



Call to Order:

President Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Commissioners Present:

Jason Heisler, Michael Jacobson, Karen Johnson, Linda Matthias, Sarah Michehl, Eric Anderson

Commissioner Absent: Cathy Cagle

Legal Counsel: Scott Puma, Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni and Krafthefer, P.C.

Staff: Jason Herbster, Executive Director, Erik Jakubowski, Superintendent of Park Services, Amy Olson Manager of Park Planning and Development, Tina Becke, Superintendent of Business Services, Kurt Reckamp, Superintendent of Recreation Programs and Facility Services, Heidi Stolt, Manager of Recreation Programs, Anne Sandor, Recording Secretary

Citizens: Sydney Moody, Chris Moody, Phil Bolger, Carol Schroeder, Sheree Lavell, Christina Kolar, Marc Sparber, Tom McIntyre

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Matthias moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Michehl. All were in favor.

Matters from the Public: Sydney Moody reported that in 1994 the depth of the channel was at 6ft to the bottom and today there is 3 ½ feet of muck. She distributed newspaper articles from 1999 – 2007 regarding the Lippold Park Watershed, and noted the information reported was of arsenic and diesel fuel findings in soil samples. She asked if the water that is entering the channel and the muck could be tested for toxins and if the Park District could help with filtering or dredging of the channel.

Sheree LeVelle distributed a summary of articles regarding silt from the sod farm, dredging of the channel, toxins in soil that was moved from Veteran Acres to Lippold and back to Veteran Acres. She noted the muck is causing a loss of property use and not being able to get out to the lake. Children are also playing in the muck; as many as 20 children for the last 4-5 weeks. She asked the District to dredge the channel.

Tom Macguire reported a Park Police car was speeding on Bayberry to Honeysuckle Drive to the Lippold Park trail. He expressed concern of safety for the children. He noted the vehicle did not have the lights or sirens turned on.

Phil Bolter reported that he received the letter from the Park District regarding the channel. He reported that he removed trees and planted ground cover near the channel on his property to prevent soil erosion and the silt level is the same across the channel. He distributed pictures. He questioned why the culvert on Honeysuckle Dr was opened up to the channel.

Carl Schoeder expressed concerns of children playing in the channel as it is knee deep in silt. There was a child stuck in the muck and luckily there were others to help him out.

#### Staff Introductions:

Superintendent Reckamp introduced Heidi Stolt, Manager of Recreation Programs. Heidi was promoted from Recreation Aquatics Supervisor. She was responsible for the increase in revenue at Main and West beaches and youth athletic programs.

#### Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Linda Matthias moved to approve the following consent agenda item, as presented.

- A. Approval: The Voucher Expenses for the month ending, September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$327,077.89.
- B. Approval: The Interim Voucher Expenses for the month ending October 31, 2023, in the amount of \$ 649,615.83.
- C. Accept: The Treasurer's Report for the month ending, September 30, 2023, in the amount of \$19,086,680.71.
- D. Approval: Committee Meeting Minutes of the Whole 09.21.23
- E. Approval: Full Time Employee Compensation Paygrade Structure Update

Seconded by Commissioner Michael Jacobson.

Roll Call: Ayes: 6 (Heisler, Jacobson, Johnson, Matthias, Michehl, Anderson) Nays: 0

#### New Business Action Items

- A. Approval: Purchase of One Used 2023 Chevy Silverado 2500 Work Truck  
Commissioner Matthias moved to approve the purchase of one used 2023 Chevy Silverado 2500 work truck with snowplow package for \$60,219.35, from Martin Chevrolet of Crystal Lake.  
Seconded by Commissioner Heisler.  
Roll Call: Ayes: 6 (Jacobson, Johnson, Matthias, Michehl, Heisler, Anderson) Nays: 0
- B. Approval: Main Beach Deck Replacement Bid  
Commissioner Jacobson moved to accept the lowest responsible, responsive bid submitted by CJM Construction for the Main Beach Deck Replacement Project in the amount of \$63,250.00.  
Seconded by Commissioner Matthias  
Roll Call: Ayes: (Johnson, Matthias, Michehl, Heisler, Jacobson, Anderson) Nays: 0
- C. Approval: Approval: Aggregate Levy  
Commissioner Michehl moved to approve the tentative aggregate levy as presented.  
Seconded by Commissioner Matthias. All were in favor.

#### Reports to the Board:

##### Executive Director Herbster

- Hey and Associates is reviewing all the news articles submitted by public regarding the channel. Staff is hoping to have more information to present at the Committee Meeting of the Whole on November 2, 2023.
- The Community Input Meeting for the Hillfarm Barn will be held at Main Beach at 6:00pm, on October 24, 2023.
- The Annual Festival of Lights Parade will be held on November 24. Commissioners were invited to ride the float.

Superintendent of Business Services, Tina Becke

- Commissioner Michehl questioned the delay of the audit report. Superintendent Becke explained that there were timing issues with accounts payable and general ledger information. The auditors requested an extension as more time was needed for review. Commissioner Anderson stated that he felt the District should be receiving higher interest rates on its bank accounts and suggested looking in to interest rates at other banks.

Manager of Park Development and Planning

- Information postcards were sent to the Hillfarm park neighbors regarding the community meeting scheduled on October 24, at the Main Beach Pavilion.

Superintendent of Recreation Programs and Facility Services, Kurt Reckamp

- Red Cross requested a tour of The Racket Club, as they are looking at this facility for an emergency shelter location. The Park District is one of four emergency shelters in McHenry County.

Matters from the Board: None

Executive Session:

Commissioner Anderson moved to enter Executive Session to discuss Litigation/ Personnel at 7:23 pm.

Seconded by Commissioner Matthias.

Roll Call: 6 (Heisler, Jacobson, Johnson, Matthias, Michehl, Anderson)

Reconvene:

Commissioner Anderson moved to reconvene at 7:50 pm.

Seconded by Commissioner Michehl. All were in favor.

Open Session: Channel Discussion

The Board addressed public concerns regarding the safety of the channel and agreed there is a need to find out the cause of the muck in the channel.

Attorney Puma stated that when the initial dredging was done by the Park District, it was caused by a Park District contractor. To date, all the data shows the water entering the lake from Lippold is clear. Puma stated that he did not see any liability issues because the water flow is natural.

The Board expressed concern of children playing in the channel and agreed that the homeowners should contact the Police Department. The Board agreed if the District is the cause of the problem, the District will take responsibility. Executive Director Herbster reported that he is researching Park District files, and that Hey and Associates has received copies of articles and they are doing their due diligence on looking back on the projects. Herbster will contact Hey and Associates and request them to expedite the information to be ready for review at the Committee Meeting of the Whole in November.

Action from Matters from Executive Session: None.

Adjourn: Commissioner Anderson adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM. All were in favor.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_ Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
 President Secretary