



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

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

**Minutes of December 20, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bachus. Commissioners Collins, Dennison, Ojode and Bachus were present. Also present were Executive Director Debbie Kopas, Superintendent of Finance & Administration Karen Garrity, Superintendent of Parks & Planning Doug Boehm, Superintendent of Recreation Mike Gianatasio, Ice Arena Manager Lyndsay Freeman, Irons Oaks Manager Cheryl Vargo, Coyote Run Manager & Pro Tom Denklau, Marketing & PR Manager Bob Birgel, *H-F Chronicle* Reporter Marilyn Thomas, Secretary Anne Brabec and Visitors Nicholas Quirke, Stephanie Wright and Angie Coderre.

**CHANGE IN AGENDA** – None

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS** – Homewood resident Nick Quirke shared his pickleball group's interest in having expanded pickleball options at the Racquet & Fitness Club. Flossmoor resident and Program & Events Coordinator Stephanie Wright presented a 2022 Year in Review thank you that outlined the collaboration between the Village of Flossmoor and the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District. Flossmoor resident and Board of Park Commissioners candidate Angie Coderre introduced herself.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Minutes - November 15, 2022
- b. 2023 Board Meeting Schedule  
Proposed Board committee meeting and regular meeting dates for 2023.
- c. Ordinance # 759  
An Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal of and interest on the General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2014B, General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021B, and General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2022A, of the Homewood-Flossmoor Park District.
- d. Travel Expense Approval for IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference  
A report from the Superintendent of Finance & Administration recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider motion to approve maximum travel expenses for the staff and commissioners listed for the IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference in Chicago from January 26 - 28, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$15,156.
- e. Pavilion Rental Changes  
A report from the Superintendent of Parks & Planning recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the changes for pavilion rentals as presented.
- f. Full-Time Salary Guidelines 2023  
A report from the Human Resources Manager recommending the Board of Park Commissioners consider a motion to approve the revised full-time compensation structure as presented.

g. Ice Arena Change Orders

A report from the Executive Director presenting six approved Change Orders for Board information in accordance with the authority previously granted.

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

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

a. Recreation Spring 2023 Fees & Charges

Superintendent Gianatasio reported that there is no need to increase any fees for the spring 2023 season, and no past spring programs will be discontinued. Two upcoming programs, Babysitter Training and VIP Tuesday Movies at the Marcus Theater, are designed to engage teens and active adults in an effort to build programming for those populations.

Commissioner Ojode moved to approve the Recreation Spring 2023 fees and charges as presented. Commissioner Dennison seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

b. Ice Arena Class Fees

Manager Freeman provided background on Ice Arena class fees and indicated that based on actual time spent on the ice, fee increases to \$12 for younger skater 30-minute classes and \$18 for 45-minute classes are recommended. In addition, the new Smart Rec system will allow for digital punch cards for skate rentals. A dollar increase, from \$2 to \$3, is recommended for skate rentals for classes and open skates. These fees are still very competitive when compared to similar programs in the area.

Commissioner Collins moved to approve the Ice Arena class fees as presented. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

c. Illinois Association of Park Districts Credentials

The Board selected a delegate and alternate to attend the Annual IAPD Business Meeting to be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023.

Commissioner Collins moved to select Deb Dennison as Delegate and Steve Johnson as Alternate to attend the annual Business Meeting of the Illinois Association of Park Districts to be held on Saturday, January 28, 2023. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS**

Commissioners had no comments or questions.

Commissioner Dennison moved to approve the claims list in the amount of \$1,127,751.44. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none.

Motion approved.

## **PRESENTATION AND COMMENTS ON FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING November 30, 2022**

Executive Director Kopas indicated that taxes will start coming in during the next month, so the funds that are lagging will start to catch up.

## **COMMUNICATIONS – Board & Administrator – December 2022**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Executive Director Kopas

- Happy holidays to everyone
- Deferred to Manager Freeman to give an update on the Ice Arena grand re-opening plans:
  - Tentatively scheduled for February 11 with a ribbon cutting
  - Have requested appearances by Tommy Hawk from the Blackhawks and Skates from the Wolves
  - Will include open skate lessons, a youth hockey game or two, a demonstration from Radiance, the synchronized skating team that calls H-F home, and an exhibition from the higher-level skaters who will be in a competition held at the Arena the next day. Also planned are a family and an adult rat hockey session, mini lessons on the studio rink and open broomball
  - There will be prizes and giveaways including items from the Blackhawks and Wolves, open skate passes and an Ice Arena birthday party
  - A special promotion will give \$10 off Ice Arena classes when registration is done that day
  - Ice Arena staff will work with Marketing to advertise the event

Commissioner Ojode

- Would love to see testimonials from residents who spent time/grew up at the Ice Arena as part of the re-opening publicity
- Loved seeing that staff had a spirit week
- Enjoying seeing the progress being made at the Irwin Center
- Thank you to the marketing team for all of their creative work

Commissioner Collins

- Said there was nothing left to say, so added her thanks and wishes to all for happy holidays

Commissioner Dennison

- Congratulations to unopposed Board candidates President Bachus and Angie Coderre
- Thanks to staff for their holiday acting skills as Kris Kringle and his elf; so nice to see that in our community
- Thank you to Parks; saw the new tractor in action helping install the Flossmoor Park ice rink
- Asked about the Little Sled Library at Willowview; Superintendent Boehm indicated it and the library at Hillview will be installed prior to the snow forecasted for Thursday. Dennison expressed best of luck to the Parks Department for dealing with that snow
- Really likes driving past Irwin Park at night and seeing all of the lights; she knows that took a lot of work and it is appreciated
- Fabulous that the basketball leagues are full
- Happy holidays and Merry Christmas to each and every one. Thank you for all you do

Commissioner Bachus

- On behalf of the whole Board, echoing the thanks to everyone for all they do day in and day out. Another great year and we appreciate you very much

- Really enjoyed Stephanie Wright's comments; Commissioner Dennison added that if an employee is ever feeling low, they should listen to the recording of that praise
- Whatever you choose to celebrate and however you choose to celebrate it, enjoy your time with family and friends

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:37 pm, Commissioner Dennison moved to enter in the Executive Session for the purpose of purpose of 2(c)(1) discussion of the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the District. Commissioner Ojode seconded the motion. Roll call vote with Ayes: Collins, Dennison, Ojode and Bachus. Nays: none. Motion approved.

Meeting reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Dennison moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Commissioner Collins seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Debbie Kopas*

Debbie Kopas, Secretary