

Regular Meeting

April 24, 2023

A. Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag

At the call of the President, Sue Gulas, the Joliet Park District Board of Commissioners met for a Regular Meeting in the Board Room of the Inwood Athletic Club, 3000 W. Jefferson Street, Joliet, IL. The meeting began at 5:00pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

B. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Jobe-Gavin, Mutz, Paul, Tatro, Gulas

Commissioners Absent: None

C. Opportunity For The Public To Speak - 3 minute time limit

When given the opportunity to comment no one from the public came forward to address the Board.

D. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of March 27, 2023

A motion was made by President Gulas, seconded by Commissioner Paul, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of March 27, 2023. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Paul, Mutz, Tatro

Nays: None

Abstain: Jobe-Gavin

E. Approval of the bills and payroll for the month of March, 2023

A motion was made by President Gulas, seconded by Commissioner Mutz to approve the bills and payroll for the month of March, 2023 in the amount of \$1,047,362.84. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Mutz, Jobe-Gavin, Paul, Tatro

Nays: None

F. Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2023.

Glenn Kelley, Director of Finance, gave the Treasurer's report for the end of month of March 2023 as follows:

Cash on hand beginning of month:	\$	3,767,145.71
Total Receipts:	\$	3,333,633.84
Total Disbursements:	\$	6,855,962.46
Cash on hand end of month:	\$	3,887,229.40
Total Investments:	\$	7,796,266.49

Total Cash & Investments: \$ 11,683,495.89

Commissioner Mutz made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2023. Commissioner Jobe-Gavin seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Mutz, Jobe-Gavin, Paul, Tatro, Gulas

Nays: None

G. Communications

1. Executive Director Correspondence

Mr. Brad Staab, Executive Director, informed the Board that Taste of Joliet tickets sales continue to go well. Mr. Staab will be meeting with the Police this week regarding the fest, the Park District will be using P4 Security at the front gate for bag check again this year. P4 Security was paid for last year via a grant, the district does not have that grant this year. Mr. Staab will be meeting with the City of Joliet to discuss funding of security at the Taste of Joliet, their funding has not increased in a number of years. The Hispanic band for Sunday will be announced in the next couple weeks.

Mr. Staab also informed the Board that the pickleball/tennis courts were started. During demolition a concrete slab was discovered under the courts – this results in an increase in excavation and stone work, the initial estimate was an additional \$50,000. John Ekstrom, Director of Parks/Golf Grounds has talked to the contractor, there will be a savings of \$30,000 if our staff removes the concrete and the contractor only does the stone work. There will be 3 dedicated pickleball courts and the tennis courts will be lined for both tennis and pickleball.

Mr. Staab thanked the park services crew for their work on the flag pole between the Joliet Memorial Stadium and the Harlow Lockwood Softball Fields. The flag should go up soon.

Mr. Staab commented that with the golf season starting, he is getting a lot of calls about the drive into Inwood Golf Course. He has talked to the Engineer about culvert that runs under the road, they have done soil borings. We are hoping to use leftover retaining wall from the 2nd green to repair the culvert before repairing the road. Currently planning to patch the road and try to do the road repair on the ends of the culvert in September.

2. Staff Reports

John Ekstrom, Director of Parks/Golf Grounds, commented on the great job the Park Services crew does.

Mr. Ekstrom informed the board that the blue prints are in for the Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center. He is currently looking at the bidding process. The plans are currently with the City of Joliet Building Department being reviewed.

Mr. Ekstrom stated that the John Leach Park is being installed. Longleat Park has not been started.

Mr. Ekstrom has met with Gametime, a supplier for playground equipment. They have some grants coming out this spring that the district may be able to take advantage of 50/50 programs.

Terry Keigher, Director of Recreation, updated the Board on the Nowell Park Recreation Fitness Center membership, there are 205 yearly EFT members, 165 yearly paid in full and 119 Silver Sneaker members.

Mr. Keigher stated that there is a craft show at the Kathy Green Multi-Purpose Center on Sunday, May 7th from 10am-2pm, there will be 42 vendors.

Mr. Keigher informed the Board that we have 415 players in the Youth Soccer program. Softball and Kickball teams start this evening (78 softball team and 14 kickball teams). The fields will be full and concessions open nightly. We are down approximately 10 softball teams from last year. The fields are being used to capacity.

Mr. Keigher mentioned that there are 2 busses going to Washington DC this Thursday returning next Wednesday. Casey O'Connell, Recreation Superintendent is supervising one bus and Megan Williams, Program Coordinator is supervising the second bus.

Mr. Glenn Kelley, Director of Finance, informed the Board that the Auditor is expected to be at the May meeting to discuss the audit report.

Mr. Kelley explained that Scientel Solutions has begun their camera discovery and cleaning. They have completed their work at the airport, all cameras are working. Nowell Park Recreation Center is the next building they will be working on.

Ms. Teri Talarico, Director of Operations, introduced Molly Hoover, the new Aquatics Superintendent who started March 20, 2023 to the Board. Ms. Hoover will be keeping her Blue Tides Master Swim Coach duties along with her Aquatic Superintendent responsibilities. Ms. Hoover was elected Coach of the Year at the recent Illinois Masters State Championship swim meet, where the team took 3rd Place. Ms. Hoover has been at the Park District for 14 years and looks forward to taking on more responsibility.

Ms. Talarico announced that the Joliet Park District is receiving 42 pallets of Peloton dumbbells, approximately 2,000 individual weights from Conscious Alliance. Nowell Park Recreation Center will be having an event to distribute them on Tuesday for National Fitness Day and Inwood Athletic Club will be distributing theirs on Wednesday for National Fitness Day.

Ms. Talarico reminded the board that the Hill Yeah 5k is this Saturday, over 300 runners are registered which is comparable to last year.

Ms. Talarico informed the board that Emediate Cure Quick Care will be offering B12 injections for National Fitness Day on Wednesday from 7am-11am at Inwood Athletic Club.

Additionally, Ms. Talarico mentioned that the Pilcher Park Nature Center had about 25 people last Saturday doing stewardship for Earth Day. There are also field trips scheduled almost every day at the Nature Center through the end of the school year.

Mr. Staab interjected that while on the Nature Center, the board should know that the latest issue at that location is groups having car shows that leads to donuts and burn outs in the parking lot and neighbors are complaining. This has taken a toll on the parking lot, we are working with Police on a solution. Boulders/stones have been moved from Splash Station to prevent the grass being ruined. This was a problem last year also. Permitting was discussed.

Ms. Talarico reports that Inwood Athletic Club has 2845 members, this is 1,000 more than last year.

H. Action Items

1. Old Business

There was no old business.

2. New Business

- a. Approval of Resolution 23-209 – Joliet Park District Conveyance of Land on Francis Road at Gougar Road, Joliet, IL to County of Will
Parcel 0001- P.I.N No. 15-08-08-300-002

Mr. Staab explained this is the property that Will County Department of Transportation has removed trees from, it looks much better and removed a potential liability for the District. Mr. Staab recommends approval.

Commissioner Jobe-Gavin made the motion to approve Resolution 23-209 – Joliet Park District Conveyance of Land on Francis Road at Gougar Road, Joliet, IL to County of Will. President Gulas seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Jobe-Gavin, Gulas, Mutz, Paul, Tatro,

Nays: None

- b. Approval of Resolution 23-210 – Joliet Park District Conveyance of Land on Francis Road West of Wirth Road in Joliet, IL to County of Will
Parcel 0002 – P.I.N. No. 15-08-08-400-030

Mr. Staab stated that this is the second parcel that Will County of Department of Transportation has done tree removal on.

Vice President Tatro made the motion to approve Resolution 23-210 - Joliet Park District Conveyance of Land on Francis Road West of Wirth Road in Joliet, IL to County of Will. Commissioner Mutz seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, Mutz, Paul, Jobe-Gavin, Gulas
Nays: None

c. Approval of Resolution 23-211 – Disposal of Surplus Equipment and Other Items

Mr. Ekstrom stated that this is a surplus list of items dated from the mid 2000's and earlier from all three golf shops and park services; they are outdated or we are unable to find parts for them.

President Gulas made the motion to approve Resolution 23-211 – Disposal of Surplus Equipment and Other Items. Commissioner Paul seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Paul, Mutz, Jobe-Gavin, Tatro
Nays: None

Ms. Talarico has a proposal from Wight to add on chillers to the current design proposal. The board directed that this was acceptable. Ms. Talarico will bring this back to the May meeting for ratification.

d. Approval of Resolution 23-212 – Executive Director Employment Contract Effective January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2025

President Gulas stated the following, on behalf of the entire board, about Executive Director Staab:

- Comparable positions in our neighboring park district community are: Naperville \$168,300 (2023), New Lenox \$174,400 (2022-2023), Fox Valley \$162,000 (2019) with a CAR ALLOWANCE range from \$600-750/month.
- Mr. Staab has brought the district out of the “red” in many areas.
- He led us successfully through the 2020-21 pandemic with state and federal assistance being mostly non-existent.
- Has turned so many areas around and set them on an upward trajectory which has resulted in revenue that, in some cases has never been seen by some departments and areas.
- Upon his 1st year evaluation (2020), we were in a pandemic. Not only did he not get an increase, he (along with other upper administration) took a 20% pay DECREASE for several months.
- Mr. Staab has been an exemplary director who has accomplished an abundance of positive changes, both long term and short term for the district. He always has nothing but the best interests for the district in mind with any decision he makes.
- Mr. Staab has an excellent rapport with the current board of commissioners. A big part of that is equal communication with all board members as to the happenings around the entire district.

The Board is happy to extend Mr. Staab's contract and compensate him fairly for a job well done.

President Gulas is looking for a motion to approve Executive Director Employment Contract effective January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2025 with annual salary of \$165,000.

Vice President Tatro made the motion to approve Executive Director Employment Contract effective January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2025 with annual salary of \$165,000. Commissioner Mutz seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, Mutz, Paul, Jobe-Gavin, Gulas
Nays: None

- e. Quotes and Award of Contract
 - (1). Weed Control Application Service for Select Joliet Park District Properties - Spring-Green - \$18,407.60

Mr. Ekstrom explained that this is a one-time herbicide application for our parks, Spring-Green was the low quote received.

Commissioner Paul made the motion to approve and award the contract for Weed Control Application Service for Select Joliet Park District Properties to Spring-Green for the amount of \$18,407.60. President Gulas seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Paul, Gulas, Mutz, Jobe-Gavin, Tatro
Nays: None

- I. Board Comment
 - 1. Committee Report
 - a. Joliet Park Foundation

Ms. Talarico reported that the Joliet Park Foundation voted to adopt Fall Creek Park for their Pink Donation buckets at Taste of Joliet. The Foundation plans to update the park.

Ms. Talarico explained that the Foundation discussed replacing Tunes & Brews with a new fundraiser.

The next Joliet Park Foundation meeting is May 10th.

- 2. Joliet Regional Airport

Vice President Tatro reported that the Airport Committee met on April 5th and discussed the Airport Festival which will consist of pancake breakfast, rides, car show, plane rides and food vendors. The next airport committee meeting is June 7th.

K. Adjournment

With all agenda items discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by President Gulas. The motion was seconded by Vice President Tatro, and it carried unanimously. The time was 5:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Kasprisin
Recording Secretary