

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE
June 23, 2025– Immediately Following the Public Hearing

The meeting was called to order at 7:02p.m. by President Austin.

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Draudt, Fetzer, and Sink
Absent: Barcelos

Other Officials Present: Donald Scheltens, Executive Director
Katie Gock, Assistant Director
Blake McMahon, Superintendent of Parks
Lee Howard, Treasurer
Kathleen Forzley, Secretary

Addresses from the Audience

Resident Kristi Brown had addressed Commissioner Fetzer via email and came to the meeting to address the Board regarding the equity difference between Eccles Field #1 and Lighted field #2. This email was forwarded to the Assistant Director, Katie Gock.

It was explained that Eccles field was not designed for only one team/one organization use because the Little League, Travel Baseball, Lady Devils Softball, and other Park District programs use the same field for practices and games. Any installation of a permanent home run fence, scoreboard and light poles on this field may not accommodate the multiple uses of the teams/organizations properly. Because of the lack of ballfields in the Clarendon Hills Park District, it was decided to keep the field as it is with its multiple base length, pitching mounds, and home run fences.

Approval of consent agenda

President Austin asked the Board if they had any questions or comments. There being none, President Austin requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Draudt, seconded by Commissioner Fetzer, the consent agenda was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Draudt, Fetzer, Sink, and Austin
Nays: None
Absent: Barcelos

Committee Reports

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Draudt asked Treasurer Lee Howard to present the Budget Comparison FY24/25 vs. FY25/26 for Revenues, Expenditures, and Fund Balances. He said this budget was balanced and included the unspent funds from the referendum. He reminded the Board that this budget did not include any revenues or expenses from the swimming pool.

After Board discussion, President Austin requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-02, the Combined Budget/Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year ending April 30, 2026. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Fetzer, seconded by Commissioner Draudt, Ordinance 2025-02 was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Fetzer, Draudt, Sink, and Austin
Nays: None
Absent: Barcelos

Aquatics Committee – No Report

Recreation Committee

Programming had begun and two weeks of Camp Discovery and Camp Imagination were completed. Culinary classes included making homemade pasta and creating goodies from Harry Potter. The Fishing Derby brought lots of families with the longest fish caught at 22 inches.

Upcoming events include the Ice Cream Social on July 10th and Touch a Truck on August 1st.

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Superintendent of Parks, Blake McMahon, informed the Board that the concrete pad on field number two has been properly poured and the Tuff Shed will arrive tomorrow. Two other concrete pads have been poured in Prospect Park and Hosek Park to install benches. He told the Board that the fibar was poured in the Hosek east and west playgrounds. Mowing, weed control and tree pruning are continuing.

Assistant Director, Katie Gock, and Superintendent of Parks, Blake McMahon, met with several contractors at the Lions Park Pool to discuss improvements to the bathhouse.

Superintendent McMahon informed the Board of the Athletic Improvements at Prospect Park field #2, which included the possibility of replacing all the fencing, adding a backstop masonry wall and the complete renovation of the outfield. The project current estimate is approximately \$335,000. The project, if approved, would begin around Labor Day. More information will follow at the July Board meeting.

Executive Director Scheltens said that he would be obtaining estimates for improvements at Eccles Ballfield in the coming year as part of the Park District's Capital Project Plan. He reminded the Board that the Lady Devils Girls Softball team consists of mostly non-residents (about 70%) and costs for these field improvements would be expensive and may not justify the expenses.

Commissioner Fetzer suggested that the staff obtain an estimate in the next fiscal year budget for the development of a new master plan.

Nominations and Elections of Officers

As the next order of business, Secretary Kathleen Forzley opened the floor for nominations for the office of President. Commissioner Draudt nominated Commissioner Austin for the office of President. Commissioner Fetzer made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was approved by voice vote. On the question of who should be President of the Board, a roll call was taken with the following result:

Commissioner Austin:	Austin
Commissioner Barcelos:	Absent
Commissioner Draudt:	Austin
Commissioner Fetzer:	Austin
Commissioner Sink:	Austin

The votes have been taken; Commissioner Austin is elected President of the Park Board.

President Austin opened the floor to nominations for the office of Vice President of the Park Board. President Austin nominated Commissioner Draudt for the office of Vice President. On motion by Commissioner Fetzer, the nominations were closed by voice vote.

On the question of who should be Vice President of the Board, a roll call was taken with the following result.

Commissioner Austin:	Draudt
Commissioner Draudt:	Draudt
Commissioner Fetzer:	Draudt
Commissioner Sink :	Draudt
Commissioner Barcelos:	Absent

The votes have been taken; Commissioner Draudt is elected Vice President of the Board.

President Austin opened the floor for nominations for the office of Board Treasurer. President Austin made the motion to appoint Lee Howard as the Treasurer of the Park District Board. Commissioner Draudt seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes:	Draudt, Fetzer, Sink, and Austin
Nays:	None
Absent:	Barcelos

The votes have been taken; Lee Howard is elected Treasurer of the Board.

President Austin made the motion to appoint Kathleen Forzley as the Secretary of the Park District Board. Commissioner Fetzer seconded the motion. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes:	Austin, Fetzer, Draudt, and Sink
Nays:	None
Absent:	Barcelos

The votes have been taken; Kathleen Forzley is elected Secretary of the Board.

President's Report

President Austin informed the Board that permits for the Lions Park Pool Renovation project had been received/approved from the Village of Clarendon Hills and Flagg Creek. The permit from IDPH is expected in August. Jim Leppert, IHC Construction will begin demolition in early July.

The Prospect Park Pickleball Courts renovation will begin on July 7th. This start is delayed for a month due to delays with the fencing contractor. The anticipated completion date is approximately September 10th.

Hitchcock Design Group has begun the Data Collection of the Hosek Park Master Plan and will also begin the Schematic Design Phase of this project in July. A meeting is planned with the Park Board and residents in the coming months. The OSLAD Grant Application will be submitted at the end of September.

President Austin appointed Vice-President Draudt the Finance/Personnel Committee Chair; Commissioner Sink the Aquatics Committee Chair; Commissioner Fetzer the Recreation Committee Chair; and Commissioner Barcelos the Maintenance/Safety Committee Chair.

Director Scheltens informed the Board that after ten plus years of dedication to the Park District, Maria Tobin is retiring. Her last day will be July 4th. The position has been posted, and Assistant Director Katie Gock has received approximately twenty qualified candidates.

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by Commissioner Draudt, seconded by Commissioner Sink, adjourned at 8:32 p.m. by voice vote.

Park Board Secretary
