

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
KENILWORTH PARK DISTRICT BOARD HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL,
419 RICHMOND ROAD, AT 5:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2007.**

Park District President Thomas Feeney called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. and the Secretary called the roll as follows:

Present:	Thomas Feeney	President
	Chip Kenyon	Commissioner
	Richard Peterson	Commissioner
Absent:	Jason Hanold	Commissioner
	Heidi Higgins	Commissioner
Others Present:	Brad Burke	Secretary
	Lou Maggi	Superintendent
	Mary Cole	Secretary to Mr. Burke
	Maryann Van Dyke	Finance Administrator

The minutes of the November 1, 2007 meeting were placed before the Board. President Feeney made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Kenyon seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the minutes were approved as presented.

Secretary Burke discussed the November payables. He noted that \$1,000 had been allocated to CDW as the Park District's share of the cost of an automatic loading deck for backing up the Village and Park District system server. He also noted the audit was not on the agenda. The auditor who did most of the work for the Park District has changed jobs which may have slowed the process down, Finance Administrator Van Dyke said she had heard from Lou Karrison of Sikich LLC Auditing Firm who hopes to get the Park District audit to the office by December 10th.

Next, Secretary Burke noted the payment for Holland & Knight which was for providing an auditing letter. Secretary Burke noted this letter is a requirement for the audit process. Secretary Burke noted he had also consulted with legal counsel regarding a zoning issue for field turf in Townley Field and possibly lighting. Secretary Burke said he was still seeking clarity on this issue and noted the Park District may or may not have to go before the Zoning Board of Appeals. He added that it would be appropriate for the Park Board to host a meeting with neighbors in the area regarding new lighting once more information is known. In response to a question raised regarding cost of professional services for Townley Field, Secretary Burke said the topographical survey of Townley Field cost \$5,600.00 while the soil survey was \$3,700.00.

Finally, Secretary Burke noted property taxes had started to come in, and the Park District had received about 20% of their money.

President Feeney made a motion to approve the bills. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion, and the bills were unanimously approved.

Then, Secretary Burke introduced the Tax Levy Ordinance and stated it had to be submitted to Cook County by the end of December. Secretary Burke noted the Village receives the Equalized Assessed Valuation from the County. A 2.5% CPI and 1.5% for the growth factor are figured in to determine the levy amount. Secretary Burke asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Peterson asked if the Park District can go higher or lower in the levy without too much trouble. Secretary Burke said the District can always go lower, but he recommends asking for as much as possible since the District's reserves are down from the expense of the tot lot. It would be good to rebuild the reserve.

Commissioner Peterson asked about Holland and Knight's charge. Secretary Burke said the letter for the annual audit is a requirement.

The Park Board discussed the cost of audit services. Finance Administrator Van Dyke said next year's audit would cost \$5,400.00.

Commissioner Peterson made a motion to approve the Tax Levy Ordinance. President Feeney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, and the Tax Levy Ordinance was approved.

Secretary Burke introduced the 2008 Park Board meeting schedule. Meetings will continue to be on the first Thursday of each month at 5:00 pm except in January because of school winter break and in July because of the 4th of July. Those meetings will be held on the second Thursday of the month.

President Feeney made a motion to approve the meeting schedule. Commissioner Peterson seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the 2008 meeting schedule was approved.

Commissioner Kenyon asked about Lacrosse income and expenses. Secretary Burke pointed out that these figures were included in the monthly finance report that each Commissioner received.

Commissioner Kenyon then suggested moving the Park District trophy case out of Sears School by the gym into the Warming House. He said it is in an obscure place, and children could take more pride in it if it was more prominent.

Commissioner Peterson asked how this would be done. Superintendent Maggi said he could either build or buy a new case and install it in the Warming House. The Park District Board was in unanimous agreement to move the case.

Commissioner Kenyon went on to discuss Field Turf. He gave background information of how he got to the point he was at with the issue. He said Townley Field is half dirt, very hard and actually dangerous for children to play on. Commissioner Kenyon said the Park District could re-sod the field, but that would be just a band aid according to several landscapers he had spoken with. He has been able to raise a lot of money in a very short time period for this project, and noted the artificial turf is very low maintenance. Commissioner Kenyon noted he has met with no resistance to the idea. He has spoken with about 25 people and he is almost at the amount needed for installation, including landscaping and a nice walkway around the field. Commissioner Kenyon felt that the project has to be tied in with new lights for Townley Field to be successful. New lights have higher poles and are less intrusive. The field would actually require less lights. New lighting will extend playing time on the field.

Commissioner Peterson asked if there were a zoning issue with the lights.

President Feeney said no, but the Park District will have to have a public meeting to inform everyone about this plan and include the school.

Commissioner Peterson said he understood that it is \$1 million to install and \$500,000 every 10 to 12 years for repair.

Commissioner Kenyon said this will affect all the sports teams, including lacrosse, field hockey, football and baseball. He said the Kenilworth Baseball Association may be able to help with costs, and the school wants to be involved. Commissioner Kenyon said he had thought about the traffic flow issue if the field is used more, and thought something could be worked out. He said maybe people could drop off their children at the Richmond Road cul-de-sac. He went on to say everyone wants to be involved. Commissioner Kenyon and Superintendent Maggi are going to walk the field next Monday with a representative from the Field Turf company, and he will get an exact price at that time.

Commissioner Peterson wondered how the Park District would come up with \$500,000 in 10 to 12 years. He asked if other communities would have to pay to use Townley Field as a way of raising funds. Commissioner Kenyon said he was confident he could raise the money. He said we want to be independent, and we do have money making capabilities. He said with one lacrosse clinic he could probably raise \$20,000. He realized the issue had become more complicated when the Park District found out about the \$500,000 every 10 to 12 years. Also there is a drainage problem. Commissioner Kenyon said all of these issues can be dealt with.

Commissioner Peterson asked about new sod. Superintendent Maggi said it is 90,000 square feet and would cost \$52,000.00.

Commissioner Peterson said new sod would probably last only two seasons. Commissioner Kenyon said that is the cheapest solution, but there would be a lot of maintenance for Superintendent Maggi and his crew. He said people are willing to shovel money at putting down Field Turf.

President Feeney said the Park District must have a meeting to educate everyone. Commissioner Kenyon said that has always been on his agenda, as is the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District permit.

Secretary Burke said the MWRD says Field Turf is impervious surface. Northbrook has 28% less drainage on their field with Field Turf. He reported there is a wide spectrum on engineering costs. Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick has estimated a cost of \$50,000.00, while Manhard Engineers have said \$5,000.00. Secretary Burke also talked to Baxter and Woodman Engineers who gave a price of \$21,000.00.

Commissioner Peterson was afraid that Kenilworth residents would complain because they pay such high taxes, much of the Village's infrastructure needs help, and the Park District would be spending all this money on a play field.

Secretary Burke said the proposed work may cause the Village Board to come forward and solve some global drainage issues.

President Feeney reiterated the need for a public hearing.

Commissioner Kenyon said he would arrange everything. He said the drainage problem must be solved, then we will have an open meeting.

Secretary Burke said Dr. Kalinich of Sears School had found an article in the paper that listed the negatives about Field Turf. Commissioner Kenyon had some literature from the Field Turf Company responding to the negatives.

Secretary Burke said there is limited information because Field Turf is fairly new. He mentioned a heat concern. Commissioner Kenyon said he will have a speaker at the public meeting who will be prepared to answer the concerns. He mentioned Chuck Morris who is an expert installer.

Commissioner Kenyon said residents will be proud of Townley Field, and showed a map of the field and where the Field Turf would be installed.

President Feeney asked if the bike path would be moved. Commissioner Kenyon said yes because it takes up too much room.

Commissioner Kenyon went on to explain the plan so far. Field Turf would not be installed on the whole field.

Commissioner Peterson said we should do the whole field and asked if only a partial installation would create more problems. President Feeney said not really and it would save money. The one end of Townley Field is not used as much.

Commissioner Kenyon said the company will come up with designs.

Commissioner Peterson said he had attended the Plan Commission meeting earlier in the week, and had heard something about moving the train tracks.

Secretary Burke said no, the Commission talked about possibly acquiring railroad right-of-way to accommodate parking and possibly more green space.

Commissioner Peterson said that would affect drainage. Secretary Burke said this would be on the other side of the tracks.

Commissioner Kenyon said he was not worried about the infrastructure issue. He said someone could donate money and put their name on the park.

Secretary Burke said Hampton, Lenzini and Renwick had told him it takes about 1 year to get an MWRD permit because the MWRD is very bureaucratic. However, Manhard Engineers said it only takes from 3 to 6 months to receive a permit.

Commissioner Kenyon said we will find out. He again said the Park District will have a big meeting and talk to the people who live on Cumnor about new lights.

Commissioner Peterson asked how much the lights would cost. Superintendent Maggi said he didn't know yet. President Feeney said new lights will be better for Cumnor Road residents.

Secretary Burke noted the new lights may be better; however field usage may increase with the new lights and new field materials.

Superintendent Maggi said we use lights all night long when we flood the ice rink and receive no complaints. He said he would get new light costs.

Commissioner Peterson asked what the next step was. Commissioner Kenyon said he will meet with the Field Turf company on Monday, and then go to the MWRD.

Commissioner Peterson again asked about cost. Commissioner Kenyon said he did not know yet, but has money already earmarked.

Commissioner Peterson asked if Commissioner Kenyon would be able to raise the repair money in 10 years.

President Feeney reiterated the necessity of a public meeting.

President Feeney said the Board should move on to the next agenda items. He said Commissioner Higgins was not in attendance so there would be no basketball report. Staff reported that basketball applications are coming in.

Superintendent Maggi said he wanted to discuss rates for skating guards. He reported that Jeff Brooks was coming back as the head guard. The Board suggested \$8.25 per hour for Mr. Brooks if he came back or \$8.00 if they had to hire a new head guard, and \$8.00 per hour for the other guards. Superintendent Maggi also reported that the hockey boards were up and he had to do some snow removal.

Commissioner Kenyon said he thought there was a few thousand dollars left from lacrosse. He suggested experimenting with a plastic sheet on the hockey rink. He said the fear has been that the sheet could get easily punctured, but if it extends the skating season, it is worth trying. Commissioner Kenyon said it should be put down at the first freeze.

Commissioner Peterson asked if it would harm the ground. Superintendent Maggi said if it is pulled up early enough, it is not supposed to do any damage.

Commissioner Peterson asked about the cost. Commissioner Kenyon said \$1,500.00, and said he felt it was worth a shot.

President Feeney brought up Mahoney Park. Superintendent Maggi said he needed more money for Mahoney Park.

President Feeney said he had received a letter from a resident recommending the services of Marc Marcus for Mahoney Park. Valerie Foradas was requesting \$1,000 to put in more plants at Mahoney Park. President Feeney said he did not want to give her the money and felt more should be done on the east side this year.

Superintendent Maggi said Marc Marcus had focused on the west side. Superintendent Maggi suggested doing a small section on the east side this year. He said Susan Carlson is familiar with the Jens Jensen plan.

President Feeney reiterated concentrating on the east side.

Commissioner Kenyon said he is meeting with the Turf Field people in the Village House on Monday.

Then, the Board excused Superintendent Maggi to discuss Christmas bonuses.

The Board decided on bonuses, and unanimously approved them.

Commissioner Kenyon made a motion to adjourn. President Feeney seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried, and the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cole