

Village of Winthrop Harbor  
President and Board of Trustees Meeting

**July 3, 2018**

Village Hall Council Chambers

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## **MINUTES**

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The meeting was called to order by Mayor Bruno at 7:00 PM.

The following Elected Officials were present:

Mayor: Dr. Michael Bruno

Trustees: Buddy Hargett, Robert Marabella, Dana McCarthy, Richard Robards, Hartmut  
"Fritz" Weiss

Also present:

Robert Long, Attorney

Julie Rittenhouse, Village Clerk

The Invocation was led by Mayor Mike Bruno, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1** - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Hargett to approve the **June 5, 2018 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (4) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss**

**Nays: (0)**

**Absent: (1) Levin**

**Passed: (1) Robards**

**2** - A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve the **June 5, 2018 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (4) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Weiss**

**Nays: (0)**

**Absent: (1) Levin**

**Passed: (1) Robards**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None Reported

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**RESOLUTION 2018-R-24 An Appointment Resolution Appointing Victor J. Chirio – Part-Time Police Officer, Brian M. Yarc –Part-Time Police Officer and Michael A. Hoks – Auxiliary Police Officer**

**3** - A motion was made by Trustee Robards and seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve **RESOLUTION 2018-R-24** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

**RESOLUTION 2018-R-25 A Resolution Authorizing a Referendum Question on the Village Becoming a Home Rule Community**

Trustee Hargett reinforced some of the things that were discussed last month at the Committee Meeting as to why we think this is worth bringing to the voters. He talked about the un-funded mandates that we can't afford and some of the regulations that we don't have control of. He talked about a spike in crime and said if we were Home Ruled we would be able to use our local control to address it. Also after we vote on our Capital Improvement Plan we have to find a way to fund it without increasing property taxes. Some of the authority that comes with Home Rule is capping or even freezing property taxes. We need to be smart with our money. Home Rule communities have gotten better bond rating status, better interest rates and have created taxes or fees that primarily tax non-residents. The Resolution is simply saying let's let the voters decide. Trustee Marabella says as long as we educate the residents they can make a decision that is best for this Village. Education is very important. The people of Winthrop Harbor are going to have the power, not the board. Mayor Bruno said that we will be having 5 public meetings to help educate the voters between now and the November elections. Trustee Weiss said, with some of the things facing us in the future, for Capital Improvements, it gets quite daunting to sit on this side wondering what we're going to do to get the money. He said the departments have done exceptionally well with what they have to work with. Being a bedroom community, we don't have a lot of commercial income so we need to find other ways. Village residents, Mr. & Mrs. Butler, asked several questions and made several comments. They wanted to make sure the residents have information. The Mayor assured them that we will have 5 meetings that the residents can come and ask their questions and make their comments. Mrs. Butler asked how many of the newly appointed board members mentioned Home Rule during their campaign. All of them told her they did not know about Home Rule. It wasn't part of any of their campaigns. It's just been in the last year, during budget, that it came up. Resident Katie Franklin said that part of the reason she moved back to Winthrop Harbor was because the crime was always low. She was concerned that Home Rule would change that. She has seen it rise in the past few years. Trustee Hargett assured her that Home Rule would allow us to add and enforce codes on rental and vacant properties (motels included). Resident Cindy Clarke asked about property taxes. Attorney Long explained that only 11% goes to the Village

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to take care of police, fire, roads and administration. The rest goes to the schools. Home Rule will give us other means to get income without raising property taxes.

**4** - A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve **RESOLUTION 2018-R-25** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

**ORDINANCE 2018-O-9 An Ordinance Providing for the Regulation of and Permitting for Small Wireless Facilities**

**5** - A motion was made by Trustee Robards and seconded by Trustee Weiss to Set Aside the Rules of the President and Board of Trustees and Waive the First and Second Reading of **Ordinance 2018-O-9** and approve as submitted. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

**CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE**

None Reported

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ORDINANCE 2018-O-10 An Ordinance Approving a Variance to Lance Cenni to Allow an Accessory Structure on a Residential Lot Without a Principal Building**

**6** - A motion was made by Trustee Hargett and seconded by Trustee Marabella to Set Aside the Rules of the President and Board of Trustees and Waive the First and Second Reading of **Ordinance 2018-O-10** and approve as submitted. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

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7 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Marabella to approve **Accounts Payable Warrant W2018-4** in the amount of **\$151,996.24**. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

8 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Marabella to approve **April 2018 Treasurer's Report** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

**2018-19 Capital Improvement Budget**

9 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Robards to approve **2018-19 Capital Improvement Budget** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

**Bob Martinelli, Owner of 1319 1<sup>st</sup> Street – Request to Override Superintendent of Public Works Decision to Install 4" HDPE Pipe Under Oakdale Avenue**

A motion was made by Trustee Marabella and seconded by Trustee Weiss to have an open discussion regarding Bob Martinelli, Owner of 1319 1<sup>st</sup> Street – Request to Override Superintendent of Public Works Decision to Install 4" HDPE Pipe under Oakdale Avenue. Trustee Hargett abstained due to the fact the Mr. Martinelli is his father-in-law.

Tim Nearing, Superintendent of Public Works, explained that Mr. Martinelli has had a flooding problem and to try and alleviate this problem he wants to install a 4" pipe under Oakdale Ave. into a ditch across the street. Tim explained that there is no specific ordinance outlining private residents installing culverts under roadways, however, based on the Village's ordinance for driveway culverts, a minimum of a 12" culvert is required. Tim then asked our engineering company, Baxter & Woodman, and their suggestion was 12" pipe as well. Trustee Marabella explained why the engineering company recommends a 12" pipe. It's because a 4" pipe has a tendency to clog. We don't know if it would, but they believe it has a higher tendency to. Mr. Martinelli has met with Tim on several occasions and said he does an outstanding job. Mr. Martinelli said that he contacted J.R. Myers Company and asked them if

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they could install a directional bore across the road and not disturb or heave the road? Mr. Myers said that they do it all of the time. He said the 12" pipe would be so expensive and the 4" would be less likely to clog. Mr. Martinelli said that he would be willing to take on the expense and maintain it with no maintenance for the Village. Trustee Marabella said, now that this has been explained, if we further explore the options and talk to the professionals that are doing it, he would see no problems. He would like the professionals to come and explain it. We have to listen to our engineers. Trustee McCarthy said that we shouldn't go against our engineers because it would set a precedence. Mayor Bruno said that with everything that Mr. Martinelli has already done, we need to get an engineer in just to see if putting a pipe in would even work. Mr. Martinelli said that he has no problem putting the 4" pipe in and paying that full expense and maintaining it. If it works great, but if it doesn't, it's on him. Mr. Martinelli would be willing to give the Village \$1,200.00 to get the engineer who's going to tell us to drain it to the West and put the money into fixing it by the fall. Mayor Bruno would like our engineer look at this and give us options.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mike and Cindy Clarke from 1412 Landon – they have more water flooding their yard than in the past. They have installed 2- 4" drains and a retention wall, but their yard still can't handle all of the water. They have a neighbor that graveled his back yard and another raised up their yard and covered it with bricks. Another one put up a garage and re-graded his back yard. They were concerned that the board stay within the code of Ordinances. Trustee Robards wanted to make sure that the building department had issued permits for all of the projects around them. The Clarke's didn't want them to cause trouble for their neighbors. Mrs. Clarke just wants someone to make sure if anything else is built on their street, that someone comes to inspect it and make sure it doesn't drain down to their lot. Trustee Robards said that part of due diligence, is making sure that they have proper permits. Trustee Hargett said that part of the permitting process is to determine if it would affect other properties around. Mrs. Clarke said it would be nice if the Village would provide sand bags or have sand and bags that the residents can fill themselves.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Trustee Marabella – Public Works

- Baseball is over and we had a great season. Scott was a little overwhelmed this year because Beach Park didn't have any teams. He had to combine teams to compete. Scott did a great job! Even though baseball is over, drive slow.
- There were a lot of storms and trees cleaned up. They did branch pick-up last Monday.

Trustee Weiss – Finance Department

- Have a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July

Trustee Robards – Fire Department

- On Saturday, July 28, 2018 from 8am-2pm the Winthrop Harbor Fire Dept. will be having a Blood Drive. If you donate you will get a special edition t-shirt from Life Source

Trustee Hargett – Community Development

- Last weekend was the Lake Michigan Water Trail Event. The beach was completely packed. They had canoes and took people out on the water. They had animals in the

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admin building and fishing demonstrations. The same group will be back in August at Waukegan Harbor with the same event.

- The Launch of Go Winthrop Harbor Running Club was at the same time at the Marina and gave out Go Winthrop Harbor t-shirts.

Mayor Bruno

- A week ago last Saturday, was the Ribbon Cutting for the new Marina Pool. Thank you Westrec for making the Marina a beautiful place and putting in \$1.8 million into it. The boaters said they will be back due to the pool being put in.

Joel Brumlik – Police Chief

- Next week Wednesday, the Forest Preserve is coming down to dedicate the Nature Observation Tower. Trustee Hargett said it's more like a ground breaking

**ADJOURNMENT**

**10** - A motion was made by Trustee Robards and seconded by Trustee Weiss to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Bruno declared the meeting adjourned at 8:54pm on the following roll call vote:

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Marabella, McCarthy, Robards, Weiss**  
**Nays: (0)**  
**Absent: (1) Levin**  
**Passed: (0)**

**APPROVED:**

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**DR. MICHAEL BRUNO, MAYOR**

**ATTEST:**

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**JULIE RITTENHOUSE, VILLAGE CLERK**

**Note: This is not a verbatim record.**