

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
October 15, 2024

Vice President Paddock called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm, led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for roll call. Commissioners present: Chrissie Popper, Vicki Paddock, Aaron Dalzot and Gerry Crews. Commissioners absent: Jim Goshorn. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director, Melissa R. Marsh, Director of Recreation; Kraig Owens, Director of Parks; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services, Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations, Christina Richmond, Accounting Manager and Megan Baird, Youth Recreation Supervisor.

Vice President Paddock opened a hearing to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds of the District in the amount of \$800,000 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.

A notice of the meeting was published in the *Daily Herald* on October 1, 2024. 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 Popper and seconded by Dalzot. On voice vote, all voted aye.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the minutes of the Local Efficiency Committee meeting of September 17, 2024. The motion was seconded by Dalzot. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot and Crews. Nays: none. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the minutes of the Regular session meeting of September 17, 2024. The motion was seconded by Dalzot. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Crews to approve the minutes of the Special Park Tour session meeting of September 30, 2024. The motion was seconded by Dalzot. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts and payroll in the amount of \$1,019,977.86 presented on October 15, 2024, was made by Popper and was seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

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

Department Directors reviewed their written reports with the Board.

Director of Parks and Planning, Kraig Owens reviewed the parks report and welcomed any questions. He noted that two new Full-time employees started in the maintenance department, Brian Mohry and Efrain Pernillo. One additional position remains open.

Director of Recreation, Melissa R. Marsh reviewed the recreation report. Melissa noted that Fall Fest was well-attended and exhibited great teamwork by the Gurnee Park District staff. Megan Baird, Youth Recreation Supervisor then reviewed highlights from the Summer Camp program. She informed the board that the first day of registration exhibited the highest enrollment number ever recorded. The end of season summer Pool Party for campers took place on August 1st, with 550 individuals registered and even more attended. Other Special events were listed as well. Popper commended the team for the updates to the Volunteer policy as well.

Director of Business Services, Mike Szpylman said he will bring forward the ordinance for the Annual Rollover Bond next month. As interest rates decrease, he's hopeful to be able to refinance FitNation soon as well. Mike additionally offered to answer any questions regarding the Business Services report.

Director of Marketing and Community Relations Jennifer Gilbert offered to answer any questions regarding the Marketing and Community Relations report and noted nothing additional to add at this time.

Susie Kuruvilla then presented the Executive Director's report. She noted that the Local Efficiency report has been filed and will be due again in 2034. The IAPD Legal Symposium is upcoming and Susie, Mike, Kraig and Chrissie are scheduled to attend. Some upcoming events include the IAPD Best of the Best Awards Gala, Lights at Welton Plaza, and Breakfast with Santa.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Popper to approve the estimated tax levy for 2024 and seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dalzot to approve the Hunt Club Fitness Equipment Purchase in the amount of \$40,200.00 and seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the Revised Volunteer Policy and seconded by Dalzot. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Popper to approve the Change Order from Maneval Construction for the FitNation parking lot in the amount of \$152,334.25 and seconded by Dalzot. Crews raised concerns regarding the additional funding being requested on top of the original bid. Kraig and Susie provided a detailed explanation. The parking lot was originally resurfaced in 2006 and has been patched as-needed ever since. Once complete, the resurfacing is expected to last 15-20 years. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, Crews. Nays: None. Absent: Goshorn. Motion carried.

Susie reminded the Board that the Hunt Club Preschool Playground Ribbon Cutting is to take place next Thursday October 24th at 9:30am.

A motion to adjourn was made by Popper and seconded by Crews. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.

James G. Goshorn, President

Aaron Dalzot, Secretary