

Regular Meeting Minutes of the
Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners
November 21, 2023

President Goshorn called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. The President led the Pledge of Allegiance and asked for roll call. Commissioners present: Chrissie Popper, Gerry Crews, Aaron Dalzot, Vicki Paddock, and Jim Goshorn. Commissioners Absent: none. Also present: Susie Kuruvilla, Executive Director (via phone); Mike Wick, Director of Recreation; Kraig Owens, Director of Parks; Mike Szpylman, Director of Business Services; and Jennifer Gilbert, Director of Marketing and Community Relations.

The truth-in-taxation hearing notice was published in the Daily Herald on November 10, 2023. The proposed tax levy for 2023 is \$7,067,441, an 8.5% increase from the 2022 tax extension. The levy for the corporate and special purpose funds is estimated at \$5,891,527, which is 9.45% higher than the previous year. The total estimated debt service levy is \$1,175,914. Since the total increase in estimated tax levy including debt service is estimated to be higher than 5%, a truth-in-taxation hearing is being held at this time. The proposed 2023 tax levy is based on an estimate of \$1,401,253,135 Equalized Assessed Valuation, which is an 8.5% increase from the 2022 EAV. The new construction amount is estimated to be \$45,201,714. The consumer price index is over 5% and is capped at 5% as part of tax cap.

Keep in mind that the percentage increase in the tax extension amount is an estimate at this time and it is only due to the increase in EAV mainly as a result of new construction in our community as well as CPI.

The estimated tax rate for 2023 is .504, which is the same as the 2022 tax rate.

No public comments were made and the hearing was adjourned.

A motion was made by Paddock to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 17, 2023. The motion was seconded by Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Dalzot, Popper, Paddock, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the total bills, payouts, and payroll in the amount of \$1,022,963.93 presented on November 21, 2023, was made by Gerry Crews and was seconded by Chrissie Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Dalzot, Popper and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent: none. Motion carried.

The financial report and treasurer's report were reviewed.

The President opened the floor to visitors; there were no visitors present.

Department Directors reviewed their written reports with the Board.

Director of Parks Kraig Owens reviewed the parks report. Owens reported that the softball dugout project was wrapping up. Preparations were taking place for FitNation roof repair. The team installed lights in a number of high impact areas in preparation for Holiday Lights event.

Director of Recreation Mike Wick reviewed the recreation report. Wick reminded the Board of the upcoming Black Friday sales buy two months, get one free. President Goshorn commended the staff for the 10 Year Anniversary Event and what a great celebration it was! He then introduced Diane DeLorenzo and Amanda Kochenash who shared the Annual Aquatic Center Report.

Director of Business Services Mike Szpylman reviewed the business services report. Annual health insurance premiums were discussed.

Director Jennifer Gilbert reviewed the Marketing and Community Relations report. Director Gilbert introduced new Graphic Designer Giosi Galati to the Board. Galati shared about her education, background and excitement to join the district.

Executive Director Susie Kuruvilla reviewed her report. Kuruvilla discussed major projects and accomplishments in progress including updating the board on the Comprehensive Strategic and Master Plan. She reported that the survey will be coming out to the community in December.

ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Paddock to approve the annual tax levy ordinance #23/24-2 and seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Crews, Paddock, Popper, Dalzot, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. none. Motion passed.

Director Mike Szpylman introduced Aaron Gold from Speer Financial, and he explained the bond sale. The bond proceeds are used to fund prior debt obligations and capital projects. A motion was made by Chrissie Popper to approve Gurnee Community Bank to issue the bonds at an interest rate of 4.35% and was seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Dalzot, Popper, Crews, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. None. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Crews to approve Ordinance #22/23-3 for the issuance of \$1,011,680 in general obligation limited park bonds series 2023 of the Gurnee Park District and for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest of said bonds and was seconded by Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Paddock, Popper, Crews, Dalzot, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. none. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Chrissie Popper to approve Categories of Services as presented and was seconded by Gerry Crews. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Dalzot, Paddock, Popper, Crews, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. none. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Aaron Dalzot to approve the Personnel Policy Manual as presented and was seconded by Vicki Paddock. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Dalzot, Paddock, Popper, Crews, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. none. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Crews to appoint Jim Goshorn as delegate for the IAPD annual business meeting on January 27, 2024 and Vickie Paddock as the alternate delegate. and was seconded by Chrissie Popper. Roll call vote taken. Ayes: Dalzot, Paddock, Popper, Crews, and Goshorn. Nays: none. Absent. none. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Crews and seconded by Dalzot. On voice vote, all voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

James G. Goshorn, President

Aaron Dalzot, Secretary