

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 2/16/16

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: John Hemingway, Jim Bloom, Pat Sowers, Valencia Pettigrew & Steve Horrell
Attorney Joe O'Donnell
Staff Present: Ray Peterson, Rachel Lenz & Johnathon Wrenn
Media and others: 4

6:00 – President Hemingway declared the meeting open.

2. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Bloom moved for approval of the agenda with a correction to the date. Commissioner Sowers seconded the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes – 0 nays).

3. Consideration of and action on the minutes, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements – Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sowers. The motion passed (5 ayes - 0 nays). Treasurer Bloom requested action on the January financial statements and February bills and transfers be delayed to coincide with the action regarding the 2016 Operating Budget. Hearing no objection President Hemingway directed the action be delayed as proposed.

4. Public Comment – None

5. President's report – President Hemingway reminded Commissioners that the March meeting will be held on the 22nd. Hemingway reported that he has met with representatives of the Risinger Group regarding the proposed multi-use recreation / school building. He informed Commissioners that the association now as the Community Action Project (CAP) has retitled Community First. President Hemingway explained that during the two “web” meetings most of the information focused on the specific uses and needs of the participating organizations. He explained that prospective development sites were presented for immediate feedback which he expressed his personal opinion of general neutrality of the selections. Hemingway informed commissioners of the general locations suggested for their consideration regarding the needs of the Macomb Park District. President Hemingway stated that the next scheduled meeting would be on March 25 and include Committee member Bloom and in an advisory capacity Recreation Superintendent Lenz.

President Hemingway reminded commissioners that this was the date for turning in revisions and comments regarding the draft personnel policies. He stated that the annual economic disclosure forms are now eligible to be filed with the county clerk's office. He also reminded commissioners that it is also time for the completion of the State of Illinois Open Meeting Act Training. Commissioners with the exception of officers need only take the training once during their time on the board however officers must take the course every year.

6. Director's report – Peterson reported that work on the budget and the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance have taken considerable time this month. In addition the preparations for the annual audit by Ruesch, Butler and Associates are complete with the final report expected in May. Peterson informed the board of ongoing problems with the dog park at Patton Park. The unseasonably warm weather has created a very muddy situation at the entrances of both pens and on the slope in the large area. Maintenance dumped what wood chips were available

but was inadequate. In addition the ground will be damaged by continued use of heavy vehicles to haul more cover. The staff is considering affordable options at this point that will improve safety while not creating long term problems for dogs, turf or the pond. Commissioners asked why this time is more problematic than other similar occurrences. Peterson explained that typically the problem has not occurred this early in the year, damage now may not be repairable for months. Commissioner Sowers suggested the area be closed until a solution can be selected to protect the people, pets and property. Without exception the commissioners concurred.

Peterson informed the board that since MAUA has disbanded the district has tried to find organizations or individuals willing to offer the program but to date has not been successful. Commissioner Bloom suggested that if the district is considering operation of the program and budget and program plan be prepared for board consideration at the March meeting. Peterson reported that a new energy efficient thermostat has been installed at Ball Fore to help reduce usage during the off season. Peterson stated that the district would be advertising for summer positions in a couple of weeks but wanted to remind anyone thinking of applying for seasonal employment with the district to get the applications soon as frequently most positions are filled very early in the spring. In addition Peterson informed the Board that his surgery delayed from February is now schedule for March 1 and he will be out of office for several days.

7. Committee reports – Finance Committee – Treasurer Bloom reviewed the current account balances. While the balances to be good, Treasurer Bloom expressed caution as cash will be tight in some individual funds until the 2106 tax money starts coming in and the Project Fund is committed mostly to the Veterans Park Development.

8. Consideration and action on the 2016 Operating Budget - Treasurer Bloom expressed his appreciation to Business Manager Frankhauser for his work regarding the multiple revisions and changes during this budget process. He stated that the budget has been modified most significantly by moving Lakeview Nature Area from the Corporate Fund to the Recreation Fund. This places the operation in the area it most logically belongs but does put considerable pressure on the recreation budget. To accommodate the change there are several cuts and reductions to be implemented at Lakeview and there will be a budgeted possible \$10,000 transfer from Corporate to Recreation. The budget has been calculated providing the expenses are on the high side of the range while revenue is calculated on the low end. This will likely provide higher than proposed carryover balances at the end of year. Regarding the current bills Treasurer Bloom explained that the IMRF fund lacks sufficient cash on hand to make to tax distribution therefore a loan from the Liability fund of \$20,000 is requested. These actions are recommended by the Finance Committee. Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the 2016 Operating Budget and the January Financial Statements / February Bills. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sowers. The motion passed on roll call vote (5 ayes - 0 nays).

9. Presentation of the draft 2016 Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #317 - Peterson officially presented copies of Ordinance #317 to the Board and explained that it would be on file for public review until the March 22nd meeting. Treasurer Bloom indicated the Finance Committee has done an initial review of the ordinance.

10. Report on Youth Activity and Facility Survey - Jillian Ross – President Hemingway introduced Jillian Ross a Senior in the Recreation, Parks and Tourism Administration Department at Western Illinois University. Ross briefly explained the form and process of her survey to assess the developmental assets of Macomb youth, specifically Macomb Junior High School students. Ross summarized the results of the survey. Twenty assets covering a wide variety of subjects were included in the survey. Assets such as Family Support, Safety, Community Values and Role Models and many more demonstrated very positive feelings among the children. However two of the assets that shown poorly were Creative Activities and Youth Programs. Ross explained that further examination of these response indicated that the feeling of lack of Youth Programs was based on programs other than those that are

sports related. Commissioners expressed their appreciation and commented that while this has been a long held assumption within the district this data clearly indicates a need area for future program efforts.

11. Closed session 5 ILCS, Par. 120/1, 2(c)(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body - no closed session

12. Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items - Commissioner Bloom reminded Peterson to prepare a review of recent closed session minutes for the March meeting.

President Hemingway recognized Russ Hamm, long time President of the Macomb Area Umpires Association in attendance. Hamm stated that he did not come to speak to the board but to observe the meeting. Commissioner Horrell said the he wanted to take the opportunity to thank Hamm for his years of service both to his organization and to that organizations efforts running the adult softball program in Macomb for the past 20 years.

Commissioner Horrell asked why there was no discussion of the document included in the packet regarding repairs to Glenwood Pool. President Hemingway stated that it was omitted by mistake and thanked Commissioner Horrell for bringing it to his attention. Hemingway summarized the results of the City / Park District meeting to discuss the issues pertaining to relicensing the pool. The estimate for the known repairs is approximately \$50,000 to be equally divided between the city and District as outlined in the current Mutual Support Agreement. Hemingway noted that it is likely there will be additional cost yet to be determined when the repair process is underway. The Macomb Park District is initiating the process to create plans for submission to the State of Illinois for approval before advertisement, bids and contract award can take place. In addition as mentioned last month the maximum repair amount covered in the agreement is set at \$75,000 per occurrence therefore careful monitoring must take place throughout the process. Commissioners acknowledged that for several years the community has been aware that there would be a point that the pool may have to be taken out of service and if significant additional problems are discovered that point may be soon.

6:49 Meeting adjourned on motion from Bloom, second by Horrell.

Respectfully submitted

Ray Peterson, Secretary
Macomb Park District