

**Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, July 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 O'Connell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Administer Oath of Office

Human Resources Manager Laskowski administered the Oath of Office to Patrica Tragarz.

Roll Call

Physically Present: Commissioner Susan E. O'Connell, Michael A. Vonesh, Mark K. White and Patricia Tragarz.

Absent: Commissioner AnneMarie Casas.

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

Also Present: Vito Menolascina, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Manager.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda

No additions, corrections or deletions were made to the Agenda.

Recess for Public Comment at 7:03 p.m.

President O'Connell recessed for Public Comment at 7:03 p.m.

Reconvene at 7:04 p.m.

President O'Connell reconvened at 7:04 p.m.

Public Hearing on the Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

President O'Connell called to order the Public Hearing on the Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Secretary White called the Roll for the Public Hearing on the Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Secretary White called the Roll for the Public Hearing on the Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Roll Call

Physically Present: Commissioner Michael A. Vonesh, Mark K. White, Susan E. O'Connell and Patricia Tragarz.

Absent: Commissioner AnneMarie Casas.

Present: Daniel LoCascio, Executive Director; Maria Laskowski, Human Resources Manager; Nathan Wick, Superintendent of Parks; Stephanie Bersani, Superintendent of Finance & Technology; Liz Visteen, Superintendent of Recreation; Carla Deak, Ice Arena Manager; Nomin Altansukh and Thomas Hoffman, Attorney.

Also Present: Vito Menolascina, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Manager.

President O'Connell stated that the Park Board will now hold a public hearing on the 2026-2027 Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for the Park District of Franklin Park.

President O'Connell stated that all persons desiring to be heard will now have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect to the 2026-2027 Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance.

President O'Connell asked if there were any written or oral comments from the Commissioners? There were none.

President O'Connell asked if there were any written or oral comments from the Public? There were none.

Adjourn Public Hearing on the Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Motion #1 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner White to adjourn the Public Hearing for the combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for fiscal year 2026-2027.

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

Adoption of Ordinance #26-27-2/O - Annual Budget & Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Motion #2 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to adopt Ordinance #26-27-2/O, an ordinance making a combined annual budget and appropriation of funds for the Park District of Franklin Park, Cook County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning on the 1st day of May 2026 and ending on the 30th day of April 2027.

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

Presentation / Approval of the Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated June 23, 2026 and July 15, 2026

Motion #3 Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated June 23, 2026.

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

Motion #4 Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner White to approve the Special and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated July 15, 2026.

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

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated June 2026 for \$238,855.06

Motion #5 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Tragarz to approve the June 2026 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of \$238,855.06.

The Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated July 2026 for \$79,615.52

Motion #6 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Tragarz to approve the July 2026 System Bill Listing in the amount of \$79,615.52.

The System Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Correspondence

Thank you from the Susan J. Komen Organization for the \$80 donation.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners

President O'Connell thanked the staff who made Street Dance possible. It was a nice event. Thanked staff for their hard work keeping things going this summer.

Staff Reports:

Director

Dan attended the Grand Avenue redevelopment project meeting. Breaking ground on Phase I on Friday, with the goal of being done by the end of September. Parade logistics will have to be changed.

Staff will be helping State Representative Norma Hernandez's backpack giveaway on Friday at the Plaza.

Superintendent of Recreation

Superintendent Visteen reported that every Concert was held this Summer with no cancellations. Street Dance was great, with many compliments.

Superintendent Visteen explained the name change of the Early Childhood Programs due to removing the school in the title because of a bill that was passed, so we don't have to get licensed.

Marketing & Communications Manager

Manager Altansukh reported that the physical brochure will be delivered on Friday, August 1, and it will be live on the website. She is working on social media reels.

Ice Arena Manager

Manager Deak reported that the season wraps up in three days. Saturday, the second annual Paint the Ice event, and compressors will be turned off after the event. Monday starts shutdown with the purging of items and deep cleaning. We have fourteen participants at the World's in Pittsburgh.

Superintendent of Finance & Technology

Superintendent Bersani reported that the finance team is working on audit prep and preparations for new software.

Superintendent of Parks

Superintendent Wick reported that staff continue to mow the grass and weed. Added ballfield material to get ready for Fall. Manager Menolascina is keeping up with HVAC.

Five gallons of honey were pulled from the hives.

WSSRA

Director LoCascio reported beginning working on the Budget.

Unfinished Business

Service Center Renovations

Meeting bi-weekly with Williams Architect compiling thoughts from our visits to other facilities. Working on what each area at the Service Center is used. Staff will answer the questionnaire with their thoughts. Storage bays, offices along the east wall were brought up.

Dog Park

Director LoCascio reported that we have an MWRD form that needs to be signed, then we can break ground once we get the permit from the Village.

North Park Service Drive

Motion #7 by Commissioner Vonesh, second by Commissioner White to accept the bid from J&J Newell Concrete for the North Park Service Drive as the lowest responsible bidder at a cost not to exceed \$123,725.

The project will start the day after the Fall Fest Parade.

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

New Business

Director LoCascio reviewed the process that has taken place, gathering Property Deeds and PIN's with Manager Laskowski's help and Attorney Hoffman.

North Park OSLAD Grant Application Resolution #26-27-2/R

Motion #8 by Commissioner White, second by Commissioner Tragarz to adopt Resolution #26-27-2/R – A Resolution of Authorization for the OSLAD Grant Program for North Park.

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

Ordinance #26-27-2/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 Vonesh, second by Commissioner White to adopt Ordinance #26-27-2/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.

Director LoCascio reported that it is done every six months.

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

Willow/Linden Park Renovation

Motion #10 by Commissioner Tragarz, second by Commissioner O'Connell to approve Professional Services Final Designs Agreement from RVi for Willow and Linden Parks Renovations, as presented and to authorize and direct the execution and delivery of same by the President or her designee, but only after review by the Park District attorney and subject to such edits, if any (other than to scope of work or compensation), as such attorney may deem necessary or appropriate.

Director LoCascio shared Willow Park and Linden Park plans. A discussion was held.
Roll Call Vote: Commissioners Tragarz, yes; O'Connell, yes; Vonesh, yes; White, yes. Motion carried.

North Park Elevator

Director LoCascio shared that we will be going out to bid in August to update the elevator.

Suggested Motions

No Suggested Motions.

Required Signatures

Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

Adjourn at 7:48 p.m.

Motion #11 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.

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

Mark K. White, Secretary