

COLOMA TOWNSHIP PARK DISTRICT
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 14, 2014

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Coloma Township Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Park District Office located at 508 East 11th Street in Rock Falls, Illinois.

Present: Commissioners Sigel, Bubbers, Stindt, and Nehr Korn
Absent: Commissioner Walker (Medical Reasons)
Also Present: Michael P. Sterba, Director of Parks & Recreation

Commissioner Bubbers motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Monthly Board Meeting of September 9, 2014 as presented. Commissioner Nehr Korn seconded the motion, roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Commissioner Stindt motioned to approve the September bills in the following amounts:

| | | |
|------------------------------|----|------------|
| Corporate Fund | \$ | 198,847.44 |
| Liability Fund | | 1,893.86 |
| Recreation Fund | | 4,477.74 |
| Retirement Fund | | 3,787.68 |
| Bond Construction # 32 Fund | | 22,968.34 |
| Museum Fund | | 871.63 |
| Bowman Park Development Fund | | 141.23 |
| Police Fund | | 3,893.46 |
| Total | \$ | 236,881.38 |

Commissioner Bubbers seconded the motion. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

The following is a listing of the Work Fare People from Coloma Township, Whiteside County Probation Office, Project Chance, Department of Human Services, Experience Works and Partnership for Employment that have worked for us the past month. Also included are total days worked in September and in 2014.

| | Coloma TWP | Best | Probation Dept. | Whiteside County Housing | Dept. Human Services | Experience Works | Partners/ Employment |
|-------------------|------------|------|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Days in September | 10 | 21.5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| Days in 2014 | 142.5 | 135 | 48 | 12 | 10.75 | 0.00 | 9.75 |

Coloma Township: Corinna Bell, Richard Holcomb, Dan Knorr, and Steve Ward
Housing: Monique Lehman
Best: Dustin Cook and Brandon Davis

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the next meeting of the Rock Falls Recreation Trail Committee – Proposed Walking/Bike Path/Hennepin Canal Committee will take place on Thursday, October 8th, 2014 at 12:00 PM at Rock Falls City Hall. Sterba plans on attending that meeting to see what progress has been made in the ongoing Trail planning and construction.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the restroom facility and ADA upgrades at Dillon Park are moving along very well. All of the concrete surfaces on both the first and third base sides have been installed. The contractor is now working on the new restroom/storage facility. Sterba would suspect by the time the board meeting arrives that most of that building will be up and enclosed. They are laying the block as we speak. The electrical updates are slowly moving along but they will probably not occur as quickly due to the electrician waiting for the new building to be completed. Sterba suspects barring any major weather complications that the

project will easily be done by the deadline of November 15th. During the course of the project we have had a few issues come up. Fortunately they have been resolved as the project proceeded. Something that changed significantly on the third base side was one of the elevations needed to be changed and thus additional concrete had to be poured as a cap inside the dugout. Sterba has discussed this problem with President John Sigel and he will tonight let you know his feelings on what needed to be done. One other issue that occurred was the city did a great job upgrading the electrical system at the park, but also created another problem. The primary electric that runs under the ball diamond had deteriorated enough where Dick Simon the director of the Rock Falls electric department was not willing to splice the wire into the new transformer recently installed. Thus we are forced to run a new secondary wire around the outside of the diamond to pick up the ball diamond lights for next year. Sterba will update the Park Board at the meeting about what needed to be done in order to have the current lights functional for the 2015 season.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that there was nothing new to report since the last Park Board meeting in regards to the Centennial Park Street Lighting project. The City of Rock Falls has not been able to do much work over the last month due to storms and other projects that have priority. Sterba will keep the Park Board informed on progress being made on the Centennial Park Street Lighting project.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Youth Recreation Corps Grant Program concluded on August 31st. Over the last month the park staff has been filling out the proper forms to bring the grant program to its final conclusion. Enclosed please find the summary documents for the Park Board's review outlining what dollars were granted and what needed to be sent back to the state due to not having enough time or people to spend all the money. Overall the project was a great success again for the Park District and we hope again to do it next year. Hopefully the new governor, whoever that may be, will start the program at a much more reasonable time than this year.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the Park District has just been informed by Bill Block, the director of the Illinois Elks Club out of Chatham, Illinois that we will receive a new ADA handicap wheelchair swing grant. Sterba is in the process of providing him with the appropriate documents so that the Park District will receive reimbursement for the ADA handicap wheelchair swing. Sterba will be ordering the swing so that there is not a big delay in the Park District receiving the piece of equipment. If we get the swing at a reasonable time this fall we will try to get it installed and possibly even have a dedication ceremony this year. If not, we will make sure it's ready to go first thing in the spring.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the Park District is still working on the logistics to get the house on the new Sam Akiti property torn down. Right now the biggest hold up is Nicor gas. We are trying to get a firm date for when they will disconnect the gas line at the main in the street. When we get that date we can contact the City and let them know the final date so that they can have the water, sewer, and electric all disconnected. We have also been slowly removing some of the brush and trees as labor is available.

In regards to the purchase of the property itself we seem to have an issue with the property owners at the south end of the site. Enclosed please find copies of the survey that the Park District had done in order to make sure that we knew exactly where our property stakes were located. As you can see on the site survey, Mr. Rivera who owns the property to the west of the main drive, has encroached on the Park District property. Mr. Rivera has located a fence, part of a swimming pool, and a satellite dish steel structure support about 20 feet south of his property lines. Sterba has brought this to the attention of the Park District attorney Greg Schott and he is going to be sending a letter to Mr. Rivera explaining that we would like the apparatus removed from the Park District property. Also, the property to the east of the main drive has a mill wire fence that is also located a few feet onto Park District property. Unfortunately after talking with Mr. Schott, the Park District may have a problem in the sense that the current property owners have been using what is now the Park District property blatantly for the last 20 years or more. They may be able to take possession of the property under what is called "Adverse Possession." Greg Schott is researching the law to see what we need to do to try to acquire our property back, but he also says they may have grounds to continue to use Park District property under this "Adverse Possession" law. Sterba will explain a little bit more at the Park Board meeting and if need be the Park District attorney Greg Schott will attend a future meeting to explain to the Park Board how we may go about securing our property.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the installation of the new bench and plaque for John Dorenbos' wife is in progress.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that he and Mr. John Sigel recently attended a meeting in Sterling in regards to the possible future development of Lawrence Park. Commissioner Sigel will explain what happened at the meeting and where the development will go from here.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the next Park District election will occur on Tuesday April 7, 2015. Commissioner Bubbers and Stindt are up for six year full terms and Commissioner Nehrkorn is up for a two year unexpired term of Leo Nardini. Sterba has prepared the election packets for all three of the commissioners. Filing dates for the petitions does not occur until December so there is plenty of time for each commissioner to acquire the signatures that they need.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$7,446.35 from the Illinois Department of Revenue. The check represents the Park District's Personal Property Replacement Tax Distribution for the months of August and September.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$60 from the Turnroth Sign Company. The check represents the annual sign royalty for an advertisement sign located in the south-east corner of Logan Park.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$200 from Schreiner Oil Company of Rock Falls. The check represents a sponsorship fee for the annual tennis tournament held in June.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented a letter from IPARKS stating that they have retained an attorney by the name of Mr. Robert Muhr to represent them in the recent vandalism case that the Park District has experienced at both Centennial and Sieglinger Parks. Mr. Muhr is going to proceed civilly against Mr. Keefer and Mr. Kiersney to see if the insurance company can get some of their money back. Sterba thinks they have a very low possibility of collecting any of their lost payments but we will see.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the parents of Jerry Bellini who passed away a few years ago came to see us about a memorial. They have decided to put in a memorial plaque and bench at Wallingford Park to honor their son. That bench and plaque will be installed sometime early next spring.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a letter from the Whiteside County Collector. The letter states that the county direct deposited \$216,541.08 into the Park District General Corporate Fund. The dollars then will be separated out over the Park District's twelve accounts by the Park District's bookkeeper. This is the fourth tax distribution of five for tax year 2014.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$200 from Wheelock Furniture Company. The check represents a sponsorship fee for the recent Todd McThenia Tennis Tournament with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Fund to serve local residents.

Director Michael P. Sterba stated that Mr. Dan Arickx the superintendent of District 13 recently emailed an overhead view of the new parking lot property located just west of Dillon School. The property outlined in blue was owned by the City of Rock Falls and donated to the School District so that they could build a parking lot to service Dillon School. The new parking lot recently installed does not encroach on Park District property.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$2,094 from IPARKS insurance company. The check represents payment for vandalism done to the lions head drinking fountain at the Lions Shelter.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a check for \$10,000 from the Dillon Foundation. The check represents the fourth out of five \$10,000 grants given to help underwrite the expenses for the new restrooms and storage facility and ADA compliant requirements at Dillon Park.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a letter to the Dillon Foundation requesting their annual donation of \$10,000 for Bowman Park.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a photo that recently appeared in the Daily Gazette in regards to the Sondgeroth donation. Cindy Sondgeroth our tot time instructor and her sister, recently donated hanging flower baskets for the Commissioners Garden. The hanging baskets are all silk flowers so that they will last for a number of years. The flowers will be brought in for the winter for safe keeping.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented copies of a thank you letter from the Rock Falls Community Development Corporation. The letter is in regards to the help the Park District provided on the recent "Bridge the Community" run.

Commissioner Bubbers motioned to enter into a public hearing in regards to the Park District's sale of \$260,000 general obligation bonds for park improvement. Commissioner Stindt seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried. President Sigel then asked for any comments both pro and con in regards to the Park District's sale of \$260,000 worth of general obligation bonds for park improvement. Hearing none, Commissioner Sigel then asked for the public hearing to be closed. Commissioner Nehr Korn motioned to come out of the public hearing. Commissioner Bubbers seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Commissioner Bubbers motioned to put out for bid the sale of \$260,000 worth of general obligation bonds to be issued on December 1, 2014 with a one year maturity date. Bids are due back at the November 11, 2014 Park Board meeting as presented in the bid documents. Commissioner Nehr Korn seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Director Michael P. Sterba stated that the bid notices would be sent to 11 local financial institutions for their response as well as to be published in the Daily Gazette as required by law.

Director Michael P. Sterba reported that the annual 2015 IAPD/IPRA annual state conference will be held Thursday through Saturday January 22nd-24th at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Those interested in attending should please let Sterba know so that he can make the appropriate reservations.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented some information in regards to the annual JC's polar plunge. They have requested the use of Centennial Park for the polar plunge which is a fundraiser that generates money for Christmas presents for disadvantaged children in our area. After reviewing the documents from the JC's, Commissioner Bubbers motioned to allow the JC's to host their annual polar plunge on Saturday November 22nd at Centennial Park boat docks as requested. Appropriate safety measures will be in place so that all concerned will be safe. Commissioner Stindt seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion carried.

Director Michael P. Sterba presented his monthly Director's report to the Board.

IPRA also sent us their monthly Board Meeting Minutes for our review.

The Park District has received the weekly newsletter from the Rock Falls Chamber of Commerce for our review.

Commissioner Nehr Korn motioned to adjourn the Park Board Meeting. Commissioner Bubbers seconded. Roll call vote, all ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the Park District Office located at 508 E. 11th Street Rock Falls, Illinois 61071.

Adjournment at 8:30 PM

Minutes Submitted by
Michael P. Sterba
Director of Parks & Recreation

Date

Donald E. Stindt, Secretary
Coloma Township Park District
Board of Commissioners