

**MINUTES**  
**COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE**  
**PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS**  
**July 31, 2023**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Hayes; Trustees Baldino, Bertucci, Dunnington, Grasse, LaBedz, Schwingbeck, Shirley, and Tinaglia

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus, Assistant Village Manager Diana Mikula, and Management Analyst II Jack Cascone

SUBJECT: Village Board 2024 – 2025 Goal Setting

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President Thomas Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President Hayes and Village Manager Randy Recklaus provided opening remarks about the importance and purpose of the 2-year goal setting process.

**Citizens to be Heard**

Melissa Cayer stated property tax bills are due December 2023.

**Village Board 2024 – 2025 Goal Setting**

The Village Board began discussion about the Board's interaction with itself and with Village staff. Several Trustees commented on how well the Board interacts with each other and how staff provides timely and important information.

Village Manager Recklaus reviewed how Village staff achieved and continue to achieve the nine strategic goals in 2022 and 2023. The 2022 – 2023 strategic goals cover topics including: COVID-19 recovery; diversity, equity, and inclusion; Arlington Park redevelopment; implementing green initiatives; monitoring revenue and taxes; Village staff training to provide high-quality services; increasing availability of pedestrian and bicycle opportunities; improve communication with residents; and maintain attainable housing while reviewing affordable housing options.

Village Manager Recklaus reviewed new and ongoing trends, themes, and challenges Village staff are anticipating in 2024 and 2025. The items were identified by Village staff, the results of the Polco Community Survey, and feedback from Village commissions.

The Village Board also discussed trends, themes, and challenges they believe will impact the Village in coming years. Items discussed include: crime and youth; environment; transparency and integrity; attracting and retaining businesses; commuter parking and remote work; citizen expectations and involvement; communication efforts; entertainment

opportunities; COVID-19 recovery; Arlington Park and Chicago Bears; housing, affordability, and options for seniors; Village-wide mission statement, vision, and values; diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging; keeping property taxes low and public services high; panhandling; connecting residents on the north and south sides of the Village; and general lack of civility and respect for others. See the attachment for more details.

Finally, the Village Board discussed strategic priorities for 2024 – 2025 based on the trends, themes, and challenges. Members of the public in attendance were provided the opportunity to comment on the strategic priorities. Following public comment, each trustee informally voted on which strategic priorities were most important. Strategic priorities offered by the Village Board, public comment, and a ranking of their consensus is included in the attachment.

Village Manager Recklaus indicated Village staff will create a 2024 – 2025 strategic priority proposal for the Village Board to review. Once approved, the document would serve as a basis for Village staff to create a business plan with detailed objects as to how the priorities will be met over the 2-year period.

#### **Other Business**

None.

#### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Baldino and seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.