



WHEATON CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

MAYOR PHILIP J. SUESS
COUNCILWOMAN ERICA BRAY-PARKER | **COUNCILWOMAN** LEAH BRICE | **COUNCILMAN** SCOTT BROWN
COUNCILMAN BRADLEY CLOUSING | **COUNCILWOMAN** LYNN ROBBINS | **COUNCILMAN** SCOTT WELLER
WHEATON CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 303 W WESLEY STREET, WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60187

Monday, December 15, 2025

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The regular Wheaton City Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Philip J. Suess. Upon roll call, the following were:

Physically Present:	Mayor Suess Councilwoman Robbins Councilman Weller Councilwoman Bray-Parker Councilman Brown
Absent:	Councilman Clousing Councilwoman Brice
City Staff Physically Present:	Michael Dzugan, City Manager William Kolschowsky, Assistant City Manager Dawn Didier, City Attorney Robert Brill, Fire Chief James Kozik, Director of Planning & Economic Development Robert Lehnhardt, Director of Finance Holly Schulz, Director of Human Resources Joseph Tebrugge, Director of Engineering Princeton Youker, Chief of Police Erik Berg, Management Analyst Samuel Webb, Public Works Fleet Superintendent Susan Bishel, Public Information Officer Andrea Rosedale, City Clerk
City Staff Electronically Present:	None

2. Presentations

Mayor Suess presented the St. Francis High School Boys Football Team State Championship Day Proclamation to the St. Francis High School Boys Football Team. Coach Bob McMillen expressed gratitude to the City of Wheaton for recognizing the team and school. He expressed appreciation to the boys on the team for their efforts.

Mayor Suess presided over the swearing-in ceremonies of Police Officer Alejah M. Adams, Police Officer Tommaso E. Ballone, and Police Officer Remy A. Delgado, each preceded by remarks from Police Chief Youker.

3. Citizens to be Heard

None.

4. Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Robbins moved and Councilman Weller seconded that the following action be taken on the Consent Agenda item:

1. Approve the Minutes of the Wheaton City Council Regular Meeting – December 1, 2025, as submitted.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes:	Councilwoman Robbins Councilman Weller Councilwoman Bray-Parker Councilman Brown Mayor Suess
Nays:	None
Absent:	Councilwoman Brice Councilman Clousing <u>Motion Carried Unanimously</u>

5. Pass Ordinance O-2025-52, An Ordinance Adopting the City of Wheaton Calendar Year 2026 Budget

Councilman Brown moved and Councilwoman Bray-Parker seconded that O-2025-52, An Ordinance Adopting the City of Wheaton Calendar Year 2026 Budget, be passed.

City Manager Dzugan stated the Council held the Public Hearing for the 2026 Budget on December 8. He expressed gratitude to the City's staff and especially the Finance Department for their hard work.

In response to Mayor Suess, Director Lehnhardt confirmed the budget reflects \$160.8 million in revenue and \$153.1 million in expenses.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes:	Councilman Brown Mayor Suess Councilwoman Robbins Councilman Weller Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Nays:	None
Absent:	Councilman Clousing Councilwoman Brice <u>Motion Carried Unanimously</u>

6. Pass Ordinance O-2025-53, An Ordinance Levying Taxes for General and Special Corporate Purposes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 for the City of Wheaton, Illinois

Councilwoman Bray-Parker moved and Councilwoman Robbins seconded that O-2025-53, An Ordinance Levying Taxes for General and Special Corporate Purposes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 for the City of Wheaton, Illinois, be passed.

City Manager Dzugan reported the first reading of the Ordinance was on December 1. He confirmed the levy includes a 3% increase which has a \$35 impact for a cash valued property of \$550,000.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes:	Councilwoman Bray-Parker Councilman Brown Mayor Suess Councilwoman Robbins Councilman Weller
Nays:	None
Absent:	Councilwoman Brice Councilman Clousing <u>Motion Carried Unanimously</u>

7. Pass Ordinance O-2025-54, An Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 in and for the City of Wheaton Special Service Area Number Three

Councilman Weller moved and Councilman Brown seconded that O-2025-54, An Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 in and for the City of Wheaton Special Service Area Number Three, be passed.

City Manager Dzugan stated the first reading of the Ordinance was on December 1. He confirmed the levy is unchanged for SSA 3, which provides for the maintenance of open spaces within the Streams Subdivision.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes:	Councilman Weller Councilwoman Bray-Parker Councilman Brown Mayor Suess Councilwoman Robbins
Nays:	None
Absent:	Councilwoman Brice Councilman Clousing <u>Motion Carried Unanimously</u>

8. Pass Ordinance O-2025-55, An Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 in and for the City of Wheaton Special Service Area Number Nine

Councilwoman Robbins moved and Councilman Brown seconded that O-2025-55, An Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2026 and Ending December 31, 2026 in and for the City of Wheaton Special Service Area Number Nine, be passed.

City Manager Dzugan stated the first reading of the Ordinance was on December 1. He noted the initial levy for SSA 9 is \$500,000, with \$325,000 allocated to the Downtown Wheaton Association and \$175,000 to the City to cover extraordinary services in the area.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilwoman Robbins
Councilman Weller
Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess

Nays: None

Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing

Motion Carried Unanimously

9. Pass Ordinance O-2025-56, An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Wheaton, Appendix B (Fee Schedule), Section B-8, Public Works Water and Sewer Rates and Fees

Councilman Weller moved and Councilwoman Bray-Parker seconded that O-2025-56, An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Wheaton, Appendix B (Fee Schedule), Section B-8, Public Works Water and Sewer Rates and Fees, be passed.

City Manager Dzugan stated the first reading of the Ordinance was on December 1. He confirmed the Ordinance amends the water rates and fees to align the City's rate increase to that of the DuPage Water Commission noting that currently residents would see 2 annual increases in January and June.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilman Weller
Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins

Nays: None

Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing

Motion Carried Unanimously

10. Pass Ordinance O-2025-57, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 "Administration", Article VI "Personnel", Division 1 "Generally", Section 2-481 "Employee Rules and Regulations Adopted"

Councilwoman Robbins moved and Councilman Brown seconded that O-2025-57, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 "Administration", Article VI "Personnel", Division 1 "Generally", Section 2-481 "Employee Rules and Regulations Adopted", be passed.

City Manager Dzugan stated the City Employee Manual has been updated effective January 1, 2026 to include two amendments related to Illinois law changes.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilwoman Robbins
Councilman Weller
Councilwoman Bray-Parker

Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

11. Adopt Resolution R-2025-97, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Wheaton and the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority for the “Ride DuPage” Program

Councilwoman Bray-Parker moved and Councilman Brown seconded that R-2025-97, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement Between the City of Wheaton and the Suburban Bus Division of the Regional Transportation Authority for the “Ride DuPage” Program, be adopted.

City Manager Dzugan stated that due to Milton Township no longer leading Ride DuPage, the City must now have its own agreement with PACE to continue funding the program. He said there are no other options to maintain the current service level. He noted that PACE's subsidy has been reduced from 75% to 50% for 2026, doubling the City's cost to \$30,000. He mentioned that 2026 will involve evaluating transportation services, with DuPage County studying consolidation of services early in the year.

Councilman Brown expressed his support for the review of transportation services.

Mayor Suess expressed disappointment with the RTA's inability to maintain the previous subsidy level.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins
Councilman Weller

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

12. Adopt Resolution R-2025-98, A Resolution for Construction on State Highways

Councilman Brown moved and Councilwoman Robbins seconded that R-2025-98, A Resolution for Construction on State Highways, be adopted.

City Manager Dzugan stated the resolution allows the City to perform work in the state of Illinois rights-of-ways such as Roosevelt Road relating to water, sewer mains and traffic signals.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins

Councilman Weller
Councilwoman Bray-Parker

Nays: None
Absent: Councilman Clousing
Councilwoman Brice
Motion Carried Unanimously

13. Adopt Resolution R-2025-99, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Service Agreement for Food and Beverage Concessionaire Services at the College Avenue Metra Train Station (303 N. President St.) Between the City of Wheaton and Platform Coffee, LLC

Councilman Weller moved and Councilman Brown seconded that R-2025-99, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Service Agreement for Food and Beverage Concessionaire Services at the College Avenue Metra Train Station (303 N. President St.) Between the City of Wheaton and Platform Coffee, LLC, be adopted.

City Manager Dzugan confirmed that staff received one proposal for food and beverage services at the College Avenue train station. He noted the proposal, submitted by a Wheaton resident and owner of Platform Coffee, LLC, set a monthly fee of \$600.

Roll Call Vote:
Ayes: Councilman Weller
Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

14. Adopt Resolution R-2025-100, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement No. 582 with MacQueen Equipment LLC for the Purchase of One (1) Replacement Fire Ladder Truck for a Total Amount Not to Exceed \$2,284,000

Councilman Brown moved and Councilwoman Bray-Parker seconded that R-2025-100, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement No. 582 with MacQueen Equipment LLC for the Purchase of One (1) Replacement Fire Ladder Truck for a Total Amount Not to Exceed \$2,284,000, be adopted.

City Manager Dzugan reported the City was presented with an opportunity to purchase a 2024 Pierce 100-foot mid-mount tower truck. He explained, due to the strong resale value of the City's current rear-mount tower truck, purchasing the demo mid-mount truck is financially advantageous compared to proceeding with the previously ordered 2028 rear-mount truck. He stated the net cost of the demo truck is \$1,624,700 after the sale of the current truck for \$670,000. He further noted that the fleet replacement fund has approximately \$1.5 million set aside for the tower truck replacement by the end of 2025, leaving a shortfall of approximately \$120,000, which can be covered by the fund. He added that completing the purchase in 2025 will require a budget amendment, which is included on the agenda.

Chief Brill explained that the mid-mount tower truck provides improved maneuverability, allowing it to be used more effectively in tighter areas. He detailed the truck provides access to areas both below grade and above grade and offers significant operational advantages due to its setup design. He noted the truck can be fully set up by one firefighter in less than 30 seconds, reducing required manpower and allowing other firefighters to perform additional tasks. He noted the truck's design uses only two external outriggers instead of four, increasing its ability to operate in high-traffic or heavily parked areas.

Chief Brill reported the truck is equipped with cameras that allow the driver to position the vehicle between parked cars without exiting the cab. He highlighted that once parked, the power takeoff can be activated and the truck set up using a remote control by a single firefighter, saving time and improving efficiency, particularly in downtown areas.

He addressed prior concerns with mid-mount ladder trucks, specifically the long rear overhang and associated safety risks, and explained that Pierce Manufacturing resolved this issue with an innovative ladder design introduced after 2022 that collapses to nearly the same length as the City's current truck. He stated the truck includes rear-steer technology derived from Oshkosh military designs, resulting in improved maneuverability. Overall, he stated the truck is more usable, safer, and operates more like a fire engine, making it well suited for critical areas such as the downtown.

In response to Mayor Suess, Chief Brill confirmed the City's current tower truck is nearly nine years old, having been purchased in 2017. Mayor Suess expressed support for the purchase noting replacement of the City's current tower truck would be received sooner than anticipated and would be an improved product.

Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes:	Councilman Brown Mayor Suess Councilwoman Robbins Councilman Weller Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Nays:	None
Absent:	Councilman Clousing Councilwoman Brice
	<u>Motion Carried Unanimously</u>

15. Adopt Resolution R-2025-101, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement No. 583 with Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus for the Sale of a 2017 Pierce Fire Apparatus for \$670,000

Councilman Weller moved and Councilwoman Robbins seconded that R-2025-101, A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Agreement No. 583 with Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus for the Sale of a 2017 Pierce Fire Apparatus for \$670,000, be adopted.

City Manager Dzugan stated the resolution authorizes the agreement to sell the 2017 fire truck to Brindlee Mountain Fire Apparatus.

Roll Call Vote:	
Ayes:	Councilman Weller Councilwoman Bray-Parker

Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

16. Pass Ordinance O-2025-58, An Ordinance Amending the Calendar Year 2025 Budget Contained in Ordinance No. O-2024-34

Councilwoman Robbins moved and Councilwoman Bray-Parker seconded that O-2025-58, An Ordinance Amending the Calendar Year 2025 Budget Contained in Ordinance No. O-2024-34, be passed.

City Manager Dzugan stated the Ordinance amends the budget to pay for the fire truck at \$2.2 million.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilwoman Robbins
Councilman Weller
Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

17. Council Comment

Councilwoman Bray-Parker wished everyone in Wheaton a Happy Holidays and a Happy Hanukkah to those that celebrate. She hopes that everyone enjoys time with their friends and family.

Councilwoman Robbins wished the community a Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year.

Mayor Suess looked back on a successful 2025 and thanked the City's staff and employees for their dedication to serving Wheaton's residents. He mentioned that Wheaton is fortunate to have the resources needed to do what needs to be done and acknowledged the community's appreciation for the services offered. He also wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

18. Approval of Warrant

Councilwoman Bray-Parker moved and Councilman Brown seconded that Warrant No. 910 in the amount of \$2,042,370.85, be approved.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins
Councilman Weller

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

19. Adjournment

Councilwoman Bray-Parker moved and Councilman Brown seconded that the regular Wheaton City Council Meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Councilwoman Bray-Parker
Councilman Brown
Mayor Suess
Councilwoman Robbins
Councilman Weller

Nays: None
Absent: Councilwoman Brice
Councilman Clousing
Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Rosedale
City Clerk

Submitted for Approval: January 5, 2026