

**Park District of Franklin Park  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Special Meeting – Change in Meeting Location  
Tuesday, November 24, 2020; 7:00 p.m.  
Centre at North Park, 10040 Addison Street, Franklin Park, Illinois 60131 and Remote Locations  
The public may only attend remotely and not in-person.  
Zoom Meeting Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85357013042>  
Meeting ID: 853 5701 3042  
Dial by your location  
1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

**PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the location of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois, scheduled for the 24th day of November, 2020, at 7:00 o'clock P.M., has been relocated to the Center at North Park, 10040 Addison Ave, Franklin Park, Illinois.**

**MINUTES**

**Call to Order at 7:04 p.m.**

President O'Connell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Physically Present: Commissioners AnneMarie Casas, Susan E. O'Connell, Michael A. Vonesh, Mark K. White and Joseph E .Zinga.

Also Present: Joseph D. Modrich, Director of Parks and Recreation and Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager.

Virtually Present: Thomas Hoffman, Attorney; Daniel LoCascio, Superintendent of Recreation; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Steven Selimos, North Park Manager; Kevin Meyers, Ice Arena Manager; Marco Galassini, Marketing & Communications Manager, Jennifer Costa, Parks Services Assistant and Nicholas Rhymes, Finance Assistant.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

President O'Connell determined that an in-person meeting was not practical or prudent due to the issuance by the Governor of a disaster declaration related to public health concerns in all or a part of the jurisdiction of the District, and the President stated that physical presence of members of the public at the meeting location was determined by the District to be unfeasible due to the disaster.

Access to the meeting was provided to members of the public to contemporaneously hear all discussion, testimony and roll call votes by the following means: Zoom Video or Call.

**Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda**

Manager Laskowski corrected Motion #2 to read \$1,076,675.

Director Modrich added DCEO Grants to New Business.

**Bond Sale Presentation by Aaron Gold from Speer Financial, Inc.**

Aaron Gold presented the General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds information. The Board thanked Mr. Gold.

Motion #1 by Commissioner Vonesh, second by Commissioner White to accept the bid from People National Bank of Kiwani, Kiwani, Illinois in the amount of \$1,076,675 with a 0.74% Net Interest Rate for the General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2020.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; O’Connell, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

**Bond Series 2020 - Ordinance #20-21-5/O**

Motion #2 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner Casas to adopt Ordinance #20-21-5/O, an Ordinance Providing for the Issue of \$1,076,675 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2020, for the Building, Maintaining, Improving and Protecting of Land Purchased or Condemned for Parks and the Existing Land and Facilities of the District, and for the Payment of the Expenses Incident thereto, Providing for the Levy of a Direct Annual Tax to Pay the Principal and Interest on said Bonds, and Authorizing the Sale of Said Bonds to Peoples National Bank of Kiwani, in Kiwani, Illinois.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; O’Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated October 27, 2020**

Motion #3 by Commissioner Vonesh, second by Commissioner White to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated October 27, 2020.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; O’Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated October, 2020 in the amount of \$138,982.32**

Motion #4 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Casas to approve the October, 2020 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$138,982.32.

Manual Bill Listings were reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O’Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

**Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated November, 2020 in the amount of \$41,533.89**

Motion #5 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner White to approve the November, 2020 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$41,533.89.

System Bill Listings were reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; White, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; O’Connell, yes. Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

No correspondence was received.

## **Reports of Officers and Commissioners**

Commissioner Casas thanked the Park District for saving Halloween with the Trick or Treat in the Park.

Commissioner Casas received numerous Ice Arena parent feedback. All participants stated the Ice Arena is their second home and expressed concerns about the Tier 3 mitigations impact to the Ice Arena.

One parent said their child is remote learning, and coming to skate is a way to see people.

Another said their child suffers from depression being on the ice gives them peace.

Another child is active and the ice fulfill their sensory needs.

Once child is very shy and skating has made her confident and made friends with Starr Blades.

Parents feel safe sending their kids, the Park District did a nice job at the Skating Camps, keeping everyone safe.

Several parents have offered their time to help with sign in and temperature checks.

All parents made the same plea "Please find a way to keep the Arena open, our children need something to look forward too."

Commissioner Zinga apologized for missing last month's meeting. He commented that the pavers in the front of the Ice Arena looks very nice. Thanked staff who worked on replacing it.

Commissioner Vonesh thanked and congratulated staff for all their hard work during these COVID changes.

President O'Connell also thanked staff for all they're doing to keep the Park District going. She has heard so many nice things

Commissioner White has heard positive feedback with the Halloween event. He thanked and applauded staff for all they are doing.

### **Recess for Public Comment at 7:23 p.m.**

President O'Connell recessed for Public Comment at 7:23 p.m.

There was no public comment.

### **Reconvene at 7:25 p.m.**

President O'Connell reconvened Public Comment 7:25 p.m.

### **Staff Reports:**

#### *Director*

Director Modrich echoed Commissioner Casas' comments. He has received similar comments / concerns from Hockey parents.

#### *North Park Manager*

Manager Selimos reported that CNN still has weekly pickups on Tuesdays. Meals on Wheels is running five days a week the only change is drivers can't enter the building the exchange is done outside in the rear of the building.

Dance class participants have all been given a credit refund for two weeks of the eight week session. Working on offering virtual workout classes until restrictions are uplifted.

Refunds are being processed for two clubs that paid for the month of December. Everyone else is paid up to date and we won't have to process a refund. If we would have stayed open most of the time slots would still be full.

Remote Camp was the only activity for the month in the Banquet Hall. All bookings are cancelled for the month of November and December 2020.

#### *Superintendent of Parks*

Superintendent Wick thanked Vito Menolascina and Jen Costa for helping remove and replace the snowflake at the Ice Arena.

Most leaves have been cleaned up some more work is to be done at North Park.

Tree trimming and landscape clean-up will begin.

The VAV box controller for Preschool was replaced and everything is up and running.

Parks Staff is preparing items for Winter and we will start decorating buildings next week.

#### *Marketing & Communication Manager*

Manager Galassini reported that we have the most recent draft of the Winter Spring 2021 brochure. We planned on publishing today, but due to the Tier 3 mitigations we need another round of revisions. We have all the brochure materials from Design Spring and can edit and re-upload versions as needed.

School Districts 81 and 84 continue to digitally distribute our program flyers. The districts and Remote Learning Day Camp received Winter Break Camp flyers. We also provided District 84 with a Remote Learning Day Camp flyer.

Marketing plans have been outlined for the Fitness Center upgrades based off the timeline Cody Nelson provided.

Our statement regarding the Tier 3 mitigations were shared on our social media channels and website and in the Franklin Park Community Connection Group.

Surveys for the Trick or Treat at the Park event were sent to participants and table hosts. Another survey was sent to Tot School, Playschool and Preschool parents to gauge their comfort level with continuing class.

A slideshow is being made for Leyden High School and the Chamber O'Hare's virtual job fair on December 2.

The website is up to date and we will continue updating residents as we navigate through current conditions.

*Superintendent of Finance & Technology*

Superintendent Bersani reported that the computers disposed of through Sipi Asset recovery and how they were sold to third parties. Such sale will result in 60% to the park district and 40% to Sipi. She is also inquiring as to what third party they were sold.

She discussed how upon the intergovernmental resolution with Cook County being signed hopefully the CRF Application will be successfully processed and we can receive the \$5,000 grant.

Superintendent Bersani informed the Board that \$37,000 in COVID supply expenses were submitted to FEMA for the Public Assistance Grant. I am still working on the payroll related COVID expenses.

She is hoping that Sikich will present at our December Board meeting, but it's a tight timeline given and she has not yet received a Draft to begin work on the MD&A.

*Superintendent of Recreation*

Superintendent LoCascio reported that Athletics are on hold for now. Had issues with Open Play so we are going to shut down for a couple weeks and allow supervised shooting only when it does resume.

Staff is getting ready for Fitness Center renovation and equipment delivery December 14.

Remote Learning Camp and Early Childhood Schools are doing well. We have stressed the importance of quarantining to families who are traveling out of state. Conducted a survey of pre-school and families are very happy we are still open and impressed by our safety. Remote learning has not seen an increase in registration since District 84 is going remote.

We are pleased with the result of Trick or Treat in the Park. Great feedback from survey. This event could replace Halloween Hoot. Santa Visits are sold out.

*Ice Arena Manager*

Manager Meyers reviewed the youth hockey league cancellation refunds.

Manager Meyers reviewed the plans to offer individual training sessions at the Ice Arena.

Manager Meyers commented how beautiful the paver work that was done by Superintendent Wick, Supervisor Menolascina and Assistant Costa.

Director Modrich explained plan to still keep the Ice Arena open with one-on-one training. It will start with Figure Skating only to see if it works. A discussion was held. The Board agrees this is something that should be tried. Commissioner White would like to see all Park District programs continue.

*WSSRA*

Director Modrich reported that Veteran's Park District is now a member. The Village of River Grove is still discussing.

**Unfinished Business**

*Community Center Renovation*

Director Modrich stated that Superintendent Wick's help with getting the project finished was unquestionably essential.

*Ice Arena Fire Update*

Director Modrich reported that Betty Dawson from PDRMA called him with some good news. The full claim was settled with the homeowner's insurance for \$300,000. \$265,798 will be going towards our claim.

*Fitness Center*

Superintendent LoCascio reported that equipment has been ordered and plans for the arrival are being made.

*Timber & Hawthorne Parks*

Director Modrich reported that the raised planter at Belmont / Hawthorne is coming down. Children are making forts.

*Budget 2020-2021*

Superintendent Bersani reported that we have received 95% of the budgeted property taxes with some still coming in.

*CV-19 Adaptation 2020*

Director Modrich stated that we received a PDRMA LRN Alert regarding the latest Tier. Director Modrich commented that all staff have been excellent in executing the new Tier rules.

**New Business:**

*Board Resolution for Cook County Grant Intergovernmental Agreement*

Motion #6 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner Vonesh to adopt Resolution #20-21-3/R, a Resolution authorizing the Park District of Franklin Park President to Execute an Intergovernmental and Subrecipient Agreement for Coronavirus Relief Funds with Cook County.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; O'Connell, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

*Ice Arena Fee Refunds*

Motion #7 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner Zinga to approve a refund for Ice Arena Hockey Teams for 66% of the individual program fee for each player in an approximate total refund amount not to exceed \$112,000 for the 2020-2021 Season, as a result of Covid-19 restrictions for competitive play and the current Tier 3 mitigations effective November 20, 2020.

A discussion was held regarding the refunds.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; O'Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

*IDCEO*

Director Modrich received a call from IDCEO staff regarding a \$500,000 Grant we were on a list for. We will start the process of providing documents. If we receive the grant it could be used for parks and facilities.

**Suggested Motions:**

There were no suggested motions.

**Required Signatures**

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

**Closed Session to discuss Personnel 2(c)1**

Motion #8 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner White to enter into Closed Session at 8:31 p.m. to discuss Personnel 2(c)1.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; O'Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

**Rise Out of Closed Session**

Motion #9 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Casas to rise out of Closed Session at 8:57 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Zinga, yes; White, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

**Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session**

**Building Permit Fees**

**Adjourn at 8:58 p.m.**

Motion #10 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner Zinga to continue / adjourn at 8:58 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; White, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

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Joseph E. Zinga, Secretary