

TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE
REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING

SCHERERVILLE, IN
DECEMBER 1, 2021

The Regular Park Board Meeting of the Town of Schererville, Indiana, was called to order by President Brad Bassick at 6:00 p.m. in the Schererville Town Hall, 10 East Joliet Street, Schererville, Indiana.

The Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: Brad Bassick, Tom Malinowski, Joe Skvarek, and Ed Repay. Staff members present: Superintendent John Novacich, Attorney Christian Bartholomew, Councilwoman Robin Arvanitis, and Recording Secretary Kristen Bohling.

THEREUPON, Approval of minutes for November 1, 2021

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 1, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Approval of Donations

ITEM A. Schererville Park Foundation - \$506.52

Mr. Novacich said this was a donation made from the Schererville Park Foundation. He said that there was an endowment created years ago, and every year has been a distribution that was being rolled over. At the request of the Crown Point Foundation, there will be a distribution every year to the Park Board.

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to accept the donation from the Schererville Park Foundation, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

Mr. Novacich said the annual check from the pipeline easement through Teibel Nature Preserve was received.

Mr. Bassick read letters he said he had received letters from Mrs. Geise's First Grade Class, at Watson Elementary School, thanking the Park Board for including them in the design for the splash pad.

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Staff

Mr. Novacich said the poured-in-place is completed at Lake of the Meadows and Smith Parks. He said all that is left is grading and seeding. Mr. Novacich said the equipment for Rohrman Park has been ordered.

Ms. Bohling went over the room rentals for the month of November and December.

Attorney Bartholomew said that in the last meeting there was a request to look into addressing late payments in lease contracts. He said his office has come up with a draft for the Board to review.

Mr. Bassick said he would like to acknowledge those involved in the planning of the Veteran's Day Remembrance event, as they did an excellent job.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. LED Sign Proposal – Scherwood Park

Mr. Novacich said that the Board had previously approved the proposal from Legacy Sign. One of the terms of that proposal was half payment down, which the Town asked if that could be waived. Legacy Signs said that was not doable. Mr. Novacich said he then reached out to A-1 Affordable Signs, who agreed to waive the half down payment in their original proposal. Mr. Novacich said he recommended the Board rescind the motion awarding the project to Legacy and award it to A-1 Affordable.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to rescind the motion from the October meeting, awarding Legacy Signs the LED Sign project, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (4-0).

Mr. Repay made a motion to award the A-1 Affordable Sign the sign that will go at Scherwood Park at the amount \$33,289.00, seconded by Mr. Skvarek. All in favor (4-0).

ITEM B. Any other from Park Board NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. Consider Approval of Splash Pad Equipment Purchase – Scherwood Park

Mr. Novacich said he received pricing from four different sources. He said he would recommend the Board award to the lowest bidder, HGAC Buy, in the amount of \$123,208.00.

Mr. Repay made a motion to accept the proposal from HGAC Buy, seconded by Mr. Malinowski. All in favor (4-0)

ITEM B. Lake County Park Department – Craig Zandstra

Craig Zandstra, 5670 Chase Street in Merrillville, from Lake County Parks Department approached the Board about a potential open space site, in Schererville. Mr. Zandstra said that there is not a lot of open space property on the west side of the county, which is why Lake County Parks is wanting acquire a 99 acre parcel of property that is bordered by 77th and 85th Avenue on the North and South, and Cline Avenue and Austin Avenue on the East and West. He said that 94 of the 99 acres of the property is located in Schererville. Mr. Zandstra went over the benefits for both community and the Parks Department of acquiring the property. Mr. Novacich asked what the percentage of the property would be usable for active recreation. Mr. Zandstra said about 25 acres of the property were deemed wetland, making about 75% usable for active recreation. Mr. Zandstra said that there is a purchase agreement with the owners for \$1,727,500.00. He said that Lake County Parks was able to raise half the purchase amount through land and water grants and coastal grants, and is asking the Town to commit \$400,000 towards the purchase of the property. Mr. Novacich asked if the Town was to contribute how much input would the Town have as far as development of the property. Mr. Zandstra said the main focus has been getting partners to secure the purchase of the property, but Lake County Parks would be open to discussion with the Town about the type of recreation that could be placed there. Mr. Novacich said that there is the impact fee fund that could potentially help fund the purchase. Mr. Novacich said that he does not foresee the Board being able to do it on their own and he believes there is an advantage to look into a partnership with the County. Mr. Novacich suggested having a study session to discuss this further.

ITEM C. Any other from Park Board

Mr. Novacich said the next meeting is scheduled for January 5 and suggested the Board consider rescheduling to January 12. He also said that he would like to have a study session about the leases for Schererville Soccer and Girl's Softball and the additional terms that Attorney Bartholomew and his office has drafted.

The Board agreed to have a study session before the meeting at 5pm.

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to hold a study session prior to the regular meeting at 5pm, on January 12, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (4-0).

Mr. Malinowski made a motion to reschedule the regular meeting to January 12, at 6pm, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (4-0).

THEREUPON, Business from the floor NONE

Mr. Skvarek made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Repay. All in favor (4-0).

Next Park Board meeting will be held on January 12, 2022.


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PARK BOARD SECRETARY

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