

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Sycamore Park District
Tuesday, January 24, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Sycamore Park District Board of Commissioners, DeKalb County, Illinois, being held at our Clubhouse, located at 940 E. State St., Sycamore, Illinois is called to order at 6:01 p.m. on Tuesday, January 24, 2023.

Will the recording secretary please call the roll.

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are physically present and will be participating in the meeting in person: **Commissioners Doty, Strack and Kroeger.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present but will be participating in the meeting via video and/or audio conferencing: **None.**

The following Sycamore Park District Commissioners are not physically present and will not be participating in the meeting: **Commissioner Ackmann and Commissioner Graves.**

Staff members present were Jeff Donahoe, Jeanette Freeman, Jackie Hienbuecher, Kirk Lundbeck, Theresa Tevsh, Lisa Metcalf, Chris Hoblit, and Melissa Dobberstein. Director Bailey attended via Zoom.

Guests at the Board meeting were: There were none.

Regular and Consent Agenda Approval –

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Regular Agenda and the Consent Agenda with pulling of Agenda Item #33, Budget and Agenda Item #56, Nicholas McCarney board report. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Approval of Minutes –

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the December 20, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the December 20, 2022, Executive Session Meeting Minutes to remain confidential. Commissioner Strack seconded the Motion.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Claims and Accounts Approval

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve and pay the bills in the amount of \$196,742.41.
Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Correspondence – None

Public Input –

Director Bailey noted that Commissioner Graves commented he loves the idea of solar and to possibly have the Splash Pad open till 4:00 on Sunday since the pool closed.

Presentation of Awards:

Supt. Tevsh noted that Chris Hoblit and Melissa Dobberstein took the Certified Programmer class virtually and both passed. The plaques had not arrived yet, so she presented them with their certificate.

President Kroeger then presented Commissioner Strack with his 15-year Board Member award.

Positive Feedback –

- President Kroeger noted the final number of users is fantastic.

Plan Commission: Commissioner Strack noted there was a motion to change zoning to allow tattoo parlors in central business district, but this did not pass.

He also noted there was nominal changes to the UDO.

Old Business:

Construction Updates:

- **Memorial Park:** Director Bailey noted we are still waiting for the formal permit to use the fields and we need to move trees off the main water line. The City has given the construction company until April 28th to move them. She has a meeting set with ERA and the construction company on March 27th to make sure we follow that timeline.
- **North Grove:** Director Bailey noted we will be posting an online survey the 2nd week in February and then an in-person neighborhood one in April.
- **Reston Ponds:** Director Bailey noted we have a schedule for this. There will be an alternative bid for the paths as well as the parking lot.

Construction Updates- cont'd:

- **Bridge #1/Hole 10:** Director Bailey noted the bridge is installed but we are waiting on the approaches. Supt. Donahoe noted they will move the irrigation pipe in the spring.

Final Review of FY2023 Annual Operating Budget:

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the Operating Budget as presented.
Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

GWT Update: Director Bailey noted that we should have everything from three of the property owners in the next few weeks. We are still trying to get ahold of the other property owner. We would like to get an updated appraisal on the last property since things have changed with the guidewire. This should bring the price down.

Purchase of Merry Oaks Property: Director Bailey noted this is complete, we are waiting on the money. She then asked the board if we can put the money from the closing into capital which will help with these projects that have come up.

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve putting the money into capital. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

New Business

Open Positions/Job Descriptions/Organizational Chart: Director Bailey noted that with Theresa's retirement we are changing things around. There is no additional positions added.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the Open Positions/Job Descriptions/Organizational Chart as presented. Commissioner Strack seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

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2023 Splash Fountain Fees: Facilities Manager Metcalf noted that since the pool is closed the pool pass won't exist. She did research on other splash pads to see what kind of pass they offer. The majority of them were free or included the fee in a pool pass. We are unique in the fact that we charge for ours. She is recommending leaving as a daily fee, but also offer a 15 visit punch pass. Supt. Tevsh responded to Commissioner Graves suggestion on the splash pad being open past 2:00. She noted that we do private rentals after hours. Fac. Manager Metcalf noted that we changed hours of the community center during COVID, but we will now be closing the community center at 6:00 pm so there will be a few more hours on Saturday for the splash pad.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve the 2023 Splash Fountain Fees as presented.
Commissioner Strack seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Update to Splash Fountain Signage: Supt. Tevsh noted that now we have a few years with the splash pad open, so they did a little tweaking of the signage. Fac. Manager Metcalf also noted they are changing where the sign is.

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve the 2023 Splash Fountain Rules and Signage as presented. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Ordinance 01-2023 – An Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2017A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve Ordinance 01-2023. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Ordinance 02-2023 – An Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2022 to pay debt service on General Obligation Refunding Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Service) Series 2015A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois.

Motion

Commissioner Doty moved to approve Ordinance 02-2023. Commissioner Strack seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

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Ordinance 03-2023 – An Ordinance abating the tax hereto levied for the year 2022 to pay the principal of and interest on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2019A, of the Sycamore Park District, DeKalb County, Illinois

Motion

Commissioner Strack moved to approve Ordinance 03-2023. Commissioner Doty seconded the Motion.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Solar Energy Options: Director Bailey noted when they were looking at how much electricity was going to go up, Supt. Hienbuecher asked if she could have our energy broker find other options for us. They came back with solar. The solar that would be put on the maintenance building would cover 100% of the usage. The other parts would be about 55% of the usage. The community center the solar would cover 8 different meters (which includes the golf course). We are looking at projected annual savings of \$36,386.00. Commissioner Strack asked if the panels would be on the ground. Director Bailey noted that not knowing what we will be doing with the land by the building, we didn't want to dedicate the land to a 35 year lease. President Kroeger asked where would the panels be at the community center. Director Bailey noted on the roof, and they will not be sealed but will be weighted so they will not puncture the roof. President Kroeger asked if the roof is designed to hold this weight. Director Bailey noted they need to check into this further. President Kroeger noted we need to find out what the roof will take with the different type of snow load along with the weight of the materials. He noted we need more research and other opinions on this. He noted the board is supportive of this, but need to make sure we do the homework on it and talk to other companies that have done this in the area.

Staff Concerns - ES:

Special Announcements –

February Study Session: February 7th at 6:00 PM was scheduled.

Public Input – None

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Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session to go into Executive Session at 6:58 pm on a motion made by Commissioner Strack for the reasons listed below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Roll Call

President Kroeger called for a roll call vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
5. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:02 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Strack and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey and Recording Secretary Jeanette Freeman.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

The Board reconvened to Regular Session at 7:45 pm. The roll was called with Commissioners Doty, Strack and Kroeger present along with Director Bailey and Recording Secretary Freeman.

Motion

The Board adjourned the Regular Session at 7:45 p.m. on a motion made by Commissioner Strack. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Doty.

Voice Vote

President Kroeger called for a voice vote to approve the motion. All commissioners present voted Aye. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioners Ackmann and Graves were absent.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanette Freeman
Recording Secretary
Sycamore Park District