

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
April 20, 2026**

President Tinaglia called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Tinaglia; Trustees Bertucci, Dunnington, Gilbert, LaBedz, Manganaro, Schwingbeck and Zyck

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Trustee Santa Maria

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Village Manager Randy Recklaus, Deputy Village Manager Diana Mikula

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Brodecki, Richard Bondarowicz, Joe Footlik, David Hogaboom

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Interview of Robert Brodecki for appointment to the Housing Commission effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2029**

Mayor Tinaglia introduced Robert Brodecki explaining that Robert is a passionate resident who has spoken at several Village Board Meetings and is a great candidate for the Housing Commission.

Robert said that he wants to make sure that Arlington Heights is an inclusive community. He wants people to come here, build a life and finish a life here. Housing is an important part of that, and housing prices have gone up in our desirable community. We need to work to have housing options for new, young families as well as retirees. One option to achieve that goal is to use an affordable housing ordinance so when developments are made here, we push for affordability units to be included. Another option is to make it easier to develop properties of all different types – not just the larger developments or apartment buildings, but more starter homes or downsize homes for senior citizens.

Trustee Dunnington commented that she is familiar with Robert due to his involvement with Safe Streets and noted that he has a lot of enthusiasm and is a good candidate for this commission.

Trustee Zyck asked Robert how he thinks it is best to spend the money in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Robert would like to see it used to spur local development in a variety of different ways such as purchasing a piece of land to develop or make an attractive loan to a developer. Robert would like to see local developers who want to be part of building for the next generation with smaller lots or smaller developments so they can be built quicker and offered at a lower price point.

Trustee Bertucci asked Robert his opinion of House Bill 5626 which takes away local zoning abilities. Robert is familiar with it and explained that it is a sweeping, top-down bill. Robert prefers bottom-up work and local community work. He ~~was~~ wants to be proactive and start working towards some of the goals and set some guidelines on our terms. Trustee Bertucci asked Robert to clarify if he is in favor of the Bill. Robert said that there are parts of it that

are appropriate such as statewide ebikes rules, but he thinks the housing pieces should be kept at the local level, rather than the state level.

Trustee Manganaro agrees with developing houses at all prices points. He asked Robert to talk about his involvement with Strong Towns. Robert explained that it is a group that believes that towns should be built in a way to adapt to the times and puts the residents at the center of the focus to meet their needs.

Trustees thanked Robert for his willingness to serve our community.

**Trustee Dunnington moved, seconded by Trustee Zyck to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Robert Brodecki to the Housing Commission, effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2029.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**B. Interview of Richard Bondarowicz for appointment to the Design Commission effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2029**

Mayor Tinaglia explained that he has known Rich for a long time and a lot of people in town know him as a unique developer and builder. His background will be unusual for this commission since the Design Commission has only had architects on it since its inception. Rich will be able to offer a slightly different perspective, through the eyes of a quality builder. He is creative and careful and recently won some awards for his work.

Trustee Schwingbeck is familiar with Rich's work and agrees with Mayor Tinaglia that his work is excellent. He asked Rich how he sees the transition of him being on the commission since he is the first non-architect. Rich explained that he has gone through the process of the Design Commission so can offer a different perspective. He understands the costs and he knows which slight changes can make a home more affordable. He also pointed out the height restrictions that we have and thinks that needs to be revisited. Some of the antiquated zoning that we have actually drives up the cost of redevelopment. He has lived in Arlington Heights for almost 30 years and is committed to making our village look great and be great for generations to come.

Trustee Manganaro asked Richard how he sees the Design Commission supporting the strategic priority to maintain the character of neighborhoods, especially in historic neighborhoods. Richard agrees that it is absolutely critical to maintain the historic integrity. He wants to encourage groups or homeowners to incorporate historical details on their homes. Sometimes those small pieces of "jewelry" make the home look historic and fit into the neighborhood.

Trustee LaBedz and Richard discussed trends and ways for homes to look timeless.

Trustees thanked Richard for his willingness to serve on this commission.

An audience member asked the Design Commission to review tear-downs to look at the character of the neighborhood and make sure that a tear-down would fit into the neighborhood.

**Trustee Schwingbeck moved, seconded by Trustee Bertucci to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Richard Bondarowicz to the Design Commission effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2029**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**C. Interview of Joe Footlik for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2031**

Mayor Tinaglia explained that Joe has unbelievable knowledge and experience in this exact department and believes that Joe is a perfect fit for the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Joe Footlik wants to serve his community and knows that this board has a direct impact on the quality of life for all residents and businesses. He has 30 years of experience working for another municipality. He believes the purpose of local government is to make people's lives better. He is committed to the process and can bring an even-handed, practical approach to the board.

Trustee Schwingbeck was on the Zoning Board of Appeals for four years and noted that Joe's resume is impeccable. Trustee Schwingbeck explained that most people are nervous when they appear before the Zoning Board of Appeals, so he advised Joe to be compassionate to set their minds at ease. Joe explained that he has gone before a Zoning Board of Appeals and understands that it is nerve-wracking so will do his best to make sure the applicant feels heard and decisions are made with good reason.

Trustee LaBedz explained that this board is different than the other boards and commissions because the decisions of the Zoning Board of Appeals are final. Therefore, it is important to listen and be thoughtful.

Trustees thanked Joe for his willingness to serve on this Board.

**Trustee LaBedz moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Joe Footlik to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2031**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**D. Interview of David Hogaboom for appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2031**

Mayor Tinaglia has known David Hogaboom since high school. Dave's experience comes from him having a business here and living in town for many, many years. Dave understands the culture and what makes Arlington Heights special.

Dave used the Hasbrook Park neighborhood as an example of change in this town. It used to be all starter homes but that neighborhood has changed dramatically. Dave understands that sometimes people in the community don't like change but sometimes change is exciting and it livens up a community. He is excited to serve on this Board.

Trustee Bertucci has known Dave professionally and personally for many years. He said that Dave has the full picture and will do what is best for our community.

Trustees thanked David for serving our community.

**Trustee Bertucci moved, seconded by Trustee Manganaro to concur in the Mayor's appointment of David Hogaboom to the Zoning Board of Appeals effective May 1, 2026, term ending April 30, 2031**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS** - none

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT** – Trustee Zyck moved, seconded by Trustee LaBedz to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.