

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE GURNEE VILLAGE BOARD GURNEE VILLAGE HALL NOVEMBER 3, 2025	
Call to Order	Mayor Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Other Officials in Attendance	Patrick Muetz, Village Administrator; Austin Pollack, Assistant to the Village Administrator; Bryan Winter, Village Attorney; David Ziegler, Community Development Director; Heather Galan, Public Works Director; Brian Gosnell, Finance Director; Christine Palmieri, Director of Human Resources; Ellen Dean, Economic Development Director; Ryan Nelson, Information Systems Director; John Kavanagh, Fire Chief; David Douglass, Deputy Fire Chief; Brian Smith, Police Chief; Jeremy Gaughan, Deputy Police Chief; Jason Kalinowski, Police Commander.
Roll Call	PRESENT: 5- Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O’Brien ABSENT: 1- Balmes
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Hood led the Pledge of Allegiance.
<u>A. PUBLIC COMMENT</u>	None.
<u>B. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA</u>	It was moved by Trustee O’Brien, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. <u>Roll call,</u> AYE: 5- Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O’Brien NAY: 0- None ABSENT: 1- Balmes Motion Carried.
<u>C. CONSENT AGENDA / OMNIBUS VOTE</u>	The Village Administrator read the consent agenda for an omnibus vote as follows. 1. Approval of the minutes from the October 20, 2025 meeting. 2. Approval of the 2026 Village Board meeting schedule. 3. Approval of Payroll for period ending October 17, 2025 in the amount of \$1,145,958.46. 4. Approval of Bills for the period ending November 3, 2025 in the amount of \$1,182,626.14. It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve the Consent Agenda for an omnibus vote as read. <u>Roll call,</u> AYE: 5- Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O’Brien NAY: 0- None ABSENT: 1- Balmes Motion Carried.
<u>D. PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATION</u>	None.
<u>E. REPORTS</u>	None.
<u>F. OLD BUSINESS</u>	None.
<u>G. NEW BUSINESS</u>	1. Approval of Ord. 2025 – 76 amending Chapter 78, Section 78-105 Subsection (d) of the Gurnee Municipal Code to remove the parking prohibition on Hickory Haven Drive, both sides.

Administrator Muetz said the Village was recently approached by residents of Hickory Haven Drive regarding the No Parking Restriction on the street. He stated based upon information from longtime residents of the street; the No Parking restriction was instituted 20+ years ago to alleviate parking demands from visitors to Lake Carina on the east side of IL Route 21. The Lake County Forest Preserve constructed parking facilities for Lake Carina in 2008, thereby eliminating the necessity for the No Parking restrictions on Hickory Haven Drive. Administrator Muetz stated he advised the residents to start a petition and collect signatures from those in the neighborhood showing their support of removing the restriction. Twenty of the 28 homes signed the petition in support. In addition, the Police and Fire Departments do not have concerns about removing the No Parking designation. As such, staff drafted an ordinance amending the Municipal Code to remove the restriction. He stated it is important to note the 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. No Parking, as well as No Parking during snow and ice control operations, will remain in effect like all other Village streets.

It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to approve of Ord. 2025 – 76 amending Chapter 78, Section 78-105 Subsection (d) of the Gurnee Municipal Code to remove the parking prohibition on Hickory Haven Drive, both sides.

Roll call,

AYE: 5- Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 1- Balmes

Motion Carried.

2. Approval of Ord. 2025 – 77 authorizing an extension of time for a Special Use Permit to allow for the establishment and operation of a "Government Office" on property located at 5626-5652 Northridge Drive, previously granted under Ordinance No. 2023-81.

Administrator Muetz said on November 20, 2023, the Village Board approved a Special Use Permit to allow the Veterans Assistance Commission (VAC) of Lake County to establish and operate a government office on property at 5626-5652 Northridge Drive. He stated the VAC proposes to build a 44,000 square foot multi-use office building on parcels previously occupied by Outback Steakhouse and Joe's Crab Shack. The new building will include one- and three-story sections and will offer programs and services to the veterans and their families. The services include but are not limited to gym/fitness areas for individual or group training, café and kitchen areas, a community hub, office spaces, and conference/board rooms. Administrator Muetz stated Special Use Permits become effective upon submission of a building permit consistent with the Village Board approval. As the funding for the proposed project has been delayed, the Veterans Assistance Commission is requesting an extension to the Special Use Permit granted by Ordinance 2023-81. He stated the VAC is expecting to break ground for the facility in the Spring of 2028. Therefore, the attached ordinance extends the Special Use Permit to the end of March 2028. Administrator Muetz stated by that time, building permits will have been applied for and the requirements of the Special Use Permit activation will have been met.

It was moved by Trustee Woodside, seconded by Trustee Garner to approve of Ord. 2025 – 77 authorizing an extension of time for a Special Use Permit to allow for the establishment and operation of a "Government Office" on property located at 5626-5652 Northridge Drive, previously granted under Ordinance No. 2023-81.

Roll call,

AYE: 5- Thorstenson, Woodside, Ross, Garner, O'Brien

NAY: 0- None

ABSENT: 1- Balmes

Motion Carried.

3. Approval of a Proclamation designating November 11, 2025, as "Veterans Day" in the Village of Gurnee.

Mayor Hood summarized the Proclamation.

	It was moved by Trustee O'Brien, seconded by Trustee Ross to approve of a Proclamation designating November 11, 2025, as "Veterans Day" in the Village of Gurnee. Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried. 4. Approval of a Proclamation designating November 3, 2025, as "Allen J. Lynch Day" in the Village of Gurnee. Mayor Hood summarized the Proclamation. It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee Thorstenson to of a Proclamation designating November 3, 2025, as "Allen J. Lynch Day" in the Village of Gurnee. Voice Vote: ALL AYE: Motion Carried.
<u>H. PUBLIC COMMENT</u>	None.
Closing Comments	None.
Adjournment	It was moved by Trustee Garner, seconded by Trustee O'Brien to adjourn the meeting. <u>Voice Vote:</u> ALL AYE: Motion Carried. Mayor Hood adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.
Andrew Harris, Village Clerk	
Reception Honoring Allen James Lynch - Congressional Medal of Honor recipient and a long-time resident of Gurnee	Following adjournment of the meeting a reception was held to recognize and honor Allen James Lynch, a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, and a long-time resident of Gurnee. The recognition included an introduction from Mayor Hood, followed by showing of the seven-minute Medal of Honor Book video which provides an oral history of the actions Lynch took in Vietnam that led to his recognition. In addition, Gurnee American Legion Post Commander James Walsh and State Representative Joyce Mason spoke on the importance of military service and the Medal of Honor. Each thanked Mr. Lynch for his service. Mayor Hood then unveiled a bronze plaque which will be installed at Veterans Memorial Park in front of the Police Department. The plaque includes information about Mr. Lynch, as well as the Citation describing the actions he took which led to him being awarded the Medal of Honor. After the plaque was presented Mr. Lynch was provided an opportunity to speak. Mayor Hood concluded the recognition and invited those in attendance to stay and socialize.