

Wauconda Park District  
Board Meeting  
December 5, 2023  
Community Center

At 6:00 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Carr, Tallman, and Bianco were present, along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. JoAnn Freeman, Marketing Coordinator, and Island Lake resident was in attendance to observe the meeting.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes from November 14, 2023, was motioned by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

The approval of Executive Session Minutes from the November 14, 2023 meeting were tabled until the next meeting.

**Comments from the Public**

None

**Communications**

None

**Approval of Disbursements**

Approval of Disbursements from November 15, 2023 – November 28, 2023, in the amount of \$23,321.70 was motioned by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.

**Committee Reports**

A. Recreation – Director Babicz informed the Board that the fulltime recreation staff attended a training in Huntley on December 1. The focus of the training was staff retention and management. The Winter Program Guide is due out to homes later this week.

B. Finance – No report. Director Staton will have something for the Board at the next meeting. Commissioner Starkey asked that the Finance Committee meet to discuss some standardized reporting. Director Staton acknowledged that he would work with our accountants and Commissioner Carr to set a date.

C. Park Maintenance – The Parks Department continues to maintain all park sites. They have been busy the past couple of weeks putting up Holiday decorations, finished siding the Barn, and have begun work on building the new piers for the Bangs Lake Marina.

D. Wauconda Fest – Nothing new to report

F. Administration – Executive Director Staton reviewed his written report with the Board. Highlights included progress with the OSLAD Grant park design, upcoming Holiday Events, and the award of the LWCF Grant in late November.

Commissioner Starkey asked that a new agenda item be put on the agenda moving forward. This item is Strategic Plan Update and will be listed under Committee Reports.

### New Business

A.) Tax Levy Discussion - Staton shared with the Board his recommendation for moving forward with the tax levy. This year's levy increase will remain at 4.999% and due to the increase in the value of property in the District will generate an additional \$100,000 in revenue while decreasing taxes on an EAV of \$100,000 by approximately \$4.

B.) Staff Appreciation Party – Staton and Director Babicz discussed with the Board the possibility of having a staff appreciation party in late February, early March, and the idea of bringing longevity award recipients to Board meetings quarterly to be recognized. It was decided that staff who would receive a longevity would be invited to a recognition ceremony prior to the start of a Board meeting on a quarterly basis.

### Unfinished Business

None

### Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Tallman complimented the staff on the Holiday decorations at Phil's Beach. Commissioner Tallman and Commissioner Bianco attended the ribbon cutting at the Path of Honor on November 17.

### Executive Session

At 6:40 pm a motion to enter Executive Session for:

Personnel – Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)

Real Estate – Purchase or Lease (Buy) 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5) Setting Price for Sale/Lease 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (6)

was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded By Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

Issues to be voted on by the Board that were discussed in Executive Session.

None

### Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:20 pm was made by Commissioner Carr and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.