



HOMEWOOD-FLOSSMOOR PARK DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners

Goldberg Administration Center
3301 Flossmoor Rd., Flossmoor, IL 60422

Minutes of April 19, 2022

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:01 pm by Vice President Dennison. Commissioners Collins, Johnson and Dennison were present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Doug Boehm, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Ice Arena Manager Lyndsay Harwell, Marketing Manager Darren Jasieniecki, Racquet & Fitness Club Managers Eileen Rohrer and Michelle Artis, Coyote Run Manager and Pro Tom Denklau, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, *H-F Chronicle* Reporter Marilyn Thomas and Secretary Anne Brabec. Commissioners Bachus and Ojode were absent.

CHANGE IN AGENDA – None

COMMENTS FROM VISITORS – Executive Director Kopas introduced Michelle Artis, new Racquet & Fitness Club Manager.

PUBLIC HEARING

At 7:02 pm, Vice President Dennison called to order the public hearing for the issuance of General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) in an amount not to exceed \$5,500,000 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, including renovating the District's Homewood-Flossmoor Ice Arena, and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto.

Executive Director Kopas further explained the purpose of the hearing to include that while the main reason for the bonds is the ice arena, it is not limited to that, so the money could be used for other projects.

There were no comments from the public.

Commissioner Johnson moved to close the public hearing at 7:03 pm. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: None. Motion approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of Minutes - March 1, 2022, March 15, 2022 and March 29, 2022

b. Registration Software

A report from the Superintendent of Recreation recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the purchase of new registration software, SmartRec by Amilia, and authorize the Executive Director to sign the contract for the same, subject to attorney's final review and approval.

c. Park District Advisory Committee

A report from the Superintendent of Recreation recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve moving forward with the revitalization of the Park District Advisory Committee utilizing new guidelines and terminating the existing by-laws.

d. Summer 2022 Bus Transportation Service

A report from the Superintendent of Recreation recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the proposal from First Student for the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District bus transportation services for summer 2022.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: none. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Municipal Advisory Services

Superintendent Garrity reported that the park district has worked with Speer Financial for many years and has been happy with the relationship.

Commissioner Collins moved to approve the engagement letter with Speer Financial for municipal advisory services in an amount not to exceed \$17,000 and authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement subject to attorney's final review and approval. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. Bond Underwriting

Superintendent Garrity indicated that Northland Securities had bid on the park district's November bond refinancing, and since then, Aaron Gold at Speer Financial successfully completed a bond transaction with the company so can now recommend them to the park district. Their rate would provide a savings of approximately \$10,000. The person handling the park district account for Northland Securities is from a Flossmoor family and grew up skating at the Ice Arena.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the engagement letter with Northland Securities in an amount not to exceed \$17,600 and authorize the Executive Director to sign the agreement subject to attorney's final review and approval. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: none. Motion approved.

c. Status of 2021-2022 Core Values & Goals

Director Kopas reviewed that the 2021-2022 goals report indicated that items were right on track and mostly completed, and those that were not completed had good reason.

Commissioner Johnson asked if more is known regarding the Village of Flossmoor's timeline for its water retention project; Superintendent Boehm indicated it appears to have been pushed back. Now that product is available to resurface the Heather Hills tennis courts, they will be done once nighttime temperatures are warm enough. With this push back of the water project, there will most likely be more time to get good use out of the refinished courts.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Personnel Policy 1.9: Anti-Nepotism

Director Kopas reported that this policy was waived in May 2021 and resulted in several employees who helped the district get through the busy summer season. Kopas checked with department heads to make sure there had not been any issues with these employees, and there had not. Due to current concerns with having enough staff to run summer programming, it is recommended the policy again be temporarily waived, but not permanently removed because it is a good policy to have in place.

Commissioner Collins moved to approve a waiver of the Anti-Nepotism Policy through December 31, 2022. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

b. Sculpture Request from Village of Flossmoor Public Art Commission

Director Kopas reviewed a request received from the Village of Flossmoor Public Art Commission to remove the sculpture *Reach for the Sky* from Highlands Park and move it to Leavitt Park as well as to place a new piece, *Jacks*, at Leavitt Park. As part of the request, the Village will remove the concrete pad and restore turf at Highlands. The park district would not have any liability should anyone climb on the sculptures. The agreement will include that if the park district renovates Leavitt Park, the Village will have to move or remove the sculpture if needed.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the request from the Village of Flossmoor Public Art Commission as presented. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: none. Motion approved.

c. Youth Hockey Ice Rental Fees

Manager Harwell explained that with the closure of the Ice Arena, the youth hockey program was moved to Kankakee Valley Park District's Ice Valley Centre, and ice time will continue to be needed there, possibly through December 2022. The number of participants and teams registered will continue to determine the amount of ice time needed, and the park district only pays for the time actually used.

Estimated cost is \$82,900 for ice time from fall/winter 2021-2022, spring 2022 and fall/early winter 2022-23. A portion of hockey registration revenue will offset this expense.

Commissioner Collins moved to approve the purchase of ice time at the Kankakee Valley Park District's Ice Valley Centre in an amount not to exceed \$82,900. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: none. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS

Commissioners had no comments or questions.

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the claims list in the amount of \$361,445.84. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Johnson and Dennison. Nays: none. Motion approved.

PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING March 31, 2022

COMMUNICATIONS – Board & Administrator – April 2022

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Executive Director Kopas

- There are several not often available full time positions in the business department now posted on the website and Facebook. The RFC Program Supervisor position has also become available; its responsibilities are being recrafted and then the job will be posted.

Commissioner Collins

- Heard the Easter egg hunt at Irwin from her home on Saturday. Although it was a little chilly, it looked like a lot of fun.
- Looking forward to a “real” Park Pride; Superintendent Boehm added that park captains are still needed and more publicity for the event is upcoming.

Commission Johnson

- Great to see all of the field trips that have been booked for Teen Camp.
- Asked about Homewood Estates Park; Superintendent Boehm answered that the project is getting close to completion; there is a short punch list of items yet to be done. There will be a grand opening once more is completed and the Rotary sign is installed.
- Welcome Michelle to the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District.

Commissioner Dennison

- Glad to have Michelle here; she’s probably already figured out that the park district is a great team to work with.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Collins moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Kopas

Debbie Kopas, Secretary