



COLLINSVILLE AREA RECREATION DISTRICT

www.CollinsvilleRec.com

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 22, 2015

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order by President Patrick Collins at 6:32 PM, January 22, 2015 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 and Jeanne Lomax.

Staff present included: Susan Zaber, Iva Briggs, Kevin Brown, Keith Grotfendt, Mark Kozmatka. Attorney Paul Evans was present as well.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Achenbach and seconded by Lomax to approve the consent agenda.

- Discussion opened by Susan Zaber regarding claims and accounts. There were revisions made due to the rescheduling of the meeting and additional bills were added for payment approval. One bill specifically noted was for the payment installment to Day and Night Solar in the amount of \$213,336.76, for the solar project work completed. Zaber noted the last payment was not due until the work was completed.
- Achenbach started the discussion with questions about the water bills. He directed his questions to Iva Briggs and stated he would like to discuss the water bills with her at some point. He stated he did not understand why the water bills were so high especially since the water was supposed to be turned off at many locations this time of year. It was noted the billing cycle was every two months and the bill was reflective of a time when the bathrooms were still open. It was noted this would be discussed further at a later time. It was noted that water and power was turned off at the Tara Lane location.
- Lomax had a question regarding the expense for Starfish Aquatics. It was noted by Zaber and Briggs that it was for training.
- Lomax also questioned the Eagle Scout project under the museum fund. It was noted that the charges were for the lumber to be used for the arbor.
- Lomax's final question was regarding the goat rental. It was noted that the goats were rented, and by renting the District did not have to pay vet bills and other things related to the care of the goats.

Upon roll being called those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & STAFF REPORTS:

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Collins to accept the executive and staff reports.

- Zaber stated she posted an updated projected budget for the rest of the year. She noted updates needed yet for the golf course with projected numbers, and staff were still working on projected expenditures. She stated she was gathering information regarding upcoming grant opportunities. A concession manager had also been hired for Splash City and the Sports Complex, with her primary base being Splash City. She then asked for questions regarding other staff reports.
- Achenbach opened discussion with questions about the golf report and the tracking of the reports in VSI. The numbers were rather large for Senior Golf. Zaber noted it was because of leagues, especially Senior Scramble. Briggs went into more detail regarding how the Senior Scramble worked
- Achenbach had a question under aquatics and goals for the coming months. He stated was concerned about attendance going down. He wanted to know what could be done to raise the numbers. Zaber noted a recent meeting with Kochan & Company marketing and PR group and the many ideas that were discussed to increase attendance/revenue.
- Achenbach had a question regarding the difference between community service and the regular Wednesday volunteer days. Mark Kosmatka noted that groups come in to help with the farm as a part of individually scheduled community service projects.

Those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding 2015 mowing services bids was opened. Zaber reviewed what was discussed at the previous meeting and the request by Commissioner Bitzer to put together and review costs of maintaining mowing services in-house. Zaber stated Keith Grotefendt, Parks Foreman, pulled information together from the last year. Zaber added in the labor and social security costs and a report was presented to the Board regarding in-house costs. She noted the work compensation was not included in the costs. Achenbach noted that keeping mowing in house appeared to be cheaper. Collins questioned the pay rates, and it was stated there may be some variance, depending on the potential increase in the minimum wage rate. A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Collins to reject the submitted bids for contracting out the 2015 mowing services. Upon roll being called those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed. A second motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Collins to direct the staff to proceed with implementing an in-house mowing schedule as based on the submissions presented to the Board. Upon roll being called those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Collins to approve Ordinance 15-1, An Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2014 to pay the principal of and interest on \$8,265,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2004, \$8,530,000 General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2007, \$7,735,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2010A, and \$3,043,000 General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2013, of the Collinsville Area Recreation District, Madison and St. Clair Counties, Illinois. Achenbach explained the purpose of the ordinance and what the abatement meant. Upon roll being called those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins, and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

Discussion/action regarding 2015 District Facility Pricing was opened.

- Zaber referred to an outline that was provided to the Board. Splash City was discussed first. She noted there were no changes made in the pricing presented in December in the daily, only in the group rates and parties.
- The golf course was discussed next. It was stated Mark Marucuzzo would like to add an additional midday rate for non-residents. Achenbach had a question about league fees. He stated he assumed the men's league was the general league fee. Achenbach also had questions regarding the tee times and how far in advance someone could call to schedule a tee time. He brought up that some locations pay for reservations for tee time. He noted there was definitely a market for this and it was a voluntary fee. There was a question from the audience about the golf course being for sale. Achenbach noted Stonebridge was auctioned the previous day and would be going out of business. He also noted that the rates presented were based on other golf courses and that the District was sitting right in the middle of those rates. Since there were questions and Marcuzzo was not present, approval of the golf rates was tabled until the next meeting.
- The next rates discussed were pavilions. Achenbach stated he felt the rates were too low. Comparisons discussed regarding rates of surrounding park districts. Rate revisions were discussed and outlined.
- Room rental rates were discussed next. Zaber noted there were previously four categories or rates and she recommended condensing the categories to an in-district and out-of-district rate for regular and after hours. After hours would include anything during a time when the District office was not typically open or staffed.

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Collins to approve the District pricing as amended, table approval of the golf rates until the next meeting. Upon roll being called those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The first to speak for public comment was Jim Sparks. After going on and looking at master plans for Pleasant Ridge he is still against the spending to continue with Pleasant Ridge. He looked further into it and was told by commissioner Bitzer the plans had been tabled. He heard no more regarding this matter and has moved passed it. He is suggesting to the board to accept Bitzer's statement as fact, even though he has not been able to find anything documenting this information. He also states that the board needs to take a public vote regarding this matter. Point number two was questioning Zaber if the closed sessions were being recorded verbatim. Zaber stated that yes and the board has to vote on discarding of those recordings. His third point was addressing the closed meeting minutes and possible modifications. Achenbach questioned what he was asking with this point. The speaker doesn't feel the proper procedure is being followed with the handling of the closed meeting minutes. Achenbach pointed out that some of the closed meeting minutes will never be made open. The speaker understands that. He is looking for a way for the board to note when closed meeting minutes are made open and where to find them exactly. The speaker noted that he has gone over his time, but since the board stopped him for questions, he was permitted to continue past his time. He went on to question the litigation that has gone on during closed sessions, specifically regarding Rosemary Barczewski. It was stated by the attorney, that she has refused to sign the order to release; therefore we cannot release information regarding the matter. It was noted that if further information is needed, the speaker needs to speak with Rosemary's attorney. Information cannot be released until it is finalized. Information is not randomly selected. It must remain in closed

session until it is finalized, not pending. Information is reviewed every six months. Achenbach stated information will come out when it is allowed. The board is not holding information just to be holding information.

Joe Ashmann was the second to speak. He noted the interactions happening tonight is how it should be. He applauds the board and attorney for the conversations and information that is provided. He feels it shows good government when a back and forth communication is present. He noted how he was looked down upon when he brought up to city council the proposals at the water plant and the city's plans to build on the sports complex. He pointed out how heads would roll if he decided to build something on someone else's property. His next point covered the property at Tara Lane. He understands there may be litigations regarding the property at Tara Lane. It was noted that there also could be pending negotiations which is another reason we do not disclose information from closed sessions.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE DISTRICT

Achenbach congratulated Chad Robbins for completing the PGA certification.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A motion was made by Achenbach, seconded by Lomax to go into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, the purchase or sale or real property and litigation. (5ILCS 12/2 (c) 1, 5, 6, 11). Those voting AYE were Achenbach, Collins and Lomax. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The Board adjourned to CLOSED SESSION at 7:50 PM.

Due to an emergency, Commissioner Lomax had to leave the closed session at 7:58 PM. Due to a lack of quorum the closed session was adjourned. The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Collinsville Area Recreation District was called to order in OPEN SESSION by President Patrick Collins, January 22, 2015 at 7:58 PM at the district office, 10 Gateway Drive, Collinsville, Illinois. Commissioners present were Achenbach and Collins. Staff present included Executive Director Susan Zaber. Attorney Paul Evans was also present.

Due to lack of quorum the open session was also immediately adjourned with a motion made by Achenbach, seconded by Collins the meeting be adjourned. Those voting AYE were Achenbach and Collins. None voted NAY. Motion passed.

The meeting stood adjourned at 7:59 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Zaber, Board Secretary

Date