

**MINUTES OF THE 2,372nd
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD
MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS
AND OFFICERS OF THE WINNETKA
PARK DISTRICT, WINNETKA, IL
THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020 – VIA ZOOM**

Lara Kuechel clarified the procedures for the meeting as it was being conducted by electronic means via teleconference.

President Archambault called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Mickey Archambault, Teresa Claybrook, Christina Codo, Colleen Knupp, Eric Lussen

Commissioners Absent: Warren James

Staff present in the Winnetka Park District Administrative Office with observance of social distancing practices: John Peterson, Executive Director; John Muno, Transitional Executive Director; John Shea, Superintendent of Recreation; Christine Berman, Superintendent of Finance; Lara Kuechel, Executive Assistant. Via videoconference: Costa Kutulas, Superintendent of Parks and Kelsey Raftery, Marketing Brand Manager.

Audience Present via Zoom: Eric Anderson of Piper Sandler, Jon Shabica of Shabica & Assoc.

COMMUNICATION

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Consent agenda to approve:

- Closed Session Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2020
- Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2020

Commissioner Codo made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, Knupp, Lussen

Nays: None

APPROVAL OF FINANCIALS

A motion was made by Commissioner Codo to approve the Financials for April 2020. Commissioner Knupp seconded. Superintendent Berman provided a presentation, answering questions posed by the Commissioners, and a brief discussion took place particularly regarding the potential for donations. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, Knupp, Lussen

Nays: None

Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

A motion was made by Commissioner Claybrook to approve Vouchers for May 21, 2020 in the amount of \$499,379.73. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, Knupp, Lussen

Nays: None

Motion Carried

It is noted that Commissioner James joined the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Capital Financing Project Update: Superintendent Berman said that she emailed copies of the slide presentation to all Board members. She thanked Commissioners Codo and Lussen, Eric Anderson of Piper Sandler, as well as Executive Director Peterson, John Muno and John Shea and others who have contributed in putting the project together. Superintendent Berman further noted the changes in projections and that cuts to capitals have continue while also explaining negatives in years to come due to items such a loss of golf course revenues during the stormwater project and replacement of the Skokie Playfield and that that it is a fluid list. Executive Director Peterson commended Superintendent Berman and her work towards presenting a five year plan and extensive work with the various business units.

The process for alternate revenue source bonds will require going through the BINA hearing process and a Moody rating. Eric Anderson from Piper Sandler, explained that “backdoor referendums” also referred to as a petition are possible, but happen rarely. Superintendent Berman and Eric Anderson offered detailed explanations for the various borrowing scenarios presented and other opportunities. A brief questions and answer session took place. It was noted that these scenarios do not include grant funding. Superintendent Berman clarified that you do not have to be specific when naming capital projects. Eric Anderson also explained that the Board President can call for a BINA hearing and the Board needs to adopt a resolution with a notice of intent, he indicated that the bond counsel, Chapman and Cutler is prepared and discussed future meeting dates.

Executive Director Peterson suggested a meeting June 11th and a subsequent meeting on June 18th to accommodate plans for the Fast Track grant and bids. Commissioner Codo clarified timing plans in a discussion with Eric Anderson. He also answered questions posed by President Archambault and Commissioner Claybrook, noting that a debt certificate will not work for financing beyond 20 years whereas an alternate revenue bond can go well beyond that. He further stated that for safety & security, as well as duration, the alternate revenue bond is the superior product. Commissioner James expressed concerns about starting construction agreements without financing secured. A discussion took place regarding golf course plans through the stormwater project and Executive Director Peterson clarified that it is a 2022-2023 project, to which President Archambault noted that it is important to consider those projects as well as the lakefront. Transitional Executive Director Muno further clarified the project and new funding dollars needed, suggesting that there will be room for other priorities with \$9 million in funding. Commissioner Lussen suggested that borrowing will have to be revisited for attaining the lakefront 2030 vision and received agreement from Commissioner Claybrook who encouraged coupling what we can pay for with support of the community.

Capital Financing Project Update – cont’d

Commissioner Codo felt that \$9 million was the greatest amount responsible for a 3 year period in good faith and then reassess if more is needed later, with a clearer picture of what we need, noting plenty of flexibility.

When polled by President Archambault, all Board members agreed that borrowing \$9 million over 25 years through alternate revenue bonds was the preferred source of funding. Executive Director Peterson noted that the staff is still looking for other funding options.

Eric Anderson said that scheduling the next meeting for May 28th is important to move towards that sale of bonds. President Archambault asked for Commissioners Codo and Lussen to continue as a part of the Capital Projects review with Eric Anderson and Superintendent Berman and offered appreciation for their work thus far.

REMARKS FROM VISITORS

None

MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR

Executive Director Peterson reported that the Park District is navigating program opportunities as we shift towards Phase 3 of the State of IL plan, adding that it is all moving forward very aggressively. Unfortunately, it does not appear to offer opportunities for 4th of July festivities are not likely.

BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

STAFF UPDATES

Superintendent of Finance, Christine Berman – clarified June 18th meeting date to get audit ready.

Superintendent of Parks, Costa Kutulas – working through staircase restoration with weather delays. 4 contractors have put information in at the pre-bid meeting, bids open June 4th.

Superintendent of Recreation, John Shea – camp registration underway and looking to lakefront operations and meeting with Chief Hornstein Chief Berkowsky.

Marketing Brand Manager, Kelsey Raftery – camp registration was very busy, working on signage and promotions for programs with many good notes from the public. Look out for the Memorial Day video tribute.

Executive Assistant, Lara Kuechel – Rick Schram has taken the lead on moving the Fast-Track grant to move the application along quickly. Also, we are receiving some additional donations from the public which is very nice and much appreciated.

CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner James made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2(c)(1), for the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, pursuant to Section 2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act, for the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, and 2(c)(6) for the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the public body. Commissioner Knupp seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Knupp, Lussen

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:28 Commissioner Claybrook made a motion to return to Open Session.

Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Knupp, Lussen

Nays: None.

Motion carried.

ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

Commissioner Claybrook made a motion to approved Ordinance 575 to Amend Section 4.19 of the Winnetka Park District Board Policy. Commissioner Codo seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Archambault, Claybrook, Codo, James, Knupp, Lussen

Nays: None.

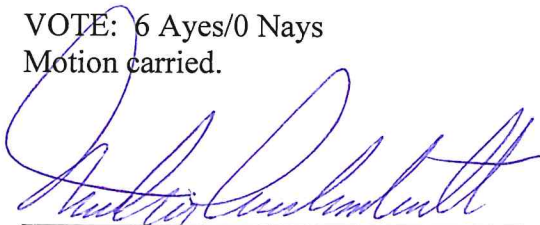
Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

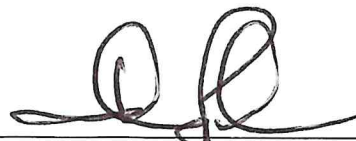
Commissioner Codo made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31p.m. Commissioner Lussen seconded the motion, which passed by a voice vote.

VOTE: 6 Ayes/0 Nays

Motion carried.



Mickey Archambault, Board President



John Peterson, Board Secretary