

FRANKFORT SQUARE PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
October 17, 2024

The following are Minutes of a meeting of the Frankfort Square Park District Board of Commissioners held at the Park District Administration Building, 7540 W. Braemar Lane, Frankfort, Illinois.

I. Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present were: Lauren Breedlove, Phil Cherry, Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Joseph King (*arrived at 7:04 p.m.*), Craig Maksymiak, and Denis Moore.

Also present were: Audrey Marcquenski, Executive Director/Board Secretary, and Ed Reidy, Superintendent of Parks, and Linda Mitchell, Recording Secretary.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Public Input

No members of the public were present for input.

V. Correspondence

No correspondence was presented.

VI. Presentation of the September 19, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes.

Phil Cherry made Motion 24-1965 to accept the September 19, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Denis Moore seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Lauren Breedlove, Phil Cherry, Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Denis Moore, and Craig Maksymiak. Abstained: None. Nays: None. Motion passed.

VII. Legal Report

President, Craig Maksymiak, read by title and requested consideration of Resolution No. 24-10-48 a Truth in Taxation Law Resolution providing an estimate of taxes to be levied in accordance with Section 60 of the "Truth in Taxation Law", a copy of which was provided to each Board Member in advance of said meeting.

Denis Moore made Motion 24-1966 to adopt Resolution No. 24-10-48 a Truth in Taxation Law Resolution providing an estimate of taxes to be levied in accordance with Section 60 of the "Truth in Taxation Law", as presented. Frank Florentine seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Lauren Breedlove, Phil Cherry, Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Denis Moore, and Craig Maksymiak. Abstained: None. Nays: None. Motion passed.

President, Craig Maksymiak, requested Board consideration to renew the Square Links Class D liquor license, at County and State levels.

Phil Cherry made Motion 24-1967 approving renewal of the Square Links Class D liquor license through Will County and the State of Illinois, as requested. Denis Moore seconded.

Ms. Marcquenski stated that the liquor license renewal is an annual action the Park District completes to enable the sale of beer and wine at Square Links and has the added benefit of helping our community groups by providing them with revenue checks from beverage sales.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Lauren Breedlove, Phil Cherry, Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Joseph King, Denis Moore, and Craig Maksymiak. Abstained: None. Nays: None. Motion passed.

Craig Maksymiak requested consideration to accept the best qualified bid following the public bid opening of the Hunter Prairie Park Redevelopment OSLAD Grant project for a minimum bid amount of \$1,470,540.71.

Ed Reidy, Superintendent of Parks, reported that the PRI team was onsite on October 10 for the Hunter Prairie Park Redevelopment public bid opening. Two firms bid on the project, Innovation Landscaping and D & J Landscaping.

PRI completed a bid comparison, questioned numbers, and although both came back with lower bid amounts, Innovation Landscaping was the lowest bidder.

Craig Maksymiak asked Mr. Reidy if he was familiar with Innovation Landscaping, to which he responded that he had worked with them at a previous park district with great results.

Commissioner, Phil Cherry, asked if Innovation Landscaping would oversee the project, and Mr. Reid noted that they will hire subs, but will complete much of the project themselves.

Park staff will dig the base of the Hunter Prairie Park path, utilizing the excavator, similar to the preparation that was completed at Kiwanis Park. This work was previously done by outside contractors but following the Board approval of the excavator purchase in 2021, these jobs are done in-house with Alec Flamm, Full-Time Maintenance, as the main operator.

Ryan Holley made Motion 24-1968 authorizing Audrey Marcquenski, Executive Director, to accept the best qualified bid submitted by Innovation Landscaping for the Hunter Prairie Park Redevelopment OSLAD Grant project for the bid amount of \$1,470,540.71, as presented. Frank Florentine seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Lauren Breedlove, Phil Cherry, Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Joseph King, Denis Moore, and Craig Maksymiak. Abstained: None. Nays: None. Motion passed.

VIII. Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the Board of Commissioners, President, Craig Maksymiak, accepted the September Treasurer's Report, pending audit.

Lauren Breedlove made Motion 24-1969 to accept the Accounts Payable Listing. Joseph King seconded.

Vote on Motion: Ayes: Lauren Breedlove, Phil Cherry, Frank Florentine, Ryan Holley, Joseph King, Denis Moore, and Craig Maksymiak. Abstained: None. Nays: None. Motion passed.

IX. Executive Director's Report

Ms. Marcquenski presented an honorary resolution to name the pond at Community Park in memory of former Park Commissioner, Ken Blackburn. Said resolution is herewith attached and made part of these minutes.

Maintenance staff installed the Blackburn Pond sign and updated the Ken Blackburn interpretive sign at Community Park on October 17, 2024.

The closing for the Park District's purchase of Frankfort Square School is scheduled for October 22, 2024.

Ms. Marcquenski provided a reminder that the 2025 Consolidated Election filing period was moved up by one month. The Park District will begin accepting filings on November 12, 2024, through November 18, 2024.

Ms. Marcquenski was made aware that when circulating Consolidated Election petitions, some residents had questions about their property taxes. The Park District, as a taxing body, makes up approximately 5.74% of the average property tax bill. The Park Board works to ensure taxes remain fair by inflating the annual levy to capture new growth with the understanding that as District's Equalized Assessed Evaluation (EAV) increases, the property tax rate decreases. In addition, the annual abatement completed this past September along with the sale of the annual alternate (mini) bond is included in the budget to ensure the cost is not passed along to the residents.

In addition, the 2002 referendum was paid off in 2022, resulting in a decrease in property tax bills that continues through today.

The November 21 Board Meeting, to be conducted at Square Links, will include annual department reports and distribution of beverage proceeds to the Frankfort Square Baseball League, Frankfort Square Wildcats Football & Cheer, and the Scouts.

Ms. Marcquenski requested an executive session to discuss personnel and pending litigation.

X. Committee Reports

A. Maintenance

The Park District contracted with Great Lakes Urban Forestry to conduct a tree survey. Phase 1 of the 3-phase survey is complete and includes thirteen park sites, with 1,290 trees inventoried and geotagged. The arborist made recommendations based on risk levels, and Ed Reidy is preparing a work list, noting that nothing is critical as the majority of trees are rated as average.

Mr. Reidy reported that he purchases good quality trees, such as hackberry, sumac, and walnut, noting the importance of biodiversity.

Craig Maksymiak commended Ed Reidy, noting that as none of the trees are considered critical and in need of immediate removal, he and his staff are doing a great job of maintaining the health of the District's trees.

Ms. Marcquenski reported that Ed and his team put in a lot of effort on a daily basis, further noting that Ed is responsive and caring when managing resident requests. In addition, Marlon Medina and Alec Flamm continue to be valuable full-time members of the maintenance team, with both sharing their strong skills and developing further abilities to further enhance the quality of service provided to District residents.

B. Recreation

Seniors returned home safely from their trip to Chattanooga, Tennessee where all enjoyed the experience. Ms. Marcquenski commended Jodi Dilling, Trip Coordinator, for organizing and overseeing this successful trip. Audrey also thanked Ed Reidy and John Keenan, Superintendent of Recreation, for assisting when the bus experienced mechanical difficulties in Smyrna, Georgia.

C. Information Technology

No report

D. Special Recreation

Sufficient information was included in the October Executive Director's Report.

E. Finance and Planning

No report

F. Golf Course

The District is currently out to bid to develop a practice area for chipping, with the public opening scheduled for October 31, 2024.

Treasurer, Frank Florentine, suggested the installation of a security camera to cover the cart path along Holes 7 and 8, and Sentinel will be providing a quote in the coming weeks.

Two huskies were found on the course on October 15. Ed brought the dogs into the clubhouse, called the Will County Sheriff and animal control, and they were reunited with their owners that same morning.

G. Office

Sufficient information was included in the October Executive Director's Report.

H. Risk Management

Sufficient information was included in the October Executive Director's Report.

I. Community Updates

No report

J. Freedom of Information

No FOIA requests for information were received over the past month.

XI. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

XII. New Business

Frank Florentine reported that representatives from Frankfort Square Wildcats Football inquired about replacing the hydroseeded area with sod where the water reclamation plant was had been located. Staff had previously investigated the matter and learned that sod will not take in this location; however, the Park District will add dirt and reseed the area to provide an expanded football practice area.

Commissioner's Comments

Per a request from Commissioner, Phil Cherry, dugout benches will be installed at the Indian Trail ball fields. Mr. Cherry also inquired about a potential long-term project to resurface fields at Union Creek and Kiwanis Parks. Ms. Marcquenski noted that staff will review options for these requested field improvements.

Ms. Marcquenski will plan to hold a Board Meeting at The Square after the first of the year.

Mr. Cherry is pleased to see softball games being played under the lights this fall.

Commissioner, Joseph King, while petitioning for the Consolidated Election, reported that residents are pleased with how parks are maintained.

Commissioner, Ryan Holley, expressed appreciation for School and Park Districts working together to provide space for Wildcats Wrestling.

XIII. Executive Session

Denis Moore made Motion 24-1970 to enter into Executive Session at 7:49 p.m. Frank Florentine seconded. Motion carried in a vote by voice.

The Park Board entered into Executive Session to discuss personnel and a litigation matter.

Ryan Holley made Motion 24-1971 to go out of Executive Session and enter into Open Session at 8:04 p.m. Lauren Breedlove seconded. Motion carried in a vote by voice.

XIV. Adjournment

Denis Moore made Motion 24-1972 to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Frank Florentine seconded. Motion carried in a vote by voice.

Respectfully submitted:
Linda Mitchell