

GLOSSARY

Account Classification:	Refers to the numerical codes assigned to the Village's accounting system. For example, the 10 digit account number 100.26.17.511 would reference the General Fund (100), Police Department (26), Patrol Division (17), Regular Salaries (511) account.
Assessed Valuation:	A valuation set upon real estate and certain personal property by the County Assessor as a basis for levying property taxes.
Assets:	Property owned by a government of monetary value.
Audit:	An independent review of the accounting system and financial information to ensure that the financial statements prepared by the Village staff are accurate and proper. The annual audit becomes the official record of the revenues, expenditures and financial position of the Village for a given fiscal year.
Bond:	A written promise to pay a specified sum of money (principal) at a specified future date (maturity date(s)). Also, periodic interest is paid at a specified percentage (interest rate) of the principal amount. Bonds are typically used to pay for expensive assets with a long useful life.
Budget:	A formal written financial plan for the Village for one fiscal year, which is approved by the Village Council. The budget includes a transmittal letter from the Village staff explaining the major budgetary issues. All planned revenues and expenditures and changes in financial position are included in the budget.
Capital Assets:	Assets generally worth more than \$50,000 and having a useful life of several years. Capital assets are also referred to as fixed assets.
Capital Improvement Plan:	A formal written financial plan for the Village's anticipated capital projects, generally over \$50,000 each, for the next five years. Projects to be implemented in the current fiscal year are prioritized and included in the annual budget.
Debt Service:	Payment of interest and principal to holders of the Village's outstanding debt instruments.

Deficit:	Can be defined as either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The excess of an entity's liabilities over its assets (see Fund Balance). 2) The excess of expenditures or expenses over revenues during a single accounting period.
Department:	A major administrative division of the Village, which indicates overall management responsibility for an operation or a group of related operations.
Depreciation:	Can be defined as either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The reduction in useful life of capital assets attributable to wear and tear, deterioration, inadequacy or obsolescence. 2) A portion of the capital asset's cost charged as an expense during a particular period.
Estimated Amounts:	The staff's estimate of the amount of revenues and expenditures that will be realized by fiscal year end. This differs from the Budget in that the Village has several months of actual receipts and expenditures to aid in estimating these amounts.
Expenditure:	This term refers to an obligation incurred to acquire an asset, good or service regardless of when it is actually paid. This terminology is used in the Governmental fund types and includes the purchase of large capital items (like the purchase of a fire truck).
Expense:	The portion of an asset cost allocated as an expense to match revenue produced in the current period (see depreciation). Expenses also include goods and services rendered in the current period. This terminology is used in the enterprise and internal service type funds. The purchase of a capital asset is not shown as an expense in one year but rather, is reflected in the annual depreciation expense spread over the useful life of the capital asset.
Fiscal Year:	Effective 1/1/2014 the Village fiscal year became a calendar year. Prior to 1/1/2014, the Village operated with a March 31 fiscal year end.
Fund Balance:	The excess of a particular fund's assets over its liabilities. A negative fund balance is sometimes called a deficit.

General Fund:	The main operating fund for the Village. The General Fund revenues include property taxes, licenses and permits, local taxes, service charges and other revenues. This fund includes most operating services, such as Police, Fire, Community Development, Public Works and Administrative departments.
General Obligation Bonds:	Bonds backed by a Government's pledge of its taxing power to ensure repayment. These bonds have lower interest costs than other borrowings because of the high level of security afforded investors.
Grant:	A contribution of assets, usually cash. Contributions are made to local governments from the State and Federal governments, usually for a specified purpose.
Interfund Transfer:	Transfer of cash from one fund to another fund.
Intergovernmental:	Revenue received by the Village from another government. This includes funds from Cook County and the State of Illinois.
Kilowatt Hour:	A measure of electricity used. One kilowatt hour of electricity is equal to 10 - 100 watt bulbs being used for 1 hour.
Retained Earnings:	A balance sheet account reflecting the accumulated earnings of funds the Village accounts for like a business. It is the difference between a fund's assets and liabilities.
Reserve:	An account used to indicate that a portion of a fund's balance is restricted for a specific purpose and is, therefore, not available for general use.
Revenue:	Income received by the Village. Some of the larger revenues and the basis upon which the revenues are determined are as follows: Property Tax - Amount determined by the Village when it requests a specific dollar amount for the County Clerk to collect. Sales Taxes - The Village revenue amount generated is 1.00% of all retail sales credited as originating in Winnetka. The total retail sales tax rate in Winnetka as of 1/1/2013 for general merchandise was 8.00%. Income Tax - 1/12 of the statewide amount collected through personal and corporate State income taxes is returned to the Village based on its population as a percentage of the State's population as a whole.

Refuse Service - Revenue generated through monthly charges to residents designed to offset the cost of Village refuse service, recycling and yard waste removal.

Electric, Water, and Sewer Sales - Revenue generated from charges for electric service, water sales (in units consumed) and sewer services to offset the cost of electricity purchased by the Village and maintaining the water and sewer systems.

Natural Gas Tax – Revenue generated from a 5% tax assessed on customer natural gas bills.

Tax Levy: The total dollar amount to be raised through general property taxes. A Village ordinance is passed directing the County Clerk as to the amount requested. The County then administers collection of the property taxes and remits payments to the Village.

Telecommunications Tax: Revenue received by the Village from a 5% tax on telecommunication services in the community.