



COLLINSVILLE AREA RECREATION DISTRICT
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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MAY 16, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by President Ronald Jedda at 6:47 PM, May 16, 2017 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois.

The roll was called with the following commissioners answering present: Mark Achenbach, Ronald Jedda, Brad Sewell and Aaron Wright.

CLOSED SESSION

A motion was made by Sewell, seconded by Wright, to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing employment, compensation, or dismissal of specific employees, purchase of sale or real property, and litigation. (5 ILCS 120/2§ 1, 5, 6, 11).

REOPEN REGULAR MEETING

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by President Ronald Jedda at 7:06 PM, May 16, 2017 at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois.

Roll was called with the following commissioners answering present: Achenbach, Jedda, Sewell and Wright.

NEW BUSINESS

Jedda opened the floor for new business.

The first item of new business was discussion and potential action regarding the closed session items.

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Wright, to hire James Craney as the new district attorney for CARD.

Roll was called with the following commissioners voting AYE: Achenbach, Jedda, Sewell and Wright. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The second item of new business was discussion and potential action regarding the reappropriation for the 2016-2017 Budget. Erhart explained that for the last fiscal year CARD had twelve general ledger line items with expenditures that exceeded appropriation. There were forty seven general ledger line items that had expenditures which were under appropriation so there is money that can be redistributed. He presented the Board with a list of what needed to be redistributed in the amount of \$23,208. The total is less than ten percent and none are restricted funds

A motion was made by Achenbach and seconded by Sewell, to accept the reappropriations for the 2016-2017 budget.

Achenbach noted that with a budget and appropriation ordinance, the appropriation is the legal threshold of what can be spent. Any time we exceed what we appropriate, we have to go back and fix it because, by state law we cannot exceed that threshold.

Roll was called with the following commissioners voting AYE: Achenbach, Jedda, Sewell and Wright. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jedda opened the floor for public comment.

The first speaker for public comment was Maryville Mayor Craig Short. He started by indicating that it is no secret that for years, Maryville has wanted to disconnect from CARD. He noted that this was a passion of former Mayor Larry Gullledge that started soon after CARD was formed, with the mushrooming of expenses and debt. Short went on to commend the current Board and even the previous Board to a degree noting that expenses have started to come under control. The problem is the mounting debt. \$1.4 million increase in debt retirement. He also noted that tax levy revenue went up \$1 million. So the increase in taxes is going to pay the debt. The way the debt is structured; Short sees no other course of action but to increase the tax base to pay debts. It has gone out of control and it is not anything that this Board specifically has done, it has been done by previous Boards. He added that "we feel in Maryville, that because of the reckless spending, the wasteful practices, and excessive indebtedness of CARD, we want out. The Village of Maryville, we have our own parks. We tax our residents. They enjoy our parks. Our residents are being taxed by CARD for their parks. We are getting taxed for two park systems." He went on to note it is a little excessive and he feels it is in their best interest and the best interest of all current and future tax payers in Maryville, that they would like to ask for disconnection. He presented the Board with petitions regarding the disconnection. He reviewed the basis of the disconnection. He referred to the Illinois Compiled Statutes 70-ILCS-1205/3-6 specifically. The petition has to be filed at least 30 days before it is considered by the corporate authorities." He went on to note 70-ILCS 1205/3-7, indicating that they understand that any territory from a park district shall not exempt it from the taxation for the purpose of paying any indebtedness contracted by the corporate authorities of the park district prior to the filing of the petition for disconnection. He also noted that the fear is there will be continued borrowing in the future. He went on to identify the properties they are petitioning to disconnect from the park district. There are six different parcels they are asking to be disconnected from the district. They are as follows:

- Michael Noga Park
- Area north of Route 162 between Maryville and Glen Carbon owned by the Villas on Nottingham
- Lakeview Acres Road south of Maryville water tower - owned the Joseph and Don Osborn
- The Maryville water tower and the water tower road itself
- Larry and Nancy Gullledge's parcel
- Robert and Karen Bell's parcel

He went on to note that disconnection is what the majority of the people in Maryville want and so they would like the CARD Board to consider passing a resolution allowing these properties to be disconnected. He presented Erhart with the petitions and asked for his signature.

The next two individuals signed up for Public Comment, Patrick Presson and Robert Bell did not address the Board. Mayor Short addressed their concerns.

The second speaker for public comment was former Maryville Mayor Larry Gullledge. He noted there are no problems with the current Board. As a taxpayer he does not think it is right for him to be paying taxes to two park districts. He would appreciate any consideration the Board gives to allowing them to disconnect. He added they should be allowed to use parks for free and does not feel he should be paying taxes twice.

The third speaker for public comment was Joe Ashmann. He questioned if Maryville disconnects, does the entire burden go to Collinsville. He does not feel it is fair for Maryville to disconnect and leave Collinsville to pick up the pieces. He feels Collinsville is being abandoned.

The fourth speaker for public comment was Jim Grobmeier. He noted Maryville removing parcels from the district should not be done. He commended CARD for the improvement on the budget.

Achenbach clarified that disconnecting parcels will still pay their portion of the debt until 2035. The remaining CARD parcels will not carry the weight of the disconnecting parcels. The CARD debt will continue to be paid.

The fifth speaker for public comment was Jim Sparks. He asked about money borrowed before 2035. He wants to know if CARD is through borrowing money. Achenbach clarified that CARD cannot borrow money. He went on to note the tax rate is going from \$0.475 to \$0.63 and it will go down next year to around \$0.45. There are no rollover bonds. He went on to note he would have preferred to sell the golf course too. But the way the bond was taken out, it is against the law for CARD to sell the golf course. CARD can only fix things the law allows.

Jedda clarified that the petitions presented tonight will be on the agenda in June and there will be further discussion at that point. He appreciates all the comments being made tonight, but there will be another opportunity in June to make comments regarding disconnection.

CONSENT AGENDA

Jedda opened the floor for consent agenda items.

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Wright, to accept the consent agenda items.

There was no discussion.

Roll was called with the following commissioners voting AYE: Achenbach, Jedda, Sewell and Wright. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & STAFF REPORTS

Jedda opened the floor for executive director & staff reports.

Erhart discussed the following areas:

- He has been working the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget
- Keith Grotefendt indicated on his report that he met with the City of Collinsville's water department regarding the running of a new water line at the Sports Complex. The line has been replaced and they are working on replacing the fountain that is currently there.
- Jader discussed the Spring Festival. She said there were about 700 people that came through and she made just over \$500. That is more than double last year. Achenbach questioned the beer stand. Jader said there were no problems with the beer stand. A fire truck did get stuck and it required a tow truck.
- Erhart added that the day camps are filling up.
- Splash City opens a week from Saturday.
- The golf course is picking back up and recovering from a lot of rain. Kyle Smith has been keeping the course in good shape.
- There are a lot of good things going on at the farm.

Achenbach asked how Spring Farm Day was. Kosmatka noted there were 1,006 paid attendees. The only issue was the parking. The lot normally used was under water.

OLD BUSINESS

Jedda opened the floor for old business.

The first item was the discussion and potential action regarding the 2017-2018 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #17-2.

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Sewell, to accept Ordinance #17-2, an ordinance regarding the 2017-2018 budget and appropriation.

Achenbach noted that Erhart did a good job with the budget. He added the budget has been better this year than it has been any other year. He commended Erhart and the rest of the staff that worked on it.

Roll was called with the following commissioners voting AYE: Achenbach, Jedda, Sewell and Wright. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

Jedda opened the floor for the good of the district.

Achenbach thanked the staff for Spring Farm Day and Spring Festival. He knows it requires a lot of extra hours.

OTHER BUSINESS

A motion was made by Sewell, seconded by Achenbach, 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, Jedda, Sewell and Wright. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The Board adjourned to CLOSED SESSION at 7:42 PM.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order in OPEN SESSION by Jedda, May 16, 2017 at 7:58 PM at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois. Commissioners present were Achenbach, Jedda, Sewell and Wright. Staff present included Executive Director Doug Erhart. District Attorney James Craney was present as well.

Wright had to step out of the meeting.

Achenbach made a motion, seconded by Sewell, to accept Resolution #17-4, a resolution that allows for the sale of four parcels on Tara Lane.

Those voting AYE were Achenbach, Jedda and Sewell. None 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, Jedda and Sewell. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The meeting stood adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberli DeRossett, Recording Secretary

Date