

**VILLAGE OF LINCOLNWOOD
PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
REGULAR MEETING
GERALD C. TURRY VILLAGE BOARD ROOM
JANUARY 6, 2026**

Call to Order

Mayor Patel called the Regular Meeting of the Lincolnwood Board of Trustees to order at 7:34 P.M. Tuesday, January 6, 2026, in the Gerald C. Turry Village Board Room of the Municipal Complex at 6900 N. Lincoln Avenue, Village of Lincolnwood, County of Cook, and State of Illinois.

Pledge to the Flag

Trustee Klatzco led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

On roll call by Village Clerk Sokol Delisi, the following were:

Present: Mayor Patel, Trustees Klatzco, Diaz Herrera, Sargon, Ikezoe-Halevi, Gussis, Martel

Absent: None

A quorum was present.

Also present: Village Manager Anne Marie Gaura, Assistant Village Manager Madeline Farrell, Village Attorney Steve Elrod, Police Chief Jay Parrott, Fire Chief Barry Liss, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Michelle Artis, Finance Director Elizabeth Holleb, and Management Analyst Elijah Bebor.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 16, 2025 Village Board meeting were presented for Village Board approval.

Trustee Sargon moved to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2025 Village Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Klatzco. On a voice vote, the minutes were approved.

Warrant Approval

Trustee Klatzco presented the warrants in the amount of \$3,335,074.08. Trustee Klatzco moved to approve the warrants as presented. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sargon

Upon roll call, the results were:

AYES: Trustees Klatzco, Diaz Herrera, Sargon, Ikezoe-Halevi, Gussis, Martel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

President's Report

1. New Art Show Beginning Thursday, January 8".

Mayor Patel announced that a new art show will begin on Thursday, January 8 at Lincolnwood Village Hall, featuring artist Phil Gayter. Phil, originally from the UK and now based in Chicago, has a lifelong passion for painting and a background in advertising. His work is known for capturing unique moments through portraits with subtle expressions, unusual perspectives, and a touch of whimsy. Inspired by Andrew Wyeth, Phil aims to evoke similar sentiments in his pieces. His art has been showcased across the North Shore and he has even painted live on WGN News.

2. Years of Service

Mayor Patel congratulates Audi Montalvo (Public Works) for 23 years of service and David Kramarz (Police Department) for 16 years of service to the Village of Lincolnwood. Thank you both for your hard work and dedication!

3. Traffic Commission Resumes

Mayor Patel announced that the Village is seeking residents to serve on its Boards and Commissions. There are currently two openings on the Traffic Commission. The application and protocol can be found on the Boards and Commissions page of the Village website.

4. Happy New Year and Merry Christmas to the Orthodox Christian Community

Mayor Patel extends warm wishes to the Orthodox Christian community celebrating Christmas on January 7. Mayor Patel also wishes everyone a very Happy New Year!

5. Sports Congratulations

Mayor Patel congratulates the Chicago Bears on making the playoffs and wishes them success in their upcoming games, with hopes for a Super Bowl run. Additionally, congratulations to the Hoosiers, recognizing the many Indiana fans residing in Lincolnwood.

Village Trustees' Report

Trustee Sargon reminds everyone of a special Environmental Commission meeting tomorrow at 7:00 PM at Village Hall. Trustee Sargon also wishes family, friends, and all observing a Merry Orthodox Christmas, along with a Happy New Year to all.

Village Clerk's Report

Clerk Delisi extended holiday and New Year wishes and reminded residents that the primary election will be held on March 17, 2026. Residents are encouraged to register to vote during regular business hours. For those unable to do so, Clerk Delisi offered personal assistance and noted that two forms of identification are required. Questions can be directed to sdelisi@lwd.org.

Village Manager's Report

Village Manager Gaura announced that Management Analyst Elijah Beborra will be departing the Village after three years of dedicated service. Elijah is pursuing a career in human resources in another community. We thank Elijah for his contributions and wish him the very best in his future endeavors!

Public Forum

As the lift assist matter is not on tonight's agenda, Mayor Patel intends to place it on the Committee of the Whole agenda for February 3 at 6:00 PM for discussion and possible action. Comments are welcome now, but responses will not be provided; full discussion will occur at the February meeting. With the consent of the Board, Mayor Patel amended the agenda to allow all public comment to occur at this point in the agenda, and not have any public comment at the end of the agenda.

Ronald Farkas – Resident of Carrington Independent Living – expressed concerns about the Village's implementation of the recently enacted lift assist ordinance. While understanding its purpose, Farkas argued that the ordinance is unnecessary given mutual aid practices and suggested the Fire Department should grow with the aging population. He emphasized that lift assists are a legitimate service for seniors and making them costly could create ill will. Farkas noted that independent living facilities should be exempt under the ordinance and cited state law requiring fees to be reasonable and based on actual costs, which he believes are zero when on-duty personnel respond. He requested that the Village retract its letter to the facility's executive director.

Marvin Ginsburg – Resident of Lincolnwood resident for 63 years and current Carrington Independent Living resident – presented a petition with 232 signatures opposing the lift assist fee. He noted strong community opposition and shared that other nearby municipalities—Skokie, Evanston, Wilmette, and Morton Grove—do not impose such fees and have rejected the idea. Marvin emphasized that Carrington includes both assisted and independent living, and urged the Village to reconsider the ordinance.

Brad Jacobsen – Executive Director at Carrington – thanked the Board for hearing concerns about the lift assist fee. He noted that residents strongly oppose the fee—up to \$900—viewing it as punitive and akin to a tax on vulnerable seniors. Jacobson argued that classifying lift assists as “non-emergency” is inaccurate, as falls create panic and fear for frail residents, making them true emergencies. He urged the Village to seek alternative cost-saving measures rather than imposing

fees on seniors, emphasizing that Carrington pays significant taxes and its residents deserve support. He closed by expressing appreciation for the fire department and first responders. Maxene Barsack – Resident of Lincolnwood Place – expressed frustration and concern about the lift assist fee and the lack of communication regarding it. She recently moved in and observed that many elderly residents struggle financially. Maxene emphasized the importance of respecting residents’ needs and ensuring transparency. She urged the Village to hold meetings before decisions are made, improve communication, and allow all residents to participate and share opinions on policies affecting them.

Suzanne Venema - Executive Director of Lincolnwood Place – expressed concern about applying the lift assist fee to independent living residents. While assisted living residents receive nursing support, independent living residents do not receive medical care under their lease agreements. The \$900 fee would be a significant burden, either on residents or the facility if passed through. The speaker urged the Village to reconsider including independent living in the ordinance and thanked the Board for listening.

Cooper Wickum – Resident – raised concerns about Flock Safety surveillance cameras and data ownership. He argued that Lincolnwood does not truly control the data since it resides on external servers, making it more like leasing access rather than owning it. Wickham highlighted privacy risks, citing past security breaches and misuse of license plate reader data by outside entities. He urged the Village to consider the implications of relying on a private company for sensitive information.

Pam Lefkowitz – Resident – proposed three actionable items to improve community safety and transparency: implement a “Know Your Rights” initiative and make immigration information more visible, pass an ICE-free zone ordinance to protect public spaces from civil immigration enforcement, and decommission Flock Safety cameras due to privacy concerns and potential misuse. She emphasized that these steps would align Lincolnwood with best practices in Evanston and Skokie.

Zia Mando – Resident – expressed concern about receiving tickets for overnight commercial parking on pickup trucks immediately after the New Year. He stated that his block has no driveways or garages and that residents were unaware of the ban, as it had never been enforced before. Mr. Mando requested clarification on where residents can park and questioned whether owning pickup trucks is allowed in Lincolnwood.

Josh Kandu – Resident – raised concerns about receiving two tickets for overnight commercial parking on his pickup truck, which has no commercial markings. He explained that trucks have been parked outside his home for 22 years without issue and noted that the Village’s regulations do not clearly prohibit this. Joshua stated he has no driveway and uses his garage for family members, making parking difficult. He questioned the sudden enforcement, expressed concern about accumulating fines before his adjudication hearing on January 27, and asked for clarification and a solution.

Lisa Thomas – Resident – urged the Village to provide clear and accessible immigration-related information on its website, similar to Evanston and Skokie. She emphasized the need for Lincolnwood to take a public stand as a welcoming community and make resources like “Know Your Rights” easily available. Lisa expressed frustration over the lack of visibility and called for proactive communication to support vulnerable populations.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the November 4, 2025 Village Board Closed Session Minutes

Trustee Sargon moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, second by Trustee Klatzco.

Upon Roll Call, the results were:

AYES: Trustees Klatzco, Diaz Herrera, Sargon, Ikezoe-Halevi, Gussis, Martel

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion passed.

Regular Business

2. Discussion Regarding the Village’s Technology Refresh Part I

Presenter: Assistant Village Manager Madeline Farrell

Background:

- The Village has used Springbrook ERP software since 2003 for utility billing, payroll, accounts payable/receivable, and general ledger.
- No comprehensive review of Springbrook had been conducted until 2025.
- In March 2025, the Village hired Baecore Group to perform an ERP software assessment and selection process.
- Assessment revealed:
 - Heavy reliance on paper/manual processes.
 - Disconnected systems with limited automation.
 - Reduced visibility and tracking.
- HR and payroll were identified as distinct areas requiring separate solutions outside a traditional ERP system due to unique needs (e.g., seasonal hires, complex time tracking).
- Baecore followed an 8-step process: data gathering, analysis, requirements definition, solution identification, evaluation, integration planning, scope definition, and contract negotiation.
- The Village is now at the contract negotiation stage for three agreements:
 1. New ERP system.
 2. HR/payroll system.

3. Project management services for implementation.
- ERP System Features:
 - Custom dashboards, automated alerts, global search, integrated reporting.
 - Access to all property-related records across modules.
 - Integration with Laserfiche (records management).
 - Online permit applications and inspection requests.
 - HR/Payroll System Features:
 - Unified employee portal, electronic time-off requests, integrated time clocks.
 - Recruiting tools for seasonal hires.
 - Automated onboarding and performance tracking.
 - Real-time accruals and pay history for employees.
 - Integration:
 - Payroll data will integrate with ERP system to avoid manual entry errors; full integration will not be immediate but planned.
 - Costs:
 - Annual fees for both systems: \$68,395.
 - One-time implementation fees: \$137,835.
 - Project management services (Baecore): \$225,812
 - FY2026 budget includes funds for these projects.
 - Current systems cost \$121,693.98, annually; new systems represent an estimated \$15,000 annual increase.

Board Discussion:

- Questions Raised:
 - Clarification on integration between HR/payroll and ERP.
 - Difference between vendor implementation fees and Baecore project management fees.
 - Request for detailed breakdown of Baecore's project management scope at next meeting.
 - Confirmation that software updates are included in annual fees (Baecore confirmed updates are included as part of cloud-based SaaS model).
 - Interest in future system integration capabilities for additional modules (e.g., hotel tax).
- Baecore's Role:
 - Acts as Village advocate during implementation.
 - Ensures business processes are optimized and documented.
 - Provides oversight to maximize functionality and reduce manual work.

Board Direction:

- No approvals requested tonight; informational only.
- Board requested:
 - Detailed breakdown of Baecore's project management services and staffing at next meeting.

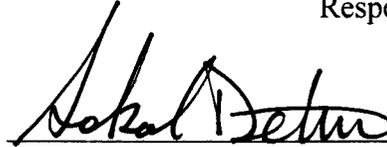
- Confirmation of integration capabilities and future scalability.
- Clarification on long-term costs and update policies.

Adjournment

At 8:35 P.M., Mayor Patel called for adjournment of the Regular Village Board meeting.

Trustee Klatzco moved to adjourn, second by Trustee Sargon. The meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sokol Delisi
Village Clerk