

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
VILLAGE BOARD
VILLAGE OF WHEELING
BOARD ROOM - 2 COMMUNITY BOULEVARD
COOK AND LAKE COUNTIES, WHEELING, IL
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2025**

1. Call to Order

President Horcher called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Village Clerk Kathryn M. Brady called the roll.

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

Absent:

4. Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 1, 2025

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Motion by Mary Papantos, seconded by Jim Ruffatto.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

5. Changes to the Agenda

None

6. Proclamations

None

7. Appointments and Confirmations

- A. Board of Fire and Police Commissioner, David Schlaak

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve David Schlaak to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

Motion by Mary Krueger, seconded by Mary Papantos.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

President Horcher stated that Mr. Schlaak's oath will be taken after January 1, 2026, when his term starts.

8. Administration of Oaths

None

9. Citizen Concerns and Comments

Jennifer Abonce-Alcantar spoke about immigration activities in Wheeling.

10. Staff Reports

None

11. **Consent Agenda**

All items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Village Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the general order of business and considered after all other Agenda items.

Clerk Brady read the consent agenda into the record.

- A. Resolution Approving Proposals for Liability Insurance Coverage from Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services Inc. and Insurance Consulting Services from Nugent Consulting, LLC

25-175

- B. Resolution Approving a Three-Year Contract with Gravity in an Amount Not to Exceed \$90,489 for Budgeting Software and Implementation Services

25-176

- C. Resolution Authorizing the Payment in Full for the Lease-Purchase Agreement Made with the Regional Emergency Dispatch (RED) Center on February 16, 2022 for an APCO P25 VHF Digital Radio Simulcast System at a Cost Not to Exceed \$54,744.33

25-177

- D. Resolution Renewing the Village of Wheeling's Annual Subscription to the Northwest Central Dispatch System's Joint Emergency Management System (JEMS) in the Amount of \$33,857.58 for FY 2026

25-178

- E. Resolution Approving the Village of Wheeling's Annual Membership in the Northwest Central Dispatch System in the Amount of \$198,819.87 for FY 2026

25-179

- F. Resolution Approving the Second One-Year Renewal Contract with Alpha Maintenance and Services Inc. for Fire Hydrant Sandblasting and Painting Services in an Amount Not to Exceed \$35,000 for FY 2026

25-180

- G. Resolution Approving the Capital Improvement Plan for the Five-Year Period of Fiscal Year 2026 through 2030

25-181

- H. Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code (Section 25-00000-00-GM, 2026 Motor Fuel Tax General Maintenance Program Appropriation)

25-182

- I. Resolution Approving WEX Fuel Cards for Fueling Village Vehicles and Equipment in an Amount Not to Exceed \$365,000

25-183

- J. Resolution Accepting and Approving a Contract with EarthWerks Land Improvement & Development Corp. for the Wheeling Drainage Ditch Stabilization Project in an Amount Not to Exceed \$2,098,209

25-184

- K. Resolution Approving a Proposal from Hampton, Lenzini & Renwick Inc. to Provide Construction Engineering Inspections for the Wheeling Drainage Ditch Stabilization Project in an Amount Not to Exceed \$281,640

25-185

- L. Resolution Approving an Increase in the Village Manager's Compensation

25-186

- M. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Five-Year Professional Services Agreement with CaseWorthy, Inc. for Social Service Case Management System Services in the Amount of \$93,831

25-187

- N. Resolution Waiving Competitive Bidding Requirements and Authorizing the Purchase of 55 Axon Incorporated Taser Energy Devices, Taser 10 Model, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$284,178 Distributed over a Five-Year Period

25-188

Clerk Brady read the consent agenda into the record. President Horcher asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion by Dave Vogel, seconded by Mary Papantos.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

12. **Old Business**

None

13. **New Business**

All Listed Items for Discussion and Possible Action

- A. PRESENTATION RE: Indian Trails Public Library *One Book One Community* Program

Indian Trails Public Library Executive Director Brian Shepard discussed the library's services and activities. He shared information about the One Book One Community program, created in partnership with the Vernon Area Library and the Cook Memorial Library. Mr. Shepard noted that this is the 10th anniversary of the program, and this year's book selection is Hello Beautiful by Ann Napolitano. He also invited community leaders to an author event at Stevenson High School on Sunday, March 1st, from 1:00 to 2:30 PM.

- B. Ordinance Granting Special Use Approval to Permit the Operation of an Entertainment Establishment for Delta Kilo, Inc., 401 E. Dundee Road [Docket No. PSU25-0015]

Ordinance 5771

Clerk Brady read the titles 13.B and 13.C into the record. Community Development Director Ross Klicker introduced the items and read the following conditions for approval:

1. Special Use Approval is contingent upon approval of Docket No. PSU25-0026 for the operation of an assembly hall (banquet facility).
2. The hours of operation shall be established by the liquor license obtained from the Village's Liquor Control Commission.
3. All entertainment activities, including but not limited to music performances, karaoke, trivia, comedy, or similar events, shall be conducted entirely inside the tenant space.
4. No entertainment activities of any kind shall be permitted outdoors unless separately approved by the Village through a revised Special Use approval.
5. Amplified sound shall be maintained at a level that does not create a nuisance to adjacent tenants or exceed thresholds established in Chapter 8.24 of the Village Code.
6. Exterior doors shall remain closed during entertainment events, except for normal ingress and egress, to prevent noise spillover.

The Petitioner was present and answered the Board's questions. President Horcher asked for a motion to approve with noted conditions.

Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Mary Krueger.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

- C. Ordinance Granting Special Use Approval to Permit the Operation of an Assembly Use for Delta Kilo, Inc., 401 E. Dundee Road [Docket No. PSU25-0026]

Ordinance 5772

1. Special Use Approval is contingent upon approval of Docket No. PSU25-0015 for the operation of an entertainment establishment.
2. The hours of operation shall be established by the liquor license obtained from the Village's Liquor Control Commission.
3. All events, gatherings, and activities shall be conducted entirely inside the tenant space.
4. A minimum of one employee shall be present at all times during events.
5. Outdoor storage of equipment, food service materials, or refuse is prohibited.

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve the conditions as read.

Motion by Dave Vogel, seconded by Mary Papantos.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

- D. Ordinance Granting Special Use Approval to Permit the Operation of a Recreation and Instruction Facility (Otaman Supreme Company), 638 Wheeling Road [Docket No. PSU25-0025]

Ordinance 5773

Clerk Brady read the title into the record. Director Klicker introduced the item and read the following conditions for approval:

1. A minimum of one (1) employee shall be onsite at all times during the facility's hours of operation.
2. The facility shall be used exclusively for boxing and fitness training and classes; no unrelated activities, parties, or events shall be permitted.
3. All activities shall be conducted entirely within the indoor facility.
4. A Wheeling Sign Permit shall be required prior to the installation of any exterior signage at the subject property, subject to the requirements of Title 21 - Signs.

The Petitioner was present, provided detailed information about the business, and answered the Board's questions.

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by Mary Papantos, seconded by Ray Lang.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

- E. Ordinance Granting Special Use Approval to Permit the Operation of a Recreation and Instruction Facility (One More Game Pickleball and Badminton Club, LLC), 851 Seton Court [Docket No. PSU25-0019]

Ordinance 5774

Clerk Brady read the item into the record. Director Klicker introduced the item and read the following conditions for approval:

1. A Wheeling Business License application must be submitted to the Community Development Department prior to any Village Board action on the special use.
2. A minimum of one (1) employee shall be onsite at all times during the facility's hours of operation.
3. The facility shall be used exclusively for pickleball and badminton training; no unrelated activities, parties, events, or tournaments shall be permitted.
4. All employees and customers shall utilize only the designated parking areas shown on the Site Plan

prepared by E4L Engineering, LLC dated 10/6/2025.

5. All activities shall be conducted entirely within the indoor facility.
6. The striping for all parking spaces and pavement markings shall be installed in full compliance with the dimensions and layout shown on the Site Plan prepared by E4L Engineering, LLC dated 10/6/2025. Because the striping previously completed does not match the approved plan, all non-compliant stalls and markings shall be corrected and re-striped accordingly by May 1, 2026.
7. No outdoor storage of equipment, materials, or refuse shall be permitted. All equipment and materials associated with the operation shall be stored indoors at all times.
8. All refuse and recycling shall be stored within the designated indoor refuse area as shown on the Floor Plan prepared by E4L Engineering, LLC dated 9/20/2025.
9. A Wheeling Sign Permit shall be required prior to the installation of any exterior signage at the subject property, subject to the requirements of Title 21 - Signs.

The Petitioner was present and answered questions from the Board.
President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.
Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Dave Vogel.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

F. DISCUSSION RE: Concept Review for Āhāra Restaurant, 550 S. Milwaukee Avenue, Major Site Plan

Clerk Brady read the title into the record. Village Manager Jon Sfondilis outlined the Concept Review process. Director Klicker stated that there are no staff concerns about this proposed concept. Petitioner Arun Sharma and a representative from DXU Architects were present, reviewed various aspects of the design, and answered questions from the Board. Director Klicker clarified that a minor concern is reviewing ADA requirements for a planned second-floor balcony accessible only by outside stairs. Board discussion followed.

Manager Sfondilis asked for a consensus if the Board was in favor of the major site plan for 550 S. Milwaukee Avenue.

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

No:

G. Ordinance Authorizing the Levy and Collection of Taxes for the Corporate and Municipal Purpose of the Village of Wheeling for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2025, and Ending December 31, 2025

Ordinance 5775

Clerk Brady read Items 13.G through 13.K into the record. Finance Director Brian Smith reviewed the ordinances and answered a question from the Board.

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by Dave Vogel, seconded by Mary Papantos.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Mary Krueger, Ray Lang, Mary Papantos, Jim Ruffatto, Dave Vogel, Pat Horcher

No: Joe Vito

Absent:

H. Ordinance Abating the 2025 Tax Levy Requirements for the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2020

Ordinance 5776

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by Mary Papantos, seconded by Ray Lang.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

I. Ordinance Abating the 2025 Tax Levy Requirements for the General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds,

Series 2007

Ordinance 5777

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by Mary Krueger, seconded by Jim Ruffatto.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

- J. Ordinance Abating the 2025 Tax Levy Requirements for the General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021

Ordinance 5778

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by Mary Papantos, seconded by Dave Vogel.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

- K. Ordinance Adopting the Village of Wheeling Annual Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026

Ordinance 5779

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve.

Motion by Dave Vogel, seconded by Mary Krueger.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Yes: Mary Krueger, Ray Lang, Mary Papantos, Jim Ruffatto, Dave Vogel, Pat Horcher

No: Joe Vito

Absent:

14. **Official Communications**

President Horcher thanked everyone for their dedication and for the time they spent serving the Village.

Trustee Papantos wished everyone Happy Holidays, thanked the new members of the public in attendance, and thanked the staff, both in the Village and the Park District, who do their part to make the Village productive and beautiful.

Trustee Krueger also thanked the citizens who have taken the time to attend meetings and speak about their concerns, the work staff is doing, and their philanthropic involvement.

In response to a question from Trustee Ruffatto, Director Klicker stated that Red Bottle would like to open shortly after the first of the year. Trustee Ruffatto wished everyone Happy Holidays.

15. **Approval of Bills**

- A. Approval of Bills for November 26–December 10, 2025

President Horcher asked for a motion to approve the bills as presented.

Motion by Mary Papantos, seconded by Mary Krueger.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

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

No: None

Absent:

16. **Executive Session**

None

17. **Action on Executive Session Items**

None

18. **Adjournment**

President Horcher asked for a motion to adjourn.
Motion by Jim Ruffatto, seconded by Mary Krueger.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

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

No: None

Absent:

Kathryn M. Brady, Village Clerk

Approved this 19th day of January 2026, by the President and Board of Trustees.

Kathryn M. Brady, Village Clerk

Approved this _____ by the President and Board of Trustees