

**Foss Park District
Committee Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnny Johnson, Commissioner Donna King, Commissioner Kingston Neal and Commissioner Vance Wyatt

Board members absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: waived as recited during the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency meeting

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

1. Tax abatement: Mr. Skof stated the information was provided in the Board packet.
2. Investing in CD: Board discussion on CD investment. Commissioner King read investment policy that Business Manager and Treasurer can make the investments without Board approval. Commissioner Neal stated with that amount of money being invested, he wanted it before the Board.
3. Greater Greener Conference – June 21-25, 2024 Seattle, WA: see below.
4. Community Recreation Center keys and alarm codes for Commissioners: Commissioner King recalled a time when Commissioners had keys to the Community Recreation Center. Commissioner Johnson questioned why it was necessary and liability. Commissioner King stated for emergency use.
5. District 187 field next to Community Recreation Center: Ms. Cowart reported herself and Commissioner Wyatt met with Dr. Price about the purchase of the field next to the Community Recreation Center. Commissioner Wyatt stated it can be discussed at the March meeting in Executive Session. Attorney Mack stated she has not heard from IDNR regarding the land swap with the City of North Chicago.
6. Attorney bills from Del Galdo Law Group, LLC and Sorino Ramello & Durkin: Attorney Mack stated the District is not responsible for the attorney bills as the lawsuit was wrongly filed against Commissioner Wyatt alone and not the entire District and further it is the opinion that Commissioner Hawthorn's resignation is valid.
7. Attorney on Commissioner matter: Commissioner King read three options submitted by Attorney Mack to the Board. Attorney Mack stated the resignation was unconditional and there was no judgement issued in the case.

COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS

1. *Business Office*

a. Director report: Ms. Cowart report: Ms. Cowart submitted written report with updates through emails. Ms. Cowart spoke about the new remodeling coming this summer. Commissioner Neal stated that the Board needs to strategize on priorities. Commissioner Hawthorn will request a Parks Committee Meeting regarding the phases of the Beach project. Commissioner Johnson asked Commissioner Wyatt if he is recognizing Commissioner Hawthorn as a Commissioner. Commissioner Wyatt stated yes and Commissioner Johnson can contact the State's Attorney or Attorney General if he is not satisfied.

3. Greater Greener Conference – June 21-25, 2024 Seattle, WA: Commissioner King stated this was an informational conference for Commissioners to attend. Commissioner Neal feels the conference is for more urban parks.

b. Business Manager report: Mr. Skof report: Mr. Skof submitted written report and discussed the tax abatement, timeclock upgrade and cell tower agreement with Verizon.

2. *Parks*

a. Superintendent of Grounds: Mr. Winter report: Mr. Winter reported the general spring cleanup in parks has begun and working on the equipment.

3. *Golf*

a. Manager/Golf Pro report: Mr. Monroe report: Mr. Monroe reported the course has play on warmer days and explained the golf simulators that are a way to keep busy in the off season.

4. *Recreation*

a. Superintendent of Recreation: Ms. Johnson report: Ms. Johnson submitted a written report and reviewed it.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. Rayon Edwards: Mr. Edwards stated staff should give their names during reports, he feels everything is against Commissioner Hawthorn, some Commissioners have been in their positions too long, Commissioners need to be invested in community and nepotism has to stop.

2. Brian Oglsey: Mr. Oglsey stated he is trying to work with the District on projects and wants to resurrect the First Tee program.

4. Alderman Carl Evans: Alderman Evans thanked everyone for the prayers and hope everyone can work together even when they don't get along.

5. Alderman Anthony Coleman: Alderman Coleman stated the new tablecloths look professional and very nice.

Executive Session

5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity: employee evaluation and possible wage increase

Commissioner King moves to go into Executive Session. Commissioner Hawthorn seconds.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner King, Commissioner Neal and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES at 7:06 pm

Commissioner King moves to go into Committee Meeting. Commissioner Neal seconds.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner King, Commissioner Neal and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES at 7:31 pm

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 7:32 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary

**Foss Park District
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Board members present: Commissioner Carmecia Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnny Johnson, Commissioner Donna King, Commissioner Kingston Neal and Commissioner Vance Wyatt

Board members absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE waived as recited in the Decennial Committee on Local Government Efficiency

1. MINUTES: Commissioner King motions to approve Committee Meeting, Executive Session and Regular Meeting (01/17/2024). Second by Commissioner Johnson.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. BILLS: Commissioner King motions to approve monthly bills: invoices paid (01/13/2024-02/16/2024): \$25,084.95, invoices due \$40,201.75, invoices to be paid by credit card at approximate \$10,542.16 and first of the month bills (March) – approximate: \$10,542.16 as presented. Second by Commissioner Neal.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

3. PAYROLL: Commissioner King motions to approve monthly payroll of \$72,577.45 as presented. Second by Commissioner Neal.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

4. PETTY CASH REPORTS: Commissioner King motions to approve petty cash Business Office \$43.95 as presented. Second by Commissioner Neal.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

5. FINANCE REPORTS & COMMISSIONER REPORTS: Commissioner King motions to approve finance reports as presented. Second by Commissioner Neal.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

6. COMMISSIONER REPORTS:

FINANCE: COMMISSIONER WYATT: as presented in the Committee Meeting.

GOLF: COMMISSIONER JOHNSON: as presented in the Committee Meeting.

PARKS: COMMISSIONER HAWTHORN: as presented in Committee Meeting.

RECREATION: COMMISSIONER KING: as presented in the Committee Meeting.

*see above

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Approval: possible wage increase as discussed in Executive Session (January 2024)

Commissioner King motions to postpone possible wage increase as discussed in Executive Session (January 2024). Second by Commissioner Neal.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

8. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval: Greater Waukegan Development Coalition: Juneteenth 2024 contract

Commissioner Neal motions to approve Greater Waukegan Development Coalition: Juneteenth 2024 contract. Second by Commissioner Johnson.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. Approval: Investment of \$250,000.00 in 5 month CD at a current rate of 5.35% at BCU

Commissioner King motions to approve Investment of \$250,000.00 in 5 month CD at a current rate of 5.35% at BCU Second by Commissioner Neal.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

3. Approval: Investment of \$250,000.00 in 18 month CD at a current rate of 5.25% at BCU
Commissioner King motions to approve Investment of \$250,000.00 in 18 month CD at a current rate of 5.25% at BCU Second by Commissioner Johnson.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

4. Approval: proposal as presented by Midwest Time Recorder (attendance on demand cloud software)
Commissioner King motions to proposal as presented by Midwest Time Recorder (attendance on demand cloud software). Second by Commissioner Neal
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

5. Approval: attendance Commissioners and Staff attendance at Greater Greener Conference June 20 – 26, 2024 in Seattle, WA at an estimated cost of \$4,000.00 each
Commissioner King motions to approve attendance Commissioners and Staff attendance at Greater Greener Conference June 20 – 26, 2024 in Seattle, WA at an estimated cost of \$4,000.00 each. Second by Commissioner Neal.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Neal
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

6. Approval: Commissioner key and alarm code for Community Recreation Center
Commissioner King motions to postpone Commissioner key and alarm code for Community Recreation Center. Second by Commissioner Neal.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Neal
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

9. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Brain Oglesby: Mr. Oglesby apologized for his pervious comments.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 7:40 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary