

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

February 27, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

President Jablonski called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. at the Darien Park District Community Center, 7301 Fairview, Darien, Illinois.

ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

PRESENT: Ray Jablonski, Luanne Spiros, Frank Noverini, Cathy Marchese

ABSENT: Sylvia McIvor

Staff: Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Matt Henderson; Director of Parks and Facilities, Nancy Strathdee; Superintendent of Finance, Jordan Rossi; Sportsplex General Manager

PUBLIC COMMENTS & GUESTS

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that she received correspondence regarding a public hearing for plans for nine buildings of townhomes near Southgrove Park. The buildings are in Woodridge, but border DPD property. She further reported that she received correspondence from the City of Darien requesting to install a Route 66 monument sign near Smart Oaks Park for the 100 Year Anniversary of the Route 66.

There was some discussion regarding the sign location and if the location should be in a residential area. There was discussion about placing the sign in an area which may draw tax revenue for Darien, such as in front of the restaurants on Cass Avenue or by the brewery on Frontage Road. There was also discussion regarding liability and the mission of the District.

Commissioner Frank Noverini suggested the area on Cass Avenue near the Shell Gas Station. Commissioner Cathy Marchese reclused herself from the discussion.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she would speak with the City and report back with an update.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she received correspondence from Mr. Brian Liedtke regarding Darien Fest.

President Ray Jablonski stated that the correspondence from Mr. Liedtke should have been addressed to the Board and it was inappropriate to accuse staff of making the decisions. He stated that Darien Fest is discussed yearly and that the District is always open to working with the Chamber and the City of Darien and that he felt that the Board has worked with them to his satisfaction as a Board member.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that she spoke with Commissioner McIvor, who stated that the best location for a festival is not where it impacts local residents (as it does at Community Park, where residents directly surround the park) and where it would not damage natural green space.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that she has not received any other correspondence from anyone else asking that Darien Fest return to Community Park. Commissioner Marchese stated that she believes that the Chamber and City are happy with the present location. The Board discussed that President Jablonski would draft a response, and Executive Director Gurgone would forward to the Board for any comments before sending.

Commissioner Marchese reported that she received correspondence regarding a resident interested in the flag pole at 802 Plainfield. Director Matt Henderson reported that he would have to look at the plans and if the flag pole will remain. He reported that he needs to look at the condition of the pole as well.

OFFICER REPORTS

- a. **President** - President Ray Jablonski reported that he will be attending the Community Action Committee Meeting on March 11th.
- b. **Treasurer** – Commissioner Cathy Marchese presented the Treasurer’s report ending December 31, 2022 and the January 31, 2023.

Commissioner Noverini made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report ending December 31, 2022 and January 31, 2023.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Noverini, Spiros, Jablonski, Marchese
NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

- c. **Commissioner Reports** – There were no Commissioner reports.

ATTORNEY’S REPORT

There was no attorney report.

STAFF REPORTS

- a. **Executive Director/SEASPAR**

Executive Director Stephanie Gurgone reported that the current electricity contract ends this year and it will re-bid in early March. She reported that she will provide the new rates and decide on the contract.

She further reported that they are hoping to hear back soon on the grant for 802 Plainfield and that she would report back regarding any updates.

b. Superintendent of Finance

Superintendent Nancy Strathdee reported that 99.91% of the expected tax revenues have been received. She further reported that the interest earned continues to outpace the annual budget.

c. Sportsplex the General Manager

General Manager Jordan Rossi stated that he would answer any questions regarding his report.

e. Director of Parks & Facilities

Director Matt Henderson stated that he would answer any questions regarding his report.

Commissioner Luanne Spiros stated that she enjoys reading the report from the Superintendent of Recreation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

PUBLIC COMMENT (FOR CONSENT AGENDA)

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Spiros moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Noverini to approve the Warrants for January and February and the December 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYEs: Spiros, Noverini, Marchese, Jablonski
NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ordinance 2022-23-04: An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal of and interest on \$6,565,000 General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2015B, of the Darien Park District, Dupage County, Illinois.**

Commissioner Marchese made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros approval of Ordinance 2022-23-04: An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal of and interest on \$6,565,000 General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2015B, of the Darien Park District, Dupage County, Illinois.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Noverini, Jablonski

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

b. Ordinance 2022-23-05: An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal and interest on the \$3,630,000 General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2020B, of the Darien Park District, Dupage County, Illinois.

Commissioner Marchese made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros approval of Ordinance 2022-23-05: An Ordinance abating the taxes heretofore levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal and interest on the \$3,630,000 General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2020B, of the Darien Park District, Dupage County, Illinois.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Noverini, Jablonski

NAYS: None

President Jablonski declared the motion carried.

c. Resolution 2022-23-09: A Resolution authorizing the participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC) and authorizing the lowest cost electricity provider for a period up to 36 months.

Commissioner Marchese made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros approval of Resolution 2022-23-09: A Resolution authorizing the participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC) and authorizing the lowest cost electricity provider for a period up to 36 months.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Noverini, Jablonski

NAYS: None

d. Approval of Hinsdale South Emergency Evacuation Agreement

Commissioner Marchese made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Spiros approval of the Hinsdale South Emergency Evacuation Agreement.

Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:

AYES: Marchese, Spiros, Noverini, Jablonski

NAYS: None

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Noverini moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Marchese that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



Ray Jablonski, President
Darien Park District



Frank Noverini, Secretary
Darien Park District