

Lan-Oak Park District
Park Board Meeting
November 21, 2011

President Long called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Commissioners Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Long. Also present was Director of Parks & Recreation Wilson.

Motion by Gaffney to include the Consent Agenda which included the Board meeting minutes of 10-17-11; Public Hearing meeting minutes of 10-17-11; Buildings & Ground Committee meeting minutes of 10-27-11; Finance & Personnel Committee meeting minutes of 10-27-11; Refunds & Payroll W/H of 10-27 & 11-10-2011; AP invoices of 10-19, 10-26 & 11-21-2011; Ordinance 21-11-11(a): An Ordinance Levying & Assessing the Taxes of the Park District; and Ordinance 21-11-11(b): An Ordinance Directing the County Clerk to Reduce 2011 Tax Levy. Second by Gulotta. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Long. No nays. Motion passed

Wilson presented his written report. An update was provided on the Mr. Steam issue. Wilson indicated that Mr. Steam offer \$1500 to be released. Wilson commented that his efforts were to recoup as much as he could with this company since the District has spent nearly \$15,000 on the steam unit including repairs. He suggested that the Board accept this dollar amount and move forward with the purchase of a new steam unit. Wilson further indicated that Primack will go back to Mr. Steam to see if any more dollars could be received and then the matter will end. Explaining that legal fees will mount and there is no guarantee for a positive return to the Park District. Kelly questioned why the issue was not resolved by now. Wilson reminded Kelly that the Board voted in August not to move forward with a purchase of a new unit until a legal opinion was reached by Primack. Wilson commented that there is an outstanding issue with Amber Mechanical who installed the Mr. Steam.

Wilson mentioned that the Citizen of the Year Award was given to Dennis Flanagin, posthumous, at the National Recreation & Park Association Congress in Atlanta, Georgia. Wilson and Barb Flanagin were in attendance at the ceremony.

A brief discussion was held on the Downtown TIF legislative issue in Springfield. Currently the Village is waiting for Senate approval before it goes to the Governor's desk. Gaffney asked about the DyerU14 field proposal. Wilson responded that there has been no communication received from Bill Harrison since the email was sent to him. Long asked about the status of the basketball court at Schultz Park. Wilson responded that the basketball backboard will be reinstalled after all of the Living Tree Memorial trees are planted. Long commented on the request from Commissioner Gaffney to receive an additional 30 passes to the fitness center. Long indicated that in the past Gaffney has used his passes for prizes at various functions. Wilson provided the Board the policy that indicates additional passes to Board Members must be approved by the Board after the initial allotment of fitness passes. The consensus of the Board was to provide the 30 additional fitness passes to Gaffney. Wilson reviewed his schedule with the Board for December with his pending knee surgery. Wilson reminded the Board that the early bird registration deadline for the IAPD/IPRA Conference is December 2.

Kelly mentioned that the District loaned soccer goals to the St. Ann group for their fall season and will be retained by St. Ann through the Spring season.

Gulotta mentioned that with the basketball goal going back up at Schultz Park the residents need to be reminded that incidents need to be reported to the police. The reporting process will then generate the police reports that are needed for supporting any Board action.

Wilson mentioned that he will be reviewing the proposed renovation of the bathrooms at the Eisenhower Center with Sharon Desjardins. After this review in all likelihood the project will go out for bid.

Gulotta mentioned that the Old Timers has a new President and they are very interested in working with the Park District. Gulotta further mentioned that he requested Wilson to send the Old Timers a letter seeking a contribution to the project at Lions Stadium. According to Gulotta the Old Timers will be discussing the letter at their meeting. Gulotta also mentioned that the Old Timers will be working with the Fire Department for access to various buildings at the Sports Complex and Lions Stadium in emergency situations.

Kelly reviewed the topics discussed from the Bike Path and Planning Committee meetings from November 17, 2011. Discussion was also held on the upcoming Planning & Zoning Board meeting. The Board discussed strategy for this meeting.

Wilson presented the Remote Attendance Policy that was previously submitted to the Park Board several meetings ago. At the previous presentation the Board requested Wilson to investigate to have vacations included in the policy. Wilson checked with the Public Access Counselor (PAC) of the Attorney General's office since this would be a Open Meetings Act issue. The PAC informed Wilson that vacations were not the intention of the legislation and should not be added to the policy. Flores commented that she has read about the ordinance in the information she has been given. Gaffney questioned Wilson why it took so long to get the information and why it wasn't in writing. Wilson responded that per the PAC officer the email sent to them was misplaced and that was the reason they were calling because of the time issue. Wilson indicated to Gaffney he would be more than happy to get his file on the issue with the exact date and time the call was received by him. Gaffney felt the answer should be in writing. Motion by Flores to accept the Remote Attendance Policy as presented. Second by Kelly. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Gulotta, Kelly, Flores. Those voting "nay": Gaffney, Long. Motion passed 3-2.

Wilson presented the Service Animal Policies. Wilson indicated this is a mandate policy following the ADA. Motion by Gaffney to approve the Service Animal Policies as presented. Second by Gulotta. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Gulotta, Kelly, Flores, Gaffney, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Wilson requested to have an Ordinance & Policy meeting to review and discuss the proposed Conflict of Interest policy and proposed revisions to the vacation and personal day policies. After a brief discussion the Policy & Ordinance Committee will meet on November 30, 2011, 6:30pm at the Administration Office.

Gaffney presented the Treasurer's Report and Operating Statement. Motion by Gaffney to approve the Treasurer's Report dated 10/31/2011. Second by Kelly. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Kelly, Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Wilson presented Ordinance 21-11-2011(e) a resolution to join the Illinois Institutional Investors Trust. Gaffney questioned Wilson on the cost and advantages of join this group. Wilson explained that there is no cost and the District is not joining a new group. He explained that the liquid asset fund the District belonged to merged with this trust fund.

Motion by Gaffney to approve Resolution 21-11-11 (e) as presented. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Wilson presented the bid from First National Bank for the District's annual bond issue. The bid for the General Obligated Limited Tax Park Bond in the aggregate amount (principal and interest due 12-1-12) of \$373,882.00 was \$357,692.91 plus accumulated interest from 12-1-11 at closing. The principal amount was determined using a discounted rate of 4.33% which results in an APR of 4.526%. Gaffney and Flores questioned how many bids were sent out and why was 1st National Bank the only bid. Wilson explained that Primack sends out proposals to the list of financial institutions included in the Board packet. 1st National has always placed a bid. Long mentioned that there has been others, but 1st National has always been the lowest. Motion by Flores to approve the bid from First National Bank for the District's annual General Obligated Limited Tax Park Bond as presented. Second by Gulotta. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Flores, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Motion to approve the Bond Ordinance – Ordinance #21-11-011(d) an ordinance providing for the issue of \$357,692.91 General Obligated Limited Tax Park Bonds, Bond Series 2011 and for the levy of a district annual tax to pay for the principal and interest on said bonds. Second by Kelly. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Gulotta, Kelly, Flores, Gaffney, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Motion by Kelly to approve Ordinance 21-11-11(c): Ordinance Abating the Tax Levied for 2011 to Pay Debt Service as presented. Second by Gulotta. Upon roll call the following voted "aye": Kelly, Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Flores questioned Long why the District is getting reports and invoices from our legal counsel blacken out. Long commented that he gave Flores the first month bill. Flores commented that she has a hard time approving bills with information blacken out. She asked Long if he knew what was blacken out. Long answered he did not know what was blacken out. Wilson commented that when this first occurred he was opposed to having any bill blacken out since it is his responsibility to approve bills. Long mentioned that Wilson, Kuniej and Primack worked out the reporting procedure for the attorney's bill. Wilson responded that he was opposed to any invoice being blacken out and that Kuniej, Long and Primack agreed on the current process of invoices being presented for legal fees. The process was that Primack was to provide Long and Kuniej the total invoice, no black outs, and Wilson would be given the invoice blacken out. Kuniej would inform Wilson that the invoice(s) was OK to process. Flores discussed the transparency issue surrounding the Park District. Implying that if we wanted to be transparent in our transactions, no invoices should be blacken out. Wilson mentioned that if the invoices are blacken out because of the ongoing personnel issue of his employment agreement – he knows that work is going on with the Board and attorney. He also stated that the invoices provided by Primack does not present detail activities. It was the consensus of the Park Board that all invoices from the Attorney will be presented with no blacken out information. The Board requested that Long contact Primack to inform him of the Board's direction.

Gulotta suggested that the Recreation Committee investigate that the Halloween Parade stop at the Park Plaza and see if the Chamber would get involved with buying candy and hot chocolate.

Long passed out revised Committee assignments that reinstated Flores as Recreation Committee Chairperson. Flores and Long had a conversation about the incident of him demoting her from the Chairperson and Committee last month. Other Board members provided their opinion on the situation. All members speaking agreed that the action from last month was not necessary. It was further discussed that the Board needed to be united in their duties, especially in the community there has to be a unified answer/position. It was mentioned that it was OK to disagree and moving forward without any hostilities. It was suggested that the communication between Board members had to get better. Long offered his apology to Flores over this incident.

A brief discussion ensued on active military discount for the use of the fitness center. Wilson will email the current policy for military use of our facilities to all Board members.

A discussion was held on the LOPF. NO information has been received on the accounting for the restaurant row during the car cruise nights. Wilson will inquire with the officers of the Foundation.

Motion by Gaffney to go into Executive Session for the discussion of land acquisition, personnel, probable litigation and/or other subject matters as allowed by the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS, Par. 120/2.(c)(1) – (25). Second by Gulotta. Upon roll call the following voted “aye”: Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Executive Session at 9:05pm.

President Long called the regular meeting back to order at 9:18pm. Upon roll call the following were present: Commissioners Flores, Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Long. Also present was Director of Parks & Recreation Wilson.

There being no further business Motion by Kelly to adjourn the meeting. Second by Gaffney. Upon roll call the following voted “aye”: Gaffney, Gulotta, Kelly, Flores, Long. No nays. Motion passed.

Adjourned at 9:18pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Wilson, CPRP
Secretary to the Park Board