



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
December 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner Sammons

Commissioners Present

Greg Sammons, President
Jennifer Rogers, Vice-President
Joe Petricca
Michelle Rushing

Commissioners Absent

Susan Gould

Staff Present

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

Jim Holder, Director of Parks & Planning
Amy Vito, Superintendent of Parks
Alex Giannikoulis, Superintendent of Trades
Colleen Palmer, Director of Recreation Facilities
Josh Ludolph, Supt. of Recreation Facilities
Katie Waszak, Supt. of Recreation Programming

Visitors and Citizens Present

Cassie Kolle, Jaycees
Keven Healey, Jaycees

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Rushing seconded that the agenda be approved. By a voice vote, the agenda for the regular meeting of December 8, 2025, was approved. The result of the voice vote follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Joe Petricca, Michelle Rushing, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the previously distributed items posted on the consent agenda. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca 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 November 24, 2025, Warrant #11, and the approval of Honor Roll Nominees. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Michelle Rushing, Jennifer Rogers, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried.

Visitors and Citizen's Comments

None

New Business

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to the approval of the 2026 Park Board Meeting Schedule. Commissioner Rushing moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the 2026 Regular Park Board Meeting Schedule being conducted at the Village of Palatine Community Center Building in Community Room B at 200 East Wood Street in Palatine, Illinois on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, beginning at 6:00 p.m., excluding the months of September and December which will have one meeting and on Tuesday, May 26th in observance of Memorial Day. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Michelle Rushing, Jennifer Rogers, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to tentative approval of the 2026 DRAFT Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #26-01. Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners provide tentative approval to DRAFT Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 26-01, placing it on public display for the required 30-day viewing period. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Michelle Rushing, Jennifer Rogers, Joe Petricca, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to approval of Tax Levy Ordinance #25-07. Commissioner Rushing moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners adopt Ordinance #25-07 assessing and levying taxes for 2025 in the amount of \$17,274,331 (Seventeen Million Two Hundred and Seventy-Four Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-One dollars). The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Jennifer Rogers, Joe Petricca, Michelle Rushing, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to approval of Resolution #25-11 allocation of Tax Levy amounts, Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL). Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petricca seconded the motion that the Board of Park Commissioners approve Resolution #25-11 allocation of Tax Levy amounts, directing the County Clerk to make any reduction in the District's 2025 Tax Levy request by decreasing the amount in excess of the legal levy amount in the District's Recreation Fund. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Michelle Rushing, Jennifer Rogers, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to approval of Ordinance #25-08 Tax Levy Abatement. Commissioner Petricca moved, and Commissioner Rushing seconded that the Board of Commissioners adopt Ordinance #25-08. An ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2025 to pay the principal and interest on General Obligation Refunding Park (Alternate Revenue Source) Bonds, Series 2015C, and General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017, of the Palatine Park District, Cook County, Illinois. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

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

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to approval of the Palatine Jaycees 2026 Hometown Fest Celebration request. Commissioner Rushing moved, and Commissioner Rogers seconded that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the Palatine Jaycees use of Community Park and associated facilities for the 2026 Hometown Festival. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

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

The Board reviewed a previously distributed board summary pertaining to approval of the appointment to designate liaison to PALS (Palatine Affiliate Leader Society). Commissioner Rogers moved, and Commissioner Petrica seconded that the Board of Park Commissioners approve the appointment of Michelle Rushing as the liaison to PALS (Palatine Affiliate Leader Society) until the Annual Meeting on May 11, 2026, when all appointments will be renewed. The motion was approved by a roll call vote; the result follows:

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

Executive Director Report

Director Rea shared that the Turkey Trot was well-attended, with over 2100 people. This event runs smoothly each year thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, and it's always fun to be there. He continued to report on the busy holiday season with 5 events all held within the past weekend. He added that these events involve a lot of people, from Marketing to the Recreation team, and is appreciative of everyone's efforts in making them successful. Direct Rea also recognized the Parks team for their work, especially as we've already had over a foot of snow this season. Additionally, this was our first year of self-enrollment for insurance, and the process went very well. Director Rea closed by thanking the Board for approving the draft budget and the Finance team for preparing the budget binders. It's been a season of great work and collaboration, and he appreciates everyone's dedication.

Commissioner Reports/Future Agenda Items

Commissioner Rogers wished everyone safe and happy holidays.

Commissioner Rushing echoed Commissioner Rogers Holiday sentiments. She also shared that she would like to discuss the idea of holding meetings that allow for more discussion among Board members. Director Rea shared that once the master plan is completed, he would like to have a Board workshop, which could include this topic. He also clarified that Commissioner Rushing's suggestion was to have the first monthly meeting as a "committee of the whole" for discussion of issues, with the second meeting focused on voting and taking action. Commissioner Rushing noted that some towns meet only once a month, but feels continuing to meet twice a month would be more effective. She proposed one meeting for discussion and another for formal decisions, asking the Board to consider this approach.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Park Board on this date, Commissioner Rogers moved that the regular meeting be adjourned, and Commissioner Rushing seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a voice vote; the result follows:

AYE: Joe Petricca, Michelle Rushing, Jennifer Rogers, Greg Sammons

NAY: None

ABSENT: Susan Gould

Motion carried at 6:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

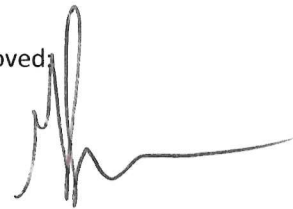
Lisa Allie
Park Board Secretary

Attest:



Lisa Allie
Secretary

Approved:



Greg Sammons
President

<u>2026 Park Board Meetings</u>	
January 12, 2026	March 23, 2026
January 26, 2026	April 13, 2026
February 9, 2026	April 27, 2026
February 23, 2026	May 11, 2026
March 9, 2026	May 26, 2026