

**Minutes**  
**PUBLIC HEARING AND**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**APRIL 15, 2024 – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Canterberry Room**

1. PUBLIC HEARING- FOR THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR MAY 1, 2024 – APRIL 30, 2025 (*Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the Doings-Oak Brook Newspaper – April 4, 2024.*)

a. Call to Order the Public Hearing

President Knitter called to order the Public Hearing for the Proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025 at the hour of 6:30 p.m. Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter answered “present” from the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Conference Room. Also present in Canterbury Conference Room was Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Marco Salinas, Chief Financial Officer; Bob Johnson, Deputy Director; Robert Pechous, Director of Recreation and Communications; and David J Freeman, District Attorney.

b. Open Forum for the Proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025

President Knitter Announced: “In accordance with state statute, a notice of today’s public hearing was published in The Doings-Oak Brook Newspaper on Thursday April 4, 2024. A copy of the proposed budget and related budget ordinance has been available for public inspection in hard copy form at the Park District’s Administration Office as well as in electronic form on our website for at least 30 days prior to today’s hearing.”

Dr. Laure Kosey presented a summary of the proposed budget and appropriation ordinance.

Dr. Kosey stated there were good questions and feedback. She explained the governmental fund accounting is not like a regular checking account. Some funds can go to other funds, some cannot. The General, Recreation, and Tennis Center Funds have some flexibility. She reminded the public that the Tennis Center does not receive any tax levies, and the Tennis Center Fund stays in the Tennis Center and cannot be transferred to the General or Recreation Funds. However, the General can be transferred to other funds.

Dr. Kosey explained the Consolidated Budget must be displayed as it is in the Board Packet. Also, the Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan is a planned budget to ensure there is enough money to cover future major expenses. Therefore, although the General Fund appears to be losing money, it is not. When reviewing the Actuals 2023/2024 FY Projected Actuals, there is a surplus which then goes to the “savings account” or in governmental funding accounting terms, it goes into reserves.

Dr. Kosey stated that the 2024/2025 FY Budget Request is conservative. The estimated revenues and expenditure show a surplus.

Dr. Kosey used a gas tank analogy to describe the Park District reserve. She explained that it is necessary to have three to nine months of reserve per District policy. Cannot have over nine months of reserve; otherwise, the excess will need to be returned to the residents. Over nine months of reserve had occurred at one point at the Park District, so the Park District provided free summer camps to the residents.

President Knitter stated that when she began as a commissioner at the Park District, there were no long-term capital plan. So, if the HVAC broke down, there would not be the budget to replace it. Now the Park District plans for the major expenses with the Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan.

Dr. Kosey explained that the 2023/2024 FY had close to nine months of reserve, because there was a budget set aside for the HVAC which is now going to be replaced in 2024/2025 FY.

Dr. Kosey announced that the Park District Tax Levy is a 7.54% increase from 2022. Without the Special Recreation, the levy is only a 5.69% increase.

President Knitter asked if there were any public comments on the Proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. She announced there would be a 5-minute time limit on comments and questions.

Ms. Amber Quirk, the Regional Superintendent of Schools for DuPage County, thanked Dr. Kosey for explaining how funding works. She stated that her family has participated at the Park District for basketball, birthday parties, Winter Lights, and other events. Ms. Quirk communicated that the Park District is vital in supporting schools such as for after school programs. She announced to please reach out to her if the Park District would like to partner with her office.

Ms. Lisa Giangrande commented that she has been involved with the Park District and was on the committee that constructed the Sandlot. She is a resident and business owner. Ms. Giangrande stated that the Park District adds value to our community, and it is amazing. She communicated that she has worked with Dr. Kosey and has observed the phenomenal improvements that Dr. Kosey has made to the Park District.

Ms. Denise Marro stated that as a resident, the Park District has been a staple for her family. Her husband is retired from the Chicago Park District, and he has stated that Oak Brook Park District is "state of the art." Ms. Marro stated that Dr. Kosey is a testament and is amazing in bringing in grants, "so please do not change."

Ms. Natalie Cappetta, a resident, stated that she wants appropriate funding for the Park District, so the Commissioners should know every single line item. She stated that if the Commissioners do not understand a line item, then they should not approve the budget. Ms. Cappetta continued with a few repeated questions she had asked at the March 18, 2024 Board Meeting.

Ms. Marro, an earlier speaker who has experience working at York Township, stated that it is

not out of line for the Park District to request the maximum tax levy.

Ms. Tina Chan, a resident, asked line-item questions at the March 18, 2024 Board Meeting. She received a link to answer her previous questions; however, she wanted direct answers for each of her line-item questions. Ms. Chan asked for a breakdown of the marketing expense; she asked about how the Park District is encouraging more residential usage; she asked what the facility rental expense is. Ms. Chan concluded with strongly supporting not approving the budget, because she did not receive answers to all her questions.

Mr. Frank Trombetta, a resident, communicated that budgets are educated guesses that cannot be specific on many line items. Every year the Park District is audited so residents can see the expenses.

c. **Adjournment of Public Hearing**

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to adjourn the April 15, 2024, Public Hearing for the Proposed Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for Fiscal Year May 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025, at the hour of 6:57 p.m.

2. **CALL TO ORDER THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND CONDUCT THE ROLL CALL**

President Knitter called to order the Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners at the hour of 6:58 p.m. Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter answered “present” from the Oak Brook Park District Family Recreation Center, Canterbury Conference Room. Also present in Canterbury Conference Room was Laure Kosey, Executive Director; Marco Salinas, Chief Financial Officer; Bob Johnson, Deputy Director; Robert Pechous, Director of Recreation and Communications; and David J Freeman, District Attorney.

3. **OPEN FORUM**

President Knitter asked the Board if there were any comments that are not budget related. There was no additional discussion.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 15, 2024 AGENDA**
- b. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
  - i. March 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
- c. **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT ENDING MARCH 31, 2024**
  - i. Warrant 683

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve taking a single omnibus vote on the Consent Agenda as presented.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter  
Nays: None  
Absent: Vescovi

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve the Consent Agenda, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter  
Nays: None  
Absent: Vescovi

5. STAFF RECOGNITION

- a. Hlay Aliotte, Information Technology Administrator
- b. Joshua DeSalvo, Park Technician

The Board welcomed Mr. Hlay Aliotte and Mr. Joshua DeSalvo.

6. COMMUNICATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

- a. Board of Commissioners to share communications.

Commissioner Suleiman announced that on September 21, 2024 the Park District is planning with the Village of Oak Brook a "Celebraion of International Cultures." Please contact Ms. Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Facilities, if you have any questions. As of today, there are fifteen countries represented, there could be up to twenty.

President Knitter shared that Representative Sean Casten and his team toured the Ginger Creek location to see where the bridge will be constructed.

- b. Proclamation in Support of The Conservation Foundation DuPage County River Sweep

Dr. Kosey stated May 4<sup>th</sup> will be the Proclamation Day.

Ms. Haley Colucci, Marketing & Communications Manager, stated that volunteers can sign up on the website. The river sweep will occur from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

- c. Naming of the Ginger Creek Pavilion and the Oaks Amphitheater

Dr. Kosey announced that the in-staff survey proposed the names Ginger Creek Pavilion and the Oaks Amphitheater at the new North Athletic Field. Concessions will open May 4<sup>th</sup>.

7. REPORTS:

- a. Administration and Enterprise Operations Report

Dr. Laure Kosey presented her report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Dr. Kosey stated that she has reported on the naming of the pavilion and amphitheater. She also communicated that the Tennis Center construction of the front desk is going well.

President Knitter stated that the membership adjustment will attract residents. She asked if marketing had begun.

Mr. Robert Pechous replied that postcards were recently mailed to residents.

Commissioner Suleiman quoted Mr. Asif Yusuf that the Park District goes through cycles, so the Park District cannot deny nonresidents because the Park District would not be able to function without them. She loves the new program Oak Brook First.

b. Finance and Human Resources Report

Mr. Marco Salinas presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Mr. Salinas reported on the past eleven months of the 2023/2024 FY. General, Recreation, and Tennis Center have a surplus. The next few weeks will be busy paying bills. Anything dated by April 30, 2024 will be marked for the 2023/2024 Fiscal Year (FY) payment.

Mr. Salinas communicated that Ms. Allison Siamis started today as the Human Resource and Risk Manager. She comes from the Arlington Heights Park District and has experience with the onboarding and financial software.

c. Recreation and Communications Report

Mr. Robert Pechous presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Mr. Pechous reported that Pickleball tournament occurred this past weekend. The Park District will be purchasing more nets.

President Knitter stated the Pickleball Tournament went well.

Mr. Pechous communicated that Pioneers for Purpose helped stuff eggs for the Bunny Basket Deliveries.

Dr. Kosey added that the Bunny Basket Deliveries were only available for Oak Brook residents.

d. Parks and Facilities Report

Mr. Bob Johnson presented his report, which can be found in the Park District's records.

Mr. Johnson reported there were 477 registrants for the Aquatics Egg Hunt.

Mr. Johnson stated that staff will be meeting with representatives for roofing and HVAC.

Mr. Johnson reported that Ms. Valerie Louthan, Superintendent of Facilities, and Ms. Kate Sniegowski, Facility Supervisor, are preparing the concessions stand at the North Athletic Field for the opening.

President Knitter asked how the bees are doing.

Mr. Johnson replied they are doing well.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Ordinance 24-0415: An Ordinance Setting Forth the Budget and Making Appropriations of Sums of Money for All of the Necessary Expenditures of the Oak Brook Park District of Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, for the Corporate Purpose for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2024 and Ending April 30, 2025.

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Ordinance 24-0415: An Ordinance Setting Forth the Budget and Making Appropriations of Sums of Money for All of the Necessary Expenditures of the Oak Brook Park District of Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois, for the Corporate Purpose for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2024 and Ending April 30, 2025.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Nays: None

Absent: Vescovi

- b. Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve the Ten Year Capital Improvement Plan.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Nays: None

Absent: Vescovi

- c. Resolution 24-0416: A Resolution Amending the Agreement between the Oak Brook Park District and SBC Waste Solutions, Inc. for Waste and Recycling Collection Services

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Resolution 24-0416: A Resolution Amending the Agreement between the Oak Brook Park District and SBC Waste Solutions, Inc. for Waste and Recycling Collection Services.

President Knitter asked if the Park District was happy with SBC Waste Solutions.

Mr. Johnson answered that the Park District is happy with SBC Waste Solutions.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter  
Nays: None  
Absent: Vescovi

- d. Ordinance 24-0417: An Ordinance Authorizing the Destruction of the Verbatim Record of Certain Closed Meetings

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Ordinance 24-0417: An Ordinance Authorizing the Destruction of the Verbatim Record of Certain Closed Meetings.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter  
Nays: None  
Absent: Vescovi

- e. Resolution 24-0418: A Resolution Regarding the Review of Minutes for Closed Meetings January 1989 through February 29, 2024 (Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act).

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Resolution 24-0418: A Resolution Regarding the Review of Minutes for Closed Meetings January 1989 through February 29, 2024 (Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21) and 5 ILCS 120/2.06(d) of the Open Meetings Act).

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter  
Nays: None  
Absent: Vescovi

- f. Memberships Adjustments, Facility Fees Policies

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Memberships Adjustments, Facility Fees Policies.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter  
Nays: None  
Absent: Vescovi

- g. 2024 Amendment to the Oak Brook Park District Executive Director Employment Agreement

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve the 2024 Amendment to the Oak Brook Park District Executive Director Employment Agreement.

President Knitter communicated that Dr. Kosey's salary is in the middle tier. Many Executive Directors do not achieve \$4m grants and have a Ph.D. Dr. Kosey completed all the objectives, so President Knitter would like to approve the amendment and have Dr. Kosey remain on to 2027.

Commissioner Suleiman added that adjustment for inflation should be included in the contract. Commissioner Suleiman stated that the Commissioners are confident in her and would like her to stay.

Dr. Kosey thanked the Commissioners.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Nays: None

Absent: Vescovi

#### 9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ordinance 24-0520: An Ordinance for Transferring Anticipated Unexpended Funds from Certain Appropriation Items to Other Items of Appropriation.

Mr. Salinas stated this is an annual process where the Board can make transfers from one line item to another. There is a contingency, so the reallocation is net zero. By law the Board can choose to reallocate.

- b. Key/Key Card Access for Commissioners (*Requires Waiving the Board Rules to Approve at this Meeting.*)

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to waive the Board Rules to approve at this meeting the Key/Key Card Access for Commissioners.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Nay: None

Absent: Vescovi

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve Key/Key Card Access for Commissioners.

President Knitter reported that Commissioner Vescovi requested a key to have all-access to the facility. President Knitter decided that the Commissioners can vote on whether Commissioners should have key access to District facilities.

Commissioner Gondek stated that he prefers not to have an all-access key. Commissioner Gondek communicated that in having a key he would not want to be responsible if anything such as a laptop went missing.



Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley stated she would not want an all-access key.

Commissioner Suleiman reported that there was never a time for a commissioner to access the office. In the past, the staff interviewed other Park Districts about commissioners' access and found that only a few Park District commissioners had access to specific areas for a valid reason. Commissioners should not have an all-access key.

The motion did not pass by roll call vote.

Ayes: None

Nays: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Absent: Vescovi

- c. Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for Phase Three of the Ginger Creek Bridge Project (*Requires Waiving the Board Rules to Approve at this Meeting.*)

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to waive the Board Rules to approve at this meeting the Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for Phase Three of the Ginger Creek Bridge Project.

There was no additional discussion, and the motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Nays: None

Absent: Vescovi

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to approve the Agreement for Professional Engineering Services for Phase Three of the Ginger Creek Bridge Project.

President Knitter communicated that Representative Sean Casten asked when will the Park District break ground for the Ginger Creek Bridge Project.

Mr. Johnson answered that the groundbreaking would not take place for approximately twelve months, since some of the permits required for this project to begin could take 9-12 months to acquire. Initial information indicates that once the Park District receives the funding it would have twelve months to complete the project.

The motion passed by roll call vote.

Ayes: Commissioners Gondek, Ivkovic Kelley, Suleiman, and President Knitter

Nays: None

Absent: Vescovi

d. Buy Board National Cooperative Purchasing Cooperative

Mr. Johnson explained the Buy Board National Cooperative. He reported that the Park District is already in a couple of coops which helps with the bidding process. Buy Board provides a service to help obtain products which then saves on legal fees. Many Illinois agencies use the Buy Board National Cooperative.

President Knitter added that this allows small park districts to have more buying power.

e. Family Recreation Center Phase 3 Roof Replacement

Mr. Johnson reported that the roof project has three phases, and it is now in Phase 3. Omnia Partners Purchasing Cooperative is the Park District's purchasing partner. The scope of work cost was found to be less than the original quote. Work will begin either in the summer or fall.

President Knitter asked if the facility will be closed.

Mr. Johnson answered that the facility will not be closed.

f. IPRA Environmental Report Card for Oak Brook Park District

Mr. Johnson explained this is an exercise that the Park District goes through every few years. The Park District does a great job according to this self-evaluation tool.

President Knitter asked if there were any weaknesses.

Mr. Johnson answered that there is an opportunity to use products that are green solutions.

g. HVAC Rooftop Unit Replacement

Dr. Kosey clarified that this HVAC replacement is not for the aquatic center.

Mr. Johnson stated there are eleven HVAC units at the Family Recreation Center. Three of the oldest HVAC units will be replaced. Trane works well with the automated system, and they will determine if more substantial savings can be found. He will meet with Trane to finalize the contract. The HVAC is a budgeted capital item.

10. THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF THE OAK BROOK PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS WILL BE HELD ON MAY 20, 2024, 6:30 P.M.

President Knitter announced the next Regular Meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Park Commissioners will be held on May 20, 2024, at 6:30 pm.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Commissioner Suleiman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ivkovic Kelley, to adjourn the April 15, 2024, regular meeting of the Oak Brook Park District Board of Commissioners. The motion passed by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:34 p.m.



Laure L. Kosey, Executive Director