

The December 5, 2007 meeting of the Dundee Township Park District Board of Commissioners held at the Recreation and Fitness Center was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Frank Scarpelli. Commissioners responding to roll call were: Jim Bonkoski, Erin Peterson, Craig Rakow, and Frank Scarpelli. John Meschewski was absent.

Consent Agenda

Scarpelli asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for: Approval of Addendum to October 17, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes, Approval of November 7, 2007 Board Meeting Minutes, November Budget Report, November Personnel List, and Payment of Bills. Rakow made a motion with a second by Bonkoski to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Public Hearing to Levy and Assess Taxes

Rakow made a motion with a second by Bonkoski to open the Public Hearing. The motion passed 4 to 0. The following Commissioners were present: Bonkoski, Peterson, Rakow and Scarpelli.

Scarpelli reviewed Ordinance #07-05 Levying and Assessing Taxes of the Dundee Township Park District for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2007 and ending April 30, 2008 in the amount of \$7,653,995 to be levied and assessed on all property subject to taxation within the Dundee Township Park District. The levied amount is as follows:

Corporate Fund	\$2,067,883
Liability Fund	194,588
IMRF Fund	422,675
Social Security Fund	226,640
Recreation Fund	2,109,240
Police Fund	99,052
Special Recreation Fund	827,153
Bond and Interest Fund	1,706,764

Total \$7,653,995

Scarpelli asked if there were any questions or comments on the Levy Ordinance #07-05 and there were none.

Executive Director Tom Mammoser handed out information to the Board regarding the District's Tax Levy as it relates to dollars relative to the funds of the Park District. Last year's tax rate was 38.9 cents and the extension was \$6.7 million. This year's levy is being submitted with a 20% increase so that all of the new growth can be captured. Mammoser explained that he believes there will be an increase in the EAV of approximately 10%. He is not sure how much of that represents new growth. It is unknown at this time what the final levy extension will be, but the District's tax rate will decrease. The District will be able to take advantage of legislation in Senate Bill 1682 which allows the District to increase the levy within the Recreation Fund. This will allow

the District to use those funds for multiple purposes within the Park District. The District increased its levy within the Recreation Fund by 3 cents and reduced the levy in the Police, FICA and Liability Funds by the same amount. Funds can always be transferred from the Recreation Fund back to the other funds if needed. This gives the District more flexibility with its tax dollars.

Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Rakow to adjourn the Public Hearing. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Rakow made a motion with a second by Peterson to approve Ordinance #07-05 Levying and Assessing Taxes of the Dundee Township Park District for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2007 and ending April 30, 2008 in the amount of \$7,653,995 to be levied and assessed on all property subject to taxation within the Dundee Township Park District. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Rakow made a motion with a second by Bonkoski to approve Ordinance #07-06 which authorizes the County Tax Extender to reduce the amount of the 2007 Tax Levy, if the amount of taxes to be extended for 2007 does not equal the District's levied amount due to the tax cap and the estimated projection of new construction. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Rakow to approve Ordinance #07-07 which abates the tax levied for the year 2007 to pay debt service on the General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2001. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Rakow to approve Ordinance #07-08 which abates the tax levied for the year 2007 to pay debt service on the General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2003. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Staff Reports

Assistant Director Jim Miller informed the Board that the annual Calls from Santa were made last night to over 100 children. The brochure went to the Post Office for delivery today. Because the brochure was late going to the Post Office by four days, the resident lottery date has been extended to December 17th. The printer had problems with their press which caused the late delivery of the brochures. The new strength equipment has been ordered for the Fitness Center and is scheduled to come in by the second week in January. The Senior Center Thanksgiving luncheon was held in November and 248 seniors attended. The Christmas luncheon will be held next week and attendance should be about the same for that event. Adult basketball leagues have started with five teams participating. High school basketball leagues play on Sundays and the participation in that league has grown over recent years. Discussion followed on reasons why the adult basketball leagues have become less popular.

Assistant Director Don Kappel explained that he has been working on the Bartels Intergovernmental Agreement with Dundee Township. He has been working with the Kane County Forest Preserve on the Kemper Park buckthorn eradication agreement. The

Board approved an agreement with several revisions regarding the eradication last May, but the revisions were never enacted in the agreement. He has been involved in matters regarding the encroachment situation on the Eickstaedt/Salow property on Route 72. This situation will be discussed further in Executive Session under litigation. He was involved in the meeting with Tri-Cities Little League and he believes that some misunderstandings have been cleared up and both sides can move ahead in a positive manner. The process of hiring the new Superintendent of Park Services has begun. The position has been advertised and as of today 24 applicants have responded. Mike Rea's last day will be December 13th. The position will be open until the end of December and Kappel would like to fill the position by the end of January. Kappel did the annual policies and procedures update for the safety committee. He has been working to obtain the park site at the White Oaks development which is off Lake Marian Road in Carpentersville. He sent out a survey to residents in the area to get input as to what they would like to see on the one acre park parcel. He met with FEMA six times regarding resolving the storm damage that happened on August 23rd. FEMA has assigned the District's case to another agent and Kappel expects he will need to update the new agent on the District's claims. The Park Services department held a bowling outing on October 31st. The event was so successful that 8-10 members of the department have decided to go bowling every Monday after work. The District closed on the Deerpath Park property but it was discovered that Pulte was still paying money to the Village of Carpentersville. The matter has been resolved and the District will need to pay an additional \$4000 to Pulte. The District experienced problems with its cell phone plan when AT&T bought out Cingular. Kappel worked to resolve that issue. Employee evaluations were done. The last PDRMA visit for 2007 took place. The PDRMA representative conducted a workshop that was attended by 12 of the District staff. Kappel testified in Kane County court regarding the vandalism at Austin Park. The CPR classes have been set up for 2008. The premium only deduction notices were sent out to staff. Certificates of Insurance were sent to everyone who requested one from the District. The required Medicare Part D Notice was sent out to all full time employees. Registrations for the IPRA conference were submitted. The health insurance renewal was done in September.

Citizens to be Heard

Rob Gorman of East Dundee stated that he is a past board member of the Tri-Cities Little League. The Park District has transformed the area at Randall Oaks Park where the league's games are played to an exciting place where 600 plus kids come to play baseball. He attended the meeting with District staff tonight and feels that it was a very productive meeting. The current league board wants to continue to make the fields a place where kids can come to meet and play ball. Tri-Cities had wanted to bring their junior league back to the fields at Randall Oaks Park. The Park District did what was asked of them and built a field that wasn't used in that capacity for a number of reasons. Tri-Cities would like to bring all of their leagues back to Randall Oaks and discussion took place at the meeting tonight about building a 5th field for that purpose. Gorman stated that the complex is a great place and he thanked the District for the money they have spent making improvements over the years. Mammoser explained that two or three years ago the Board took a trip on a Saturday to view the complex and saw firsthand the impact that the location has made on the community. Over the past five years, the

District has spent approximately \$200,000 in assisting Tri-Cities with the development of the fields. Mammoser feels this is a justifiable expense because Tri-Cities provides a recreation service that the District would need to be more heavily involved in if Tri-Cities did not do it. There will be items for consideration in the next budget for other improvements at the fields at Randall Oaks Park. The District will refine some issues from a public relations perspective so that misinformation that has been a problem in the past can be eliminated. Mammoser was invited to attend a Tri-Cities board meeting in January or February where he can talk to more of the people involved. Mammoser stated that the Board should feel good about what the District has been able to do in cooperation with Tri-Cities Little League.

Director's Report

1. Strategic Planning Workshop Summary – Mammoser reviewed a summary of the Strategic Planning Workshop that was held on November 3rd. Three main items were identified at the workshop that staff felt needs immediate attention. The District needs to obtain more feedback from the community relative to its services. The District will take steps over the next year to get more feedback from residents through evaluations of programs and working with advisory groups. Another immediate need for the District is to update its technology. The District needs to make its services as convenient to customers as what is standard in the industry today. The third component for an immediate need is to communicate the benefits of what the District provides to the community. Marketing will be a focus for the next year in order to help achieve this.

Projects to be considered in the upcoming year include conversion of Kemper Park softball fields to soccer fields. In the future the District may want to look into purchasing nearby houses in the area of Kemper Park to enable better access to the park. Consideration of a spray feature at Sleepy Hollow Pool will be put into the next budget. Staff has also discussed replacing the rock area at Dolphin Cove with a spray feature. Construction of a skate park was mentioned at the workshop as a possible consideration. This is something that would require considerable research relative to a possible location. Staff sees a demand for an outdoor wedding site at Randall Oaks Golf Course. Park enhancements such as Frisbee golf and a whiffle ball field were discussed for consideration. The above projects will all be looked at, but the amount of funds that will be available for capital projects in next fiscal year's budget will be limited by the number of essential capital projects and replacements that will have to be made. The District will not be able to do all of the above projects in the next year.

The significant project that staff discussed at the workshop is construction of a west side facility to be considered in the next 3 to 5 years. The District has gone through two unsuccessful referendums in an attempt to construct a west side recreation center. The District is getting closer to being able to fund the project with existing revenue and the current bonding ability. Mammoser stated that if the District wants to move ahead with such a project, it needs to

be mindful of the fact that it still must have funds in hand for the annual capital projects and infrastructure needs.

Mammoser went on to discuss a number of different considerations the District will need to address if it decides to move ahead with construction of a west side facility. The District will need to research the financial aspects of building a new facility and be selective about what would be included in the first phase of construction. Consideration will need to be given as to how a new facility would affect the existing Recreation Center and its programming. The overall concept of Randall Oaks Park will need to be examined as far as the transportation system and how the facilities will link together. Mammoser feels the District is in a position to get serious about the concept. Staff could begin research over the next year, an architectural firm could be hired to provide a design in 2009 and construction could begin after that.

Scarpelli asked if it was crucial that a new facility be built at the Randall Oaks site over another location. Mammoser replied that there are many advantages of building in that location, from a transportation perspective, from maximizing the District's other properties there, and from creating a recreation campus. The primary advantage is that the District already owns the property. Scarpelli wondered if the land at Randall Oaks could be left for future athletic field development and the District could look to building further north towards Algonquin. He stated that Kane County owes the District ten acres of land and perhaps the District could obtain land in Algonquin and partner with the Village of Algonquin to build a facility. Non-residents could be allowed to use the facility at resident rates. Algonquin does not have a Park District and may be interested in offering such an amenity to its residents. Bonkoski stated that idea may not sit well with Dundee Township residents. Mammoser stated that a location in Algonquin probably would not be as desirable as the location on Randall Road. Mammoser stated that there is a lot of undeveloped acres at the Randall Oaks site and the District could look to an area other than south of the maintenance building where it initially thought would be the best place for a new facility. Mammoser believes there are definite advantages to a campus type setup where the zoo, baseball fields, linkage to golf, and a new recreation center would be in close proximity.

Mammoser stated that at the workshop discussion also took place regarding land acquisition. Referendums for land acquisitions have a better opportunity to pass than other referendums. The District has discussed obtaining acreage from Heuser which is south of the baseball fields at Randall Oaks Park, and the property across from CMS.

In conclusion, Mammoser stated that he gets the sense from the Board that it would be a good idea for staff to dig deeper into the concept of a new recreation center on the west side. At some point in time, the District will

need to get input from the residents on their thoughts, and create some buzz for the community regarding the project. The Board agreed that the first step staff should take is to figure out the budget in order to get an idea of what the District can afford to include in a new facility. Mammoser stated he will begin working on the concept and keep the Board informed.

2. Boys and Girls Club Executive Director Hiring Process – Mammoser explained that the candidate the Club had been negotiating with for the past month declined the offer. Mammoser will meet with the Elgin Boys and Girls Club Executive Director and other Club Board members soon to plan the next course of action. The Village of Carpentersville has agreed at the finance committee level to recommend to the Village Board to donate \$50,000 to the Club which will be matched by a private donor for a total of \$100,000 for the Club. The Village will take action on the matter at their December 18th Board Meeting.

President's Report

None.

Old Business

IPRA Conference January 24-26, Chicago – Mammoser stated that he needs to know which Board members will attend the conference. Scarpelli stated that he will attend the conference on Friday and Saturday. Peterson will attend Friday and Saturday. Bonkoski will attend Friday only. Rakow will not attend. Mammoser thinks Meschewski will attend Friday and Saturday.

New Business

Randall Oaks Golf Course Outdoor Wedding Area – Mammoser stated that staff met with land planners, Hitchcock Design and Burnidge and Cassell, for cost estimates on design plans for a wedding area at Randall Oaks Golf Course. The location of the wedding area would be by the peninsula behind the scoreboard off the driving range. The design would include a trellis, landscaping and seating area for 100 people. Mammoser would like to contract with Burnidge and Cassell. He believes the initial design phase will cost approximately \$5000-\$6000.

Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Rakow to permit entering into a design contract with Burnidge and Cassell for the amount not to exceed \$7,000 for design of an outdoor wedding area concept plan. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Executive Session

At 8:34 p.m., Rakow made a motion with a second by Peterson to move that the Board convene into Executive Session under sections 2(c)(1), 2(c)(5), 2(c)(11), and 2(c)(21) of the Open Meeting Act for the purpose of discussing personnel, land acquisition, litigation, and reviewing prior meeting minutes. The motion passed 4 to 0.

At 9:32 p.m., Rakow made a motion with a second by Peterson to move that the Board reconvene into regular session. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Approval of Executive Session Minutes

Rakow made a motion with a second by Bonkoski to approve the Executive Session Minutes from November 7, 2007. The motion passed 4 to 0.

Additional New Business

None.

Adjournment

Bonkoski made a motion with a second by Peterson to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 4 to 0. The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.