

NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE

1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, Illinois 60016
(847) 296-9200 • Fax (847) 296-9207
www.nwmc-cog.org



*A Regional Association of Illinois
Municipalities and Townships
Representing a Population of Over One Million*

MEMBERS

Antioch
Arlington Heights
Bannockburn
Barrington
Bartlett
Buffalo Grove
Deer Park
Deerfield
Des Plaines
Elk Grove Village
Evanston
Fox Lake
Glencoe
Glenview
Grayslake
Hanover Park
Highland Park
Hoffman Estates
Kenilworth
Lake Bluff
Lake Forest
Lake Zurich
Libertyville
Lincolnshire
Lincolnwood
Morton Grove
Mount Prospect
Niles
Northbrook
Northfield
Northfield Township
Palatine
Park Ridge
Prospect Heights
Rolling Meadows
Schaumburg
Skokie
Streamwood
Vernon Hills
West Dundee
Wheeling
Wilmette
Winnetka

President
Kathleen O'Hara
Lake Bluff

Vice-President
Joan Frazier
Northfield

Secretary
Dan Shapiro
Deerfield

Treasurer
Ray Keller
Lake Zurich

Executive Director
Mark L. Fowler

NWMC Board Minutes
Wednesday, February 10, 2021
7:00 p.m.
Via Teleconference

I. Call to Order

President O'Hara called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

President O'Hara led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Karol Heneghan called the Roll.

Members Present:

Arlington Heights, Mayor Thomas Hayes
Barrington, President Karen Darch
Buffalo Grove, President Beverly Sussman
Deer Park, Acting Village President Greg Rusteberg
Deerfield, Mayor Harriet Rosenthal
Elk Grove Village, Manager Ray Rummel
Evanston, Acting Deputy City Manager Sharon Johnson
Glencoe, President Larry Levin
Glenview, President Jim Patterson
Hanover Park, President Rod Craig
Highland Park, Mayor Nancy Rotering
Hoffman Estates, Mayor Bill McLeod
Lake Bluff, President Kathleen O'Hara
Lake Zurich, Manager Ray Keller
Libertyville, Administrator Kelly Amidei
Lincolnwood, Trustee Jean Ikezoe-Halevi
Morton Grove, Administrator Ralph Czerwinski
Mount Prospect, Mayor Arlene Juracek
Niles, Trustee John Jekot
Northfield, President Joan Frazier, Trustee Charles Orth
Palatine, Manager Reid Ottesen
Rolling Meadows, Manager Barry Krumstok
Schaumburg, Mayor Tom Dailly
Skokie, Trustee Randy Roberts, Assistant Village Manager Nicholas Wyatt
Streamwood, Manager Sharon Caddigan
West Dundee, President Chris Nelson
Wheeling, Manager Jon Sfondilis
Wilmette, Manager Michael Braiman

Members Absent:

Antioch
Bannockburn
Bartlett
Des Plaines
Fox Lake
Grayslake

Kenilworth
Lincolnshire
Northfield Township
Prospect Heights
Winnetka

Lake Forest
Northbrook
Park Ridge
Vernon Hills

Others in Attendance:

Meribeth Mermall, Director, Corporate Affairs, ComEd
Patricia Eaves-Heard, Regional Manager Community Affairs, Nicor
Steve Brown – NWMC Communications Consultant
Paula McCombie – President, Village of South Barrington
Larry Bury, NWMC Deputy Director
Ellen Dayan, NWMC Purchasing Director
Marina Durso, NWMC Program Associate for Administrative Services
Mark Fowler, NWMC Executive Director
Karol Heneghan, NWMC Executive Administrative Assistant/Office Manager
Kendra Johnson, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation
Matt Pasquini, NWMC Program Associate for Transportation

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – January 13, 2021

Motion to approve the minutes of January 13 was made by President Levin. It was seconded by President Frazier and unanimously approved.

V. President’s Report – Kathleen O’Hara, NWMC President and President, Village of Lake Bluff

A. COVID-19/NWMC Here to Help Update

Mr. Fowler reported that all of the regions in the NWMC service territory advanced to the Phase 4 mitigations under the Restore Illinois Plan; however, Cook County initially issued significantly more restrictive measures than allowed by the state. He said the county issued a follow up order easing some of the restrictions but they are still more restrictive than those in the state’s plan. He discussed vaccine implementation efforts and noted mass vaccination sites in Lake, Cook and DuPage counties. He discussed expansion of those eligible to be vaccinated in Phase 1b as well as advocacy efforts to expand the list of eligible municipal employees allowed in Phase 1b.

Mr. Fowler reviewed the activities of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus COVID Task Force and said the group would be presenting recommended adjustments of the Phase 4 reopening measures to Governor Pritzker. He said the adjustments incorporate elements of Phase 5 sooner than provided for in the state plan. He discussed the Biden administration’s \$1.9 trillion “American Rescue Plan” and the proposal to send \$350 billion in direct aid to state and local governments. He said staff earlier in the day sent estimates for each NWMC member based on information provided by Congressman Krishnamoorthi’s office. Finally, he thanked NWMC members who sent letters to the Conference’s federal legislators in support of direct payments to local governments, including Deerfield, Glencoe and Highland Park.

B. FY2020-2021 NWMC Work Plan – Q3 Update

Mr. Fowler gave a report on the third quarter update to the FY2020-2021 NWMC Work Plan. He said highlights included: rollout of the Conference’s 2021 Legislative Program via Zoom meetings with legislators: launch of the NWMC Facebook page: work on expanding purchasing opportunities through Sourcewell’s national program: GIS data collection for the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan; and, approval of a new contract with Anderson Legislative Consulting.

VI. Priority Issues

A. Legislative Committee – Joan Frazier, President, Village of Northfield, Co-Chair and Nancy Rotering, Mayor, City of Highland Park, Co-Chair

1. 2021 Legislative Program Rollout

President Frazier reported that presentations of the 2021 NWMC Legislative Program via sub-regional meetings were held with legislators on January 29, February 1 and February 6. She reviewed the items discussed as well as legislator reactions and initiatives for the spring session of the General Assembly. Mayor Rotering thanked members who provided specific examples to illustrate the Conference's positions and noted that members and legislators have given positive feedback on the format for presenting the legislative program.

2. Legislative Update

Mr. Bury reported that the house and senate cancelled all session days for the remainder of the month due to the pandemic and that the house approved its rules earlier in the day, which allow for remote legislating. He said Governor Pritzker will conduct his budget address on February 17. He highlighted issues facing lawmakers and potential legislation impacting local governments. Finally, he reviewed legislation filed to date and said the legislative committee will be discussing the bills at their February 17 meeting.

B. Finance Committee – Ray Keller, NWMC Treasurer and Manager, Village of Lake Zurich, Chair

NWMC Auditor/Tax Preparation Service Recommendation

Mr. Keller reported that in response to the RFP issued for auditing and tax preparation services, the Conference received five proposals. He said that after review of the proposals, the Executive Board and Finance Committee recommended the approval of Seldon Fox as the NWMC auditor. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Levin. It was seconded by President Frazier and unanimously approved.

C. Transportation Committee – Rodney Craig, President, Village of Hanover Park, Co-Chair and Tom Dailly, President, Village of Schaumburg, Co-Chair

1. RTA Mobility Management Resources

Ms. Johnson reported that, at the NWMC Transportation Committee meeting on January 28, Sarah Blair, Mobility Outreach Coordinator for the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) gave a presentation on programs and resources that increase transit accessibility for seniors and people with disabilities and how municipalities can partner with the RTA to inform residents about available resources and services. President Craig said it was a great presentation and advised Ms. Johnson to send it to all members.

2. NWMC Member GIS Data Request

Ms. Johnson reported that, as part of ongoing efforts to provide members with useful information in implementing the NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan, staff requested that members share relevant GIS data showing sidewalk networks and bicycle facilities in their communities. She said this data will be added to the plan's tracking tools currently under development.

3. Northwest Council of Mayors Prior STP Program Issue

Mr. Fowler reported that a requested \$390,410 cost increase from the Village of Schaumburg for the Roselle Road bike path bridge project was approved by the Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee in May, 2018. He said former Council Planning Liaison Mike Walczak did not present the request for approval by the full Northwest Council of Mayors at the time and therefore the cost increase was not entered into the process to be funded through the region's Transportation Improvement Program. He said staff was contacted by the village's engineer on January 8 regarding the funding discrepancy and outlined efforts by staff to determine what happened.

Mr. Fowler reported that staff is working with Schaumburg village staff as well as staff from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning on solutions to provide funding for the

cost increase. He said that staff discussed a possible solution with Schaumburg staff on Tuesday and was awaiting direction from the village on how to proceed. He also outlined efforts taken by staff to ensure that there are no other outstanding issues with either council and additional project tracking measures going forward.

President O'Hara reported that the following two items were specific to the Northwest Council of Mayors. In order to comply with Open Meetings Act requirements, she opened the floor for public comment prior to discussion/action on these items. There were no public comments.

4. Cost Increase Request – City of Rolling Meadows

President O'Hara reported that, at their January 22 meeting, the Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee approved a request from the City of Rolling Meadows for \$115,200 in Construction Engineering funding in FFY 2024 and recommended approval by the full Northwest Council of Mayors. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by Mayor Hayes. It was seconded by Mayor McLeod and approved by roll call vote of the Northwest Council members.

5. STP Methodology Working Group & Staff Recommendations

President O'Hara reported that a working group was convened in December with staff to revise the Northwest Council's STP methodology. She said the Northwest Council of Mayors Technical Committee approved these changes at their January 22 meeting and recommended approval by the full Northwest Council of Mayors. Motion to approve the recommendation was made by President Sussman. It was seconded by Mayor McLeod and approved by roll call vote of the Northwest Council members.

VII. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by President Levin. It was seconded by Mayor McLeod and unanimously approved.

VIII. Other Business

None.

IX. For the Good of the Order

Mr. Fowler thanked Trustee Jekot for listing the Cook County COVID vaccination website and hotline number in the chat box in response to a question from Mayor Craig.

X. Next Meeting

President O'Hara said that the next NWMC Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 7:00 p.m. via videoconference.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by President Levin. It was seconded by President Sussman and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.