

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 23, 2025; 7:00 p.m.
Community Center
9560 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
MINUTES**

Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.

President White called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Commissioner Michael A. Vonesh

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Executive Director; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Catherine Saponieri, Marketing & Communications Manager; Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager and Thomas Hoffman, Attorney.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda

No additions, corrections and deletions to the Agenda.

Recess for Public Comment at 7:04 p.m.

President White recessed for Public Comment at 7:04 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Reconvene at 7:05 p.m.

President White reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Presentation / Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated August 26, 2025

Motion #1 by Commissioner O'Connell seconded by Commissioner Casas to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes dated August 26, 2025.

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

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated August 2025 for \$774,282.04.

Motion #2 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to approve the August 2025 Manual Bill Listing for \$774,282.04.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated September 2025 for \$62,283.25.

Motion #3 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Casas to approve the September 2025 System Bill Listing for \$62,283.25.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Correspondence

No correspondences at this time.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners

Commissioner Casas had a great time at the NRPA Conference in Orlando, Florida. It was great to see our teams compete at ISI Worlds.

Staff Reports:

Director

Director LoCascio attended the Village of Franklin Park's Annual Joint Review Board Meeting regarding TIF districts. He stated some are expired and will be on our tax rolls while there are a couple that are about to expire with fund balances. The fund balances are reallocated to the taxing bodies within its boundaries.

Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent Visteen reported that summer has ended, and the pool is now closed. Staff did a great job getting everything cleaned and stored and are now preparing for the Eddie Biondo Fall Fest Parade & Pumpkin Fest, which already has 40 groups signed up. Additionally, Manager Strack had valuable experience attending the NRPA Conference in Orlando, Florida.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Wick reported that duties focused on keeping operations moving smoothly, with Service Center cleaning underway in preparation for the upcoming project. A new full-time employee was hired and will be introduced next month.

Ice Arena Manager

Manager Deak reported that we kicked off the 2025-2026 season. Panthers League finalized its game schedule this past weekend. Positive feedback has been received regarding the locker rooms, lobby bathrooms, and Main Arena insulation. Commissioner Casas noted that while the Rosemont Rink has opened, our program numbers have remained steady, which is a great indicator of continued strength.

Marketing & Communication Manager

Manager Saponieri reported that new sponsors were added since the last report: Mistica Foods and We Rock the Spectrum, bringing the total to \$56,103. Preparations for fall event signage, social media, and email blasts are underway. We are also hosting a Costume Drive bin in partnership with Leyden High School's Operation Snowball

Superintendent of Finance/Technology

Superintendent Bersani reported the transition to new financial software. The overall effect will be cost savings, increased simplicity by consolidating all platforms in one place, and greater ownership and responsibility among staff members

WSSRA

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

Service Center Renovations

Director LoCascio reported we are waiting for permits from two of the contractors. Looking to start next week Monday on the interior insulation removal.

Solar Project

Motion #4 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Casas to approve Payout #4 to General Energy Corporation, for the Park District of Franklin Park Rooftop Solar PV Project for \$114,411.29, with a remaining balance of \$762,925.69.

Electrical prep work started at the Community Center and Centre at North Park. There is still work to be completed at the Ice Arena before it goes live.

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

Ice Arena / Interior Renovation Project

Motion #5 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to approve Payout #6 to WB Olson, Inc., for \$639,455, leaving a balance, plus retainage of \$471,989 to finish the Ice Arena Interior Restoration project.

We received a punch list from Rocco at Williams Architects. Nathan, Dan and Scott from W.B. Olson will walk through on Thursday.

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

Dog Park

Director LoCascio is in touch with Hitchcock Design Group to get drawings of the Dog Park. The plan is to go out to bid in January.

New Business:

North Park Flooring

The Sport Arena floor is bubbling in more spots. Choices are to repair it for approximately \$10,000 or replace it for \$110,000 to \$175,000. If we decide to purchase a new floor staff will repair it to save money. Director LoCascio will get more solid numbers on a purchase to help guide the Board's decision.

Finance Software Transition

Motion #6 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Casas to approve the purchase of Finance Software from Tyler Technologies, which includes ERP Pro and Content Manager suites covering financial management, HR, purchasing, and onboarding systems in an amount not to exceed \$38,340, with an annual subscription cost not to exceed \$20,396.

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

Suggested Motions

No suggested motions.

Required Signatures

Director LoCascio received the required signatures.

Closed Session

Motion #7 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to enter Closed Session at 7:53 p.m. to discuss Land Acquisition 2(c)5, Review Closed Session Minutes 2(c)21 and Personnel 2(c)1.

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

Rise out of Closed Session

Motion #8 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner O'Connell to rise out of Closed Session at 9:00 p.m.

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

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

Motion #9 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner Casas that with respect to the closed session minutes that the need for confidentiality still exists as to the minutes of March 25, 2025, May 27, 2025 and June 24, 2025 which shall remain confidential to protect the privacy of an individual or the public interest.

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

Adjourn at 9:01 p.m.

Motion #10 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to Adjourn at 9:01 p.m.

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

AnneMarie Casas, Secretary