

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS  
GRANITE CITY PARK DISTRICT, MAIN OFFICE  
2900 BENTON STREET  
MONDAY MAY 7, 2025 5:30PM**

**I. ROLL CALL**

President Jones called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Commissioners answering Roll Call were: Jenna DeYong, Craig Sykes, Linda Ames, Don Harris, and Matt Jones. Employees in attendance were: Director of Parks and Recreation Justin Brinkmeyer, Superintendent of Operations Bradley Boone, Recreational Programming and Communications Coordinator Megan Dittman, Attorney Ryan Robertson, and Secretary Stephanie Koishor. Also in attendance were Commissioner-elect Chris Mitchell, Maryanne Mitchell, and Michael DeYong.

**II. MINUTES AND ATTACHMENTS OF THE REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 23, 2025 (Pages 1-4)**

Motion to approve the Minutes and Attachments of the Regular Park Board Meeting of April 23, 2025, as presented, was made by Commissioner Jenna DeYong, second by Commissioner Don Harris. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

**III. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Page 5)**

- A. Finance Committee (Jenna Deyong, Chairman)  
None
- B. Engineering Committee (Don Harris, Chairman)  
None
- C. Municipal Relations Committee (Craig Sykes, Chairman)  
None
- D. Rules, Personnel Policies Committee (Linda Ames, Chairman)  
None

#### **IV. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Resolution 25-13 recognizing and thanking Jenna DeYong for her service to the Granite City Park District (Page 6)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Don Harris. All commissioners present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

2. Resolution 25-14 declaring the results of an election for one (1) Park Commissioner (Don Harris) for a six (6) year term, held on April 1, 2025 in the Granite City Park District, Madison County (Page 7)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Jenna DeYong, second by Commissioner Craig Sykes. All commissioners present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

3. Resolution 25-15 declaring the results of an election for one (1) Park Commissioner (Chris Mitchell) for a six (6) year term, held on April 1, 2025 in the Granite City Park District, Madison County (Page 8)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Jenna DeYong, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners was made by Commissioner Jenna DeYong, second by Commissioner Don Harris. All commissioners present voted “aye.” Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:35PM.

#### **V. REORGANIZATION MEETING OF MAY 7, 2025**

##### **A. Seating and Oath of newly elected Park District Commissioners**

1. Don Harris (Page 9)
2. Chris Mitchell (Page 10)

Newly elected Commissioners Don Harris and Chris Mitchell recited their Oaths and were seated as Park District Commissioners.

##### **B. Roll Call to include newly seated Commissioners**

Commissioners answering Roll Call were Matt Jones, Linda Ames, Don Harris, Chris Mitchell, and Craig Sykes. Employees in attendance were: Director of Parks and Recreation Justin Brinkmeyer, Superintendent of Operations Bradley Boone,

Recreational Programming and Communications Coordinator Megan Dittman, Attorney Ryan Robertson, and Secretary Stephanie Koishor.

**C. Formation of New Board**

**1. Election of Officers**

**a. President**

Commissioner Craig Sykes moved to nominate Commissioner Don Harris for President of the Granite City Park District. Upon call for further nominations for President, there were no further nominations. All Commissioners in attendance voted “Aye” on Roll Call. Motion carried. Commissioner Don Harris was declared to be elected President of the Granite City Park District.

**b. Vice President**

Commissioner Linda Ames moved to nominate Commissioner Craig Sykes for Vice President of the Granite City Park District, second to Commissioner Matt Jones. Upon call for further nominations for President, there were no further nominations. All Commissioners in attendance voted “Aye” on Roll Call. Motion carried. Commissioner Craig Sykes was declared to be elected Vice President of the Granite City Park District.

**c. Treasurer**

Commissioner Don Harris moved to appoint Commissioner Matt Jones for Treasurer of the Granite City Park District, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All Commissioners in attendance voted “Aye” on Roll Call. Motion carried. Commissioner Matt Jones was declared to be appointed Treasurer of the Granite City Park District.

**d. Secretary**

Commissioner Don Harris moved to appoint Stephanie Koishor for Secretary of the Granite City Park District, second by Commissioner Craig Sykes. All Commissioners in attendance voted “Aye” on Roll Call. Motion carried. Stephanie Koishor was declared to be appointed Secretary of the Granite City Park District.

**2. Appointment of Director of Parks and Recreation**

President Harris submitted the name of Justin Brinkmeyer as his appointee for Director of Parks and Recreation of the Granite City Park District for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Motion to approve the appointment of the Director of Parks and Recreation was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted “Aye” on Roll Call. Motion carried and Justin Brinkmeyer was appointed as Director of Parks and Recreation for the District for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

### **3. Appointment of Granite City Park District Attorney**

President Harris submitted the name of Ryan Robertson as his appointee for attorney for the District for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Motion to approve the appointment of the attorney for the Granite City Park District was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. All commissioners present voted "Aye" on Roll Call. Motion carried and Ryan Robertson was appointed as attorney for the District for the 2025-2025 fiscal year.

### **4. Appointment of Committee Chairs**

President Harris submitted the appointments of the following Commissioners as Committee Chairmen: Chris Mitchell- Finance Committee, Matt Jones- Engineering Committee, Craig Sykes- Municipal Relations Committee, and Linda Ames- Rules, Personnel Policies Committee. All commissioners present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

## **VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

### **A. Request to address the Board**

None

### **B. Request for Use of Facilities**

1. Request from American Legion Post 307 to hold a Memorial Day service at Memorial Park on Monday, May 26th at 11:00 AM (Page 11)

Motion to approve the request, as presented, was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Chris Mitchell. All commissioners present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

2. Request from Felecia Gilbert- State Farm to hold a walk-a-thon at Wilson Park on May 31st, from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM (Page 12)

Motion to approve the request, as presented, was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

### **C. Other Communications**

None

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Resolution 25-16 authorizing the hiring on Hughes & Associates for accounting services (Pages 13-19)

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. All commissioners present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

2. Resolution 25-17 approving payment to All Weather Courts Recreational Surfacing (Pages 20-23)

This payment is per the approved contract. It is the next payment installment

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Craig Sykes. All commissioners present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

3. Resolution 25-18 approving contract to repair and resurface the Multi-Purpose Court and Benton Street Parking Area from the Basketball Facility to the entrance of the Park District Main Office (Pages 24-27)

This project will include adjusting the parking blocks to accommodate longer vehicles. Funding will come from TIF reimbursement and PEP money.

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. All commissioners present voted "Aye." Motion carried.

## **VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Memorial Park Fountain**

Today Hydro Dramatics provided an estimate of the parts and labor required to get the fountain running again. They project the cost will be \$7,825. This doesn't fix the moisture issue in the pit; it only fixes the existing equipment to get the system operational. Excessive moisture caused these issues. If we make the repairs, we will add a dehumidifier to see if that will solve the moisture issue.

### **Tree Update**

Recently, a contractor removed four dead trees from Wilson Park. During one of the storms last week, after that round of tree removal, one tree was struck by lightning.

On the evening of Monday, April 28th, a large portion of a tree (not the above tree damaged by lightening) fell on a vehicle parked in the rock parking area along Benton between Shelter #3 and #4. The car was severely damaged. A claim was filed with IPARKS, our

insurance provider, on Tuesday morning, April 29th. IPARKS notified us at the end of the day, Tuesday, that they contacted the owner of the vehicle to advise that the claim was denied, which is standard in situations where the tree shows no visible signs of distress that would result in negligence by the Park District.

### **Employee Health Insurance**

Currently, we have Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois. If we remain with our existing plan/coverage, increases for medical are 6.86%, dental 2.8%, and vision 2.04%. These increases are based on our monthly premiums, resulting in \$12,230 over last year. Based on my research, most insurance plans are trending with 12-22% increases. Although our increases seem below average, I'm still looking at other plans beyond BCBS to ensure we get the best coverage for what we pay in premiums.

### **Marquee**

We were notified that Nevco is covering the cost of parts to repair our marquee, as it was still under warranty. The part that we need is obsolete, so they had to make a fix just for our situation. It will take six to eight weeks for the part to become available.

### **Plant Theft**

Over the past few weeks, numerous plants have been stolen from the garden and landscaped area at 27th Street and Benton. We have added additional cameras to the garden to help catch the individual(s).

### **Worthen Park**

Construction on the building has been paused while the contractor awaits material deliveries. Work has shifted to concrete for the parking lot and driveways to the splash pad.

### **Tennis and Pickleball Court Update**

All Weather Courts completed most of the pre-surface preparation. Weather permitting, they will lay the new surface over the next ten days. Repairs for the court lighting have been completed.

### **Pool**

Facilities Manager Joey Hall and his team completed painting the main pool today. The pool will be ready to begin filling on Monday morning. The next few days are necessary to allow for curing of the paint as it cannot be submerged in water for 72 hours after being applied.

All business concluded, Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. Meeting adjourned at 6:19 PM.

/srk

