

Winfield Fire Protection District Upgrade Progress

Winfield Fire Protection District
Upgrade Progress - February 2025
*Based On Commitments Made During Referendum 2022

Phase I



Replace Ambulances and Fire Engine: Complete

Phase II



Upgrade facilities to house additional trucks and crew: Summer 2025

Phase III



Hire Additional Crew: In Progress



Winfield Fire District's Chief Evans shared during the February trustee meeting that the District has completed phase one of their planned upgrades (replace the fire engine and ambulances). Phase two will be completed this summer when they move into their new County Farm Road station, allowing them to hire additional staff in phase three.

Get to Know a Winfield First Responder–Matt Smith

By Luke Allen

1. Where are you from and what brought you to Winfield?

I grew up in the small town of Burlington Illinois and my family had professional careers in business and teaching. After high school I joined our local fire department as a volunteer, and eventually, that department paid their volunteers a small stipend for each call we went to. I really enjoyed the work and the challenge, so I became a paramedic and started working in Wheaton as a contract medic (while still volunteering at home in Burlington). It was while I was working in Wheaton that I learned of an opening in Winfield, and since they allowed members to work as both Firefighters and Medics, I applied and was hired in Winfield in 2009.

2. Why did you become a Firefighter/Paramedic?

Nobody in my family was a Firefighter. I tried lots of things to find what I wanted to do, but I knew that I did not want a job that required me to wear a suit. I like to work with my hands and solve problems. Someone suggested I take an Intro to the Fire Service class while I was studying at Parkland College and found that I enjoyed the work.

3. What's the best part of your job in Winfield?

I never know what my day is going to be like. We have to think on our feet and adjust to each situation. We never get two calls that are the same. It's a lot of problem-solving and I am always challenged. You have to solve the problem because there is no option not to.

4. What are your professional goals?

I learned a lot about training and management

from my time in the Army. Once I started working in Winfield, I wanted to get involved in the training division to make improvements to both the daily operations and also improve our protocols and processes. It's important to me that everyone I work with is inspired to become a better leader because that makes us a better team. I attend training to improve my own leadership skills whenever I can and I am always working to improve the training pro-

gram for all the new members of our department.

5. What part of your job makes you most proud?

I feel proud of myself and my team when we're in the middle of a chaotic scene, and the crew I've trained with just clicks. When everything we practiced comes together seamlessly—everyone knows their role, executes it flawlessly, and the teamwork is effortless. In that moment, I know all the training paid off, and we performed exactly as we prepared. It's an incredible feeling to see it all work like it's supposed to.

And now some fun questions!

What's your favorite food?
Pizza

Favorite fire service movie/TV show?
Rescue Me, Backdraft

Favorite hobby?
I have an addiction to horsepower... so anything with a big motor! Especially outdoor motorsports like dirt bikes, boats, and snowmobiles

Favorite dinosaur?
Triceratops

First car?
Chevy S-10

Dream car?
McLaren F1



Winfield Firefighter Matt Smith

Free Garbage Day!

Clean-Up Collection – The Spring Clean-Up will be the week of April 22th on your collection day. SBC Waste Solutions will provide a free curbside collection of large or bulky household items each spring. This collection includes household appliances,

furniture, carpet, do-it-yourself home improvement materials and yard waste. Regular bundling rules apply (4' x 2' bundles weighing less than 50 pounds). SBC requests that residents not put out more than 4 cubic yards of material.

★★★★
MARK YOUR
CALENDARS
★★★★

Winfield's Riverwalk Music Nights Are Back! Get ready for another season of great music and community fun at Winfield's Riverwalk Music Nights! Join us along the scenic Riverwalk Park for an evening of live performances, local vibes, and summer fun. Save the dates: **June 13th, June 27th, July 11th, August 8th, August 22nd, and September 19th.** Stay tuned for more details on artists, food vendors, and special events. Get ready to enjoy music under the stars!

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April 1st Consolidated Election – Your vote matters!

Advisory Referendum Questions

- ☐ Should the Village of Winfield support more initiatives that promote cultural activities for its residents and visitors? **Yes or No**
- ☐ Should the Village of Winfield expand its bicycle and pedestrian network to enhance user experience? **Yes or No**
- ☐ Should the Village of Winfield allow its residents to house backyard chickens through the establishment of a Village Ordinance governing the parameters of what would constitute allowable uses? **Yes or No**

Winfield Village President

Vote for 1
Carl Sorgatz
Marianne Bruss



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— **Appointments:** —

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Wed.	9 - 9pm
Thurs.	9 - 5:30
Fri.	9 - 5:30
Sat.	8 - 1

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Tony Reyes, President
Thomas E. Sullivan, Secretary
Patti Weber, Editor
P.O. Box 286, Winfield, IL 60190

Winfield Village Clerk

Vote for 1
Ellen Gintautas

Winfield Fire Protection District – Fire Trustee

Vote for not more than 2
George T. Kallas
Randall R. Simpson

Oakwood Park Project Underway

Beginning the week of February 10, 2025, Oakwood Park will be closed for park renovations with the assistance of a \$600,000 OSLAD Grant. The anticipated re-opening will be in early July 2025. Unfortunately, during this time, the Hedges Station Museum will not be open to the public. Residents will enjoy the following improvements and amenities:

- (3) new pickleball courts
 - New playground
 - New surfacing for the loop pathway
 - Picnic shelter improvements
 - Futsal/Soccer
 - Pollinator Garden
 - Fix the pond erosion
 - (2) new sand volleyball courts and fencing
 - 1 basketball court with paving
 - 1 tennis court
 - Additional tree planting around the pond
- For any further information or inquiries please,

the first referendum





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Vote for not more than 3
Harold Lonks
Debra L. Piscola
Daniel Janowick
Linda Watson
Victor Allen
Robert C. Greer

Winfield Public Library Trustee

Vote for not more than 3
Carol Tenyak O'Connor
Lynn Ables
Robert Brown

Winfield School District 34 - Member Of The Board Of Education

To Serve A Full 4 Year Term, Vote for 3
Lynn C. Kammes
Carrie Linden
Alisa Wolfe
Manuel A. Figueroa-González

Winfield Park District - Park Commissioner

Vote for not more than 3
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Thomas A. Novak
Patricia S. Weber



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Winfield Resident Shares Her Passion for Cycling

By Jennie Fleming

For lifelong Winfield resident Mary Lee Geraghty, cycling has never been just about bikes-it's been about community, passion, and the many connections forged along the way. Now, after decades of helping others find their own joy on two wheels, Mary Lee is embarking on a new adventure: retirement.

Of course, "retirement" is a loose term for someone who's never been one to sit still. When I called to interview her for this story, she was in the middle of planning a 100-mile bike ride in California-proof that her love for cycling isn't slowing down anytime soon.

Mary Lee and her husband, Raymond, raised their four children in Winfield, where their oldest son, Michael, discovered a passion for bike racing. At the time, Prairie Path Cycles (PPC) had one of the strongest youth cycling teams in the country, coached by shop owner Mike Farrell. Mary Lee joined PPC part-time once her youngest started school. What started as a job quickly became something more-she found herself immersed in a world of riders, racers, and families whose lives revolved around cycling, just like hers. Over the years, she became store manager and eventually a co-owner, helping to expand PPC with a second location in Batavia.

Prairie Path Cycles was never just a business for Mary Lee-The shop became a place where she celebrated milestones, watched young riders grow, and formed friendships that lasted decades.

Here is an excerpt from her retirement announcement in January, "Reflecting on my time here, I

feel so fortunate to have shared countless special moments with so many of you. For some of you, I helped choose a baby carrier for your child-only to

umph of teaching a child (or even an adult!) to ride a bike for the very first time. Others entrusted me to help select the bike that turned your goals into reality, whether those were neighborhood rides, tackling hundreds of miles, or even crossing the country."

Beyond the shop, Mary Lee poured her energy into Athletes by Design, PPC's cycling club, which organizes races across northeastern Illinois, including the time trials and criterium in North Aurora and Winfield's annual Criterium each July. She loved being part of the racing scene but also saw an opportunity to expand beyond competition. She's helping shape the club's future by introducing casual and electric bike-friendly rides, ensuring there's a place for everyone-whether they're racing, exploring trails, or just enjoying a leisurely ride with friends.

Looking back, Mary Lee feels immense gratitude for the life she built around cycling. "We are so lucky to live in a place like Winfield, surrounded by incredible bike paths," she says. And she encourages everyone to get out and explore!

Prairie Path Cycles remains a cornerstone of the cycling community, and while Mary Lee is stepping away from day-to-day operations and moving on to new adventures, Mary Lee's love for cycling-and the people she's met through it will always be a part of her.

Winfield's Prairie Path Cycles location is in Prairie Trail Center, 27W181 Geneva Rd. They are open Monday-Friday 11a-6p, Saturday 10a-4p, Sunday closed.

You can find more information on their website at www.prairiepathcycles.com.



Top: Mary Lee Geraghty in front of Prairie Path Cycles in Winfield; Mike Farrell leads a ride full of enthusiastic cyclists.

"We are so lucky to live in a place like Winfield, surrounded by incredible bike paths."



later help that same child select a carrier for their little one. For many, I've been part of the joy and tri-

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Paving the Way—update on construction on Geneva & Winfield Rd.

By Eron McCormick

The Geneva Road bridge construction project over the West Branch of the DuPage River started in August 2024 and is expected to be substantially completed by mid-2025. The Geneva Road bridge project is a joint undertaking between DuPage County and the Illinois Department of Transportation. Construction includes the removal of the

existing two-span concrete bridge and the construction of a new, single-span steel girder bridge. As construction progresses, motorists are encouraged to plan for traffic delays, alternative routes, and exercise caution when traveling near the work zone. Additional improvements will include retaining walls, sidewalks, drainage enhancements, pavement reconstruction, and the installation of a stormwater

storage facility.
In Illinois we have two seasons winter and construction. Construction on the Geneva Road bridge will be completed in multiple stages:
Pre-Stage: Daytime lane closures will be implemented to allow for preliminary storm sewer installation.

Stage 1: Geneva Road will close to westbound traffic between Winfield Road and west of the bridge. Eastbound traffic will be reduced to one lane while the northern half of the bridge is constructed. The designated detour route for westbound traffic will be County Farm Road to Roosevelt Road (IL 38), then northbound on Neltnor Boulevard (IL 59).

Stage 2: One lane of traffic in each direction will be open on the newly constructed north half of the bridge while the south half is replaced.

During the project, aerial utility lines along the north side of Geneva Road will be temporarily relocated to the south side before being restored to their original placement. Additionally, two separate buried utility lines require relocation to accommodate the new bridge and roadway infrastructure.

The cost of construction is \$7,867,988.00. Construction is paid for by federal and DuPage county funds. The following personnel are involved in this project:

- Contractor: Herlihy Mid-Continent Co., Romeoville, IL
 - Resident Engineer: Alfred Benesch & Company, Chicago, IL
 - Project Engineer: Kent Kuper, P.E., DuPage County Division of Transportation
 - Designer: Patrick Engineering, Inc., Lisle, IL
- For the most up to date information the DuPage County Division of Transportation can be located at <https://www.dupagecounty.gov/government/departments/transportation/>. Regular updates will be available on the County's Transportation webpage: https://www.dupagecounty.gov/_T6_R121.php (Documents pertaining to the project).

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The Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce

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St. John the Baptist Church (630) 668-0918
Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (630) 518-1517

Education

Winfield Foundation (630) 534-0856
Winfield In Action (630) 653-3811
Winfield Education Foundation (773) 344-6559

Government

Winfield Historical Society (630) 653-1489
Winfield Public Library (630) 653-7599
Winfield School District 34 (630) 909-4900
Village of Winfield (630) 933-7100
Winfield Park District (630) 653-3811
Winfield Fire Protection District (630) 653-5050

Law Firm

McCormick Law Firm (630) 517-8570

Museums

Cantigny Park (Robert R. McCormick Foundation) (630) 668-5161

Newspaper

Winfield Glimpses, The (630) 205-1405

Education

The Written Word (214) 683-8591
Primrose School of Winfield (630) 926-3488

Entertainment

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We Know Tickets (630) 272-8292
Polaris Travel (630) 853-6375

Finance

Michael J. Michelin, CPA (630) 660-7780
Admiral Builders (630) 690-1200
Healthcare Associates Credit Union (630) 945-1168
Winfield Wealth Advisors (630) 709-6825

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Nelson Agency, Farmers Insurance Agency (630) 474-6060

Mortgages

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Real Estate

Re/Max Suburban (630) 877-7777
Daniel And Associates Real Estate (DAARE) (630) 918-6129
Winfield Station Apartments (833) 617-3113

Food & Drink

Scone House Café (630) 854-3730
Manbot Coffee Roaster (630) 363-0236
Winfield Farmers Market (630) 408-3712
Berger Bros Pub (630) 606-0521

Health & Beauty

The Barber Shoppe (630) 306-8936
Prairie Path Cycles (630) 690-9749
Pilates & Energy Healing by Asha (224) 659-0440
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Central DuPage Vision (630) 668-2020

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Pet Wants (630) 513-9977
Transpet Services (630) 370-4270

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Calvisions Inc. (630) 470-0895



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Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce news

The Winfield Chamber of Commerce is collecting donations for Mutual Ground, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization that supports individuals impacted by domestic violence. The box is located at the office of Admiral Builders, 27W281 Geneva Rd Suite F Winfield, IL 60190 in Prairie Trail Shopping Center. It will be out in the aisle during the Farmer's Market and Car Show once they both start. They are collecting full sized unopened hygiene items, non- perishable food items and other items such as toothpaste, tooth brushes, shampoo, conditioner, bath soap, combs, brushes, deodorant, shower caddies, boxes of cereal, juice boxes, crackers condiments, bath towels, blankets, and socks. Any donation is helpful. For questions call Denise at 630-690-1200.

Pictured here is Dr. Dan Oliver, DDS with his donation of floss, toothpaste and toothbrushes. His office is located in the Prairie Trail Shopping Center at 27W291 Geneva Rd Suite F Winfield. We appreciate him kicking off our collection drive with his very generous donation, thank you!



Top to bottom:
January networking meeting at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church
Sierra Gems Ribbon Cutting
February networking meeting at Lions Panzek Martial Arts



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AGES 3-5

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President’s Corner



David Nelson

The Greater Winfield Chamber of Commerce is excited for 2025!

Join us this year, as we celebrate everything Winfield.

We look forward to Wednesday Farmers Markets, Monday Car Shows, The Good Old Days New Business Expo, the Art Show Festival, Halloween’s Haunted Trail and Winfield’s Christmas celebration. It’s going to be a great year in Winfield!

Our little chamber isn’t so little anymore. We grew last year by leaps and bounds under the leadership of Jennie Fleming of Winfield Wealth Advisors, We want to thank Jennie for a job well done, and her commitment to the residents in and around Winfield. In 2025 we look forward to doing even more in the Winfield community. We invite you to participate in the events that celebrate Winfield!

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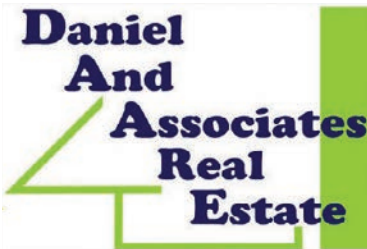
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Celebrate National Library Week at the Winfield Library

Winfield Library is excited to celebrate National Library Week from April 6 – 12. Our theme is “Drawn to the Library,” and we have several activities planned.

The American Library Association celebrates “National Library Week” in April as a way to draw attention to the value libraries provide to the community. This year’s honorary chairs are authors and artists Raina Telgemeier and Scott McCloud. They are releasing their new graphic novel “The Cartoonists Club” on April 1. The Youth Services Department has a copy on order that can be placed on hold.

The Village of Winfield partners with the Cleve Carney Museum of Art at College of DuPage to promote the upcoming exhibit “Hokusai & Ukiyo-e: the Floating World.” The Library hosts a preview lecture featuring Diana Martinez, who is Director of the McAninch Arts Center at the College of DuPage and Chair of the Public Art Project, on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:00 p.m. Martinez shares the background of the Japanese art form known as “Ukiyo-e,” or “floating world images,” in which artists depict an idealized world of grandeur, class, wit, style, and pleasure, created during Japan’s Edo Period (1603-1868). Registration is required for this event.

Illinois Libraries Present, which is an initiative of the Illinois Library Association, hosts a virtual event on “The Art of Foraging” on Thursday, April 8, at

continued on page 10

Winfield
Library

Plenty to check out!

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Handling IRS Scammers

By Michael Michelin

Hundreds of thousands of taxpayers are receiving texts, emails, or phone calls from fraudulent artists trying to convince you to pay them a fictitious IRS debt or to steal your personal information that they use to steal from you. There are many scams out there, for example “we will be coming to arrest you if you don’t pay this over the phone right now”, or they ask you to buy gift cards to mail in to pay of your debt, or they ask you go to Western Union and send them a payment, among many other fraudulent requests. They use the IRS because people get

extremely nervous when they think they have an IRS issue, be assured if you have any IRS issues you will receive a minimum of three letters before any collection action starts. My name is Michael J Michelin (630) 660-7780, I have been a CPA and resident in DuPage County for over 40 years, I am horrified every time I hear of a fellow resident being scammed. As a CPA I am well aware of the collection process and I will gladly offer my thoughts as a public service at no charge to anyone who receives any IRS request that they are not understanding. Feel free to call me and I will be able to help



you understand if it is a fraud or if it is legitimate. One final thought, if you are being pressured by someone like this about tax issues, simply tell them I have a CPA that handles my tax issues and I need to have him contact you, that alone will scare off most scammers.

SMART 911

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DU-COMM encourages DuPage County citizens to sign-up for Smart911 service. Smart911 provides an enhanced database to 9-1-1 Telecommunicators in an emergency.

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- Pet(s)
- Vehicle(s)
- Medical condition(s)
- Picture(s)

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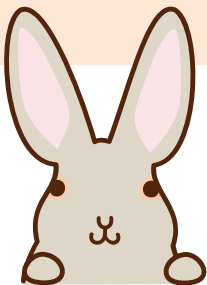
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Do you have a million photos of your pet on your camera roll? Here's your chance to show off your cute furry friend!

Prize Info:
One lucky dog and one lucky cat will receive a gift basket. The baskets are donated by local business owner Jim Kohlman of TransPet Services.



- Official Rules:**
1. To enter, contestants must submit one photograph of your pet thru our website www.thewinfieldglimpses.com or email to patti@thewinfieldglimpses.com or mail to P.O. Box 286 Winfield, IL 60190. Include your name, phone number, email address, pet's name.
 2. Entries will be received between March 10 thru April 10, 2025.
 3. All eligible entries received will be posted at <https://www.facebook.com/winfieldglimpses> and our Facebook fans will decide who is the cutest dog and cat via the number of "Likes" they receive.
 4. The winner will be announced on our Facebook page on or around April 14, and also pictured in the Summer issue of the Glimpses.
 5. By entering, you consent to the Winfield Glimpses publishing your photo as well as information identifying you and your pet.

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2025 Roaring Tigers Safari Run

It's going to be a **Wildly** Good Time

Sunday May 18th
Lions Park - Winfield
8:15am - Kids Dash (5 & under)
8:30am - 5k & 1 Mile Run/Walk

This year's proceeds will go toward funding a new preschool playground for Winfield School District 34.

Register online by April 23rd to be guaranteed a t-shirt
<https://tinyurl.com/Tiger-run-2025>

Library Week

continued from page 7

7:00 p.m. Alexis Nikole Nelson is a forager and an outdoor educator using her platforms to celebrate all the edible plants hiding in plain sight. She peels back historical layers on African American and Indigenous food traditions that have traditionally been repressed and empowers those living in food deserts with greater self-sufficiency. Registration is required via Zoom to receive the invitation.

The Youth Services Department hosts a Unicorn Celebration program on Saturday, April 12, from 2:00-2:45 pm for children ages 4 to 10. Attendees will learn about these mythical creatures, make unicorn crafts, and can learn how to draw a unicorn. Registration is required.

Please visit our website at www.winfield.lib.il.us to register for these programs.

Shop and Dine Winfield—
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Oakwood Park Construction underway
Hedges Station will be closed until July 2025
Questions? email: Hedgesmuseum@winfieldparkdistrict.com



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Curt Barrett Stepping Down as Village Manager of Winfield

Barrett concludes his tenure as the longest-serving Village Manager in Winfield history

After 15 years leading the Village of Winfield as Village Manager, Curt Barrett is concluding his service at the end of April. Replacing Barrett on an interim basis will be Evan Summers, who served as Village Manager for the Village of Bensenville from 2016 to 2024. The two Village Managers are expected to overlap for about 60 days to ensure a smooth transition. The Village Board will vote at its February 20 meeting to approve Summers' contract, effective March 1.

Barrett's tenure in Winfield has coincided with a period of progress highlighted by new business investment, residential development and innovative additions to quality of life—including the Riverwalk Park bicycle and walking paths, bandshell, and new recreational and cultural programs. He leaves Winfield with an improved Aa2 bond rating and the strongest financial reserves position in the Village's modern history.

"Winfield has been fortunate to benefit from Curt Barrett's acumen and skill throughout my time as a Village Trustee and well before that," said Village Board President Carl Sorgatz. "He's been a terrific partner and will be missed by our community."

Village growth in the last decade has expanded to commercial corridors along North Avenue and Roosevelt Road, which provided a significant increase to the tax base. In recent years, Barrett led the visionary planning for Winfield's Town Center and stewarded negotiations between the Village and Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital that resulted in CDH's new parking deck being placed on the tax rolls.

"Curt really worked to bring the Village and Hospital together and find common ground to the benefit of both institutions," said Village Trustee Deb Piscola.

"I am thankful for the opportunity and support to lead the wonderful community of Winfield and its superb staff since 2009," said Barrett. "With the backing of thoughtful Village Boards, we have been able to grow Winfield's economy, make substantial infrastructure and amenity improvements, and achieve a record of notable financial stability."

Prior to joining the Village of Winfield, Barrett had a distinguished career serving in key management roles in DuPage County municipalities, including Glen Ellyn and Naperville.

In addition to Summers' most recent experience at the Village of Bensenville, he brings a background in administration and economic development roles at the City of Berwyn and the Berwyn Development Corporation. Like Barrett, Summers is a graduate of Indiana University.

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