

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING CHAMPAIGN PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JULY 24, 2013

The Champaign Park District Board of Commissioners held a Special Board Meeting on Wednesday, July 24, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bresnan Meeting Center, 706 Kenwood Road, Champaign, Illinois, pursuant to notice duly given. President Petry presided over the meeting.

Present: President Joseph Petry, Vice President Alvin Griggs, Commissioners Barbara Kuhl, Jane Solon and Timothy McMahon, Treasurer Gary Wackerlin and Attorney Guy Hall.

Staff: Bobbie Herakovich, Executive Director/Secretary, Joe DeLuce, Director of Recreation, J. R. Pope, Superintendent of Planning and Operations, Steven Bentz, Virginia Theatre Director, Megan Kuhlenschmidt, Sports and Aquatics Manager, and Cindy Harvey, Executive Assistant.

Call to Order

President Petry called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Comments from the Public

President Petry called for comments from the audience. There were none.

Ms. Herakovich shared a portion of a video found on YouTube of a band performing at the Music Festival held in downtown Champaign.

Action Items

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Digital Cinema Projection System

Mr. DeLuce presented the staff report. Bid specifications were sent to several companies and the notice was advertised in The News-Gazette. Mr. DeLuce stated that only two bids were received for the purchase and installation of a digital cinema projection system for the Theatre. He reported that there was a price difference between the bidders of approximately \$100,000. Mr. DeLuce stated that staff checked references for Sonic Equipment Company and found that the company is suitable for digital projectors. He stated that staff recommended accepting the low bid from Sonic Equipment Company in the amount of \$109,602.81 and authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract for the work. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Solon made a motion to accept the low bid for a digital cinema projection system and authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with Sonic Equipment Company in the amount of \$109,602.81. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 5-0.

Consideration of Approval of Bid for Parkland Way Concrete Repair

President Petry reported that staff recommended approval of a bid for Parkland Way concrete repair.

Mr. Pope reported that the bid was to address roadway deficiencies/failures on the east end of Parkland Way, from the Mattis entry to the Olympic Tribute crosswalk. He stated that the base bid was for patching the worst sections, including rebuilding of the right turn lane, using concrete. Alternate 1 was for changing the shoulder from aggregate to asphalt. Alternate 2 was for complete replacement of this section of the roadway, using a concrete surface. Staff recommended rejecting the base bid, and accepting the low bids on Alternates 1 and 2 from Duce Construction Co. in the amount of \$135,087.25 for complete replacement of the roadway and the change from aggregate shoulders to asphalt shoulders, as well as authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a contract for the work.

Commissioner Griggs made a motion to reject the base bid and accept the low bids on Alternates 1 and 2 from Duce Construction Co. in the amount of \$135,087.25 for complete replacement of the roadway and the change from aggregate shoulders to asphalt shoulders, as well as authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract for the work. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solon.

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Kuhl noted that the Park District has spent a considerable amount of money in repairing the road. Ms. Herakovich reported that the Park District has spent over \$100,000 in repairing patches in different areas of the road but not the area proposed for repairs.

Commissioner Kuhl stated that it has always been an issue with the City of Champaign about accepting this road because it does not meet city standards. Mr. Pope noted that even with the repairs the road would not meet the city's standards as it does not have curbs or gutters and no sidewalks. He reported that the city is not interested in sharing the cost of repairs due to its limited funds. Mr. Pope stated that the City considers Parkland Way a city street and will not charge a storm water utility fee. He stated that until curbs and gutters have been constructed, the city will not accept the street.

Commissioner Kuhl asked if staff had any discussion with Parkland staff about sharing the cost of repairs since it is a main entryway to Parkland College. Mr. Pope responded that he had not. Commissioner Kuhl stated that it has to be a high priority to give the street to someone else. She expressed concern about the amount of money the Park District has spent and will spend on the roadway. She also expressed concern about completing the proposed repairs and it still not meeting city standards.

Commissioner Kuhl stated that repair of the roadway needs to be collaboration between the city, Parkland College and the Park District as it should be positioned so that it does not continue to be a financial drain. This item is a significant portion of the allocation of the budget for concrete replacement.

Commissioner Solon noted that a sidewalk will need to be installed to meet City code. Ms. Herakovich noted that staff could work with the City to change its code. She also noted that Parkland College made extensive repairs to fix the road from Bradley Avenue to the stop sign which serves the Park District's soccer facilities.

President Petry stated that he does not favor making the repairs at this time because he does not believe the road requires it. This matter has been discussed with the city on several occasions and that the discussions will continue.

Discussion ensued about the desire to continue to discuss opportunities with the city about the roadway. President Petry stated that he does not favor moving forward with the proposed repairs of Parkland Way.

Vice President Griggs expressed concern about a price increase for repairs in the future if the work is not completed at this time, staff time for ongoing maintenance and lack of funds for continued maintenance.

Commissioner Solon expressed concern about the continued deterioration of the road and the amount of money that will be needed to make repairs, as well as other ongoing issues with maintenance of the road.

President Petry stated that there was a motion and a second on this item. He called for the vote.

Discussion continued. Commissioner McMahan asked what happens to the funds if the Board votes not to approve the bid. Ms. Herakovich stated that the funds would typically be carried over.

Discussion ensued about the use of concrete versus asphalt.

President Petry asked for a show of hands in favor of the recommendation. Commissioners Solon and Griggs voted aye. President Petry and Commissioners McMahon and Kuhl voted nay. The motion failed

The Board asked for clarification on certain voting procedures for future reference.

Consideration of Approval to Request Bids for a Water Play Feature for Sholem Aquatic Center

Ms. Herakovich reported on the failed attempt to have a "lily pad" play structure installed at Sholem Aquatic Center last year. She stated that the manufacturer was unable to manufacture the item.

Mr. DeLuce reported that Ms. Kuhlenschmidt and her staff researched different features and investigated the idea of replacing the tumble buckets and water activity center in the zero depth zone. The current tumble buckets and water play feature are showing signs of wear and tear and are in need of repair. He stated that the new feature would assist with the small children and parents who are limited by space and play features in the baby pool. Mr. DeLuce presented the pros and cons of installing the proposed new feature. He reported that the FY13-14 capital budget includes \$100,000 for a new feature and that additional funds would need to be approved to fund this purchase and installation as the estimated cost would be approximately \$200,000. The cost would be approximately \$120,000 more than the \$80,000 allocated for the "lily pad" system. Staff sought Board authorization to bid the project in August 2013 and complete installation in the fall. Staff recommends that the Board direct the Executive Director to bid the proposed purchase and installation of the new play feature for the Sholem Aquatic Center.

Discussion ensued. Commissioner Solon asked where the additional funds would come from. Mr. DeLuce stated that funds will come from savings on other projects.

Commissioner McMahon made a motion to obtain bids for a new water play feature for Sholem Aquatic Center. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 5-0.

Discussion Items

Park Hours

Mr. Pope reported the vast majority of parks are either mini or neighborhood parks. Parks include Clark, Eisner, Morrissey, Beardsley, Davidson, Garden Hills, Hazel and Turnberry Ridge. He stated that residents in Johnston Park have asked to reduce the time of closure. Mr. Pope reported that his recommendation to the Executive Director is that all mini parks and neighborhood parks, except Spalding and Douglass Parks, remain open from dawn to dusk which will make it easier for the police and Park District staff

Discussion ensued about policy for establishing park hours for various parks. There was no consensus in setting park hours. However, a majority of the Board favored maintaining flexibility in determining hours for various parks. Staff will solicit feedback from additional residents on suggested park hours for Johnston Park.

Comments from Commissioners

President Petry distributed information about the Open Meetings Act from a workshop attended by Vice President Griggs for Board reference. He thanked Vice President Griggs for sharing the information

President Petry reported that the Curtis and Porter families had a family reunion at Porter Park. President Petry also reported that on a visit to Sunset Ridge Park he observed 12 skateboarders enjoying the park. He stated that two of the skaters were from Chicago and two from Peoria. The skaters were excited about the use of the skate park and indicated that it was one of the best in the area.

President Petry stated that he would like the Commissioners to consider starting each meeting by sharing a positive event or story about the Park District. It could be from the Commissioners or staff.

Closed Session

Commissioner Solon made a motion as set forth below to convene in Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed 5-0. Upon roll call vote, the vote was as follows: Commissioner Solon – yes; Commissioner McMahon – yes; Vice President Griggs – yes; President Petry – yes; and Commissioner Kuhl – yes. The Board convened in Closed Session under the Illinois Open Meetings Act, specifically 5 ILCS, Par. 120/2(c)(1) for the discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, or legal counsel for the public body.

Reconvene into Open Session turn to Regular Meeting

Following the adjournment of the Closed Session, the Board reconvened in open meeting.

Closed Session Action Items

No action was taken on any items discussed in Closed Session.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Kuhl made a motion to adjourn the Special Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice President Griggs. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Approved:

Joseph A. Petry, President

Bobbie Herakovich, Secretary