

Cary Park District  
Board of Commissioners  
**Committee of the Whole Meeting**  
November 14, 2024  
7:00 PM  
Community Center  
255 Briargate Road  
Cary, IL

### **Minutes**

Board Members Present: Carasso, Stanko, Victor, Renner, Frangiamore.

Staff Present: Jones, Kelly, Horn, Hall, Krueger, Mach, Hughes, Raica.

Guests Present: None.

Public Present: Laura Tuman, Al Tuman, Jenay DiOrio, Richard Stasewich.

President Frangiamore called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Frangiamore asked if there were any Matters from the Public, Commissioners, and Staff.

Under Matters from the Public, Jenay DiOrio thanked the Board for putting the Park Signage discussion on the agenda this evening. DiOrio stated she read through the packet and noticed the potential locations listed for a sign at Community Center Park. DiOrio further stated the option of a sign at the corner of Wulff Street and Tiger Trail would be the best option. DiOrio felt people would see it is a park and not unused land. DiOrio shared the idea of either holding a contest to name the park or putting a survey out to community members in that neighborhood.

Under Matters from Commissioners, Victor shared she attended the IAPD Best of the Best Awards and that it was a very nice event. Victor stated she is very proud of the intergovernmental agreements the Park District has with various groups in the community, especially the Cary Area Public Library.

Under Matters from Staff, none.

The minutes from the October 17, 2024, COW meeting was presented for approval.

***Stanko moved to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Victor.***

Voice vote: Yes – 5. No – None. Motion carried.

The first Direction Item was Illinois Association of Park Districts 2025 Conference Credentials. Jones stated per the association by-laws, the Park District must submit a completed Credentials Certificate to be a participant at the annual meeting for the Illinois Association of Park Districts. He further stated the annual meeting is scheduled for January 25, 2024, at 3:30pm in person at the conference location, Hyatt

Regency Chicago. Victor stated that she is a sitting board member of IAPD and would be attending the meeting. After discussion, the Board agreed to the following designations: Delegate – Victor; 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate – Frangiamore; 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate – Carasso; 3<sup>rd</sup> Alternate – Renner

***Carasso moved to recommend Board of Commissioners approval of the 2025 IAPD Credentials Certificate and the designation of delegates as follows: Delegate – Victor; 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate – Frangiamore; 2<sup>nd</sup> Alt. – Carasso; 3<sup>rd</sup> Alt. – Renner. Second by Renner.***

Voice vote: Yes – 5. No – None. Motion carried.

The second Direction Items was Ordinance O-2024-25-07, Authorizing the Sale or Conveyance of Personal Property Belonging to the Cary Park District. Mach stated the Board approves disposal of personal property belonging to the Park District for equipment that was valued at \$500 or greater at the time of purchase. Mach stated the 2016 Ford F-350 listed was previously placed on disposal ordinance O-2021-22-09 to be replaced by a new vehicle, however it has not due to lack of available vehicles from approved vendors. Mach further stated the Park District has received an opportunity to trade in the vehicle listed to the dealership it will be purchasing the new vehicle from. Mach noted the minimum disposal price listed on the previous ordinance is higher than the trade in value, therefore, the vehicle is being re-listed at a lower minimum bid amount.

***Renner moved to recommend Board of Commissioners approval of Ordinance O-2024-25-07, An Ordinance Authorizing the Sale or Conveyance of Personal Property belonging to the Cary Park District. Second by Carasso.***

Stanko asked why the vehicle will be listed at \$8,500 for the minimum bid rather than the trade in value price of \$8,700. Mach responded the vehicle will be listed at a lower amount in case something changes, and the vehicle needs to be reconsidered for appropriate disposal method.

Roll call vote: Yes – Carasso, Stanko, Victor, Renner, Frangiamore. No – None. Motion carried.

The third Direction Item was Purchase Price Change, 2024 Ford F-350 Super Duty DRW XL 4WD Crew Cab Truck with Dump Body. Mach stated the current F-350 Dump Truck was received in November 2015, had a replacement timeline of 7 years, and is currently in 9+ years of service. Mach shared staff has been attempting to replace this truck for several years and received Board approval for the purchase of a truck in November 2022 through National Auto Fleet Group, and a change in the model year and price increase in September 2023, but the truck remains in the production queue at this time. Mach stated staff has continued to research other options to purchase a 2024 F-350 truck and found a truck that meets the department's needs through Morrow Brothers Ford, Inc. for a price of \$84,373.00, along with a trade in offer of \$8,700 for the 2016 Ford F-350.

***Victor moved to recommend Board of Commissioners approval for a \$3,387.52 increase to the original purchase price for the 2024 Ford F-350 DRW XL 4WD Crew Cab with Dump Body and plow through Morrow Brothers Ford, Inc. in Greenfield, IL resulting in a new purchase price of \$84,373.00. Second by Stanko.***

Carasso asked if the new truck will come with the propane conversion kit. Mach responded it will need to be sent out for conversion. Frangiamore asked why is it so difficult to get this truck after 2 years? Mach replied National Auto Fleet Group has been having many issues providing trucks for many agencies.

Roll call vote: Yes – Carasso, Stanko, Victor, Renner, Frangiamore. No – None. Motion carried.

The fourth Direction Item was 2024 Tax Levy Request. Krueger stated the purpose of tonight's discussion is for staff to present the proposed 2024 levy request and for the Board of Commissioners to establish the annual levy ordinance. Krueger further stated the Board must approve the levy ordinance before the last Tuesday of the calendar year and must provide an estimate as to the amount of the levy at least 20 days prior to the adoption of the levy. Krueger reminded the Board at the August Committee of the Whole meeting, the direction given to staff when structuring the 2024 levy request was to capture the increase due to CPI plus any new growth that may have occurred within the Park District. Krueger walked the Board through Attachment A which included the 2023 Tax Extension, Assessor's Estimated EAV Report, Legal Maximums by Fund and the proposed levy detail for 2024. Krueger added the Park District's attorney has reviewed the information and is comfortable with the proposed levy request.

Renner asked why the Liability Insurance amount seems lower compared to previous years. Krueger responded this is due to staffing and the expenditure charged to this area being significantly under budget.

***Carasso moved to recommend the President of the Board of Commissioners announce at the November 21, 2024, Board Meeting that the Park District estimates its 2024 Tax Levy will not exceed 105% of the previous year's tax extension. Second by Victor.***

Roll call vote: Yes – Carasso, Stanko, Victor, Renner, Frangiamore. No – None. Motion carried.

The fifth through seventh Direction Items were Ordinance O-2024-25-04, Abatement of Tax Levy for the Year 2024 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018A, Ordinance O-2024-25-05, Abatement of Tax Levy for the Year 2024 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2020A, Ordinance O-2024-25-06, Abatement of Tax Levy for the Year 2024 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2021A. Krueger stated each year the County Clerk automatically levies a Bond & Interest Fund tax to provide for the annual debt service on any outstanding general obligation bonds. Krueger added since General Obligation Bonds (alternate revenue) pledge other sources of revenue for debt service, the backup levy by the County Clerk for debt service on these bonds needs to be abated to avoid double taxation.

***Stanko moved to recommend Board of Commissioners approval of Ordinances O-2024-25-04, O-2024-25-05, and O-2024-25-06 Abatement of Tax Levy for the Year 2024 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Park Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018A, 2020A and 2021A. Second by Victor.***

Roll call vote: Yes – Carasso, Stanko, Victor, Renner, Frangiamore. No – None. Motion carried.

The first Discussion Item was Parks and/or Properties Name/Identification Signage. Jones stated the Board of Commissioners directed a discussion of signage related to Community Center Park to be placed on the agenda of its May 9, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting. Jones further stated that after that discussion the Board of Commissioners included a work initiative for staff in FY2024-25 related to name/identification signage in all parks for the Executive Director to complete on this matter.

Jones provided background information on Policy 5-009a, Park Identification/Name Signs which was developed in the early 2000's to provide direction to in two primary areas, 1) replacement of old sign types and 2) signage related to new subdivision development or property development or property acquisitions. Jones added properties today not signed, more than likely did not have an old sign type, or were not acquired since policy approval, or have not been developed since policy approval. Jones stated out of the forty-two properties/parks owned and maintained by the Park District, staff has identified ten properties/parks that presently have no name/identification signage.

Raica and Jones walked the Board through each of the ten properties, noting what each property is classified as and used visuals to assist the Board to understand the location and look of each property. At the end of the presentation, Raica and Jones reviewed the staff recommendations for each of the ten properties which included adding signage to Community Center Park and Kaper Park, and no signage be added to the remaining eight properties.

Frangiamore started the discussion by stating to the Board that tonight's discussion is about the types of identification/name signs of parks and/or properties and placement of signage on parks/properties without signage.

Carasso thanked staff for collecting and providing the Board in-depth information. Carasso stated she is in favor of budgeting for signage at the two properties staff recommended. Carasso added she agreed that a sign at the corner of Wulff Street and Tiger Trail would be the most appropriate location. Carasso suggested staff and the Board consider adding more signage out on the trails as well.

Renner stated he is in favor of placing a sign out at the corner of Wulff Street and Tiger Trail for Community Center Park. Renner suggested the Board move forward with direction for staff to budget and install this sign since the community has voiced this request many times now. Renner agreed with Carasso regarding additional signage out on the trails. Renner stated adding these additional signs would help distinguish Park District trails from Village of Cary trails. Renner stated some of the smaller areas mentioned in the presentation may be considered as part of the Comprehensive Master Plan (CMP) update presently underway.

Stanko distributed to each Board member excerpts from a book and quoted a passage then recited the passages aloud. Stanko stated the Park District Board does a great job at meeting the principles listed in the book but doesn't always succeed. Stanko further stated it seems uncollaborative to discuss the type of sign at a park when there is no agreement for what the space should be named. Stanko asked why Water Tower Prairie Park is listed as "special use"? Jones responded it is the classification for the property from National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) park classifications agreed to by the Board as part of CMP 2016 Update. Stanko responded that he did not agree with the property being listed as "special use" and that it should be classified as a "natural area". Stanko stated Community Center Park does not need be named "Community Center Park" and that the Board should be looking a

larger context related to this property that he believes needs to be addressed. Stanko then stopped his remarks and addressed other Board members who he felt were interrupting his opportunity to speak. As a result of the preceding discussion, Stanko commented that Roberts Rule of Order states that discussion cannot be limited. Frangiamore asked Stanko to continue with his remarks. Stanko stated he had brought up renaming Sands Main Street Prairie in the past and nothing came of it because of other issues and matters that need to be addressed first. Stanko stated he is in favor of sign at Community Center Park but does not see the value in putting in a sign with a name he does not feel is the appropriate name. Stanko commented the Board has been provided many facts about signage in parks but is not considering nor has information on underlying issues that exist in these park sites. Carasso reminded Stanko the Board has a policy in place for the naming and renaming of park sites and added this discussion is not about that.

Victor agreed with the staff recommendations. Victor shared she likes the idea of giving the community involvement in naming/renaming Community Cener Park and agreed with the sign location mentioned by others. Victor agreed that many of the properties reviewed this evening can be considered during the CMP process underway. Victor added that the detention spaces are appropriate places for a sign and agrees with adding a sign at Kaper Park.

Frangiamore stated his goal of this work initiative for staff was to identify park land and properties and how they are identified (or not identified) as belonging to the Cary Park District. Frangiamore agreed with the recommendation to put a sign at Community Center Park and Kaper Park. Frangiamore stated this discussion was very broad and could be included in the CMP process to look at naming, renaming or consolidation of names. Frangiamore added it has been a while since the sign policy was last updated.

Frangiamore stated the meeting is at a point where the Board needs to make a motion or decision. Victor stated it wouldn't hurt to ask the community if they would like to see a sign at some of the properties without signage such as Deveron Circle. Renner stated the Board is having this discussion for a reason and that reason is a group of residents has requested a sign be placed at Community Center Park. Renner stated he does not want to wait until the CMP is complete to put a sign at Community Center Park. Renner further stated if the consensus of the Board is to add a sign at Community Center Park, then the Board should give staff directions to do so. Carasso agreed with Renner but stated if the Board wants to involve the community, then that is not the best course of action right now. Stanko agreed with Renner and added the Board needs to consider trail names as well. Stanko recommended the Board review the signage and name policies further and make sure the Board is not in violation of its own policy with parcels that are unnamed, should not be named, etc. Victor agreed with moving forward with a sign at Community Center Park and involving the community. Renner reminded the Board that moving forward with a sign at Community Center Park tonight is strictly for giving staff direction to budget for the sign, not the renaming of the park.

Jones asked the Board for clarification on the consensus agreement of the Board and reminded the Board that there exists policy in place for the naming and renaming of parks and properties. Jones noted that this policy was not provided for discussion this evening as the discussion directed to occur by the Board was on park signage. Jones stated the policy on naming and renaming parks and properties does not identify specifically opening the naming or renaming of properties to residents and that the policy notes a method for site naming. Jones noted he does not remember a time where a park site was renamed, other than to remove a qualifier from it, such as "south". Jones added the CMP will produce direction to

be followed up in more detail, and that a CMP process is not nuanced at the level being discussed by the Board in some instances this evening.

Victor and Frangiamore recommended the Board review both the park name/rename and park signage policies and have further discussion at a future meeting. The Board agreed to review the policies, table the discussion until February (2025) and directed staff to place these items on the Committee of the Whole meeting agenda.

***Motion to adjourn the meeting by Renner. Second by Stanko.***

Voice vote: Yes – 5. No – None. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.



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Daniel C. Jones, Secretary  
Park District Board of Commissioners