



MINUTES
Committee of the Whole
Village of Arlington Heights

Arlington Heights Village Hall
33 S. Arlington Heights Road
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
October 15, 2025
7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

President Tinaglia and the following Trustees responded to roll: James Bertucci, Wendy Dunnington, Colin Gilbert, Robin LaBedz, Bill Manganaro, Carina Santa Maria, Tom Schwingbeck, Greg Zyck.

Also present were: Randy Recklaus, Diana Mikula, Chief Nick Pecora, Deputy Chief Greg Czernecki, Gregory Smith, and Maggie Mattio.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. COW Meeting Minutes 9/15/25

Trustee LaBedz moved to Approve. Trustee Santa Maria Seconded the Motion.
The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Trustee Bertucci, Trustee Dunnington, Trustee LaBedz, Trustee Manganaro, Trustee Santa Maria, Trustee Schwingbeck, President Tinaglia, Trustee Zyck

Nays: None

Abstain: Trustee Colin Gilbert

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Additional E-Bike/Scooter Regulations

On September 15, 2025, the Board adopted Ordinance 25-2043 amending Chapter 18 of the Village Code regarding mobility vehicles and devices. They directed staff to seek recommendations from the Bike & Pedestrian Commission, Youth Commission, Senior Commission and Board of Health. The ordinance was reviewed by the various commissions and their feedback was to retain the regulations set forth in the September 15th ordinance and recommended that staff elaborate on sidewalk versus roadway use and speed limits; and address passenger riding and set additional age requirements.

Taking into consideration the feedback received, Deputy Chief Czernecki proposed updating the definitions of mobility devices. Rather than defining the device by classification, it would be defined by the speed at which it was being operated or capable of being operated. Low-speed mobility devices are those operated at less than 10 mph, standard mobility devices are those operated between 10–28 mph, and out-of-class mobility devices can reach speeds greater than 28 mph. Medical mobility devices would remain exempt from the ordinance.

With regard to setting additional age restrictions and compliance with laws, the ordinance would prohibit the use of out-of-class mobility devices on any public right-of-way; designate the operation of a standard mobility device for roadway use only by a person of at least 16 years of age; and permit the use of low-speed devices on sidewalks and roadways dependent on comfort level and experience with no age restrictions.

Lastly, Deputy Chief Czernecki proposed adding a provision to the ordinance which would prohibit passengers from riding on a mobility device designed or intended for a single operator.

The ordinance would retain regulations pertaining to location restrictions, safety equipment requirements, reckless operation, the adult responsibility provision and penalty structure. Deputy Chief Czernecki also mentioned that the Police Department has been working closely with the Intergrated Service Department to communicate and educate the community on the ordinance.

Discussion ensued regarding riding location limitations, age restrictions, clarification about enforcing speed versus device classification, suggestions for educational opportunities and possible requirements for driver's education class and driving permits, and the need for State laws regarding mobility vehicles and devices.

Trustee Bertucci moved to direct Staff to draft an ordinance such as recommended to retain existing requirements for safety equipment, reckless operation, parental responsibility, downtown area restrictions, fines, impoundment of devices; simplify the definitions and create new rules for mobility devices, whether gas or electric-powered classed into three categories based on the speed of the device and as listed most speed standard out of class medical mobility with speeds indicated; low speed devices would be allowed on sidewalks with no age restrictions, standard devices would not be allowed on sidewalks and would require the user to be 16 years of age and add a requirement that users of standard devices possess either a driver's license or learner's permit, out of class devices would be strictly prohibited in any public way within the Village. Trustee Schwingbeck Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Trustee Bertucci, Trustee Gilbert, Trustee LaBedz, Trustee Santa Maria, Trustee Schwingbeck, President Tinaglia, Trustee Zyck

Nays: Trustee Dunnington, Trustee Manganaro

Trustee Manganaro moved that the ordinance sunset one year from when it becomes effective, having the effect of reverting to the September 15, 2025, ordinance. Trustee Zyck Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Failed

Ayes: Trustee Manganaro, Trustee Zyck

Nays: Trustee Bertucci, Trustee Dunnington, Trustee Gilbert, Trustee LaBedz, Trustee

Santa Maria, Trustee Schwingbeck, President Tinaglia

Trustee Schwingbeck moved to Amend the Motion from 16 years of age to 18 years of age for speeds of 10-28 mph. Trustee Santa Maria Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Trustee Bertucci, Trustee Gilbert, Trustee LaBedz, Trustee Santa Maria, Trustee Schwingbeck, President Tinaglia, Trustee Zyck

Nays: Trustee Dunnington, Trustee Manganaro

B. Discussion of Additional Regulations on the Use of Public Property

At prior Committee-of-the-Whole meetings, the Board asked staff to brainstorm possible regulations to address sleeping and long-term storage of private property in public spaces. Mr. Recklaus emphasized that it was not the intent of the Village to use regulations to target or solve homelessness, rather to define acceptable behavior in public spaces within our community. He acknowledged that homelessness is a complex issue and that any regulations would apply equally to all individuals regardless of their housing status. He also mentioned that the Village has a Health and Human Services Department with full-time staff dedicated to helping individuals in need. Independently of possible regulations, the Board also directed staff to work with nearby municipalities to create a regional consortium on homelessness. Mr. Recklaus reported that the Village created and leads a work group with other professionals to share information and coordinate housing solutions.

Attorney Gregory Smith said that in prior case law, the Supreme Court ruled that municipalities may regulate or prohibit sleeping and camping on public property without violating the Eighth Amendment and so long as the rules applied equally to all. He mentioned the Village could completely ban sleeping or camping on public property; prohibit sleeping or camping on public property between certain hours; or prohibit sleeping or camping on public property for a designated maximum period of time, such as 48 hours. Municipalities that have banned sleeping or camping on public property include City of Highland Park, Village of Northbrook, City of Peoria and East Peoria. The Arlington Heights Park District also prohibits sleeping and camping on their property. With regard to personal belongings, Mr. Smith said that municipalities must provide notice to an individual prior to removing their belongings and inform them about how they may retrieve them. The Village would have to hold the belongings for a set period of time before disposal. Similar regulations are already set forth in the Village Code with respect to belongings left in parking facilities.

Mr. Recklaus said the regulations proposed provide legally viable options for enforcement and asked the Board for direction on whether to proceed with drafting an ordinance regulating public space behavior.

After some discussion, it was clear that there was no consensus among Trustees to proceed with an ordinance to regulate the use of public property for sleeping and storing personal belongings. An ordinance would result in unresolved citations and unpaid fines, move an individual from one town or space to the next and ultimately target an unhoused individual. They encouraged community leaders, social services professionals and Village staff to work together to create a long-lasting solution in partnership with county and regional agencies.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Anyone wishing to speak on a subject not on the Agenda may speak at this time. Please limit your comments to three minutes.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Manganaro moved to Adjourn at 10:24PM. Trustee LaBedz Seconded the Motion.
The Motion: Passed

Ayes: Trustee Bertucci, Trustee Dunnington, Trustee Gilbert, Trustee LaBedz, Trustee Manganaro, Trustee Santa Maria, Trustee Schwingbeck, President Tinaglia, Trustee Zyck
Nays: None

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