



**Westmont Park District Board of Commissioners
Westmont Village Board of Trustees
Minutes of the Special Joint Meeting
500 N. Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL 60559
September 30, 2021 6:00 pm**

Call to Order

Mayor Gunter and President Karesh called the Special Joint Meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call

Village Clerk Szymiski called the roll for the Village Board and Executive Director Fleck called the roll for the Park Board.

Present: Mayor Ron Gunter, Clerk Jinny Szymiski, Village Trustees Frank Brady, Marie Johanik-Guzzo, Linda Liddle, Steve Nero, Amylee Hogan Simonovich
Village Manager Steve May, Assistant Village Manager Spencer Parker
Park Commissioners John Karesh, Mike Conneely, Karen Moffett, Jason Pecard, Sue Zapinski
Executive Director Bob Fleck, Supt. of Finance Sharon Macak, Supt. of Revenue Facilities & Technology Joel Hymen, Supt. of Recreation Dustin Kleefisch, Finance Asst. Lenore Farmer

Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

There was no one present from the general public.

Unfinished Business

Mayor Gunter reviewed the last Joint Meeting, which took place in 2015, explaining that he wants to continue meeting to discuss joint concerns, adding that he would like to hold joint meetings with the library and school boards.

New Business

- **Westmont Park District/Village of Westmont Relationship**
Mayor Gunter reviewed the relationship between the two agencies, explaining that historically all did not get along, however he recognized the Park District's role in getting all Village agencies to work together. President Karesh agreed, explaining that when all agencies work together it benefits our residents.
- **Intergovernmental Agreements**
Village Manager May began the discussion, explaining how the Agenda was created for tonight's meeting and noting the summary of Village/Park Intergovernmental

Agreements prepared by Director Fleck, a listing of which was provided for all in attendance. Director Fleck began by reviewing the Open Space/Detention Agreement, explaining how detention created open space for the Park District to use for neighborhood parks. He added that this is a very strong IGA which benefits the community to serve as flood control. Discussion continued about all other agreements.

- Please refer to the attached listing: *Village of Westmont/Westmont Park District Summary of Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA's)*

- Digital Signage

Village Manager May reported on the two digital signs, located at the library, and the south fire station, explaining how the signs are regulated by the sign ordinance. Discussion continued about the \$50,000 stipend to be given to the Park District, when Westmont Drive was sold to the BMW dealership. This was to be used to add another digital sign, possibly on 63rd Street, near Bellerive Park. According to Director Fleck, this sign would be for all to use, not just the Park District.

- Annexations

Director Fleck reported that we are up to date on all annexations, explaining that the Park District only does voluntary annexations. Village Manager May reviewed the 63rd Street area, involuntary annexations, and boundary agreements with neighboring towns. Discussion began about unincorporated Liberty Park, with Mayor Gunter explaining the large cost for a water main, along with large infrastructure costs, adding that incorporation could be decades away.

- Park Security

Mayor Gunter reviewed the Park District's Park Patrol program, which allows enforcement of Park and Village ordinances. According to Director Fleck, the police have been very supportive and ensure that our parks remain safe.

Miscellaneous

Discussion continued about how the strong relationship between the Village and Park District is a benefit to the community.

Mayor Gunter provided information about a future development located at Willow Crest Golf Club, on the back nine holes, for upscale rental units, mostly single family and some townhomes. He explained that we would need to ensure that open space remains in the conservation easement. Director Fleck explained that the first nine holes would be completely redesigned, as a type of executive course.

The current financial state of both agencies was reviewed. Director Fleck explained that the Park District planned for the worst case scenario at the start of the pandemic, acknowledging that there have been some losses, especially at the Fitness Club. He confirmed, however, that the Park District is currently on solid financial ground.

Assistant Village Manager Parker was in agreement, explaining that the Village did lose some sales tax, however, they did better than anticipated and are also in a good place financially. According to Mayor Gunter, federal funds will allow for some infrastructure projects. He also reported that water rates have not been raised, we did not lose any restaurants, and car sales did well. Additionally, the Mayor recognized the community involvement of both Village Trustees and Park Commissioners.

General discussion continued about future grant opportunities, potential land acquisitions, and a downtown park.

Executive Session

The Boards did not adjourn to Executive Session.

Adjourn

- Village of Westmont Corporate Authorities
A motion was made by Trustee Nero and seconded by Trustee Simonovich to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Ayes: Trustees Brady, Guzzo, Liddle, Nero

Nays: None

Absent: Trustee Barker

Motion Carried.

- Village of Westmont Park District Commissioners
A motion was made by Commissioner Zapinski and seconded by Commissioner Moffett to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Ayes: Commissioners Conneely, Karesh, Moffett, Pecard, Zapinski

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

The Special Joint Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

**VILLAGE OF WESTMONT/WESTMONT PARK DISTRICT
SUMMARY OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS (IGA'S)
As recorded 2021**

Long Term or In Perpetuity Agreements

- 1982 original Open Space/Detention Agreement, modified in 1998 transferring ownership of properties to the Park District per Village Ord. 12-112. Village maintains stormwater related responsibilities. Modified again in 2014 adding the south Wilmette (Robert Bernas Park) Pond per Village Ord. 14-147. Properties under this agreement include:
 - Dallas St. detention
 - Richmond St. detention
 - Deer Creek detention I and II
 - Muddy Waters Park/Pond
 - Williams Cove park
 - Rotary Park
 - Blackhawk Park detention
 - Robert Bernas Park Pond

This IGA will be updated and revised in the fall of 2021 or winter of 2022 to add greater detail and clarity to better define limits of responsibilities for both the Village and Park.

- 1991 Cech/Dixon Property Agreements – 50% equal interest ownership after the purchase open space more commonly known as Twin Lakes Woods plus 4 acres transferred to the Park District which became the Twin Lakes Golf Course Maintenance Yard.
- 1996 agreement and easement for the purposes of a Water Tower on Bellerive Park.
- 1989 Park District Maintenance Garage Lease Agreement at 55 E. Burlington St. (expired 2018)
- Village Landscape Architect/Superintendent of Parks and Planning. Status of this position is pending per the re-organization of the Park District to be included in the sharing of staff, equipment and services between the agencies. Landscape Architect services may be recorded and compensated on a project by project basis simultaneously adding Village mechanic services for the benefit of the Park District. Park District would pay for all direct costs of parts and materials. (expired 2016)
- Extension of residential, commercial and industrial waste hauling service franchise agreement to the Park District per Village Ord. 13-215. Services include waste hauling

and portable restrooms for all special events. This agreement has been in effect for over 25 years.

- 2012 Mowing/Maintenance Agreement, amended 2015 and 2021. Park District maintenance crews are responsible for the weekly and seasonal landscape maintenance of Village parcels for an agreed upon lump sum.
- 2018 Fritz Werley Park/FMC Natatorium Agreement. Both parties collaborated to bring FMC Natatorium to Westmont and to acquire the parcel at 418 N. Warwick Ave. with the assistance of an IDNR acquisition to expand Fritz Werley Park and to provide additional stormwater detention for the community. Eventually, open space detention parcels on Warwick Ave. will be added to the open space/detention IGA.
- 2021 Village extends fleet mechanic services to the Park District at its new public works facility. Formal IGA pending.

Single Action Agreements

- Vacation of Willow Oak R.O.W. for the contiguous consolidation of two parcels to create Ty Warner Park per Village Ord. 98-79.
- Funding of ornamental perimeter street lighting at Ty Warner Park per Village Ord. 99-147 in 1999.
- \$140,000 funding contribution of the Bellerive Skate Park at the request of residents in 2001.
- Village assists Park District with the demolition of the off street parking and the creation of a residential parkway with sidewalk at its new Quincy St. Maintenance Facility in 2017.
- Park District to provide space at Wilderness Park to serve as new home for the FOP bronze eagle and time capsule from Mary Egan Plaza in 2021.
- Park and Village contribute to the installation of the Jimmy Robinson Purple Heart memorial and refurbishing of the Veterans Memorial at Veterans Memorial Park May 2021.

Miscellaneous unofficial agreements and shared services

- Revenue sharing during the 1980's
- Park District use fuel pumps and purchase of fuel at the Village's Public Works facility.
- Stockpiling of snow at Bellerive Park from the CBD.
- Removal and storage of water meters by the Water Department Form Park District outdoor seasonal facilities.
- Extension of special Village employee membership rate at the Fitness Club.
- Extension of Village golf rates at Twin Lakes Golf Course.
- Extension of resident rates at the Natatorium for Village staff.

- Village invited Park District into its health insurance pool at a time when it was difficult to obtain group coverage for the Park District.
- Police Department training, support and enforcement of Park District ordinances on behalf of the Park District's Park Patrol Program.
- Fire Department First Aid/CPR/AED training for all Park District staff.
- Designation of the Community Center as a disaster relief facility in the event of a community emergency.
- Inclusion of the Community Center on the Village's ComEd franchise agreement to receive exempt electric service because of its designation as a disaster relief facility.
- Shared employee positions: Communications, Horticulturist, Landscape Architect (No shared employees since 2016).
- Sharing of equipment for maintenance and construction related activities.
- Sharing of personnel for expertise and training purposes.
- Hotel/motel grant funding for special events.
- Cooperative efforts for the planning and execution of special events and parades for the enjoyment of Westmont residents:
 - 4th of July
 - Holly Days
 - Memorial Day Parade
 - Veterans Day Ceremony
 - 9/11 Ceremony