

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Supervisor and Board of Trustees of Wheeling Township, for July 28, 2026 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 7:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Clerk Gauza called the roll and the following members were present, Supervisor Maria Zeller Brauer, Trustee John Geier, Trustee Lorri Grainawi, Trustee Trisha Chokshi, Trustee Sheri Williams and Clerk Joanna Gauza.

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

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

MOTION #1: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 23, 2026

Motion by Supervisor Trustee Geier, seconded by Trustee Chokshi, to approve the minutes of June 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting.

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

AUDIT

MOTION #2: AUDIT FOR ROAD MANAGEMENT FUND

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve batch #6/29/26, #7/17/26 and #7/28/26 against the Road Management Fund, in the amount of \$17,134.83 to be paid.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Grainawi, Williams, Geier, Chokshi, Zeller Brauer
NAYS: None.... Motion #2 Carried.

MOTION #3: AUDIT FOR CEMETERY FUND

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, to approve batch #6/26/26 and #7/28/26 against the Cemetery Fund, in the amount of \$3,481.30 to be paid.

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

MOTION #4: AUDIT FOR TOWN FUND

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Williams, to approve batch #6/29/26, #7/17/26, #7/27/26 and #7/28/26 against the Town Fund in the amount of \$216,363.80 to be paid.

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

REPORTS

SUPERVISOR: Supervisor Zeller Brauer reported:

- Thank you to Lynndah Layhey and the Transportation staff who made it possible for us to participate in the Frontier Days 4th of July parade in Arlington Heights. We were also grateful to have all the Trustees participate along with Clerk Gauza. This year, we asked Township and Mental Health Board funded agencies to walk with us; Ascension Center for Mental Health and Gerry's Café joined us.
- Conducted a tour of the Township and all programs for Reps. Canty and Grasse interns on July 10.
- Working with Cook County Commissioners Britton and Trevor to address an abandoned property in the Forrest River subdivision in Mount Prospect.

Ongoing Meetings and Projects:

- eNewsletter from July had a 68% open rate. This is well above industry standards. We are working on growing our list by adding a link to emails regarding the food pantry and the Assessor's Office (constituents must opt in to be added).
- Views on Facebook grew 37% this past month, with more than 37,000 total views. The top three posts were about the Township's Giving Garden, Trustee Grainawi's appointment as President of the Community Mental Health Board, and the Ready 4 Success Backpack Drive.
- A big thank you to Regina Stapleton and Julie Villarreal for their efforts in restructuring Social Services and Food Pantry programs.

WHEELING TOWNSHIP MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING JULY 28, 2026

Miscellaneous:

- Reminder to RSVP to Regina regarding the TOI conference in Springfield November 9 – 11. Staff members Lynndah Layhey and Julie Villarreal will be presenting.
- Reminder to RSVP to Regina regarding the MTA Symposium in Oak Brook on September 29.

ASSESSOR: Assessor Jochum reported:

- RECAP DATA
- Wheeling Township TOTAL PINS 60,179. RESIDENTIAL 55,801 73%-27%.
- Wheeling Township has the second highest assessed value of Cook County Townships. Wheeling \$2,929M, Northfield is highest AV \$3,345M.
- In the 2025 reassessment the CCAO increased township assessed valuation 27%, the BoR lowered assessed valuation by 5%.
 - THREE LARGEST TOWNSHIPS IN COOK COUNTY (PINS)

	TOTAL PINS	RESIDENTIAL PINS	AV
• THORNTON	75,601	59,494	\$1,096M
• WORTH	64,586	57,224	\$1,744M
• WHEELING	60,179	55,801	\$2,929M
- TOTAL VALUE of township exemptions: \$688,807,441.
- TAX YEAR 2026
- We anticipate that Wheeling Township will be open for CCAO appeals in late August however we are now accepting pre-files for both the CCAO and the BoR. We currently have over 200 files/cases which we are working
- OTHER ACTIVITY
- Our email list is currently over 2,100 and growing, thank you to Regina for her assistance as well as our communications team.
- We met with Liz Nicholson who will likely be our newest Board of Review Commissioner, to introduce her to our Assessor office and begin communication and coordination. We will likely open with the Board of Review upon Ms. Nicholson's first month in office.
- Beginning work on a seminar for taxpayers who are purchasing their first home and who are unfamiliar with real estate taxes. This will be a highly personalized, by reservation, session. Our initial plan is to work with Realtors to communicate this opportunity. We presented an experimental session similar to this several years ago which was well received.

MENTAL HEALTH BOARD: Trustee Grainawi reported:

- The CMH Board approved the following FY2027-28 Funding Cycle documents:
 - Notice of Funding Availability
 - Funding Application

- Funding Application Rubric
 - Which will serve as a guide to assist the Board with preliminary proposal reviews
- Announced the opening of the FY2027-28 funding application via website (CMHB page and Township landing page), email notifications to currently funded agencies, and press release
- Following the finalization of FY2026-27 funding agreements, the Board has begun scheduling site visits of funded agencies

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Stapleton reported:

- Received the first pass of the Home Page for the new website, and it was very nice. We have a lot of work ahead of us.
- Has been busy processing FOIA requests. We have received 6 FOIA requests in the last two weeks, 3 of which are Commercial FOIA requests.
- Attended the Administrator's Meeting at Ela Township on July 8, 2026.
- Has been working with USIC on the contract for them to mark our sewer lines for JULIE Tickets.
- David, the Food Pantry Coordinator resigned, and Todd will be taking his place
- Stats for June 2026
 - 1,889 rides – 929 non-medical, 960 Medical, (Disabled, 295 rides)
 - 957 - meals delivered
 - 575 - visits to the Food Pantry – 1,113 people, 263 Children, and 544 Seniors

NEW BUSINESS

AUDIT – THE ATA GROUP

The audit issued a clean report and no issues. Property tax revenue was up 1.5%. The retirement fund is well funded. There is a 13 month reserve.

MOTION #5: APPROVAL 2025/2026 AUDIT – THE ATA GROUP

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Geier, to approve the 2025/2026 Audit – The ATA Group.

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

MOTION #6: APPROVAL – 7/31/2026 INSURANCE RENEWAL

Motion by Trustee Grainawi, seconded by Trustee Geier, to approve the 7/31/2026 Insurance Renewal.

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

MOTION #7: APPROVAL OF THE MILEAGE RATE REIMBURSEMENT EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

Motion by Trustee Chokshi, seconded by Trustee Grainawi, to approve the Mileage Rate Reimbursement Effective July 1, 2026.

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

MOTION #8: APPROVAL OF USIC CONTRACT

Motion by Supervisor Zeller Brauer, seconded by Trustee Grainawi, to approve the USIC Contract.

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

MOTION #9: APPROVAL OF 2027-2028 WHEELING TOWNSHIP FUNDING APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Motion by Trustee Williams, seconded by Trustee Chokshi, to approve the 2027-2028 Wheeling Township Funding Application Questions.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- July 30, 2026 – Predators of Illinois Past, 10 am via Zoom
- August 5, 2026 - Ready for Success - Filled Backpacks Due (See Newsletter)
- August 12, 2026 -Wheeling Township Mental Health Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- August 14, 2026- Wheeling Township Mental Health Board Agency Funding Applications Due
- August 14, 2026 - Protect Yourself from Scams & Fraud, 10 am in Person
- August 21, 2026 - Fall Prevention, 10 am in Person
- August 25, 2026 - Wheeling Township Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
- August 27, 2026 - Alternative Medical Options-Explore Chiropractic & Acupuncture, 10 am via Zoom

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS:

Administrator Stapleton: Power Meeting, one of funded agencies, was overjoyed to learn getting \$5,000 grant. Once the pantry transition with Todd joining is settled, will reach out to some churches.

MOTION #10: ADJOURNMENT

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

VOICE CALL VOTE: All Ayes.... Motion #10 Carried.

The meeting for Tuesday, July 28, 2026, was declared adjourned at 8:13 p.m. The next scheduled regular board meeting is set for Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

Joanna M. Gauza
Wheeling Township Clerk