

Regular Meeting Minutes of the  
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners  
October 21, 2014

Board President Jim Goshorn called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. He asked for a roll call. Commissioners present: Michelle Klemz, Libby Baker, Vicki Paddock, Gerry Crews and Jim Goshorn. Commissioners absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Jeff Reinhard, Supt. of Parks; Mike Szpylman, Supt. of Business; Scott Crowe, Supt. of Recreation, Jennifer Gilbert, Marketing/PR Manager; Kara Moss, Aquatic Facility Manager; Fred Colón, IT Coordinator; Suzanne Gage, Administrative Assistant and Mayor Kristi Kovarik.

President Goshorn opened a public hearing to get comment on the proposal to sell \$950,000 Limited Park Bonds for the payment of land purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of expenses incident thereto. The notice was published in the Daily Herald on October 3, 2014. The bonds will also be used to pay off a portion of the debt on the Aquatic Center and the Hunt Club Park Community Center construction. He opened the floor for comment. No comments were received during the hearing.

A motion to adjourn the bond hearing at 7:02 pm was made by Libby Baker and seconded by Gerry Crews. On voice vote, all voted aye.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to approve the special meeting minutes of September 16, 2014. The motion was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to approve the regular meeting minutes of September 16, 2014. The motion was seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gerry Crews to approve the executive meeting minutes of September 16, 2014. The motion was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$1,348,619.31 presented on October 21, 2014 was made by Michelle Klemz and seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

President Goshorn introduced Gurnee Mayor Kristi Kovarik who attended the meeting to answer questions on the AKHAN Semiconductor proposal which would offer State, County and local incentives to bring the firm to Gurnee. AKHAN is a global leader in diamond semiconductor technology. The proposal calls for each local taxing body to abate 50% of the AKHAN facility's property tax each year for five years. For the Park District, this amounts to approximately \$17,000 over the five years. The Mayor said that the State will have performance-based credits in place. AKHAN is guaranteeing a minimum number of jobs. They must meet targets within five years. After five years and up to 10 years, if jobs drop below that target, the State is legally empowered to recoup the money. If AKHAN were to leave before five years, the Park District would not continue with the abatement. Commissioner Paddock asked whether we are setting a precedent. The Director said any proposal would be considered on a case by case basis. A company would not approach the Park District specifically for an incentive; the Village would be approached. President Goshorn stated that while he wouldn't normally support incentives, he supports

this initiative as an investment in the community. Mayor Kovarik said they have tried to structure this as a partnership or collaboration among all agencies. She opined that Gurnee must continue to adapt to keep our local economy fueled. This is an investment in the future as the demographics of our area change and the population ages. The firm will attract young people to these hi tech jobs. Other technology companies may be attracted as well. The next steps in the process were discussed. Property tax abatement agreements are on hold until AKHAN has a signed sales contract. AKHAN is still negotiating the sales contract for the property. The company wants to open in the first quarter of 2015 because they are under pressure to supply the product. Tax abatements would start in 2016. Park Board consensus is they will support the proposal.

President Goshorn opened the floor to visitor comments. There were no comments.

Department heads discussed their written reports. Kara Moss attended the meeting to answer questions about the summer aquatic report. Mike Szpylman introduced Fred Colón, new IT coordinator in the Business department. He has worked for six years in IT at Skokie and Highland Park Park Districts. The Board welcomed him.

The Director presented her monthly report. She discussed recent fitness center locker break-ins that have occurred in many area fitness centers and how it is being dealt with at GPD. Members have all been advised not to store valuables.

The District has once again received the GFOA Distinguished Budget Award. She congratulated Mike and the business staff. The Board extended congratulations to Mike and his team – Vicki Zika, Kim McCormack and Sean Aldrich. Next year, if this award and the GFOA Certificate of Excellence are received, staff will ask GFOA to present both at the same time.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources has invited the District to present its proposed Ravinia Park grant project on Thursday, October 23. Jeff Reinhard and the Director will make the 3-minute presentation and answer questions.

The Director reported that the construction at the FitNation pool is going quite well. The contractors are on schedule for completion as originally planned. The windows are all installed. Tiling is being done in all areas and the work being done is beautiful. Staff requested a price to re-tile the steam rooms, which are in need of improvement. The cost for this change will be \$28,000. No funds have been spent from the contingency funds until now. Board consensus is that staff can move forward and they can take official action at the next board meeting.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

A motion was made by Gerry Crews to approve the estimated tax levy amount of \$4,678,805 in the corporate and special purpose funds and \$953,603 in the bond and interest fund bringing the total estimated levy to \$5,632,410 and since the total increase is above 5%, to hold a truth-in-taxation hearing on November 18, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. at Viking Park Community Center. The motion was seconded by Michelle Klemz. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Vicki Paddock to approve the Nursing Mothers in the Workplace personnel policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Libby Baker. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to approve a three year agreement with Windstream to provide land line phone service at a monthly cost of \$262.00. The motion was seconded by Vicki Paddock. The decision was not made just because it was the lowest bid. In depth evaluation of the firm was conducted to be sure the service is the same as well as the quality. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Michelle Klemz to appoint Gerry Crews as delegate for the IAPD annual business meeting on January 24, 2015 and Michelle Klemz as the alternate delegate. The motion was seconded by Libby Baker. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Baker, Crews, Paddock, Klemz and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Vicki Paddock and seconded by Libby Baker. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

---

James G. Goshorn, President

---

Michelle Klemz, Secretary