

**MINUTES OF THE 2,301th  
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD  
MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS  
AND OFFICERS OF THE WINNETKA  
PARK DISTRICT, WINNETKA, IL  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014**

President Brad McLane called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Commissioners present: Richard Pierce, Gerri Kahnweiler, John Thomas, Ian Larkin and Brad McLane. Commissioners absent: Teresa Claybrook and Ed Harney. Staff present: Robert Smith, Executive Director; Bob Farmer, Chief Financial Officer; John Muno, Superintendent of Recreation; Costa Kutulas, Superintendent of Parks; Tom Gullen, Superintendent of Facilities, John Shea, Recreation Supervisor; Edna Alvord, Systems Administrator; Britni Purnell, HR & Benefits Administrator; Margo Sorensen, Accounts Payable and Libby Baker, Administrative Assistant/Safety Coordinator. Visitors present: Blake Hannefan and April Dahlquist.

**JULY FINANCIALS**

Due to the meeting being early in the month, no financials were presented. July financials will be presented in September.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2014 VOUCHERS**

The Board was presented with the Voucher List for August 2014. Commissioner Thomas commented on the large check to the Village for storm water. Director Smith noted that our annual payment to the Village for storm water will ultimately be adjusted to approximately \$84,000. The park district's appeals have been submitted to the Village for consideration. Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the August 2014 Voucher List in the amount of \$317,403.97 with the stipulation that the new storm water utility fee being imposed by the Village of Winnetka is approved but, paid under protest. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and a roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Pierce, Larkin, Kahnweiler, Thomas, and McLane. Nays: None. Absent: Claybrook and Harney. **Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2014**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the minutes from the Regular Park Board meeting from July 24, 2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and passed by a voice vote. **Motion carried.**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Village resident Dan Streiff and a neighbor of Commissioner Thomas have both commented to Commissioner Thomas that they are impressed with the new fall program guide, specifically with the number and variety of offerings. President McLane also commented that Commissioner Claybrook has also received many positive comments. The letter from Dan Streiff will be included in next month's board packet.

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## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Bond/Debt Refinance**

Bob Farmer gave a brief power point presentation showing the major capital expenses for 2015 broken down by department. Commissioner Kahnweiler expressed that she is not comfortable just building up reserves. Bob explained that the refinancing is for funding capital projects, not to build up our reserves. Commissioner Kahnweiler also expressed her concern that when the strategic plan begins and a community survey is completed the community may express a desire to have a pool and may question the \$4,000,000 in reserve. The 5 year capital plan should be adjusted to reflect the estimated costs of the projects from the lakefront master plan. Bob Farmer explained that General Obligation Bond payments come from a tax levy and debt certificates are paid from the operating budget. Commissioner Larkin moved to approve refunding \$1,300,000 in 2005 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds and re-issuing 2014 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds with an extended debt term to obtain an additional \$4,700,000 for future capital projects in the Long Range Plan, including, but not limited to Hubbard Woods Park and the Lakefront Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and a roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Pierce, Larkin, Kahnweiler, Thomas, and McLane. Nays: None. Absent: Claybrook and Harney. **Motion carried.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Platform Tennis Report and Analysis**

Tom reviewed his report and highlighted some downward trends related to memberships of the platform tennis facility. With Glenview and Wilmette having built their own facilities, the Glenview and Wilmette members have left the Winnetka club to join the clubs in their respective communities. Tom explained that the sport itself is still growing and the number of facilities is as well. Staff anticipates that by including Glencoe residents at Winnetka resident rates, the increased participation will help offset costs, specifically for the Winnetka Platform Tennis Club (WPTC). Tom also reviewed strategies for increasing participation that were outlined in his report. An additional option under consideration would be for the WPTC to take over the lesson program. This arrangement would be similar to other independent contractor agreements the Winnetka Park District already engages in. If the agreement is approved Glencoe residents will be treated as residents for all paddle programs, lessons, rentals and club membership.

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve proceeding with a three year intergovernmental agreement with the Glencoe Park District to offer Glencoe residents use of the Winnetka Platform Tennis facility at resident rates in return for publicity in Glencoe marketing materials. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kahnweiler and a roll call vote was taken.

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Ayes: Pierce, Larkin, Kahnweiler, Thomas, and McLane. Nays: None. Absent: Claybrook and Harney. **Motion carried.**

### **October Committee Meeting**

Due to the National conference and staff vacations, Director Smith proposed rescheduling the Committee meeting originally scheduled for October 9 to October 2 at 5:30 pm. Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve the staff recommendation for the above stated change. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and passed by a voice vote. **Motion carried.**

### **Beach Operations**

Director Smith gave the board an update on the water quality issues and beach closings in relation to recent newspaper article of a local publication. He explained that there are both federal and state standards for closing beaches for swimming activities. The park district currently follows the state standard. John Shea noted that he and Mary Cherveney are working together for next year to put notices on our website when there is a beach closure. It was suggested to use Twitter or some other messaging service in addition to posting info on the website. There were issues this season related to the current alert system. The Board asked that staff continue to refine instant alert program to patrons of the beaches.

### **MATTERS OF THE DIRECTOR**

Director Smith has met with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources at Hubbard Woods regarding the grant. IDNR is still reviewing our application. He noted that we will need to have a committee meeting on September 11 at 5:30 pm prior to the regular board meeting. The park district received a Preservation Award from the Village for the work done on the Skokie Playfield.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Commissioner Kahnweiler commented on the positive numbers for summer camp and asked if staff markets to those individuals for future programming. Commissioner Larkin praised John Shea on the Pirate Camp Out. President McLane asked John Shea if we have ever asked North Shore Country Day to use their pool. John Shea also noted that the beach concession area managed by the Grand does not do much business. Most of the traffic is from the summer camp kids.

### **BOARD LIAISON REPORT**

**NSSRA** – see packet for details.

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**Foundation** – Staff will be meeting with the Foundation on August 26. There will not be a Party on the Pier this year.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to enter Executive Session at 7:54 p.m. to discuss:

- ◆ Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent. Sect. 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11)
- ◆ The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel to determine its validity. 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and a roll call vote was taken. Ayes: Pierce, Larkin, Thomas and McLane. Nays: none. Absent: Claybrook, Kahnweiler and Harney.  
**Motion carried.**

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to return to open session at 8:54 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Larkin and passed by a voice vote. **Motion carried.**

### **ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No action was taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Thomas moved to adjourn the Regular Board meeting at 7:54 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pierce and passed by a voice vote. **Motion carried.**

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Brad McLane, Board President

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Robert Smith, Board Secretary