



REGULAR BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF PALATINE PARK DISTRICT
 Village of Palatine, 200 East Wood Street in Palatine
 Second Floor- Village Room B
 January 27, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.



These minutes are not a verbatim record of what was said during the meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Ruff

Commissioners Present

Terry Ruff, President
 Jennifer Rogers, Vice-President
 Susan Gould
 Joe Petricca

Commissioners Absent

Greg Sammons

Staff Present

Benjamin Rea, Executive Director
 Andrea Fisher, Director of Finance
 Sonia Austin, Superintendent of Finance
 Michelle Eckelberry, Director of District Services
 Dayell Houzenga, Supt. of District Services
 Lisa Allie, Park Board Secretary/Executive Assistant

Jim Holder, Director of Parks
 Colleen Palmer, Director of Recreation & Facilities
 Katie Waszak, Supt. of Recreation Programming
 Josh Ludolph, Supt. of Recreation Facilities
 Cheryl Lufitz, Communications & Marketing Mgr.

Visitors and Citizens Present

Frank Skorski, Resident
 Anthony Miceli, Speer Financial

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded that the agenda be approved. By a roll call vote, the agenda for the regular meeting of January 27, 2025, was approved. The result of the roll call vote follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Terry Ruff
 NAY: None
 ABSENT: Greg Sammons
 Motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the previously distributed items posted on the consent agenda. Commissioner Petricca moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that the consent agenda be approved as presented. By a roll call vote, the following items on the consent agenda were approved: Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2025 and Executive Session Minutes of January 13, 2025. The result of the roll call vote follows:

AYE: Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Jennifer Rogers, Terry Ruff
 NAY: None
 ABSENT: Greg Sammons
 Motion carried.

Visitors and Citizens' Comments

President Ruff asked if anyone present wanted to speak. There were no speakers

New Business

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to Approval of the Village of Schaumburg and Palatine Park District Sidewalk Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the IGA between the Village of Schaumburg and the Palatine Park District to provide a sidewalk connection to the path at Plum Grove Reservoir. The motion was approved by a roll call; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: Greg Sammons

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to Award of bid for the purchase a Toro Sand Pro 5040 through Sourcewell. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the lowest responsible bidder, Reinders, in an amount not to exceed, \$31,208.21 for the acquisition of one Toro Sand Pro 5040 through the Sourcewell contract number 031121-TTC. The motion was approved by a roll call; the result follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: Greg Sammons

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to the Award of bid for the purchase of digital signage at Falcon Park on Hicks Road. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the proposal for replacement of the existing Electronic Message Center Display at 2195 N Hicks Road with a Watchfire LED RGB Electronic Message Center, provided by Olympik Signs, a Sourcewell provider in the amount not to exceed \$107,428.00. Commissioner Gould expressed concerns over the sign being a distraction as it looks very busy in the picture provided. Director Eckelberry explained that the picture is just a sample of the capabilities and stated that the sign will be the exact same sign as the one we have on Northwest Highway. The motion was approved by a roll call; the result follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: Greg Sammons

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to the Award of bid for the purchase of a Jacobsen 2550 Triplex Mower through Sourcewell. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the lowest responsible bidder, Deere & Company, in an amount not to exceed, \$61,236.24 for the acquisition of one John Deere 2550 Triplex Mower through Sourcewell contract number 031121-DAC. The motion was approved by a roll call; the result follows:

AYE: Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Jennifer Rogers, Terry Ruff
NAY: None
ABSENT: Greg Sammons
Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary providing the issuance of \$1,851,495 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners adopt Ordinance #25-02 providing for the issuance of General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, series 2025. Director Fisher said that Anthony Miceli with Speer Financial was present to answer any questions; there were no questions. President Ruff thanked Anthony for attending the meeting. The motion was approved by a roll call; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Terry Ruff
NAY: None
ABSENT: Greg Sammons
Motion carried.

Department Reports

The Park Board reviewed the previously distributed written Finance Department report. Director Fisher said that we are about 98% completed with 2024 and that we keep accounts payable open through the middle of February. The only thing coming in are some utilities. The financials for 2024 will all be presented with the audit findings which will probably be in May. Otherwise, everything looks really good.

The Park Board reviewed the previously distributed written District Services Department report. Director Eckelberry shared the following highlights: a recruitment campaign for 2025 was created, completed performance appraisals, open enrollment entries, and updated job descriptions. We had over 266 new applications between November and December as we have started planning for Spring. Planning is underway for the Volunteer Recognition luncheon on February 1 at the Cotillion. We also had five volunteer events with a total of 36 volunteer hours. IT added wireless access points, consolidated GIS data resources to prep for upgrades, and refreshed network configuration. Risk Management was busy developing a system to automatically communicate soon-to-expired Certificates of Insurance (COI) which is taking a lot of the burden off the COI process. We had nine employees attend the PDRMA Risk Management Institute in November and received good feedback. We also ran CPR classes and certified 25 staff members across four sessions in November and December. Ann Patti in Marketing was promoted from Part-Time to Full-Time as a Marketing Coordinator in November and Alexandra Rivera-Grant joined us in December to replace Mariana, so we have two new people in marketing. Commissioner Rogers complimented all the photos that were submitted to the IAPD photo contest.

The Park Board reviewed the previously distributed written Parks and Planning Department report. Director Holder reported that the Meadowlark construction project was suspended on December 23rd due to the weather, the electrician should be there in mid-February to install the electricity for the shelter with the remaining work to be continued in the Spring. The awning contractor is scheduled to install the metal roof at the Community Center on Thursday. We have received 8 requests for the truck bid we have out, last year we had none. Staff is working on performance specifications for numerous projects that will be going out to bid soon. The matrix for the construction projects has been updated so the figures are all in there. The ice rink has been open for 21 days, the rest of the week is not looking good, but we'll keep it open as long as possible.

The Park Board reviewed the previously distributed written Recreation and Facilities Department report. Director Palmer started her report with the very successful Turkey Trot with 1,989 participants: just

below what we had in 2019. December held a lot of holiday events that served over 500 participants between those five events with each of the events seeing their highest attendance to date, as well. Staff also worked on year-end reviews and their 2025 goals in December. Most of the fall programs wrapped up with their seasons, with the exception of swim team, water polo, gymnastics, and basketball which is just ramping up their seasons. Rentals and birthday parties for the fall and winter season also started to ramp up across all our facilities with record check-ins for our drop-in programs and birthday parties. Additionally, Cutting Hall hosted 13 events or performances between internal programs, rentals, and community partners.

Executive Director Report

No report was given.

Commissioner Gould stated that one of our visitors came in late and asked Frank if he wanted to address the crowd. President Ruff told Frank he could have 3 minutes to speak and asked him to refrain from personal attacks. Frank replied that he does not do personal attacks. He stated that he brings up inequities or screw-ups he sees and brings them to the Board's attention in case they are blind and continued with his public comment.

Frank Skorski: He's happy as he said before that the world is going to change when Donald takes over. Today the ICE members were rounding up people in our Northeast corner and the Palatine Police, although they could not ask anyone's legal status, they assisted ICE. Judgment is coming to Illinois and I hope and pray that the judgment will come to this district, and their lies and their misrepresentation of facts. You guys continue to talk to the Daily Herald and other newspapers saying you care about citizen input. You received 6000 signatures that said keep the stables, you got 300 letters and emails that said keep the stables, you've had numerous friends of mine show up to meetings like this and they talk to the wall, but we will survive and end your reign of terror. Eighty years ago, the United States Government freed Auschwitz and Palatine will be freed from your rule. You guys are responsible to us taxpayers and we're going to look into your misappropriation of funds. You can't spend \$250,000 for a hay barn and pony stable and then tear it down. That's a strong structure. It was well built and could easily be used for any number of things, not just for the current purpose. All I'm asking is for you guys to wake up and meet us halfway. You talk blatantly about having a survey and finding out what the public wants. The public has already told you what they want in no uncertain terms. I'll bet you will get nowhere near the response from your surveys that you got from us, but you have taken away one of the choices that we want. None of us in Palatine, well some of us can, but we can't afford \$400 - \$500 a month to maintain a horse, but who sure as hell can pay for a child to ride a horse. To have the joy and pleasure of riding a horse. You guys have taken that away because somebody who's getting \$175,000 a year didn't want to get any horse waste on his shoes.

Commissioner Reports/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Gould is looking forward to the Volunteer luncheon on Saturday.

Commissioner Ruff enjoyed seeing everyone at the conference and heard a lot of good feedback.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Park Board on this date, Commissioner Rogers moved that the regular meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by a voice vote as follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Susan Gould, Joe Petricca, Terry Ruff

NAY: None

ABSENT: Greg Sammons

Motion carried at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Allie
Park Board Secretary

Attest:



Lisa Allie
Secretary

Approved:



Terry Ruff
President

<u>2025 Park Board Meetings</u>	
February 10, 2025	April 28, 2025
February 24, 2025	May 12, 2025
March 10, 2025	May 27, 2025
March 24, 2025	June 9, 2025
April 14, 2025	