



Elk Grove Park District Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2021

5:00 p.m.

President Cooke called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.

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

Absent: Commissioner Carlson

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

DISCUSSION ON TAX LEVY

Director Sholes said the PTELL increase was 1.4%, which equates to just under \$190,000. He explained that the preliminary worksheet that he provided to the Board does not include any increase. Director Sholes also said that IMRF and Social Security have been fluctuating. Director Sholes concerns are inflation, and minimum wage increases as well as an increase in healthcare costs. The District's Rep said to prepare for a 25% increase in healthcare rates. The consensus of the Board was to increase the levy 1.4%.

DISCUSSION ON 2022 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Director Sholes started the discussion by saying he recommends a \$2.5 million bond issuance, along with other sources of funds. President Cooke asked for the total dollar amount of all capitals that were submitted. Director Sholes replied the list started at \$6.7 million but they trimmed it down to \$5.1 million. Capital projects that were discussed include:

Audubon Park Lighting and MuscoVision - Commissioner O'Malley does not feel this project is necessary for a number of reasons. He said it is light out until 9pm in the summer, baseball numbers are down, and the fields would only be used three to four months out of the year. Commissioner O'Malley also questioned after the taxpayers pay for the installation, who will be paying the electric bill. He asked if there were any other projects we could do with the \$250,000. Commissioner Walz said the price was a little higher than he thought it would be but this would be a signature park. He added that the season goes from the beginning of April to the beginning of June and it is not light until 9pm during that time. Commissioner Biedke stated that the District does things to improve areas for residents and this enhancement will provide enjoyment. President Cooke agreed this is a lot of money and said the park is close to a residential neighborhood. He asked if this project was community or staff driven. Executive Director Curcio replied this project is on the 5-year capital list from last year. He said if the price is too high, the MuscoVision can be taken out to lower the cost to about \$180,000. Commissioner Biedke suggested waiting to continue this conversation when Commissioner Carlson could be included in the discussion.

Community Athletic Fields Announcer Booth Improvements - Commissioner Biedke asked if a new sound system could be added. Executive Director Curcio replied that a new sound system has already been done.

Morton Park Shade Structure - Commissioner O'Malley would like Director Kosbab to talk to Ralph Souder about this project.

Rainbow Falls Toilet Bowl Ride - Commissioner O'Malley stated this has been an ongoing issue for twenty years. He stated \$42,000 is a lot of money and wanted to know how long it will last.

Fox Run White Vinyl Split Rail Fencing - Commissioner Walz suggested staff order the material and get under contract right away. Commissioner O'Malley questioned if the fencing was being replaced for safety or for aesthetics. Commissioner Walz replied for both reasons. Executive Director Curcio said we could probably hold off on holes #4 and #14. Commissioner O'Malley asked if staff had thought of anything else to do at Fox Run. Executive Director Curcio responded there are two things on the radar; pave by the practice area, and beautification around hole #18. Director Sholes said there is \$20,000 in the operating budget for that and more money in the budget for the inside of the building. Commissioner O'Malley asked about tree improvements to protect the fairways. Director Sholes replied that Jeremy Duncan will be adding some trees as noted in capital project #60. Commissioner O'Malley asked if there was money in the operating budget for trees. Director Kosbab responded that the money in the operating budget is for park trees. The Golf Course trees will come out of the project budget. Director Sholes will update the capital project amount from \$7,000 to \$23,000.

Rainbow Falls Digital Message Board - Unrelated to this location, Commissioner Biedke asked if signage could be added at Community Athletic Fields by the ADA ramp so people know it is there. Director Carbon said this could be done in the spring.

Vehicle Replacement - President Cooke asked if we can order electric trucks. Executive Director Curcio suggested starting with Director Kosbab's vehicle. Director Kosbab said this would be a great time to look into electric vehicles to see how well an electric truck will work. Director Sholes doesn't think we could get them for 2022 since it will take time to order them. President Cooke wants to hear more about electric trucks before approving two new gas trucks. Commissioner Walz would like to find out what we could get for Director Kosbab's vehicle if we sold it out right.

Technology - Commissioner O'Malley asked who holds Dustin and Ryan accountable for expenses and if they ever thought to wait a year because technology changes every year. Director Sholes responded that he knows what questions to ask. He said the biggest expense will be the automated secure entrance control systems at PAC and the Fitness Center entrances. Director Sholes said they are necessary due to having less employees as a result of minimum wage. Director Sholes said six early childhood classrooms will also be getting Smart Display boards with touchscreens.

Paving & Lighting - Commissioner O'Malley asked what is budgeted for a parking lot at Marshall Park. Executive Director Curcio replied that it is already in the project cost.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Johnson announced at the Village Board Meeting that he was no longer going to require masks anywhere in Elk Grove Village. Executive Director Curcio asked the Board if they want the Park District to follow the Mayor or continue with the mask requirement in our facilities. President Cooke said the Mayor cannot mandate our facilities. Commissioner Walz said if the State of Illinois comes in and sees our patrons without masks on, they won't care what the Mayor said. Commissioner Biedke said the Health Department is in control and asked how the Mayor has the right to say this. Director Curcio replied that he doesn't and the State has the authority to shut the District down if they found us in violation. President Cooke said the District should continue to follow the CDC guidelines and the mask mandate. Director Sholes suggested telling our patrons that the Mayor stated every business in Elk Grove would still have the right to require masks and the District is choosing to exercise that right. Commissioner Walz would like signage with that exact verbiage posted.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Walz moved to adjourn the Committee of the Whole meeting at 6:55 p.m.

Commissioner O'Malley seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners Biedke, O'Malley, Walz and President Cooke

Nays: None

Motion Carried