans for the report. She said activities for the spring session include providing briefings and serving as a resource for legislators on the report and pending fiscal cliff. President Dailly asked for background on legislation that CMAP filed in the spring. Ms. Aleman said that the legislation proposes to address operational challenges, funding and clarification of the agency’s enabling legislation. President Dailly thanked Ms. Aleman for her presentation.

B. Consideration of Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Asylum Seeker Statement and Letter

President Dailly reviewed the statement and letter recommended by the Mayors Caucus. He said the Executive Board discussed the issue and expressed concerns as outlined in the memo. He said the concern regarding the Governor’s perspective had been addressed and that his office stated no concerns with the letter. He said with that issue answered, the letter seems to support the need to work together and request additional funding to address this issue. Mayor Dailly noted that the statement and letter is presented for consideration as is and that it requires approval of all nine MMC member COGs and the City of Chicago.

Mayor Johnson provided her perspective that this issue should be addressed at the federal level. She stated concerns with the structure of the letter and how it dilutes the bigger issue of developing and executing federal policy. Mayor Hoefert expressed similar concerns and noted his opposition to the letter. President Darch stated her concerns about the specific requests contained in the document, including specific funding requests and the statement to address the issue at all levels of government. Mayor Hayes noted his concurrence with the comments provided.

President Dailly asked how the Board wished to proceed and whether a motion was in order. Mr. Ottesen moved approval of the letter so that a vote could be recorded. The motion was seconded by President Darch. President Dailly asked for a roll call vote. The motion failed, with zero voting yes, eighteen voting no and two abstentions recorded.

C. Public Relations Consulting for LGDF

Mr. Fowler reported that the Executive Board recommended approval of contributing to public relations efforts in support of increasing the Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) in the spring legislative session. He said that, similar to last year, the Invest in Communities Coalition, administered by the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference, will engage Serafin and Associates to conduct outreach and public relations initiatives in support of the Coalition. He said the requested contribution is \$1,000 which will support the communications efforts of the coalition.

Mayor Hayes moved approval of the recommendation. The motion was seconded by President Smith and unanimously approved.

D. FY 2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan – Q3 Update

Mr. Fowler presented the third quarter update to the FY 2023-2024 NWMC Work Plan. He reviewed highlights including new features added to the Director’s Briefing and Transportation Newsletter to highlight news items of interest to the membership. He detailed legislative activities during the veto session, presentations on the NWMC Legislative Program and public safety pension issues to legislators as well as reactivation of the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition. Mr. Fowler reviewed the activities of the Conference’s transportation division, noted the scheduled Suburban Purchasing Cooperative vendor showcase at Oakton College, reviewed the December 13 NWMC Holiday Celebration and announced the upcoming NWMC Legislative Days in Springfield.

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 provided an update on the General Assembly’s spring session and reviewed pertinent deadlines. He discussed introduced legislation of interest to the membership including public safety pension enhancements, regulation of warehouse development and use of hotel/motel taxes by non-home rule municipalities.

2. 2024 NWMC Legislative Days

President Dailly said that the NWMC Legislative Days are scheduled for Tuesday, February 20 to Thursday, February 22 in Springfield. He noted that Governor Pritzker will deliver his State of the State/Budget address on that Wednesday. Mr. Bury reviewed other activities scheduled for the week and encouraged members to invite legislators to the Tuesday night reception.

3. 2024 NWMC Legislative Program Rollout Meetings

Mr. Bury reported on the Legislative Program Rollout meetings held on January 31, February 1 and 13. He said that 21 of 40 legislators attended, which tied for highest participation of legislators and also noted that ninety members participated. Mayor Dailly said that he felt the meetings went very well and were productive for legislators and members. He requested that members provide feedback to staff to improve future presentations.

4. Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition Update

Mr. Fowler provided a report on the activities of the Conference and Coalition on the public safety pension issue. He reviewed a briefing held for legislators on January 25 and January 26 presentation to the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association Legislative Breakfast. He said a briefing will also be presented to the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Legislative Committee.

Mr. Fowler said that the Coalition met on Monday to review active legislation and develop the work plan for the spring. He said the Coalition Partners discussed potential messaging and whether to solicit proposals for public relations assistance. He said the Coalition will look to coordinate with the IML Managers Committee, who have made this issue a priority for the year. President Dailly noted that the Coalition has over \$25,000 available to support advocacy efforts.

**B. Finance Committee – John Lockerby, Manager, Village of Skokie, Chair
NWMC Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction Agreement**

Mr. Lockerby reported that the Executive Board and Finance Committee recommended approval of the third of four possible, one-year contract extensions for Auctioneer Services to America’s Auto Auction. He said the extension would run from February 15, 2024 through February 14, 2025 and that the contract terms shall remain the same. Ms. Dayan said the proposed auction dates for 2024 are April 23, July 23 and October 22.

President Darch moved approval of the recommendation. The motion was seconded by President Smith and unanimously approved.

VII. Consent Agenda

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

VIII. Other Business

Mr. Fowler provided an update on the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Homes for a Changing Region program and application deadline extension.

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, March 13, 6:00 p.m. at the NWMC Offices and via videoconference.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Hoefert. The motion was seconded by Mayor Johnson and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.