



# VILLAGE OF WINNECONNE

*The Community of Opportunity*

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[www.winneconnewi.gov](http://www.winneconnewi.gov)

## Minutes

### Village Board

**Thursday, December 4th, 2025, 6:15 pm**  
**Village Board Room, 30 S. 1<sup>st</sup> St., Winneconne**

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#### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 6:17pm.

**Roll Call:** Olson (present), Bouras (present), Stelzner (absent), Janikowski (present), Krings (arrival 6:29pm), Miller (present), Boucher (present)

**Pledge of Allegiance** said in unison.

#### **Public Hearing**

Public hearing for comment on the proposed 2026 budget

1<sup>st</sup> Call: No public comment.

2<sup>nd</sup> Call: No public comment.

3<sup>rd</sup> Call: No public comment.

#### **Communications**

None.

#### **Public Participation**

None.

#### **New Business**

2026 Proposed Budget Presentation by Administrator Fuller

- Administrator Fuller thanked the Board for workshop attendance and Board's input on budget, additionally thanking Treasurer Schoenberger and staff for their input and efforts in creating the budget.
- Introduction
  - Per Administrator Fuller, the budget shows dollars into actions to achieve measurable community outcomes.
  - Creation of the budget focuses on near and long-range objectives from the Board, remaining continuously focused on operational efficiency, fiscal responsibility and service excellence.
- Atmospherics
  - Administrator Fuller noted that it is important to level set understanding of the community in terms of demographics. Understanding the data behind the demographics and health of the community helps to create an understanding on how to properly allocate funds.

- Administrator Fuller noted that the communities used as benchmarked are local and of similar size.
- Administrator Fuller stated that the Village has a higher adjusted gross income and relative low unemployment. He additionally noted that while it is statistically correct to say that the Village has a high percentage of affordable housing, it is related to demand.
- The Board reviewed the current organizational structure of the Village departments.
- Fund Structure of the Village of Winneconne
  - Treasurer Schoenberger reviewed the multiple types of funds: general, special revenue, capital projects, debt service, and enterprise funds.
- The Budget Process
  - The Board reviewed the eight steps of the budget process: establish budget goals and priorities, review financial health and past budgets, gather revenue projections, develop departmental budgets with BOEs, draft the budget proposal, public engagement and hearings, budget approval and adoption, and implementation and monitoring.
- Village Board Goals and Initiatives
  - Administrator Fuller reviewed the 2025 Village Board goals and initiatives which are broken down into near term objectives (next 12 months) and far term (next three years). Overall, the mission statement of the Village Board is to encourage the Village of Winneconne to be viewed as the premier community in the Fox Valley to live, work, and grow. The Board also briefly reviewed the 2026 Village Board goals and initiatives.
  - Administrator Fuller highlighted the 2025 key milestones and achievements which included the completion of the 6<sup>th</sup> Ave total utility reconstruction and overlay, sale of the remaining 15 acres of industrial land, as well as the creation of over 65 processes, procedures, and guides, in addition to many more milestones for the Village.
- General Budget Overview
  - Overall reflections are as noted:
    - 3.06% increase from 2025
    - Equates to a \$0.08 increase per \$1,000 assessed property value
    - Expenditure increases reflect staff market adjustments, economic impacts, refinement of budget to actual controls & data, as well as borrowing for capital investments
  - Administrator Fuller reviewed the revenue and expense summary as included in the presentation.
  - Department expense trends in administration have greatly decreased. Administrator Fuller noted that this is due to becoming more accurate in

budgeting and understanding how to properly allocate expenses to the correct budget lines.

- Property Tax distribution
  - The Village will include a flier with municipal taxes that will show how exactly dollars are distributed between the Village, the School district, the County and Fox Valley Tech.
- General Budget Overview Cont.
  - Overall observation as noted by Administrator Fuller: across a six year period, the Village's financial position reflects consistent fiscal management with controlled expense variance and improved alignment between adopted and actual revenues. Early-year gaps have narrowed, and recent results indicate enhanced forecasting accuracy. From 2020-2023, each year closed with over-expenditures ranging from 5-14% over budget.
- Mill Rate Calculation
  - Administrator Fuller explained how the mill rate is calculated. The mill rate presents the amount of property tax applied per \$1,000 of assessed property value. It is calculated by dividing the total levy by the total assessed value, then multiple by 1,000.
  - Calculated mill rate is \$7.59 per \$1,000. This is a \$0.08 increase. The mill rate is close to average for local municipalities. This also shows that the Village has maintained a sustainable and stable mill rate so that the taxpayer has a more stable tax bill every year.
- General Fund Reserve Balance
  - Treasurer Schoenberger described the general fund reserve. The general fund reserve is the amount of money the Village keeps to cover emergencies, stabilize cash flow, and protect against revenue shortfalls.
  - Projected Year end reserve – If all remaining budgeted expenses are spent and no additional revenue is received, the projected Fund Reserve balance entering 2026 will be \$1,197,240.
- Capital Investment Plan (CIP)
  - Administrator Fuller spoke through the creation of the CIP and its continued review and improvement. He noted that the CIP will be extended to 10 years in the next year, which will be reflected in that budgeting cycle.
    - Administrator Fuller noted that the projects for next year will be paid for in cash.

- Additional Considerations
  - Common misconceptions
    - Utility rates established and set by the Village Board
      - Sewer
      - Compost
      - Stormwater

Utility rates established and set by the Public Service Commission (PSC):

- Water
- Administrator Fuller noted the Village of Winneconne administers billing and collection of property taxes on behalf of all taxing entities of government that levy taxes on property located within the Village. Those entities include Winnebago County, Winneconne Community School District, Fox Valley Tech, and the Village. While residents receive a single consolidated bill, **each** taxing entity operates independently and determines its own tax levy.

**Motion by Olson, Second by Krings** to approve the 2026 budget as presented  
**Motion passes by roll call vote: Janikowski (aye), Krings (aye), Miller (aye), Olson (aye), Bouras (aye), Boucher (aye) 6-0-0**

**Confirm next meeting**

Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 5:30 pm – Village Hall Board Room

**Adjourn**

**Motion by Miller, Second by Janikowski** to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion passes by voice vote 6-0-0**

Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm.