

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 10/20/2020

MINUTES:

Commissioners present: John Hemingway, Russ Hamm, & Emily Gamage

Attorney: Joe O'Donnell

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz

Media and others: 2

1. 6:00 p.m. – Commissioner Hemingway declared the meeting open.
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Hamm moved for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Gamage seconded the motion. The motion passed (3 ayes – 0 nays).
3. **Consideration of and action on the minutes, bills and transfers, and monthly financial statements** – Commissioner Hamm moved to approve the regularly scheduled July meeting minutes. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The motion passed (3 ayes – 0 nays).

Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of the consolidated fund and general fund balances. Hamm noted that Director Lenz and staff have done an excellent job adjusting expenses as revenues are not coming in. Hamm also informed the board the District received another tax distribution of 25% allocation at \$213,543; approximately 10% of the distribution is yet to be distributed to the District and is anticipated in mid-November. Commissioner Hamm also mentioned the District has submitted reimbursement requests to the state for COVID expenses that they have incurred. [The District was awarded a \$27,000 allocation through the DCEO Local CURE program]. The District also received a Personal Property Replacement Tax allocation of \$10,506 in October. Commissioner Gamage moved to approve the bills and transfers and monthly financial statements. Commissioner Hemingway second the motion. The September financial statements and October bills were approved on roll call vote (3 ayes – 0 nays).

4. **Public Comment** – None
5. **Conduct a public hearing for the issuance of park bonds for park purposes, for the payment of outstanding obligations of the District and for the payment of expenses incident thereto** – Commissioner Hemingway declared the public hearing open at 6:09 p.m. With no one in attendance for the public hearing, Commissioner Hamm moved to close the public hearing. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The public hearing closed at 6:10 p.m. on a roll call vote (3 ayes – 0 nays).
6. **President's report** – N/A
7. **Director's report** – Director Lenz announced the lights at the Veterans Park baseball diamond were turned on this morning for a test run. There is still work to be done but exciting to see the light at the end of the tunnel for this project. Ball Field did open on September 25th and was open for four weekends but is now closed for the season. The Macomb Park District will be hosting their first Wizard Quest on October 31st from Noon to 3:00 p.m. in the Glenwood Stone Shelter. The event is spread out between Glenwood and Everly Park to allow for social distancing and masks are required but an exciting time for families to join us outside and experience the true magic of parks. Since the last board meeting, two additional "open house" style events were hosted at Patton Park for the newly announced developments of the facility. Director Lenz thanked the community

members who were in attendance and the feedback that was provided as well as her staff and the work they put into a very successful series of events. The first Push 4 Parks Partner campaign is coming to a close at the end of October with the Homemade Dog Treats from The Old Dairy. Lenz encouraged the public to head there before the end of the month to support this generous campaign and thanked Commissioner Gamage for kicking off this series of campaigns. The Whytehouse is the November Push 4 Parks Partner. They will be selling an \$8 Tenderloin, \$2 of every Tenderloin sold will go to the Patton Park Project. Lenz also announced that IMEG Corp have offered to mark the GIS location of each fence post for the bone shaped dog park as an in-kind donation to the Patton Park project. Lenz thanked IMEG for their continued partnership with the Park District and their generosity toward this important community project.

The Macomb Park District had our IPARKS Loss Control audit, which occurs every other year, and came out with only two minor compliance change requests (light up Exit signs over the doors at Lakeview and capping missing breakers in a panel box.) Lenz congratulated Superintendent Armstrong for his diligent work in keeping the District up to standard. Lenz informed the board that public restrooms will be closing the last weekend of October as the winter weather starts moving in. Lenz also has registered for the IAPD Legal Symposium happening on November 5th. Director Lenz announced that the District's long time Office Manager, Sharon Camp, is retiring after 15 years. Lenz thanked Sharon for her years of service to the District.

Commissioner Hemingway also took the opportunity to recognize Sharon Camp and the work she has done for the District. "She is the rock on which the Park District has rested, she is the one who has answered the happy calls and maybe the not so happy calls, she has kept more people in line...she is the epitome of what a public employee should be."

8. **Consideration and possible action on Executive Director attending the National Park and Recreation Association Conference.** – Lenz reminded the Commissioners that her contract limits the dollar amount that can be spent on educational offerings, which she typically meets with the IAPD conferences she attends. NRPA is not something she normally considers as the cost to travel across country to attend would be far and above. This year NRPA has moved the conference to a virtual platform making it much more financially feasible for her to attend. Lenz expressed her interest in hearing about how parks and recreation agencies in other states are navigating the pandemic as well as other relevant topics happening in our nation's current climate. The cost of the conference is \$295. Commissioner Gamage moved to approve. Commissioner Hamm second. The motion passed (3 ayes – 0 nays).
9. **Distribution and discussion of Executive Director's Annual Review packet** – Commissioner Hemingway stated this is a contractual item. The Director is required to submit a list of goals at the start of each year that the Board acts on and then at this point in October and then in November the status on those goal is also contractually required. As several commissioners are not in attendance and no action is required this evening, Commissioner motioned to delay any discussion or consideration until the November meeting where the Commissioners, as a full board, can proceed. Commissioner Hamm second the motion. The motion passed (3 ayes – 0 nays).
10. **Discussion and possible action on naming an official delegate for the IAPD Business Meeting** – Commissioner Hemingway stated the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) hosts an annual business meeting each year in conjunction with the annual state conference. The District is required to select a delegate to represent the Park District who then also gets to take part in the quality educational offerings that occur at conference. As the District has been doing this on a rotating basis, Commissioner Gamage is next in line. Hemingway stated that this year will be hosted virtually. Hemingway proposed that Commissioner Gamage attend virtually this year and then, on the hopeful assumption that the conference will be in person in 2022,

have Commissioner Gamage attend in person at that point. Commissioner Hemingway moved to approve. Commissioner Hamm second the motion. The motion passed (3 ayes – 0 nays).

11. **Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items** – Commissioner Hemingway stated he joined the board in 2007 and it has been a most rewarding and enjoyable thing to be part of. Hemingway believes the District has come remarkably far in that time through professionalism of staff, refinement of facilities, etc. Hemingway feels he has served his time and announced he will not be running for his seat again in the April election. Hemingway is making this announcement in advance as the deadline for submission for election positions is December 21st and he wants to allow interested parties time to consider this possibility. “We need good people in local government.” Hemingway encouraged anyone with the slightest interest to contact President Phil Weiss, Director Lenz, or any of the sitting commissioners.

6:35 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Gamage, second by Hamm. The motion passed (3 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary
Macomb Park District