

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 5/17/16

MINUTES:

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

6:00 – President Hemingway declared the meeting open.

2. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Bloom requested the agenda be modified to allow item #9 to be #3 so as to accommodate the representative of the Macomb Downtown Development Corporation. Hemingway asked if there was any opposition to the change, there was none. Bloom moved to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Sowers seconded the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).

3. Consideration and possible action regarding Ordinance #318 Ordinance Amending Ordinance #309 (establishing a new Enterprise Zone and Abating ad valorem property taxes imposed therein) - Kim Pierce explained that this technical correction was necessary due to an omission in the original ordinance (309). Commissioner Bloom moved to approve Ordinance #318 as submitted. Commissioner Sowers seconded the motion. During discussion Commissioners Bloom and Hemingway stated that given the current pressure from the State of Illinois to further restrict property taxes they could not support future property tax abatements for Enterprise Zone legislation. Pierce responded that she understood the situation and thank the board for their support to this point. The motion passed on roll call vote (4 ayes - 0 nays).

4. Consideration of and action on the minutes, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements –
Commissioner Bloom moved to approve the minutes with corrections, changing General Account to General Fund and Consolidated Account to Consolidated Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sowers. The motion passed (4 ayes - 0 nays). On behalf of the Finance Committee Treasurer Bloom recommended tabling the approval of the April financial statements and May bills and transfers due to some last minutes corrections that did allow sufficient time for adequate review.

5. Public Comment – None

6. President's report - Hemingway stated that there had been a bid opening regarding the pool repairs that the director would cover in more detail, however the subject of the pool will need to be addressed by the board in the near future. 2016 is the last year of the current Inter Governmental Agreement with the City of Macomb governing the Park District's management of the pool. Hemingway indicated that there will be several issues the district must consider in the process.

7. Director's report – Peterson informed the board of the results of the bid opening for the pool repairs. The successful bid was submitted by Tri States Water of Galesburg Illinois in the amount of \$48,016. Peterson explained that this was considerably under the engineer's estimate of \$65,000. While there will be additional cost for the design and engineering work to be added the total will be under the amount in the Intergovernmental

Support agreement of \$75,000. There may be additional cost if additional problems are disclosed during the repair process. The repairs should be completed by early June. Peterson explained there is no projected opening date due to the state testing and licensing process which prevents the pool from opening until completed. He indicated he hoped the pool could be operational by mid-June.

Peterson reported that all the diamond sport leagues are underway with the Adult softball starting tonight at Downing. He stated that the first significant softball tournament of the year was held last weekend at Veterans Park hoisted by the McDonough County Association for Traveling Softball (CATS) which had in excess of a thousand players and spectators in attendance. Post tournament response was very positive for both the facility and the district support personnel.

Last weekend the district also hosted the first Human Foosball tournament in this area. Peterson asked Superintendent Rachel Lenz to report on that event and upcoming activities. Lenz stated that while the numbers of teams participating were less than hoped for it was a good spectator event with several hundred people watching the activity. The tournament raised over \$3,000 dollars for The Center for Youth and Family Solutions. Lenz informed the board the next special event will be the Blues Festival next weekend. She recognized sponsors Copperfield Books and the Barnyard Guitars.

Peterson reported that the rough grading work has been completed at the Veterans Park Baseball fields and structural work will be starting as soon as weather permits. He informed the board that there had been a break in and theft at Veterans soccer field concession that resulted in damage to the building and destruction of a cash register along with the theft of a considerable amount of candy. The Macomb Police successfully identified and arrested the four juveniles involved. Final figures of damage and theft are not available at this time.

Peterson stated that the district has completed the first testing of a communication system utilizing text messages for information distribution and marketing. He asked Business Manager Chris Frankhauser to explain the system and potential uses. Frankhauser explained that for a set monthly fee the district now has the capability to target send text messages for a variety of functions. The system will be useful for quick notification to specific population for things like cancellations and closure as well as larger scale dissemination of information of upcoming programs and events. The staff is developing a template to assure recipients know the message is from the Macomb Park District because it will show an unfamiliar area code (317) as the messages will run through Indianapolis.

8. Committee reports – Treasurer Bloom reported on the status of the General and Consolidated Funds pointing out that the General fund will continue be in need of loan support until tax payments are received. He indicated that would likely be around mid June

9. Presentation and Review of the 2015 annual audit - Gregg Butler - Gregg Butler of the accounting firm of Ruesch, Butler and Associates presented the results of the annual audit. Butler complimented the district's accuracy regarding the comparison of budget and expenditures, variances were within acceptable norms. Butler did point out a couple of areas that may become problematic over the long term.

10. Review and possible action regarding as extension of agreement with Utility Management Consultants LLC - Peterson stated that this is part of the monitoring process provided by Utility Management to best advise the district regarding utility cost and future trends. Peterson then asked Business Manager Chris Frankhauser to explain the details of the proposal. Frankhauser informed the board of the cost projection analysis and the possible vendors with options for extending the agreement.

11. Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items - Commissioner Bloom requested the district consider targeting senior citizen recreation programs as in his opinion there are not sufficient leisure activity options available to that population. Commissioner Bloom also asked for the status of the proposed ordinance governing the use of motorized vehicles. Peterson responded that he has not met Attorney O'Donnell at this point but will soon.

6:38 Meeting adjourned on motion from Sowers, second by Pettigrew.

Respectfully submitted

Ray Peterson, Secretary
Macomb Park District