

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT HELD ON MARCH 5, 2024, AT 7:30PM

Call to Order: 7:41pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Commissioner Ochoa

Roll Call of Commissioners: William Ochoa, Cynthia Bartczak and Bianca Espinoza

Commissioners Absent: Tonya Howard

Staff / Others Present: Executive Director Theodore Ruthenberg, Director of Operations Octavio Carbajal, Park District Attorney Ann Williams (on Zoom), Maintenance Supervisor Ken Bereta and Minutes Secretary Karen Zielinski

Public Comments: None

**Public comments are welcome. As a courtesy to other visitors with comments, each visitor shall be permitted up to two (2) minutes for his or her comment.*

Additions or Revisions to the Agenda: None

AGENDA:

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:** It is recommended that the Board of Commissioners approve the consent agenda A through C. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Barczak and seconded by Commissioner Espinoza. Roll Call: Commissioner Ochoa, Commissioner Bartczak, Commissioner Espinoza. All aye, motion passes.
 - a. **CONSENT** – Approval of minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on November 21, 2023, and Minutes the Special Meeting of the Board held on December 5, 2023.
 - b. **CONSENT** – Approval of Payroll ending November 18, 2023, in the amount of \$21,396.45, Payroll ending December 2, 2023, in the amount of \$19,999.53, Payroll ending December 16, 2023, in the amount of \$22,293.48, Payroll ending December 30, 2023, in the amount of \$20,082.99, Payroll ending January 13, 2024, in the amount of \$20,628.23, Payroll ending January 27, 2024 in the amount of \$23,163.47, Payroll ending February 10, 2024, in the amount of \$22,943.12 and Payroll ending February 24, 2024 in the amount of \$24,315.99.
 - c. **CONSENT** – Approval of Accounts Payables from November 12, 2023, through December 11, 2023, in the amount of \$65,489.30, Accounts Payables from December 12, 2023, through January 11, 2024, in the amount of \$41,015.26 and Accounts Payables from January 12, 2024, through February 11, 2024, in the amount of \$41,215.82.
2. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**
 - a. Spring Program Guide. Fresh start to having a printed program guide. This one was not mailed to our residents but had a couple hundred copies to hand out at the field house and at special events. We are hoping to mail out the summers guide to residents. In addition, every two weeks a new park district newsletter will go out to all registered emails. We are looking to include a quote from one commissioner for each issue. The park is also placing program banners around town.
 - b. Easter Basket delivery and Pizza with the Bunny are sold out.
 - c. Commissioner Ochoa asked the status of baseball. Director Ruthenberg stated people seem to wait to sign up. Whites Sox will be hosting the Jackie Robinson Day April 15 at 6:40pm at the White Sox ballpark. Park District staff and commissioners are invited to attend. Tickets provided by the White Sox; little league will be able to parade on the field.
 - d. Blue Island Chamber Awards Dinner is March 16, 2024, at the Lyric Theater. Park District normally has a table. Commissioners are invited to attend, please let Director Ruthenberg know if you are interested.
 - e. Cook County Statement of Economic Interest is to be submitted. All Commissioners need to complete the applications.

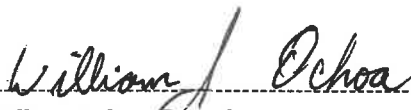
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DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED:

- f. Maintenance to do list: Covers all parks. Ken Bereta has submitted a list for all parks and work that is needed. Some of these come from the community survey on what the residence would like to see.
- g. Bark Park survey from members. The locking system has been updated. The lock was broken due to non-registered people trying to pry the gate open to gain access or using a credit card to manipulate the lock. A new lock was put in place with a shield to prevent this from happening. Ken Bereta is working on updating all the features. Work will be done in-house to keep expenses down. Lighting is an issue and Com Ed was asked to install parking and park lights on Com Ed poles. Mike Schraeder from public works is helping with this project.
- h. Vehicles: The park district needs new vehicles. The 1997 F350 dump/garbage truck is used daily at all parks for garbage pick-up and taken to the dump daily. Next truck is the 1999 S-10, one of parks necessary trucks for lawn maintenance, maintenance is constantly repairing parts. The park van is a 2000, used by the Recreation and summer camp, only holds 12 and is used for special events, field trips, and all-around park usage. 2014 Jeep patriot is also having issues. 2015 F250 red truck is used primarily by Ken Bereta. Major for snow removal, all vehicles are used heavily. Source Well Company makes the bidding processing easier and is compliant and has competitive pricing. Commissioner Ochoa asked if the bucket truck, which is not used much, can be sold, or auctioned off? Director Ruthenberg asked if he was not sure; he would have to check on this item. The park district is in the position currently to purchase, Director Ruthenberg does not want to waste money on. Commissioner Ochoa asked the board if they agree about ordering a new truck, Commissioner Barczak and Espinoza, all agree.
- i. Camara system: Source Well has one quote and a second is on the way. The original quote of \$95 thousand through one company is not feasible for the park district. Another quote would be for four exterior cameras with the ability to add more. This would be \$14,000 for Memorial field house and \$98,000 for entire Memorial Park. This company installed the cameras for the city of Blue Island and has the capability for the park to tie into the city system, also would be viewable from Director Ruthenberg office.

Motion to adjourn Regular Session was made by Commissioner Espinoza and seconded by Commissioner Bartczak. Roll Call: Commissioners Espinoza. Roll Call: Commissioner Barczak, Espinoza and Ochoa, all Aye. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned.

Approved



William Ochoa, President
Blue Island Park District

4/2/24

Date