

## Minutes

The monthly meeting of the Kewanee Park District Board of Commissioners was held at the Kewanee Park District Office Board Room, 1095 Cambridge Road Kewanee IL 61443 Thursday February 17, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

**Present:** President Andrew Verstraete, Commissioners Paula Kapacinskas, Jim Heberer, Steve Brackett, Director Andrew Dwyer, Clark Blair (1st Financial Partners of Illinois, Inc) & Susan DeVilder (Kewanee Star Courier)

**Absent:** Jackie Verscha & Christy Jackson-Ehnle

President Andrew Verstraete called the meeting to order. The minutes of the January 20, 2022 meeting were reviewed and discussed. Jim Heberer motioned to accept the minutes as written. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The January 2022 Financial Statements was presented. The Board reviewed and discussed the Financial Statements. Steve Brackett motioned to accept the January 2022 Financial Statements. Paula Kapacinskas seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

The February 2022 Bills for Approval were reviewed and discussed. Paula Kapacinskas motioned to approve the bills for February 2022. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Ordinance No. 365 - Annual Appropriation Ordinance was presented to the Board. With no changes made, Steve Brackett motioned for Publication and Final Approval at the Board Meeting on March 17, 2022. Paula Kapacinskas seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed. Ordinance No. 365 will be on display at the Kewanee Park District Office for public viewing. Notice will be placed in the Kewanee Star Courier no more than 21 days and no less than 7 days prior to the March Meeting.

**Open Business:** None

Clark Blair made his presentation and discussed the E.E. Baker Trust. Clark suggested to take the \$15,895.00 in American Funds that were left over from a past project that was never used and redirect it amongst the other investments in the account.

**Discussion and approval of IT stipend for Mike Perva.** Director Dwyer mentioned all that Mike does for the Kewanee Park District with our computers. Jim Heberer motioned to give IT Mike Perva \$500 stipend. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Discussion and approval of equipment purchase or lease. Director Dwyer discussed getting a loan for a sprayer, tractor, & pull behind mower for the golf course at \$150,000 and he would go to the local institutions PNB, CSB, IH, SBT, & Union Federal to get the best interest rate. Jim Heberer motioned to get a loan for the sprayer, tractor, & pull behind mower for \$150,000 at the best interest rate. Steve Brackett seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Jim Heberer motioned to accept the bid from Yarger Machinery Sales, Inc for Worksaver Post Hole Digger \$1,440.00 & Worksaver Auger \$210.00 = \$1,650.00. Paula Kapacinskas seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.

Jim Heberer mentioned how well the loaner sled box went and how nice of Blue Jay for donating sleds to the park for the loaner box.

Jim Heberer asked about the cost of using private street golf carts on the course. Director Dwyer said that he would talk to Dan Erickson about using street golf carts on the golf course and get back to him.

With nothing further to discuss President Verstraete turned the meeting over to Director Dwyer for his report.

### **Director Dwyer's Report & Meeting Minutes**

1.) Follow-up from last board meeting:

a. Update on Restaurant Manager Hiring

2.) Communications:

Director Dwyer read a letter from Jim Thonn stating that he is donating to the youth golf his \$250 certificate that he had won in 1<sup>st</sup> Flite in the Labor Day Tournament. A thank you was sent to him for his generous donation.

Director Dwyer read a letter sent to him from Sharon DeSmit director of the Day Camps thanking everyone in the community for contributing to the camps every year and all they do for the children. Also thank you Sharon DeSmit for doing a wonderful job and all you do for the day camps and the children.

3.) Set date(s) for the majority of programs for the year. Flyers are included in packet with full details

a. Easter Egg Hunt

b. Soccer

c. Youth golf

i. With feedback about time of offerings of AM weekdays being difficult for families to get to, we have adjusted the 2nd session to be offered on evenings and Saturday's

d. Fishing rodeo

e. Baseball/softball — not included but tentatively slated for practice to begin after Father's Day and games to end by first of August. i. Hiring posting is out and applications are being accepted

4.) American Rescue Plan funding application is available thru county

a. Met with County Admin via phone on Feb 1 to discuss.

- b. Working with firms to develop pricing for application.
- c. Application period is February 1 through April 1
- d. Projects potential includes: Multi-use surface at Windmont, ADA accessible pavilion at Chautauqua near the soon to be completed swing set, Splash pad, pavilion near new playground at Northeast, Recreational Software,

5.) Met with Kevin Yepsen from CSB about potential for solar array(s) to be placed on park property. Kevin has worked with both school districts, savea-lot, and a multitude of other agencies and comes highly regarded. He and I are targeting an application to coincide with the city's wastewater treatment solar application that will and has attracted a better rate for the entities based on his prior work of grouping projects. This effort would be

\$0 capital outlay with a cost savings of near 250k over a 20-year period.

6.) Nearing completion of Grant application for "Earth Day in the Parks"

- a. Up to \$1000 to develop Native Pollinator Garden
- b. Must contain education aspect with local school age children
- c. Our application will have us partnering with Local boy-scout troop 4180 as project lead and also invite all k-12 students to assist in planting and maintenance during the 5 year period after install. For inclusion and educational aspects: A plant identification placard (Common and scientific), targeting along walking path the Northeast near soccer fields, and will be fully ADA compliant.

7.) Working with both funeral homes in town to develop a memorial tree program that would go directly from bulk memorials to a fund and then we would make bulk purchases and planting twice a year and tag each tree with a specific memorial as to who funded each tree. The "tag" would be something that is not concreted into the ground, rather hung or affixed to the tree itself.

- a. Also spoke to one vendor about bulk purchasing with non-designation of tree type to leverage more/better quality trees

## 8.) Other Activities

- a. Working with II-WIVCU to identify date for Movie in the Park
- b. Governor's budget proposal for OSLAD grants this 56 million for this year (more than twice last year's amount). This number is not approved, but proposed. Will stay on top of progress as it navigates legislature.
- c. Investigated "Parks Day at Capital" on March 8 but was informed by IAPD staff this event is now remote. There is an attached legislative conference that IAPD hosts as well that may be of interest to us in future.
- d. A resident of Kewanee who is a Construction Manager for his career has given me an application for "FEMA COVID-19 Streamlined funding". Upon initial review, it does not appear we would be eligible, but he insisted there may be some traction. We will be working to see if a brief conversation with a FEMA rep would give us some clarity if any park projects would be considered admissible.
- e. Scheduled summer reading event with Library. "Read beyond the beaten path" is the headline and this will be a one-day event.  
Tentatively scheduled for July 8<sup>th</sup>.
- f. Participated in unemployment hearing with IDES, awaiting result.
- g. Attended Bakersville meeting and targeting the next in early March
- h. In parks
- i. Equipment being serviced and prep for spring ii. Looking at commencing stump removal campaign within next

30 days iii. Dan and Josh attended reel grinding class iv. Painting tee markers and prepping for install of new tee marker signs within next 30 days

With nothing further to discuss Steve Brackett motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jim Heberer seconded the motion. All in Favor. Motion Passed.