

PEKIN PARK DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF  
THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
6:00 p.m. Thursday, August 26, 2021  
At the Mineral Springs Park Robert N. Blackwell Administration Building  
1701 Court Street, Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to Order:

President Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and all stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call:

The following commissioners were present: Marv Brown, Kyle Cain, Paula Helm, Gary Gillis, Sue McMillan, and Greg Ranney. Absent was Commissioner Kristen Walraven. Also in attendance were; Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Dori Smith, Asst. to the Executive Director's/Board Secretary; Michael Seghetti, Park District Attorney; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Chip Hill, Business Manager; and Alisha Dault; Miller Center Administrator and Luke VonDerHeide, Chief of Park Police. Staff absent Keith Knox; Parkside Fitness Manager.

3. Additions to and/or Deletions from the Agenda, if any: None

4. Comments from the public: None

5. Consent Agenda and Approval of the same:

A. Approval of Minutes from the August 12, 2021 meeting.

Approval of bills paid from 8/10/21 through 8/23/21 in the amount of \$55,089.80

B. Approval of bills to be paid 8/27/21 in the amount of \$27,857.55

C. Approval of the August Treasurer's Report.

Move to accept the Consent Agenda

Motion: Greg Ranney 2<sup>nd</sup>: Gary Gillis

All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

6. Motion to pass the items of business listed in the Consent Agenda:

Move to pass the business items in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kyle Cain

All ayes by a roll call vote – motion carried.

7. Court Street Improvements presentation by Hanson Professional Services, Inc. –

A representative from Hanson Professional Services, Inc. gave a presentation regarding the City of Pekin’s proposed Court Street improvements along Mineral Springs Park. A representative from the City of Pekin was also in attendance. The representative from Hanson Professional Services, Inc. stated that IDOT had deemed the project an “F4 Impact”, which indicates the City of Pekin will need to have the Park District in agreement with the project to go forward. She explained the full scope of the project and the potential impact to Mineral Springs Park and answered questions. Cameron Bettin, Executive Director indicated he would ask for a formal vote endorsing the project at the Park Board meeting September 9, 2021 meeting.

8. Pekin Sports Complex presentation and discussion by Farnsworth Group -

Amy Wilson of the Farnsworth Group reviewed a conceptual plan for additional developments at the Pekin Sports Complex on 19 acres of undeveloped park property. The plan includes; a Recreation Complex Building, outdoor basketball courts, soccer/lacrosse fields, concession/restroom building, maintenance facility, playground, parking, lighting, and a trail system that would tie-in with the existing trail system. She indicated the next step is to put costs to the plan. Amy and Cameron Bettin answered questions. Cameron Bettin indicated that he had heard from the donor and the donor would like to receive information by September 15<sup>th</sup>.

9. Budget Performance Summary Report: July 2021 – No report

10. IRVSRA Representative Report:

Commissioner Ranney stated no meeting – no report

11. Fair Board Representative Report:

Commissioner McMillan stated no meeting – no report, the next scheduled meeting is September 14<sup>th</sup>.

12. Pekin Park Foundation Report:

Cameron Bettin noted they had a short meeting due to the fact that 3 individuals were absent. He reported the Foundation approved additional funding for the Pavilion porch and stairs, and brick work at the sundial. He also noted they spoke briefly about the website (PayPal/Web Services). He also indicated that they were getting ready to start a capital campaign and they would be hiring a marketing firm to run the campaign.

13. Executive Director's Report: (ED) No Report

14. Attorney's Report:

Mike Seghetti reported he had attended a conference call regarding the upcoming rollover bond issue.

15. Staff Reports:

Alisha Dault reported someone had reported an issue with gambling at the Miller Center to Senator Koehler and Representative Luft and that she wanted the board to be aware. She noted it was a simple issue with card playing. She announced September 1<sup>st</sup> as Papa Murphy night for Walk for a Ride and stated that September 21<sup>st</sup> would be the walkathon for Walk for a Ride.

17. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Gillis complimented Luke VonDerHeide for assisting someone who had a flat tire after a fender bender.

Commissioner Helm reported she was on the Winter Wonderland Committee and they are having a hard time finding lights for the trees.

18. Unfinished Business: None

19. New Business:

1. Golf Course equipment and irrigation discussion -

Cameron Bettin asked the board to recall the extensive report Cory Proehl and Greg Funk put together explaining all the issues with the outdated irrigation system at Lick Creek, the aging system at Parkview and extremely outdated equipment. He also noted that he spoke with Aaron Gold of Speer Financial regarding the upcoming and future bond issues. He reported that Aaron is going to work up a model. He also noted that trying to work in funding for

an irrigation system in the current bond model would adversely tie up the District and we would lose capital money. He noted if Golf Fund money was used they would have their hands tied completely. He reported he talked with Cory about a Tourism Grant through DCEO and noted that golf courses were included. He indicated that through the budget process they would be looking at what could be done regarding equipment. He also indicated they would be approaching the Park Foundation with a similar request as Keith and Luke. He noted that Replacement Tax last year was \$985,000 and this year's estimate is 1.1 million and that it may be possible to use some of the money, but will need to be very careful. Cory Proehl added please remember an irrigation system lasts an average of 23 years and Lick Creek's is 46 years old. He also noted that Greg Funk and Steve Funk are the only two left around that know the system. He also noted that Lick Creek is a 160 acres and Parkview is a 110 acres to take care of and that approximately 20 hours a week is spent on irrigation system repairs.

20. Adjourn:

Move to adjourn this meeting.

Motion: Gary Gillis 2nd: Greg Ranney

All ayes by a voice call vote – motion carried

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dori K. Smith, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Pekin Park District