

Round Lake Area Park District  
Regular Board Meeting  
August 12, 2021  
6:00 p.m.

**PLACE OF MEETING:**

Robert W. Rolek Community Center  
814 Hart Road  
Round Lake, IL 60073

**I. ROLL CALL**

Park District Board President Paul Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Commissioners in attendance were Sarah Green, Timothy Pasternak, Nick Metropulos and Christine Gentes. Staff in attendance included Executive Director Bob Newport, Business Services Director Carl Hauser, Superintendent of Recreation Katie Gamroth, Finance Department Manager Jennifer Baker, Superintendent of Parks Ane Olivares, Human Resources Manager Jennifer Ruehrdanz, Facilities Manager Matt Netrefa, Child Development Center Manager Joan Ellis, Guest Services Manager April Lohr, Special Recreation Services Program Manager Jessica Findley, Golf Pro/Manager Brad Rouse, Golf Grounds Manager Sandy Bemis, Building Services Manager Lyle Perry and Parks Manager James Braun.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. AUDIENCE COMMENTS**

No comments.

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

No changes to the posted agenda.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Green moved to approve the agenda for the Regular Board Meeting of August 12, 2021, as presented.

**SECOND:** By Commissioner Metropulos.

**VOTE:** By roll call. All ayes. Motion passed.

**V. DIRECTOR'S REPORTS**

**A. Introduction of New Staff**

Three new employees were introduced to the Board. Katy Wells being the newest member of the Child Development Center staff and John Humphreys and Steven Klasinski as the newest members of the Parks Department.

B. WT Engineering Report on School District 116 Request for Water Retention adjacent to Viking Park

Executive Director Newport introduced Jason Green of WT Engineering to discuss their report with the Board. Jason stated that he had reviewed the detailed plans submitted by the school district and that he saw no hardship of the proposed drainage plan on the district's Viking Park. Jason added that the plantings proposed would also be beneficial to the area. as do to the wetness, the area would be unable to mowed. Commissioner Pasternak asked how the area was identified so that it would not be mowed. Executive Director Newport stated that park district staff mows the area and that they would know not to cut the plantings. Commissioner Pasternak asked about the time frame used for measuring rainfall in the study and Jason said that rain fall totals were updated to include the previous year totals to account for increase in storms over past several years.

MOTION: Commissioner Pasternak moved to accept the proposed Round Lake Area School District #116 Request for Water Retention plan as recommended by Jason Green of WT Engineering and to authorize Executive Director Newport to continue discussions on the project.

SECOND: By Commissioner Metropulos.

VOTE: By roll call. All ayes. Motion passed.

C. Series 2012B Bond Refunding

Business Services Director Hauser reviewed the options provided by Jeff Schuppel of Bridgeport Partners to refund the Series 2012B issuance. He reviewed the options to refund the bonds versus continuing to do annual rollover debt and the cost versus savings for the two methods based on assumed rates noted in the analysis.

He covered the following points:

- Both a direct placement and a market offering were being considered to determine which would financially benefit the district the most.
- Interest rates could be higher in the future years doing the annual rollovers than assumed in the analysis.
- The option to refund did not include any new money for equipment and projects initially as had been done in the annual rollover and instead that money would be used to reduce the term of the loan.
- The district could still issue limited tax bonds in the future for equipment and capital projects. The limited tax bonds would be moved to annually occur in February or March to lessen interest costs from the current November time frame as done in the rollover bonds.
- The status of the refunded debt would change to a taxable issuance whereby the county would levy the annual tax from the ordinance to pay the debt. The refunding would count against the district's statutory debt limit authority but that there would still be room to issue debt if needed and that the repayment schedule would increase the amount available annually.

- The May interest payments would go away. The district currently pays these from funds on hand.
- The percentage savings and present value calculations may be lower than the district's bond policy outlines but that the Board could approve the refunding as it would still result in an overall savings.
- Pointed out to the Board that the refunding issuance could involve a premium over the bond par value for investors wanting a higher rate than current market to account for longer term interest rates possibly increasing.
- The refunding issuance was estimated to be around \$4.3 million.

The Board agreed by consensus to continue the option to refund the outstanding debt to save money and reduce the years remaining on the new debt.

#### D. 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of 2021-2022 Operating Budget

Executive Director Newport read the introduction section which explained the budget's purpose in achieving the overall goals of the park district and how property taxes are used as one of the sources of funding. He stated that departmental staff were in attendance as requested to answer any additional questions and that an outdoor pickleball court project was added at Whitewood Park and additional wood trim work at the Rolek Center. He also said that based on the bond refunding proposal, capital projects were moved from the Site and Construction/Capital Project Fund to the Recreation and Corporate Funds as no new money was included as part of the refunding issuance. He then thanked staff for their work on the budget document as well as guiding the agency through the Covid-19 pandemic.

Park Board President Hollingsworth added that as part of bringing staff together for the budget reading was to meet newer staff members hired during the Covid-19 timeframe where meetings were done online or with limited attendance and for the Board to publicly thank staff for working through the guidelines limiting programs and attendance and even finding ways to offer programs remotely.

#### E. Updated Budget and Appropriation Ordinance Draft

Executive Director Newport stated that an updated draft of the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance was provided reflecting the changes made within the second reading of the budget document. He added that if no other changes were made to the budget, then this version would be presented at the September Budget and Appropriation Hearing and for formal adoption of the ordinance.

The Board determined that a third reading of the budget would not be necessary.

#### F. Sport Center Park Update

Superintendent of Parks Olivares stated that the project was on schedule and that the bocce ball court feature had been completed.

#### G. Kristina Park Update

Parks Manager Braun stated the playground component had been opened for use and that staff was waiting on swing set parts before those could be assembled for use. He added that staff had worked with the homeowner's association to change the park from its prior passive use.

#### H. North Shore Skate Park Renovation Update

Superintendent of Parks Olivares stated that the removal of the existing equipment was scheduled for the week of August 23, 2021, and that the installation of the new equipment was scheduled to start the day after the Labor Day holiday.

#### I. Children's Neighborhood Museum Renovation Update

Facilities Manager Netrefa stated that work being done consisted of painting the walls and equipment and the installation of new cabinets and counter tops in the activity room area for when the area can be re-opened for use.

#### J. Facility Project Update

Facilities Manager Netrefa stated that the ceiling tile replacement is still ongoing and that the final areas would be completed in the Child Development Center (CDC) prior to year-end. He also said that the CDC outside play area was re-painted.

### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Gentes stated that when she attended the CDC open house at the Sports Center that she was impressed with the pre-school classrooms at the facility.

### **VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2021.
- B. Approval of Cash Expenditure Transactions for the Month of July 2021.

MOTION: Commissioner Gentes moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

SECOND: By Commissioner Green.

VOTE: By roll call. All ayes. Motion passed.

### **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### A. Finance

- 1) Monthly Statements

Finance Department Manager Baker provided the monthly financial statements for July 2021.

**B. Program and Facility Monthly Reports**

**1. Recreation Report/CDC Report/Marketing/Facilities Report**

Recreation staff provided written reports. Superintendent of Recreation Gamroth stated that a check for \$100,000.00 was received from the John Huebner Fishery Management Foundation and that the foundation's board recently approved the expenditures budget for the fiscal year.

**2. Parks Report**

Superintendent of Parks Olivares provided a written report.

**3. Renwood Report**

Golf course staff provided written reports. Golf Grounds Manager Bemis added that the recent storms had torn a couple of driving range nets and damaged a couple of willow trees.

**4. Safety Report**

Staff provided a written report. Executive Director Newport added that recently a portable toilet had been burned down at the skate park and that the district was responsible for a \$200 deductible.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Pasternak moved to adjourn the Regular Board Meeting of August 12, 2021.

**SECOND:** By Commissioner Metropulos.

**VOTE:** By Roll Call. All Ayes. Motion passed.

Park Board President Hollingsworth adjourned the Regular Board Meeting of August 12, 2021, at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.

/s/Paul Hollingsworth  
Paul Hollingsworth, Park Board President

/s/Carl Hauser  
Carl Hauser, Board Secretary

9/9/2021  
Date Approved