

Wauconda Park District  
Board Meeting  
October 10, 2023  
Community Center

At 6:00 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Tallman, and Bianco were present, along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. Commissioner Carr was unable to attend the meeting due to a conflict. JoAnn Freeman, Marketing Coordinator and Island Lake resident was in attendance to observe the meeting. Aaron Gold From Speer Financial was in attendance to review the results of the District's recent Bond sale. Lacey Larence from Hitchcock Design was in attendance to present a draft of the District's Comprehensive plan with the Board.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the Regular Session Minutes from September 26, 2023, was motioned by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

**Comments from the Public**

None

**Communications**

Staff received several correspondences from residents in the Orchard Hills subdivision regarding adding a pickleball court and rubber mulch to the park in this subdivision. Staton replied to the emails that we were developing our Comprehensive Plan which will include site improvements to all parks. Commissioner Berrelez inquired if rubber mulch was comparable to wood. Staton replied that it is more expensive.

Staff also received a letter from PDRMA Health notifying the District that due to the groups strong financial position a \$9700 reduction of the District's health insurance premiums would be take place starting in 2024, divided into twelve equal monthly discounts.

**Approval of Disbursements**

Approval of Disbursements from September 27, 2023 – October 10, 2023, in the amount of \$111,995.06 was motioned by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye. Commissioner Bianco asked about the waste stations added to the parks. Staton answered that the District added two more dog waste bag stations at Saddlewood and Meadowview Parks.

**Committee Reports**

A. Recreation – Director Babicz reviewed her written report with the Board, highlighting several Fall programs and upcoming events. Maps will be put out at the front desk for the upcoming Halloween House Decorating Contest.

B. Finance – Executive Director Staton will provide a report at the next meeting.

C. Park Maintenance – Staton reviewed Director Drinkwine's written report with the Board. The Parks Department continues to perform routine maintenance of all parks. Staff is preparing for the

installation of the HVAC units at the Community Center and taking the piers out at both marinas the following week.

D. Wauconda Fest – The next Fest meeting is scheduled for October 11 at 6:00 pm.

F. Administration – Staton reviewed his written report with the Board. Highlights include a discussion with the Village to create an IGA for the transfer of Memorial Park. The Triathlon Committee held a meeting last night and discussed additions to the event for this year's races, along with a discussion of increasing fees. Staton also provided an update to the Board on the FAQ page on the District's website. This will be complete in the next few weeks.

### **New Business**

A.) Audit Review – Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2023 - This topic was tabled until the next meeting.

B.) FGM Proposal – The Board would like to move forward with FGM's proposal. It should take FGM 4-6 weeks to complete their review and design. Before moving forward, the Board would like a Letter of Intent from the Village outlining the principles of the deal and should a compromise not be met, the Village will be responsible for 50% of FGM's fees.

C.) Comprehensive Plan Review – Lacey Lawrence, from Hitchcock Design was present at the meeting to present the final draft and layout of the Comprehensive Plan to the Board. The Commissioners had minor corrections to implement into the final plan. Overall, they were happy with the layout. The Board will approve the plan at the October 24 meeting.

D.) Ordinance 2023-06 - An ordinance providing for the issue of approximately \$233,420 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2023, of the District, for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving, and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding alternate bonds 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 the bonds and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchaser thereof. – Aaron Gold, from Speer Financial was present at the meeting to discuss the results of the October General Obligation Bond Sale. 1<sup>st</sup> Secure Community Bank was the low bidder with an issue of \$231,700 at 4.68%. A motion to approve Ordinance 2023-06 was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll Call: all aye.

E.) Osage Park Geotechnical Exploration Proposal – OSLAD Grant – As part of the preconstruction process for the Osage Park Redevelopment the District needs to conduct soil borings to determine if the ground conditions are suitable for construction. Hitchcock Design sent out an RFP for this work to be done. Two companies submitted proposals to the District. Following are the results of the cost of the proposals:

Soil and Material Consultants, Inc. = \$3208.00

Rubino Engineering, Inc. = \$7180.00

Staff's recommendation is to accept the proposal submitted by Soil and Material Consultants.

A motion to accept the proposal submitted by Soil and Material Consultants, Inc in an amount not to exceed \$3208 was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

F.) District's Health Insurance Plan Selection – Executive Director Staton provided the Board with information as well as an estimate on the cost of employee health insurance for the upcoming year. Insurance costs will be on the rise this year by approximately 4.6%. Staton's recommendation to the Board was to continue to offer the same coverage as we have for the past two years at a shared cost of 13% for the employee and 87% for the District. A motion to approve the Health Insurance Benefit options as presented by staff was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.

#### Unfinished Business

A.) Bangs Lake Marina Logo and Signage – Staff has asked the Board to take this off the agenda for future meetings as it doesn't pertain to the discussions of the Board currently. The Board agreed to remove this item from unfinished business.

#### Commissioner Comments

#### Executive Session

None

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

None

#### Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:12 pm was made by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Bianco. Roll Call: all aye.