

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 09/19/2023

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: Phil Weiss, Molly Selders, Neil Armstrong, & Russ Hamm

Attorney: Emily Sutton

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz

Media and others: 7

1. 6:00 p.m. – President Weiss declared the meeting open

2. Approval of Agenda – President Weiss started with a small amendment to the agenda, striking “presentation by Shawn Ajazi” from item 7 as Shawn would not be in attendance to the meeting that evening. Commissioner Hamm moved for the approval of the agenda as amended. Commissioner Selders second the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).

3. Consideration of and action on the August meeting minutes, bills and transfers, monthly financial statements – Commissioner Armstrong moved to approve the August meeting minutes. Commissioner Hamm second the motion. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).

Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of the balances for the consolidated fund and each of the general fund accounts. Hamm shared the District received another tax distribution on September 12th of approximately \$544,500, bring the total received distribution to approximately 88%. The District also received a PPRT check on August 10 for approximately \$6,200. Commissioner Selders moved to approve. Commissioner Armstrong second the motion. The bills and financial statements were approved on a roll call vote (4 ayes – 0 nays).

4. Open public presentation to Commissioners – N/A

5. President's report – President Weiss welcomed the students from the RPTH Department that were present in the audience that evening. Weiss also took a moment to thank the District staff for their tremendous work through yet another busy season and for their dedication to making Macomb a wonderful place to live and play.

6. Director's report – Director Lenz shared the installation of the shade structures at Patton Park were finally underway; several play pockets would be closed temporarily while those structures were installed. Work has also begun on the first of three Meditative Garden pod, which will be located just north of the pond. Lenz was excited to announce that this year the District installed approximately 3,948 TerreWalk panels for the multiuse path, with each panel weighing 25 pounds each, meaning the District kept 98,700 pounds of plastic out of the landfill through that installation alone. Lenz went on to give a brief overview of upcoming programs and events.

Director Lenz shared the Macomb Park District has taken on a new bond underwriting company: Bernardi Security Inc. The District is also working with a new website hosting company and has begun the process of completely rebuilding the current website. Lastly, Director Lenz shared the unofficial assessment of the office building from the engineer with IMEG, “I can tell you that this building (pole barn) is not designed to be used as an office building it is designed for

storage. This means it does not meet the code requirements for office building, not to mention the other issues. Therefore, I am going to recommend abandoning your current office location.”

7. Consideration and possible action on entering into an agreement with Progressive Business Solutions – ~~presentation by Shawn Ajazi~~ – President Weiss stated that each commissioner had the opportunity to meet one on one with Director Lenz to discuss and get a better understanding of the options presented to the board last month. Vice President Selders shared a letter the District had received from the President of the Everly Trust:

September 16, 2023

Dear Rachel:

Thank you for meeting with me last week to review and discuss the solar project proposal from Progressive Business Solutions. This email will confirm the details of that discussion, specifically the following.

- 1. The Everly Park Board of Trustees unanimously agrees to the proposed siting of the solar panel array that will serve the Park District office buildings at 1406 N Randolph Street.*
- 2. The Macomb Park District will fence and permanently maintain the affected grounds, including surrounding the array with plantings intended to attract pollinators.*
- 3. In the event that the solar array is removed and/or relocated, the Park District will remove the fencing and restore and maintain the affected grounds, again using plantings intended to attract pollinators. Naming the restored area may be considered, but will be discussed at a later date as the need arises.*

Please let me know if the Park District needs any additional information or confirmation from the Everly Park Trustees.

Sincerely,

*John L. Hemingway, President
Everly Park Board of Trustees*

Commissioner Armstrong made the motion that the board approve option three listed in the proposal provided by Progressive Business Solutions, partnering with Constellation Energy on the Energy Made Easy program. Commissioner Selders second the motion. The motion was approved on a roll call vote (4 ayes, 0 nays).

8. Closed session: The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body – 5ILCS 120/2(5) – Commissioner Selders moved to enter into closed session. Commissioner Armstrong second the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote (4 ayes, 0 nays). **Board enter into closed session at 6:24 p.m.*

The board reentered open session at 6:30 p.m. President Weiss summarized the discussion had during closed session: The board reviewed the proposal and has reached consensus not to accept the proposal. Commissioner Hamm moved to approve. Commissioner Armstrong second. The motion to deny the proposal was approved on a roll call vote (4 ayes, 0 nays).

9. Open Commissioner presentation and discussion of future agenda items – Commissioner Armstrong noticed additional patrol throughout the WIU mega reunion weekend and commended the patrol team for their diligence and awareness.

6:33 PM – Meeting adjourned on a motion from Selders, second by Armstrong. The motion passed (4 ayes – 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary
Macomb Park District