



COLLINSVILLE AREA RECREATION DISTRICT

www.CollinsvilleRec.com

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## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 18, 2012

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by President Andrew Carruthers at 7:00 PM, December 18, 2012 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance the role was called with the following commissioners answering present: Andrew Carruthers, David Tanzyus, Spike Bryant, Mary Ann Bitzer, and Patrick Collins.

Staff present included Executive Director Terry Wilson and Administrative Assistant Susan Zaber. Attorney David Gerber was also present.

### PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ron Jedda welcomed Commissioner Collins to the Park Board, thanked Terry Wilson for turning around finances and streamlining some of the overhead, and Andrew Carruthers for his leadership. He stated 12 months ago the Board voted to reduce the tax levy and he hoped that evening the Commissioners would again vote to reduce the levy and the tax burden placed on the tax payers. He stated hopefully that evening the Board would be voting on a resolution to place tax reduction referendums on the ballot in April 2013.

Harold Siems addressed the Board regarding a friend that had a large extended family and a pizza business started by his friend. He shared information about his friend's business and issues with losing money on the business, etc. He concluded by asking the Board what they thought his friend should do.

Mark Achenbach addressed the Board regarding the tax levy. He stated he was disappointed no draft levy was published prior to the meeting. He stated of all the things done in the year, the things the public was most interested in was the levy and the budget, and in the future the draft levy should be published. He stated both the General Corp and Rec Funds should be reduced to \$335,000, the Liability Fund should be reduced to \$150,000, the Audit Fund should remain at \$30,000, the IMRF Fund should be reduced to \$90,000, Social Security should be reduced to \$100,000, Workers Comp should be reduced to \$40,000, and the Museum Fund should be \$112,000. Mr. Achenbach stated the Paving and Lighting levy should remain at \$0, and the balance should be returned to the tax payers as a rebate. He stated he recommended a levy of \$0 for the Special Rec Fund. He stated the funds equaled a subtotal of \$1,170,000, plus the debt of \$1.4 million, and totaled a recommended levy of \$2,570,000.

Joe Ashmann addressed the Board regarding questions he had about CARD. He first asked why he came there, and stated because of Miner's. He asked where he had been since then and stated City Hall, because of CARD and not liking what was going on with TIF. He stated he went to the school board about TIF. He stated he asked about the "swamp land" and wanted to know what happened with it. He mentioned the forensic audit findings, and stated they had not heard a thing about it. Regarding the regular audit findings presented by a public accountant at the previous meeting he stated not a question was asked. He referenced the golf course and stated from its inception he thought it was illegal and wanted to know why the accountant wasn't asked about it.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

A motion was made by David Tanzyus, seconded by Mary Ann Bitzer to approve the consent agenda to include November 2012 regular meeting minutes, and Closed Session minutes for October and November 2012 sessions, the Treasurer's report for November 2012, and the Claims and Accounts list in the amount of \$219,633.40. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Collins, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORTS:**

Executive Director Terry Wilson read from staff reports. Some highlights referenced from the reports included:

- New program bulletin that replaced the program guide. He stated the bulletin was being sent three times per year to more people at a lower cost versus two times per year, which was how often the program guide was sent.
- Breakfast with Santa had 125 participants and was sold out.
- Fletcher Field Junior, which had not been used for several years, was worked on and again available for use.
- OSLAD grant submittal was in process which would bring \$400,000 to the District, if approved.
- New surface of crush limestone was added to 1/3 mile walking path at Glidden Park to make it easier to walk on.
- A parking lot was added to Glidden Park in an area people were already parking, which created ruts, to establish a legitimate lot that looked nicer.
- Working on a Capital Improvement plan to present to the Board for review in the near future.
- David Tanzyus asked about the forensic audit and if it could be put online. Andrew Carruthers stated he was going to talk to David Gerber about it and decide whether some or all of it could be released, because it was a pending manner.

Mary Ann Bitzer made a motion, seconded by Patrick Collins to accept staff reports. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Collins, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Regarding tax cap petitions presented by the public Attorney David Gerber stated there were three petitions with signatures submitted in October. He stated in the next week he was going to have Terry Wilson sign as the election official on behalf of CARD to certify the petitions with the County Clerk. He stated a resolution was not needed, and that there were three methods to have public questions certified and placed on the ballot, which included resolution, ordinance or by petition. Andrew Carruthers clarified the process did not require a vote of the Board. David Gerber stated only three questions could be presented and they were taken in time order.

Regarding demolition of the house on Vivian Terry Wilson stated he received a call from the fire department and they stated they would not burn the house due to budget cuts. He stated the second plan was to demolish the house, which would cost approximately \$12,000. He stated he would solicit three bids and provide to the Board to review.

- David Tanzyus asked if Board action was necessary, since it was only \$12,000, and if there were three bids he thought they would be fine. Andrew Carruthers stated he did not think they needed to take action and it could be left to Terry's discretion.

Regarding the Schnuck Memorial Park dam repair issue Terry Wilson stated the District owned the back quarter of the dam, which is the side that was leaking. He stated he Madison County look at the issue and the County recommended taking the dam out and letting it drain and redo the dam. He stated if he were one of the 12 residents along the lake he would not be happy about that option, which would cost approximately \$30,000. He stated since then he had another person come in that provided a recommendation to repair the dam on the back of the dam at a cost of approximately \$11,000. He stated the repair would not be done in the winter and would probably be done during the summer.

- David Tanzyus asked if it was a safety concern. Terry explained it could bust or leak more. It was clarified the problem existed because CARD did not clear brush etc, on its side of the dam.
- David Gerber stated the other thing to check was whether there was a legal obligation for the residents to share costs and liability, etc. He stated before any money was spent he suggested having the dam surveyed so the exact property line was identified.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Spike Bryant made a motion, seconded by Patrick Collins that Ordinance 12-8: An Ordinance for the Levy of Taxes for the CARD for the Fiscal Year beginning May 1, 2013 and ending April 30, 2014 be adopted.

- Andrew Carruthers stated in developing the tax levy this year he contacted Madison County about an estimate of the EAV and it was estimated to decrease by approximately \$4,200,000 and there was no new information from St. Clair County. He stated they anticipated approximately a reduction of about 7/10 of 1 percent in the EAV from last year. He stated that since the EAV did not increase from the previous year it was his position that the tax levy should not go up. He stated the staff met and provided their best estimate of what the levy should be which operationally \$1.3 million. He stated operationally the levy would be a little less, but about the same, and where tax payers

would see the savings was in the bond levy. He stated last year the bond levy was \$1.4 million and this year it was \$1,357,600. He stated he thought the tax payers would see approximately a 2% decrease in CARD's portion of their tax bills.

- David Tanzyus stated the Board was looking at a decrease of approximately 2% decrease from last year, and the previous year the decrease was 20%. Andrew Carruthers stated there was about a 20% reduction between the 2010 and 2011 tax levy. He stated CARD's levy was in line with other local governments, in that it was remaining about the same, because of the economy.

Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Collins, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT:**

Andrew Carruthers referenced the program newsletter created by CARD's Marketing and Communication Coordinator, Elizabeth Davis and stated it was a great idea. David Tanzyus added it was touching more people, more often, and for less money, and it was in an easy to read format. He encouraged the public to provide feedback to CARD regarding these types of things. Mary Ann Bitzer asked about online registration, and Terry Wilson stated it was coming.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A motion was made by David Tanzyus, seconded by Spike Bryant that the Commissioners go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and the sale or purchase of real property. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Collins, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The board adjourned to CLOSED SESSION at 7:58 PM.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order in OPEN SESSION by President Andrew Carruthers at 8:17 PM, December 18, 2012 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois. Upon roll being called the following commissioners answered present: Andrew Carruthers, David Tanzyus, Patrick Collins, Spike Bryant, and Mary Ann Bitzer. Staff present included Executive Director Terry Wilson and Administrative Assistant Susan Zaber. Attorney David Gerber was also present.

### **Regarding Authorization of Settlement Agreement:**

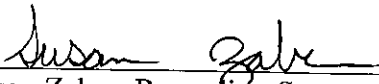
- Andrew Carruthers stated during Closed Session the Board discussed the contract the Board approved in June 2011 to purchase 30 acres of property adjacent to Arlington Golf Course for a price of approximately \$480,000. He stated since that time David Gerber had been in negotiations to get out of the contract and presented the Board with a Resolution for a proposed settlement and to rescind the original contract. He stated the terms to rescind was CARD would not buy the land, would pay the sellers a lump sum of \$15,000, and would exchange approximately 10 acres of CARD property for approximately 10 acres of the sellers property.

- David Gerber described the two pieces of land that would be exchanged and stated the land CARD would get would allow CARD to control drainage of the golf course. A motion was made by David Tanzyus, seconded by Spike Bryant to adopt Resolution 12-9: Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement for Termination, Settlement, and Release of Installment Contract for Sale of Real Estate. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Collins, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted Nay. Motion passed.

No further business coming before the Commissioners, a motion was made by David Tanzyus, seconded by Patrick Collins that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll being called, those voting AYE were: Carruthers, Tanzyus, Collins, Bryant, Bitzer. None voted Nay. Motion passed.

The meeting stood adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Susan Zaber, Recording Secretary

1/15/13  
Date