



## Elk Grove Park District Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

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October 27, 2022

5:00 p.m.

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President Cooke called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

In attendance: President Cooke, Commissioner Biedke, Commissioner Carlson, Commissioner O'Malley, Commissioner Walz

Staff: Ben Curcio, Kelly Carbon, Tiffany Greene, Mark Kosbab, Brad Sholes  
Kelly Repp

### **PUBLIC COMMUNICATION**

President Cooke shared a letter he received from School District 54 inviting him to the D54 Partnership Breakfast on November 16, at 7:00am. Executive Director Curcio said he also received the letter and will share it with the rest of the Commissioners.

### **DISCUSSION ON 2023 CAPITALS**

Director Sholes led the discussion on the 2023 Capital Project list. He said the total for all the projects is around \$6.9 million, but there are many rollover projects; Marshall Park being the biggest one. Director Sholes recommendation is a \$2.5 million bond issuance.

#### **PARKS**

Windermere Park Playground Replacement - President Cooke stated since that playground is located within the Schaumburg Park District boundaries, he does not want to put that much money into it. Commissioner Walz disagreed, and in fact suggested expanding the playground to include an ADA area since that park is huge and is used a lot. Commissioner O'Malley said that residents in the Windemere neighborhood utilize Elk Grove Park District programs. After further discussion, the consensus was four to one to keep this project in the budget.

Mead Softball Fields Renovation - Commissioner O'Malley asked who was pitching in money for this project to which he was told Softball was contributing \$8,000.

Marshall Park - WIth the additional amenities the cost of this project is just over \$2.9 million.

#### **FACILITIES**

Fitness Center Free Weight Area Redesign and Upgrade - Commissioner O'Malley does not think an additional four squat racks are needed.

Rainbow Falls Pool Deck Lighting - Commissioner O'Malley asked how much money the District would save by spending \$50,000 for LED lighting. Executive Director Curcio replied that he does not have a dollar amount, but LEDs are cheaper than the lights we currently have. The current lamps are in bad shape and we can no longer get parts for them. Director Curcio also stated that the District will apply for a grant for this project.

Rainbow Falls Refrigerator and Freezer Replacement - Commissioner O'Malley asked if RoccoVino's was pitching in for the cost. Director Sholes replied that it is in our agreement with them that we will provide those. The agreement is up with them so we can look into adding that in our next agreement.

### **Fox Run Golf Links**

Commissioner Walz asked about the fencing around the course. He was told that contractors started on holes #2 and #3 on Monday. They will move on to holes #7 and #8 next and finish up with hole #14.

Maintenance Material Storage - Commissioner O'Malley questioned if this was for aesthetics instead of functionality. Director Sholes replied that water seeps through the cement blocks that are currently there and gets the sand wet. A permanent concrete wall will prevent this.

Commissioner O'Malley asked if any tree replacement was being budgeted for. Director Sholes replied that he did not put any money in the budget for that. Director Kosbab is doing a tree inventory now.

### **ADA Parks & Facilities**

Commissioner Biedke inquired about a digital sign at Stevenson School. Director Kosbab replied that there is no power there. The sign can be updated, but it cannot be digital. Executive Director Curcio added that to have electricity there, we would need service and a transformer. Director Carbon said those signs draw a lot of power. Commissioner Biedke would like staff to look into this and give his numbers on the cost anyway.

### **Removed Projects**

Audubon Park Baseball Field Lighting - Commissioner Walz asked if Audubon Lighting would ever stand a chance. Director Kosbab replied that staff sent out a survey and the responses were an overwhelming no.

### **Big List (5 Year Plan)**

Fox Run Pond Dredging - Director Sholes will get better pricing on pond dredging for 2024.

Ballfield LED Lighting Replacement - Commissioner O'Malley does not agree with the \$1.5 million dollar price tag to replace these lights. Executive Director Curcio informed him that the District is spending \$10,000 a year for the bulbs they use now.

Director Sholes reminded everyone that the Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 1, at 5:00pm.

## **DISCUSSION ON TAX LEVY**

Director Sholes started by reviewing the information provided to the board, starting with the prior year's tax levy. The district usually receives the prior year's final tax levy in July, but because of the delay in the property assessments and distributions of final tax bills, the district has not yet received it. That document is typically our starting point for tax levy calculations for the next tax year.

Director Sholes then discussed how collections of personal property replacement tax (PPRT) are drastically above budget and historic collections. At this time, Director Sholes believes this increase is temporary and should not factor into long term financial planning and recommends using the unbudgeted portion of collected PPRT for capital improvements.

Another new factor in the tax levy discussion was the introduction of change in the property tax code that allows for flexibility to the park district by providing an option for these taxing bodies to forgo increasing the annual tax levy by the CPI growth without losing the opportunity to capture that growth forever. This new optional mechanism is subject to specific restrictions such as a 3-year recapture limitation and a 5% cap on the increase over the district's tax extension for the prior year.

The board discussed factors including the increasing cost of staffing and minimum wage increase impact, supply costs increases, the expectation of significant utility cost increase with expiring utility contracts and the continued high level of inflation. Options were discussed ranging from levying the maximum amount allowable at 5% to not increasing the levy. The board consensus was to increase the levy 4% pending the receipt of the final tax year 2021 levy calculations.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

The Souder Point project is done and ready for the dedication. Commissioner O'Malley will call Ralph to see when he would like the dedication to take place. Director Carbon said she would like a two week lead time to send out invitations.

Executive Director Curcio said that Attorney Hoffman will update the Board on the Kenneth Young Agreement at the Regular Meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Cooke reminded the other Board Members to let him know prior to two days in advance if they cannot make a Board Meeting.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Carlson moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Commissioner Biedke seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners Biedke, Carlson, O'Malley, Walz and President Cooke  
Nays: None

**Motion Carried**