

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
Kathleen O'Hara
Lake Bluff

Vice-President
Joan Frazier
Northfield

Secretary
Dan Shapiro
Deerfield

Treasurer
Ray Keller
Lake Zurich

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

NWMC Board Minutes
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Via Teleconference

I. Call to Order

Former President DiMaria called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Former President DiMaria led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Karol Heneghan called the roll.

Members Present:

Arlington Heights, Mayor Thomas Hayes
Bannockburn, Manager Stephanie Hannon
Barrington, President Karen Darch
Buffalo Grove, President Beverly Sussman
Deer Park, President Greg Rusteberg
Elk Grove Village, Manager Ray Rummel
Evanston, Acting Deputy City Manager Sharon Johnson
Glencoe, Manager Phil Kiraly
Glenview, President Michael Jenny
Hanover Park, President Rod Craig
Highland Park, Mayor Nancy Rotering
Hoffman Estates, Manager Eric Palm
Lake Bluff, President Regis Charlot
Lake Zurich, Manager Ray Keller
Libertyville, Administrator Kelly Amidei
Lincolnwood, Trustee Jean Ikezoe-Halevi, Manager Anne Marie Gaura
Morton Grove, President Dan DiMaria, Administrator Ralph Czerwinski
Mount Prospect, Mayor Paul Hoefert
Niles, Trustee John Jekot
Northfield, President Greg Lungmus, Trustee Charles Orth, Trustee Matt Galin
Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen
Prospect Heights, Administrator Joe Wade
Rolling Meadows, Manager Barry Krumstok
Schaumburg, Mayor Tom Dailly
Skokie, Assistant Village Manager Nicholas Wyatt
Streamwood, Manager Sharon Caddigan
Wheeling, Manager Jon Sfondilis
Wilmette, President Senta Plunkett, Manager Michael Braiman

Members Absent:

Antioch
Deerfield
Fox Lake
Bartlett
Des Plaines
Grayslake

Kenilworth	Lake Forest
Lincolnshire	Northbrook
Northfield Township	Park Ridge
Vernon Hills	West Dundee
Winnetka	

Others in Attendance:

Meribeth Mermall, Director, Corporate Affairs, ComEd
Patricia Eaves-Heard, Regional Manager, Community Affairs, Nicor
Larry Bury, NWMC Deputy Director
Ellen Dayan, NWMC Purchasing Director
Marina Durso, NWMC Program Associate for Administrative Services
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director
Karol Heneghan, NWMC Executive Administrative Assistant/Office Manager
Kendra Johnson, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation
Matt Pasquini, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation

Mayor DiMaria congratulated all the elected officials on their recent elections and welcomed them to the Northwest Municipal Conference.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 14, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 14 meeting was made by President Sussman. It was seconded by Mayor Dailly and unanimously approved.

V. President’s Report – Dan DiMaria, NWMC Past President and Mayor, Village of Morton Grove

A. COVID-19/NWMC Here to Help Update

Mr. Fowler reported on progress with vaccine supply and administration in combating the pandemic. He said that vaccine eligibility was recently expanded to residents aged 16 and older and the Pfizer vaccine was approved for those 12 years and older. He reported that mass vaccination sites have grown in the Conference service territory and that the state has surpassed the 10 million mark in doses administered.

Mr. Fowler reviewed the modified CDC mitigations on gatherings, masks and travel for those who are fully vaccinated. He said that Governor Pritzker announced that the state could move to the Bridge Phase of the Restore Illinois Plan on Friday May 14. With a 28 day monitoring period, he said the earliest the state could move to Phase 5 is June 11.

Mr. Fowler reported that the overarching challenge now is to continue to vaccinate individuals, especially persons in underserved communities or those who have difficulty in accessing the vaccine, in order to move closer to herd immunity. He said that the IDPH is focusing on community vaccination events, mobile clinics, walk in appointments and other hyper local efforts.

Mr. Fowler reported that the U.S. Treasury released the long-awaited guidance on the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that were established by the American Rescue Plan Act. He said \$130 billion will be sent to local governments, with municipalities over 50,000 in population receiving funding directly from the treasury and under 50,000 receiving funding through the state.

B. Election of FY2021-2022 NWMC Officers

Mayor DiMaria reviewed the following slate of FY21-22 NWMC Officers and said that the Executive Board recommended approval:

President:	Nancy Rotering Mayor, City of Highland Park
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Vice-President: Dan Shapiro
Mayor, Village of Deerfield

Secretary: Tom Dailly
President, Village of Schaumburg

Treasurer: Anne Marie Gaura
Manager, Village of Lincolnwood

A motion to approve the recommended slate of NWMC Officers was made by Mayor Craig. It was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved.

C. NWMC President Inauguration

Mayor DiMaria administered the oath of office to President Rotering due to the immediate vacancy of the office of NWMC President. President Rotering thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as President and said she looked forward to transitioning back from the pandemic, great teamwork and successful advocacy on behalf of our communities.

D. NWMC Service Resolutions

President Rotering reported that the Executive Board recommended approval of a service resolution honoring Northfield Township Supervisor Jill Brickman. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Darch. It was seconded by Mayor Dailly and unanimously approved.

E. FY2020-2021 NWMC Work Plan Q4 Update

Mr. Fowler gave the fourth quarter report on the FY 2020-2021 fourth quarter NWMC Work Plan and highlighted efforts to assist members in dealing with the pandemic. He also focused on legislative efforts in Springfield, specifically to preserve the Local Government Distributive Fund in conjunction partner councils of government and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. Finally, he noted that the membership approved the FY2021-2022 budget that did not increase dues for the eighth consecutive year.

F. FY2021-2022 NWMC Work Plan

Mr. Fowler reviewed initiatives proposed for the FY2021-2022 NWMC Work Plan. He said the plan maintains the eight priority areas, with ongoing COVID-19 response and assistance a priority. He said a major focus will be to onboard all of the newly elected officials with an introduction to the legislative process webinar next week and the NWMC Elected Officials Institute over the summer. Finally, he noted that staff will work to implement the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan and expand product offerings through the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative. President Rotering recommended approval of the new FY2021-2022 Work Plan. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor Dailly. It was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved.

G. FY2020-2021 NWMC Annual Report

Mr. Fowler reported that the FY2020-2021 NWMC Annual Report has been published. He said it highlights the past year's accomplishments as well as organizational information including the NWMC leadership, committees, membership and staff.

H. Authorization to Act during the Summer

President Rotering reported that the Executive Board recommended that the membership approve a motion empowering the Executive Board to act on all issues requiring approval during the summer. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor Hoefert. It was seconded by President Sussman and unanimously approved.

I. NWMC Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction Update

Ms. Dayan reported on the results of the April 20 auction and said that the summer auction would be held on Tuesday, July 20.

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee – Joan Frazier, President, Village of Northfield, Co-Chair and Nancy Rotering, Mayor, City of Highland Park, Co-Chair

1. Legislative Update

Mr. Bury reported on the updated committee deadlines in the House and Senate and the major legislation still pending before the General Assembly. He said there is a major backlog of bills and the hybrid meeting format is making it difficult for the Conference and the lobbying team to engage with legislators in Springfield.

Mr. Bury stated that the biggest priority is passage of the state budget by the May 31 deadline. He said the state is expecting \$7.5 billion from the American Rescue Plan Act, and the restrictions on the use of the funding provides additional budget uncertainty. He said that the fate of Governor Pritzker's proposal to cut the Local Government Distributive Fund by 10% is still uncertain. Mr. Bury provided insight on the other issues pending before legislators including redistricting, ethics, energy, cannabis, small cell, lead service line replacement and criminal justice/policing reform.

Mr. Fowler reviewed discussions on tax increment financing legislation and said those would continue over the summer with Senator Gillespie and interested stakeholders. Mr. Bury discussed the May 19 New Mayor Legislative Orientation Session and encouraged interested members and staff to attend.

2. LGDF Working Group

Mr. Bury reported on the Local Government Distributive Fund Working Group that consists of the regional councils of government and Metropolitan Mayors Caucus working to protect cuts to the LGDF and restore it to the historic 10% level. He said the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference is administering the effort along with public relations support from Serafin and Associates. He said that the working group drafted materials for members to distribute via their traditional and social media networks and reviewed the April 20 press conference and media engagement to date. He thanked all who have responded and encouraged others to amplify the messages with their legislators and Governor Pritzker during the closing days of session.

B. Transportation Committee – Rodney Craig, President, Village of Hanover Park, Co-Chair and Tom Dailly, President, Village of Schaumburg, Co-Chair

1. Chicago Area Clean Cities Coalition and Alternative Fuels

President Craig reported that the NWMC Transportation Committee met April 22 and received several updates from regional partners as well as a presentation and discussion from Gas Technology Institute's Director of Research and Development, Ted Barnes, and Chicago Area Clean Cities chairman John Walton. He said Mr. Barnes presented the Michigan to Montana Alternative Fuel Corridor along I-94 and described ways for local partners to contribute to the development of the corridor. Ms. Johnson said staff will continue to update members as more information becomes available. Mayor Craig and Mayor Dailly gave an update on the 490 Interchange that is in the process of construction.

2. NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan Relaunch

Ms. Johnson reported that in March 2020, the Conference adopted its Multimodal Transportation Plan but due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the initial launch was halted. She said staff is working to relaunch the plan and as part of that process, reaching out to member boards, councils, committees, and/or task forces to present the plan and re-engage membership. She reported that staff has created a one-page informational sheet that can be distributed to solicit interest in hosting a presentation.

President Rotering stated that the following two items were specific to the North Shore Council of Mayors and would need to be approved via a roll call vote of the members of the Council.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS VIII1. AND VII2. President Rotering asked if there was any public comment on the following items. There was no public comment.

1. Cost Increase Request – Village of Lincolnwood

President Rotering reported that the North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee recommended approval of the Village of Lincolnwood’s request for \$10,325 in Phase II Engineering for FFY 2021 at their April 15 meeting. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mr. Kiraly. It was seconded by President Lungmus. Mr. Pasquini conducted a roll call vote of the North Shore Council of Mayors members and the motion was unanimously approved.

2. Cost Increase Request – Village of Skokie

President Rotering reported that he North Shore Council of Mayors Technical Committee recommended approval of the Village of Skokie’s request for \$29,000 in Phase II Engineering for FFY 2021 at their April 15 meeting. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Lungmus. It was seconded by President Jenny. Mr. Pasquini conducted a roll call vote of the North Shore Council of Mayors members and the motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by President Darch. It was seconded by Mr. Keller and unanimously approved.

IX. Other Business

President Darch requested that the Conference submit a comment letter to the Surface Transportation Board regarding the impact of a possible Canadian National or Canadian Pacific Railroad merger with the Kansas City Southern. Board members discussed potential impacts of the merger on Conference communities as well as the operations of Metra and Amtrak. Motion to approve submitting a letter was made by Mayor Dailly. It was seconded by President Darch and unanimously approved.

Mr. Pasquini reported that there is a vacancy on CMAP’s Council of Mayors Executive Committee for a representative of the North Shore Council of Mayors. He reviewed the meeting schedule, duties of the position and asked interested mayors to contact him for further information.

X. For the Good of the Order

President Rotering announced that the NWMC staff would be returning to the office effective June 1.

XI. Next Meeting

President Rotering said that the next NWMC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 8, at 7:00 p.m. with the location to be determined.

XII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Dailly. It was seconded by President Sussman and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.