



PEKIN PARK DISTRICT

Minutes of
The Regular Board Meeting of Park Commissioners
6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 16, 2025
Robert N. Blackwell Admin Building
Pekin, IL 61554

1. Call to order. President McMillan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and all stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call.
The following Commissioners were present: Sue McMillan, Greg Ranney, Mike Dralle, Kyle Cain, Gary Gillis and Kristen Walraven. Commissioners absent were: and Steve Sours. Also, in attendance were: Cameron Bettin, Executive Director; Chip Hill, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Casey Smith, Superintendent of Marketing & Communications Ericka Davis, Superintendent of Human Resources & Risk Management; Scott Clausen, Superintendent of Parks; and Shawn Powers, Superintendent of Recreation; Tony Maxison, Chief of Park Police; Shawna Burnice, Superintendent of IRVSRA; Cory Proehl, Director of Golf; and Michael Seghetti, Park District Attorney. Staff absent were: Keith Knox, Parkside Fitness Manager and Alisha Dault, Miller Center Administrator.
3. Additions to and/or deletions from the agenda, if any. The ED said that he did not have any updates for closed session so Items 16 and 17 can be removed from the agenda.
4. Public Comment: None.
5. Speer Financial presentation of bids received for the sale of approximately \$144,300 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025A, and approximately \$581,115 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025B.

Aaron Gold from Speer Financial was on an on-line video call and presented the results of the bond bids to the Park Board. The total amount of the General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025 B was \$585,395.

6. Approval of the low and recommended bids received for the issuance of approximately:
 - A. \$144,300 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025A.
 - B. \$581,115 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025B.

A motion was made by Gary Gillis to approve the low and recommended bids received for the issuance of the \$144,300 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025A, and the \$585,395 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025B. Second by Greg Ranney. All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

7. Approval of Ordinance No. 25-3 “AN ORDINANCE providing for the issue of approximately \$144,300 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025A, and approximately \$581,115 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025B, of the Pekin Park District, Tazewell and Peoria Counties, Illinois, for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of said Park District, to provide the revenue source for the payment of certain outstanding alternate bonds of said Park District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchasers thereof.”

A motion was made by Gary Gillis to approve Ordinance No. 25-3 “AN ORDINANCE providing for the issue of approximately \$144,300 Taxable General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025A, and approximately \$585,395 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2025B. Second by Mike Dralle. All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

8. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2025.
 - B. Approval of the bills and payroll for 9/03/25 thru 10/13/25 in the amount of \$124,404.99
 - C. Approval of bills to be paid 10/17/25 in the amount of \$16,872.71
 1. Motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

Move to accept all items in the Consent Agenda as presented:
Motion Gary Gillis; Second Kyle Cain.

All ayes by a voice call vote- Motion carried.

2. Motion to pass all items of business listed in the Consent Agenda by omnibus vote.

Move Greg Ranney; Second Mike Dralle.
All ayes by a roll call vote – Motion carried.

9. Executive Director's Report:

The ED mentioned that he received a thank you letter from the River City Model Railroad Club thanking the Park District for the use of the building and talking about the club and its activities and growth. The ED read the letter. Also included in the letter was their annual gift of \$500.

The ED mentioned that he plans to set up a meeting with the City to discuss the proposed fire station on the southwest side of town prior to our November 6 meeting. The Park District attorney did a title search and did not find anything on Railsplitter's regarding restrictions or that it was donated.

10. Attorney's Report: None.

11. Staff Reports: None.

12. Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Gillis mentioned that someone approached in with a concern/complaint that someone did not pick up their dog's waste out at the dog training area. We do not provide a bag dispensary because people do not just take one and we would be constantly filling it or hearing complaints that there are no bags.

Commissioner Gillis also mentioned that the podcast with Rick Kriegsman regarding the PAV and fundraising went well.

Commissioner McMillan mentioned that there have been a lot of complaints online regarding the solar array saying they did not know about it or were not informed about it. She went on and explained the process we went through to get public feedback, and asked those complaining if they had any recommendations on how we could improve what we did. No one responded.

Commissioner Walraven thought the ski show on the Lagoon was great and if there was any impact of doing that to the Lagoon or sidewalks. There were none.

13. Unfinished Business:
 - A. Discussion of Community Wide Attitude and Interest Survey.

The ED asked the Board if they went through it and had any questions.

Commissioner McMillan thought it was way to generic. We should include our mission statement, give some more info on the Park District and who we are/what we do and explain that the City and Park District are separate. She thought it was kind of tedious to get through.

Commissioner Walraven asked how we are getting it out to the community? The ED said that we are utilizing our e-mail list from the various departments and registration. It would include a link to the survey. We are also planning to put it out on Facebook and on our website with a link. Commissioner Walraven thinks a QR Code link would be good too to have at the various facilities front desks, etc.

Commissioner Ranney asked how we would educate people? The ED mentioned that this is what Beyond Your Base would do once we narrow down the direction we want to take which is what the survey would help us do. We can do some educations through this survey but it needs to be generic and not persuasive.

Commissioner Walraven asked if Commissioners could pass along the QR Code link. The ED and Park District Attorney said yes.

- B. Discussion of the intergovernmental agreement with PCHS District 303; review of District 303 suggested changes and PPD changes.

The ED said he has been working on the agreement based on the last meetings review and comments but has not been able to complete it yet. He plans to for the next meeting. He did say that Commissioner Gillis had something to say though. Commissioner Gillis mentioned that he talked with the Superintendent of District 303 about having two members from each agency's boards sit down to talk about our relationship and how it has gotten to the point of where it is at. She talked with their President and he thought it was a good idea. Commissioner McMillan was going to reach out to set up a meeting with their President and whoever else they designate to attend. Commissioner Ranney will be our other representative. Commissioner McMillan said she went through the agreement and made comments, added proposed verbiage and gave a copy to the ED for his review and use.

14. New Business:
 - A. Discussion of request from Blazin' A Trail Riding and Boarding.

The ED and Board discussed the request for a 15-day extension beyond November 8 for the boarding of horses. It was decided that if the new tenant was planning to get in and start work right away on the 8th that it probably is not feasible and should not be granted.

- B. Discussion and Approval of the “Early Order Turf Care Products” out for bid for Parkview and Lick Creek Golf Courses, Mineral Springs Park, and Pekin Park Sports Complex.

The ED explained that the “Early Order Turf Care Products” was out to bid currently with the bid opening on Monday, October 20. We need to get the bids approved and the product ordered before the end of the month so as to not affect the rebate. He apologized to the Board. The timing of this slipped through the cracks. Usually this goes to bid in September for approval at one of the October meetings. By the time we realized it had not gone out to bid, the timing with the bid notice did not work with this meeting date. We need to reconvene to next week in order to approve the bids.

- 15. Announcement of time and place to reconvene meeting.
After discussion, it was decided that the best date to reconvene is Wednesday, October 22 at 5:30 pm.
- 16. Closed Session:
 - A. ~~Move to convene into closed session under Open Meetings Act Section 120/2 (c) (1) to discuss the performance of specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park or recreational setting; and Section 120/2 (c) (1), to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; and Section 120/2 (c) (21) discussion of minutes of meetings 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.~~
 - B. ~~Move to reconvene into open session.~~
- 17. ~~Move to approve the August 21, 2025 and October 2, 2025 Closed Session Minutes.~~
- 18. Motion to adjourn to reconvene on the date and time specified at the October 16 Board of Commissioners meeting for the approval of the bids received for “Early Order Turf Care Products” for Parkview and Lick Creek Golf Courses, Mineral Springs Park, and Pekin Park Sports Complex.

I move that we adjourn to October 22, 2025 at 5:30 pm in the Board Room at 1701 Court St, Pekin, IL.

Motion Gary Gillis; Second Greg Ranney
All ayes by a voice call vote – Motion carried.
Time: 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.
Chip Hill
Board Secretary
Pekin Park District