

CALL TO ORDER

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Village of Mundelein was held on February 9, 2026 at 300 Plaza Circle, Mundelein. Mayor Meier called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Clerk Walsh took the roll call. It indicated as follows:

Board Attendance

PRESENT: Trustees Grieco, Juarez, Krinski, Lambert, Schwenk, Ugaste

ABSENT: None

Village Attendance

PRESENT: Attorney Cahill, Village Administrator Guenther, Assistant Village Administrator Monroe, Finance Director Miller, Fire Chief Lark, Police Chief Seeley, Building Department Director Sellas, Community Development Director Orenchuk, Business Services Manager Howe

ABSENT: None

MINUTES APPROVAL

MINUTES APPROVAL

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 6, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Trustee Juarez
SECONDER:	Trustee Krinski
AYES:	Trustee Grieco, Trustee Juarez, Trustee Krinski, Trustee Lambert, Trustee Schwenk, Trustee Ugaste
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

STATE OF THE VILLAGE ADDRESS

Mayor Meier started off the meeting by saying the meeting's theme is a puzzle--there are many pieces that make up the Village.

They are shown as: Fiscal Responsibility, Public Safety, Infrastructure, Residential Density, Diversity & Inclusion, Economic Development, Arts & Culture, and Events and Tourism. Mayor Meier went on to discuss and explain each "puzzle" piece and how they fit together to form the Village of Mundelein.

Affordability/Work Opportunities/Play/Leisure, Tourism

Mundelein is the second-largest city in Lake County. Cities are in competition for people and jobs, they need to make it good for people to want to live there. Entertainment needs to be affordable--Mundelein has many options for families. Some of these are Community Days, the Mundelein Grand Prix, Pancake Breakfast, Farmers Market, Spring Into Summer, Concerts in the Park to name some.

Arts & Culture

Mundelein needs flexible space for the arts. Artists have used some of the available space already and have requested longer availability. The Village needs a permanent multi-use place for theater groups and space for an indoor winter farmers market, art exhibitions, cultural programming, classrooms, flexible preservable activity space, etc.

Economic Development

Mayor Meier commented on the frequent complaints by residents regarding empty storefronts and commercial spaces. Some of these owners are not interested in selling or renting out their properties. Communities need empty spaces so that there is room for new businesses to move to town. Our commercial occupancy rates are higher than 10 years ago, which is good.

Diversity & Inclusion

We want every resident to feel welcomed in Mundelein. MPRD's new playground is for all ages and all abilities. Mundelein embraces LGBTQ+ residents and allies — NO HATE HERE. Nearly 37% of Mundelein residents identify as Hispanic or Latino, their culture enriches the Village with festivals, events and heritage celebrations.

Residential Density

Density is intentional and planned. Adding residential growth near the downtown and transit has been a strategic focus for over two decades. These plans are not literal but guides for decisions.

Infrastructure

New electric charging stations will finish being installed in 2026. The new bridge over the creek connecting the parking lot with Courtland Commons will be completed in 2026 also. McKinley Drive reconstruction will start with engineering in 2026 and construction in 2027. A new crosswalk by Townline Square across Rt 45 for pedestrians is in the works and a new parking lot is completed near Park Street. Mayor Meier commented on the IDOT Route 60/83 Improvement Project even though the Village is not involved. For updates/details please visit idot.illinois.gov.

Public Safety

Public safety is the foundation of a strong community because people can only thrive where they feel secure. We consistently rank high in Safest City reports. The Police and Fire Departments engage with the community in many ways: Turkey Drive, Fishing Derby,

CPR Training, A-May-Zing Mundelein, Old #1 Fire Truck events, Police Academies, Cop on a Rooftop, K9's Millie and Ranger to name a few.

Fiscal Responsibility

The Village is a lean, efficient organization with 181 employees. Despite being the 2nd largest municipality in Lake County by population, Mundelein has only the 5th largest municipal workforce. This reflects a right-sized, efficient service model. The Village seeks cost-sharing opportunities with other communities, e.g. 9-1-1 consolidation, partnering with other communities to purchase asphalt in bulk, etc. The Village was able to lower its tax rate this year by 5.8%, effective for tax bills to be paid in 2026.

Strategic Planning

During 2026 budget session, we plan to discuss strategic planning for Mundelein with the public, taxing bodies, businesses, religious and community leaders to discuss the Village's goals and the pathway to get there. This planning is proposed for the fall.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY / QUESTIONS

None

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment at 6:52 PM.