



COLLINSVILLE AREA RECREATION DISTRICT
www.CollinsvilleRec.com

10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois 62234 • (618) 346-PLAY (7529) • (618) 346-7530 (fax)

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 19, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by President Patrick Collins at 6:30 PM, January 19, 2016 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance the roll was called with the following commissioners answering present: Mark Achenbach, Patrick Collins, Jeanne Lomax and Brad Sewell.

Staff present included: Doug Erhart, Timothy Childers, Kimberli DeRossett, Jessica Jader, Keith Grotofendt, Mark Kosmatka, Max Ryan and Ebony Pollard. Bond Consultant Tim King was present as well.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Collins opened discussion for consent agenda items to approve the following:

- Closed Meeting minutes for December 7, 2015 and December 15, 2015
- Special Meeting minutes for December 7, 2015
- Regular Meeting minutes for December 15, 2015
- Treasurer's Report for May 1, 2015 through November 30, 2015
- Treasurer's Report for December 2015
- Claims and Accounts list

- Achenbach pointed out two misinterpretations in previous meetings. In the December 7 Special Meeting minutes, he noted confusion with "King explained what would happen if they were to become tax capped." King noted the wording should be changed to "King gave thoughts on what would happen if there was no abatement. In the December 15 Regular Meeting minutes, Erhart noted that both the golf course and the water park are actually turning a profit now. Achenbach indicated that is not true and that the golf fund and water park fund were in the black, not turning a profit. He noted numerous other typos.

Achenbach made a motion, seconded by Sewell, to accept the consent agenda.

Roll was called with the following voting AYE: Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & STAFF REPORTS

Collins opened discussion for the executive director and staff reports.

- Erhart reviewed the reports and noted several areas where money can be saved, including:
 1. Reviewing previous overpriced bills. For example the \$7,500 refund from the water department for sewage charges at Splash City.
 2. Removal of unused cell phone numbers.
 3. Better options with the postage machine.
 4. Removal of unneeded dumpsters during the off season.
- Collins commended Childers on his board report.
- Achenbach went on to question water bills at other locations. Erhart noted he is monitoring all bills.
- Achenbach went on to questions the yearly installation of the Christmas signs throughout Collinsville. It was indicated that Erhart should look further in to it and possibly turn the signs over to whoever owns the signs.
- Achenbach went on to question the recreation coordinators addition of an Archery program and an increase in liability. Erhart noted it would be an additional \$100 per year. Jader indicated that cost would be recovered within three rentals.
- Achenbach went on to question the museum's board report and the NFA online course for burn certification. Kosmatka indicated it was for a possible prairie burn. Achenbach went on to question the issue with the tree at Willoughby Farm. The tree is on school property, but many of the branches fall on museum property. The school district wants us to pay for half of the cost for tree care. Erhart will contact the school district for discussion and resolving of the issue.
- Achenbach went on to commend Childers on his board report.
- Collins questioned Childers on the kiosk at the golf course. Childers noted it would be a monitor informing all at the clubhouse of upcoming events and programs within the district.

Roll was called with the following voting AYE: Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

Collins opened discussion with potential action regarding updated FlowRider options.

- Erhart indicated he has done extensive research and there are currently no issues with the riding surface. There are various pieces that need to be updated. He is still doing research, but so far, \$2,500 would cover the costs for replacement equipment. CARD staff would provide the labor.

This was a discussion only, no action was necessary.

NEW BUSINESS

Collins opened discussion with potential action regarding an ordinance authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$4,750,000 for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding alternate bonds of the District.

- King presented the Board with various options regarding bonds. The Board had information packets to review. The District annually abates the Alternate Bond levies by the February Deadline and then completes the rollover bond just in time to make the Alternate Bond payments in December. He went on with the following recommendations:
 - Refinance the remaining Series 2004 Bonds at this time for savings
 - Refinance the 2015 Alternate Bond levy (12/1/2016 and 6/1/2017 payments).
 - Structure the payments to begin 12/1/2017, increasing the annual payment amount to \$1.7M through 2025 levy year, at which time the 2026 levy year and after is already 1.7M.
 - After refinancing, the District's annual Alternate Bond payments will equal \$1.7M level until partial final year in 2035.
 - After Refinancing the Series 2007s next fall, hopefully reduce the annual levies by \$60k or more to 1.64M or less.

He went on to list the benefits of his recommendation.

- The District would NOT DOUBLE this year's bond levy
- The District would remain in compliance with all bond covenants
- The District will capture \$300k savings immediately, with another \$1M expected this fall
- The District would not extend the overall repayment term
- The District will not need to complete another rollover bond at this time. Next year the District could resume rollover bond issues in February and avoid the just-in-time financing problems, OR if the District wished to not abate Alternate Bond levies (and fall out of compliance) it could now do this without doubling an annual bond levy and practically assuring taxpayer challenge.

Achenbach debated heavily with King regarding numbers. He went on to question the legality of various options presented by King.

King indicated there is not new money involved. He also indicated that this money cannot be used for Capital Improvement.

Collins made a motion to accept the ordinance. Sewell looked into the audience asking if they all "Think we should just kill it all around." No audio was recorded from the audience, but nodding from a few audience members led Sewell to indicate he is not seconding the motion. There was not a second. Motion dropped. Sewell went on to state "government of the people, by the people, for the people. It requires participation of the people and I stated earlier tonight, people that participate will get my (inaudible). All those people sitting at home, I can't hear them."

Achenbach made a motion, seconded by Sewell, for King to look further into the refunding of the five year coupons on 2004 and obtaining an advance refund on 2007. Achenbach then motioned, seconded by Lomax, to amend the original motion to include looking into an advance refunding of the series 2010 as well. There are two individual proposals. The first includes 2004 and 2007. The second includes 2010.

Roll was called with Achenbach, Lomax and Sewell voting AYE. Collins voted NAY. Motion passed.

Collins opened discussion with potential action regarding pricing and contracting for the Annual Catsup Bottle Festival and the Annual Horseradish Festival.

- Erhart presented the board with possible pricing and contract options. He recommended charging the same as we would charge anyone else for these types of events. He noted they have never paid for the rentals before. Achenbach stated “we always reserve the right to get smarter.” Sewell said even if they do not pay they need a contract. Achenbach noted that he doubts they get chairs and tents for free because it’s the Catsup Bottle Festival or Horseradish Festival. It was agreed that a contract was definitely needed.

No action needed.

Collins opened discussion with potential action regarding the need for computer and software upgrades to maintain compatibility.

- Erhart introduced Childers to present the Board with the options and explain what each option means. \$1,150 for new versions of Windows server. We are currently using 2003 which is no longer supported by Microsoft. \$1,600 for backup server. He explained what is currently being done and that Matt Warner is handling this. It was noted that Warner has been doing this for free on a nightly basis. He normally charges \$95 per hour. Childers noted he does backs up the server on a daily basis so we are only 24 hours behind on a regular basis. He also discussed the need for NAS storage because we are running out of storage space. Erhart noted this would be a capital expenditure.

Achenbach made a motion, seconded by Sewell, to approve the motion for \$4,380 for the computer and software upgrades.

Roll was called with the following voting AYE: Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Collins opened the floor for public comment.

- James Sparks was the first to speak. He started by asking where Dave was. He went on to discuss tonight’s meeting and the things that were said. He furthered that by providing an overview of his first encounters with CARD over five years ago with Andy Caruthers and Dave Tanzyus. Soon after, Achenbach was involved. He also noted the flyer being handed out stating CARD had \$30 million in long term debt. He also referenced that all the board members at the time had names starting with the letter B and they were referred to as the five B’s. He went on to note the new board has accrued more debt than all the debt during Badasch’s time. He also noted, the board should not borrow money without approval of the consenting body. Give the tax payers options. Increase taxes to keep it running, increase taxes to turn it into a metropolis, downsize CARD to operate on the existing budget, or do as he stated four years ago, shut off the lights and leave the keys in the trash as you walk out the front door. Let the lawyers settle it in court. In conclusion, the only thing that has changed at CARD is the faces. Sewell made comments regarding bonds. Sparks continued to point out that the board should not be

making the decisions, it should be the people. He stated that CARD has hung one heck of a debt on the taxpayers. Lomax questioned the “new board” accruing more debt. Sparks pointed out this was percentage wise. It was clarified that the new board has not taken out any new debt. Rollover bonds have been paid on a yearly basis by the new board. Collins noted that the speaker has reached his time and that Achenbach was indicating to speak with Sparks outside of the meeting.

- Joe Ashman was second to speak. He noted that those that do not do anything do not make any mistakes. He also noted that the people do not trust elected officials but they do trust the workers, the people doing the job. He went on to point out that TIF was a slush fund. He went on to note the golf course was the black hole of Calcutta. He also indicated the disservice to CARD by cutting taxes in the past. TIF is corporate welfare at its best. He also noted the taxpayers got a bad deal with “the five B’s.” He was also upset about the changing in staff without an explanation. The absence of Collins, Tanzyus and the district attorney left him looking for answers. He feels like CARD is a secret organization. He said trust is at the heart of taxpayer’s minds.
- Rob Dorman was third to speak. He noted people do not move to Collinsville or St. Clair County because the taxes are too high.
- Bill Dorman was fourth to speak. He noted he had not been to a meeting for several years, but this meeting was similar to the meetings they had in the past when the “five B’s” were here. He indicated he thought CARD would be out of debt by now. He suggested increasing prices at the golf course, pool, Coke machine, etc. He also noted he was glad Achenbach argued this time. Last time, they just gave the sales lady what she wanted.
- Maryville Mayor Larry Gulledge did not sign up for public comment, but asked to address the Board. He would like a projector of some sort be used so the audience could see what the board is looking at. He also requested that the speakers get up and speak in front of the audience and face the audience so they can see what is being said along with the tone of voice and body language. He would like more paperwork and handouts given to those in attendance. He had a very difficult time following along with tonight’s meeting.
- Ashmann added that he would like to hear side conversation as well.
- Bill Dorman added that he would like for us to violate our covenant so that we cannot borrow any more.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

Collins opened the floor for the good of the district. There was nothing for the good of the district.

OTHER BUSINESS

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Sewell, to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the employment, compensation, or dismissal of specific employees, purchase or sale of real property, and litigation. (5 ILCS 120/2© 1, 5, 6, 11). Those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The Board adjourned to CLOSED SESSION at 8:58 PM.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order in OPEN SESSION by Collins, January 19, 2016 at 9:41 PM at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois. Commissioners present were Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. Staff present included Executive Director Doug Erhart.

Collins entertained the motion for Resolution 16-2, a resolution authorizing the sale of Tara Lane lake property for \$12,000. Achenbach made a motion, seconded by Sewell, to sell the property.

Roll was called with the following voting AYE: Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

Collins entertained the motion to hire Andy Carathers as corporate council. Achenbach made a motion, Sewell seconded. Collins said he had the usual objection that he thinks it is inappropriate. Sewell reiterated that if he didn't vote for Andy, we wouldn't have a lawyer. Collins said that was not true, he could vote for Brucker. Sewell noted we would be tied; we would not have a win.

Roll was called with the following voting AYE: Achenbach, Lomax and Sewell. Collins voted NAY. Motion passed.

No further business coming before the commissioners, a motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Sewell, the meeting be adjourned. Those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins, Lomax and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The meeting stood adjourned at 9:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberli DeRossett, Recording Secretary

Date