The Committee of the Whole of the Village of Winnebago, September 16, 2026. The online meeting link to GoToMeeting was made available to employees and the public to attend remotely.

1. RECORDING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was recorded.

2. CALL TO ORDER

The Committee of the Whole of the Village of Winnebago met in person on September 16, 2026, at 6:50 p.m. with President Franklin J. Eubank, Jr. presiding.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Trustee Jason Ackerman, Trustee Jeremy Graham, Trustee Adam LeFevre.

Trustee Mike McKinnon, away on personal reasons, attended virtually.

Guests Present: Attorney Mary Gaziano, Village Administrator Joseph Dienberg, Treasurer Dana Novinson, Public Works Director Chad Inkso, Chief Jeff White, and Lieutenant Nick Haff.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

A quorum was established.

5. MEETING GUIDELINES

Discussion and Vote to Allow an Absent Trustee to Vote By Phone or Other Allowable Means.

No absent Trustee attended remotely who could vote.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

Each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes. A maximum of thirty (30) minutes shall be generally allowed for public comment at each meeting.

No one requested to address the Board.

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes from September 2, 2026

Motion made by Trustee LeFevre, Seconded by Trustee Ackerman to approve the minutes of September 2, 2026. Motion carried on a voice vote.

8. DISCUSSION

a. 2027 Construction Project Overview

Administrator Dienberg gave an overview of the construction projects in three parts: completed in 2026, planned 2027 and those "in the hunt".

Those completed in 2026 were:

- Main Street widening additional parking
- Kasch Drive water main loop.

- Swift Street to be completed in October

2027 Projects

- Westfield box culvert – MFT funding
- Production Well 5
- Safe Routes to School -grant funded

In the Hunt

- Elida Street resurfacing
- Kasch Drive Completion
- Cunningham Road water main replacement

  There is an issue with the county (who owns the road) denying permits.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION (CLOSED SESSION) Pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)

None needed.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Chief White explained the Police Department has lost two officers and is in search of replacements. They have been unable to find any qualified lateral transfers. They have about ten interested in going to the police training if that is in the budget.

Mr. Graham suggested there should be some type of requirement of staying employed for a length of time should the person be sent to the police training.

Trustees Ackerman and LeFevre noted that the budget should be reviewed to be sure there are funds to hire new officers. They questioned whether the public truly wants 24/7 police coverage. Administrator Dienberg noted the water rate study, when completed, will include the cost of the employees presently included in the budget.

What is best for our residents? A public forum to ask the residents could be held.

11. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Trustee LeFevre, seconded by Trustee Ackerman to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Motion carried on a voice vote.

UNAPPROVED

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Sally Jo Huggins, Village Clerk