

Belvidere Township Park District
Board Meeting
October 13, 2020

Minutes

The Belvidere Township Park District Board of Commissioners board meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. Roll call was taken. Those present were Mary Marquardt, Jean Twyning, Paul McCaffrey and Mark Muccianti. Sam An arrived at 5:09 p.m. Also present were Mark Pentecost, Todd Bex, Kim Kirkpatrick, Rick Wulbecker and Debbie Kent.

Meeting Agenda

Jean Twyning made a motion to approve the October 13, 2020 meeting agenda, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A voice vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Meeting Minutes

Jean Twyning made a motion to approve the September 22, 2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A voice vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Financial Report

Debbie Kent provided the financial report showing September income and cash balances as of September 30, 2020. The district received our 5th tax distribution for 2020 in the amount of \$568,298.04.

The miscellaneous income for \$12,287.00 was from the sale of two park district vehicles that were surplus.

Bills for Payment

There was a question on the payment to Ceroni Piping Company for the sump pump replacement and the payments with a credit control balance account description.

Jean Twyning made a motion to approve the bills from September 1 to September 30, 2020, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A voice vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Board Correspondence

There was no board correspondence received.

Public Input

There was no one present for public input.

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Director's Report

Mark Pentecost commented on the Aquatic Center Committee. The committee held an open house on October 6, 2020 at Prairie Fields Sports Center. The attendance was very low, but the district did get some coverage from Channel 23 and the Belvidere Daily Republican. The committee should be ready to make a formal recommendation in November or December 2020.

After discussions with our legal counsel, Mark has decided it is in our best interest to get rated through Moody prior to the bond being passed.

The quarterly budget report was posted in Dropbox for the boards review.

Mark has had conversations with the county administrator regarding the possibility of the Belvidere Park District taking ownership of Big Thunder Park.

The Belvidere Noon Rotary will be having a celebration at the Bloom playground on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at Noon in recognition of the completion of the renovation project. The board is invited to attend, and the Rotary Club will provide sandwiches. The park district installed a bench recognizing the Belvidere Noon Rotary Club for their donation.

Superintendent of Parks Report

Todd Bex commented that the Special Rec programs are being held at Rivers Edge Recreation Center during the installation of a new roof at the special rec facility.

Superintendent of Recreation Report

Rick Wulbecker reported that the Friday night Drive-In Movies have been successful. Staff is going to offer a movie on Saturday, October 24 featuring "The Night Before Christmas". Paul McCaffrey suggested we try and arrange a live broadcast during one of the movies. Rick will reach out to the local TV stations.

Special Olympics Region A will be offering a Bocce event at Prairie Fields Sports Park on October 31st for 25 area athletes. There are only two Bocce Ball courts at Rivers Edge Recreation Center, so the event will be at Prairie Fields to allow for additional courts.

The participation numbers for the Fall Day Camp remain steady except for the Caledonia site. Those participants were given the choice of attending at Seth Whitman or Washington.

Baltic Mill Feasibility Study Presentation

Paul Ollmann was present to discuss the Baltic Mill Feasibility Study. Ollmann Ernest Martin (OEM) reached out to various members of the community as well as organizations and were pleased with the amount of people willing to serve on the committee. Organizations include the IOU Club, Cosmo Club, Art's Council, Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, Growth Dimensions and the Community Foundation.

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Questionnaires were sent out to various places including the Community Building, Ida Public Library, Boone County Historical Museum and the KeenAge Center. All completed and returned the questionnaire except for the KeenAge Center.

OEMA hosted three committee meetings during the study. As a result, the recommendation of the committee is to preserve the building and site for current and future community uses and make the facility very flexible for different uses while incorporating the historical and educational aspect.

The committee offered two options for consideration. Option 1 is to update the facility into an 8-month useable space and Option 2 is to update the facility to a year-round useable space.

There was no mention of adding a full kitchen. Food trucks or catering appears to be the new norm. However, there was mention of allowing alcohol. Paul McCaffrey asked if the alcohol discussion could be added to a meeting agenda in the near future for discussion.

The Belvidere Park District receives approximately \$100,000/year from the Museum Tax for the Baltic Mill and site. Mary Marquardt feels the community should be educated to understand what exactly the mill area includes. The Museum Tax is not only for the Baltic Mill, but also includes the MillRace and surrounding grounds.

The board asked Paul Ollmann to provide a stabilization recommendation and costs.

Employee/Commissioner Discount Policy

Kim Kirkpatrick updated the discount policy to add language that employees/commissioners do not receive the 50% discount on daily admission, point of sale and special events.

Jean Twyning made a motion to approve the updated Employee/Commissioner discount program policy #220, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

2020 Farmall 75C Tractor with Loader

Todd Bex provided supporting documents for the cost and purchase of a Demo 2020 Farmall 75C tractor and loader. The purchase of this tractor replaces the 1980 John Deere tractor the district sold at our surplus auction in 2019.

Staff had budgeted \$35,000.00 based on the used equipment that was available for purchase at the time the budget was submitted. The district missed on purchasing the original units.

Todd received quotes ranging from \$43,900 to 47,759. Johnson Tractor came in at \$41,900 which included the loader bucket.

Jean Twyning made a motion to approve the purchase of one 2020 Farmall 75C tractor with loader attachment and 3-point hitch from Johnson Tractor for \$41,900.00, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

Executive Session

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Executive Session

At 6:14 p.m. Jean Twyning made a motion to go into Executive Session per section 2(C)(21) of the Open Meetings Act for the discussion of minutes of prior meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of review, approval or release of such minutes, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

At 6:21 p.m. regular session reconvened. Roll call was taken. Those present were Jean Twyning, Mary Marquardt, Paul Ollmann, Sam An and Mark Muccianti. Also present were Mark Pentecost, Todd Bex, Rick Wulbecker, Kim Kirkpatrick and Debbie Kent.

Jean Twyning made a motion to approve and not release Executive Session minutes for 4/14/2020, 4/28/2020, 5/12/2020, 5/26/2020, 6/9/2020, 7/14/2020 and 8/11/2020, seconded by Mary Marquardt. A voice vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

The district is required to keep Executive Session recordings for 18 months. Jean Twyning made a motion to destroy Executive Session recordings for Executive Sessions beginning 10/23/2018 up to and including the recording for 4/9/2019. A roll call vote was taken with all voting yes. Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Submitted by
Debbie Kent