

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SKOKIE PARK DISTRICT
AUGUST 20, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE AT MEETING

Board Members Present: President Susan Aberman
Vice President Ezra Jaffe
Commissioner Antonia Kasalo-Terihaj
Commissioner Courtney Williams

Others Present: Executive Director/Secretary Michelle J. Tuft
Superintendent of Business Services William G. Schmidt
Superintendent of Parks, Planning & Facilities Corrie Guynn
Superintendent of Recreation Breanne Labus
Assistant Superintendent of Recreation Mary Amato
Marketing and Communications Director Jim Bottorff
Executive Administrative Assistant Ann Perez

CALL TO ORDER

President Aberman called the regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners to order at 6:00 p.m. President Aberman called for the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no citizen comments.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The Consent Agenda consisted of the minutes of the July 16, 2024 Board Meeting, bills payable for the month of July/August 2024, Treasurer's Report, and Staff Reports.

APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF LAWLER PARK TO MIKE REID PARK

Executive Director Tuft requested approval to change the name of Lawler Park to Mike Reid Park. Ms. Tuft said there will be a dedication ceremony on Saturday, September 21 with the time to be determined. Ms. Tuft said there will also be a grand re-opening of the park as it was renovated.

Vice President Jaffe asked if the signage will be available, and Ms. Tuft said she believes it will be ready. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj asked if food could be provided, and Ms. Tuft will make sure refreshments are available. President Aberman said many people from the community will be attending.

Commissioner Williams moved to rename Lawler Park, Mike Reid Park. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR 2024 ASPHALT IMPROVEMENTS

Superintendent Guynn requested approval of Change Order #1 for 2024 Asphalt Improvements for Gleiss Park, Pooch Park, Oakton Park, and Gross Point Park. He explained all of the changes in detail. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj asked about the dip on Oakton Street at the entrance to Skokie Sports Park. Mr. Guynn explained that the road is Village of Skokie property and hopes it will be repaired in the next year or so.

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj moved to approve Change Order #1 from Obsidian Asphalt Paving for \$21,932.14 for the 2024 Asphalt Improvements project. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR LAWLER PARK CONSTRUCTION

Mr. Guynn requested approval of Change Order #1 for Lawler Park Construction. Mr. Guynn said the silt fence, temporary construction, and stabilized construction fence were not needed so there are credits for the project. The original contract price was \$422,530 with total deductions of \$26,620 reducing the contract to \$395,910.

Vice President Jaffe moved to approve Change Order #1 from Hacienda for a deduction of \$26,620 for the Lawler Park construction project. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR THE LAWLER PARK
SYNTHETIC TURF INSTALLATION**

Mr. Guynn requested approval of Change Order #1 for the Lawler Park Synthetic Turf Installation. The change order is for nailer boards which secure the turf around the boarder of the concrete pad.

Commissioner Williams moved to approve Change Order #1 from Perfect Turf for \$1,650 for the Lawler synthetic turf installation. Vice President Jaffe seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER #1 FOR SKOKIE SPORTS PARK IRRIGATION

Mr. Guynn requested approval of Change Order #1 for Skokie Sports Irrigation. The deduction is for eliminating a small portion of the proposed irrigation system originally bid. It was determined that irrigation was not necessary in the grass area between the main path and the temporary tent and brick tee area. The original contract price was \$128,800 and with the change order the contract price will be \$125,800.

Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj moved to approve Change Order #1 from Halloran & Yauch for a deduction of \$3,000 for the Skokie Sports Park irrigation installation.

Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUND 11 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS EXPENSES

Mr. Guynn requested the approval of additional funds not currently budgeted in the Capital Improvement budget. Mr. Guynn explained that there is an issue at Laramie Park with foul balls hitting the cars in the hotel parking lot. The solution is to add netting directly above home plate. Vice President Jaffe asked Mr. Guynn to get input from the baseball leagues and coaches and see what their thoughts are before installing the netting.

Mr. Guynn explained the golf ball issues at Weber Park Golf Course. The condo building to the east of the course is complaining of errant balls hitting the parking lot and going into their pool. The proposed solution is to add netting along hole #9 along the width of the green. There was discussion and it was determined that Ms. Tuft should speak with the condo representative about sharing the cost of the netting and report back to the board at the next meeting. President Aberman did not think it appropriate for the board to approve paying the full cost.

President Aberman tabled the approval and said it will be discussed at next month's board meeting.

ROBERT W. RUHE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Superintendent of Recreation, Ms. Labus, reminded the board that they had requested additional information on how the Ruhe Scholarship funding would be used. She explained that the funds will be used for families experiencing life-altering financial situations and can be used for SPACE and summer camp, which are the costliest programs. The information will be listed on the Fee Assistance website page and the Fee Assistance Coordinator will oversee the applications. Currently there is \$5,000 in the fund and the district will receive additional funding for a total of \$10,500. Ms. Labus said if the board knows of any families in need to please refer them to her.

Ms. Labus shared the plan with the Ruhe family, and they were happy with the process and appreciative that they are able to honor their father with the Robert W. Ruhe Scholarship Fund.

No motion need, for informational purposes only.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The next regular meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners is Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Tuft said there will be an Efficiency Committee Meeting before the board meeting. Ms. Tuft will send the Efficiency Committee template to the new board members.

Ms. Tuft reviewed agenda items for the September board meeting. They are Skokie Sports Park East Input with a presentation from the consultant, appointment of the new board member, a Bond Issue Notification Act hearing, and an executive session.

Vice President Jaffe asked about the Backlot Bash sponsorship and Mr. Bottorff said the Sponsorship Manager has collected over \$55,000.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

President Aberman said the Hot Dogs in the park and National Night Out were fabulous. Commissioner Williams said it was her first time attending Hot Dogs in the Park and everyone did a great job. Several community members told her that they look forward to it and enjoy it. Commissioner Kasalo-Terihaj agreed that everyone does such a great job, and it was super fun.

DIRECTORS COMMENTS

Ms. Tuft informed the board that the Human Resource Director, Stephenie Gualano, had her baby boy earlier this morning. Everyone was very happy for her.

OLD BUSINESS

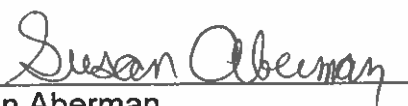
There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

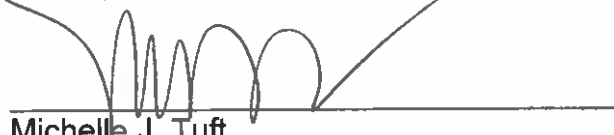
There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE REGULAR MEETING

Vice President Jaffe moved to adjourn the regular meeting. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried. The regular meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Susan Aberman
President



Michelle J. Tuft
Secretary

September 17, 2024