

WHEELING TOWNSHIP MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 9, 2025

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Truth -In- Taxation Public Hearing on The Proposed 2025 Tax Year Levies of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for December 9, 2025 was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Supervisor Zeller Brauer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Clerk Gauza called the roll and the following members were present, Supervisor Maria Zeller Brauer, Trustee John Geier, Trustee Austin Mejdrich (joined remotely), Trustee Sheri Williams and Clerk Joanna Gauza.

Also in attendance: Wheeling Township Assessor Ken Jochum, Wheeling Township Attorney Patrick Roberts, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

Absent: Trustee Lorri Grainawi

**MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF HAVING TRUSTEE MEJDRICH JOINING THE BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM CALL**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve Trustee Mejdrich joining the Board Meeting Via Zoom.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Zeller Brauer, Williams, Geier  
NAYS: None.... Motion #1 Carried.

**PRESENTATION AND EXPLANATION OF THE PROPOSED 2025 TAX YEAR LEVIES**

**2025 Tax Levy – Town, General Assistance, and Mental Health Board:**

Supervisor Zeller Brauer called the Town Public Hearing for 2025 to order and stated that the proposed Town Fund Levy is in the amount of \$2,309,457. The General Assistance Fund Levy is \$419,174. The Mental Health Board Tax Levy is \$1,500,000.

She asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak on the levies to please step forward and give her/his name and address. Nobody stepped forward to make a comment and the hearing was closed.

**2025 Tax Levy- Road Management Tax Levy:**

Supervisor Zeller Brauer called the Road Management Public Hearing for 2025 to order and stated a proposed Road Management Levy for next year in the amount of \$723,109.

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She asked if there was anyone present who would like to speak on the levy to please step forward and give her/his name and address. Nobody stepped forward to make a comment and the hearing was closed.

## **MOTION #2: ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer seconded by Trustee Geier to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes.... Motion #2 Carried.

The meeting for Tuesday, December 9, 2025, was declared adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for December 9, 2025 was held in the Paula Ulreich Meeting Room, in the Township of Wheeling, 1616 North Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, Illinois. Supervisor Zeller Brauer called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

## **ROLL CALL**

Clerk Gauza called the roll and the following members were present, Supervisor Maria Zeller Brauer, Trustee John Geier, Trustee Austin Mejdrich (joined remotely), Trustee Sheri Williams and Clerk Joanna Gauza.

Also in attendance: Wheeling Township Assessor Ken Jochum, Wheeling Township Attorney Patrick Roberts, and Wheeling Township Director of Finance and Administration Regina Stapleton.

Absent: Trustee Lorri Grainawi

## **MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF HAVING TRUSTEE MEJDRICH JOINING THE BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM CALL**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve Trustee Mejdrich joining the Board Meeting Via Zoom.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Zeller Brauer, Williams, Geier  
NAYS: None.... Motion #1 Carried.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Supervisor Zeller Brauer led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **SWARING IN – ASSESSOR KEN JOCHUM FOR 4 YEAR TERM COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026.**

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Clerk Gauza Swore in Assessor Ken Jochum for 4 Year Term Commencing January 1, 2026

## **FUNDED AGENCY PRESENTATION – READING POWER:**

Grace, a manager at Reading Power, requested funding for Reading Power. Reading was founded in 2003 and has helped some 6200 struggling readers. The service is provided free of charging schools. The goal is to get students to grade level reading proficiency by third grade. Reading Power serves 138 students in Wheeling Township. It costs \$500 to train a tutor.

## **CITIZENS TO BE HEARD**

None.

## **MOTION #2: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON NOVEMBER 18, 2025**

Motion by Trustee Geier, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve the minutes of November 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes.... Motion #2 Carried.

## **AUDIT**

## **MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND**

Motion by Trustee Geier, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve batch #11/25/25 and #12/9/25 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$15,857.77 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Geier, Williams, Mejdrich, Zeller Brauer  
NAYS: None.... Motion #3 Carried.

## **MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND**

Motion by Trustee Mejdrich, seconded by Trustee Geier, to approve batch #120925 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$938.50 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Mejdrich, Geier, Williams, Zeller Brauer  
NAYS: None.... Motion #4 Carried.

## **MOTION #5: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND**

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Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, to approve batch #11/25/25, #12/8/25 and #12/9/25 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$213,690.65 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Zeller Brauer, Mejdrich, Geier  
NAYS: None.... Motion #5 Carried.

## **REPORTS**

**SUPERVISOR:** Supervisor Zeller Brauer reported:

- Supervisor Zeller Brauer and Trustees Geier and Grainawi attended the Connections for the Homeless seminar on November 19.
- Supervisor Zeller Brauer and Trustees Geier, Mejdrich, and Williams participated in the Thanksgiving Basket Distribution event on November 22, handing out nearly 300 baskets to residents in need.
- Supervisor Zeller Brauer, Trustees Geier and Grainawi, and Clerk Gauza attended the groundbreaking for Grace Terrace, a permanent, supportive housing facility for veterans and individuals with disabilities, located in Arlington Heights on December 4.
- Thank you to the Township staff who have gone above and beyond to administer the Thanksgiving Basket, Holiday Adopt-a-Family, and Operation Support our Troops programs. Also, several staff members have been coming in on weekends to assist volunteers in sorting donations and stocking shelves in the food pantry.
- Thank you to our amazing community for all of the recent food and cash donations to our food pantry and emergency fund.
- Congratulations Assessor Jochum and his staff on a successful property tax appeals outreach event on December 3.

**CLERK:** Clerk Gauza reported:

- On November 20<sup>th</sup>, I helped out with thanksgiving baskets. I was impressed with seeing the whole room filled with food donations and very grateful for our generous community.
- On November 21<sup>st</sup>, the notices of Truth in Taxation Hearings were sent out to Daily Herald. Also, the notices were posted on the front doors at our WT building.
- I attended the Grace Terrace Groundbreaking Celebration on December 4<sup>th</sup> in Arlington Heights Memorial Library. –this project is permanent supportive housing targeted to persons with disabilities and veterans.

**ASSESSOR:** Assessor Jochum reported:

- TAX YEAR 2024
- Refer to the 2024 Tax Year Bill Analysis
- TAX YEAR 2025
- Wheeling Township is now open for Board of Review Appeals until December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Over 1500 appeals have been analyzed and submitted thus far, we anticipate close to 2000 total appeals.
- We conducted an outreach with the Steele staff at which about 100 taxpayers filed appeals.
- The Board of Review reopened all closed townships for additional appeals due to late tax bills. This new open period does not include Wheeling Township or other Townships not yet opened.
- PERMITS
- We are focusing on permits and the identification of assessible value for submission to the Cook County Assessor.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Administrator Stapleton reported:

- Administrator Stapleton thanked the Board for your help with the Thanksgiving Distribution on Saturday, November 22, 2025. We distributed over 300 baskets on Saturday, and the remaining baskets were distributed during the week to various individuals. Thank you to all of our donors.
- Yesterday, we distributed gift cards to registered families. We helped over 300 children have a Merry Christmas. Thank you to all who donated. All families were able to get a book for their children, donated by the Arlington Heights Memorial Library employees. Every year, employees donate books to our Adopt-A-Family program. Thank you! They were also given a craft provided by the Indian Trails Library. Thank you to all!
- In November, the General Assistance Department processed 146 LIHEAP applications.
- Administrator Stapleton thanked the community for their monetary and food donations. We are a very fortunate community.
- Administrator Stapleton also thanked our Saturday helpers who come to sort food. We could not get it on the shelves without your help.
- Stats for November 2025
  - 1,507 rides – 801 non-medical, 706 Medical, (Disabled 222 rides)
  - 889 - meals delivered
  - 468 - visits to the Food Pantry – 918 people, 226 Children, and 427 Seniors

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOTION #6: APPROVAL OF 2026 WHEELING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETINGS**

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the 2026 Wheeling Township Board of Trustees Meetings.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Geier, Mejdrich, Zeller Brauer  
NAYS: None.... Motion #6 Carried.

**MOTION #7: APPROVAL OF 2026 WHEELING TOWNSHIP HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

Motion by Trustee Mejdrich, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the 2026 Wheeling Township Holiday Schedule.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Mejdrich, Geier, Williams, Zeller Brauer  
NAYS: None.... Motion #7 Carried.

**MOTION #8: APPROVAL TO REAPPOINT TRUSTEE GRAINAWI TO COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD – TERM EXPIRING MAY 2029**

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve to Reappoint Trustee Grainawi to Community Mental Health Board – Term Expiring May 2029.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Williams, Geier, Mejdrich, Zeller Brauer  
NAYS: None.... Motion #8 Carried.

**MOTION #9: APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #2025-09 - 2025 TAX LEVY - TOWN, GENERAL ASSISTANCE, AND MENTAL HEALTH BOARD**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the Ordinance #2025-09 - 2025 Tax Levy - Town, General Assistance, and Mental Health Board.

(An ordinance levying taxes for all Town purposes and for the Community Mental Health Fund, for Wheeling Township, Cook County, Illinois, for the 2025 Tax Year – collectable in 2026)

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Zeller Brauer, Geier, Mejdrich, Williams  
NAYS: None.... Motion #9 Carried.

**MOTION #10: APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #2025-10 - 2025 TAX LEVY – ROAD MANAGEMENT**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Geier to approve the Ordinance #2025-10 - 2025 Tax Levy – Road Management.

(An ordinance levying taxes for all Road purposes for Wheeling Township, Cook County, Illinois, for the 2025 Tax Year – collectable in 2026)

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ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Zeller Brauer, Geier, Mejdrich, Williams  
NAYS: None.... Motion #10 Carried.

**MOTION #11: APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE #2025-11 ADMINISTRATION OF SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION POLICY**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Williams to approve the Ordinance #2025-11 Administration of Social Media Pages and Electronic Communication Policy.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Zeller Brauer, Williams, Mejdrich, Geier  
NAYS: None.... Motion #11 Carried.

**MOTION #12: ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer seconded by Trustee Williams to adjourn.

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes.... Motion #12 Carried.

The meeting for Tuesday, December 9, 2025, was declared adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza  
Wheeling Township Clerk