

MACOMB PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING 03/16/2021

MINUTES:

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

Attorney: N/A

Staff Present: Rachel Lenz

Media and others: 2

1. 6:00 p.m. – President Weiss declared the meeting open.
2. **Approval of Agenda** –Commissioner Gamage moved for approval of the agenda. Commissioner Edwards 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 Edwards moved to approve the regularly scheduled meeting January minutes. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes – 0 nays).

Treasurer Hamm informed commissioners that he would have two reports this month as the board did not meet in February. For January 2021, Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of the start of the year balances for the consolidated fund and each general fund account. Commissioner Hamm informed the board that District received Personal Property Replacement Tax allocation in the way of \$12,933 on January 11<sup>th</sup>. For February 2021, Treasurer Hamm gave an overview of the balances for the consolidated fund and each general fund account. Commissioner Gamage moved to approve the bills and transfers and monthly financial statements. Commissioner Edwards second the motion. The January and February financial statements and February and March bills were approved on roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).

4. **Public Comment** – None
5. **President’s report** – President Weiss informed the board that Attorney Joe O’Donnell is no longer able to continue serving as the Board’s attorney and thanked Joe for his time served with the board. Weiss also discussed the upcoming board election and informed commissioners that there would be one seat open. If commissioners are aware of anyone interested in joining the board at this time they should have them reach out to Secretary Lenz for more information.
6. **Director’s report** – Director Lenz updated the commissioners on the Push 4 Parks campaign ongoing this year. Forgottonia Brewing has developed a “Barks & Rec” blueberry ale and for every pour \$1 is donated to the Patton Park Project. Along with that, Forgottonia is hosting a Parks and Rec trivia show that Director Lenz and Superintendent Armstrong will be emceeding on Thursday, March 18 starting at 6:00. The next Push 4 Parks partner is Brown Show Fit of Macomb, for every pair of running shoes they sell in the month of April \$5 will be donated to the Patton Park Project. With that Lenz gave a brief update on the Patton developments. The playground equipment is in, working to get on the calendar with a playground installer, the dog park equipment is in, and the fencing is onsite. IMEG was onsite last week to GIS locate certain fence posts to make the dog bone shape. IMEG did this as an in kind donation to the Patton Park Project. Lenz and Superintendent Hoyt met with a plumber on Friday to discuss lines for water fountains. That work will be done prior to the fencing being put in.

Planning is underway for the summer with Ball Fore, events, and recreational offerings. Lenz stated she would have more of an update for the board at the April meeting. Adult softball league is continuing under the leadership of Mike Vance. Lenz has been in communication with several Macomb youth baseball/softball leagues. Lakeview Prairie Hunt will be every Saturday and Sunday starting March 20 through April 11 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; Lakeview Nature Area Leave No Trace Workshop on March 27<sup>th</sup> starting at 1:00 p.m.; and ceramics continues to be well received from the community and that success is seen through her continued registration numbers. Lenz informed the board the onsite work day with the District's new audit firm went very well. Lastly, Erin Hill has stepped from her position as Superintendent of Events. Lenz has begun the search for the next Superintendent of Events.

7. **Public Hearing regarding the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance #339** – President Weiss informed the board that Ordinance #339 has been on file for the public to view at the Park District for the required 30 days. President Weiss made a motion to open the Public Hearing, Commissioner Hemingway second the motion. The public hearing was opened at 6:21 on a roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).

As there was no one present for the Public Hearing, President Weiss made a motion to close the Public Hearing, Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The public hearing was opened at 6:21 on a roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).

8. **Consideration and possible action on Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #339** – Director Lenz took a minute to reiterate the convoluted nature of the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. The appropriation section is the District's best attempt to estimate every dollar that flows through each fund. Some dollars get counted twice, such as payroll as certain payroll goes from the general fund, into the payroll account, and then is paid to the staff. Lenz wanted to reassure commissioners that the 2.8 million dollars shown on the appropriations was not actually Lenz' estimated spending for FY21. The actual estimated funding for FY21 is \$1,300,000. Commissioner Weiss moved to approve Budget and Appropriation Ordinance #339. Commissioner Edwards second the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).
9. **Presentation of Executive Director's goals with possible action** – Director Lenz read the specified goals for the upcoming year:

1. Continue to research Green infrastructure and practices and implement through district facilities where feasible.
2. Begin Development of Patton Park renovation as well as continue community engagement through survey's, fundraising, and partnerships
3. Develop & initiate Financial Innovation plan as a District wide practice
4. Continue park modification, renovation, and beautification plan through remaining facilities
5. Cultivate relationship with local legislators
6. Cultivate community relationships beneficial to the Park District

Commissioner Hemingway asked if a review of our budgeting process in conjunction with the changes and recommendations presented by the new auditing firm. Commissioner Weiss recommended the continuation of the Strategic Plan be prioritized as goals for the year as well. Commissioner Hemingway moved to approve the Executive Director's goals with the recommended additions. Commissioner Hamm second the motion. The motion passed (5 ayes – 0 nays).

10. **Discussion and possible action on purchase of Security Truck** – President Weiss asked Director Lenz to give a quick overview before taking the item to vote. Lenz reminded the board that District vehicles are on a scheduled rotation to keep the fleet in good working order and keep maintenance costs low. It has been some time since the Main Office fleet has been prioritized on this schedule. Superintendent Armstrong did take lead on this search to make sure this is what the Security team needed. Commissioner Edwards asked if we would be trading in one of our current vehicles being taken off the fleet to off set the cost. Lenz complemented Edwards on his suggestion and said she would have staff look into that. Commissioner Hemingway moved to approve the purchase of the listed truck at the price of \$31,970. Commissioner Gamage second the motion. The motion passed on a roll call vote (5 ayes – 0 nays).
  
11. **Open Commissioner Presentation and discussion of future agenda items** – Commissioner Hamm asked if any thought or action on the Land Acknowledgement proposed earlier via email. Lenz invited commissioners to email her any thoughts they had toward the development of such.

6:44 PM Meeting adjourned on motion from Weiss, second by Gamage. The motion passed (5 ayes, 0 nays).

Respectfully submitted

Rachel Lenz, Secretary  
Macomb Park District