

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Village Hall, New Lenox, Illinois.

**GENERAL FUNCTIONS:**

**Call to order** President Schulz called the November 15, 2023, meeting to order at approximately 6:04 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** President Schulz led the Board, Staff, and all others present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call** President Schulz directed the Recording Secretary to take roll call. Upon taking roll call, the following were present, Commissioners: Larson, Fischer, Ott, and President Schulz.

**Also in Attendance** Executive Director Greg Lewis, Director of Recreation Lea Pipiras, Director of Parks-Maintenance George Travnicek, Director of Golf Bob Schulz, Director of Business Services Kathy Lynch, Deputy Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, and Guest Services Supervisor Melissa McGrath

**Treasurer's Report** President Schulz noted that the Treasurer's Report for October 31, 2023, is tabled for the month due to software issues and reports were unable to be completed. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the report being tabled until December 20, 2023.

**Payment of Bills** President Schulz quoted totals from the Payment of Bills as presented for October 31, 2023. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for October 31, 2023. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Special Guests** New Lenox Friends of the Parks presented the New Lenox Township Food Pantry with a check donation of \$2,000 which were proceeds from the Empty Bowl event.

**Communications** President Schulz reported that himself and Commissioner Fischer were honored at the IAPD Gala for their over 30 years combine service to the New Lenox Community Park District.

President Schulz noted that a Thank You was received from the NPRA 2023 Annual Conference.

**Approval of Minutes** *Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2023*  
President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Regular Board Meeting minutes of October 18, 2023. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of October 18, 2023, as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Committee & Staff Reports**

**Business Services** Commissioner Ott reported that due to the software issues our final month numbers will be reported at the December 20, 2023, Board Meeting. Commissioner Ott noted that on the Guest Services Supervisor's report month to month, it appears that we are bringing in decent registrations and he asked that the report now show the year-to-date numbers so that we can see the comparison year to year.

**Facilities / Planning** President Schulz reported that updating of the master plan as well as winterizing at Walker and Haines for their restrooms and mechanical rooms. The skate sharpening equipment is being set up to prepare for the upcoming skate rentals in the Village Commons. They are also working on building a new wall unit to hold the skate rental access window. Staff were able to install an inducer rotor at Walker and there will be interior doors that will be installed at LCC.

**Golf Course**

Golf Course

Commissioner Larson reported that considering we didn't have an open driving range we ended up having a decent month. The Chili Open sign-up lottery went well as we sold out in less than an hour and the outing was a great success. The sales reps have been coming in for our yearly meetings and prices just keep going up on everything. Gaming had a decent month as well as the carpets in the clubhouse were deep cleaned in October which is done twice a year.

Commissioner Larson noted that the new cart fleet had the winter service completed along with some recall work. The new mower with catcher attachment has really helped clean up our fall leaves, much better than expected. The irrigation systems will be blown out the second week of November.

Director of Golf Schulz reported that the Penguin Open is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, 2024, with a walk up and pay, no registration. Information is on the website and that participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item. Commissioner Larson noted that the driving range is coming along and is looking very nice. Director of Golf Schulz noted that we are hoping to have a soft opening of the driving range sometime mid to end of January.

**Parks/Development**

Athletic Associations

Commissioner Larson reported that baseball had a smooth fall season with 496 players which was a record for them. They have replaced 7 roofs on shelters and buildings and re-shingled with a few needing additional repairs.

Commissioner Larson noted that Mustang Football's 6- and 7-year-olds placed third in the end of the year Mighty Mite's Bowl. All the other teams have made the playoffs, PeeWee team is playing for the Championship. The varsity level will once again travel down to Tennessee for some games.

Commissioner Larson reported that soccer's recreation league had a solid season and the Legacy Travel teams had 4 teams that finished 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in their divisions.

Commissioner Larson noted that Service Sanitation will be back next year and will keep their prices the same. Commissioner Larson reported that we will be going out to bid again for contracted mowing. The last two years we have had numerous issues on sites being partially mowed/areas missed, contractor's equipment not being properly maintained causing uneven cuts, lack of continuity with contractor's staff. Precise Tree Care has been a dependable contractor and continues to do tree work and brush removal. Numerous trees have received fall fertilizer/bio nutrient applications.

Commissioner Larson stated that a new accessible fishing dock has been installed at Hibernia Pond which matches the new one from the OSLAD Grant. As of today, an accessible concrete walk leading to the new fishing pier has been installed. A new asphalt path replaces the screening path that extended from the parking lot to the precast flush washrooms at Haines Park.

Commissioner Larson reported that within the next couple of weeks, staff will have given all our parks and athletic sites a final cut. This amounts to \$4100 savings. Leaf removal continues at several key sites. Staff have been winterizing numerous sites. Pond aerators have been brought in. Drinking fountains and Walker's Splash Pad have had water lines blown out. Our equipment is ready for snow removal and salt spreading. Staff restored the motion detector at Lion's Den Storage Building and repaired a lighting connection at our Fitness Court.

#### Development Projects Update

##### Hibernia Park Development Phase II – OSLAD 2022 Grant Project Discussion

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that at Hibernia the boardwalk was installed and completed. Some more challenges have come up including the foundation wall being 4 inches short. The contractor will be fixing this gap at an additional cost. Commissioner Fischer asked Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek about the gas lines being installed. The Director of Parks-Maintenance stated that NICOR does the first 60 feet free, which our span is 70 feet, so they will be installing all of it and due to us being a park district they will waive the fee.

##### Sky Harbor Park Update

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek reported that he spoke with staff at Integral and it seems that there is an understanding that currently we hold \$26,461.06 and it would be good to say that they will get approximately 90% of that back. He was told that they came in last week and installed a milk tree but will go out to make sure that is true. They are trying to get us to pay \$2,400 change order that had to do with the architect print and Director of Parks-Maintenance stated that he told them we are not going to pay on that due to them not notifying us beforehand and just doing the work. He is still waiting for an update to get everyone in agreement.

##### Water Chase Park Update

Director of Parks-Maintenance-Travnicek reported that there is good news on the budget. We can have the features that are offered at Lockport. The total budget with contingencies and inflation is less than \$10,000 over. We have \$50,000 in trees and evergreens that can be shaved. Our target dates are December 18, 2023, out to bid, bid opening on January 9, 2024, with a board approval on January 17, 2024, and calling contractor on January 18, 2024. We are just a little outside of our original dates of end of November/beginning of December.

Director of Parks-Maintenance Travnicek congratulated Park Supervisor Gary Wilde for passing the Certified Playground Safety Inspectors Test. Thanked all the staff for installing the large ice rink.

Executive Director Lewis noted that the reports from LWSRA due to their Board Meeting will not meet until November 21, 2023. Executive Director Lewis noted that the documents will be forwarded to the Commissioners as soon as they are received.

Commissioner Fischer reported that the Before/After School program currently has 470 participants. The Fall Kick Start Soccer Program concluded their seasons this month with two leagues combined for a total of 202 players, 20 teams and 34 volunteer coaches. The youth flag football season concluded with the teen tournament. We had a total of 306 players, 32 teams and 78 volunteer coaches. The Children's Basketball League started with a total of 521 players, 52 teams and 88 volunteer coaches.

Commissioner Fischer noted that we hosted our annual Barks N Brews event at Walker Country Estates Park on October 12, 2023. We appreciate our sponsors that help us run this event. Thank you to Tuckers Doggie Delights, Raising Canes, ChiroOne and Town Center Bank. On Sunday, October 15, 2023, we hosted our Big Bad Pumpkin event at Walker Country Estates Park. Thank you to our Raising Canes and Town Center Bank for sponsoring this event.

Commissioner Fischer wanted to remind everyone about the upcoming Christmas in the Commons that is hosted by the Village of New Lenox that will be starting on December 2, 2023. The Park District will be providing the ice rink with skate rentals available.

Director of Recreation Lea Pipiras thanked the village for putting up Christmas lights around the ice rink as well as the Park District Administrative Building.

## **New Business**

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Public Notice: 2024 Annual Posting of Regular Park Board Meetings. Hearing non, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Public Notice: 2024 Annual Posting of Regular Park Board Meetings. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

### *Resolution #23-25 Credentials Certificate – Annual Delegates to the Business Meeting of the IAPD*

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution #23-25. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #23-25 Credentials Certificate – Annual Delegates to the Business Meeting of the IAPD. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

### *Ordinance #23-11-01 General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2023B*

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Ordinance #23-11-01 General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2023B. President Schulz requested a motion to adopt Ordinance #23-11-01 General Obligation Park Bond (Alternate Revenue Source) Series 2023B. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance #23-11-02 Levy Ordinance 2023-2024

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Ordinance #23-11-02 Levy Ordinance 2023-2024. President Schulz requested a motion to adopt Ordinance #23-11-02 Levy Ordinance 2023-2024. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

**Adjournment**

At approximately 6:31p.m., President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the November 15, 2023, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a voice vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Melissa McGrath, Recording Secretary