



**THE LISLE PARK DISTRICT  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
REGULAR MEETING- Remote via Zoom  
October 15, 2020**

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:** President Cook called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. via remote access, stating the pursuant to State of Illinois Executive Order 2020-07 suspending the requirement of in person attendance by members of the public body, the October 15, 2020 Regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners will be held using remote participation. President Cook, Commissioner Olson, Director Garvy, and Superintendent Silver present at the Lisle Park District Recreation Center Multipurpose Room, 1925 Ohio Street, Lisle, IL 60532.

Director Garvy Called Roll:	Commissioners Present via telephone remote access:	Altpeter Richter
	Commissioner Present in person:	Cook Olson
	Commissioners Absent:	Ferron
	Staff Present in-person: Director of Parks & Recreation Superintendent of Finance	Garvy Silver
	Also Present via telephone remote access:	
	Superintendent of Recreation	Pratscher
	Cultural Arts, Rental & Office Manager	Nadeau
	Superintendent of Restaurant & Golf	Shamberg
	Superintendent of Parks	Cerutti
	Recreation Program Manager	Breihan
	Athletic & Youth Camp Manager	Wise
	Youth & Early Childhood Manager	Jehs
	Recreation & Fitness Manager	Jayne
	Marketing Specialist	Kosartes
	Facilities & Safety Manager	Mendez

**II. PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

A public comment was received from Mr. Tom Hummel via email. Director Garvy summarized his comment, stating Mr. Hummel is happy to see the Sea Lion Aquatic Park plan to open in 2021 and hopes the boat launch finally comes to fruition next year. Mr. Hummel's comment also stated he does not believe the park district should be

allocating for an additional IMRF payment and he is 100% opposed to the recommendation to not abate the taxes for the Enterprise Fund.

#### **IV. APPROVE MEETING AGENDA**

Commissioner Altpeter moved to approve the meeting agenda for the regular meeting for Thursday, October 15, 2020. Commissioner Richter seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Altpeter, Richter, Olson, Cook

Absent: Ferron

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

#### **V. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

Commissioner Altpeter moved to approve consent agenda items A, B, and C.

A. Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 17, 2020.

B. Approve the October 2020 Voucher List in the amount of \$137,283.25.

C. Award Lisle Park District auditing services to Sikich, LLP for fiscal years ending December 31, 2020 through 2024 in the amounts of \$17,500; \$18,025; \$19,120; and \$19,695, respectively.

Commissioner Richter seconded the motion.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Altpeter, Richter, Olson, Cook

Absent: Ferron

Nays: None

Motion Passed.

#### **VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

#### **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

#### **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. 2021 Budget Draft-Discussion

Director Garvy summarized staff's memo contained in the board packet, stating it is recommended to preserve a larger revenue over expense figure to be able to accommodate what are sure to be large fluctuations in revenue and expense projections, avoid a repeat performance of the scrambling and mayhem created this year, and to be able to respond quickly should pandemic restrictions be either further tightened or loosened. He said through conversations with some of the commissioners, he realizes there are concerns with the Enterprise Fund bonds and staff's recommendation to not abate those taxes. He said staff is prepared to change their recommendation, adjust the budget, and welcomes discussion on that and any other questions or concerns.

President Cook asked how the Lisle Park District is doing compared to other districts. Director Garvy replied that in ongoing discussions with other district directors, he feels Lisle is about in the middle of the road, but he reported he feels Lisle is providing a bit

more by way of special events, mentioning Scarecrow Scramble, the concert in the park and the drive in movie with the other public agencies earlier in the summer. Director Garvy commended staff on their creativity and working with what the state guidelines allow. He stated staff hopes to expand camps and special events and the District wants to offer as much as it can, but participation is down.

President Cook asked if the District would open other buildings when things improve. Director Garvy stated that is exactly why staff is recommending the higher revenue over expense budget, saying that should this occur, staff will be able to quickly turn on a dime and ramp up services such as expanding camps, special events, and facilities and hiring necessary staff, providing comprehensive yet swift staff training that will likely result in higher overtime costs, and purchase needed materials and supplies that could likely be in short order.

Superintendent Silver stated that for example, because the museum does not have revenue coming in the District will have to utilize funding from the Corporate or Recreation funds should the opportunity to re-open the buildings be presented.

Commissioner Altpeter stated she understands the reason for having the extra money but considering the current climate, she would still prefer to abate the enterprise fund taxes and push back the parking lot improvements for another couple of years if possible. Superintendent Silver replied staff is comfortable with abating the taxes and can make that adjustment but reported the Corporate and/or Recreation funds will have to make that payment. Commissioner Altpeter stated she likes the idea of trying to construct the boat launch because it is an outside activity and will be popular and important considering the limits on indoor activities.

Commissioner Altpeter asked what the maintenance costs are at Wheatstack, saying it does not appear to have anything budgeted. Superintendent Silver stated the maintenance costs are budgeted on the golf side not restaurant, bathrooms, facility inspections, and regular cleanings will still be maintained.

Commissioner Olson stated he agrees with Commissioner Altpeter and the public comment. He said he understands it is a challenging year and appreciates looking for revenue, but the board needs to balance the other side with taxes. He said the enterprise fund debt is scheduled to be paid off in 2021 and asked if there are any plans to reissue additional debt. Superintendent Silver replied there are no plans from staff to do so. Commissioner Olson added he is concerned with the parking lot work being funded through the enterprise fund and asked if it can be funded through the corporate or recreation funds. He said staff has had to make a lot of difficult cuts but is inclined to agree with Commissioner Altpeter to abate those taxes. Superintendent Silver stated he fully understands the Board's directive and supports it.

Commissioner Altpeter asked if there have been any projections on new growth. Superintendent Silver reported DuPage County projects a .5% increase in new construction, but he has not spoken with Lisle Township Assessor but believes it will be very little. Director Garvy reported there has been very little new growth within the Village as evidenced by the lack of receiving any impact fees. He said he asked Village staff if there had been a change in their distribution of impact fees and was informed there has not, it is just that there has been very little residential development in 2020.

Commissioner Olson asked about the virtual brochure and if would continue to be only digital in the future. Superintendent Pratscher reported the electronic version allows for ultimate adaptability with changes due to changing conditions and allows staff to make

additions as programming opens. Marketing Specialist Kosartes added that the marketing team is tracking and monitoring the virtual brochure open rates and views and will continue to track engagements. Commissioner Olson stated the ability to quickly adapt is something he better appreciates now. He said he appreciates the effort to move forward with Sea Lion Aquatic Park operations, adding it was certainly disappointing this year because the weather was near perfect. He asked if the budget is a worse case scenario. Superintendent Pratscher stated weather and the unknown sentiment of the residents' willingness to re-engage are uncertain at this time. He said staff has seen some growth recently, but he admitted registration is so limited with such limited offerings. Superintendent Silver stated if there was no revenue coming in, the Sea Lion Aquatic Park loss would be \$263,000.

Commissioner Altpeter asked if the District will continue with Movies in the Park. Superintendent Pratscher said yes and it is structured in a way to take reservations and make revenue while bringing the community together in limited numbers.

Commissioner Altpeter asked about allocations for personal protective equipment. Facility & Safety Manager Mendez it is allocated in the liability fund. Superintendent Silver stated it is under tab7 page 2, COVID supplies in the amount of \$6,000. Superintendent Pratscher stated the recreation fund also has additional allocations for COVID supplies built within each program budget.

President Cook mentioned there is no revenue allocated in the lifeguard line. Superintendent Silver reported the District will no longer be charging them for their license fee.

Commissioner Olson asked if there will be flexibility to open for events at the museum. Director Garvy responded that the District is retaining a cushion so staff will be able to respond at a moments notice to open more facilities and provide programming and events to the extent possible and permissible.

Commissioner Olson stated this year is tough to have the additional IMRF contribution, saying the District is well funded. He said he is certainly appreciative and thinks it is important, but again this is a difficult year and going above and beyond is tough. Commissioner Altpeter said she echoes Commissioner Olson's opinions. She said she appreciates Superintendent Silver's efforts but has a hard time justifying another payment considering how funded the district is right now and knowing how uncertain we are with this year. Superintendent Silver stated he no issue with taking it out of the budget. He said his intent was to take advantage of the market, saying IMRF can make more than the park district but this is not an issue and not a necessity and he can remove it from the fund. Director Garvy stated Commissioner Ferron had recommended it be removed altogether to reduce the tax burden. Commissioner Olson said that in a more certain year, the direction would likely be to adjust downwards for tax savings, even though the tax savings is nominal, but this year, it is the uncertainty of revenue on the programming side. He said he can get comfortable maintaining the same dollar amount and maintaining a cushion, but he would like it in the recreation fund because of the concern with recreation fund revenue. He said he can support the reallocation but understands if there is a desire of Commissioner Ferron to remove it altogether. Commissioner Altpeter said she would rather see it in place elsewhere to be able to grow programs if possible. President Cook stated it can be moved out of IMRF and into another fund. Commissioner Richter stated the District can boost IMRF during good times to handle bad times, and we are in a bad time right now. President Cook thanked the other commissioners for their comments and directed staff to move it to the recreation fund.

Commissioner Richter stated he also supports the enterprise fund abatement for the same reasons that were brought up earlier. Superintendent Silver stated he will make that adjustment for the next draft of the budget.

Commissioner Olson stated he wanted to make sure it was clear to the community that the boat launch is not allocated entirely in the capital fund and it is not all funded through taxes. Director Garvy reported a portion of the project is funded in the special recreation fund with the balance allocated in the capital projects fund. He said the grant from the IDNR and the contribution from the Lisle Partners for Parks Foundation are allocated in the appropriate revenue lines in the capital project fund, which totals \$95,000. Director Garvy reported the IDNR recently replied to his inquiry about the solidity of the funds and the reimbursement timeline, saying he was informed the funding is intact and reimbursement is best sought in September -December. He said construction would likely be completed in July and August, making reimbursement request timing in September or October. Commissioner Olson said that generally a down economy is a good time to engage in capital projects and is supportive of the launch, adding he is hopeful bids will be favorable. Commissioner Altpeter said she also supports the launch and has been excited, disappointed, and is excited again to be able to provide another outdoor recreational opportunity. Commissioner Richter agreed, and suggested the District consider the construction of a small gazebo or picnic shelter in the location of the previous veteran's memorial. He said that location is relatively close to the launch location and feels it would be used not only by potential paddlers, but by anyone in the park, saying that location offers a beautiful view of the park. He said maybe there can be an economy of scale if it is included in the boat launch project bid. President Cook asked staff to investigate that opportunity.

President Cook asked if while performing tennis court maintenance if pickle ball lines will be installed. Director Garvy replied that will be the intent moving forward.

There were no further comments. President Cook thanks the board for their input and thanked staff for their work completing the draft. Superintendent Silver said he will update the budget and budget books for everyone.

## **IX. STAFF REPORTS**

President Cook referenced the River Bend report and said how disappointing it is to see nothing for Wheatstack. He said he knows it is because of COVID, but it is very disappointing. He commended Superintendent Shamberg, saying this is his last meeting before his departure at the end of the month. He said he has learned firsthand that running a restaurant is a cray business but Todd has handled the operation with a positive attitude, has always been upbeat, has tried very hard to make it work and he did make it work. He said Todd always made it easy to plan an event and was great to work with. He said for himself and for his family, thank you Todd. Commissioner Altpeter said she cannot thank Superintendent Shamberg enough for all he has done, commending him on his hard work and dedication, he has tried new approaches, has cultivated countless relationships, and never said no to anyone. She said he will be completely missed by her and her family as they shared many of their major accomplishments at Wheatstack, saying there will be a hole in her family's heart. Commissioner Richter said Todd worked so hard year after year to improve the economics and to see it go up in a puff of smoke is sad. He said he is sorry it is working out this way and wishes him the best of luck. Commissioner Olson said he cannot really add anything that has not already been said. He said this is disappointing in so many ways and hopes the horizon gets brighter sooner than later. Superintendent Shamberg thanked the Board for their kind words, saying it has been a wonderful nine years. He

said it has been challenging yet fun and he has been able to work with great people, both staff and board.

#### **X.PARTNERS FOR PARKS REPORT**

Commissioner Altpeter commended Manager Jayne for jumping on board and running Scarecrow Scramble. She said it was a nice event and she made a great effort with sponsorships.

#### **XI.SEASPAR REPORT**

The SEASPAR report is included in the Board Packet.

#### **XII. OFFICER REPORTS**

##### **A. President, Commissioner Cook**

##### **B. Treasurer, Financial Reports ending, August 31, 2020**

Superintendent Silver stated the District's investments are all collateralized or FDIC insured. The District Enterprise Fund is up by \$180,000 in revenue due to the successful year for golf. He reported the recreation fund is behind last year at this time by \$285,000.

##### **C. Commissioners' Reports**

Commissioner Richter stated Scarecrow was a great event with good attendance and he was happy to see batman again.

Commissioner Olson said he did not personally attend the Scarecrow Scramble, but his daughter participated, and he appreciated having it.

#### **XIII. ADJOURN OPEN MEETING**

Commissioner Olson moved to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:26 p.m. Commissioner Richter seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.