

**Vernon Hills Park District  
Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting  
November 18, 2010 – 6:30p.m.**

1. **Call to Order.** The Regular Meeting of the Vernon Hills Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Ballowe at 6:34p.m. at the Laschen Community Center, 294 Evergreen Drive, Vernon Hills.
2. **Roll Call.** Present: Commissioners Doerhoefer, Meline, Kessler, Robbins and Ballowe. Staff –Jeff Fougrousse, Orin Main, Tom Ritter, Marla Pineiro, Cheryl Baron and Cathy Marcangelo. Others present: Sarah Hezlep of Knutte & Associates, Ojas Patel of IDOT, Jeff Hall and Jennifer Golemba of Tran Systems, Brian McDonald and Ellen Cwick of Vernon Hills High School, and Dennis Donelon Chairman of Project Turf.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance.** President Ballowe led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **Omnibus Vote Agenda**
  - A. **Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 21, 2010**

Page 1, Item 1 of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 21, 2010 was revised to read “The Regular Meeting of the Vernon Hills Board of Park Commissioners was called to order by President Ballowe at 6:34pm, at the Laschen Community Center, 294 Evergreen Drive, Vernon Hills”.

Motion by Commissioner Meline to approve the revision of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 21, 2010. Second by Commissioner Doerhoefer.

Ayes: Commissioners Meline, Robbins, Kessler, Doerhoefer and Ballowe  
Nays: None Motion carries.
  - B. **Payables (less Grainger) & Payroll through November 18, 2010 in the amount of \$446,285.12**

Motion by Commissioner Robbins to approve item B of the Omnibus Vote Agenda. Second by Commissioner Doerhoefer.

Ayes: Commissioners Robbins, Kessler, Meline, Doerhoefer, Ballowe  
Nays: None Motion carries.
5. **Welcome to Visitors and Guests - Public Comment Period** – No Public Comments.
6. **Financial Reports for the Period Ending October 31, 2010** - Financial reports were accepted for file and audit.
7. **Reports/Communication**
  - A. **Executive Director– Jeff Fougrousse** – Report attached. Executive Director Fougrousse added that the Family Aquatic Center survey results will be forwarded to the Board.
  - B. **Finance and HR Superintendent – Marla Pineiro** – Report attached.
  - C. **Recreation Superintendent – Tom Ritter** – Report attached. Superintendent Ritter added that the three trips for the Polar Express event are fully reserved. He also added that the Family Aquatic Center survey results have been received by the Board, the survey comments will be forwarded.
  - D. **Parks Superintendent – Orin Main** – Report attached.
  - E. **Communications Manager – Cheryl Baron** – Report attached.
  - F. **Commissioner/Committee Reports and Communications –**
    - 1) **Park District/Village Liaison Committee – Commissioners Ballowe & Doerhoefer**– President Ballowe stated that the revised Vernon Hills Cougars Youth Athletic Association (VHCYAA) Affiliate

Agreement is currently being reviewed by the Park District's attorney, Charlene Holtz. Executive Director Fougousse added that once the revised language is received from Attorney Holtz the agreement will be sent to the VHCYAA Board.

2) **Park District/ School Dist. 73 Liaison Committee – Commissioner Meline** – No report.

**G. Board Correspondence** – No correspondence received.

**8. Unfinished Business** – No unfinished business.

**9. New Business**

**A. Truth in Taxation Resolution 4-10**

Each year the Park Board is required to meet formally and estimate the amount of money they will need to levy to cover their operating costs for the next fiscal year.

At tonight's meeting, the Board will vote on resolution 4-10 to levy an estimated \$3,398,758, less debt service. This estimate represents a 7.07% increase over the year 2009 tax levy. The 7.07% increase is based on an estimate for the 2011 EAV and will be reduced based on the actual EAV. This increase is based on the rising cost of living, an increase in Park District residents and the expansion and improvement of Park District facilities.

A Truth in Taxation hearing is required to be held in any year that the Park Board determines that the current year's estimated levy will exceed the prior year's levy by 5% or more. Since the estimate for the 2010 levy exceeds the 2009 levy by more than 5%, a Truth in Taxation Hearing will be held at Special Board Meeting on December 2nd at 5:30pm to inform residents of the proposed increase.

Motion by Commissioner Doerhoefer to approve Truth in Taxation Resolution 4-10. Second by Commissioner Robbins.

Ayes: Commissioners Kessler, Robbins, Doerhoefer, Meline and Ballowe

Nays: None Motion carries

**B. FY2010 CAFR Presentation – Knutte & Associates**

Sarah Hezlep of Knutte & Associates summarized the audit for the Park Board. The audit will be submitted to GFOA for a Certificate of Achievement in Financial Accounting. Ms. Hezlep explained that the audit was given an "unqualified" opinion which is the highest you can receive. Ms. Hezlep also stated that all fund balances are positive and adequate to expenditures. She added that a few funds are over budget, but are within appropriation, the only fund that is over appropriation is the Bond and Interest Fund and this is due to the Park District re-financing. Commissioner Robb ins applauded Superintendent Pineiro and her staff for a job well done.

**C. IDOT Route 45 Project**

Jennifer Golemba of Tran Systems updated the Board on IDOT's plan to improve Route 45. Ms. Golemba stated that the Route 45 improvements will affect a small area in Carriage Green Park and Garvanian Park. IDOT finds the affects to Carriage Green Park and Garvanian Park to be de minimis since the changes are not adversely affecting any features, attributes and activities of the park. The Route 45 improvement project is currently in Phase I and is not yet funded for construction. Phase II will be design and land acquisition, and Phase III will be construction, if funded. Commissioner Doerhoefer expressed concern about the construction of a 7' retaining wall along Route 45 and Deerpath Road along Garvanian Park and the dark isolated area this will create in the park. Ms. Golemba agreed that the possibility of installing lighting in that area of the park can be looked at. Commissioner Doerhoefer also expressed concern about the bike path crossing over Deerpath Road and Route 45 which will be 4 lanes and asked about the possibility of an underpass or overpass being constructed. Ms. Golemba answered that due to drainage an underpass is not a possibility, but the idea of an overpass can be looked at. IDOT

will draft a letter to the Board highlighting this presentation and will ask for the Board's concurrence on the project.

**D. Vernon Hills High School Synthetic Turf Community Presentation**

Dennis Donelon presented information to the Board on a project to raise money for the installation of a synthetic turf playing surface in the stadium at Vernon Hills High School. The Board agreed to support the project by putting a full page ad in our next program brochure and adding a link to the Park District website connecting to the Project Turf information.

**E. W.W. Grainger Invoices Payable**

Motion by Commissioner Kessler to approve the W.W. Grainger invoices in the amount of \$712.57.

Second by Commissioner Robbins.

Ayes: Commissioners Kessler, Meline, Robbins and Ballowe    Abstention: Commissioner Doerhoefer

Nays: None                      Motion carries.

**10. Commissioner Comments**

**A. Commissioner Ballowe** – No comment.

**B. Commissioner Doerhoefer** – Congratulated Vernon Hills High School for receiving the 2010 U.S. National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award.

**C. Commissioner Meline** – No comment.

**D. Commissioner Robbins** – No comment.

**E. Commissioner Kessler** – No comment.

**13. Adjournment**

Upon proper motion and second, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:49p.m.

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Jeff Fougerousse, Park Board Secretary

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James E. Ballowe, Park Board President