

**Park District of Franklin Park  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Regular Monthly Board Meeting  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024; 7:00 p.m.  
Community Center  
9560 Franklin Avenue  
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131  
MINUTES**

**Call to Order at 7:01 p.m.**

Vice President Vonesh called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Physically Present: Commissioners Michael A. Vonesh, Mark K. White, Joseph E. Zinga and Susan E. O'Connell.

Absent: Commissioner AnneMarie Casas.

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Director of Parks and Recreation; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Catherine Saponieri, Marketing & Communications Manager; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager and Thomas Hoffman, Attorney.

Also Present: Rocco Castellano, Castellano Design, Andrew Caputo and Frank Parisi, Williams Architects and Jennifer Costa, Parks Services Assistant.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda**

Closed Session Review moved to after Closed Session later on the Agenda.

**Recess for Public Comment at 7:03 p.m.**

Vice President Vonesh recessed for Public Comment at 7:03 p.m.

No Public Comment.

**Reconvene at 7:04 p.m.**

Vice President Vonesh reconvened at 7:04 p.m.

**Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated February, 2024 in the amount of \$434,813.21**

Motion #1 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the February, 2024 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$434,813.21.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated March, 2024 in the amount of \$41,167.89**

Motion #2 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner White to approve the March, 2024 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$41,167.89.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No Correspondence.

**Reports of Officers and Commissioners**

Commissioner O'Connell has been seeing a lot of marketing on the Easter events that are coming up on social media. Thank you. Has had many, many people who have commented on the nice decorations.

**Williams Architects Service Center Facility Assessment Report Presentation**

Andrew Caputo from Williams Architects presented the Service Center Facility Conditions Assessment Project No. 2023-061 to the Board.

The Board thanked Andrew Caputo for the presentation.

Director LoCascio shared that discussions need to be held regarding phasing the project, purchasing a new facility or building new and funding.

**Unfinished Business:**

*Ice Arena & North Park Window/Door Replacement Project*

Director LoCascio reviewed the window project with the Board. Rocco visited today and will be producing a punch list. The locks charge will be taken care of between Rocco and WB Olson. A discussion was held.

Motion #3 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to approve Payout #7 to WB Olson, Inc., in the amount of \$ 11,068; leaving a balance to finish project, plus retainage of \$247,973.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

*Ice Arena Roof Replacement, Locker / Bathroom Renovations*

Director LoCascio reviewed the fees.

**Presentation / Approval of the Regular and Closed Board Meeting Minutes dated February 27, 2024.**

Motion #4 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to approve the Regular and Closed Board Meeting Minutes dated February 27, 2024.

January 23, 2024 Minutes approval should say 2024 not 2023.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

**Staff Reports:**

*Director*

Director LoCascio reviewed the water fees that we were being charged by the Village of Franklin Park. He met with the Village and they will be removing the fees. There are two water lines going into the Service Center, which will be combined during the renovations.

Director LoCascio stated that we will be doing an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Franklin Park with items that we do together like chair / table use, fire extinguisher use training, using rooms etc.

*Superintendent of Recreation*

Superintendent Visteen shared that staff met with PDRMA. Our losses are well below compared to other District's which is a good place to be. Will be receiving our first \$500 incentive check. We are contemplating revamping the Emergency Safety Plan.

Basketball season ending this weekend. Easter events will be held this weekend. We have six teams for Men's Basketball League.

Manager Strack has 17 returning lifeguards and Manager Rivera only has to hire eight new camp counselors.

Staff will be in attendance at the East Leyden Job Fair tomorrow.

Banquet rentals go through the front desk and then to Manager Renta. Manager Renta meets with the renter.

*Ice Arena Manager*

Manager Deak reported this past weekend was the final tournament. Jasmine decorated the building and it looked very nice. It went well and very busy.

We have 11 registered for the Spring Panther Hockey. We are seeing a lot at our younger levels. Lots of positive feedback. Joe Schultz is doing a great job with the age group and really making an impact. We are receiving positive comments from Park Ridge participants that have come to us during Park Ridge's Renovations.

Star Blades tryouts and Ice Show Rehearsals are this weekend.

*Superintendent of Parks*

Superintendent Wick reported staff is mulching parks. A gas leak was found at North Park in the process.

Assistant Costa attended the Playground Certified Safety program and we will know in a few weeks if she passed.

We cleaned all the equipment at Lincoln Park once due to the vomit that was reported.

North Park Northeast plaza wall that was failing was removed and made some improvements.

Commissioner White suggested putting signs in the parks with our phone number to contact us.

*Marketing & Communication Manager*

Manager Saponieri reported we did our final digital pushes for Easter events. Raising Cane's donated 200 kid combo gift certificates for the Easter Egg Hunt. Great relationship with them.

Job Fair is tomorrow at East Leyden.

Upcoming Summer programs promoting at School District 84 Open House.

Meeting with Antlur to go over parks and facilities tab.

Vice President Vonesh commented new brochure was very nice.

*Superintendent of Finance/Technology*

Superintendent Bersani stated that we received preliminary feedback from Jim Belden on Solar Panels. A discussion was held regarding rebates, leasing, purchasing, warranties and usage.

Director LoCascio and Superintendent Bersani will be meeting with Speer Financial to review financing options.

Superintendent Bersani is finalizing Audit and working on Budget Presentation.

*WSSRA*

Derby Gala is May 4. The School District decided to lease the building to the Village.

**Unfinished Business**

*Paid Leave for All Workers Act*

Attorney Hoffman reviewed the Home Rule County and how it effects the Paid Leave for All Workers Act. The Park District is exempt to it due to the Village of Franklin Park passing the Ordinance.

*CNN*

Director LoCascio has not heard from them. After reviewing North Park Budget we will propose the increase of rent to \$1,300, and ask them to clean the tables, vacuum, etc. During our renovations we have moved them into the Sports Arena, and if we get a booking we will utilize that. A discussion was held.

**New Business:**

*Ice Arena Roof Replacement, Locker / Bathroom Renovations*

Motion #5 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to approve the proposal from W.B. Olson Construction Services of a 6% fee upon a construction budget of approximately \$500,000 and General Condition not to exceed \$135,266.

A discussion was held regarding the 6% fee and WB Olson being familiar with the bidders.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

*Personnel Policy Section 3 and 4 Draft*

Director LoCascio reported that two new things are Floating Holidays and Incentive Program.

Commissioner White suggested adding Bereavement Aunt / Uncle in-law, Brother / Sister in-law. Sick Leave change for purposes of this policy, to section. Carryover vacation days. Disciplinary for picking vacation days. Add 45 calendar days to Carryover days.

Director LoCascio reviewed the Incentive Program. Will be discussed further at a Special Meeting.

*Public Meeting*

The April Board Meeting will start with the Park Planning Public Meeting from 5:30-6:30 p.m., followed by the Board Meeting.

*Parks Foundation*

Parks Foundation Meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

*Efficiency Committee*

Efficiency Committee meeting will be postponed.

**Suggested Motions**

There were no Suggested Motions.

**Required Signatures**

Manager Laskowski received required signatures.

**Closed Session to discuss Land Acquisition 2(c)5, Personnel 2(c)1 and Closed Session Minutes Review 2(c)21**

Motion #6 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to enter into Closed Session at 9:07 p.m. to discuss Land Acquisition 2(c)5, Personnel 2(c)1 and Closed Session Minutes Review 2(c)21.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

**Rise Out of Closed Session**

Motion #7 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Zinga to rise out of Closed Session at 9:30 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session**

*Closed Session Minutes Review*

Motion #8 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner White that the Park District Board find that with respect to the closed session minutes of June 28, 2022, July 26, 2022 and July 25, 2023 it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential and they shall be available for public inspection but that the need for confidentiality still exists as to the minutes of January 26, 2021, February 23, 2021, June 22, 2021, July 27, 2021, August 24, 2021, October 26, 2021, November 23, 2021, February 22, 2022, March 22, 2022, April 26, 2022, May 24, 2022, August 23, 2022, September 28, 2022, October 25, 2022, November 22, 2022, December 13, 2022, January 24, 2023, February 28, 2023, March 28, 2023, April 25, 2023, May 23, 2023, June 27, 2023, August 22, 2023, September 26, 2023, October 24, 2023, November 28, 2023 and February 27, 2024 which shall remain confidential to protect the privacy of an individual or the public interest.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**Adjourn at 9:32 p.m.**

Motion #9 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner White to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

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Susan E. O'Connell, Secretary