

# Meeting Minutes

Village of Downers Grove - Council Meeting

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**Betty Cheever Council Chambers**

**January 21, 2025**

**07:00 PM**

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## 1. Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

## 2. Roll Call

**Council Attendance (Present):** Mayor Barnett, Commissioner José, Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt, Commissioner Gilmartin, Commissioner Tully, Commissioner Davenport

**Council Attendance (Not Present):** Commissioner Glover

**Non-Voting:** Village Manager Dave Fieldman, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca, and Village Clerk Rosa Berardi

## 3. Minutes of Council Meetings

**MIN 2024-10509** A. Minutes: Village Council Meeting Minutes - January 14, 2025

**MOTION:** To Adopt the Village Council Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2025, as presented.

**RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner José

**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt

**AYES:** Commissioners José, Sadowski-Fugitt, Davenport, Tully, Gilmartin, Mayor Barnett

**NAYES:** None

## 4. Public Comments

Janet Whittingham, a resident, followed up on her concerns about the conditions of the Washington Street Crossing and she encouraged anyone else that has concerns to email the Council.

## 5. Consent Agenda

**BIL 2024-10627** A. Bills Payable: No. 6850 - January 21, 2025

**COR 2024-10628** B. Claims Ordinance: No. 6585 & 6587, Payroll - December 27, 2024 & January 10, 2025

**RES 2025-10656** C. Resolution: Approve an Extension and Amendment of the Annual Occupational Medical Evaluation and Fitness for Duty Examination Agreement with Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital

**RESOLUTION 2025-09**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN EXTENSION AND AMENDMENT OF THE ANNUAL OCCUPATIONAL MEDICAL EVALUATION AND FITNESS FOR DUTY EXAMINATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND ADVENTIST BOLINGBROOK HOSPITAL**

**RES 2025-10665** D. Resolution: Authorize the First Addendum to the Contract with Lauterbach & Amen, LLP

**RESOLUTION 2025-10**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A FIRST ADDENDUM TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE AND LAUTERBACH AND AMEN, LLP**

**MOTION:** To Adopt the Consent Agenda of the January 21, 2025 Village Council Meeting, as presented.

**RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner Hosé

**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt

**AYES:** Commissioners Hosé, Sadowski-Fugitt, Davenport, Tully, Gilmartin, Mayor Barnett

**NAYES:** None

**6. First Reading**

**ORD 2025-10658** A. Ordinance: Approve an Amendment to Planned Unit Development #61 to Permit the Construction of a Restaurant with Year-Round Outdoor Dining at 844 Warren Avenue

Community Development Director Stan Popovich presented this item via PowerPoint.

**Village Council Comments/Questions**

The Commissioners expressed general support for this item, with Commissioner Tully noting that off-street parking is not required in this zoning area and suggesting that pedestrian and car traffic be addressed later. Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt expressed concerns about parking during off-peak hours and the crosswalk north of the tracks, but felt these issues should not affect the approval of the PUD. Commissioner Hosé agreed that parking should not be of

concern at this stage because the commuter spaces located nearby are often unused. He also endorsed the development's requested variances.

Commissioner Gilmartin thanked the petitioner for their continued investment in the community, but also raised concerns about stormwater management and ADA access. The Petitioner explained that stormwater will be managed via the roofline and with the addition of permeable pavers in the outdoor dining area. He explained there will be ADA access via a ramp that will be located to the east of the stairs.

Commissioner Davenport showed support for the design of the building, noting that it could serve as a catalyst for the Fairview area. He suggested revising the retaining wall to create a continuous, higher wall along the Warren frontage, emphasized that stormwater mitigation will be improved with this development, and noted that pedestrian movement should continue to be monitored in this area.

Mayor Barnett acknowledged the challenges of increased pedestrian and vehicular traffic, also noting this is reflective of the growth and development of the area. He thanked the Petitioner for their continued investment in the community. Manager Fieldman requested the Council's feedback on the suggested retaining wall design change. The Petitioner explained that the transparent design, including the glass railing, was intended to invite the public in, while complying with alcohol regulations. The Petitioner expressed the willingness to collaborate with staff on further design adjustments.

Manager Fieldman said that staff would continue to work with the Petitioner on this item, noting that any changes would be reflected the next time this is presented to the Council.

### **Public Comments**

Janet Whittingham returned to the podium and expressed concerns about insufficient parking in the downtown area.

**ORD 2025-10666**     B. Ordinance: Amending Certain Traffic Control, Parking and Speed Provisions and Pedestrian/Bike Safety Improvements (Neighborhood Traffic Study #10)

Public Works Director Scott Vasko presented the details of this item via PowerPoint.

### **Village Council Comments/Questions**

Commissioner Gilmartin asked for clarification that the recommendations in the Traffic Study are not the same as those that are in the What's Possible. Mr. Vasko explained that some of the recommendations did not make it into the study because they are still being worked through in the What's Possible.

Commissioner Gilmartin noted that he wants to be sure there is consistency moving forward when it comes to intersections. The Village Manager said that the crosswalk striping seen in the Traffic Study would also appear in the final draft of the Active Transportation Plan.

Mayor Barnett asked if the school zone could be extended further north of Drove Street. Mr. Vasko shared that he could work with KLOA on this. Mayor Barnett noted that sidewalks and parking are always being evaluated in the Village because conditions consistently change. He said that this is why traffic studies are done sporadically throughout the Village.

## **7. Manager's Report**

There was no Manager's Report.

## **8. Attorney's Report**

Pursuant to Section 2.5 of the Downers Grove Municipal Code, Village Attorney Enza Petrarca presented the following for Village Council consideration:

1. An ordinance approving an amendment to Planned Unit Development #61 to permit the construction of a restaurant with year-round outdoor dining at 844 Warren Avenue.
2. An ordinance amending certain traffic control, parking and speed provisions and pedestrian/bike safety improvements.

## **9. Mayor's Report**

There was no Mayor's Report.

## **10. Council Member Reports**

Commissioner Tully spoke of the Council's discussions years prior about the possibility of a parking structure on the north side of tracks and noted there is much more development than years ago on the north side of the tracks. He suggested this is something to be considered during long range planning discussions over the summer.

Commissioner Gilmartin reminded all that there are warming shelters around town and shared that the Library is one of them.

Commissioner Davenport noted that it is possible to make better use of the parking Village currently has, rather than adding more.

Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt thanked the District 58 Education Foundation for bringing the Harlem Wizards in over the weekend. She also thanked them for braving the cold in the car lines at school.

## 11. Adjournment

**MOTION:** To Adjourn the January 21, 2025, Village Council Meeting.

**RESULT:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**MOTIONED TO APPROVE:** Commissioner José

**SECONDED BY:** Commissioner Sadowski-Fugitt

**AYES:** Commissioners José, Sadowski-Fugitt, Davenport, Tully, Gilmartin, Mayor Barnett

**NAYES:** None

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosa Berardi  
Village Clerk