

**APPROVED**  
**Mt. Prospect Park District**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**May 21, 2025**

A Regular Board Meeting of the Mt. Prospect Park District, Cook County, Illinois, was held on Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the Central Community Center Facility of the Mt. Prospect Park District.

President Kurka addressed the members of the Board before officially calling the meeting to order. President Kurka asked everyone to take a moment to honor the memory of Luis Rueda Colin, a longtime Park District employee. Luis recently passed away and was a good friend of President Kurka and to many in the District. He worked at the golf course for 35 years. The Park District will be honoring Luis with a tree planted in his memory later this year. He will eternally be a member of the Park District Family. Everyone took a moment of silence to honor his memory.

President Kurka called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Starr called the roll.

The following Commissioners were present upon the roll:

Present: Commissioners Doherty, Massie, Masnica, Tuczak, Starr, Kurka

Remote: Commissioner Murphy (for entire meeting)

The following individuals were also in attendance (present or remote) at the meeting:

**Administrative Staff:** Jim Jarog-Executive Director, Jeanette Foley-Executive Assistant, George Giese-Deputy Director, Ruth Yueill-Director of Community Relations & Marketing, Matt Dziubinski-Director of Parks & Planning, Mike Azzaretto-Director of Recreation, Mary Kiaupa-Director of Human Resources and Risk, Jon Zgoda-IT Professional/ Remote Meeting Moderator, Maddy Moon-Community Relations Coordinator, Jeff Langguth-Director of Golf Operations, Linda Zalewski-Aquatics and Fitness Manager, Teri Wirkus, Executive Compliance Officer, Toria Smith, Cultural Arts Manager.

**Professionals:** Tom Hoffman, District Attorney

**Visitors and others in attendance:** Commissioners Elect Matthew Lowen, Brittany Lowen, Georgia Lowen, Commissioner Elect Karyn Nicholas, Paul Nicholas, Lucas and George Nicholas, Sam and Nancy Nicholas, Mary Starr, Yvonna Massie, Linda Kurka, Kelly Stahl, Kyle Slesicki

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CHANGES OR ADDITIONS TO REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

President Kurka asked if any Commissioners had any additions or changes to the Regular Meeting Agenda.

President Kurka proposed one change to the Agenda. Commissioner Murphy is present remotely and on the Agenda for the Board to recognize him for his 10 years of service to the Park District. President Kurka wished to present the award to him in person and asked for this item to be tabled until the June 18th regular meeting. Commissioner Murphy agreed to the change and thanked President Kurka.

Regular Board Minutes  
5-21-25

A motion to approve the Agenda as amended was made by Commissioner Starr and seconded by Commissioner Massie.  
A voice vote was taken; all were in favor with none opposed

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**CALL FOR RECESS OF MEETING**

President Kurka called for a recess of the Public Meeting to begin the Oath of Office for the newly elected Commissioners.

**Oath of Office**

Administered by Jeanette Foley, District Notary

Commissioners Elect: Bill Starr, Karyn Nicholas and Matt Lowen were introduced to the Board and to those in attendance.

Commissioner Starr recited the Oath of Office and was given his official Certificate of Election from Cook County. He was congratulated by all in attendance.

Commissioner Elect Karyn Nicholas recited the Oath of Office and was given her official Certificate of Election from Cook County. Commissioner Nicholas thanked everyone and also her family in attendance.

Commissioner Elect Matt Lowen recited the Oath of Office and was given his official Certificate of Election from Cook County. Commissioner Lowen thanked his wife for her support throughout his campaign and thanked all of the voters who supported him. He is looking forward to representing the community and supporting the Park District with the Commissioners alongside him.

The new Commissioners took their new seats among the Board members.

REGULAR MEETING WAS RECONVENED at 6:46 p.m. Roll Call by Commissioner Tim Doherty as Vice President.

Commissioner Starr called the Roll:

Present: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr, Doherty.

**ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE**

Vice President Doherty moved to adjourn the meeting Sine Die for the purpose of holding the 2025 Annual Meeting of the Mt. Prospect Park District Board of Commissioners and thereafter to reconvene the regular Board Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Masnica.

A voice vote was taken with all Commissioners, all in favor and none opposed.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Vice President Doherty called to order the Annual Meeting of the Mt. Prospect Park District Board of Commissioners at 6:47 p.m.

Commissioner Starr called the roll: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty.

Regular Board Minutes  
5-21-25

Commissioner Doherty made a motion to appoint Executive Director Jim Jarog as the temporary chairman for the first portion of the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Starr.

A voice vote was taken with all Commissioners present in favor and none opposed.

Director Jarog stated that he would accept nominations for Board President at this time for a one year term, or until his or her successor shall have been elected.

Commissioner Starr nominated Commissioner Doherty. No other nominations were made. Director Jarog congratulated Commissioner Doherty as the newly elected Board President.

President Doherty announced that he would now take nominations for the Board Vice President for a one year term or until his or her successor has been elected. Commissioner Starr nominated Commissioner Masnica. No other nominations were made. President Doherty congratulated Commissioner Masnica as the newly elected Board Vice President.

President Doherty announced that he would now take nominations for the Board Secretary for a one year term until his or her successor has been elected. Commissioner Murphy made a motion to appoint Commissioner Starr as the Board Secretary. Seconded by Commissioner Nicholas. Commissioner Starr called the roll. All were in favor.

President Doherty announced that he would now take nominations for the Board Treasurer for a one year term until his or her successor has been elected. Commissioner Starr made a motion to appoint Commissioner Tuczak, seconded by Commissioner Masnica. Commissioner Starr called the roll. All were in favor.

President Doherty called for a motion to adjourn the annual meeting and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Masnica made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Starr. All were in favor.

Regular board meeting was reconvened at 6:51 p.m.

**ADOPTION ITEMS:**

**A. RESOLUTION #867**, A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING STEPHEN KURKA FOR 12 YEARS OF SERVICE AS PARK COMMISSIONER AND BOARD PRESIDENT FOR THE MT. PROSPECT PARK DISTRICT.

The Resolution was presented by Executive Director Jim Jarog and read aloud by President Tim Doherty.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Masnica moved to adopt Resolution 867, seconded by Commissioner Murphy

President Doherty called for the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Stephen Kurka was presented with the framed Resolution and was congratulated by all. Executive Director Jarog also presented Stephen Kurka with a commemorative clock acknowledging him for 12 years of outstanding contributions, community leadership, and service to advance parks, recreation, and conservation, in the state of Illinois as a valued member of the Mt. Prospect Park District's Board of Commissioners.

Regular Board Minutes  
5-21-25

Stephen Kurka accepted these awards and stated that it was hard to believe that 12 years went by so quickly. He acknowledged the wonderful work that the Park District employees have done. He stated that the people behind the scenes make the park system what it is today. He thanked Bill Klicka, Lisa Tenuta, Tim Doherty and all Commissioners and Employees as well as Attorney Tom Hoffman and Accountant Lee Howard, for all of their help and support throughout the years. He sent his best wishes for continued success in the future.

**B. RESOLUTION #868, A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING RAYMOND E. MASSIE FOR 12 YEARS OF SERVICE AS PARK COMMISSIONER FOR THE MT. PROSPECT PARK DISTRICT.**

Executive Director Jarog presented Resolution 868 to recognize Ray Massie. Commissioner Bill Starr read aloud the Resolution.

**MOTION:**

Commissioner Tuczak moved to adopt Resolution 868, seconded by Commissioner Masnica.

President Doherty called for the roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty

Nays: None

Motion Passed

Raymond Massie was presented with the framed Resolution and was congratulated by all. Executive Director Jarog also presented Raymond Massie with a commemorative Golf club desk pen set for his 12 years of service to the Mt. Prospect Park District as Commissioner.

Ray said it was his honor to meet all of the wonderful people that serve the Park District. He had no idea before what the people behind the scenes do to keep our district safe and legal. He has made many friendships and met so many wonderful people because of the Park Board. He will be friends with these people for the rest of his life. He wished everyone on the Board the best of luck. He also added that he will still be around and it has been an honor to serve.

President Doherty thanked both Steve Kurka and Ray Massie adding that they were elected to the board 12 years ago during a very interesting time. There was some turmoil here at the District at that time and they both stepped up to the plate right away to help however possible. Both have always lived up to the oath of office and were always concerned about what was best for the residents over any personal wishes or wants.

Commissioner Starr added that there was never any doubt about their commitment to the Board. He thanked both Ray and Steve.

**CALL FOR RECESS**

President Doherty called for a recess of the regular meeting at 7:13 p.m.

President Doherty called to reconvene the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

President Doherty read the following statement: All items identified may be considered routine by the Board of Commissioners and be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Commissioner so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and approved under its normal sequence on the Regular Meeting Agenda.

- A. Approval Of Minutes: Regular Board Meeting, April 16, 2025.
- B. Ratification Of Accounts Payable for April 2025 in the amount of \$1,194,837.31.

## Regular Board Minutes

5-21-25

- C. Ratification Of Payroll for April 2025 in the amount of \$529,799.54.
- D. Purchase of a 2025 Ford Transit 250 Cargo Van, Contract in the amount of \$61,568.00 from SPC Contract No 207 from Currie Motors, Frankfort, IL.

President Doherty asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Starr made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Masnica.

Commissioner Starr called the Roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty

Nays: None

Motion Passed

### **APPROVAL ITEMS**

#### **A. 2025 RecPlex and Busse Park Paving Improvements**

Director Dziubinski presented to the Board:

Repaving is essential for maintaining the safety, appearance, and functionality of driving surfaces and pathways. Over time, parking lots and pathways can develop cracks, potholes, and uneven surfaces, which can create safety hazards and compliance issues. A well-kept surface enhances curb appeal and conveys a professional image.

The addition of an exterior basketball court at RecPlex was requested by the community as part of the 2023 Comprehensive Master Plan. Basketball courts encourage physical activity and socializing, providing safe spaces for all ages to be active and promoting overall health. For youth, these courts offer positive engagement and constructive outlets.

The proposed project includes repaving the service drive at RecPlex, installing concrete collars around storm sewer inlets, and adding a full-size basketball court. The alternate scope features additional concrete collars, color coating the court, and widening the pathway at Busse Park. A public bid opening took place on May 7, 2025, with Maneval Construction Co, Inc. as the low bidder. The project's total cost is \$202,676, with a budget of \$243,000 available.

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Starr made a motion to approve the 2025 RecPlex and Busse Park Paving Improvements bid including Alternates 1,2 and 3 in the amount of \$202,676.00 as submitted by Maneval Construction Co. Inc., seconded by Commissioner Nicholas.

Commissioner Starr called the Roll:

Ayes: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty

Nays: None

Motion passed.

#### **B. Meadows Aquatic Center Outdoor Swimming Pool Renovation**

Director Dziubinski presented to the Board:

The Meadows Aquatic Center is one of the District's outdoor swimming pools, along with Big Surf Pool. This pool features a zero-depth entry, an interactive water attraction, an 8-lane lap pool, an 8-foot drop slide, and a 1-meter diving board. It is built with a concrete floor and buttress system,

## Regular Board Minutes

5-21-25

using stainless steel wall panels and a PVC liner for waterproofing. The pool shell and liner are made by Myrtha Pools, which requires certified contractors for maintenance to keep warranties valid. The current liner was installed in 2011 after replacing the original from 2002, which had a 15-year warranty on the structure and a 10-year warranty on the liner. Liners typically last 10-15 years but can fade and develop issues that lead to water loss and structural damage.

The existing liner is now beyond its useful life and needs replacement, along with the original tile surround, to maintain pool functionality. The project had to be bid twice after receiving no bids the first time. Bids were due originally on April 3, 2025, and were re-bid with a second opening on May 8, 2025. Three contractors submitted bids, with Pool Tech giving the lowest bid of \$638,500, excluding material costs, which would be sourced from Myrtha Pools for \$221,126.

After evaluating bids, staff's recommendation was to reject all bids, as the lowest exceeded the budget significantly. The use of other PVC liner manufacturers is being considered to lower costs. The Planning Department aims to present a more competitive bid to the board soon.

The total project cost is \$872,226, with \$530,000 budgeted for capital funds.

Commissioner Masnica asked if the work was supposed to be done this season? Director Dziubinski explained that the goal would be to delay the repairs for now with the possibility of rebidding with other systems to still try to have the improvements done this year.

Commissioner Starr questioned why we used Myrtha originally and asked if their product is superior. Director Dziubinski explained that they were one of the few PVC liner companies in the early 2000's. They have a big presence in Europe and he believes they wanted to expand their business in the United States. He believes our pool at Meadows was one of the first.

Director Jarog added that Director Dziubinski is correct and that at the time, Myrtha was trying to establish themselves in the United States and Meadows Pool was a test pilot project to try their product and system here and to also train local installers. During construction it was challenging with the products coming through custom. At that time the pool grand opening was delayed by several months due to delivery issues. Staff believes there are many more options available to us now.

A brief discussion ensued.

### **MOTION**

Commissioner Lowen made a motion to reject all bids received for the Meadows Aquatic Center Outdoor Swimming and Pool Renovation, seconded by Commissioner Starr.

Ayes: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty

Nays: None

Motion passed.

### **ADOPTION ITEM**

ORDINANCE No. 869 AN ORDINANCE RECOMMENDING TO SELL, CONVEY, OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF CERTAIN USED PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE MT. PROSPECT PARK DISTRICT IN SUCH MANNER(S) AND AT SUCH PRICE AS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL IN HIS SOLE DISCRETION DETERMINE TO BE IN THE EST INTEREST OF THE PARK DISTRICT.

Regular Board Minutes  
5-21-25

Director Dziubinski explained to the Board members that in the past we have traded items as it used to be the most effective route for transactions. The Village brought Gov Deals to our attention which began the sales surplus process. A list is brought forward each year, primarily fleet vehicles. Usually done in September or May. The formal process is to bring items before the board for approval. The proceeds are placed in an account called Gov Deals which are ultimately used for repurposing.

Commissioner Tuczak asked if there is any guidance from Gov Deals as to how items should be priced.

Director Dziubinski explained that they use previous listings as a starting point. He has often found it is more successful to start the bidding low. It is not unlike ebay except for local governments.

**MOTION**

Commissioner Masnica made a motion to adopt, seconded by Commissioner Tuczak.

Ayes: Commissioners Masnica, Tuczak, Murphy, Nicholas, Lowen, Starr and Doherty

Nays: None

Motion Passed

**FINANCIAL ADVISOR'S REPORT**

Presented by Deputy Director Giese in the absence of Financial Advisor Lee Howard, GAI

The District has arranged the annual rollover bonds, featuring an August BINA hearing for the Bond Ordinance adoption in September and an early October closing. Due to large referendum construction projects and recent market trends, Speer Financial suggests separating the timing of this bond issue. The closing for the referendum bonds is tentatively set for November, aligned with construction and spending schedules to meet IRS requirements.

In golf revenues, pass sales are up 8% to \$241,825 through April, but overall course revenue is down 6% at \$499,569. Recreational program revenues have increased slightly to \$1,384,009, while childcare program revenues are down 1% to \$827,484. The Recplex facility has earned \$195,539, a 1% decrease, although pass sales are up 7%. Pool revenues are down 23% at \$207,616, mostly due to swim program registrations. Central program revenue is down 9% to \$125,020, while central facility revenue increased by 20% to \$213,075.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

The District held its second community engagement meeting for 2025 on April 24th at the Lions Recreation Center. The meeting focused on the Lions Park development, including the new Recreation Center and Aquatic areas. Many residents attended and offered positive feedback. Architectural renderings were shared with the Mount Prospect Journal and posted on the District's website to keep residents informed.

The design team is preparing Construction Design Drawings for the project bidding phase, with plans to bid in August, bid opening in September, and Board review in October with consideration for approval. Concerns about rising tariffs and material costs are also being considered as staff is adding bid alternates to the bid scope to allow for flexibility during the approval process. If approved, demolition could start in the fall of 2025, with substantial completion expected in spring of 2027.

The audit firm Illinois NFP has completed the fiscal year 2024 audit, which will be presented at the June 18th Board meeting, scheduled for June 18, 2025, at 6:30 pm at CCC.

Regular Board Minutes  
5-21-25

Lastly Director Jarog announced that today was Teri Wirkus's last day since returning from retirement last year. He personally thanked Teri for coming back to assist the District when an unexpected vacancy for Executive Assistant occurred. Teri allowed the District the opportunity to hire and train our new Executive Assistant Jeanette Foley. Thank you Teri!

Executive Assistant Jeanette Foley also thanked Teri for showing her all of the tasks that the position entails and for always being so bright and cheerful. We hope that she will continue to enjoy her retirement and that she will come back to visit for special occasions.

Teri thanked everyone and congratulated the new Commissioners adding that the staff for the Park District is a wonderful group of people.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Resident Kyle Slesicki addressed the Board and submitted a petition signed by 146 residents of Mount Prospect to incorporate a diving board into the plans for the new pool. Mr. Slesicki offered his reasons for adding a diving board, including a desire to offer an attraction to older children as well as the possibility for diving lessons/programming opportunities. He noted that the District will be down to one diving board after Big Surf closes.

Director Giese thanked Mr. Slesicki for his input and efforts to collect the petition. For added context, Deputy Director Giese summarized the thorough public engagement process that formulated the initial pool concepts and ballot language, as well as the principles that further refined designs and the aquatic amenities included.

Mr. Slesicki offered additional feedback to modify or replace certain pool spaces in order to accommodate the diving board while drawing upon comparisons to Meadows Pool.

The Board thanked Mr. Slesicki for his input.

**COMMENTS/MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Starr spoke about the Memorial Day activities planned. He added that the weather report is looking good thus far and there will also be a wonderful guest speaker. Commissioner Starr reminded everyone that Veterans Day is November 11th. He suggested the ground breaking ceremony for Lions be on November 12th.

Commissioner Nicholas again thanked everyone for being here tonight. She added that Commissioner Lowen and she attended the Boot Camp for new Board members which was very beneficial. She is looking forward to being a member of this wonderful Park District Board.

Commissioner Masnica thanked the staff at the Conservatory for the plant sale adding that all the flowers were beautiful. She also thanked the Foundation for their early bird sale and the refreshments and raffle prizes. She is looking forward to her flowers blooming all summer.

Commissioner Doherty added that an amazing dance recital was held and thanked Amy Hubert, Toria Smith and all of the staff. It is such a great program that it attracts participants from outside our District as well. Congratulations to the staff and all of the performers.

The Food Truck Roundup is being rescheduled in the fall due to the weather.

**MOTION**

President Doherty called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Starr made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Murphy.

Regular Board Minutes  
5-21-25

A voice vote was taken with all commissioners present in favor and none opposed.

Adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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William J. Starr, Secretary