

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE BLUE ISLAND PARK DISTRICT HELD ON DECEMBER 22, 2020 AT 7:00PM
Via Zoom

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Call to order: 7:00pm

Roll call of Commissioners: Theodore Ruthenberg, Vince Franchetti, William Ochoa

Commissioners Absent: Brandon Richardella

Staff / Others Present: Executive Director Thomas Wogan, Minutes Secretary Karen Zielinski, Park District Attorney Michael Hayes, Director of Operations Octavio Carbajal, Recreation Assistant Emmanuel Esparza, Office Assistant Karina Mejia (joined at 7:16pm)

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 comments.*

Additions or Revisions to the Agenda: Correction to the Accounts payables. Payable numbers have increased from \$70,398.48 to \$82,725.95 due to receiving BMO and IMRF numbers late.

AGENDA:

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:** It is recommended that the board approves the Consent Agenda A-C. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Franchetti and seconded by Commissioner Ochoa. Roll Call: Commissioner Franchetti, Ruthenberg and Ochoa. All aye, motion passes.
 - a. **CONSENT** – Approval of Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 15, 2020 and Executive Session held on November 15, 2020.
 - b. **CONSENT** – Approval of Payroll ending November 21, 2020 in the amount of \$27,283.97 and Payroll ending December 5, 2020 in the amount of \$24,136.79.
 - c. **CONSENT** – Approval of Accounts Payables from November 9 through December 8, 2020 in the amount of \$82,725.95.
2. **ACTION** – Approval of the purchase of Covid-19 self-testing kits. Director Wogan request that the Board table this item due to the Park Districts current Financial state and the availability of the new Covid-19 vaccines. Motion to table Action Item #2 was made by Commissioner Ruthenberg and seconded by Commissioner Franchetti. Roll Call: Commissioners Ruthenberg, Ochoa and Franchetti, all ayes. Item tabled.
3. **ACTION** – Approval for Ordinance #122220-1, May 2020 to April 2021 Tax Levy. This as in past years, is a standard Levy with no changes and falls under 4.9% increase allowing for financial growth. The Tax Levy was prepared by Montana and Walsh with no significant change. Questions? None. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Ochoa and seconded by Commissioner Franchetti. Roll Call: Commissioners Ochoa, Franchetti and Ruthenberg, all ayes. Motion passes.

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4. **ACTION** – Approval of the 2021 Board Meeting Schedule. Standard Annual Schedule of Committee of the Whole and Regular Board Meetings. Motion to approve was made by Commissioner Franchetti and seconded by Commissioner Ochoa. Roll Call: Commissioners Franchetti, Ochoa and Ruthenberg. All ayes. Motion passes.

5. **DISCUSSION** – Park District Financial Outlook. Money Market account normally is a substantial amount and, in the beginning of 2020, gave the Park District the advantage to do some significant improvements at two parks and due to be reimbursed by a Grant from the State of Illinois. This year due to Covid 19 shows a significant revenue short fall with the loss of the rental revenue as well as Park District Programs. Reimbursement for Capital Projects, which is bonded and cannot be redirected to any other entity along with two property tax payments that are due to come into the Park District in February or March 2021, may leave the Park District financially stable in the coming year. If the State reimbursement and Tax payments are delayed, as an alternative Director Wogan has had a conversation with First Midwest Bank and may be able to secure a loan with a 5% interest or less. Commissioner Ruthenberg stated he understood that this is no fault of any one person and understands the situation with Covid-19. Commissioner Ochoa asked if loan would be paid back in full once the State reimbursement was received? Park District's ability to repay the loan in full will depend on the cash strength of the Park District at that time. Commissioner Franchetti stated he approves of the loan. The Park District will look into borrowing just in case.

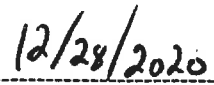
6. **Directors Report**
This week Santa's Elf's delivered holiday stockings. Our House Lighting contest was online, and a sudo Light Parade started off at Memorial Park and travelled Blue Island's neighborhoods. Thank you to Robert Jones from Security who helped with the parade. Park District is doing what is necessary to keep a presence in the community. It has been a challenge for January and February to find space for programs. Staff is looking into other possibilities. Employee holiday party has been cancelled this year, but Director Wogan has some ideas about staff recognition. He has been in contact with other Park Districts, some went defiant and completely retreated, but he thinks we found balance between the two. Our staff has worked hard to keep focus and move forward. Commissioners thanked everyone and wished all a Happy Holiday.

Motion to adjourn Regular Meeting of the Board was made by Commissioner Ochoa and seconded by Commissioner Ruthenberg. All aye, meeting adjourned at 7:28pm

Approved



Theodore Ruthenberg, President
Blue Island Park District



Date