

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
October 17, 2023

President Goshorn called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. The President led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for roll call. Commissioners present: Chrissie Popper, Vicki Paddock, Aaron Dalzot, Gerry Crews and Jim Goshorn. Commissioners absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director; Kraig Owens, Director of Parks and Planning; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services; and Mike Wick, Director of Recreation. Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations was absent.

President Goshorn opened a public hearing to receive public comments on the proposal to sell \$1,075,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds to provide the revenue source to pay certain alternate bonds and for the payment of land condemned or 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 the expenses incident thereto. Notice of the meeting was published in the *Daily Herald* on October 3, 2023. The proceeds from this bond issue will be used for various capital projects throughout the Park District. The bonds will also be used to pay off a portion of the debt on the Hunt Club Park Community Center construction. No comments were received during the hearing. A motion to adjourn was made by Crews and seconded by Paddock. On voice vote, all voted aye.

A motion was made by Paddock to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 19, 2023. The motion was seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Popper, Paddock, Dalzot, Crews and Goshorn. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$865,301.42 presented on October 17, 2023, was made by Crews and was seconded by Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Popper, Paddock, Dalzot, Crews and Goshorn. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

The President opened the floor to visitors; there were no visitors present.

Department Directors reviewed their written reports with the Board.

Director of Parks Kraig Owens reviewed the parks report. Owens reported that construction is underway for the backstop at Viking Park and should be completed by the end of October.

Director of Recreation Mike Wick reviewed his report. Wick thanked the many departments that supported the location change for the Halloween Fall Fest indoors due to inclement weather. Bonfires & Brews was also a very well attended, well organized event. Sabrina Hinkens and Sue McDougle presented the Summer Camp recap report. Camp boasted 2207 registrations in 2023. 124 staff members supported the program. The program received a 93% satisfaction rate. Overall, a great summer.

Director of Business Services Mike Szpylman reviewed the business services report. Szpylman presented an option to put sale of bonds to the open market or purchase the district's own bonds at the November meeting.

Director Susie Kuruvilla reviewed the Marketing and Community Relations report.

Executive Director Susie Kuruvilla reviewed her report. Kuruvilla updated the Board on the Comprehensive Planning process. A summary of all the focus group findings have been provided and will be shared with the Board at the November Meeting. Kuruvilla talked to the Board about a possible opportunity for a Dog Park at the District's former property, Gowe Beach.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Popper to approve the estimated tax levy amount of \$5,891,527 in the corporate and special purpose funds and \$1,175,914 in the bond and interest fund bringing the total estimated levy to \$7,067,441. Motion seconded by Paddock. Ayes: Paddock, Dalzot, Crews, Popper and Goshorn. Nays: none.

A motion was made by Paddock to approve waiving the bidding requirements and approving structural repairs to the FitNation pool roof as an emergency repair to be completed by Efraim Carlson at an approximate cost of \$114,744.00. Motion seconded by Dalzot. Ayes: Paddock, Dalzot, Popper, Crews and Goshorn. Nays: none.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paddock and seconded by Popper. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

James G. Goshorn, President

Aaron Dalzot, Secretary