



**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF  
THE SALT CREEK RURAL PARK DISTRICT HELD IN THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AT  
ROSE PARK 530 SOUTH WILLIAMS AVENUE, PALATINE, ILLINOIS 60074  
SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2023**

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**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Nagel called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**PUBLIC HEARING** Commissioner Reiss made the motion seconded by Commissioner Stoeckel to open the Public Hearing to hear comments. There being no public comments, Commissioner West moved, seconded by Commissioner Mazzocchi, to close the Public Hearing. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Stoeckel, Mazzocchi, Seligmann, McGovern, Reiss, West and Nagel.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Paul Nagel - President

Victoria West – Vice President

Michael Reiss – Treasurer

Pat McGovern - Secretary

Ilene Seligmann – Commissioner

Joe Mazzocchi - Commissioner

Tim Stoeckel – Commissioner

**COMMISSIONERS ABSENT** — None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Diane Hilgers – Executive Director

Chris Paisley - Superintendent of Parks

Kelly Sisco – Superintendent of Recreation

Ashley Medley – Twin Lakes Facility Manager

Nick Cinquegrani – Sports Center GM

Moira Palmer – Superintendent of Finance

**GUESTS:** Tom McGrath and Jay Schaack – Lamp Inc

Jeff Rollefson – Evans Marshall & Pease, P.C

Cindy and Mike Gotshal – Residents

Footloose (Frank) – Resident

Pam and Jay Sherman – Residents

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR AGENDA** – Commissioner West motioned, seconded by Commissioner Mazzocchi to approve the regular Agenda of September 12th, 2023. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Stoeckel, Mazzocchi, Seligmann, McGovern, Reiss, West, and Nagel.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

**PRESENTATION - YEAR END AUDIT REPORT 2022-2023 – Jeff Rollefson** – Presented the audit analysis for the year ending April 30, 2023. Jeff started by thanking Director Hilgers and staff for their time accommodating them. Jeff highlighted the Parks net position was \$10,073,537 as of April 30, 2022. The net position has increased by \$686,599 to \$10,760,136 as of April 30, 2023, which is an increase of 6.82%. As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Park District’s governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$2,562,749 an increase of \$396,202 in comparison with the prior year. He noted the Park District’s overall financial position and results of operations has improved during the fiscal year. The Park District was under budget in total for the year ending April 30, 2023. In their opinion the financial statements present fairly and the financial position of the Park District in accordance of general acceptance of accounting principles.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – ROSE PARK PROJECT** – Commissioner Nagel invited the residents to present their Comments regarding the Rose Park Project.

**Cindy and Mike Gotshal** – said the park district has had a historical record of not considering the residents in close proximity. Regarding the current project and the removal of all the mature trees, she stated that there had only been one resident meeting to discuss this. There had been no attempt to solicit input from neighboring residents. They were concerned about the adverse negative impact this would have on property values as well as being left with an unsightly view, even with the replacement of trees. She implored the board to incorporate community input into the landscaping plans regarding the parking lot, and screening of the unsightly view of the neighboring buildings. She also addressed concerns regarding the possible adverse light pollution and traffic. She asked for the district to prioritize community involvement and address the negative impact on their homes and neighborhood. She would like to be kept up to date with the landscaping project.

**Pam and Jay Sherman** – stated their view is now blasted with the white neon roof of the neighboring buildings as well as the fact they now can hear the noise from route 53. Her opinion was that the district raped the land by taking down all the trees. She added the park district has not been environmentally friendly.

**Footloose** – advised at the resident meeting he had verbally and also via email, requested information on the soil sample report and an impact study on the traffic study. He had to FOIA the Village of Palatine for the soil report. He is disappointed that his neighbors that are on the Board have not been transparent in informing surrounding residents what was going on till the project was in progress. He feels an impact study would have been beneficial before proceeding.

**Commissioner Responses** – Commissioner Seligmann responded she has been a resident for over 30 years, and she can reassure everyone that the Board takes the neighbors' feelings into consideration, and never wanted to disregard the residents. The Rose Park building needs to be replaced because it has numerous problems. Commissioner West responded that her family uses the Park for events and camps, and they are excited to have a new facility that doesn't leak and has working bathrooms. Some of the bushes along the fence were invasive and it was not the malicious intent of the Park District to remove the landscaping. She encouraged the neighbors to stop by anytime to get updates, visit and say hello. Commissioner Nagel added, for two years the Board has been meeting to discuss this project and the Board unanimously made the decision to replace the building and they have done what they feel is best for the community. He noted he has a list of their concerns and has the utmost confidence that staff, the landscape architect, and Lamp Construction will work with everyone to create an exceptional space. He appreciated all the comments. Commissioner Reiss noted this meeting has the most residents stop by, and added the Rose Park project has been in the works for over two years and no residents stopped by any of the previous meetings. Agendas and Minutes of every meeting is available to the public and added flyers did go out to all the residents as well as reminding them we did have a neighborhood meeting to discuss the project some time back.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA** – Commissioner Stoeckel motioned, seconded by Commissioner Mazzocchi to approve the Consent Agenda, Minutes of the Regular meeting of August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Warrant #4 & Prepay #4 and Treasurers Report. The motion carried on a roll call vote as follows:

AYES: Commissioners Stoeckel, Mazzocchi, Seligmann, McGovern, Reiss, West, and Nagel.

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

**ATTORNEYS REPORT** – None

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Executive Director - Diane Hilgers** – advised next year they will have the annual audit information to the board 30 days before the Auditor does his presentation and will then vote on it at the same meeting. The treasurers report shows a negative \$400,000 net income because taxes are delayed possibly as late as December 2023. Regarding the Village of Arlington and the new development, it appears everyone is waiting to hear the Bears decision. She printed out documents and articles on this discussion for the board to review. A lot has happened with the Rose Park Project which is currently underway. Staff have been sitting in on contractor meetings and have been learning a lot. We do have a time lapse camera to capture the process. New owners will be moving into the house adjacent to the Rose park project. She will share the new landscaping plan as soon as possible.

**Superintendent of Parks – Chris Paisley** – said staff were able to get the greens aerified and top dressed. The bulk fertilizer application was done on the course and Salt Creek Lane to improve the playability of the fields. The summer annuals have been removed and fall ones planted. They recently took delivery of the new tee and fairway mower. Resurfacing of the walking path from the bridge to the playground will take place between now and the end of October.

**Superintendent of Recreation – Kelly Sisco** – advised the Youth Obstacle Course Race is this weekend with currently 115 registrations and they will continue to take registrations on the day. Staff are planning all the Halloween events and currently have over 200 participants registered for the Harvest Hayride. There has been a good response to our Craft Fair with currently 37 vendors registered. Preschool has started and this week the Lunch Bunch and Enrichment classes will begin. Drop in Volleyball and Basketball will begin this week as well as the next sessions of Fitness Classes. There is a Parents Night Out event this Friday. She did a Senior Trip to White Pines and will be doing another senior trip to Starved Rock next month. The Fall door to door flyers were delivered. Elite Soccer has begun their rentals at Salt Creek Lane. Trinity Dance did find a dance studio to host their classes and will not be renting our basement but will still move forward with the rental agreement for our new building.

**Marketing and Community Outreach Manager – Director Hilgers** – advised Kelly has been assisting with various programs and has been working on marketing and sponsorships. She has secured a \$500 sponsorship from Tesla and is working on collaborations with Freshie Seltzer and another senior living center in Palatine. She will be attending a Chamber of Palatine business expo next week to promote the Park District.

**Twin Lakes Assistant Facility Manager – Ashley Medley** – noted they are now in their fall hours; the club house is open from 8am-8pm and paddle boats on the weekends only from 11am-6pm till the end of the month. RoccoVino's will continue to be open from 11am-7pm. The fall golf league is currently going and there are a lot of high school clubs out on the course. Paint and Craft night will take place this week and Oktoberfest will be held October 1<sup>st</sup> from 1-4pm. She recently hosted the summer league banquet and had the most attendees with over 50 participants attending with great feedback.

**Sports Center General Manager** – advised leagues are starting up again. Tuesday/Thursday has 29 teams and Friday 40+ is at 10 teams. Saturday League has 6 teams, Sunday League has 32 as well as and additional 10 Dek teams rounding up to 90 Fall teams registered. Portages Lacrosse is done with their rental and averaged 75-100 paid tickets for their games. Elite Soccer will be starting their rental in November. The sports center hosted a tournament over Labor Day and took in around \$2400 in concessions. The first tournament of the year will be in November.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. TANJ Technologies Statement of Work** – Director Hilgers advised Todd Thorson has been our contractual IT consultant for approximately 20 years. With the threat of cyber-attacks Todd has implemented training and software to protect the district. He did a month's assessment of all our computers and we came in with a C average. He has recommended adding onto his statement of work, additional cyber security management. This would increase his monthly salary and wanted to present it to the board for discussion. After review, Commissioner Reiss asked to amend the agreement with the stipulation to negotiate a cap on price increases and contract annulment. Director Hilgers advised she will bring the contact back next month for the Board's approval.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS** – Commissioner Reiss asked when the parking lot for the Rose Park Project will begin. Chris Paisley said contractors will be working on the base and drainage, but the asphalt pour is scheduled

for April next year. Commissioner Nagel asked if summer camp will be going on while the old building is being demolished. Kelly Sisco said they do have concerns for summer camp as there will be no field or black top available and will have to decide on camp numbers and where each camp will be held. The commissioners revisited the comments of the residents again. Commissioner Nagel said he is very appreciative of the staff's involvement in the Rose Park Project and thanked everyone for the time and commitment they are putting into the project.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None

There being no further business, Commissioner Reiss moved, seconded by Commissioner West to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:44pm. The motion was carried unanimously on a voice vote.

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PAT MCGOVERN, SECRETARY

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PAUL NAGEL, PRESIDENT