Park District of Franklin Park
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 22, 2026; 7:00 p.m.
Community Center, 9560 Franklin Avenue
Franklin Park, Illinois 60131
MINUTES

Call to Order at 7:02 p.m.
President O'Connell called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

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

Also Present: Vito Menolascina, Parks & Facilities Maintenance Manager, Jen Costa, Parks Services Assistant, Joesph E. Zinga, Patricia Zinga, Sara Sydor, Mike Zinga, Katherine Zinga, Izabel Zinga, Tim Zinga, Jen Zinga, Dominic Zinga, Rocco Zinga, Joe Zinga and Danielle Raskow

Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Additions, Corrections and Deletions to the Agenda
No additions, corrections or deletions were made.

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

Danielle Varascow, who has been involved with the Ice Arena for four decades and whose daughter participates on Fusion and participated in Worlds in Pittsburgh, thanked the Board for its support.

Ms. Varascow expressed appreciation for the coaches and staff and the dedication they have demonstrated. She said Sarah's commitment does not go unnoticed and thanked the coaches for the accountability they are creating.

Reconvene at 7:03 p.m.
President O'Connell reconvened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Resolution 26-27-5/R
Motion #1 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to adopt Resolution #26-27-5/R, a Resolution for Appreciation of Service for the Board of Park Commissioners.

President O'Connell read the Resolution.

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

Presentation / Approval of the Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated August 25, 2026
Motion #2 by Commissioner Vonesh, seconded by Commissioner White to approve the Regular and Closed Session Board Meeting Minutes dated August 25, 2026.

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

Presentation / Approval of Manual Bill Listing dated August 2026 for $389,691.60
Motion #3 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to approve the August 2026 Manual Bill Listing in the amount of $389,691.60.

Manual Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Presentation / Approval of System Bill Listing dated September 2026 for $67,463.01.
Motion #4 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the September 2026 System Bill Listing in the amount of $67,463.01.

System Bill Listing was reviewed.

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

Correspondence
Thank-you card from Superintendent Wick for the get-well fruit planter.

Reports of Officers and Commissioners
Commissioner Casas reported meeting a resident from the Towers who is excited about the Dog Park. The residents are very excited about the project.

An Olympian hosted a clinic, and it was nice to see the participation.

Parents hosted a retirement party for Anne Raucci, and it was nice to see the generations who attended. Attendees thanked Anne for her years of service.

Commissioner Vonesh commented on the nice luncheon held for Anne and noted the appreciation and love shown for her. Commissioner Vonesh also welcomed Nathan Wick back to work.

President O'Connell commented that Anne's retirement party was well attended by staff and her family. President O'Connell also welcomed Nate back.

Staff Reports:
Director
Items are later on the agenda.

Ice Arena Manager
Director LoCascio reported on Manager Deak's behalf that the skating parents provided food for Anne's party.

Superintendent of Finance & Technology
Reported being busy with Tyler ERP Pro 10 implementation and financial audit prep.

Superintendent of Parks
Reported that staff is busy keeping up with mowing and will begin cleaning up the leaves. Part-time staff will be brought on to assist. Vito is closing the Pool. Next week, the yellow slide will be refinished. Jen is putting in fall plants.

Superintendent of Recreation
Reported enrollment in fall classes has gone up since last week, when the report was prepared. We now have 44 groups participating in the Eddie Biondo Fall Fest Parade.

Marketing & Communications Manager
Reported that content for the brochure was sent to the designer; the first draft should be ready soon.

Dog park promotion teaser social media stories are scheduled for next week's construction start to notify people about construction and that more registration info is coming.

WSSRA
Director LoCascio reviewed the WSSRA rate increase.

Unfinished Business
Service Center Renovations
The design phase of the renovations is complete. The project will be presented at next month's Board meeting.

Dog Park
The Board received the construction schedule. Fencing will be installed Thursday, and a time-lapse camera will document the construction.

North Park Rear Service Drive
All permits have been obtained, with a mid-October start date anticipated.

North Park Elevator Modernization
Motion #5 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Casas to approve the Base Bid, Alternatives 1 and 3 and award Colley Elevator as the lowest qualified bidder at a cost not to exceed $125,870 for the North Park Elevator Modernization Project.

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

Transportation Policy
Motion #6 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the Transportation Policy as presented by staff.

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

Willow/Linden Park Renovations
Motion #7 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Casas to adopt Resolution #26-27-4/R, a Resolution Pursuant to Section 8 of the Local Government Professional Services Selection Act / Vanderstappen Land Surveying Inc.

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

Motion #8 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to approve the proposal from Vanderstappen Land Surveying Inc. in the amount of $8,339 for surveying and locating private utilities at Linden and Willow Parks.

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

New Business:
Village of Franklin Park Intergovernmental Agreement
Motion #9 by Commissioner Vonesh, second by Commissioner Casas to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Park District of Franklin Park and the Village of Franklin Park for Installation, Operation, and Maintenance of Microwave Wireless Equipment at the Park District Community Center.

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

Pine Room Furniture
Motion #10 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner White to purchase new Pine Room Furniture from The Larson Equipment and Furniture Company at a cost not to exceed $14,131.59.

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

Fifth Third Bank
Motion #11 by Commissioner O'Connell, seconded by Commissioner Casas to approve the Commercial Card Rebate Amendment with Fifth Third Bank as presented and to authorize and direct the Executive Director to execute and deliver same on behalf of the District.

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

Suggested Motions
No Suggested Motions.

Required Signatures
Manager Laskowski received the required signatures.

Closed Session
Motion #12 by Commissioner Casas, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh, to enter Closed Session at 7:57 p.m. to discuss Land Acquisition 2(c)5, Prominent or Imminent Litigation 2(c)11, and Closed Meeting Minute Review 2(c)21.

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

Rise Out of Closed Session
Motion #13 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Vonesh to rise out of Closed Session at 8:39 p.m.

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

Take action, if any, on matters discussed in Closed Session
Motion #14 by Commissioner Casas, second by Commissioner Vonesh that the Park District Board find that with respect to the closed session minutes October 22, 2024, March 24, 2026, April 28, 2026, May 26, 2026 and July 15, 2026 it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential and they shall be available for public inspection but that the need for confidentiality still exists as to the minutes of September 23, 2025 and August 25, 2026 which shall remain confidential to protect the privacy of an individual or the public interest.

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

Adjourn at 8:45 p.m.
Motion #15 by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Casas to adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

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

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Mark K. White, Secretary