

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, March 13, 2024
6:00 p.m.
NWMC Offices and Via Videoconference**

I. Call to Order

President Dailly called the meeting to order at 6:00 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, Administrator Stephanie Hannon
- Barrington, Manager Scott Anderson
- Buffalo Grove, President Eric Smith
- Des Plaines, Mayor Andrew Goczkowski
- Elk Grove Village, Village Manager Matt Roan
- Evanston, Manager Luke Stowe
- Glencoe, Manager Phil Kiraly
- Hanover Park, Mayor Rod Craig
- Highland Park, Mayor Nancy Rotering
- Hoffman Estates, Manager Eric Palm
- Lake Zurich, Manager Ray Keller
- Libertyville, Mayor Donna Johnson
- Lincolnwood, Manager Anne Marie Gaura
- Mount Prospect, Mayor Paul Hoefert
- Niles, Trustee John Jekot
- Northbrook, Manager Cara Pavlicek
- Northfield, Trustee Matt Galin
- Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen
- Prospect Heights, Administrator Joe Wade
- Rolling Meadows, Manager Rob Sabo
- Schaumburg, Mayor Tom Dailly
- Streamwood, Manager Sharon Caddigan
- Wheeling, Manager Jon Sfondilis

Others in Attendance:

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

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 14, 2024

Motion to approve the minutes of the February 14 meeting was made by Mayor Craig. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hayes and unanimously approved.

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

A. March Board Presentation – NWMC Public Safety Pension Briefing

Mr. Bury presented the NWMC Public Safety Pension Briefing, which was created to educate lawmakers and other stakeholders about the history of public safety pension issues and the impacts of proposed changes to the Tier 2 system. President Dailly noted that the information is helpful to apply to each community and then use when discussing the issue with legislators.

B. FY2024-2025 NWMC Officer Nominations

President Dailly noted that nominations are due back to Mr. Fowler by March 20. He said there have been three responses to date and requested that members complete and send in the nomination form. Mr. Bury said that staff emailed a reminder to the membership.

C. April 23 NWMC Live Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction

Mr. Bury reported that the next NWMC Surplus Vehicle & Equipment Auction will be held on Tuesday, April 23. He said that Lincolnshire, Palatine and Evanston and Tinley Park will participate and encouraged others to register vehicles for the auction.

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 on upcoming committee deadlines in the house and senate as well as the legislative calendar for the remainder of the session. He said that on Tuesdays of each week, staff sends a list of bills posted for committee hearings for the week and including any alerts requesting action by the membership. Regarding the proposed elimination of the grocery tax, he requested that members respond to the survey sent last week so that staff can obtain updated information on grocery tax losses and share with the IML. Mr. Bury highlighted other legislation under consideration, including proposals to significantly alter local crime free housing ordinances and the sunset of the small wireless facilities act.

2. Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities (PFIC) Coalition Update

President Dailly reported that the PFIC Coalition has been meeting weekly to determine the work plan to respond to legislative efforts to roll back Tier 2 pension benefits for public safety employees. Mr. Bury reported that the House Personnel & Pensions Committee held a subject matter hearing last week on House Bill 1185 (public safety pension reamortization), local pensions and Tier 2's effect on recruitment and retention.

Mr. Bury said that the Coalition reviewed an actuarial report from the IML that was conducted and funded jointly by IML and the Associated Firefighters of Illinois. He summarized the findings from the report and noted a number of concerns, including the impact of potential Tier 2 benefit enhancements and alternate funding policies which seemingly lower the costs of pensions in the near term. He thanked members who have provided actuarial studies showing the impact of reverting back to Tier 1 pensions and encouraged other to do the same and provide the data to staff.

Mr. Bury said that the Coalition met last Monday and reaffirmed the goal of preventing any Tier 2 changes to public safety pensions and put aside reamortization proposals for now. President Dailly noted the arguments being put forth by the public safety unions and the need to continue to educate legislators. Mr. Bury reported that the Coalition is seeking a proposal for public relations assistance from Serafin and Associates, who previously performed work for the group. Finally, Mr. Bury said that the Coalition will solicit volunteers and assemble a schedule to travel to Springfield weekly to advocate for the issue.

3. NWMC Legislative Positions

Mr. Bury said that the Executive Board and Legislative Committee recommend approval of the positions on the attached list of bills as well as the attached letter of support for S. 1430 - Water Systems Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Liability Protection Act. He noted that the Village of Skokie was in discussions with the Attorney General's office on SB3774, which seeks clarification on approval of closed meeting minutes.

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

4. Metropolitan Mayors Caucus (MMC) Legislative Priorities

Mr. Bury reported the Executive Board and Legislative Committee recommend approval of the MMC 2024 Legislative Priorities, many of which were similar to those of the Conference.

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

**B. Finance Committee – John Lockerby, Manager, Village of Skokie, Chair
NWMC Employee Assistance Program Contract Extension**

Mr. Bury reported that the Executive Board and Finance Committee recommend approval of the second of four possible, one year contract extensions for the NWMC Employee Assistance Program. He said the program vendor requested a 4% rate increase as part of the contract extension and the recommendation includes extending the increase to the program participants.

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

VII. Consent Agenda

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

VIII. Other Business

No report.

IX. For the Good of the Order

Mr. Bury reported that Mr. Fowler sent an email to mayors and managers seeking to host subregional mayors meetings on issues of importance to the NWMC and any other topics mayors wish to discuss. He said staff is looking for volunteers and location suggestions for meetings. Mayor Johnson said it would be helpful to know the makeup of the sub regions and who has volunteered to host a meeting. Mr. Bury said he would relay the request to Mr. Fowler.

Mr. Bury reminded mayors that the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus Quarterly meeting will be held on Friday, April 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills. He asked members to RSVP to Caucus Executive Director Neil James.

X. Next Meeting

President Dailly reported that the next NWMC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 10, 6:00 p.m. at the NWMC Offices and via videoconference.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mayor Craig. The motion was seconded by Mayor Hoefert and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.