



Westmont Park District Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronald J. Gunter Administrative Center
55 E. Richmond St., Westmont, IL 60559
February 15, 2024 6:00 pm

Agenda Item #1 Call to Order

President Karesh called the Meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Agenda Item #2 Roll Call

Commissioners: Bill Belmonte, Mike Conneely, John Karesh, Karen Moffett, Sue Zapinski
Staff Present: Bob Fleck, Executive Director, Joel Hymen, Supt. of Revenue Facilities & IT/Asst. Director, Luke Wyss, Supt. of Recreation, Rosy Fejzic, Finance Manager & Accountant, Lenore Farmer, Finance Assistant & HR, Rachel Buster-Dorsey, Athletics Coordinator, Alice Krampits, Senior & Special Events Coordinator

Guests: Matt Corso, SEASPAR Executive Director; Westmont resident Lesley Wright

Agenda Item #3 Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item #4 Consent Agenda

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – January 10, 2024
- b. Special Board Meeting Minutes –January 10, 2024
- c. Claims Ordinance – February 15, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Zapinski and seconded by Commissioner Moffett to approve the Consent Agenda.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #5 Open Forum and Correspondence

- a. General Public

There was no comment.

- b. Written

Bob shared an article from the February 15, 2024 Westmont Suburban Life about the upcoming Winter Beer Festival.

- c. Other

There were no additional comments or correspondence.

Agenda Item #6 Recognition of Staff Anniversaries – Alice Krampits 35 Years

President Karesh and Executive Director Fleck expressed their appreciation to Alice for her years of service to the District.

Agenda Item #7 SEASPAR Presentation – Matt Corso, Executive Director

Matt Corso provided a presentation for the Board, highlighting SEASPAR's service hours, and pictures of programs and events at the District's parks and facilities. He shared information about SEASPAR's program areas, sensory rooms, the Eagles program, agency accomplishments, challenges, and future goals. He thanked the Board for Westmont Park District's support and assistance. The Board was appreciative of the presentation.

Agenda Item #8 Unfinished Business

a. Budget Workshop

Bob reminded the Board of the upcoming Budget Workshop, scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024, starting at 6:00 pm.

b. Grant Update

Bob informed the Board that the \$90,000 reimbursement for North Grant Street was received. The \$228,000 OSLAD grant is pending a signed agreement from the IDNR; he anticipates construction starting spring 2025. He recently learned that we will receive two DECO Build Illinois Grants: \$200,000 for improvements at Fritz Werley and James Long Parks, and \$100,000 to help fund the satellite garage. Bob will now begin applications.

c. Capital Project Report

Bob reported that the punch list walk through took place yesterday at the Veterans Park new building, and it is fully operational. However, there is an issue with the concrete terrace, caused by the flooring contractor dripping black stain across the terrace. This will get resolved. In addition, permits are approved, pending the fire alarm panel, and site engineering is incomplete since we cannot landscape in the winter. He then presented several interior pictures taken today. Bob then reported on a concern regarding the trash enclosure. He reminded the Board that the trash enclosure in the original design was eliminated due to fire suppression doubling in size. He suggested building this between the sidewalk and electrical panel on Linden Street, and presented a drawing of this plan. The Board discussed and agreed to walk this area so as to better consider other locations, while also determining the size of trash and recycle containers needed.

Bob reminded the Board about the design workshop for the new skate park, scheduled for Tuesday, February 20.

Bob presented the design for Fritz Werley Park, indicating the new pathway around the park. He provided two different playground examples. After review and discussion, the Board preferred the second option.

According to Bob, Diane Main Park batting cages will be installed this spring, and the architect is working on a study of the Fitness Club lower level.

Regarding the satellite garage, the lease agreement and plat exhibits were finalized this week and are being sent to Oak Brook Hills Hotel ownership.

Bob presented the design for James Long Park improvements, indicating permanent pickleball courts and the new location for the sand volleyball court, which was included in the bid packet.

Finally, Bob presented pictures of two playground options for Williams Cove Park. After review, the Board preferred the second option.

d. Capital Project Finance Report

A copy of this spreadsheet, titled Capital Project Budget Revisions, was provided for each Board member. Bob explained that the red line items indicates a recent change. He reviewed each fund: Corporate, Recreation, Special Recreation, Capital Projects, and Golf Course, confirming that some projects are in multiple funds, and the biggest changes are occurring in the Capital Projects fund. Bob then reviewed the Capital Project Cash Flow Report, a copy of which was given to each Board member. He explained that the Capital Replacement Fund totaled \$4,628,800 at the start of FY 2023/2024. Following misc. revenues and approved capital projects the remaining balance upon completion of all projects is \$358,000. The anticipated FY 2024/2025 Capital Replacement Fund total is \$986,000. Finally, the ending balance for Year 3 of the 5 Year Capital Plan approved expenses is \$313,500. The Board was appreciative of these reports.

e. Other

Bob reported that at a recent Safety Committee meeting, he learned the chemical storage facility is now 18 years old and needs to be replaced. He presented pictures of this unit, which he explained would most likely not pass inspection. We have the option to purchase two floor models, which would allow for separation of the herbicides and fungicides. He stressed the urgency of this purchase, and subsequent disposal of the current unit. Bob explained that if we dispose of the current unit and connect the electric, the \$7,000 labor fee will be deducted. Total cost would then be \$12,235.34. However, if we wait for new models, then price will double. In addition, he confirmed that continuing with outside storage is more affordable, and we will meet EPA requirements. Finally, Bob will confirm warranty if we do our own labor. The Board discussed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Conneely and seconded by Commissioner Moffett to approve the purchase of golf maintenance chemical storage units for a cost of \$12,235.34.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

Agenda Item #9 New Business

a. Surplus Property Ordinance No. 2024-1

For the Board's consideration, Joel presented photos of a 2001 John Deere riding mower to be sold.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zapinski and seconded by Commissioner Belmonte to approve Surplus Property Ordinance No. 2024-1.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

b. Board to Consider Name for New Multi-Purpose Building

A list of suggestions from District staff was provided for the Board. Bob confirmed that only the Board can name a building, per the Board Policy Manual. In addition to the list, Commissioner Belmonte suggested Vision on Linden. The Board considered all suggestions, and Bob requested that each Commissioner choose their top two names. The Board discussed several options and come to a consensus.

A motion was made by Commissioner Moffett and seconded by Commissioner Belmonte to name the new Veterans Park multi-purpose building Park Place.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

c. 2024 Statement of Economic Interest

Lenore reported that those required to file will receive an email on Monday, March 4, 2024, from the DuPage County Clerk, with filing instructions. She will send a reminder email to the Board.

d. Consideration for the Recording or Livestreaming of Board Meetings

In response to a recent request, Joel presented options for streaming and recording meetings, including costs for cameras, microphones and streaming software. After discussion, the Board came to a consensus to not record or livestream Park Board Meetings.

e. Fireworks Contract for Lions Foundation Spring Fling

Bob explained that the Lions Foundation wants to have a small fireworks display at the upcoming Spring Fling event, similar to the District's ground display at the July 4th event. As the Village will only issue a permit to a public entity, Westmont Park District could be that entity. In addition, we already have the insurance. Finally, the \$12,000 cost will be reimbursed by the Lions Foundation. After discussion, the Board was in agreement.

f. Treasurer's Report

Rosy reported that the checking accounts balance is \$6,450,225.92 bearing an interest rate of 5.59%, totaling \$31,696.61. The accounts payable total is \$451,328.96.

g. Revenue Facilities Report

Joel reported that the timeline for the new financial software has been moved up by the vendor, and we are on track for installation in April. Commissioner Conneely inquired about testing, and Joel reviewed the conversion process. Joel updated the Board on a hardware upgrade for RecTrac registration software, taking place later this month. Joel informed the Board that the Fitness Club is now a new location for voting. He confirmed that there will be no alcohol sales on voting day. The Board expressed concern about how business may be affected by this facility serving as a polling place, while also acknowledging that this could potentially attract new members. President Karesh advised staff to research whether or not we have a choice in this matter. Additionally, Joel reported that the Golf Course remains

closed for the season, Fitness Club memberships and daily visits are increasing, and he is starting to look at items for Budget Workshop.

h. Parks/Maintenance Report

Bob reported that part time staff has returned for clean-up in the parks and repairs. He presented pictures of staff removing Buckthorn at Smith Woods and on the pathway. He explained the process of applying a treatment to the stumps to prevent regrowth. President Karesh advised staff that the Fritz Werley Park baseball field lips need to be worked on.

i. Recreation Report

Luke reported on new recreation offerings for this summer, including a mobile ice cream cart, and a Bass Fishing Camp. He updated the Board on Winter Beer Festival this Saturday, which will make a profit, along with Kids Club revenues and current marketing promotions. In addition, he reviewed the proposed rental structure and fees for the new multi-purpose building, Park Place. Suggested rental rates are \$200/hour for residents and \$250/hour for non-residents, Memorial Day through November, and \$150/hour for residents and 200/hour for non-residents, December through May. Commissioner Conneely advised pricing competitively to start, and then raising prices in a year. He also questioned the return of preschool. Bob explained that preschool also has been referred to as early childhood, and will take place on this property. Bob and Luke confirmed that the recreation department has been working with costs, and staff will have early childhood backgrounds.

j. Other

President Karesh expressed concern about the recent graffiti at Bellerive Park being gang-related. Joel confirmed that this activity was not captured on the security cameras, and Bob is still waiting for more information from the police.

Agenda Item #10 Closed Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Moffett and seconded by Commissioner Zapinski to move into closed session pursuant to Section 2 (c) (3) of the Open Meetings Act for the selection of a person to fill a public office, including a vacancy in a public office, or the discipline, performance or removal of the occupant of a public office.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

The Board convened to closed session at 8:18 pm.

President Karesh called the open session back to order at 8:50 pm.

Agenda Item #11 Adjournment

Seeing no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Belmonte and seconded by Commissioner Conneely.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm.