

**Bensenville Park District  
Board of Park Commissioners  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 21, 2022**

1. Call to Order

President Johnson called the Meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Roll call was taken:

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Gibbs	X	
Johnson	X	
Karg	X	
Snyder	X	

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

2. Public Hearing

Commissioner Gibbs moved, seconded by Commissioner Snyder to open a public hearing on the budget. Commissioner Karg moved, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs to close the hearing with no comment being made.

On a roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

3. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Snyder moved, seconded by Commissioner Karg 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		
Snyder	X		

Motion carried.

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4. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Gibbs, seconded by Commissioner Karg, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 16, 2022, and the special meeting minutes of December 7, 2022 as presented.

In discussion, Commissioner Gibbs amended the minutes of November 16, 2022 on page 2, to strike the statement “Commissioner Gibbs also” under section 5, approval of accounts payable.

On a roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

5. Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll

It was moved by Commissioner Snyder, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs, to approve Accounts Payable dated 11/23/22 of \$376,833.95 Payroll dated 11/18/22 of \$121,274.28 for a Grand Total of \$498,108.23 Accounts Payable dated 12/08/22 of \$192,450.32 Payroll dated 12/02/22 of \$103,370.58 for a Grand Total of \$295,820.90.

In discussion, Commissioner Gibbs asked about the discrepancy between the first and second pay out. Director Vallez stated the number difference was caused by the pay period.

On a roll call vote:

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

Motion carried.

6. Recognition of Visitors/Public Comment

Prior to accepting comment from Visitors, Commissioner Snyder stated that measures will be taken to protect the Board and the staff, and that the public is asked to abide by rules which require proper discussion of the issues. If conduct is not appropriate, members of the public will be asked to leave the facility. He commented on a recent confrontation in the weight room, which is under investigation. The rules will be followed in that today's climate requires vigilance.

Bob Benson – He was unable to attend the last meeting, but heard about the presentation on the facilities assessment, which he believed should have been on the agenda. Spoke in favor of video gaming as a source of new revenue, which he had opposed initially, but the golf course has liquor and a bar, and it should be looked into and he hopes that there will be no negative impact. Bensenville Park District has a tendency to want to do big things, but the District is not like other communities, and cannot afford some things. He looks forward to hearing of the 2022 annual report.

In response, President Johnson stated that the District has undertaken a facilities assessment, which was addressed under the Director's report, as it was preliminary. It will be discussed in full at a future meeting and will be on the agenda.

Mike Jaffe – While once he spoke against video gaming, he is not going to now. He also encouraged people to disagree in an agreeable way.

Bill Hibner – He is happy the Board determined not to sell any part of the golf course. He wants to see an improvement golf course, which he believes is in very good hands. He stated his wife had applied for consideration to fill the vacancy on the Board, and he was disappointed that she had heard nothing from the District after the interview – which he deemed very unprofessional.

Robert Special – Thanked the Board for putting video gaming on the agenda, he believes it will generate money for the District.

7. Communications and Correspondence

Director Vallez highlighted a photo of the District's Santa is Coming to Town program, which featured a Bensenville Police officer, who escorted Santa around town. Director Vallez acknowledged the police and thanked them for their help on this program.

8. Board Liaison Reports

No reports were provided.

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9. Staff Reports

In the absence of staff, Director Vallez made a report based on his own written report, and on the written reports of staff.

Highlighted:

- A new superintendent of recreation will start on January 17, 2023
  - Andrew Godfrey is being named the General Manager of White Pines
  - PDRMA awarded the District the sum of \$1500 for its risk management
  - Elmhurst Historical Museum will partner with the District to rehabilitate and increase awareness of the train
  - The lighting issue at Breiter Palm Park remains unresolved pending information from the architect on dispute resolution
- Commissioner Gibbs thanks the police for appearing at the Breakfast with Santa program.

10. Action Items

**A. Approval of Gold Rush Gaming Contract**

Commissioner Snyder moved, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs, to approve the Gold Rush Gaming Contract.

In discussion, President Johnson remarked that he had originally opposed video gaming at the District, but in review of alternate revenue sources it does appear to be a positive for the District, and it has been accepted in restaurants in the community. Director Vallez stated he met with two different video gaming companies, and decided to recommend Gold Rush Gaming because of their commitment to the community, in terms of supporting local events. The owner of Gold Rush also lives in the area, and made a positive presentation about the company, which led him to a greater sense of confidence with this company.

In review of the proposed contract, Counsel Dickson presented the following concerns: (a) contract length of eight years is prohibited by the Park District Code, (b) the contract does not provide performance requirements, *ie.*, response time if the District reports issues with the machines, (c) deprives the District of the decision as to the number of machines in the facility, (d) does not address the location license which appears to be required by the Illinois Gaming Board.

In order to address these concerns. Commissioner Snyder moved, seconded by Commissioner Gibbs, to table approval of the contract until a future meeting.

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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		
Snyder	X		

Motion carried.

**B. Acceptance of the Bensenville Park District's Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2022**

Commissioner Karg moved, seconded by Commissioner Snyder, to Accept the Bensenville Park District's Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending April 30, 2022

In discussion, President Johnson recommended that this item be tabled until the Board has the opportunity review the report and the management letter which accompanies it. Director Vallez is directed to provide a hard copy of the report to the Board.

Commissioner Gibbs moved, seconded by Commissioner Karg, to table discussion of the report for the reasons stated.

On a roll call vote:

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

11. New Business

There was no New Business.

12. Old Business

**A. Discussion of Commissioner Vacancy**

President Johnson stated that while there has been no communication with the two candidates who applied for the vacancy, the Board has noted that only one of the two candidates filed for election to the office, which was a requirement the Board wanted in filing the vacancy.

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Commissioner Karg stated that with the election coming in April, it was best not to fill the vacancy given the short amount of time in the term remaining until then. The general consensus was to hold the vacancy open.

13. Closed Session

There was no call for Closed Session.

14. Adjournment

It was moved by Commissioner Snyder, seconded by Commissioner Karg, to adjourn the meeting at 7 p.m.

On a roll call vote:

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

The Motion Carried. The meeting stands adjourned.

Approved:

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President Rich Johnson

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Secretary