

Pekin Park District  
Minutes of  
The Regular Board Meeting of Park Commissioners  
6:00 p.m. Thursday, December 21, 2023  
Robert N. Blackwell Admin Building  
Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to order.  
President Ranney called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. and all stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll call.  
The following Commissioners were present: The following Commissioners were present: Mike Dralle, Gary Gillis, Sue McMillan, Greg Ranney, and Kyle Cain. Commissioners absent were: Steve Sours and Kristen Walraven. Also, in attendance were; Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Chip Hill, Business Manager/Assistant Board Secretary; Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; Casey Smith, Superintendent of Marketing & Communications; Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; Tony Maxison, Chief of Park Police; Ericka Davis, Superintendent of Human Resources & Risk Management; and Michael Seghetti, Attorney. Absent was Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation.
3. Additions to and/or deletions from the agenda, if any. None.
4. Public Comments: None.
5. Consent Agenda:
  - A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of December 7, 2023.
  - B. Approval of the bills and payroll for 12/5/23 thru 12/18/23 in the amount of \$ 1,103,819.44.
  - C. Approval of bills to be paid 12/22/23 in the amount of \$ 29,349.35.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented or to accept all items in the Consent Agenda except the item withdrawn.

Move to accept the Consent Agenda as presented:  
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Mike Dralle.  
All ayes by a voice call vote- Motion carried.

6. Motion to pass all items of business listed in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote.

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

Motion Kyle Cain; Second Gary Gillis.

All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

7. Pekin Park Foundation Report: Commissioner Gillis reported that the Foundation is getting closer to sending out a targeted mailing regarding the Foundation and ways one can donate. He also mentioned an in kind gift (stock donation) they are to be receiving after the first of the year. The other item they discussed in later on the agenda.
8. Executive Director's Report: The ED mentioned that our Supt. of Marketing and Communications submitted two photos to IPARKS and they are in their 2024 calendar. He also mentioned that he received a letter from IDNR and the Park District did not get the OSLAD grant. He will be looking into why? Also, he had not heard back yet from IDNR as to why we did not receive a PARC grant.
9. Attorney's Report: Park District Legal Counsel reported that Illinois American Water has terminated the contract for the land sale by Lick Creek Golf Course in order to construct a water tower. The reason being is that there are deed restrictions on the property that it must remain a park and there is also a conservation easement in place. It was asked if this could be changed. Legal Counsel indicated that we would have to go back to the entity we purchased the property from, as well as IDNR regarding the conservation easement, in order to change any restrictions.

Commissioner Gillis asked if there is a place we can find these things ahead of time for our properties? The ED said we could, but we would have to do a lot of research at the County and this is something either the attorney would be doing or an intern. Could get expensive to do.

10. Staff Reports: None.
11. Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Cain mentioned that the Park Board has been contacted by an upset person about the lights at the skate park. Commissioner Ranney talked to him and explained the situation with the number of police calls and issues a few months ago that caused the lights to be turned off. The ED indicated that they would assess the situation after a few weeks (after winter break).

Commissioner Gillis acknowledged the staff and board for all that was done in 2024.

Commissioner Ranney thanked all the staff for all that they do.

12. Unfinished Business:

- A. Discussion of the proposed solar power system project for the Arena and Parkside Fitness.

The ED mentioned that included in the packet was the updated proposal from CEDG. He also mentioned that they updated the location to show the panels all the way to the east. The ED, with staff, will look at it more closely and come back to the Board with traffic flow options in order to get the event/overflow parking area to work if it is moved to the west.

Commissioner Gillis mentioned that he reached out to the Peoria Park District about their solar design and the research they have done on it.

- B. Update on the progress of the Mineral Springs Park Performing Arts Venue. Discussion of potential donation and naming rights.

The ED discussed a potential donation that has been brought to the committee raising funds for the Performing Arts Venue. It is from someone who is out of state. It is in the amount of \$500,000. The caveat is that the venue needs to be named after long-time (32 years) Band Director, Steve Skinner. This was brought to the Park Foundation at their December 18 meeting and they approved a recommendation to the Park Board to accept this donation and naming rights. It does fall within the gifting policy they have established. Commissioner Ranney asked if there was any downside to approving this. The ED said no and that by accepting this, the project will become more of a reality because they already have around \$150,000 in hand and another \$50,000 or so in commitments.

Move to accept the donation of \$500,000 for the Performing Arts Venue project and to allow the naming rights for Band Director Steve Skinner:

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Sue McMillan.

All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

13. New Business:

- A. Presentation of the 2024 Police Fund.

The ED and Police staff presented their budget, and highlighted any major changes to staffing, equipment and operations. Attached is the memo presented and reviewed with the Board. Commissioner Gillis asked “How much of the wear and tear is due to the expanse of the Park District?” The ED said that was some of it, but the majority is due to the number of different drivers who use one vehicle. Commissioner

Dralle asked "How many vehicles are in the fleet?" The answer was two.

- B. Presentation of the 2024 Special Purpose Funds – Capital Improvement, Health Insurance, Tort & Liability Insurance, IMRF, Audit, Paving & Lighting, Park District Improvement, and Bonds. The ED mentioned that in Fund 11 – Health Insurance, the premium increased 12.16%. 8.08% of that was account/benefit program adjustments (including market trends). The largest increases were for employee/child and family.
- The ED mentioned that for Fund 31 – Tort and Liability Insurance, that we are still waiting on the renewal quote which has never taken this long. He was told to figure a 10-15% increase. He figured a 15% increase. Workers comp went up 11% due to increase in salaries. Cyber went up 30% due to our increased revenue exposure. Because of these increases, the ED had to adjust the levy for more property tax in this fund, and had to adjust/lower IMRF, Corporate and Recreation in order to do so. He also removed salaries, FICA and health insurance transfers and put these in the General Fund. And he removed Loss Control/Safety Purchases/Training and is hoping to get some of this in the General Fund.
- Fund 32 – IMRF: The ED lowered the levy and property taxes to be received but have a good starting cash and will still end with good ending cash to cover this adjustment.
- Fund 33 – Audit: The audit increased from \$27,000 to \$29,000 because an accounting reporting standard for our leases had to be implemented for the 22 audit and will need to be done for the 23 audit.
- Fund 34- Paving and Lighting: The ED is putting all the remaining monies into paving to use it up in 2023. There were no funds expended on lighting last year.
- Fund 43 – Park District Improvement Fund: LRB-PCSA Usage – Not budgeting to transfer money into this. The ED needs to have a conversation with PCSA. There payments to us keep getting less.
- Police Vehicle Replacement – Not budgeting a transfer again this year because of their budget. Will start up again in FY25 because the Foundation loan payments will be done in 24.
- Miller Center Transportation – The van lease is paid out of this, vehicle replacement funding goes into this, and fundraising expense comes out of this.
- Parkside Operations – Monies from the annual membership fee go here. Will increase substantially next year to \$20,000 + because the loan to the Foundation will be done in 24.
- The ED reviewed the bond funds based on the bond issuance done in October.

- C. Approval of Ordinance No. 23-4: “An ordinance for the levy and assessment of taxes for Pekin Park District, Tazewell and Peoria Counties, Illinois for the year 2023.”  
The ED reviewed the adjustments made to the levy from when the draft of presented. The Corporate (General Fund), IMRF, Recreation and SRA/Handicap were all lowered a bit because the Tort & Liability Insurance had to be increased.

Move to approve Ordinance No. 23-4:  
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Kyle Cain.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

- D. Approval of Resolution No. 23-17: “A Resolution of Pekin Park District, Tazewell and Peoria Counties, Illinois, Adopting the 2023 Tazewell County Multi-Jurisdictional Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan.”

Move to approve Resolution No. 23-17:  
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Sue McMillan.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

- E. Approval of 3% increase for all employees (except the Executive Director which his evaluation will be discussed in closed session) not receiving the minimum wage increase, starting January 1, 2024.

Move to approve the 3% increase effective January 1,2024:  
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Mike Dralle.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

14. Closed Session:

- A. Move to convene into to closed session under Sec 2 (c)(1), appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance of dismissal of specific employees and Sec 2 (c)(21) discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Kyle Cain.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried (Time 7:14 p.m.).

- B. Move to reconvene into open session.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Kyle Cain.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried (Time 7:46 p.m.).

- C. Move to approve the December 7, 2023 closed session Minutes.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Mike Dralle.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

- D. Move to approve a 3% increase for the Executive Director effective January 1, 2024.  
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Sue McMillan.  
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.
15. Adjourn  
Motion Kyle Cain; Second Mike Dralle.  
All ayes by a voice call vote – Motion carried.  
Time: 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.

Chip Hill  
Assistant Board Secretary  
Pekin Park District