

Vernon Hills Park District
Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Board Meeting
Minutes

July 26, 2022
635 N. Aspen Drive
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Secretary Fougousse asked for a nomination of President pro-temp.

Commissioner Robbins nominated Commissioner Sente as President pro-temp.

Nomination Second by Commissioner Kessler.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Kessler, Robbins, Sente.

Nays: None. Nomination carries.

President Pro temp Sente announced that Commissioner David Doerhoefer has made a request to attend this Regular Meeting by electronic means. Commissioner Doerhoefer is prevented from physically attending this Regular Meeting because of employment purposes. Commissioners present are required to vote on this request. President Pro-temp Sente asked for voice vote by each Commissioner present.

Ayes: Commissioner Robbins, Kessler, Sente.

Nays: None.

Request by Commissioner Doerhoefer to attend this Regular Meeting by electronic means is granted.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call - President pro-temp Sente called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Present: Commissioners Robbins, Kessler, Sente.

Present by Electronic Means: Commissioner Doerhoefer.

Absent: Commissioner Giraldo.

Staff: Jeff Fougousse, Jessica Mitchell, Tom Ritter, James Kim, Cheryl Buhmann, Amy Darling.

Guests: Jay Bullman, Julie Freels, Robert Wood, Ryan Eccles.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President pro-temp Sente led the Pledge of Allegiance.



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3. Omnibus Vote Agenda – Items under the Omnibus Vote Agenda are considered routine and/or non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. If a separate vote on any one item is desired, it will be pulled from the Omnibus Vote Agenda and voted on separately.

- A. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting June 23, 2022.
- B. Payables & Payroll through July 26, 2022 in the amount of \$1,206,582.58.

President pro-temp Sente asked for a motion to approve Omnibus Agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Robbins.

Second by Commissioner Kessler.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Kessler, Robbins, Doerhoefer, Sente.

Nays: None. Motion Carries.

4. Welcome to Visitors and Guests - Public Comment Period

President pro-temp Sente opened the public comment period and asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the board.

Having none, President pro-temp Sente invited Superintendent of Recreation Tom Ritter to the podium to introduce invited staff. Jay Bullman, Recreation Supervisor of Athletics, Julie Freels, Recreation Supervisor of Early Childhood, Dance and Camp Programs and Robert Wood, Recreation Supervisor of Aquatics each stepped to the podium to introduce themselves, state how long they have worked for the district and the highlights of program areas they supervise.

5. Financial Reports for the Period Ending June 30, 2022

President pro-temp Sente asked Superintendent Mitchell if there are any changes to the reports as filed. No changes were reported.

6. Reports and Communication

- A. Parks Superintendent- James Kim – report attached.
- B. Marketing & Communications Manager- Cheryl Buhmann- report attached.
- C. Recreation Superintendent- Tom Ritter- report attached.
- D. Finance and HR Superintendent – Jessica Mitchell- report attached.





E. Executive Director- Jeff Fougrousse- report attached. Commissioner Robbins commented on the proposal to use a 2023 bond issue to cover the cost of the spray ground improvement and how interest rates may impact the bond amount. Secretary Fougrousse explained that a proposal prepared by Speer Financial will be provided to the board in January 2023. This proposal will include other district projects that will be funded by the bond issue. He also explained that a current \$4 million bond issue will expire in December of 2022 opening the way for the 2023 series.

At this time, President pro-temp Sente invited Ryan Eccles of Vortex Aquatic Structures, Intl. to the podium. Ryan provided an overview of the features in revised design "D" as well as the costs associated with the revisions.

President pro-temp Sente stated that there are no Commissioner or Committee Reports and no correspondence to the board has been received.

7. Old Business – none.

8. New Business

A. 2022 District Organizational Chart

President pro-temp Sente asked for a motion to approve the 2022 Organizational Chart as presented by staff.

Motion by Commissioner Robbins.

Second by Commissioner Kessler.

Discussion: None.

Ayes: Commissioner Robbins, Kessler, Doerhoefer, Sente.

Nays: None. Motion Carries

B. Sprayground Agreements

i. President pro-temp Sente asked for a motion to approve an agreement with Shaefges Brothers, Inc. in the amount of \$327,630.00 for sprayground Construction Management.

Motion by Commissioner Kessler.

Second by Commissioner Robbins.

Discussion: Commissioner Robbins asked for clarification on what this vote represents. Executive Director Fougrousse explained that Shaefges Brothers will be on site managing the splashpad project. Commissioner Robbins asked if the fee for this contract is negotiable. Executive Director Fougrousse explained that the fee was established as a standard percentage of the overall



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project, is in line with fair trade and is not likely negotiable. President pro-temp Sente is comfortable with the fee, given her professional experience. Commissioner Doerhoefer is comfortable with the fee as well. Executive Director Fougousse offered to meet with all of the splashpad project team members to work on a total budget review.

Ayes: Commissioner Kessler, Doerhoefer, Robbins, Sente.

Nays: None. Motion Carries

- ii. President pro-temp Sente asked for a motion to approve an agreement with WT Group in the amount of \$242,025.00 for sprayground MEP Management.

Motion by Commissioner Robbins.

Second by Commissioner Kessler.

Discussion: Commissioner Doerhoefer asked to confirm that Executive Director Fougousse will sit down with all three project team vendors to work toward meeting the total 2.25 million dollar project budget without making significant implement changes. President pro-temp agreed that this was the intent moving forward. Executive Director Fougousse confirmed.

Ayes: Commissioner Doerhoefer, Robbins, Kessler, Sente.

Nays: None. Motion Carries

- iii. President Pro-temp Sente asked for a motion to approve an agreement with Vortex Aquatic Structures, Int'l not to exceed \$675,000.00 for sprayground design implementation.

Motion by Commissioner Kessler.

Second by Commissioner Robbins.

Discussion:

Commissioner Robbins asked whether the project budget as a whole should be the not to exceed vote. Executive Director explained that the individual contracts create the total budget and that the overall project budget is not an action item on this agenda.

Commissioner Robbins expressed concern over the cost of construction at the time the bids are open and how they may significantly affect the overall project budget based on inflation expectation.

Commissioner Sente clarified that the board will be have the opportunity to approve construction bids at a later date which will provide a clearer picture of the direction the budget is taking. Commissioner Sente suggested that Shaefges and WT might attend a future board meeting to share discussions with Jeff on any options to revise their costs. This would also give Commissioner Giraldo an opportunity to participate in the discussion.



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Commissioner Kessler commented that she was comfortable with the not to exceed vote for Vortex. She expressed concerns over design expansion and the associated costs and is unclear as to whether an aye vote will mean she is agreeing to design "D" without the opportunity to make changes. Ryan explained that an approval by the board tonight does not prevent any future changes that may be implemented to achieve the desired final budget.

Executive Director Fougousse recommended to the board that the not to exceed vote be approved and by doing so would provide him the option to work with project team to value engineer the total budget.

Ayes: Commissioner Doerhoefer, Robbins, Kessler, Sente.


Nays: None. Motion Carries

9. Commissioner Comments

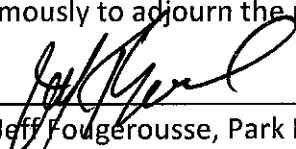
- A. Commissioner Kessler – none.
- B. Commissioner Robbins –none.
- C. Commissioner Doerhoefer –none.
- D. Commissioner Sente- none.

10. Adjournment

Upon proper motion and second the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.



Carol Sente, Park Board President Pro-temp



Jeff Fougousse, Park Board Secretary

