

**Bensenville Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 20, 2021
REMOTE MEETING – COVID 19 DECLARATION**

President Johnson opened the Meeting announcing it was being held virtually as a result of the Governor’s COVID-19 Declaration.

1. Call to Order Remote Meeting

President Johnson called the Meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Roll call was taken:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Geils	X	
Gibbs	X	
Johnson	X	
Karg	X	
Linder	X	

Staff in attendance: Joe Vallez, Executive Director and Mary Dickson, Attorney.

Pledge of Allegiance: President Johnson led the Pledge.

2. Approval of Agenda

It was moved by Commissioner Karg, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs, to approve the Agenda, as presented.

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Gibbs	X		
Linder	X		
Geils	X		

Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Gibbs, seconded by Commissioner Linder, to approve the Minutes from the regular meeting of December 16, 2020 and of the Special Meeting held on January 6, 2021 as presented.

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		

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Gibbs X
Linder X

Commissioner Geils voted “aye” as to the December 16, 2020 minutes, and voted to abstain from voting on the Special Meeting minutes.

Motion carried.

4. Approval of Accounts Payable

It was moved by Commissioner Linder, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs to approve Accounts Payable dated 12/30/20 of \$23,773.40 Payroll dated 12/18/20 of \$96,162.71, Payroll dated 12/30/20 of \$79,983.34 for a Grand Total of \$199,919.45, Accounts Payable dated 1/14/21 of \$203,725.94 Payroll dated 1/15/21 of \$81,151.37 for a Grand Total of \$284,877.31.

Commissioner Gibbs questioned the expense of \$4,200 for Breiter Palm Park; Mr. Vallez responded that it was monies expended for the topographic and survey of the property.

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Gibbs	X		
Linder	X		
Geils	X		

Motion carried.

5. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

Debbie Geils was in virtual attendance and questioned when the exercise facilities could be open to the public.

6. Communications and Correspondence

Mr. Vallez reported no receipt of communications.

7. Board Liaison Reports

NEDSRA

Mr. Vallez reported there is no change, NEDSRA is still operating remotely.

Bensenville Community Foundation

The next meeting is January 28, 2021.

BBAA

BBAA is starting planning for the season. Tier II is in effect, therefore sports programs can occur with social distancing and groups limited to less than 25. BBAA is meeting in doors with groups of 10 so long as social distancing is followed.

Chamber of Commerce:

Commissioner Karg reported that all current officers will remain the same until June.

8. Staff Reports

Mr. Vallez provided the following report based on Staff Reports submitted:

- **COVID – 19 Update**

New Tier II has come into effect, meaning the District can open inside fitness classes which will require reservations, and class sizes of less than 25. The programming will start within the next week.

All staff are back and available to work. Staff continues to be aware of COVID guidelines and added precautions have been incorporated into the use of the Buildings to avoid any new issues.

- **Recreation**

Recreation programming will commence. Fitness classes will open with masking and social distancing, with IDPH guidelines being followed.

The chicks at Fischer Farm have grown up and been incorporated into the flock.

Senior activities will soon commence.

The District is unable to offer the Silver Sneakers program as it is offered in many nearby Districts.

Sweetheart Ball Without A Hall programming is ongoing.

- **Maintenance**

The hot water tank install which was interrupted by the closing of the facility has been completed.

Alarm pass code reorganization is complete.

- **Marketing**

“We’re Hiring” campaign to promote District jobs and attempt to fill summer operations jobs is ongoing.

The Spring Program guide will be digital this year.

Bville Buzz third episode will be out February 19/20

- **White Pines**

Staff is finalizing 2021 rates for Board approval. Pending rate approval, the District will put out a notice to groups

- **Special Services**

Tree work is being completed at White Pines.

Training Related activities are on-going

Intruder training is planned

Forestry Grant Kick-off is January 21

COVID-19 Ventilation suggestions are being put into play

- **Finance**

The roll over bond is being approved tonight

Staff is working on the tip procedure for White Pines

An audit presentation will occur on February 3

- **Fischer Farm**

Mr. Vallez will communicate with the Forest Preserve District in hopes of making a virtual presentation on the District desire to acquire Fischer Farm. The current 25-year lease is good through November 4, 2025, with an annual renewal clause for an additional 25 years. The annual lease is \$1. Pursuant to the lease, the District is responsible for all maintenance, repairs, improvements and restoration activities at the Farm.

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Additionally, Mr. Vallez announced:

Resignation of employee Dory Blood;
Discussed the Breiter Palm timeline

9. Action Items

- A. Ordinance #563 An Ordinance Providing for the Issue of Approximately \$365,970¹ General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2021, for the Payment of Land for Parks, for the Building, Maintaining, Improving and Protecting of the Same and the Existing Land and Facilities of the District and for the Payment of the Expenses Incident Thereto, Providing for the Levy of a Direct Annual Tax to Pay the Principal and Interest on Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof.

Commissioner Linder moved, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs, to approve Ordinance #563 An Ordinance Providing for the Issue of Approximately \$365,970 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2021, for the Payment of Land for Parks, for the Building, Maintaining, Improving and Protecting of the Same and the Existing Land and Facilities of the District and for the Payment of the Expenses Incident Thereto, Providing for the Levy of a Direct Annual Tax to Pay the Principal and Interest on Said Bonds, and Authorizing the Sale of Said Bonds to the Purchaser Thereof.

Speer Financial representative Aaron Gold informed the Board that four bids were received with the best rate being 0.749% with the total bond amount being \$365,970. Mr. Vallez reported that the proceeds are not dedicated to any one project but would be used in the event that the District received either of the grants it has applied for and matching funds would be needed,

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Gibbs	X		
Linder	X		
Geils	X		

Motion carried.

¹ Amount changed based on final sales figure.

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B. Acceptance of the Bensenville Park District’s Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2020.

Commissioner Gibbs moved, seconded by Commissioner Geils, to accept the Bensenville Park District’s Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2020.

In discussion, Mr. Vallez reported that the District has been negatively affected by COVID-19 impacts

On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Gibbs	X		
Linder	X		
Geils	X		

Motion carried.

10. New Business

There was no new business to discuss.

11. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

12. Closed Session

There was no closed session.

13. Adjournment

Commissioner Gibbs moved, seconded by Commissioner Karg, to adjourn the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

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On a roll call vote:

<u>ROLL CALL</u>	<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Johnson	X		
Karg	X		
Gibbs	X		
Linder	X		
Geils	X		

Motion Carried.

The meeting stands adjourned.

Approved:

President Rich Johnson

Secretary