



**Westmont Park District Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronald J. Gunter Administrative Center
55 E. Richmond St., Westmont, IL 60559
October 14, 2020 6:00 pm**

Agenda Item #1 Call to Order

President Long called the Meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Agenda Item #2 Roll Call

Comm. Conneely, Comm. Karesh, Comm. Long, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Zapinski
Staff Present: Bob Fleck, Executive Director, Sharon Macak, Supt. of Finance, Joel Hymen, Supt. of Revenue Facilities & IT, Dustin Kleefisch, Supt. of Recreation, Lenore Farmer, Finance Assistant & HR, Alice Krampits, Senior/Special Events Coordinator, Anna Labeledz, Marketing & Communications Specialist, Linda Christensen, Administrative Office Assistant
Guest: Kelly Karesh, Westmont Resident

Agenda Item #3 Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item #4 Consent Agenda

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – September 9, 2020
- b. Special Meeting Minutes – September 24, 2020
- c. Claims Ordinance – October 14, 2020

Motion was made by Comm. Karesh and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Karesh, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #5 Open Forum and Correspondence

a. General Public

There was no comment from the general public.

b. Written

Commissioner Karesh read an email from Westmont Mayor Ron Gunter, complimenting long-serving Park Commissioner Jim Long, and requesting that the Board consider naming a park or facility in Commissioner Long's honor. Mayor Gunter suggested Blackhawk Park, Oakwood Park or the Fitness Club. The Board discussed and was in agreement to deliberate

and make a decision at a later time. Commissioner Long was very appreciative of the Mayor's support.

Commissioner Long read a letter from IAPD CEO Peter Murphy, congratulating Commissioner Karesh for 15 years of service as a Board member. He then presented an IAPD 2020 Best of the Best Award to Commissioner Karesh for this achievement. Those present offered their congratulations to Commissioner Karesh.

President Long called for a recess at 6:12 pm.

The Board reconvened at 6:25 pm.

c. Other

There were no additional comments or correspondence.

Agenda Item #6 Introduction of New Marketing Coordinator Anna Labeledz and New Administrative Office Assistant Linda Christensen

Anna introduced herself to the Board and Lenore introduced Linda to the Board. The Board welcomed both to the District.

Agenda Item #7 \$932,000 Bond Issue

a. Bids on Bonds

Bob informed the Board that one bid from Hinsdale Bank & Trust Co. has been presented for their consideration, bearing an interest rate of 0.85%.

Motion was made by Comm. Conneely and seconded by Comm. Moffett to approve the bid from Hinsdale Bank & Trust Co. for the \$932,000 General Obligation Limited Park Bonds, Series 2020, bearing an interest rate of 0.85%.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Conneely, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Karesh, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

b. Approval of Ordinance No. 2020-3

Ordinance providing for the issue of approximately \$932,000 General Obligation Limited Park Bonds, Series 2020, for the payment of land for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of said Park District, and to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding bonds of said Park District, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof.

Motion was made by Comm. Conneely and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to approve Bond Ordinance No. 2020-3.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Conneely, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Karesh, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #8 Unfinished Business

a. Security Cameras for Ty Warner Park Parking Lots

Joel explained security camera installation at the west parking lot was easy, as power and internet are already in place, the work was done in-house by staff, and the cost was less than \$900. However, according to Joel, camera installation at the east parking lot is more complicated, as there is no internet and the right power is needed, resulting in an approximate expense of \$15,000. Bob explained that the lights are on a timer, so, once the lights are off, power is also off. Joel has done a great deal of research on internet in this location, explaining that it would require boring under the street, which is why it would be so costly. The Board discussed, acknowledging that there have been issues at Ty Warner Park in the past, and in general feeling that cameras may deter criminal activity, therefore keeping the park safer. Discussion continued about the high number of people visiting Ty Warner, along with Diane Main and Bellerive Parks. The Board also considered the cost for this project.

Motion was made by Comm. Moffett and seconded by Comm. Karesh to pursue the installation of security cameras for Ty Warner Park east parking lot, approving a cost of \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Moffett, Comm. Karesh, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

b. WCC HVAC Project Update

According to Bob, the project is 95% done, and this was a good investment because there is now a modern system in the building. He is very pleased with the quality of work done by Midwest Mechanical. He presented photos of the project, illustrating the new unit, and explained that staff was able to do a lot of the work in-house, resulting in cost savings.

c. Other

There was no additional unfinished business.

Agenda Item #9 New Business

a. Proposed Tax Levy

The 2020 Proposed Tax Levy was presented to the Board for review. Bob explained this is a repeat of last year's levy, and the maximum increase is 5%. The Board discussed.

Motion was made by Comm. Karesh and seconded by Comm. Zapinski approving the Proposed 2020 Tax Levy, with a 4.5% increase over 2019.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Karesh, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

b. Board to Consider 2020 Capital Improvement Projects

Bob reviewed the current budget for the Capital Fund, explaining that revenue is \$285,000, which would leave almost \$5,000 after expenses. He presented three projects to the Board for consideration:

Ty Warner Gazebo Floor	\$25,000
Pond Sediment Removal	\$100,000
Fitness Club Carpet	\$3,500

According to Bob, the Ty Gazebo floor project would need to go out to public bid, and he presented photos of the work that needs to be done on the existing concrete slab and the low wall built on the slab.

Pond sediment has become an issue in the large pond at Ty Warner Park, near the James Long Pavilion, and also at Bernas Park pond and the two Golf Course ponds. According to Bob, the muck and algae are affecting the motors, and he reviewed the vacuuming process to remove the sediment; it goes into a bladder and becomes compost after about six months. He stated that this will not need to be done again for 20 years. Bob said he will not go out to bid until after January 1, 2021. There was discussion about amending the current budget, however Bob suggested waiting until May, as is current practice. The Board expressed concern for the cost, though acknowledged the need to do this. Discussion continued about the cause of the sediment, how to fix this problem and whether or not the Village should be included in this project. The general feeling of the Board was that the sediment removal should be done in order to improve the water quality and to reduce maintenance issues. With regards to the Fitness Club carpet, it has become a challenge to keep clean, so staff recommended going to carpet squares, which can be replaced as needed.

After discussion, the Board was in agreement to proceed with all three projects.

c. State Conference

Bob reported that the conference will be virtual, however no format has been presented yet. He added that staff will be participating virtually in the upcoming Legal Symposium, on November 5th. All were in agreement that there has been considerable savings in not attending conferences this year.

d. Treasurer's Report

Sharon reported that there is almost \$5,000,000 in the checking accounts, the accounts payable total is \$276,145.81 and we continue with the \$200,000 CD at 1.20% interest. She informed the Board that the annual week-long audit will take place virtually this year, starting Monday, October 19th. The Board discussed the possibility of switching the fiscal year to a calendar year. Bob explained that the District operates with a fiscal year because of when the levy is received, however, we can research and determine the value of switching to a calendar year. The Board suggested reviewing with the auditors.

e. Revenue Facility Report

Joel reported that Chris is settling in at the Fitness Club, so he has shifted to covering marketing responsibilities with Anna, adding that her computer requires much more set-up than a typical new hire, so she can do her job properly. According to Joel, the golf course

continues to do extremely well and revenues are \$80,000 over 2019. He has been working with Anna for year-end promotions and specials. At the Fitness Club, Joel explained that we have lost 25 members in October, and 275 have cancelled since March. There are currently 667 memberships with 1,312 people. He said the goal is to get members back safely and he and Chris continue working to get these renewals.

f. Parks/Maintenance Report

Bob presented pictures of new trees planted in the parks and he explained that the next big project will be working on the ball fields at Ty Warner Park.

g. Recreation Report

Dustin reviewed Anna's training schedule explaining that she's met with staff and has had park and facility tours. He reported the District offered 155 programs for fall and 49 are currently running, however, 61 have been cancelled. He also informed the Board that field rentals for baseball, softball and soccer went well this year, however, park rentals were down from 2019. He added that renters are very complimentary of our fields.

According to Dustin, WYBA's fall ball has been very successful, with more registrations than 2019 spring ball, and WYBA will pay the District \$10,000. Dustin explained that they just started using his budget format, so registration fees will be increased for the spring season. Discussion began about the WYBA's annual payment to the District, and whether they are paying enough. Dustin will bring this up at the next WYBA meeting.

Dustin reviewed the hybrid learning program for the two Westmont school districts. He reported that expenses are low due to full time staff working this program, and he has been receiving positive feedback from parents.

With regards to athletics, Wolverines Softball had a successful fall season with five teams of 61 participants spanning three age groups. Dustin said pitching and hitting clinics will be offered over the winter and he hopes this program will continue to grow in the spring. He reported that Wolverines basketball had a good turnout for tryouts, however we are still waiting for regulations from the State, since scrimmages are only allowed now.

Dustin reviewed the successful Spray Park season, stating that over 7,000 passes were sold this summer. He proposed the idea of renting out the Spray Park next summer for private parties after hours, so as not to disrupt regular operating hours.

Senior programs currently running include Pickleball, Watercolors, Tai Chi, Ageless Grace and Walk and Talk Club.

With regards to special events, Dustin reviewed the success of Boo-in-a-Box, along with Pumpkin Flotilla, which took place on October 9th. Finally, Dustin reported that Holly Days events have been cancelled, however, staff is developing some socially distant programs for the community.

h. Other

There was no other new business.

Agenda Item #10 Closed Session

A motion was made by Comm. Karesh and seconded by Comm. Zapinski to move into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2 (c) (11) of the Open Meetings Act, to consider litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Karesh, Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

The Board convened to Closed Session at 8:25 pm.

President Long called the Regular Session back to order at 9:00 pm.

Agenda Item #11 Adjournment

Seeing no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Comm. Zapinski and seconded by Comm. Karesh to adjourn the Regular Session.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Comm. Zapinski, Comm. Karesh, Comm. Conneely, Comm. Moffett, Comm. Long

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Regular Session was adjourned at 9:01 pm.