

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CLARENDON HILLS PARK DISTRICT BOARD
COMMUNITY CENTER – 325 CHICAGO AVENUE
April 27, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Secretary Kathleen Forzley

The roll call was as follows:

Present: Austin, Barcelos, Draudt, Fetzer, and Sink
Absent: None

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

Addresses from the Audience

Hosek Park residents, Phil and Angela Ordway, addressed the Board to inform them they were unaware that emptying their sump pump into the pipe in Hosek Park was not allowed. They were under the impression that it was in the plan that Derik from V-3 and Blake McMahon, Superintendent of Parks, had. President Austin informed them that they would not have received verbal permission to do this because there was a lengthy agreement process involved. This includes producing a specific plan for approval by the Village Board and the Park Board of Commissioners. The Ordways informed the Board that the area had been restored to its original condition, and they would work with the Park District to obtain the appropriate agreement.

Mr. and Mrs. Ordway left the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Resident Kristin Wicklund informed the Board that the Eccles Field backstop still needed repairs. Superintendent of Parks, Blake McMahon, informed her that the repairs needed were more extensive and he has contacted a contractor to do a permanent repair.

Approval of consent agenda

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

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

Committee Reports

Maintenance/Safety Committee

Blake McMahon informed the Board that his staff has been weeding and mowing due to the excessive rains. He will be posting a position for an additional full-time maintenance worker which was included in the new fiscal year budgeted. Superior Groundcover has been hired to mulch and aerate the parks. Commissioner Sink complimented Superintendent McMahon and his staff on the care of the ice rink.

President Austin asked Doug Fair, Hitchcock Design, to inform the Board of the additional components for the Prospect Park field renovations. These improvements include a digital scoreboard, and a warm-up area for Eccles field, in addition adding covered dugouts at Norfolk field.

After Board discussion President Austin requested a motion to approve the Additional Project Components for Prospect Park Field Renovations at a cost of approximately \$85,696. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Fetzer, the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

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

President Austin requested a motion to approve Amendment Number 1 of the Professional Service Agreement with Hitchcock Design Group in the amount of \$65,300. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Barcelos, seconded by Commissioner Fetzer, the Amendment to the Professional Service Agreement was approved. The roll call was as follows:

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

Finance/Personnel Committee

Commissioner Draudt and Treasurer Lee Howard presented the Tentative Combined Budget/Appropriation Ordinance for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2027. This budget is a decrease from last year due to the spend down of referendum funds. There is a 4.2% operating budget increase with a 114% increase in revenues with the opening of the pool. All funds are balanced and the final budget will be approved at the June Board meeting, after a Public Hearing to allow input from the residents.

President Austin requested a motion to approve Ordinance 2026-01, the Tentative Combined Budget/Appropriation Ordinance for the Fiscal Year ending April 30, 2027. Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Draudt, seconded by Commissioner Sink, Ordinance 2026-01 was approved. The roll call was as follows:

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

Aquatics Committee

Nicole Interrante, Superintendent of Recreation, informed the Board that the pool is fully staffed with 96 employees. This number may change as hired staff must pass the lifeguard certification test.

Commissioner Sink reported that currently there are 60 registrants for the swim team with three swim coaches hired. Family pool passes are doing well with 412 passes sold.

Recreation Committee

Commissioner Fetzer informed the Board that the Rec app is awaiting approval from Apple but should go live by the end of the month or the beginning of next month.

RecTrac said it could take up to six weeks to get the app running, and currently the process is in the fourth week. Both postcards and emails will be sent out to help launch.. Camp registrations are going very well, as are the other summer registrations.

President's Report

President Austin asked Jim Leppert, IHC, to update the Board on the progress of the pool renovations. He informed the Board that the spray pad was 98% done and would be completed before the IDPH inspection. The start up of the spray pad would be May 11th to test the pad and certify all pieces of equipment. The stair tower has been erected, and the slide assembly is almost completed.

The week of May 4th, all existing pools will be filled and tested. The front admission window is complete, and the new mechanical building work will be completed in four weeks.

He announced that due to the wettest spring on spring, the pool opening will be delayed by approximately two weeks. He stated that opening day will be June 6th, instead of Memorial Day weekend. The slide parts were just delivered and would take approximately three weeks to fully complete.

President Austin added that the first two weeks of the pool beginning Memorial Day weekend are shortened hours due to lifeguards still being in school. The pool season cannot be extended because the lifeguards are back in school and involved in school activities.

Director Scheltens announced that a Press Release will go out this week. He told the Board that 53 guards will be trained in our pool on June 5th. Swim lessons and swim team will begin the week of June 8th.

President Austin asked Jim Leppert, IHC, to present Change Order #5, which would extend the LifeFloor to the entire Splash Pad at a cost of approximately \$57,000. This project will not be completed until after the pool is closed for the season. After Board discussion President Austin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Barcelos, to approve Change Order #5. The roll call was as follows:

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

Jim Leppert presented Change Order #6 to the Board. He informed the Board that this change order will replace deficient equipment, rearrange the filtration system, and add thickened concrete and additional rebar under the spray pad. The additional cost would be approximately \$29,000. After discussion, President Austin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sink, to approve Change Order #6. The roll call was as follows:

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

Jim Leppert, IHC, informed the Board that due to all the overtime to complete the pool renovations, an additional \$200,000 out of the allowance may be used.

Jim Leppert exited the meeting at 8:08p.m.

President Austin informed the Board that Assistant Director Katie Gock was sending out RFPs for a Comprehensive Master Plan, which will be a road map for the Park District's future direction. This plan will be a ten-year plan and is a requirement for any future OSLAD funding.

This master plan will require community input, as well as dialog with the village and other stakeholders, and will involve a six-to-eight-month process. The RFP bidders will be asked to a Board meeting to pitch their proposal to the Board. Submittals for the Master Plan RFPs should be completed in early July and ready for Board approval in spring-summer of 2027.

President Austin informed the Board that to continually improve the Park District staff, all part-time, seasonal, and annual employees will be required to review the current policy manuals. All Recreation Supervisors and Park Staff will attend classes, including managing unemployment compensation, safety coordinator, and Certificates of Insurance.

President Austin requested a motion to convene to Executive Session for the following: Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed to the public, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes, pursuant to Section 2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act.

Appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or discipline of an employee, pursuant to Section 2(c)(1)(2) of the Open Meetings Act

Whereupon, on motion by Commissioner Draudt, seconded by Commissioner Sink, the meeting was convened to Executive Session at 8:32pm. The roll call was as follows;

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

The Board reconvened to the Regular Board meeting at 9:04pm. The roll call was as follows:

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

President Austin made a motion to release the Executive Session minutes of December 8, 2025, and the destruction of the audio tapes of November 14, 2022, and June 26, 2023.

The motion also includes acceptance of the salary increases and the bonuses discussed as well as keeping the employee contribution at 12 percent for health insurance. Whereupon, on motion by President Austin, seconded by Commissioner Sink, the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

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

There being no further business to come before this meeting, it was, motion by President Austin, seconded by Commissioner Fetzer, adjourned at 9:16 p.m. by voice vote.

Park Board Secretary
