

Wauconda Park District
Board Meeting
July 9, 2024
Community Center

At 6:00 pm Commissioner Starkey called the meeting to order. Commissioners Berrelez, Carr, Bianco, and Tallman were present along with Executive Director Staton and Director Babicz. The following members of the public were in attendance: JoAnn Freeman, Tom Bachhuber, Sarah Harck, Tim McClure, Ernie Losch, and Linda Braun.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the regular session minutes from June 11, 2024, was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

Comments from the Public

Tom Bachhuber read a statement from the Pickleball group regarding progression of Pickleball in Wauconda and offered some suggestions to the Board on how to add additional courts and amenities. The Board thanked Tom for sharing his insight.

Communications

Executive Director Staton shared with the Board the communications from the Wauconda Bulldog Pickleball Team. Communications also included Facebook posts acknowledging the great job the Parks Department did keeping the grounds clean during Wauconda Fest and the Fireworks.

Approval of Disbursements

Approval of Disbursements from June 12, 2024 – June 25, 2024, in the amount of \$83,375.25 was motioned by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.

Approval of Disbursements from June 26 – July 9, 2024, in the amount of \$174,870.35 was motioned by Commissioner Berrelez and seconded by Commissioner Carr. Roll Call: all aye.

Committee Reports

A. Recreation – Director Babicz reviewed her written report with the Board. Highlights included fourteen (14) teams participating in the Adults only Wauconda Fest Bags Tournament and eleven (11) teams participating in the Parent/Teen division.

The next Concert in the Park will be held on July 11 featuring American Cash, a Johnny Cash Tribute Band.

Seven (7) youth and/cultural arts classes are running this session with fifty-five (55) participants registered.

Our Summer t-ball league is starting on July 9. We currently have twenty-two (22) registered.

Babicz also shared camp registration numbers with the Board. Numbers show a steady increase in the first five weeks of camp compared to last summer.

B. Finance – Executive Director Staton reviewed the new Monthly Financial Report with the Board. Discussion on the format was held.

C. Park Maintenance – Director Drinkwine did not submit a written report. Director Staton reported that the Parks Department cleaned up after the Fest, set-up for the Fireworks, and has been catching up on mowing and general park maintenance. They will begin preparing for the Triathlon next week.

D. Wauconda Fest –Several changes were made to this year’s Fest including bag checks upon entry, no registration for the car show, and an increased budget for bands. Staton reported that he did not hear any complaints about the bag check. The car show had record numbers, and it doesn’t seem the increased budget for bands paid off on Sunday night by attracting a bigger crowd. A final financial report will be completed by the end of August and shared with the Board.

E. Administration – Staton reviewed his written report with the Board. He updated the Board on the on the handicap accessible pier roof, playground mulch completion, and Pickleball correspondence.

F. Comprehensive Plan – Nothing to report

New Business

- A. Approval OSLAD Grant Application and Bangs Lake Marina Master Plan – Staton presented the Board with a quote from Hitchcock Design to develop a Master Plan and complete an OSLAD Grant Application for the Bangs Lake Marina. After short discussion a motion to approve the quote provided by Hitchcock Design for an amount not to exceed \$24,500 for the Development of a Master Plan and completion of an OSLAD Grant Application was made by Commissioner Tallman and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez, Roll Call: all aye.
- B. Review of Speer Financial 2024 General Obligation Bond Planning Packet- Executive Director Staton reviewed the Bond Planning Packet with the Board. In October the District will reissue General Obligation Bonds to assist with capital improvement projects throughout the District. No action taken.
- C. Approval of 2025 Marina Pricing – Executive Director Staton reviewed with the Board Facility Manager Ftacek’s recommendation to increase the fees at both Marinas by 6% for the 2025 boating season. After a brief discussion, a motion to increase Marina fees

by 6% for the 2025 boating season was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Tallman. Roll Call: all aye.

Unfinished Business

Director Staton informed the Board that he received word that all of the parts for the crosswalk light should be shipped by July 17. Parks Maintenance will install the light once all parts are received.

Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Bianco and the other Board members wanted to thank the WaucondaFest Committee for their efforts over the four-day event. The Board also wanted to “Thank” Shelly Redensek for taking over the organization of the Craft Show at this year’s Fest.

Executive Session

The Board did not go into Executive Session.

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

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:28 pm was made by Commissioner Bianco and seconded by Commissioner Berrelez. Roll Call: all aye.