



Minutes
 Village of Glen Ellyn
 Finance Commission
 Regular Meeting
 April 10, 2026
 7:00AM
 Glen Ellyn Civic Center

Board or Commission: Finance
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: April 10, 2026
Called to Order: 7:01 a.m.
Adjourned: 8:13 a.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Chris Goodman	Chair	Present
Lea Dan	Vice-Chair	Present
Anne Arnold	Commissioner	Present
Mike Graham	Commissioner	Present
Leo Hoerdemann	Commissioner	Present
Grant Lavery	Commissioner	Absent
Kevin Moffitt	Commissioner	Absent
Brian Niksa	Commissioner	Present
Scott Waldbusser	Commissioner	Absent
Also Present:		
Patrick Brankin	Finance Director	
Michele Chaparro	Assistant Finance Director	
Kelli Christiansen	Village Trustee	

A. CALL TO ORDER

The April 10, 2026 regular meeting of the Finance Commission was called to order by Chairperson Goodman at 7:01 AM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2026 MEETING

MOVE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FINANCE COMMISSION FROM 2/13/2026

RESULT: Motion Unanimously Carried

MOVER: Commissioner Niksa

SECONDER: Vice-Chair Dan

AYES: 5

ABSTAINS: Goodman

D. Financial Scorecard Update

1. Financial Scorecard Update – Finance Director Brankin presented an update on the Village’s financial scorecard project, which is intended to compare Glen Ellyn with peer communities using a variety of financial, demographic, and operational metrics. He noted that the analysis began with demographic data provided by the DCEO, with Glen Ellyn’s population just under 28,500. Property tax rates were also reviewed, with Glen Ellyn at approximately 0.482.

Brankin explained that the scorecard evaluates several measures in multiple ways, including median home values, standardized comparisons among peer communities, debt levels, pension obligations, staffing, and service delivery models. With respect to bonded debt, Glen Ellyn ranked near the middle of the peer group. Pension comparisons focused on IMRF and Police Pensions, as Glen Ellyn does not operate a traditional fire department. In those categories, Glen Ellyn also ranked near the middle of the peer group and performed well overall.

Regarding pension liability per capita, Glen Ellyn ranked toward the lower end of the comparison group, while its funded ratio ranked near the top. Brankin noted that the Village benefits from contributions associated with Village Links, which positively impact the funded status. He added that the Police Pension Fund remains in the middle of the pack, with the recently adopted rolling 15-year amortization policy helping improve long-term funding.

Brankin then reviewed staffing comparisons. In 2019, Glen Ellyn operated with 128 full-time employees, excluding Village Links, the Library, and Parks. The 2025 budget reflects 153 full-time employees. He noted that this increase includes the Village Board’s approval of five additional sworn police officers, increasing staffing from 40 to 45 officers, as well as additions such as a full-time HR director, HR generalist, and right-sizing in other departments.

By department, Public Works and Police remain the largest areas of full-time staffing. Administrative functions were more difficult to compare across communities, as some municipalities separate legal, HR, IT, or communications into different departments, while others outsource some of those services. For Glen Ellyn’s purposes, Administration includes the Manager’s Office, Communications, IT, Legal, and HR. Glen Ellyn ranked near the middle of the peer group in administrative staffing. Community Development figures may be somewhat overstated, as some of budgeted positions were unfilled, though Brankin noted similar circumstances may exist in other communities.

When measured per 1,000 residents, Glen Ellyn increased from 4.6 employees in 2019 to 5.3 employees in 2025, placing the Village higher than many peer communities. Brankin noted that Glen Ellyn has historically described itself as operating lean, though these updated figures suggest that may need to be reevaluated. These comparisons exclude Village Links and other recreation employees, Library employees, and Fire employees in all communities.

Public Works staffing declined from 1.77 employees per 1,000 residents in 2019 to 1.5 in 2025. Police staffing trends showed that smaller communities often maintain more sworn officers per 1,000 residents than larger municipalities. Total personnel expense per 1,000 residents placed Glen Ellyn near the middle of the peer group, while expense per full-time employee ranked somewhat lower. Brankin noted that factors such as employee tenure make these cost comparisons more difficult to standardize.

The scorecard also reviewed fire and EMS service models. Because Glen Ellyn operates a largely volunteer-based fire model rather than a traditional full-time structure, the Village's total budgeted fire and EMS operating expenses were significantly lower than peer communities. On a per-capita basis, Glen Ellyn ranked lowest among the comparison group, just above Lisle which also does not operate a Fire department. Brankin estimated the Village saves approximately \$4 million annually under its current volunteer fire model. Capital expenses were excluded from this analysis for all communities.

Commission members asked how the scorecard would be used and whether it would eventually be shared with the public. Brankin responded that the current version is likely too detailed for public release and would need to be simplified into a more user-friendly format with clearly sourced data that can be updated regularly. Additional metrics may still be reviewed before the information is refined and presented to the Village Board. The Board would ultimately determine what information, and in what format, should be shared with the community.

The Finance Commission expressed appreciation for the depth of the report and the extensive work completed to date. Brankin added that if the Commission would like to conduct deeper analysis on any specific topic, those items could be added to a future agenda.

- E. STAFF REPORT** – Finance Director Brankin reported that he will be on leave for much of May, and the meeting date remains to be determined. The original meeting was scheduled for May 8, though it may be moved to an earlier date. He noted that the planned topic was fire service fees; however, he is uncertain whether the necessary fire capital plans will be available in time for a meaningful discussion. His recommendation was to wait until those plans are completed before addressing the fee structure, and as a result, the May meeting may be canceled.
- F. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT** – None
- G. TRUSTEE LIAISON'S REPORT** – Trustee Christiansen provided several updates, noting that the Community Relations Commission hosted its second Community Conversation last evening and encouraged residents to watch for future CRC engagement events. She also shared that today is the final day to provide feedback on the draft Accessibility Plan, which is available on the Village website.

Christiansen mentioned the Environmental Commission will host its annual Recycling Extravaganza tomorrow at the College of DuPage from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. She also noted that the Village's unlimited curbside refuse collection week is upcoming, with certain limitations in place, and residents have been asked to have items placed out by Monday.

She added that public feedback on the Zoning Code Update will remain open through April 15. Trustee Christiansen also welcomed the opening of the new business, Vintage Charm, which opened yesterday.

Regarding the train station project, she reported that the Village is currently working through Phase II budget updates and ongoing budget negotiations with Metra.

H. OTHER BUSINESS – None

I. REMINDERS – None

J. ADJOURNMENT– Commissioner Dan motioned to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hoerdemann seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 a.m.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Patrick Brankin, Finance Director