

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 12/17/19

MINUTES:

Commissioners: Philip Weiss, John Hemingway, Russ Hamm, Stirling Edwards, & Emily Gamage

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz

Attorney: Joe O'Donnell

Media and others: 1

6:08 p.m. –President Weiss declared the meeting open.

2. Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Hamm moved for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Hemingway 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 Hemingway moved for approval of the November meeting minutes. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes – 0 nays). Treasurer Hamm gave account summaries of both the consolidated fund and each of the general fund balances. Treasurer Hamm also shared with the board anticipated payments that were to be paid at the end of the year, such as the debt certificate payments. Commissioner Edwards moved to approve of the bills and transfers and monthly financial statements. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The November financial statements and December bills were approved on roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).

4. Public Comment – None

5. President's report – President Weiss reminded the commissioners of the November meeting board action to give the Director a 5% salary increase in conjunction with her contract renewal. Weiss informed the board that Director Lenz has countered the offer with a 1.5% raise. As the board authorized a greater percentage than negotiated no further board action is required. Commissioner Hemingway thanked Director Lenz for her concern regarding the well being of the District's finances as well as her concern for District employees. President Weiss also informed the board that three staff applied for a scholarship from the Illinois Park and Recreation Foundation for the upcoming state conference and all three have been granted \$500 each. President Weiss wanted to publicly thank IPRF for their generous support

6. Director's report – Director Lenz informed the board of the upcoming bid schedule for the Veterans Park youth baseball diamond lighting project. The pre-bid meeting will be taking place on December 19 at 11:00 a.m. at the Park District main office. The Bid opening will take place on January 9th at 11:00 a.m. at the Park District main office. The bid award will be decided at the January 21st regularly scheduled board meeting, which is to be hosted at the Macomb Park District main office. Director Lenz also took the opportunity to publicly thank IPRF for their investment in the continued education of the staff who applied for the scholarship to the state

conference. Lenz informed the board that new law being introduced as of January 1, 2020 required the district to install baby changing stations in all single stall restrooms as well as replace signage with gender neutral signage. Lastly Director Lenz reminded everyone that the Park District will be closed starting December 24th through January 1st. Regular hours will begin again starting January 2nd.

7. Consideration and action on the 2019 Property Tax Levy Ordinance #334 – Director Lenz provided a brief overview of the 2019 property tax levy and the process by which the ordinance is developed. Director Lenz pointed out one addition to the document from years past, a notation requesting each restricted levy be protected at the maximum levy percentage. This was added after discussions with the County Clerk, Gretchen DeJayne, in making sure the restrict funds remained at their maximum potential when adjustments were made. Lenz pointed out the Equalized Assessed Value or EAV of Macomb has dropped again this year as well as the Consumer Price Index or CPI, which both dictate the amount that can be levied for the District. Lenz said she along with the District staff are look at ways to cut down on costs to help in the limited resources the District would see and gave kudos to the staff for their continued dedication to reduced spending. Commissioner Hemingway motioned to approve Ordinance #334. Commissioner Edwards seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote (5 ayes, 0 nays).

8. Resolution 19-1: Reduction of Single-Use Plastics and Carbon Footprint – Due to the resolution not being distributed in a timely manner to commissioners, Commissioner Hemingway moved to table the resolution to the January meeting. Commissioner Edwards second the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays).

9. Open Commissioner presentation and discussion of future agenda items. – Commissioner Hemingway thanked the board for their dedication to the district over this year and thanked the District staff and volunteers for all the work they do in providing services to the community.

Commissioner Edwards asked about implications and documentation being prepared for the legalization of cannabis in the new year. Director Lenz informed him both she and Superintendent Armstrong had attended educational meetings provided by the Illinois Association of Park Districts on this issue. She would be developing a policy as recommended by the lawyers at the IAPD function and working with the District's attorney before bringing it to the board.

6:42 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Hamm, second by Edwards. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary
Macomb Park District