



Westmont Park District Board of Commissioners
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Ronald J. Gunter Administrative Center
55 E. Richmond St., Westmont, IL 60559
May 14, 2025 6:30 pm

Agenda Item #1 Call to Order

President Karesh called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Agenda Item #2 Roll Call

Commissioners: Bill Belmonte, Mike Conneely, John Karesh, Sue Zapinski
Staff Present: Bob Fleck, Executive Director; Joel Hymen, Supt. of Revenue Facilities & IT/Asst. Director; Luke Wyss, Supt. of Recreation; Eric Krueger, Supt. of Parks & Maintenance; Lenore Farmer, Finance Assistant & HR; Alice Krampits, Senior & Special Events Coordinator; John Chorney, Parks & Facilities Foreman; Zack Johnson, Recreation Coordinator

Agenda Item #3 Pledge of Allegiance

Those present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item #4 Consent Agenda

- a. Regular Board Meeting Minutes – April 9, 2025
- b. Budget Workshop Special Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2025
- c. Claims Ordinance – May 14, 2025
- d. Other

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Commissioner Conneely and seconded by Commissioner Belmonte.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Conneely, Belmonte, Zapinski, Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Moffett

Agenda Item #5 Open Forum and Correspondence

a. General Public

There was no one present from the public.

b. Written

Bob presented a letter from Westmont Mayor Ron Gunter, inviting the District to participate in the erection of a community service organization sign in downtown Westmont. The 18" x 18" sign would allow us to promote District programs and events. Cost has not yet been determined. The Board agreed to participate in this program.

c. Other

Bob informed the Board that Westmont resident Mike Maloney made a donation for plantings at Grant St. Neighborhood Park.

Agenda Item #6 Swearing In of Newly Elected Commissioner Mike Conneely

Recording Secretary and Notary Lenore Farmer administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Conneely.

Agenda Item # Unfinished Business

a. James Long Park Satellite Garage and DCEO Grant

Bob informed the Board that free warehouse space has been secured across the street from Ty Warner Park, providing space to store maintenance equipment. This space currently serves as storage for Ty Inc. Bob presented interior and exterior pictures, explaining this is very similar square footage to the garage we planned to build. A Letter of Understanding with Ty Inc. CFO will be executed next week. Bob explained that Board action is required if we are going to withdraw from the \$100,000 DCEO Grant. Bob assured the Board there would be no penalty for withdrawal.

A motion was made by Commissioner Belmonte and seconded by Commissioner Zapinski to withdraw from the \$100,000 DCEO Grant for James Long Park Satellite Garage Project.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Commissioners Belmonte, Zapinski, Conneely, Karesh

Nays: None

Absent: Commissioner Moffett

Motion Carried.

Bob then recommended proceeding with repair of the James Long Park parking lot, and relocating the dumpsters behind a locked gate. He explained that we will go to bid and paving companies can bid directly, eliminating a general contractor. Rough cost is \$250,000 and will include full depth removal, followed by a new base, paving and striping. The dumpsters will be relocated in an enclosure on the north side of the parking lot. Bob requested direction, assuring the Board we have \$250,000 in the budget for this project. Following discussion and review of the satellite map, the Board agreed to proceed with the James Long Park parking lot repair project.

b. Playground Replacement Options for Ty Warner Park

Following Board request at Budget Workshop regarding different options for the 5 to 10-year-old playground at Ty Warner Park, Bob provided pictures and pricing. Following review, the Board agreed to option 2 or 3 from Landscape Structures, at a cost of \$250,000. In addition, the Board advised to include ADA options.

c. Financial Policy

Bob referenced the updated draft policy included in the packet. According to Bob, our legal counsel simplified it, and much of the language includes State law and Illinois Park Code. However, there are spending limits for the Board to consider. The Board began discussion, addressing staff authorization levels for purchases, and executive director purchasing limits. Though the draft policy states the executive director has purchasing authorization up to \$35,000, President Karesh suggested lowering this to \$15,000. Discussion continued, with the Board suggesting a \$20,000 bid threshold, executive director spending limit of \$10,000 and division head spending limit of \$5,000. The Financial Policy will be on the June Regular Meeting Agenda.

At this point, at 7:21 pm, Commissioner Moffett joined the meeting.

c. Other

- Bob invited the Board to march in the Memorial Day Parade, and invited all to attend the American Legion service immediately following the parade.
- Bob invited the Board to attend the IAPD Commissioner Boot Camp on May 28 at Park Place.
- Following discussion, the Board agreed to reschedule the July Regular Meeting to July 16, 2025.
- Bob presented a picture of the new port-o-let enclosure being built near the Little League Field at Veterans Memorial park.

Agenda Item #8 New Business

a. 4th of July Independence Day Celebration

Bob reported that since this is our 25th fireworks show, the Village has agreed to contribute an additional \$20,000 toward extra fireworks. Extra amusements for this event include a giant inflatable slide and Ferris wheel. In addition, legislators are invited.

b. FY 2024/2025 Budget Adjustments

Bob referenced the Budget adjustments included in the packet, noting \$10,000 was added to the Museum Fund.

c. FY 2025/2026 Tentative Budget

Bob referenced the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2025/2026, included in the packet. This will be on the District's website and available for public viewing until the final Budget and Appropriation Ordinance is adopted in August.

d. Resolution No. 2025-1 authorizing Tentative Form of FY 2025/2026 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance

A motion was made by Commissioner Zapinski and seconded by Commissioner Belmonte to adopt Resolution No. 2025-1, authorizing FY 2025/2026 Tentative Budget be made available for public review.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

e. Treasurer's Report

Finance Manager Rosy Fejzic was absent.

f. Revenue Facility Report

Joel thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend Legislative Conference in Springfield. He is currently preparing for the District's new phone system and he updated the Board on the no-cost installation for EV charging stations at Ty Warner Park and the Fitness Club parking lots. He reported that nine applications have been received to date for the open Marketing Coordinator position. Joel referred to the listing of security camera locations provided in the packet. There was discussion about additional camera locations in order to deter vandalism in the parks. Joel made note of the \$15,000 increase to the security camera budget approved at Budget Workshop, for All Wheels Park and the Little League Field.

The golf course is open for regular play. Joel reported that Craig Grember stepped down as Clubhouse Manager, and Recreation Coordinator Bobby Yonkee will oversee Clubhouse operations beginning June 1. There are currently 315 golfers registered for the Junior Golf League, and Joel reviewed the five-year registration revenue history.

At the Fitness Club, memberships increased to 799, and the Summer College Special started May 1. Fitness Club Manager Taylor Siple is overseeing the Race to the Flag. There are currently 183 runners registered for this May 25 event. Finally, Joel reviewed total Fitness Club visits per month.

g. Parks/Maintenance Report

Eric reported on current projects, including Diane Main Field 1 construction. There was discussion about the poor quality of the field mix, and Bob assured the Board that the cost would be reduced. Several pictures of this field were presented, along with a picture of the playground. A picture was presented of the Little League Field at Veterans Park, which was recently opened following installation of new sod. Eric reviewed daily projects and reported that seasonal staff has been hired. The new spreader and water tank will be delivered. Finally, Eric reported on vandalism at Ty Warner and Lions parks. Following the demolition of the old preschool building, Bob reported that construction is scheduled to begin for All Wheels Park on June 2, and he anticipates this will be a two-month project. Restoration will follow, along with fencing and lighting installation. When complete, construction of pickleball courts at Bellerive Park will begin.

h. Recreation Report

Luke reported on additional online training for our volunteer coaches from the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS). Staff is planning Spray Days at Ty Warner Park this summer. He recapped recent Easter events and reported on upcoming events, including Race to the Flag and Movies in the Park. Luke reported on Kids Club registrations, athletic field schedules, active adult day trips, and field banner revenues, which total \$6,800. Finally, the summer intern will start next week and will work here for 12 weeks.

i. Other

Bob invited all to the Lions Spring Fling event at Ty Warner Park on Memorial Weekend.

Agenda Item #9 Closed Session

A motion was made by Commissioner Moffett and seconded by Commissioner Zapinski to convene to Closed Session pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of the specific employees of the public body.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried.

The Board convened to Closed Session at 8:09 pm.

President Karesh called the Closed Session to order at 8:27 pm pursuant to Section 2 (c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of the specific employees of the public body.

Present: Commissioners Karesh, Zapinski, Moffett, Conneely and Belmonte.

Executive Director Fleck.

Discussion began with the review of the new 2025 Salary Survey, comparing salaries for all full time positions with districts who share a comparable EAV, budget and geographic region. Salary range for each position was set between the 25th and 75th percentile of the larger IPRA survey by the Board. Goal is to have longer serving staff fall on, or near, the median range with newer staff in the lower percentile of their range. Any staff who are not inside the 25th percentile are to receive a “bump” to hit the range before receiving a percentage increase.

After this discussion, E.D. Fleck departed in order to allow the Board the opportunity to discuss the Director’s performance and increase. E.D. Fleck returned to the meeting where the Board shared his evaluation and goals for 2025.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zapinski and seconded by Commissioner Moffett to reconvene to open session at 10:33pm.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

President Karesh called the Open Session back to order at 10:33 pm.

Agenda Item #10 Adjournment

Seeing no further business to discuss, at motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting was made by Commissioner Belmonte and seconded by Commissioner Conneely.

Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 10:33 pm.