



# **Kankakee Valley**

## **PARK DISTRICT**

### **Kankakee Valley Park District Board Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020**

The Board Meeting was called to order at 5pm by President Spriggs. Those present for roll call (in person or by electronic means) were Commissioner A. Hollis, D. Palmer, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. Others present: Dayna Heitz, Executive Director, Rick Collins, Superintendent of Building & Grounds, Melissa Woodard, Superintendent of Recreation/Business (via zoom); Attorney David Freeman, Aaron Gold, Speer Financial (via Zoom).

#### **Public Comment:**

NA

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Communications: Included in your board packet. Consists of phone calls, contact forms, and anything under email or in person contact.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent agenda for Monday, October 26, 2020, consists of committee meeting minutes (September 14, 2020), board meeting minutes (September 28, 2020), special meeting minutes (October 13, 2020), bills payable and financial statements.

A motion to receive consent agenda was made by Commissioner Hollis, seconded by Commissioner Skelly. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: D. Palmer, A. Hollis, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. With 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

A motion to approve committee meeting minutes (September 14, 2020), board meeting minutes (September 28, 2020), special meeting minutes (October 13, 2020) was made by Commissioner Hollis, seconded by Commissioner Spriggs. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: A. Hollis, D. Palmer, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. With 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

A motion to approve bills payable was made by Commissioner Hollis, seconded by Commissioner Skelly. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: A. Hollis, D. Palmer, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. With 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

A motion to approve financial statements was made by Commissioner Hollis seconded by Commissioner Spriggs. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioner voted aye: A. Hollis, D. Skelly, B. Spriggs. Nay: D. Palmer. With 3 ayes, 1 nay, motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Riverfront Update**

Director Heitz: Meeting coming up. Will be hearing about the plans on what everyone voted on. Board members have been asked to help cover public meetings to help explain what's going on to the public.

### **Board Policy**

Not finished yet.

### **Splash Valley**

Director Heitz: The auto fill isn't working. Didn't find that until we started to empty the pool. It needs to be replaced. Working with Farnsworth on if that will be included. Or we are responsible? Everything had been pressure tested before we filled the pool. When we winterized, there is another leak in zero depth. Hope that will be included since it was during testing. Not moving forward on anything until those issues are resolved. Our maintenance crew has been painting, rebuilding the front desk, baseboard, etc. Will keep you updated on that.

### **Facility & Operations-Covid**

Director Heitz: We are in mitigation. Commissioner Skelly asked if that was why we cancelled practices? Director Heitz said we haven't cancelled practice. The hockey club canceled Friday because they had more than the 25 limit. Commissioner Skelly asked why can't they just be given the rules and then have to follow it but it's not up to us to regulate? Director Heitz said we called them right away and told them what the max is. Friday isn't a normal practice night for them so that's extra, we are not telling them they cannot practice. Commissioner Hollis said what if we did open up the door and if they had too many on the ice, would we go up to them tell them they needed to get off the ice? Director Heitz said yes. Commissioner Hollis doesn't want us to get the point where we are seen as mean people. We are dealing with children who are having a hard time with Covid. This is something fun for them. Director Heitz said this affects them for just one night a week out of 5. Their group is too big and they needed to split them. Commissioner Skelly said it's a touchy subject. Director Heitz said we never said they couldn't practice. They are being counted as they come in so that no more than 25 are on the ice. Commissioner Skelly asked if this is a legal problem or insurance? Director Heitz talked to health department and our attorney. Commissioner Skelly said it is their obligation as renting the ice to follow our rules. Commissioner Hollis said we regulate ourselves. Let them know the rules but we regulate ourselves. Commissioner Palmer gave an example of a restaurant owner

not being responsible, the lessee is for following the capacity rules. Attorney Freeman said we are talking about things that could come back and bite the board in the butt. Not sure this is really how we want to have this conversation. Board can give the Director direction but she is doing what the governor's executive orders say. Commissioner Skelly interprets the orders that the hockey league needs to follow the governor's orders. We have supplied them with list of rules and we have met our obligation. Director Heitz said what if someone rents the Civic and doesn't follow a rule, what happens? We take their deposit. Commissioner Skelly said let us regulate our rules and let the governor enforce his rules. Same with rentals, tell them the rules and it's up to them to enforce it. Commissioner Spriggs said aren't we in the end the responsible party? Attorney Freeman said any of this could be problematic. The grant you applied for, Covid reimbursement or liquor license. No right answer here. Understand what Commissioner Skelly is saying. Director Heitz said what happens when the club doesn't follow our rules, how do we handle that? Commissioner Skelly said there would be consequences. Commissioner Skelly thinks Director Heitz is working extra hard and going above and beyond and putting more work on her plate. It's a compliment. You overstretch our liability and do 200% on looking out for us. Appreciate it but you already have so much on your plate. Let hockey club worry about hockey and we worry about park district.

### **Appointment of Commissioner**

Director Heitz: We received 3 applications. Deadline was October 16. Commissioner Spriggs said we have been doing good with 4 but don't want to entertain accepting a 5<sup>th</sup> when the election is in April. Just happy with our 4 for now. Commissioner Hollis agrees that it is so close to the election, don't know any of the 3 applicants. We would be doing them a disservice because they probably wouldn't be sworn in until January. If these 3 people want to run, let them run for the seat. Attorney Freeman said if they want to run they need to submit the paperwork in December. Commissioner Palmer said if he was one of the 3 of these applicants, he'd be upset. Have a real problem with how we are approaching this. They are adults and they can decide if they want to run in the election or not. Did look at the applications. Attorney Freeman said Director Heitz can contact these people to let them know we are holding off until the election. Commissioner Skelly asked if we want to do interviews? Possible someone may come in and blow us away. No, opposed to doing interviews. Commissioner Hollis thinks interviews would be a waste of his time because his mind is made up. Commissioner Spriggs said he wouldn't be in on the interviews. As a courtesy we should send them letters. Director Heitz will contact them.

### **KCC Agreement Amendment**

Director Heitz: Looking for approval. KCC has signed. We will be able to do tuition waivers for staff. A motion to approve the KCC agreement amendment was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Hollis. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye:

A. Hollis, D. Palmer, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. With 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried. Director Heitz said Mike Boyd really looks forward to continued partnership.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Ordinance #2.04**

Aaron Gold-Speer Financial: Presented results from rollover bond Series 2020. Received 3 bids. Low bid was 1.29% from Peoples Bank, 2<sup>nd</sup> was 1.65% from Herscher Community School District. Hope to close in 2 weeks. With the low interest, it increases the amount the district will get. Bond will be used to pay bond and rest will be used for capital. This has been a turning point for the district. Recommend the bid be approved from People's Bank. Commissioner Hollis asked if we put it out locally? Mr. Gold said yes, it was distributed to banks in Kankakee area. A motion to approve ordinance #2.04 providing for the issue of approximately \$325,995 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2020, for capital in and for the District, for the payment of certain outstanding bonds 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 sale bonds to the winning bidder was made by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Spriggs. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: A. Hollis, D. Palmer, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. With 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

### **Ordinance #2.05 Abating the tax levy for the year 2020 to pay GO Park Bond Series 2018C**

A motion to approve ordinance #2.05 was made by Commissioner Hollis, seconded by Commissioner Spriggs. Upon roll call vote the following Commissioners voted aye: A. Hollis, D. Palmer, D. Skelly, and B. Spriggs. With 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

### **Resolution to open bank account with McHenry Savings**

Director Heitz: We need to separate some of our funding. This would put our capital funds separate. Chose them because they have bought the last 4 out of 5 bonds. This time they didn't win the bid but still very comfortable with them. Commissioner Skelly said unless there is an overwhelming reason to go out of Kankakee, would like to stay in town. Director Heitz said that no one local has bought out bonds. Commissioner Skelly said maybe if we did business in town, we could be building a relationship and maybe they would buy our bonds. Commissioner Hollis said we have sent out the information on the bonds. Am a local guy too. Mr. Gold just said he hasn't seen our interest rate drop that fast. No one in town jumped in to buy our bond. Almost tempted to take all the money out of Midland because why aren't they dealing with us? He thinks maybe we should have a conversation with the other banks and to ask the question. What is the problem? Midland is making money off of us. Don't understand because it's not like they won't get paid. Commissioner Skelly understands. He said we have

an opportunity to make the first move. Contact them and find out what their rates are. Every bank can't buy every bond. Depends on what they are invested in at that time. We have gone from over 9% to less than 2%. Commissioner Hollis said all that sounds good in theory. In reality, someone's feelings are hurt. County, city, other municipalities are getting everything bought by the local banks. He thinks that conversation needs to happen and someone can tell the truth on why they can't buy our bonds. To just keep denying us, is to let us keep assuming. Want to keep everything local. However, if home isn't reciprocating, have to go elsewhere. Director Heitz said with a prior bond, we went to banks, and jumped through hoops for splash valley money and no one helped. This bank account would be for capital only. They don't have the fees we pay here. Commissioner Skelly said we aren't giving the local banks a chance. Commissioner Hollis said we went and sat down with them and tried. Think the Director and a commissioner need to go sit down with the banks and see what's going on. Director Heitz said we could put our funds in Illinois Funds if we want. Commissioner Hollis wants to table this and meet with local banks to figure out what we want to do moving forward. Commissioner Skelly said he would go with Dayna to sit in. Also, look to see if they can waive fees and be comparable. If we are going to lose a bunch of money by staying local, then understand looking elsewhere. Commissioner Spriggs understands why they wouldn't talk to us a few years ago but it's been long enough.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Executive Director**

**Dayna Heitz:** No timeframe but working with the county and we will be receiving the 3 lots by Steve Hunter and they will help us with the tax exemption. Farm lease termination notice went out. Working on timeline. Want to give exact acreage instead of approximately. Meeting with Marcie the end of the month. Seasonal staff will be departing the end of this week. Looking at 2 people to hire for full time position. When the budget was figured, started new people beginning of fiscal. We have a wage differential and there is some money left. Could hire an additional staff member for up to 32 hours a week. Don't know what our increase will be on our benefits yet for renewal. Posted a letter on website regarding COVID-19. Shown letter from Kankakee Health Department. Did a survey on the camera option from boat harbor. They are willing to pay. 13 out of 14 thought it was worth an increase. \$20 for the whole year. Commissioner Skelly said boat club said we could use the boat club WIFI and no charges. DVR could be housed there too. Director Heitz said WIFI or cameras won't be accessible to public. Us and police department would be able to access if needed.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **KCCVB:**

**Dayna Heitz:** No update.

## **Historical Society**

**Commissioner Spriggs:** No update.

## **SRA**

**Commissioner Palmer:** Meet next week. Did speak to attorney Mark Steffen regarding Executive Director's contact.

## **COMMISSIONERS FORUM**

Commissioner Hollis thanked Director Heitz for the communication included. It's helpful in case he receives phone calls.

## **Executive Session**

A motion to go into executive session was made at 6:07pm by Commissioner Hollis, seconded by Commissioner Skelly. Upon voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made to reopen regular meeting at 6:35pm by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Hollis. On voice vote motion passed.

## **ADJOURN MEETING**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 6:36pm by Commissioner Skelly, seconded by Commissioner Spriggs. Upon voice vote, all ayes, motion carried.

## **OFFICIAL REPORTS:**

1. Committee Meeting Minutes (September 14, 2020)
2. Board Meeting Minutes (September 28, 2020)
3. Special Meeting Minutes (October 13, 2020)
4. Bills Payable
5. Financial Statement
6. KCC Agreement
7. Ordinance 2.04
8. Ordinance 2.05
9. Executive Director Report

Respectfully submitted: Melissa Woodard