

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF DUPAGE
DARIEN PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING**

March 10, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

Acting President Noverini called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of the Darien City Hall, 1702 Plainfield Road, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Frank Noverini, Neil Christensen, Ray Jablonski, James Tikalsky

ABSENT: Nancy Campagnolo

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Chris Katsougris; Assistant Director, Robert Strickler; Superintendent of Parks, Matt Henderson; Sportsplex General Manager, John Murphey; Attorney

Guests: Sarah Marchmont, *Suburban Life*

PUBLIC COMMENT & GUESTS

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

A. Public Hearing for 2007-08 Amended Budget & Appropriations Ordinance

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received copies of the amended 2007-08 budget. She reported that this public hearing is occurring due to the \$7.5 million bond issue and related expenses for construction.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Amended Budget was posted on February 29, 2008 and the notice of public hearing published in the March 1, 2008 *Suburban Life Newspaper*. She reported that this will be on the agenda for the April Board Meeting.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Commissioner Tikalsky made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to close the public hearing for 2007-08 Amended Budget & Appropriations Ordinance.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Tikalsky, Christensen, Jablonski, Noverini

NAYS: None

Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.

B. Public Hearing for 2008-09 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the budget was discussed in detail at the February 25, 2008 Committee Meeting and placed on display on Friday, February 29, 2008 and notice of public hearing published March 1, 2008 in the *Suburban Life Newspaper*.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is anticipating receiving \$2,333,948 in tax dollars in 2008-09 which is a 2.91% increase from 2007-08. She reported that the District will receive \$49,009 more in operating funds and no change in bond funds from last year.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is budgeting a 4% increase in revenues over last year and a 4% increase in expenses. She reported that the District is anticipating spending \$2,713,183 for capital projects in 2008-09 which includes \$150,000 for the purchase of Fairview School and continuing payments on the remodeling of Fairview School.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Sportsplex budget shows an anticipating net income of \$1,155 which includes debt payments of \$969,378 and capital projects of \$47,542. She stated that the Sportsplex budget has revenues about 7% higher and expenses about 10% higher than last year. She further stated that the Sportsplex budget also shows the expenditure of the bond funds for the continued expenses on the installation of the 3rd sheet of ice this year.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that this will be on the agenda for the April Board Meeting.

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Jablonski to close the public hearing for 2008-09 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Jablonski, Tikalsky, Noverini

NAYS: None

Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

Commissioner Christensen reported that the Board received the Economic Interest Statement from DuPage County. He asked that each member complete the statement and file by May 1st.

OFFICER REPORTS

- A. **President** – No report.
- B. **Vice President** – No report.
- C. **Secretary** – No report.
- D. **Treasurer** – Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer’s report ending February 29, 2008.

Commissioner Jablonski made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Tikalsky to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the month ending February 29, 2008.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Jablonski, Tikalsky, Christensen, Noverini

NAYS: None

Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE REPORT

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed Sportsplex. She reported that Mr. Dave Phillips from Speer Financial was present at the meeting to discuss a possible refunding of the series 1996 debt certificates, due to lower interest rates. She further reported that the Board agreed to explore the refunding further and use the savings to fix the parking lot at Sportsplex.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed rental rates for Sportsplex including rates for the Ice Rinks, Field House, and Chalet Room as well as Ice Contracts for the next three years. She reported that both items were placed on the consent agenda. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board also discussed the 2008-09 Budget Draft for Sportsplex.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed rental rates for park pavilions, rooms at the Community Center, and rates for the new fitness center and that the Board agreed to place them on the consent agenda. She reported that the Board also discussed the 2008-09 budget draft and a resolution to transfer excess reserves to the capital fund. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed a new job description for a Fitness Center/Athletic Supervisor, as well as change orders for the current construction project. She reported that the Board agreed to place the items on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board announced that the 2007-09 Amended Budget Ordinance and the proposed 2008-09 Budget & Appropriations Ordinance would be on display no later than March 7, 2008 and that copies were available for viewing at the Darien Park District Community Center. She reported that the Board discussed new policies for the Personnel Manual and agreed to place them on the consent agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed a resolution to change Commissioner term lengths from 6 years to 4 years. She reported that the Board directed the Attorney to prepare the resolution. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board agreed to place this item on the consent agenda with the change to take place with the April 2009

election. She further reported that the next Committee Meeting was scheduled for April 28, 2008.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

None.

STAFF REPORTS

A. Executive Director/SEASPAR

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she spoke with Speer Financial regarding the Sportsplex Bonds and stated that she will await the parking lot quote before finalizing the refunding.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the quote for the parking lot is somewhere between \$200,000 - \$325,000. She stated that if a number is determined prior to the next Committee Meeting that a Special Meeting can be arranged to discuss further.

B. Assistant Director

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the 1st Moonlight Egg Hunt is scheduled for Friday, March 21st at Darien Community Park. She stated that Darien families must pre-register to join and that the deadline for registration is Thursday, March 20th. Assistant Director Katsougris stated that the local businesses are donating prizes and stated that residents can stop by the Community Center for more information or to register.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 22nd at 9:00 a.m. She stated that hunts for Darien Park District residents age 8 and under will take place at Darien Community, Lindenwood, South Grove, Smart Oaks and Westwood Parks. She thanked the Darien Lions who help assist with crowd control and with hiding the eggs.

Assistant Director Katsougris announced that the Breakfast with the Bunny will also take place on Saturday, March 22nd. She announced that the location is yet to be determined and the deadline to register is Monday, March 17th.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the summer brochure will be mailed to residents on March 27th with registration beginning April 14th. She reported that the summer brochure contains 3 Concerts in the Park featuring the Neverly Brothers, a local neighborhood band, Formerly Doxi and 215 West. She further reported that a movie in the park will be held on Saturday, July 12th.

C. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Deldin reported that the Board received a copy of her report. She reported that the credit card processing has been transferred and that the fees are now less.

D. Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Strickler reported that February was a very busy month for snow removal.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that Superintendent Strickler would be presenting an update with some photos of the progress at the Community Center.

E. Sportsplex General Manager

Executive Director Gurgone reported that because of a recent auto accident there is phone outage at Sportsplex. She stated that residents should contact the Community Center at 968-6400 or email the General Manager at mhenderson@darienparks.com.

General Manager Henderson reported that the phone company informed him that the phones should be working by Friday, March 14th.

General Manager Henderson reported that staff is finalizing the details with Full House Productions for the 2008 Home Show. He reported that this will be the last event for the season due to construction.

General Manager Henderson reported that staff will be posting signage for the walkers by the first week of April, indicating that walking will be unavailable during construction. He reported that staff will also be posting informational updates on the website as well.

General Manager Henderson reported that the concession stand is under new management and that they appear to be heading in the right direction. He stated that the service appears better and that presently the new manager is keeping the menu simple but that she has talked about adding other things. General Manager Henderson stated that overall it is a positive change.

General Manager Henderson reported that he was not able to print out photos of the construction at Sportsplex because of the phone and internet outage. He reported that he will provide an update at the next meeting.

Commissioner Noverini asked how Amye McPherson is working out.

General Manager Henderson reported that she is actively pursuing advertising and that the position appears to be a good fit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT (for consent agenda)

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Tikalsky moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Jablonski to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

Warrants, February 11, 2008 Meeting Minutes, Rental Rates for Sportsplex; Ice/FH/Chalet Room, Ice Contracts for 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, Rental Rates for Parks, DPDCC, Fitness Center, Reserves Transfer Resolution #2007-08-03, Fitness Center/Athletic Supervisor Job Description, ESG Change Orders, Commissioner Term Length change to 4 years, Resolution #2007-08-04 and New Personnel Policies for Manual.

Commissioner Christensen reported that the Board agreed to reduce the Commissioner length from 6 years to 4 years.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that this will begin April 2009 with one open position.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Tikalsky, Jablonski, Christensen, Noverini

NAYS: None

Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Contract with Knutte for Audit Services for 2008-2010

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board received the proposal from Knutte & Associates to continue performing the annual audits for the next three years. She reported that staff is happy with their services and that their rates are very competitive. Executive Director Gurgone reported on the fees for 2008, 2009 and 2010.

B. Ordinance 2007-08-11: An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2007 to pay the principal of and interest on \$7,500,000 General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2007B of the Darien Park District, Dupage County, Illinois.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the 2007-08-11 is an abatement for the 2007 \$7.5 million bonds. She reported that this will be an annual abatement ordinance approved and filed with the county.

C. Public Comment (before vote)

None.

Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Tikalsky to approve the contract with Knutte & Associates for Audit Services for 2008-2010 and to approve Ordinance 2007-08-11.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Christensen, Tikalsky, Jablonski, Noverini

NAYS: None

Acting President Noverini declared the motion carried.

Superintendent Strickler provided a brief construction update with photos of the Community Center.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the roof replacement will begin April 1st. She reported that Phase I should be completed by mid-April and Phase II is anticipated to be completed by the end of August or early September.

Superintendent Strickler also reported that the Skate Park has been opened and that it will be monitored on a daily basis depending on weather conditions.

CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Tikalsky that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Frank Noverini, Acting President
Darien Park District

Ray Jablonski, Secretary
Darien Park District