

Regular Meeting
January 27, 2024

A. Call to Order & Pledge to the Flag

At the call of the President 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: Raasch, Perez, Mutz, Tatro, Gulas

Commissioners Absent:

G. Communications

1. Executive Director

Executive Director Brad Staab informed the Board and public that the District intention with regard to the Highland Park Belmont baseball fields is to allow all children to play baseball and accommodate everyone in the community. Mr. Staab met with East Joliet baseball last week and they are no longer interested in using the Highland Park Belmont baseball fields, the Joliet Park District will work with them to find alternative fields. The District is trying to avoid conflict between groups wanting to use Belmont baseball field.

Mr. Staab updated the Board on the camera work starting at the six Harlow Lockwood Softball Fields. Comcast has started locating the lines for this.

Mr. Staab will meet with the Will County Clerk regarding their interest in using Woodruff Golf Club as a polling place on April 1, 2025.

Mr. Staab mentioned that the Joliet Park District was named the Will County Top Workplace for Teens by Shaw Media.

President Gulas inquired about camera's at the Bird Haven Greenhouse, Mr. Staab replied that when the Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center is complete camera's for both will be addressed. There are currently cameras on the exterior of the Bird Haven Greenhouse.

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

Lisa Martinez, the Belmont Little League President, informed the Board that Belmont Little League was chartered in 1951, local children have been playing on the Belmont baseball field since the 1950's. Without access to the baseball field at 651 Highland Parkway (Belmont baseball field) the Belmont Little League will not be able to accommodate children 13-16 years old. Belmont Little League is asking for Joliet Park District's partnership, it is vital resource to the children in the area. The field currently does not have adequate parking, insufficient trash capacity and no restrooms.

The tarps on the dugouts are currently torn up and look bad; it is not being maintained to the standard of other local parks. Belmont Little League is seeking a 10-year contract with the Joliet Park District for this field and is requesting new bleachers for the field.

Trudi Ogden, a softball coach at Belmont Little League, informed the Board that for three decades the league has been fostering females in the area. Girls go through this program and turn their lives around. Belmont is a gathering place for the community; parents that are helping do so because they care.

Cindy Valencia, her father after WW2 founded the Belmont Athletic Club, it has been in existence and in partnership with the Joliet Park District for seven decades. The Park District field has always been used for the older children. Boys and girls both need a larger field as they get older. Belmont Athletic Club supports Belmont Little League and the softball programs. When they use the Park District field, they use the Belmont Athletic Club parking and restrooms. When others use the Park District field, they also use the Belmont Athletic Club parking and restrooms, but often find them closed if they don't have games or their season is completed.

Willie Wright, a Joliet Park District employee, commented that East Side Baseball does not need Highland Park Field and that the Joliet Park District plans to make improvements to the field.

Ms. Laura Brumfiel, Director of Recreation, mentioned that multiple teams filled out applications to use the Highland Park Field. Ms. Brumfiel and Mr. Staab will work with the various organizations to place the teams at fields.

Mr. Tony Martinez of East Joliet Athletics commented that the organization has baseball teams from t-ball to 14U.

Mr. Tim Cacias, a coach from the Belmont Little League program commented that the programs need to work together; more children can play baseball if there are two programs.

D. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 19, 2024

A motion was made by President Gulas, seconded by Commissioner Raasch, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 19, 2024. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Raasch, Perez, Mutz, Tatro

Nays: None

E. Approval of the bills and payroll for the month of December, 2024

A motion was made by Commissioner Mutz, seconded by Commissioner Perez to approve the bills and payroll for the month of December, 2024. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Mutz, Perez, Raasch, Tatro, Gulas

Nays: None

G. Treasurer's Report for the month of December, 2024.

Glenn Kelley, Director of Finance, gave the Treasurer's report for the end of the month of December 2024 as follows:

Cash on hand beginning of month: \$ 13,599,325.80

Total Receipts:	\$	40,315,001.26
Total Disbursements:	\$	33,018,597.13
Cash on hand end of month:	\$	12,886,312.58
Total Investments:	\$	13,638,962.61
Total Cash & Investments:	\$	26,525,275.19
Total Fund Balances	\$	22,004,632.87

Vice President Tatro made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for the month of December, 2024. Commissioner Mutz seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, Mutz, Raasch, Perez, Gulas

Nays: None

G. Communications

2. Staff Reports

Mr. Jim Baranak, Director of Parks reported that painting is complete at the Ice Arena.

Mr. Baranak updated the Board on the Ball Shed at Wedgewood Golf Course, the brick work started today. The siding, soffit and fascia are next.

Mr. Baranak informed the Board that the Pilcher Park Nature Center restroom update is almost complete, sinks, counters and partitions are being replaced.

Mr. Baranak informed the Board that staff were at Splash Station today beginning to clean and surplus equipment to prepare to demolish that location.

Mr. John Ekstrom, Director of Golf Grounds and Horticulture, announced that the irrigation project at Woodruff Golf Course has begun. The pump station is the first step, pipe and the base of the pump station has been delivered. Dan McDonald, Superintendent of Golf Grounds Wedgewood/Woodruff, and David Contreras Sr, Assistant Groundskeeper have starting pumping down/draining the irrigation lake in efforts to facilitate the underground work. Commercial Irrigation will be on site in April or May. When they begin, anything being done in the rough will not impact play, they will only disturb play for work on the fairway/green and will give warning prior to that.

Mr. Ekstrom reported that at the the Bird Haven Greenhouse, the plant material will be in soon to grow plants for the spring plant sale.

Mr. Ekstrom mentioned that the ceiling at the Barber and Oberwortmann Horticultural Center is making great progress.

Ms. Laura Brumfiel, Director of Recreation reported

-SRJC teams won 2nd and 3rd at state basketball this past weekend

-the Kathy Green Multi-Purpose Center will be hosting a Winter Fest December 21st from 3:00-6:00pm. This is a family fun event, bounce houses, Police will be there for ID checks, and raffles

-The Hartman Center wall padding should be complete tomorrow; during spring break, a camp in conjunction with Chicago Fire will be offered; the facility is renting extremely well.

-Sunshine and Rainbow program has their family Valentine event on February 10th

Mr. Kelley informed the Board that a Payroll Clerk has been hired to replace Laura Turk after her retirement.

Mr. Kelley updated the Board on the E-chargers income, Decembers income was approximately \$2500.

Mr. Kelley reported that the POS system installation at Inwood Golf Course will start on January 30th. Jodi Brooker, Golf Course Food and Beverage Manager, will train her staff and then installation will occur at the other 2 courses. The system will be installed at all three courses by the end of February. The inventory component of the POS system will start at the Inwood Sports Complex this year, this should be tested and running by the end of February for the start of the season. Commissioner Perez questioned what kind of issues are expected with the inventory component. Mr. Kelley is concerned about mapping, staff learning the system and how to correct errors. Commissioner Perez thinks this is being overcomplicated, it's a beginning and ending count. Commissioner Raasch concurred that the inventory system needs to be implemented everywhere this year.

Mr. Kelley updated the Board on the insurance claims from the tornado. Mr. Kelley is confident the expenses incurred will be reimbursed. The open item is the lost rental income. The claim for the tree's has a maximum of \$10,000.

Mr. Kelley informed the Board that the insurance cost for Splash Station is approximately \$15,000 for the year.

Ms. Talarico indicated that the Ice Arena Phase 2 project continues. The walls are painted, a wooden wall feature is coming, black benches will be installed before NIHIL. After NIHIL new signage will be installed and minor cosmetic upgrades to the desk. The old benches will be repurposed at another facility. The chiller portion of the project will extend into February. With the IBS system the Admin offices are more temperature controlled than in the past. The dampers on the air handlers for the Ice Arena need to be adjusted, that work will begin tomorrow.

Ms. Talarico informed the Board that the Inwood Athletic Club is promoting a \$59 eight week special, thus far 880 have sold. It is expected that over 1000 will be sold by moth end. The Run3 dates have been announced: Sundowner, Thursday July 17
Red Eye, Sunday, October 19

Santa Shuffle, Sunday, December 7

The Joliet Regional Chamber of Commerce will be partnering with the District on the Santa Shuffle.

Ms. Talarico reported that the hot tub is out of order again. The hot tub was closed a few weeks, the jets were not working, a motor was built and installed and it worked for 1 day and the heat exchanger cracked when it was extremely cold last week thus now out of order again. It is being determined whether the heat exchanger or the boiler should be replaced. The biggest hurdle with the hot tub repairs is that we have to make the parts because of the age of the hot tub.

Ms. Talarico thanked Park Services for their work on updating the restrooms at the Pilcher Park Nature Center. The facilities will be ready for the upcoming field trips. There are field trips scheduled daily through March. The District is still receiving complaints from neighbors about ATV's and motorcycles riding through the Pilcher Park. Mr. Staab requested financial help from the Foundation to increase police presence if necessary.

Commissioner Mutz received a call and request for a water bottle filler/water fountain for the Ice Arena lobby. Ms. Talarico was very receptive of this idea.

H. Action Items

1. Old Business

a. Bid – Ice Arena/IAC re-roofing project

Mr. Staab explained that this a completely new roof covering the Ice Arena and lobby, the Admin floor and the Inwood Athletic Club. This project will start in the spring and be paid from the capital account. President Gulas made a motion to accept and award the Inwood Athletic Club and Ice Arena Re-roofing project to Riddiford Roofing for \$1,516,400. Commissioner Perez seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Perez, Raasch, Mutz, Tatro

Nays: None

2. New Business

a. Quotes and Award of Contracts

a(1). Toro Rough Mower – Inwood Golf Course - \$48,496.19 Reinders

President Gulas and Mr. Staab concurred that this item is to be tabled.

a(2). Four (4) Exmark Lazer Z Commercial Mowers - Park Services - \$62,678.00 Shorewood Home and Auto

Mr. Staab explained that the mowers will be used by Park Services for parks and facilities. Exmark pricing is based on a contract award from ONMIA Partners. ONMIA Partners is a cooperative purchasing organization for public sector procurement. After completion of a competitive solicitation and selection process in accordance with the Illinois Joint Purchasing Act, OMNIA Partners awarded Contact No. 20469 to Exmark, which Shorewood Home and Auto is a dealer, on

May 15, 2022, with the term expiring on May 14, 2027. As a member of ONMIA Partners (member id# 1135740), the Joliet Park District may accept the proposal from Shorewood Home and Auto pursuant to the above mentioned contract.

Commissioner Raasch made a motion to purchase 4 Exmark Lazer Z Commercial Mowers from Shorewood Home and Auto, through OMNIA Partners contract number 20469 in the amount of \$62,768.00. Vice President Tatro seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Raasch, Tatro, Mutz, Perez, Gulas
Nays: None

- b. Bids and Award of Contracts
 - b(1). Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center Lighting and Electrical CSN Electric - \$500,000

Mr. Staab explained that this is ratification of this contract. President Gulas made a motion to accept and award the Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center Lighting and Electric project to CSN Electric for \$500,000. Commissioner Mutz seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Mutz, Raasch, Perez, Gulas
Nays: None

- b(2). Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center New Septic System Zeiter's Septic, Inc. - \$73,900.00

Mr. Staab explained that this is ratification of this contract. Commissioner Mutz made a motion to accept and award the new septic system project at the Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center to Zeiter's Septic, Inc. for \$73,900. Commissioner Perez seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Mutz, Perez, Raasch, Tatro, Gulas
Nays: None

I. BOARD COMMENT

1. Committee Report

- a. Joliet Park Foundation
No report
- b. Joliet Regional Airport
The next meeting is February 5, 2025

J. Executive Session: The Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Discipline, Performance, or Dismissal of a Specific Employee or Legal Counsel for the Park District; Purchase or Lease of Real Property for the Use of the Park District, Including Meetings Held for the Purpose of Discussing Whether a Particular Parcel Should be Acquired; The Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the Park District; Pending Litigation; Probable or Imminent Litigation

At 6:00pm, a motion was made by President Gulas, seconded by Vice President Tatro to go into Executive Session per the Open Meeting Act to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee of the Park District, Section 2(c)(1); to discuss the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the Park District, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired, Section 2(c)(5); to discuss the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the Park District, Section 2(c)(6); to discuss sale or purchase of securities, investments or investment contracts, Section 2(c)(7) and, to discuss pending litigation or probable or imminent litigation, Section 2(c)(11) and Will County Tax Rate Objections from 2011, 2014 and 202. The motion carried as follows

Ayes: Gulas, Tatro, Raasch, Mutz, Perez

Nays: None

At 6:36 the Board returned to the regular meeting and Vice President Tatro left the meeting.

President Gulas mentioned that she and Mr. Staab previously discussed naming the Inwood Ice Arena or a part of the facility after Vice President Tatro due to his long time service with the Joliet Park District. Commissioner Mutz and Commissioner Perez stated that there is a policy about not naming facilities or parks after Board members who currently hold office. Attorney Karas suggested changing the policy or amending it because of Vice President Tatro's extraordinary service of 20 years. There is an exception option within the naming rules of extraordinary circumstance if 4 of 5 Board Members agree to it. Commissioner Perez questioned if we need to leave the Arena for a sponsorship opportunity but stated that he would like to see Vice President Tatro acknowledged for his service. The Board directed Mr. Staab to look for an area/space for a plaque or sign. It was mentioned that May 17, 2025 would be a good date for the naming ceremony.

K. Adjournment

With all agenda items discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by President Gulas. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mutz, and it carried unanimously. The time was 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Kasprisin
Recording Secretary