

Village of Winthrop Harbor  
President and Board of Trustees Meeting  
**June 2, 2020**  
Village Hall Council Chambers

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## **VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING - MINUTES**

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

The following Elected Officials **Attended Remotely**:

Mayor: Dr. Michael Bruno

Trustees: Buddy Hargett, John Levin, Dana McCarthy, Hartmut "Fritz" Weiss, Alanna Whitmore

Also present:

Robert Long, Attorney  
Greg Jackson, Village Administrator  
Julie Rittenhouse, Village Clerk  
Michael Sheedy, IT Director  
Joel Brumlik, Police Chief

The Invocation was led by Mayor Bruno

### **ABSENT OFFICIALS WISHING TO ATTEND REMOTELY**

All Officials attending remotely

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1** - A motion was made by Trustee Levin and seconded by Trustee Weiss to approve the **May 19, 2020 Regular Board Meeting Minutes** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

**Ayes: (5) Hargett, Levin, McCarthy, Weiss, Whitmore**

**Nays: (0)**

**Absent: (1) Marabella**

**Passed: (0)**

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Bruno read a letter that went out to Governor, J.B. Pritzker, State Senator, Melinda Bush, Congressman, Brad Schneider and State Representative, Joyce Mason regarding urgent request for assistance.

**ORDINANCE 2020-O-9 An Ordinance Ratifying and Extending Mayoral Declaration of Emergency Relating to Coronavirus**

**2** - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and Seconded by Trustee Hargett to Set Aside the Rules of the President and Board of Trustees and Waive the First and Second Reading of **ORDINANCE 2020-O-9** and approve as submitted. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote

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

**Approval of Contract with Basecamp Web Solutions for the Web-site Development**

**3** - A motion was made by Trustee Hargett and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve **Contract with Basecamp Web Solutions for the Web-site Development** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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

**RESOLUTION 2020-R-11 Appointing Administrator, Greg Jackson, as Alternate Director to SWALCO**

**4** - A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve **Resolution 2020-R-11** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- Activated the reopening of Village Hall to the public on Monday – Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:00am – 4:30pm. Posted Signs in both English and Spanish. Must wear masks and marked 6 feet with tape. Village Hall is staffed 5 days a week.
- Last Friday's opening of restaurants and bars was a success. Met with every business, reviewed their plans and went out to inspect their spaces to make sure they were meeting the requirements for social distancing. Every location did exceptional with addressing this plan. Accolades to the businesses that did submit plans before opening.

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- Friday evening, the Winthrop Harbor Queens led a parade to recognize the efforts of our Fire and Police Departments. There were 30 – 40 vehicles. Very well done. Hats off to Cindy Graham and Laura Gergly and her husband Bob who put this together.
- Will be reaching out to Trustee Levin to discuss a plan that was developed by Fire Chief Stried in regards to a plan for retention of fire and EMS personnel
- Highest accolades to Chief Brumlik and his crew for the work they've done in response to the threats that have been made, not only to our Village, but to other municipalities further down South of us. The work that Joel, Ed and Mike and the whole group have done has been phenomenal. Even in the face of threats, we were ready and able to deter anything from happening up to this point.
- Deputy Chief Mohn's work with NIPAS, has given us the ability to get NIPAS into our community when we feel there in an impending threat.
- Accolades to Sargent Chris Willets – a senior citizen in our community had been scammed for \$8,500 for repairs on his driveway. Sargent Willets apprehended the individual and recovered the \$8,500. Sargent Willets did an exceptional job and command staff as well. The senior citizen was extremely happy. He never thought he would see that money again.
- Parks and Recreation Department has set up a cooling center at the Schlader Building.
- The Miss Winthrop Harbor Pageant will potentially be holding the Pageant at the Schlader Building in August. We're still working through the logistics.
- Web-site - once the contract is signed, Mike Sheedy and Greg will be meeting with the Web Developer and setting up the time and action plan to begin the development of our new web-site.
- The CARES Act – from the Congressmen's Office, we know we will only receive money through Lake County for reimbursable expenses associated with COVID. The Lake County Board is waiting to determine how the money is to be distributed. They will be meeting with local units of Government to discuss what the needs are.
- The HEROES Act is still with the U.S. Senate. The Act allows money for revenue loss to be distributed to the municipalities. It's not likely to see the light of day as it was presented by the House of Representatives. We will wait and see what happens.

### **CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE**

None Reported

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None Reported

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1414 Sheridan Road – Request for a Variance to Chicken Coop Concrete Base Requirement**

5 - A motion was made by Trustee Hargett and seconded by Trustee Levin to approve **Request for a Variance to Chicken Coop Concrete Base Requirement at 1414 Sheridan Road** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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Trustee Hargett suggested we approve this variance and give direction to Greg Jackson to revisit the shed Ordinance, which also drives structures like chicken coops.

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

**Accounts Payable Warrant**

6 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Levin to approve **Accounts Payable Warrant W2020-3** in the amount of **\$90,081.75**. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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

**April 2020 Treasurer's Report**

7 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Whitmore to approve **April 2020 Treasurer's Report** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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

**Approval of Azavar Settlement Agreement with North Shore Gas**

8 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee McCarthy to approve **Azavar Settlement Agreement with North Shore Gas in the Amount of \$6,368.60** as presented. Mayor Bruno declared the motion carried on the following roll call vote.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None Reported

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Trustee Weiss – Finance Department

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- Thank you to the Police, Fire, Public Works and Staff for a job well done with COVID-19 and the threats to Winthrop Harbor. A new resident called and was very anxious. Trustee Weiss told him to calm down because we have one of the best police and fire departments in the county. Thank you to all of our Staff and the First Responders. With their presence I felt safe in this community and the resident felt the same way.

### Trustee Hargett – Community Development

- Huge thanks to, especially right now, the Police Department. When these things are mobilized, it involves so many different staff and outside entities. Appreciates Greg and Chief Brumlik for keeping us in the loop as to what's going on. It's unsettling to see some of what's going on, and a weird set of emotions. There are feelings and pent up rage that I won't ever be able to fully relate to as a white person. Seeing some of the things that people are posting, we know that we have a dark history and a reputation that you hope we have moved past as a community. When the census comes back we will see that we are a more diverse community today than we were even 10 years ago. We need to make sure that we continue to be a part of that discussion on how to be part of the solution and how to change the reputation people have of us and continue to be a welcoming community to all.

### Trustee Levin – Fire Department

- Same as Trustee Weiss and Trustee Hargett – a huge thank you. After yesterday's threat, amazing job in coming together. Asking that we pray for not only our community, but other communities that have been hit hard.

### Trustee McCarthy – Police Department

- Echo everything that's been said already. What we've seen is really a reminder, that even in these tough financial, and budgetary times, we have our Police Force and continue to maintain leadership. The relationships that our leaders in the Police Department have and the care and concern that our officers have for our community and citizens, is huge.

### Trustee Whitmore – Recreation Department

- This was a great week to have the "thank you" parade for our first responders. Little did we know this was going to be happening, just days later. Never felt better about being here, about feeling safe here. Thank you to our Police Department and their diligence, just keeping us safe and our community safe.

### Mayor Bruno

- I've always felt safe. I hope this starts to wind down soon.
- I pray for the safety of all of our residents.
- Last Saturday the Garden Club was kind enough to volunteer to plant flowers by the Village Sign at the Village Hall and the 2 planters by the entrance.
- Thank you to the Police and Fire Departments for the birthday and anniversary parades. Received E-mails from the residents thanking the Village for allowing them to do this.
- Thanked the Queens for organizing the parade for our First Responders.
- Thanked Chief Brumlik, the entire Police Department, Fire Department and Public Works for the expertise during the protesting situation. These are incredible departments as well as Recreation and Administration. We couldn't be more prepared. Very proud.
- The census reports, the Village of Winthrop Harbor has the highest percent of responses with 78.2%

### Chief Brumlik

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- It's not only been the Police Department, but the entire Village, the entire Staff. Every Department in the Village. The people in this town and the Board have been great. I know budgets have been tight, I appreciate that you let me do what I do. Everybody here plays a roll and it's working out great.
- In my entire law enforcement career, there was nothing more satisfying than the gentleman that got his money back.
- Thank you for the support. It's a team effort. Good for the Village.
- It was great to see the Marina come alive on Friday night. It was well done.

**ADJOURNMENT**

9 - A motion was made by Trustee Weiss and seconded by Trustee Levin to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Bruno declared the meeting adjourned at 7:52p.m. on the following roll call vote:

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