

Regular Meeting
December 18, 2017

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 McGuire.

B. Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Clement, McGuire, Tatro, Mutz, and Gulas

Commissioners Absent: None

C. Convening the Public Truth in Taxation Hearing

President Sue Gulas opens the Public Hearing for public comment, both oral and written, for the approval of a proposed tax levy increase for the Joliet Park District for 2017. Matt Pehle, Director of Finance, explained that if the proposed Tax Levy is greater than 105% from prior years, a Truth in Taxation Hearing is required. The corporate and special purpose property taxes extended or abated for 2016 were \$5,328,060.97. The proposed corporate and special purpose property taxes to be levied for 2017 are \$5,637,000.00. This represents a 5.80% increase over the previous year. The property taxes extended for debt service and public building commission leases for 2016 were \$3,260,999.36. The estimated property taxes to be levied for debt service and public building commission leases for 2017 are \$3,281,884.00. This represents a .64% increase over the previous year. The total property taxes extended or abated for 2016 were \$8,589,060.33. The estimated total property taxes to be levied for 2017 are \$8,918,884. This represents a 3.84% increase over the previous year.

Resident Jeff Lindstrom asked if this would be a multiplier that is going up. Mr. Pehle stated that the increase is a combination of both an increase in property/house appraisals as well as an increase in the Customer Price Index (CPI).

It was noted that there was no written comment.

Commissioner Tatro made a motion, seconded by Commissioner McGuire, to close the Public Truth in Taxation Hearing. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, McGuire, Clement, Mutz, Gulas

Nays: None

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

President Gulas opens the BINA Hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Joliet Park District, Will and Kendall Counties, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$1,525,000 General Obligation Limited Tax 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, or for refunding obligations issued for said purposes, and for the payment of the expenses incident to that. Mr. Pehle stated that this hearing is held for the annual rollover bonds. The Board will vote on the selling of the bonds at the January 22, 2017 Regular Meeting. When given the opportunity for the public to comment, no one came forward to address the Board. President Gulas made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Clement, to close the BINA Hearing. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Clement, McGuire, Tatro, Mutz

Nays: None

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

Earley Coleman, resident, thanked the Joliet Park District Board, Executive Director Tom Carstens, and Director of Planning/Parks Larry Burich for the work that has been done at Pilcher Park. Mr. Coleman stated that the park is on its way back after much neglect and everyone who uses the park sees the turnaround. Mr. Coleman feels there is more work to be done. He stated that residents would like to see some Pilcher Park projects included in the 2018 budget. Some projects are: repaving of the upper and middle trails to prevent washout areas, swing set or playground on the west side of the park next to the parking area, the cleanup of the picnic area where the inner and outer loop meet, and a few picnic tables and park benches. The residents hope to continue to work together, with the Joliet Park District, and make Pilcher Park great again.

F. Approval of the Minutes of Work Session and Executive Session of November 20, 2017 and Regular Meeting and Executive Session of November 20, 2017

A motion was made by Commissioner Tatro, seconded by Commissioner McGuire, to approve the Minutes of Work Session and Executive Session of November 20, 2017 and Regular Meeting and Executive Session of November 20, 2017. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, McGuire, Clement, Mutz, Gulas

Nays: None

G. Approval of the bills and payroll for the month of November 2017 - \$2,012,296.37

A motion was made by Commissioner Clement, seconded by Commissioner McGuire, to approve the bills and payroll for the month of September 2017 in the amount of \$1,601,740.11. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Clement, McGuire, Tatro, Mutz, Gulas

Nays: None

H. Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2017.

Matt Pehle, Director of Finance, gave the Treasurer's report for the month of November 2017 as follows:

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|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Cash on hand beginning of month: | \$ 1,380,942.78 |
| Total Receipts during month: | \$ 982,317.34 |
| Total Disbursements during month: | \$ 1,369,690.08 |
| Cash on hand end of month: | \$ 993,570.04 |
| Total Investments: | \$ 14,605,243.77 |
| Total Cash and Investments: | \$ 15,598,813.81 |

Mr. Pehle noted that the Operations Fund is \$1,010,601.62 compared to last year's balance of \$2,028,369.80.

Commissioner McGuire made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2017. Commissioner Tatro seconded the motion and it carried as follows:

Ayes: McGuire, Tatro, Clement, Mutz, Gulas

Nays: None

G. Communications

1. Recognition of Service Awards

President Gulas and the Board of Commissioners presented the following full-time service pins to the following employees: 5 years to Ben Waldvogel (not present); 10 years to Kirk Blakney and Dan Hinz (not present); 15 years to Don Dickinson (not present), Dianne Marry, and Miguel Pina; 20 years to Brad Staab; and 30 years to Kevin Eberhard and Kevyn Felker (not present).

2. Executive Director Correspondence

Tom Carstens, Executive Director, updated the Board on the Nowell Park Recreation Center. Mr. Carstens stated that the concrete/foundation work should be completed in January, weather permitting.

Mr. Carstens informed the Board that Deputy Director Brad Staab and he attended the IAPD Best of the Best Award event where the Joliet Park District received the Best Friend of Illinois Parks – Large Business Award for the partnership with ATI Physical Therapy.

3. Staff Reports

There were no Staff Reports.

H. Action Items

1. Old Business

- a. Resolution 17-187 – Adopting a Lease Agreement between the Joliet Park District and Joliet Public School District 86 for a Playground Facility (Jennifer Ann Voots Playground) at Carl Sandburg School

Mr. Carstens noted that the Lease Agreement between the Joliet Park District and Joliet Public School District 86 for a Playground Facility (Jennifer Ann Voots Playground) at Carl Sandburg School was tabled at the November 20, 2017 meeting since the contract was still in negotiations. Mr. Carstens noted that the agreement is for a five year term and stated that it is staff recommendation for the Board to approve Resolution 17-187.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tatro, seconded by Commissioner Clement, to approve Resolution 17-187 – Adopting a Lease Agreement between the Joliet Park District and Joliet Public School District 86 for a playground facility (Jennifer Ann Voots Playground) at Carl Sandburg School. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, Clement, McGuire, Mutz, Gulas

Nays: None

- b. Request to Rename Oak Valley Park to Semaj Crosby Park

President Gulas noted that at the July 24, 2017 Regular Board Meeting, the Park District was presented with a petition to rename Oak Valley Park, located at Zarley Rd. and Walden Rd., to Semaj Crosby Park. Pursuant to the Park District's 2014 Policy for renaming_Park property, facilities, and features located within the parks of the Joliet Park District, a written notice of the proposal to change the name of the Park was posted at Oak Valley Park and remained there until today.

President Gulas stated that the Park District has evaluated the request. The Renaming Policy permits the Park District to rename a park, but only if specific criteria are met. It was noted that the First Section of the Policy states that "parks should only be named for a person who has make significant and outstanding contribution of services, land, funds, or goods to the Park District, or have made an exceptional contribution to civic betterment locally, nationally or internationally".

President Gulas said that Semaj Crosby's death was heartbreaking and tragic and Semaj is one of many innocent children who die each year in our community.

President Gulas stated that based on the ineligibility of the name requested in the petition, including the lack of criteria being met stated in the ordinance, she moved that the current name of Oak Valley Park be retained for the park in question. President Gulas motion was seconded by Commissioner Tatro. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Tatro, Clement, McGuire, Mutz
Nays: None

President Gulas moved that the Park District staff work with the Semaj Crosby's group leadership to recognize Semaj by establishing a tree memorial in her honor. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Tatro. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Gulas, Tatro, Clement, McGuire, Mutz
Nays: None

2. New Business

a. Ordinance #815 – Providing for the Levying, Assessment and Collection of Taxes for the Year 2017

A motion was made by Commissioner McGuire, seconded by Commissioner Clement, to approve Ordinance #815 – Providing for the Levying, Assessment and Collection of Taxes for the Year 2017. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: McGuire, Clement, Tatro, Mutz, Gulas
Nays: None

b. Ordinance #816 – Approving Joliet Park District Amended Sexual Harassment Policy

Counsel Steve Adams noted that the Park District already has an excellent Sexual Harassment Policy, however Ordinance #816 is amending the current policy to include specific language that is required by Public Act 100-554, adopted this fall by the Illinois General Assembly. Specifically, the policy must include a prohibition of any harassment not only for the Joliet Park District staff but also applies to any relationship the Park District has such as elected officials, vendors, supplier, etc. It is staff's recommendation to approve Ordinance #816.

A motion was made by Commissioner McGuire, seconded by Commissioner Clement, to approve Ordinance #816 – Joliet Park District Amended Sexual Harassment Policy. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: McGuire, Clement, Tatro, Mutz, Gulas
Nays: None

- c. Approve Park Board Commissioners' Travel Expense
January 18-20 IPRA/IAPD Conference – Chicago, IL

A motion was made by Commissioner Tatro, seconded by Commissioner McGuire, to approve Park Board Commissioners' travel expense for the January 18-20 IPRA/IAPD Conference in Chicago, IL. The motion carried as follows:

Ayes: Tatro, McGuire, Clement, Mutz, Gulas

Nays: None

I. Board Comment

1. Committee Report

a. Joliet Park Foundation

President Gulas noted that the Foundation hosted a Poinsettia Luncheon on December 5. Current and past donors of the Bird Haven Greenhouse and Barber & Oberwortmann Horticultural Center are invited as a thank you for their past support.

b. Joliet Regional Airport

Commissioner Tatro stated that the next Airport Committee meeting is in February 2018.

- J. Executive Session: The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee or legal counsel for the Park District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1); 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 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5); the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the Park District 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6); pending litigation or probable or imminent litigation 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)

There was no Executive Session

K. Adjournment

With all agenda items discussed, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Tatro. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Clement and it carried unanimously. The time was 5:26pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Talarico
Recording Secretary