



AGENDA  
Committee of the Whole  
Community Room  
33 S. Arlington Heights Rd  
September 8, 2026  
7:15 PM

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. 8/3/2026 COW Minutes
  - B. 8/10/2026 COW Minutes
  - C. 6/9/25 COW Minutes
- V. NEW BUSINESS
  - A. Interview of Maggie Sraga for appointment to the Environmental Commission effective September 13, 2026, term ending April 30, 2027
- 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

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**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE MEETING OF THE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
August 3, 2026**

President Tinaglia called the meeting to order at 7:15 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: Bridget Krause

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. Approval of the 7/20/2026 Committee of the Whole Minutes**

**Trustee LaBedz moved to approve the 7/20/2026 Committee of the Whole Minutes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck.**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Interview of Bridget Krause for appointment to the Performing Arts at Metropolis Board of Directors, completing the term ending 9/16/2026 and fulfilling the next term ending 9/16/2029**

President Tinaglia welcomed Bridget Krause and asked Bridget to introduce herself. Bridget explained that she has a career in nonprofit management and is currently working as an executive for the Radiological Society of North America. She mentioned that she has gained experience in governance through her previous roles on volunteer boards.

Trustee Bertucci expressed appreciation for Bridget's qualifications and asked if she had any financial background in managing non-profit finances. Bridget explained that she has reviewed board budgets and managed foundation finances. She also mentioned that her role is to bring balance between revenues and expenses and also has experience working with grants.

Trustee Schwingbeck asked if Bridget frequently attends shows at the Metropolis and Bridget confirmed that she and her family attend as often as they can. Trustee Schwingbeck mentioned subscription tiers and the fact that many Metropolis visitors are not from Arlington Heights.

Trustee LaBedz expressed gratitude for Bridget's enthusiasm and skillset and welcomed her to the board.

Trustee Manganaro mentioned his respect for the organizations that Bridget is part of.

Audience member, Keith Moens, requested that the Metropolis Board invite the public to their board meetings for transparency going forward.

Trustees thanked Bridget for her willingness to serve our community.

**Trustee Dunnington moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck to concur in the Mayor's appointment of Bridget Krause for appointment to the Performing Arts at Metropolis Board of Directors, completing the term ending 9/16/2026 and fulfilling the next term ending 9/16/2029.**

**The following voice vote was recorded:**

**8 Ayes**

**0 Nays**

**The motion passed.**

**VI. OTHER BUSINESS** - none

**VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS** - none

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.



MINUTES  
Committee of the Whole  
Village of Arlington Heights

Arlington Heights Village Hall  
33 S. Arlington Heights Road  
Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
August 10, 2026  
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, Tom Schwingbeck, Greg Zyck. Trustee Carina Santa Maria was absent.

Also present were: Randy Recklaus, Cris Paperniak, Rob Horne, Scott Schweda, Chief Nick Pecora, Deputy Chief Greg Czernecki, and Maggie Mattio.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. 7/13/26 COW Minutes

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: Trustee Colin Gilbert

Absent: Trustee Santa Maria

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Water Meter Replacement Project and Software Implementation Discussion

Mr. Rob Horne and Mr. Scott Schweda provided an overview of the Village's water meter replacement initiative. The American Water Works Association recommends replacing water meters approximately every 15 years; in 2022, staff determined that the Village's meters had been in service for nearly 20 years. At that time, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources was also urging all water users to improve water accountability and ensure that 100% of water withdrawn from the lake could be accurately accounted

for. Staff noted that declining water sales were due in part to meter inaccuracies resulting in significant unaccounted water usage.

In 2023, the Village began the Water Meter Replacement Program. Mr. Horne reported that 18,538 meters had been replaced, with 20 meters remaining at vacant homes that have not been accessible. Staff also evaluated available meter-reading technologies and ultimately elected to use the current ComEd infrastructure while entering into necessary network and software service agreements to provide residents with tools to monitor and manage their water usage. This would also allow staff to identify potential issues before becoming a significant problem. The project was completed six months ahead of the two-year schedule and came under budget, with final expenditures of \$7.2 million compared to the original \$7.5 million budgeted. In addition, it was reported that the Village saved \$2 million by leveraging the meter installation contract to complete the Village's required IEPA lead service line inventory.

Mr. Schweda provided an overview of Temetra, the new water meter reading software that would allow residents to track their water usage, set consumption alerts, and schedule remote final water readings as needed. The software will also allow staff to set parameters that could detect any leakage. He anticipated full implementation of the software by the end of 2026, and noted that staff would begin an education campaign via the Village's website, social media, flyers, and special events.

#### B. Police Department Staffing Discussion

Deputy Chief Czernecki presented an analysis of the Police Department's long-term staffing needs and recommended increasing the authorized sworn staffing level from 110 to 122 officers. The analysis, conducted over several years, is based on current operating conditions and workload rather than any proposed large-scale community development or an increase in crime. He explained that while the Department's staffing was reduced following the Great Recession, the operating environment has since changed, with increased training requirements, more complex calls for service and investigations, greater employee benefit-time usage, and increased special-event, administrative and protest-related demands. These factors have reduced the number of officer hours available for frontline police work despite the authorized staffing level remaining relatively similar. Staff emphasized the distinction between authorized staffing and actual available staffing and outlined the day-to-day pressures, measurable staffing needs, and a phased approach to ultimately reach the recommended staffing level of 122 sworn officers.

The twelve additional sworn positions would provide sufficient organizational depth and maintain frontline service capacity during vacancies, training, leave, injuries, and other community events. DC Czernecki noted that a newly hired officer required approximately 217 days on average to complete the Academy and field training process. The positions would support emergency response, investigations, proactive patrol, community engagement, and specialized units while reducing reliance on overtime. The estimated FY2026 salary and benefit cost is approximately \$225,000 per officer at maximum salary, resulting in an estimated annual cost of \$2.7 million for all twelve positions at full implementation. To manage the fiscal impact and allow sufficient time to recruit and train qualified candidates, staff recommended adding four authorized in FY2027, four additional positions in FY2028, and the final four positions in FY2029.

It was the consensus of the Board to support the proposal and directed staff to continue working on implementation of the phased plan.

## 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 Bertucci moved to Adjourn at 8:31PM. Trustee Schwingbeck Seconded the Motion.

The Motion: Passed

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Trustee Santa Maria

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**MINUTES  
COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE  
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
VILLAGE OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
BOARD ROOM  
MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2025 7:00P.M.**

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Recklaus, Village Manager; Diana Mikula, Assistant Village Manager; Ron Weber, Building & Life Safety Director; Mike Boyle, Permit Supervisor; Alex Kang, Building Division Manager; Cris Papierniak, Public Works Director; Rob Horne, Assistant Public Works Director; Scott Schweda, Superintendent of Utilities and Kim Peterson, Recording Secretary

President Tinaglia called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A. Committee of the Whole 05/19/25

**Trustee LaBedz moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck, to approve the May 19, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes.**

**Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.**

### **New Business**

#### **A. Departmental Reports**

##### **Integrated Services Department**

Mr. Recklaus stated there are three Departmental Reports being presented tonight, with the first being the Integrated Services Department.

Ms. Mikula provided a brief overview of the important work being done by the

Integrated Services Department (ISD), as ISD plays a critical role in supporting Village operations and supporting the community. Ms. Mikula advised that much of the Department's success is because of the talented and dedicated individuals that work for the Department. Ms. Mikula discussed the Department's organizational chart and how they are a 14-member work group organized into three areas, including the Village Manager's Office, I.T. and G.I.S, and the Legal Division. They serve as the administrative backbone of the Village and manage a broad and complex workload that ensures all municipal operations run smoothly and efficiently and in alignment with Village Board strategic direction. ISD serves as the primary point of coordination for Village-wide initiatives, policies and services. They also manage 110 liquor licenses, provide administrative oversight to the Mayor and Trustees, oversee the Village Board agendas, ensure Open Meeting Act requirements are met and respond to citizen "contact us" emails. Last year they had 753 "contact us" emails. They also oversee all communications in the Village, including website management, social media, news releases, marketing of special events and 21 Boards and Commissions. Staff uses legal services mostly for ordinance and resolution drafting and ensuring local laws are legally sound and enforceable. The I.T. division maintains the technical foundation that supports every Village Department, including 24-7 public safety operations and manages a high-volume of requests and equipment and infrastructure upkeep. Ms. Mikula advised that community events in general continue to grow in popularity and the Communications & Special Events team coordinated and supported 19 large-scale Village hosted events, in addition to the Sounds of Summer concert series. In 2025, Staff was able to work on their sponsorship program and was able to generate \$35,000 to fully fund the cost of entertainment. In terms of public communications, Staff aims to spread their message across all different types of platforms, including YouTube which allows users to watch the Village Board meetings, Facebook which continues to be one of the Village's most effective platforms in terms of engagement and in-house videos which continue to grow in popularity. In addition, the Village's e-newsletter saw 628 new subscribers. The 2024 Village website performance data shows strong growth in public engagement and website traffic. The I.T. division saw the highest volume of help desk calls in 2024 over the past five years, which indicates an increasing technology demand across the organization.

Ms. Mikula discussed the Department's goals and accomplishments, including negotiating a Memorandum of Understanding for the Arlington Park redevelopment project, launching of organizational wide software, completion of a Village brand refresh, an improved application processes for new liquor license holders and the creation of two new liquor classifications for hotels and for limited consumption during educational classes. Ms. Mikula discussed some of the results from the second National Community Survey, which were favorable to Arlington Heights. The next step is to summarize and analyze the qualitative data and then share the results with the Board and public. The I.T. division was able to leverage some external partnerships and obtain grants for security platforms and software, implement some critical new software and cybersecurity tools and upgrade physical infrastructure. With GIS they were able to implement some enhancements to interactive maps. Ms. Mikula also discussed the Crowd Strike outage and an accidental fiber cut outage that occurred and I.T.'s ability to successfully address these outages. I.T. also serves as the Village's contact for Tyler ERP.



Ms. Mikula discussed some of ISD's current and anticipated challenges, including the Arlington Park redevelopment, significant staff turnover and rising workload for I.T. and G.I.S. She also discussed the Department's new potential initiatives, which will begin with the Village Board's goal setting session where the strategic priorities and business plan will be established. Staff will also begin exploring the potential return of 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks, continue to focus on the Arlington Park redevelopment, look at new liquor code classifications and opportunities for new things, evaluate the downtown parking system and continue with communication enhancements. Some new potential initiatives for I.T. and G.I.S. include ERP improvements, meeting with various Departments to see what their operational needs are, continue to focus on cybersecurity, look for cost saving initiatives and continue to look at specialized event mapping and visualization.

Ms. Mikula advised that the Integrated Services Department is committed to helping Arlington Heights remain a high-performing, responsive and forward-thinking community for all residents, businesses and staff.

Trustee LaBedz asked about Polco and if the surveys will be conducted every two years, which Ms. Mikula advised that they did fund it for two years and will have to budget for it again if they want to continue with it. Mr. Recklaus stated that the Village has a subscription with Polco and every other year they do a community survey and on the off years, they do the employee survey. Trustee LaBedz also asked how Avis is doing, which Ms. Mikula advised that she is back at work and doing great.

Trustee Bertucci asked about ERP and if there are any areas that are not living up to Staff's expectations. Ms. Mikula advised that EPL, which is the new permit and licensing software, is not working as efficiently and needs a lot of work. Additional training for users is also needed and Staff plans on informing Tyler of these issues. Trustee Bertucci asked if Staff is getting the support from the vendor, which Ms. Mikula advised that it is better than before. Trustee Bertucci asked about communication with the media outlets if the Chicago Bears move to Arlington Heights starts to gain momentum and if there will be a point of contact to direct them to. He also asked if Staff will provide the Board with bullet points and educate them on how to handle these situations if approached by someone from the media. Ms. Mikula advised she is the point person right now for the redevelopment of Arlington Park, however as things ramp up, they will need additional support and will look for outside consultants to supplement their staffing efforts. In terms of Staff bullet points, Ms. Mikula stated that they can certainly create some talking points and pursue educational training for the Board if they're interested. Trustee Bertucci stated that would be great and help the Board have a cohesive outgoing message.

Trustee Dunnington asked if there would be a charge if the Board sent out an additional Polco survey. Ms. Mikula advised that she would have to look at the contract, but thinks it would be an additional fee. Mr. Recklaus stated that Staff can conduct a smaller survey online as part of the subscription. Trustee Manganaro asked how would the Board initiate a supplemental survey, which Ms. Mikula stated Staff would like to hear from the Board and what they're interested in surveying the

community on. Trustee Manganaro asked about the analytics from the Polco survey and when they might expect to see them, which Mr. Recklaus advised that it should be by the end of this week or next week. Trustee Dunnington asked about the packet they received at the end of last year that contained the names of all of those serving on the Village's Boards and Commissions and if they could get the length of their service as well, which President Tinaglia advised that he has been working with Ms. Mikula and Mr. Recklaus to put together a spreadsheet containing this information. In addition, President Tinaglia stated that there are some openings if anyone knows anyone who might be interested. Trustee Dunnington asked about the Community Connections group and who receives the bags that they distribute and what is included in them, which Ms. Mikula advised that these are new resident bags which are distributed to realtors, schools, library and public events. Some of the items included are informational documents from the schools, park district, library and the Village with the services they offer. Community Connections also manages Heritage Fest, which is held in the fall and Staff is trying to create awareness of this event.

Trustee Schwingbeck stated that sometimes when he is out of town the Village's firewall will not allow him access to his emails and asked who he should discuss this issue with, which Ms. Mikula advised she'll ask Dan Davis in I.T. to reach out to him.

Trustee Santa Maria thanked Ms. Mikula's team for all they did to acclimate the new Trustees during their orientation and asked if ISD is taking steps to ensure that any of the materials or communications the Village produces are accessible to people who don't speak English as their first language or people with disabilities. Ms. Mikula advised that they do address needs as they are presented. The Village does have a language service at the front counter to assist anyone coming into Village Hall that doesn't speak English and they have created some of their content in other languages, primarily Spanish. Mr. Recklaus advised that the Village's website is available in many languages as well. Trustee Santa Maria also requested a Taylor Swift cover band.

Trustee LaBedz advised that she also experiences technical problems with the two-factor authentication.

Trustee Zyck discussed the Village's communication efforts and asked how they can continue to improve them, and also asked if the Village is doing anything to actively reach out to the various cultural, religious and interest groups in town. Ms. Mikula advised that one of her Department's goals is targeted connections with all members of the community and can report back to the Board on what they plan to do. Ms. Mikula also discussed the "pop up" events they host throughout the community with the Police and Fire Departments. Mr. Recklaus stated that he feels Social Services could play a significant role in the Village's outreach initiatives, as some of the folks most in need are the least likely to show up at Village Hall and ask for it. Ms. Mikula advised that ISD has in the past highlighted the various Departments to showcase what they do and perhaps they can refresh this program.

President Tinaglia thanked ISD for helping him acclimate so that he can do his job.

## **Building & Life Safety Department**

Mr. Weber provided a brief overview of the Building & Life Safety Department, stating that they facilitate permitting, licensing, life safety and code enforcement to support community wellbeing and promote safe, resilient buildings. Mr. Weber discussed Enterprise, Permitting and Licensing (EPL), which is their new e-permitting platform, and how they are working through the initial hiccups of the program. EPL maintains a database and a civic access portal for the customers to submit permits. Mr. Weber advised there are 124 permit types and 95 of these are within the Building & Life Safety Department. They review the drawings for building accessibility, energy, structural, existing building code, fire, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, fuel gas, swimming pool and life safety, which are the main codes. There are 233 different types of inspections related to construction. Permits are required before construction to ensure compliance with Village codes. Mr. Weber explained the permitting process and how the end result is a certificate of occupancy which allows the user to use the space. Some of the life safety services include annual inspections, fire department referrals, maintenance of the life safety systems that business owners are required to do annually and emergency callouts. Mr. Weber next explained the code enforcement process and the potential penalties for violations. Mr. Weber presented the workload and performance data, including the permit fees paid.

Mr. Weber presented the Building & Life Safety's organizational chart and discussed the Department's four divisions, including Permitting and Licensing, Building, which consists of plan reviewers and inspectors, Fire and Code Enforcement.

Mr. Weber discussed the Department's key accomplishments, including the creation of permit surveys, engaged with stakeholders on a quarterly basis, held pre-construction meetings to communicate procedures and expectations, streamlined permit payments through civic access, used technology to do plan reviews and achieved the International Accreditation Service (IAS) recognition for two years in row.

Mr. Weber next discussed the Department's current and anticipated challenges, including the need for administrative support for code enforcement, retirements and staffing shortages, resource draining developments, which are projects that involve more time and resources from the team, economic uncertainty, energy conservative initiatives and changes in the codes, significant building code changes, aging Building & Life Safety system upgrades and climate change and disaster recovery.

Mr. Weber discussed the potential new initiatives, including enhancing quality and service standards to EPL itself, leveraging advanced technology, training and educating the team and get them up to speed on the ever-changing code and explore AI and online code services to assist with plan review and inspections. Mr. Weber also advised that he is currently looking to restructure the organization to make it more sustainable and develop future leaders.

Trustee Schwingbeck asked if any contractor or architect that's doing business in Arlington Heights has to have an Arlington Heights business license, which Mr. Weber stated that if they have a brick-and-mortar store in the Village's limits, they have to

have a business license, although if someone is doing business as a contractor, they have to have a contractor license. Trustee Schwingbeck also asked if there is someone out there doing a project and not following codes and causing issues, can the Building & Life Safety Department stop them from doing business in Arlington Heights. Mr. Weber advised that code enforcement has other tools, including the ability to suspend or revoke a business license, but before that they have to take steps to get to that point. Another tool they can use are liens. Trustee Schwingbeck asked how they control cases where homeowners take on construction projects themselves without a contractor and then possibly flip the home and let any code problems become someone else's, which Mr. Weber advised that it is very difficult, although his inspectors do try and take note of the for-sale signs in town. Trustee Schwingbeck explained how some other towns allow contractors to pay a fee to go through a certification process, to help speed up the building process. They would still have to go through the permitting and inspection process. Mr. Weber advised that this process is called self-certification and it is ideal for smaller scope projects. The benefit is that it expedites the plan review process and it is definitely an opportunity for the future.

Trustee Santa Maria asked what the acceptable turnaround time for residents and developers when submitting permits and are they hitting the benchmark, which Mr. Weber advised that they are hitting the benchmark and the turnaround time depends on the permit type. Mr. Weber advised that there are so many unique circumstances and situations but they typically don't have any problems with turnaround time. She also asked what Mr. Weber thinks should be the current approach for regulating short term rentals or Airbnb's, which Mr. Weber advised that will take a team approach with Planning & Community Development as far as developing an ordinance for that. Building & Life Safety would be in charge of licensing if there were to be licensing for that. Mr. Recklaus stated that there are more towns that are doing this and it is a labor-intensive process. This is something the Village will have to really look into if the former racetrack develops the way it's being discussed, and might be something that they will allow or will not allow. The Village does not currently regulate rentals of single-family homes, what they do is regulate the behavior.

Trustee Bertucci advised that the inspectors need to be educated and understand when and why you would not need a Village license and how State professional regulation licenses are used, which Mr. Weber advised that education is needed.

Trustee Dunnington asked Mr. Weber to explain code enforcement in more detail. Mr. Weber advised that there are zoning type code violations, which would include things such as signage and lights, building construction, which is work being done without a permit and property maintenance, which would include issues such as working heat and air conditioning. There are also code enforcement categories that are not related to Building & Life Safety, like Health & Human Services that has their own citations and code enforcement.

Trustee LaBedz discussed the issue of homeowners who make home improvements on their own without a permit and suggested that Building & Life Safety can highlight why it's important for people to go through the process. Mr. Weber stated that this is a

wonderful suggestion, as do-it-yourself projects are potentially harmful to the occupants. Trustee LaBedz also asked Mr. Weber how he finds people to fill his Department's vacancies, as these are quite specialized positions. Mr. Weber advised that this is extremely difficult, although the last hire came to him with an architectural background from a former place of employment on his.

President Tinaglia stated that if a project is small enough, he hopes self-certification becomes a helpful tool in the future.

Trustee Zyck discussed the permitting process and the importance of customer service and asked about the lower number of permits issued and inspections in 2024, as compared to 2023. Mr. Weber advised that this phenomenon could be due to the new e-permitting software, as it affects the way the metrics are recorded, as well as other factors, including construction trends. Trustee Zyck also asked about Mr. Weber's 10-year strategic vision and why he lists "cultivate a culture of excellence and prioritize the employee well-being" for the years 2030-31. Mr. Weber stated that his vision is a 2-year step process, and although he intends on consistently making this a priority, his 10-year goal is to make the Arlington Heights Building & Life Safety Department the model for the nation.

Trustee Manganaro asked if there is anything the Village can do to help with resource training. Mr. Weber advised that he is trying to restructure the Department, which includes adding a Lead Building Inspector to manage these more complex projects and has expressed the support needed to Mr. Recklaus, who has been very understanding and supportive. Trustee Manganaro also suggested the Board have a discussion about short-term rentals, as they will become numerous.

Trustee Bertucci stated that the increase in permits and inspections in 2023 may have been a result of pent-up supply chain issues and the decrease in 2024 may have been from higher interest rates.

President Tinaglia asked where the Village stands with the code providing electrical services to all of the parking spaces. Mr. Weber advised that President Tinaglia is referring to the S40- Electrical Vehicle Charging Act, which is a statewide act, and explained how they just enforce what it requires. Mr. Weber stated that it is not as strict as the perception of it is. The parking structure/lot just has to be EV ready in case it's going to have EV charges. There is potential to share an EV charger between two spaces and you don't have to provide 100% of all the zoning requirement parking spaces, as it's just one per dwelling unit. President Tinaglia asked if there is an existing project going on in town that is following this code, which Mr. Weber advised that there is nothing currently under construction, but some in the pipeline that will be following this code. Mr. Weber advised that there's another aspect to this as well in terms of life safety of the vehicle charging because they are the point source of the most cases of these fires starting, therefore they are investigating different example ordinances to assist with locating the vehicle charges within underground parking structures to be closer to the exits to make it easier for the Fire Department to extract those vehicles. President Tinaglia advised that every building that was built with

parking stalls in a lower level gave no consideration to the kind of heat that is generated from an electrical vehicle on fire and to have them located in a basement of a residential building with residents above is very frightening. President Tinaglia stated that the Village may want to consider a very specific ordinance that states where the electrical charges should be allowed and where they should be located, as this is a nightmare waiting to happen. Mr. Recklaus advised that this something he, Chief Harris and Mr. Weber have been discussing and he's confident they can come up with a solution to mitigate the risk.

## **Public Works Department**

President Tinaglia stated that he neglected to recognize the Public Works Department for all of their hard work in helping to set up for the Village's first Sounds of Summer concert on Thursday night and wanted to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mr. Papierniak and his team.

Mr. Papierniak provided a brief overview of the Public Works Department and the work they've done, and introduced Rob Horne, Assistant Director and Scott Schweda, Superintendent of Utilities. Mr. Papierniak stated that Public Works and Engineering has a full-time staff of 103.5 employees and has three major divisions, including Utilities, Engineering and Maintenance. They are responsible for engineering design, maintenance, operation repair and replacement of the Village's infrastructure, including properties, trees, utilities and equipment. Mr. Papierniak discussed the team's workload and how it is separated into several main categories, including mandatory responsibilities, annual programs, emergency response, capital programs and staff development and training. He also discussed the breakdown of the roughly 20,000 annual service requests. The majority of the requests are generated online or by mobile apps, which has led their efforts to modernize their communication as the Department continues to increase its social media presence.

Mr. Papierniak advised that the Engineering Division is responsible for the planning, design and construction of a significant portion of their capital programs. Road resurfacing and reconstruction are the most impactful and costly programs. Over the last two years, 10 miles of roadway has been resurfaced and or reconstructed, with over \$4 million in federal funding awarded.

Mr. Papierniak advised the Maintenance Division consists of the following four units: Building, Fleet, Forestry and Streets. The Forestry and Streets Divisions are responsible for the majority of snow removal operations and road work and tree services are two of the most heavily requested services by the residents and two of their largest service contracts. Building and Fleet mainly serve the internal staff and users of municipal buildings and Building has also taken over the solar panel installation project at Public Works later this year.

Mr. Papierniak advised the Utilities Division consists of the following five units: Sewer,

Traffic, Water Distribution, Water Production and Meters. Four of these units are mainly responsible for the delivery, maintenance and repair of the Village's water and sewer systems. The Traffic Unit handles all of the traffic signs, lights, signals and electrical needs of all the municipal properties. Water Production is tasked with multiple needs of the Department, as they are not only responsible for the safe pumping and storage of lake water, they're also responsible for emergency response. The Water Operators are the first responders of the Department and are on a rotating 24-hour shift to respond, assess the situation and call in additional help if needed.

Mr. Papierniak discussed the Department's key accomplishments, including the continued focus on capital projects related to road, water and storm sewer systems, continued leverage of federal funding when possible, and their new focus on customer service, resident engagement, department culture and staff development. Mr. Papierniak also discussed some of the capital projects that were completed, or are near completion, including the Com Ed bike path, Euclid Avenue (Phase One: Engineering), replacement of 23,000 feet of water main, replacement of 362 residential lead services, developed the meter replacement program and installed over one-half of the residential meters. In addition, Public Works and Engineering responded to 25 events over the last two years, including snow, wind and storms, and their role in special events continues to increase.

Mr. Papierniak discussed the federally mandated Lead Service Line Replacement program, which has to be completed by 2037. Mr. Papierniak advised that over the last two years, Staff has worked with the Board to create a residential review program, development of an in-house replacement team and budgeted roughly \$55 million for the 10-year program. Staff estimates by the start of the mandate in 2027, roughly 20% of the lead services will have already been replaced.

Mr. Papierniak stated that Public Works continues to experience mass retirements and an influx of new staff, which leads to additional staff training and succession planning. To address these concerns, they have created shared responsibilities, work groups and unit cross training. With new staff comes new ideas and a willingness to embrace technology, including drone use and sound wave technology.

Trustee Schwingbeck asked if there is an update regarding the company that was going to do some water main AI analysis for the Department, which Mr. Papierniak advised that this company was going to utilize 2023 information to predict 2024 water main breaks. If they did not reach a certain agreed percentage, there would be no fee. If they met the analytic percentage that they agreed to, they would get a one-year analysis contract, which the Village is currently engaged in and waiting for the results.

Trustee Santa Maria stated that she loves the idea of solar panels being installed on the Public Works building and asked if there are other things they are doing to incorporate more of a green infrastructure. Mr. Papierniak advised they have installed pollinator gardens and added prairie grasses to some of the storm water projects. They have also added permeable pavers to their structures. In addition, almost all of their equipment is considered alternative energy and all of their trucks are considered

bio-diesel. The Forestry Department is super energetic and always coming up with new ideas. Trustee Santa Maria asked what type of technology he would like to see the Village invest in to make his job easier, which Mr. Papierniak stated that he would like to enhance the communication aspect of the Department to be able to reach every resident.

Trustee Dunnington thanked Mr. Papierniak and his Department for their commitment to sustainability and is excited for the solar panels. Trustee Dunnington asked about possibly changing the detention basins from turf grass to a walking path, or park-like space, with native grass, as native grass acts as natural filter in the storm water and would increase usable park-like space. Mr. Papierniak advised that he fully supports whatever the Board directs them to do, although he asked if the Village could possibly survey the neighborhoods and get resident input before they begin a project such as this. Trustee Dunnington asked if the Village is recycling in Arlington Alfresco, as she has only seen garbage cans. Mr. Papierniak advised that Groot is doing recycling and if the cans didn't make it out yet he will make sure they do. Trustee Dunnington advised that she would like to add composting to Arlington Alfresco to keep food waste out of our landfills. Mr. Papierniak stated that he will check with Groot to see if that's included in the contract and what the cost would be for additional cans. Mr. Recklaus advised that he would be looking for direction from the Board if that's something they all would like to pursue. Trustee Dunnington asked if Public Works can make it easier to get around the brick paver projects going on in the downtown area, which Mr. Papierniak advised they will work on creating a safe path. In addition, Trustee Dunnington asked if there is something that could be done to help the bike paths remain safe while some of the larger construction projects are going on in and around them. Mr. Papierniak advised that they could probably add signage for resurfacing, but as far as reconstruction goes, it is more of a hazard and may not be not be something they can do anything about, although his Department will look into it.

Trustee LaBedz expressed her concern about pedestrian safety with the brick paver work being done near the train station, which Mr. Papierniak acknowledged and stated that moving forward, they will take pedestrian safety into account, and if possible, plan alternate routes better. Trustee LaBedz asked about edge grinding and how soon after that will Public Works consider having the entire road resurfaced, which Mr. Papierniak advised that their goal is to not resurface a road for 3 – 5 years after edge grinding, but if the street surveying data suggests the road be resurfaced sooner, then that's what they will do.

Trustee Manganaro asked Mr. Papierniak if he has an update on the current cost to replace the entire lead service line, which Mr. Schweda advised that contractors are charging around \$9,000 for the homeowner's portion of the service line, with the whole line costing around \$12,000. Trustee Manganaro asked if they have data on how fast the costs are going up, which Mr. Papierniak advised that they don't have that data but are looking to enter into a multi-year contract with plumbers for installation services, as he's well aware there will be a strain on resources once the mandate begins in 2027 and wants to get ahead of it. Trustee Manganaro stated that



he is concerned about the rising cost of the materials as well and asked if Mr. Papierniak is thinking about accelerating the project, which Mr. Papierniak advised he's always thinking about accelerating, although they are trying to give residents a 12-month advance notice that they are coming.

Trustee Zyck expressed his appreciation for Public Works efforts to increase the Village's sustainability and save money at the same time, as well as remaining under budget for construction projects. Trustee Zyck advised that he also appreciates the informational letter that he received regarding the reconstruction of his street in the near future and asked if he will receive additional information regarding the timing of the project. Mr. Papierniak advised that they just got the contract approved by the Board and will send a follow-up letter once they meet with the contractor and get their schedule. The website also contains the most current construction information. Trustee Zyck asked if the overall cost for water main breaks went up last year because there were more breaks, or if the cost of the materials went up, which Mr. Papierniak advised that the cost could differ based upon Public Works Staff and how many were on overtime or how many occurred during the day. If it was a very high water main break year and they had to contract out for help, then the cost would go up significantly, which has only happened a couple of times. Trustee Zyck asked about staffing levels Village wide and if it's possible for someone from one department to cross train with someone in another department, which Mr. Recklaus advised that it is possible to a certain extent and explained how Fire and Building & Life Safety are having some conversations about the annual inspections and if Fire could possibly assist Building & Life Safety with them. There are also some inter-departmental work groups for planning purposes. Trustee Zyck asked if there is a different way to look at recruitment instead of each department having to do it on their own, which Mr. Recklaus advised that Human Resources and the Manager's Office have taken on a bigger role in terms of recruitment and have found that in terms of processes, having new staff is sometimes easier.

President Tinaglia thanked everyone for all of their hard work in putting together these very educational and informative departmental reports.

## **Other Business**

None.

## **Public Comment**

Robert Ekey, Arlington Heights resident, thanked everyone for all of the great work they do.

Robert, Arlington Heights resident, asked what species of grass the Public Works Department plants, which Mr. Papierniak advised that it is a deep-rooted grass mix, but is unsure of the name, although any landscaping supply company should carry it.

Robert advised that for years he has been picking up trash everywhere in Arlington Heights, including the downtown area, and noticed that the older trash cans in town have gum stuck on the lids and asked if they could be replaced with the newer ones that have lids. Robert also asked when Campbell Street will be done, which Mr. Papierniak advised that last year they did about 12 panels and will try and do another 20 this year, as the concrete structure is fine, it just needs to be profile-ground to improve the rideability of it.

## **Adjournment**

Trustee LaBedz moved, seconded by Trustee Schwingbeck, to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m. Upon a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

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VILLAGE OF  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
— INC. 1887 —

**Committee of the Whole**  
**9/8/2026**

**Item:** Interview of Maggie Sraga for appointment to the Environmental Commission effective September 13, 2026, term ending April 30, 2027

**Department:** Integrated Services

**Item Description:**

Maggie Sraga is passionate about building meaningful community connections and enhancing the vitality of our community. Maggie is the current Market Manager for the Arlington Heights Farmers Market and was the Operations Manager for the Historical Society until August 2025. These experiences deepened her appreciation for the environment, and she sees opportunities to align the Environmental Commission's efforts with initiatives that could be implemented or promoted through the Farmers Market.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None