

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Special Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2025; 7:00 p.m.
Community Center
9560 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
MINUTES**

Call to Order at 7:05 p.m.

President Vonesh called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Physically Present: Commissioner Susan E. O’Connell, AnneMarie Casas, Michael Vonesh, Mark K. White and Joseph E. Zinga.

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Director of Parks and Recreation; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Catherine Saponieri, Marketing & Communications Manager and Thomas Hoffman, Attorney.

Absent: Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda

Director LoCascio added Personnel 2(c)1 to Closed Session.

Recess for Public Comment at 7:05 p.m.

President Vonesh recessed for Public Comment at 7:05 p.m.

Reconvene at 7:06 p.m.

President Vonesh reconvened at 7:06 p.m.

Bond Sale Presentation by Representatives from Speer Financial, Inc.

Aaron Gold presented the Sale of the District's General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025 to the Board.

Acceptance of Bid for the Sale of the District's General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025

Motion #1 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner O’Connell to accept the bid from Lakeside Bank in the amount of \$1,223,075 with a 3.37% Net Interest Rate for the sale of the District’s General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O’Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Bond Series 2025 - Ordinance #24-25-4/O

Motion #2 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner White to adopt Ordinance #24-25-4/O, an Ordinance Providing for the Issue of \$1,223,075 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series

2025, of the Park District of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of land purchased or condemned for parks and the existing land and facilities of said Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser Lakeside Bank.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

Presentation / Approval of the Regular and Closed Special Board Meeting Minutes dated December 17, 2024

Motion #3 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the Regular and Special Closed Board Meeting Minutes dated December 17, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated December, 2024 in the amount of \$232,880.22

Motion #4 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner White to approve the December, 2024 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$232,880.22.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated January, 2025 in the amount of \$30,401.78

Motion #5 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the January, 2025 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$30,401.78.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence

No correspondence.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners

Commissioner O'Connell thanked the Park District for opportunity to go to the Conference.

Commissioner Casas got to attend Teen Night and Mother Son, kudos to Manager Strack and Manager Rivera. She liked that the events were two nights in a row. She loves the marketing that Manager Saponieri did on the Zamboni. Manager Saponieri will do a video once a quarter on how things work at the Ice Arena. She will also highlight programs.

Commissioner Zinga also thanked the Park District for the opportunity to go to the Conference.

Commissioner White felt it was a good Conference and learned something and was enjoyable.

President Vonesh also echoed comments on the Conference. Good time and hope everyone got something out of it.

Staff Reports:

Director

Director LoCascio reminded the Board that the Leyden Gala is February 8 and we have a Table of 10 reserved. The valet parking is free. Appetizers are at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Director LoCascio asked the Board if they would like to attend the Legislative Breakfast in Oak Park, to let us know.

Superintendent of Finance/Technology

Superintendent Bersani reported that the Finance Department is finishing the audit, getting 1099's out and the starting the Budget.

Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent Visteen reported that we are doing two Egg Hunts this year, one at North Park, followed with one at James Park.

We are also looking into offering one day events in the new Plaza, and partnering with other agencies.

Commissioner Zinga asked if there is a Master Plan for North Park. Superintendent Visteen reported that staff is working on one. We also have starting having back to back events in one day.

Ice Arena Manager

Manager Deak is absent. Commissioner Casas reported that staff is getting ready for Ice Show.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Wick reported staff is pruning in parks due to the warmer weather.

Assistant Costa attended the first Midwest Honey Bee Expo. Very well organized for first time. A great show and lots of information. Sessions were taped, so she will be able to watch the ones that she was not able to attend.

Marketing & Communication Manager

Manager Saponieri shared our scores for Agency Showcase submission at State Conference. Also had the chance to volunteer to see how things were run.

In December we submitted a Photo for Photo Contest and we received an Honorable Mention.

We have received four sponsorships this year already and at over \$10,000.

Manager Costa shared Honee Wood Cutout that will be used for marketing, and we now have a digital version.

WSSRA

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

Solar Project

Director LoCascio reported that energy subsidy funds are on a 90 day freeze from Washington. A discussion was held.

Personnel Policy Updates

Motion #6 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Casas to approve the proposed changes to the following Personnel Policies Personnel Files and Requests for Personnel Records (Section 1.15); Child Labor Laws: Employment of Minors (Section 1.16); Independent Contractors (Section 1.23); Pay Transparency (Section 1.24); Captive Audience Meetings and Communications (Section 1.25); Paystubs (Section 2.9); and Vacation Leave (Section 3.2) with changes as noted by staff.

The Personnel Policy Updates were reviewed.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

A sign with QR Code by all the Time Clocks access to Personnel Policy, Safety Policy and Emergency Response Plan.

New Business:

Accessibility Consultation and Training Services, Inc. (ACT Services, Inc.)

Motion #7 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner O'Connell to approve the proposal from ACT Services, Inc., to provide accessibility consultation services in an amount not to exceed \$17,515.

A discussion was held.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes. Motion carried.

Ordinance #24-25-5/O - An Ordinance Authorizing and Directing the Destruction of Verbatim Audio Recordings of Certain Closed Session Meetings of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of Franklin Park

Motion #8 by Commissioner O'Connell, second by Commissioner Casas to adopt Ordinance #24-25-5/O Authorizing and Directing the Destruction of Verbatim Audio Recordings of Certain Closed Session Meetings of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Park District of Franklin Park.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

Required Signatures

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

Closed Session to discuss Land Acquisition 2(c)5, Pending Litigation 2(c)11 and Personnel 2(c)1

Motion #9 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner O'Connell to enter into Closed Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss Land Acquisition 2(c)5, Pending Litigation 2(c)11 and Personnel 2(c)1.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners White, yes; Zinga, yes; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes. Motion carried.

Rise Out of Closed Session

Motion #10 by Commissioner Zinga, second by Commissioner Casas to rise out of Closed Session at 8:44 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Zinga, yes; O’Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session

Approval of Settlement Agreement in the Case of Park District of Franklin Park v. Integral Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$35,000

Motion #11 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner O’Connell to approve the Settlement Agreement, as presented, in the case of *Park District of Franklin Park v. Integral Construction, Inc.* in the amount of \$35,000.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners O’Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Intergovernmental Agreement with Village of Franklin Park

Motion #12 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner O’Connell to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Park District of Franklin Park and the Village of Franklin Park for the Lease of Village Property for a Dog Park as presented and to authorize the President and Secretary to execute and deliver same".

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Casas, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O’Connell, yes. Motion carried.

Adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Motion #13 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner O’Connell to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Vonesh, yes; White, yes; Zinga, yes; O’Connell, yes; Casas, yes. Motion carried.

Joseph E. Zinga, Secretary