

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT WORKSHOP MEETING
OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
& THE WHEELING PLAN COMMISSION
PUBLIC WORKS LUNCHROOM
77 WEST HINTZ ROAD, WHEELING, IL
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 2025

1. Call to Order

President Horcher called the meeting to Order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by President Horcher

3. Roll Call

Village Board Roll Call by Deputy Clerk Henneberry

Present: Pat Horcher, Mary Krueger, Ray Lang, Mary Papantos, Jim Ruffatto, Joe Vito, Dave Vogel.

Plan Commission Roll Call by Michael Sprague

Present: Don Johnson, Gerald Riles, Michelle Myer, Steven Kasper, Diane Smart, Rick Hyken, Steve Karl.

Village Manager Jon Sfondilis, Economic Development Director Len Becker, Community Development Director Ross Klicker, Assistant Community Development Director Steve Robles, Public Works Director/Deputy Village Manager Dan Kaup, HR Director/Assistant Village Manager Marisol Leyva, Deputy Police Chief Joseph Kopecky, Fire Prevention Bureau Manager Bob Niemec, and Village Attorney Mallory Milluzzi were also present.

4. Changes to the Agenda - None

5. Citizen Concerns and Comments

Deborah Wilson spoke about the delivery of her emails.

6. New Business - All Listed Items for Discussion and Possible Action

Discussion: A. General Discussion between the Wheeling Village Board and the Wheeling Plan Commission

Village Manager Jon Sfondilis outlined the meeting topics, including changes at Wheeling Town Center, the installation of a mural at Cinergy, and the pocket park on Village-owned property next to the former Buca di Beppo site. Assistant Community Development Director Robles, Economic Development Director Becker, and Community Development Director Klicker presented the plans for changes at Wheeling Town Center based on Kimley-Horn's assessment of the site. Topics discussed included changes to the signage, visibility, vehicular and pedestrian flow, parking, and landscape design. The discussion also covered path connections between the Park District and the Town Center, as well as a mural on the back wall of Cinergy. In response to a question from Trustee Papantos, staff stated that the sign change process will begin soon; however, due to the bidding process, construction is likely to start next spring, with an estimated total cost of about \$1.1 million.

The second project presented was a plan for a pocket park on the parcel at the corner of Wolf Road and Milwaukee Avenue, which is owned by the Village. Staff reviewed the design features developed by the Lakota Group, including an activity lawn, gathering space, and a cement area for a food truck or similar use. The goal is to create a gateway from the North. The next step is to complete the design, then the project will follow the usual process. This project is likely to start next summer.

7. Official Communications - None

8. Executive Session - None

9. Adjournment

President Horcher asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Mary Krueger.

Motion carried by voice vote, all ayes; the meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Karen Henneberry, Deputy Village Clerk

Approved this 15th day of September 2025, by the President and Board of Trustees