

BOARD MINUTES
November 18, 2024

A public hearing for the proposed property tax increase for the Hickory Hills Park District Truth & Taxation hearing of Board Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on November 18, 2024, at the Cynthia Neal Center, 8047 W. 91ST Place, Hickory Hills, Illinois.

The following commissioners were present: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Absent: Zalas. Also present were Jennifer Fullerton, Executive Director, Zach Ingalls, Maintenance Manager, Tammy Muth, Business Manager, and Angel Sanchez, Recreation Manager. Residents: Ibarra family.

No comments were made.

Commissioner Czarny moved, seconded by Commissioner Peterson to adjourn to the regular board meeting. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Absent: Zalas. The public hearing was adjourned at 7:02p.m.

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on November 18, 2024, at the Cynthia Neal Center, 8047 W. 91ST Place, Hickory Hills, Illinois.

The following commissioners were present: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Absent: Zalas.

Also present were Jennifer Fullerton, Executive Director, Zach Ingalls, Maintenance Manager, Tammy Muth, Business Manager, and Angel Sanchez, Recreation Manager. Residents: Ibarra family and Hernandez family.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Czarny moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the corrected minutes of September 16, 2024. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

Commissioner Czarny moved, seconded by Commissioner Kosnick, to approve the minutes of October 21, 2024. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Halloween House Decorating Contest Winners were presented as follows:

- 1st place was won by the Ibarra Family (8800 W. 89th Street) and they received a \$100 gift card to Fasano's.
- 2nd place was won by the Furlan Family (9260 S. 79th Ave) and they received a \$50 gift card to Fasano's.
- 3rd place was won by the Hernandez Family (8200 W. 90th St.) and they received a \$25 gift card to Fasano's.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nothing to report.

MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Ingalls presented the maintenance report, and it was placed on file. The maintenance staff have started putting up the new garland in the gym. Commissioner Peterson asked if the sump pumps came in for the splash pad. Mr. Ingalls said not yet.

RECREATION REPORT

Mr. Sanchez presented the recreation report, and it was placed on file. Three people participated in the first Pumpkin Decorating Contest. The Wicked Themed pumpkin won. Commissioner Czarny asked if we go to

other casinos in addition to Four Winds. Mr. Sanchez said we have been going to different ones and there is a new casino that we are going to this Friday. Four Winds offers the best incentives, which are for free slot play and food for a \$3 charge. We are also going to the Waukegan casino which is in the next Winter/Spring brochure.

Commissioner Kosnick asked if you could investigate a grant for the Homeschool program. You can be creative with the title, so it doesn't have to be homeschool. Commissioner Morgan said the Homeschool program has been around for 30 years, and they must sign up and have a curriculum that they must follow. You can write your own grant and see if it matches any funding. Commissioner Czarny said some religious organizations have Homeschool programs. The curriculum might show some grants. Ms. Muth said they are coming to our dance program for social reasons, and they are finding different places to go. Mr. Sanchez said he will investigate a grant for this.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Ms. Muth presented the administrative report, and it was placed on file. Mini School will start again next year. Concession sales were lower than in the past two years so we will keep an eye on them. The big time of selling concessions is during full-day camp. The kids appreciate having the items to purchase. The Trunk or Treat event at City Hall was well attended. The park district staff dressed up as three different colors of Gatorade. We handed out Gatorade, tambourines, and some candy so everyone walked away with something.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Kosnick, to approve Claim Ordinance 832. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved. Commissioner Morgan made note of the Investment Report of October 31, 2024, which includes the US Treasury statement. Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the Operating Statements for October 31, 2024. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Osborne Park OSLAD Grant Construction Project:

Here is a recap of the Osborne Park Project expenses:

Estimated total project cost was \$483,400

Received from IDNR (before construction began) \$120,850

Total Project Cost (not audited yet) \$386,097.10

Interest \$4,316.53

Total due to HHPD from IDNR \$67,882.02

The final reports for the grant were sent to the auditor today to do the Attestation. Ms. Muth looked over the documents and suggested darkening up some purchase orders but everything else looked good with no mistakes. She had to review it because she also had to sign to Attest the documents. After the auditor review then it will be sent to IDNR for the final payout of \$67,882.02.

Paid Leave Act:

Cook County is still in discussions regarding the Paid Leave Act. There was a letter sent to the Cook County Commissioners signed by 65 park districts to request an exemption for park districts, and this will be presented at the November 20th Cook County meeting. A separate letter was sent to Cook County Commissioner Donna Miller regarding the cost Hickory Hills Park District will have to pay for the paid leave act, which is approximately \$9,000 a year. The Paid Leave Act policy will give part-time and seasonal employees one hour

of vacation time for every 40 hours worked. The State of Illinois has exempted park districts, so it is just Cook County that has not exempted park districts. Commissioner Czarny doesn't think \$9,000 is a lot of money. Mr. Ingalls asked if the amount would go up every year since the staff get raises. Director Fullerton said yes it would go up and would be approximately \$9,000 for 2025. Commissioner Kosnick asked if we could wait until next month. Director Fullerton said the next board meeting is December 16 and it may not be enough time to get it in the Paylocity software to start on 1/1/25.

Commissioner Kosnick moved, seconded by Commissioner Czarny, to approve ORDINANCE 2024-281 APPROVING PAID LEAVE FOR ALL WORKERS POLICY and if the paid leave ordinance is amended by Cook County to exempt park districts, then these policies would be rescinded, and the previous policy would remain in effect. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, to approve the change of the vacation policy waiting period for new full-time employees from six months to 90 days to mirror the Paid Leave Act, and the section for part-time employees that begins with, "Part-time year-round staff will be entitled to vacation time after one year of employment..." will be replaced with this policy and the Longevity section that has Year Round Part-Time and Seasonal will receive vacation time of One Half Bonus Vacation Days based on years of service will be removed. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

HVAC Bid 2024:

2010 Engineering gave us eight vendors that will be sent the HVAC bid. We added two additional vendors for a total of 10. The pre-bid meeting will be on December 3. Mr. Ingalls and Director Fullerton will be in attendance. The engineer will be invited to attend. The bid notice was placed in the Daily Southtown newspaper, put on the park district's website and the bid documents are at the front desk at CN. The bid acceptance will be on December 10. Commissioner Kosnick asked where Nicole Karas is located. Director Fullerton said she is with Robbins Schwartz. Director Fullerton said she thought her office is in Oak Brook (confirmed after the meeting, Nicole Karas is in Lisle).

New Federal Overtime Rule:

The new Federal Overtime Rule has been blocked so there is no need to pass this.

Consolidated Election:

The three current commissioners filed for the election and no one else. The order on the election ballot will be Sandra Morgan, Patrick Kosnick and Joshua Czarny. The Certificate of Ballot will be sent on Wednesday. The mail didn't come today nor on Friday, so we want to make sure there isn't any election filing sent through the mail today. Ms. Muth checked and said the mail came today and there was no election filing in the mail. Director Fullerton distributed an email from David Freeman that explains not to ask the Election Authority to file paperwork for a commissioner or a candidate filing for the election. Director Fullerton said you can't file before the election period because it is a law that it has to be so many days before the election that filing can begin. The time of filing is from 9am-5pm because those are office hours for the CN building. You can mail the election paperwork or have a family member, a friend, or anyone else other than the Election Authority file it for you. The Executive Director and the Business Manager can't file for a candidate since the Business Manager is the Deputy Clerk for the election and the Director is the Election Authority.

Tax Levy:

The tax levy resolution had all the figures in it and was presented and approved last month. Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Czarny to approve AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE LEVYING, ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2023 OF THE HICKORY HILLS PARK DISTRICT COUNTY

OF COOK, ILLINOIS BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS OF THE HICKORY HILLS PARK DISTRICT, COUNTY OF COOK, ILLINOIS:

SUMMARY

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|--|-------------------|
| CORPORATE FUND | 595,047.00 |
| RECREATION FUND..... | 595,047.00 |
| POLICE FUND | 4,000.00 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FUND | 1,000.00 |
| SPECIAL RECREATION FUND..... | <u>209,209.00</u> |
| Total Amount to be Levied in All Funds | \$1,404,303.00 |

Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

Executive Director Search:

Commissioner Kosnick moved, seconded by Commissioner Czarny, to approve to change the wording under Qualifications in the Executive Director current job description and replace it with #1 and #2 under Qualifications of the Executive Director job posting which are as follows: A bachelor's degree in park and recreation administration or related field. A master's degree is preferred. Administrative experience in parks and recreation or similar field as well as Certification as a Park and Recreation Professional (CPRP) is preferred.

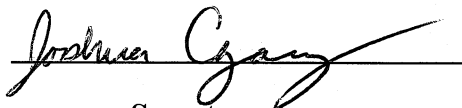
There was a discussion regarding the health insurance for the new Executive Director. The health benefit package will be determined by the Board once candidates have been interviewed and it is time to negotiate the salary and benefits with the new director.

Closed Session Review:

Commissioner Peterson moved, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, that the closed session minutes have been reviewed and no closed session minutes will be released at this time under the CLOSED SESSION-REVIEW, APPROVAL AND/OR RELEASE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES UNDER SECTION 2(C)(21) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

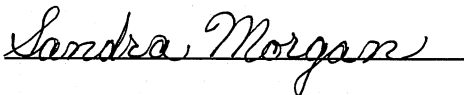
Commissioner Kosnick moved, seconded by Commissioner Peterson, to adjourn to the next regular board meeting. Ayes: Czarny, Kosnick, Morgan, Peterson. Motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17p.m.



 Secretary

ATTEST:



President