

MINUTES
DeKalb Park District
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
October 3, 2016
Hopkins Administration Building
1403 Sycamore Road, DeKalb, IL

Study Session
3:30 p.m.

- I. Meeting Call to Order and Roll Call:** President Phil Young called the Study Session to order at 3:32 p.m.

Board members present: President Phil Young, Commissioner Dean Holliday, Commissioner Dag Grada, and Commissioner Bryant Irving. Absent: Commissioner Keith Nyquist (arrived at 3:33 p.m.).

Staff Members Present: Executive Director Amy Doll, Marketing and Communications Manager Scott deOliveira, Human Resource and Payroll Manager Autumn Kelly, Superintendent of Parks and Development Mat Emken, Food and Clubhouse Manager Jane Holdridge, Superintendent of Golf Shane Bays, Superintendent of Recreation Bill Ryder, and Park Maintenance and Special Projects Team Leader Dave Kessen.

II. Action on Agenda

Commissioner Grada made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Holliday. Motion carried by voice vote.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Personnel Policy Update

Commissioner Irving made a motion to table this item, seconded by Commissioner Holliday. Motion carried by voice vote.

V. Old Business

Executive Director Amy Doll advised that she spoke to the rep from First Midwest Group and found that the price would be about \$2,000 more than what had been initially negotiated. Contractor has begun planting. If agreement is accepted, this will be the extent of their planting.

Commissioner Nyquist made a motion to approve the revision to the improvements to Park

District Property by First Midwest Group, seconded by Commissioner Holliday. Motion carried by roll call vote. Aye: Holliday, Nyquist, Irving, Grada, Young. Nay: None. (5-0-0)

VI. New Business

a. Action on Ordinance 16-09: Amending Chapter 2, Section 6 – Public Comment Policy of the Park Board Policy Manual

President Young advised that the Board needs to hear feedback from the public, but the Board is here to represent the public and are not here to waste time and answer questions that have nothing to do with the Board. He added that he asked staff to draft this policy to allow the Board to stop people from speaking when the comments are not relevant to the park district.

Commissioner Grada asked that language mandating that the speaker state their name be removed. Commissioner Irving said that a name and address is important, because he wants to know if they are a resident of DeKalb. Commissioner Holliday said that there is no harm in knowing where they are from. Commissioner Grada said that he does not feel that it should not be required. Commissioner Nyquist moved to amend item b 2 to should, seconded by Commissioner Grada. Motion carried by roll call vote. Aye: Nyquist, Irving, Grada, Holliday, Young. Nay: None. (5-0-0)

Commissioner Nyquist made a motion to Approve Ordinance 16-09, as amended: Amending Chapter 2, Section 6 – Public Comment Policy of the Park Board Policy Manual, seconded by Commissioner Holliday. Aye: Irving, Grada, Holliday, Nyquist, Young. Nay: None. (5-0-0)

b. Purchase over \$10,000

i. Lions Park OSLAD Grant Project

Executive Director Amy Doll gave some background information on this project. In 2014, the District was awarded the grant. When funds were frozen, this halted the project. Funds have now been released and the project was re-bid. The deadline is June 2017 for project completion. DNR is likely to grant extensions. Ms. Doll advised that staff is excited to begin work, but wanted the Board to know that there is a short deadline on this project, and some projects would be pushed back so that staff could focus on the Lion's park project.

Commissioner Irving said that he is not for this project because the site floods, and he didn't think that the state would actually pay the money. Executive Director Doll said that the state has approved the district for the grant but there are no guarantees. Commissioner Irving had questions on the bids.

Superintendent of Parks and Development Mat Emken said that there were 9 companies that requested bid packets and only 2 companies that actually bid.

Commissioner Nyquist said he can see both sides of this issue. He said that this would be money brought into the community, but would the district be spending this money if it were not for the grant. He has problems with the concept of the grant where you include as many projects as you can into one project. He said there are other options to improve the park.

Ms. Doll said that the district budgeted \$175,000 for Lions Park, but they only need to know what to do in regard to the OSLAD grant.

Discussion leaned toward not going forward with the grant.

Commissioner Irving said that this area floods and Ms. Doll said that the district puts money into golf courses that flood. Commissioner Holliday said that he thinks the park will be clutter with all that is included in the project. Commissioner Grada doesn't feel that it will be cluttered. He sees it as an opportunity to provide something to the south side of town, adding that this park is underutilized and he would like to see it used more.

President Young said that the District inherited land from predecessors and the Board needs to be responsible with the land that we have. He is also concerned about the state of Illinois with the unstable budget, the district's recent track record on completing projects, and the fact that other projects will be put on hold. He cannot support this project.

Commissioner Grada made a motion to approve the base bid and alternates 1, 2, and 3 from Elliott & Wood in the amount of \$300,843.00 for the Lions Park Project, seconded by Nyquist. Motion failed by roll call vote. Aye: Grada. Nay: Holliday, Nyquist, Irving, Young. (1-4-0)

ii. Lions Park Playground Equipment & Site Amenities

Commissioner Grada made a motion to approve the quote from Nu-Toys Leisure Products for playground equipment and site amenities for Lions Park in the amount of \$88,095.00, seconded by Commissioner Nyquist. Motion failed by roll call vote. Aye: Grada. Nay: Holliday, Nyquist, Irving, Young. (1-4-0)

iii. Lions Park Shade Shelter

Commissioner Nyquist made a motion to approve the quote from Cunningham Recreation for a shade shelter in the amount of \$14,492.00, seconded by Commissioner Grada. Motion failed by roll call vote. Aye: Grada. Nay: Nyquist, Irving, Holliday, Young. (1-4-0)

VII. Adjournment

Commissioner Irving made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Grada. Motion carried by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.