

**Foss Park District
Committee Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

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. Verizon wireless lease renewal: Mr. Skof explained the attorney had no issues with the proposed contract.
2. HiWater Beach Chair System: Ms. Cowart reviewed system and explained this was much more affordable than the paddle boards.
3. Parks Day at the Capitol: May 7, 2024, Springfield, IL: Commissioner Wyatt stated the ASBPA award will be showcased at the table.
4. Electric and water in Foss Park: Ms. Cowart stated estimates were received. Commissioner Neal stated he will speak to the electrician as this is an added service in the park.

COMMITTEE/STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Johnson asked to be moved to the beginning of the agenda.

1. *Recreation*

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

Commissioner Hawthorn asked about a gift card that was promised to a child. Ms. Chloe Moore spoke about her son writing an essay and winning the gift card. Ms. Moore continued that she felt Ms. Johnson was using her children and blowing her off regarding the gift card and Ms. Johnson stated that was not true.

Commissioner Hawthorn apologized to Ms. Moore for the outburst. Commissioner King asked to read the essay and thanked the student for his participation.

2. *Business Office*

a. Director report: Ms. Cowart report: Ms. Cowart submitted written report with updates through emails. Ms. Cowart stated she had a meeting with Growing Healthy Veterans, Ms. Ellen Ewing, about possible space use for their garden – across the street from Hamlet Park. Ms. Ewing summarized the program and needs of Growing Healthy Veterans. Commissioner Johnson asked if there would be storage units placed on the property and Ms. Ewing stated all plans will be submitted to the Board for approval.

b. Business Manager report: Mr. Skof report: Mr. Skof submitted written report and discussed the Blue Stem Ecological Services and roof estimates. Commissioner Hawthorn asked if a third company should look at roof and Commissioner Wyatt stated the estimates were for budget purposes right now.

3. *Parks*

a. Superintendent of Grounds: Mr. Winter report: Mr. Winter reported the rope was replaced on the flag pole in Foss Park and the new Parks Foreman was working on establishing his routine. Commissioner Wyatt asked when the stumps/logs would be removed from Foss Park and Mr. Winter stated he will look into it.

4. *Golf*

a. Manager/Golf Pro report: Mr. Monroe report: Mr. Monroe reported the new carts have been delivered and the course is open. He also summarized Art's Landscaping estimates regarding repair and the parking lot.

5. *Recreation*

a. Superintendent of Recreation: Ms. Johnson report: see above.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. Chloe Moore: Ms. Moore stated her son's essay could be published.

2. Alderman Anthony Coleman: Alderman Coleman encouraged cooperation between public agencies and working together on projects.

3. Alderman Carl Evans: Alderman Evans invited everyone to his ward meeting on April 20th from 10 am to 2 pm and stated Commissioner Hawthorn will be speaking.

4. Brian Oglesby: Mr. Oglesby spoke about an email that was sent to the Board regarding shirts for golf course staff.

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

·5 ILCS 120/2 (from Ch. 102, par. 42 (c)(21)) Discussion of meeting minutes lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06

·5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(5) The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired

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 7:03 pm

Commissioner Wyatt reconvenes the Committee Meeting at 8:02 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 8:02 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary

**Foss Park District
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Wyatt called the meeting to order at 8:03 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 Committee Meeting.

1. MINUTES: Commissioner King motions to approve Committee Meeting, Executive Session and Regular Meeting (02/21/2024). Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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 (02/17/2024-03/14/2024): \$50,376.84, invoices due \$17,844.31, invoices to be paid by credit card at approximate \$15,681.26 and first of the month bills (April) – approximate: \$17,699.00 as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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 \$72,337.85 as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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 \$67.57 as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn

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 and Commissioner Reports as presented. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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) to Special Meeting April 8, 2024 at 6 pm. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. Approval: Commissioner key and alarm code for Community Recreation Center (February 2024)

Commissioner King motions to approve Commissioner key and alarm code for Community Recreation Center (February 2024). Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt

Nay: Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Neal

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

8. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approval: Verizon Wireless Lease renewal

Commissioner King motions to approve Verizon Wireless Lease renewal. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.

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

Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

MOTION CARRIES

2. Approval: HiWater Beach Chair System
Commissioner King motions to approve HiWater Beach Chair System. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

3. Approval: attendance of Commissioners and Staff attendance at Parks Day at the Capitol/Legislative Conference May 6-9, 2024 in Springfield, IL at an estimated cost of \$1,500.00 each
Commissioner King motions to approve attendance of Commissioners and Staff attendance at Parks Day at the Capitol/Legislative Conference May 6-9, 2024 in Springfield, IL at an estimated cost of \$1,500.00 each. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

4. Approval: possible action on District 187 property adjacent to Community Recreation Center
Commissioner King motions to approve possible action on District 187 property adjacent to Community Recreation Center. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Commissioner Neal wanted to confirm this was not for the purchase of the property. Commissioner Wyatt stated it is to move to discussions with the District.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: Commissioner Johnson
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

5. Approval: Electric and water at Foss Park
Commissioner King motions to postpone electric and water at Foss Park. Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
MOTION CARRIES

6. Approval: Attorney bills from Del Galdo Law Group, LLC and Storino Ramello & Durkin
Commissioner King motions to approve Attorney bills from Del Galdo Law Group, LLC (\$8,062.65) and Storino Ramello & Durkin (\$10,273.07). Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Commissioner Neal stated there should be recusals from the vote. Commissioner Johnson asked why there was no discussion on the item. Commissioner Neal stated there is supposed to be a recusal. Commissioner Wyatt stated it was discussed last month and to vote it up or down.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: Commissioner Johnson and Commissioner Neal
Abstain: None
Absent: None
- MOTION CARRIES

7. Consider: Release of Executive Session Minutes calendar year 2023
Commissioner King motions to postpone Release of Executive Session Minutes calendar year 2023.
Second by Commissioner Hawthorn.
Aye: Commissioner Hawthorn, Commissioner Johnson, Commissioner Neal, Commissioner King, and Commissioner Wyatt
Nay: None
Abstain: None
Absent: None
- MOTION CARRIES

9. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Brain Oglesby: Mr. Oglesby stated that he wants the Foss Park District to work with local vendors and he would like to work on the First Tee program. He will follow up on email and meet with stakeholders.

Alderman Anthony Coleman: Alderman Coleman stated he is going to work on getting potential park space near 10th and Park. Commissioner Wyatt stated the area needs a park.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Wyatt stands the meeting adjourned with no objections at 8:18 pm.

This record is not verbatim.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kari Cowart, Board Secretary