

ORDINANCE 2021 – O - 15

**AN ORDINANCE REPEALING AND REPLACING §30.03
OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF WINTHROP HARBOR
MODERNIZING THE VILLAGE BOARD COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, Section 30.03 of the Winthrop Harbor Municipal Code currently prescribes there are six committees of the Village Board, each of which is comprised of all six sitting Trustees, and the committees are assigned areas of interest and concern as follows:

- (1) Public Works.
- (2) Police, Licensing, and Civil Defense.
- (3) Finance, Insurance, and Wage policy.
- (4) Building, Zoning, Planning, and Economic Development.
- (5) Fire.
- (6) Municipal Buildings and Properties.

WHEREAS, this committee structure was codified in 1985 and has remained essentially unchanged in the Village Code since that time, and

WHEREAS, the designated Committees have not actually met in at least 24 years, and probably much longer, with the current structure in practice being to appoint individual trustees to areas of interest and concern and have them work with the department heads to learn of issues in the area and to advocate for budgeting and implementation of policies needed for those areas, and

WHEREAS, the current version of the Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/1 et. seq.) makes it difficult for these codified committees to meet because of the need for specific regular meeting dates, posting of agendas and other formalities due to the fact that no more than two members of the corporate authority can meet at any time and conduct business without those formalities, and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has considered the flow of business and in particular has considered the professionalization of the management of the Village through the adoption of a Village Administrator to oversee day to day operations, and has concluded that revising this obsolete and unused committee structure and replacing it with a more modern, useable and flexible version is necessary and appropriate to fulfill the essential roles of communicating and advocating for the needs of the community encompassed within more narrowly defined areas of interest and concern,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Village of Winthrop Harbor, Lake County, Illinois, as follows:

SECTION ONE: Section 30.03 of the Winthrop Harbor Municipal Code is hereby repealed in its entirety and it is further replaced by the following provision:

§ 30.03 STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

(A) The Mayor shall appoint two Trustees to each of the following standing committees, with one such Trustee designated as the Chair. The duties of the members of these committees are specifically limited to working with the Department Heads within the scope of the committees, but not directing them in the means and manner of their job performance, such responsibility remaining always within the direction and control of the Administrator. Rather, the committee members shall be charged with learning of issues existing within the scope of the departments assigned and to advocate for budgeting, regulatory changes and project initiatives to the entire Village Board in open session.

1. Public Works and Parks (Streets, Water, Sewer, Parks)
 - a. Two Trustees, one designated as Chair
 - b. Superintendent of Public Works
 - c. Parks & Recreation Director

2. Public Safety (Police, Fire, Emergency Management, Special Police Details)
 - a. Two Trustees, one designated as Chair
 - b. Police Chief
 - c. Fire Chief

3. Administration and Community Development (Administration, Planning, Zoning, Finance, Community/Economic Development)
 - a. Two Trustees, one designated as Chair
 - b. Village Administrator
 - c. Community Development Director

(B) The Mayor may also appoint two or more trustees to special committees or ad hoc committees as he or she may deem fit. The Mayor's directions to create such committees shall contain the scope of responsibility so assigned and shall be limited in time of existence and scope so as to avoid conflict with any standing committee.

SECTION TWO: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as required by law.

PASSED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF WINTHROP HARBOR,
ILLINOIS, ON THIS 18th DAY OF MAY, 2021.

ATTEST:

DR. MICHAEL BRUNO, MAYOR

JULIE RITTENHOUSE, VILLAGE CLERK