

Regular Meeting

January 25, 2021

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 led by Commissioner Tatro.

B. Roll Call

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

Commissioners Absent: None

C. Convening the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance Hearing

President Gulas opens the Public Hearing for public comment, both oral and written, for the approval of the Joliet Park District Fiscal Year 2021 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.

Lisa Banovetz, Director of Finance & Human Resources, stated that the proposed budget for the fiscal year January 1 through December 31, 2021 was available for public view, in person and online for just over 30 days. Staff has not received any written or oral comments during this time.

When given the opportunity for the public to speak, no one came forward to address the Board concerning the intent of the Board to approve the Joliet Park District fiscal year 2021 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance.

Commissioner Tatro made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Paul, to adjourn the 2021 Budget and Appropriation Ordinance Hearing. The motion carried as follows:

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

Nays: None

D. Convening the Bond Information Notice Act (BINA) Hearing

President Gulas opened the BINA Hearing concerning the intent of the Board to issue \$8,965,000 General Obligation Park Bonds for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District, and for refunding obligations issued for said purposes and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto.

Ms. Banovetz stated that the District has the opportunity to refinance its 2012 Debt Certificates as Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds. This is an opportunity that came about because the District's debt limit is now large enough to allow for the issuance due to increasing Equalized Assessed Value (EAV) and the paydown of existing debt. With the original plan of finance, the District was going to refund the 2012 Debt Certificates with a new series of debt certificates, which do not require a BINA

hearing. With the new plan of finance, the Park District is required to hold another BINA hearing for the larger amount of Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds that will be issued. The benefit of issuing these bonds as Limited Tax General Obligation Bonds is that the District will be able to achieve lower interest rates versus a debt certificate issue and therefore save long term interest cost. Also, this will eliminate the need for the District to issue annual limited tax bonds to pay debt service on the 2012 Debt Certificates. The new issue will have a dedicated tax levy on file. Any future issues of limited tax bonds can be used solely for capital improvements. The Board will have to approve an ordinance to facilitate the issuance of these bonds at a Special Meeting on February 1, 2020.

When given the opportunity for the public to comment either by email, written submission, or in person, no one came forward to address the Board. President Gulas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Paul, to close the BINA Hearing. The motion carried as follows:

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

D. 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.

E. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of December 21, 2020 and the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 21, 2020

A motion was made by Vice President Clement, seconded by Commissioner Jobe-Gavin, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 21, 2020 and the Regular Meeting and Executive Session of December 21, 2020. The motion carried as follows:

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

F. Approval of the bills and payroll for the month of December 2020 - \$1,720,271.89

A motion was made by Commissioner Jobe-Gavin, seconded by Commissioner Tatro, to approve the bills and payroll for the month of December 2020. The motion carried as follows:

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

G. Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2020.

Lisa Banovetz, Director of Finance & Human Resources, gave the Treasurer's report for the end of month of December 2020, which are the tentative annual numbers for 2020, as follows:

Cash on hand beginning of month:	\$	582,145.33
Total Receipts:	\$	23,548,275.77
Total Disbursements:	\$	22,431,937.77
Cash on hand end of month:	\$	1,025,345.90
Total Investments:	\$	7,495,019.26

Vice President Clement made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of December 2020. Commissioner Paul seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

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

Nays: None

H. Communications

1. Recognition of Service Awards

Brad Staab, Executive Director, acknowledge the following milestone anniversaries for full-time staff: (5 years) Susanne Palmer, Jon Waller, Andres Jacobo, and Megan Williams; (10 years) Casey O'Connell and Kim Wrona; (15 years) Brian Legan and Gina Rodriguez; (20 years) David Contreras, Karen Cooper, and Arturo Mascote; (25 years) Tim Widner and Tom Wilabay; and (30 years) Brian Eggemeyer. Mr. Staab noted that many of the employees started working part-time before becoming full-time.

1. Executive Director Correspondence

Mr. Staab thanked the Commissioners and staff for reaching out and for their kind words after his mother passed away.

2. Staff Reports

Terry Keigher, Director of Recreation, updated the Board on remote learning. Currently there are 30 students at Nowell Park Recreation Center and 41 students at the Kathy Green Multi-Purpose Center. Mr. Keigher commended staff for all their planning and hard work in offering the remote learning program.

Mr. Keigher stated that Nowell Park Recreation Center has 352 fitness memberships.

Mr. Keigher informed the Board that Sara Kolodziej, SRJC Superintendent, and he met with Channahon Park District's Board and staff regarding the SRJC program on Saturday, January 23, 2021. The Board and staff at Channahon are reviewing their options for offering special recreation to its residents. Joliet Park District and Channahon have been in a partnership with many years. Mr. Keigher stated that he hopes to hear back from Channon before the next Joliet Park Board meeting.

John Ekstrom, Director of Golf Grounds & Parks, stated that the Grove Road Phase II project and the new greenhouse addition project will start back up in the spring.

Mr. Ekstrom stated that the Inwood Sports Complex (ISC) project continues. The installation and storm sewage have been completed. Currently, the new pavilion is being built and the entire project should be fully completed by April.

Mr. Ekstrom thanked Park Services and Golf staff for all their work on the ISC project and the snow removal.

Mr. Keigher stated that University of St. Francis softball will begin mid-March and the first tournament for baseball will be in April.

I. Action Items

1. Old Business

There was no old business.

2. New Business

a. Approval of Ordinance #839 – Budget & Appropriation Ordinance Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021

Commissioner Tatro made a motion to approve Ordinance #839 - Budget & Appropriation for fiscal year beginning January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2021. Vice President Clement seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

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

Nays: None

b. Approval of Voluntary Separation Agreements

Commissioner Paul made a motion to approve the Voluntary Separation Agreements for Donald Dickinson and Kevyn Felker as presented. Vice President Clement seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: Paul, Clement, Tatro, Gulas

Nays: None

Abstain: Jobe-Gavin

J. Board Comment

1. Committee Report

a. Joliet Park Foundation

President Gulas stated that at the January 13, 2021 Foundation meeting, the Board approved new officers and committee chairs. Dates have not been finalized for the Foundation events since COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines are not known at this time. President Gulas mentioned that the Foundation may be partnering with other local organizations to hold a car raffle to raise funds for the 4th of July fireworks but details have not been finalized.

2. Joliet Regional Airport

No Report since there was no meeting.

President Gulas and the Board thanked Jennifer McFarland, Airport Superintendent, for all her hard work and acknowledge that the airport remained opened during the entire Covid-19 pandemic, even when all other Joliet Park District facilities were closed.

K. 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 5:25pm, a motion was made by President Gulas, seconded by Commissioner 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); and, to discuss pending litigation or probable or imminent litigation, Section 2(c)(11). The motion carried as follows:

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

Nays: None

L. Reconvene to Open Session

At 6:10pm, a motion was made by President Gulas and seconded by Commissioner Tatro, to reconvene to Open Session. The motion was carried as follows:

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

Nays: None

M. Action from Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

N. Adjournment

With all agenda items discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by President Gulas. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jobe-Gavin, and it carried unanimously. The time was 6:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Talarico
Recording Secretary