

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, January 27, 2026; 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 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Director LoCascio added Dog Park to Unfinished Business.

Recess for Public Comment at 7:02 p.m.

President White recessed for Public Comment at 7:02 p.m.

Reconvene at 7:03 p.m.

President White reconvened at 7:03 p.m.

Bond Sale Presentation by Representatives from Speer Financial, Inc.

Sara Johnson, from Speer Financial, Inc. reviewed the 2026 General Obligation Limited Tax Bond Sale bids received. Lakeside Bank was the lowest with a 2.75% rate.

Acceptance of Bid for the Sale of the District's General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026

Motion #1 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner Casas to accept the bid from Lakeside Bank in the amount of \$1,263,975 with a 2.75% Net Interest Rate for the sale of the District’s General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026.

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

Bond Series 2026 - Ordinance #25-26-6/O

Motion #2 by Commissioner Zinga, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to adopt Ordinance #25-26-6/O, AN ORDINANCE providing for the issue of \$1,263,975 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of land purchased or condemned for parks and the existing land and facilities of the 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 Lakeside Bank.

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

Presentation / Approval of the Regular / Closed Board Meeting Minutes dated December 16, 2025

Motion #3 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to approve the Regular / Closed Board Meeting Minutes dated December 16, 2025.

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

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated December 2025 for \$666,520.61

Motion #4 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to approve the December 2025 Manual Bill Listing for \$666,520.61.

Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated January 2026 for \$92,693.19

Motion #5 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to approve the January 2026 System Bill Listing for \$92,693.19.

System Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners

Commissioner O'Connell looks forward to seeing everyone at the conference this weekend.

Commissioner Casas is excited that the Ice Show theme will be Heroes and Villains. Our figure skating teams will be competing in Bensenville at the Mardi Gras Tournament over the next two weekends.

President White also looks forward to seeing everyone at the conference.

Staff Reports:

Director

Director LoCascio reminded the Board that we will be hosting the Legislative Luncheon on February 27 at 11:30 a.m.

We will be sending Representative Hernandez a thank-you letter for the grant she was instrumental in helping us receive.

Director LoCascio reported that the December '25 CPI was released at 2.7%.

Superintendent of Parks

Parks staff were busy removing snow over the weekend. Staff continue to organize and clean the shop. Staff is Spring cleaning North Park this week and will do the Community Center next week.

Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent Visteen met with the Recreation Team and Manager Strack shared that she currently already has 20 returning lifeguards for this Summer.

Superintendent Visteen submitted updating our Child and Vulnerable Adults Abuse Policy to PDRMA for our 2026 Safety Goal.

Ice Arena Manager

Manager Deak shared that the old Zamboni will be picked up tomorrow. The hockey season is winding down. We have had many schools visit us for ice skating, and we are sharing our skating program information with them.

Marketing & Communications Manager

Manager Saponieri reviewed the 2024/25 Social Media Analytics, which showed a 55% increase.

Manager Saponieri reminded everyone to stop by the Agency Showcase at the Conference.

Manager Saponieri shared that she was shocked to learn that she was the recipient of the 30 Under 30 in the NRPA February issue. The board congratulated her.

Superintendent of Finance/Technology

Superintendent Bersani reported that W2's have been sent out and she will be submitting the 1099's tomorrow finishing up year-end items, and then will begin to work on Budgets.

WSSRA

Director LoCascio shared that WSSRA is celebrating its 50th year this year.

Unfinished Business

Service Center Renovations

Motion #6 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve Payout #4 to WB Olson, Inc., for \$190,342, leaving a balance, plus retainage of \$22,208 to finish the Service Center Roof Renovation.

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

Solar Project

Motion #7 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve Payout #8 to General Energy Corporation, for the Park District of Franklin Park Rooftop Solar PV Project for \$18,284.50, with a remaining balance of \$166,048.26.

Director LoCascio reported that everything is up and running. This is the last payout. Financial documents have been submitted for rebate reimbursement.

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

Ice Arena / Interior Renovation Project

Director LoCascio sent Representative Hernandez a text thanking her for the DCO Grant. He will follow up with a letter.

Dog Park

Director LoCascio reported that we will go out to bid in May, start the project in July and be completed by October.

New Business:

Personnel Policy Revisions Approval

Motion #8 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the changes to Sections 3.11, 3.13, 3.14, 3.15 and 3.16 required by Employment Laws.

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

Ordinance #25-26-7/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 #9 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Zinga to adopt Ordinance #25-26-7/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; O'Connell, yes; Casas, yes; Zinga, yes. Motion carried.

Credit Card User Fees

A discussion was held regarding passing user fees on to the customer.

Part-time Staff Annual Increases

Director LoCascio shared with the Board that during the Budget process, we will present using a percentage increase rather than a flat rate.

Suggested Motions

No suggested motions.

Required Signatures

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

Adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

Motion #10 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Casas to adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

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

AnneMarie Casas, Secretary