

Carol Stream Park District Board of Commissioners Regular Meeting October 12, 2021 6:00pm

Call to Order	Commissioner Powers called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.	
Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance	Present: Commissioners Bird, Sokolowski, Powers and Gramann. Commissioner Jeffery arrived at 6:05. Absent: Commissioner Del Preto and Jaszka. Staff: Executive Director Reuter, Directors Bachewicz, Hamilton and Rini, Superintendent Scumaci, Managers Esposito and Mondlock, and Executive Assistant Greninger.	
Listening Post	Executive Director Dan Leahy of Western DuPage Special Recreation Association was introduced by Executive Director Reuter. Mr. Leahy reviewed his background, passion for special recreation and challenges moving forward at WDSRA.	
Changes to the Agenda	Action Item 7A, Natural Gas Contract, was moved ahead of Discussion Items 6A.	
Consent Agenda	Commissioner Gramann made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Bird. A. Approval: Parks & Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes: September 27, 2021 B. Approval: Public Meeting Minutes: September 27, 2021 C. Approval Regular Minutes: September 27, 2021 D. Ratify: September Bills Voice Vote taken. Motion passed 5-0-2 Commissioner Sokolowski made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Jeffery. Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Jaszka: Absent Commissioner Del Preto: Absent Commissioner Jeffery: Aye Commissioner Bird: Aye Commissioner Sokolowski: Aye Commissioner Powers: Aye Motion Passes 5-0-2	
Action Items	A. Natural Gas Contract Executive Director Reuter introduced Scott Slobedecki, our energy consultant, to discuss the options for gas service when our contract with Constellation expires in November. Historically, natural gas prices go down during the summer. We started looking in January, but several unusual things happened this year. A large part of Texas experienced freezing temperatures in March, which also froze the pipelines.	

Then the Gulf Coast was hit by hurricane Ida. Those natural events and the ongoing



problems related to COVID with staffing and building reductions, resulted in lower natural gas available in the commodities market. The new normal is uncertain at this time so we can not predict the cost of natural gas this winter or even next summer. Director Hamilton explained that we are asking the board to decide if we should sign a one, two or three-year contract or move away from third-party resellers and go directly with Nicor. The one-year contract is currently the highest price, but it would allow us to make a change based on rates next summer. Two years gives us stability for two years and it may take that long for rates to stabilize. Three years is the best rate now, but if rates go down before that, we are stuck at the current price. Moving to Nicor would give us monthly market fluctuation, but we still have to stay with those rates for one year. Mr. Slobedecki recommends the one- or two-year contract with a third-party reseller.

Commissioner Jeffery commented she is dealing with this exact issue where she works. She asked if we sign a one-year contract and then rates go down, can we make a change? Mr. Slobedecki explained we are under obligation of the term of the contract. Commissioner Bird asked about an 18-month contract. Mr. Slobedecki said that term would come up while we are still in the winter months, so the rates would not be at their best. Executive Director Reuter stated that 18 months would be more difficult for staff to budget the unknown 6 months. Commissioner Powers asked why we would have to stay with Nicor if it is not a contract. Mr. Slobedecki explained how the tariff works. He compared it to a variable rate loan for a year. We would have to stay with Nicor for a year, but the rate will fluctuate each month. Commissioner Sokolowski asked if delivery will get better as the nation recovers from the pandemic. Mr. Slobedecki explained that the delivery is via pipeline, not by truck. The pipelines are impacted mostly by weather, not staffing. Commissioner Powers polled each commissioner which resulted in three Commissioners in favor of a two-year contract and two Commissioners in favor of a one-year contract. The two who said one year agreed with the majority and changed their vote to the twoyear contract.

Commissioner Sokolowski made a motion authorizing the Executive Director to sign a gas contract for a 2-year term with a third-party reseller for our gas services. Seconded by Commissioner Gramann.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Jaszka: Absent Commissioner Jeffery: Aye Commissioner Sokolowski: Aye

Commissioner Powers: Aye Motion Passes 5-0-2 Commissioner Del Preto: Absent

Commissioner Bird: Aye Commissioner Gramann: Aye

A.

Discussion Items

B. Marketing Report

Market Managers Esposito and Mondlock presented the 2021 Marketing Update with special focus on our digital marketplace, ADA signage and COVID protocol updates. Plans for 2022 include a new digital guide and new CSPD Mobile App. Commissioner Sokolowski asked how the seniors are adapting to digital



	communication and registration. Manager Esposito explained the senior pages are among the top 10 hits to our digital guide. The Board was very interested in the new digital guide and the CSPD Mobile App. C. Weekly Happenings (oral) Commissioner Powers asked if the Water Park leak detection report was received. Director Hamilton said it was and was surprised to read minimal leaks were detected. There is some water getting under the liner from the cracks in the gutters. Evaporation and splashing account for most of the 6,000 gallons we replace daily during the summer. Commissioner Powers asked about the sale closing for Elk Trail Recreation Center. Director Rini spoke with our attorney today. There is no deadline from the courts for the closing, and the buyer is finalizing financing details. There is not a closing date scheduled yet.	
Closed Session	None	
Action Pertaining to Closed Session	None	
Adjournment	Commissioner Gramann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Bird. Voice Vote taken. Motion passed 5-0-2. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.	

President Tim Powers

Secretary

Jim Reuter

October 25, 2021

Date