

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
GRANITE CITY PARK DISTRICT, MAIN OFFICE
2900 BENTON STREET
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2025 5:30PM**

I. ROLL CALL

President Harris called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM. Commissioners answering Roll Call were Matt Jones, Linda Ames, Chris Mitchell, and Don Harris. Commissioner Craig Sykes was not in attendance. Employees in attendance were Director of Parks and Recreation Justin Brinkmeyer, Recreational Programming and Security Coordinator R.P. Phelps, Recreational Programming and Communications Coordinator Megan Dittman, Golf Course Manager and Professional Steve Finn, Facilities Manager Joey Hall, Attorney Ryan Robertson, and Secretary Stephanie Koishor.

II. MINUTES AND ATTACHMENTS OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2025 (Pages 656-667)

Motion to approve the Minutes and Attachments of the Regular Board Meeting of December 17, 2025 was made by Commissioner Chris Mitchell, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Page 668)

- A. Finance Committee (Chris Mitchell, Chairman)
None
- B. Engineering Committee (Matt Jones, Chairman)
None
- C. Municipal Relations Committee (Craig Sykes, Chairman)
None
- D. Rules, Personnel Policies Committee (Linda Ames, Chairman)
None

IV. FINANCE REPORT (Pages 669-681)

Motion to approve the Finance Report was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT (Pages 682-700)

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. 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 Brightpoint (formerly Children's Home & Aid) to hold the 6th Annual Kids & Cops 5K on Saturday, April 18, 2026 (Page 701)

Motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Chris Mitchell, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

2. Request from the Tri Cities Area Association for Handicapped, Inc to hold their annual Summer Day Camp in Wilson Park on June 22nd through June 26th, 2026 (Page 702)

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

C. Other

None

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 26-01 authorizing the Director of Parks to proceed with the final payment to Landscape Structures for fencing at the Universal Playground (Pages 703-704)

Motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Matt Jones, second by Commissioner Chris Mitchell. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

2. Resolution 26-02 approving payment to Utilitra for the purchase, supply, and installation of cameras at the Worthen Park Splash Pad (Pages 705-707)

Motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Chris Mitchell, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

3. Resolution 26-03 approving an agreement with Riverbend Kitchen and More for the purchase of custom cabinetry (Pages 708-712)

Motion to approve the Resolution was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Chris Mitchell. All commissioners present voted “aye.” Motion carried.

IX. RECOMMENDED HIRES

X. PARK OPERATIONS REPORT (Pages 713-714)

XI. GARDENS REPORT (Page 715)

XII. RECREATION REPORT (Page 716)

XIII. FACILITIES REPORT (Page 717)

Pool Report (Page 718)

Ice Rink Report (Page 719)

Concessions Report (Page 720)

XIV. GOLF COURSE REPORT (Pages 721-722)

XV. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Worthen Park

Over the week of Christmas, Charter Communications began running the internet underground from the street to the new splash pad building. The plan was for them to run the line from the utility easement on Westmoreland to the building. However, they were able to run the line from Parkview Drive to the building, which is good, as the distance is shorter. Once they reached the east side of the building, they planned to bore under the walkway and cut a small 4” x 4” hole in the concrete next to the building to feed the line inside. However, that’s not what occurred; instead, they cut out a section of the new walkway to feed the line to the building.

Charter has accepted responsibility and I’m having them work directly with our contractor to make the repair at their expense. Additional concrete will be removed to take it back to the joints so it ties in properly.

We have been holding internal Splash Pad Meetings. More information to come soon regarding feedback.

Grant Updates

Our Environmental Grant was submitted last week. This grant requires a 20% match, with the Park District responsible for \$3,448 of the \$17,240 project, which will cover seven lake locations at The Legacy, totaling 725 linear feet of riprap. We have been awarded this grant twice in the last five years, so it is possible that it will work against us.

Unfortunately, we were notified late last week that we were not approved for the FY25 Open Space Land Acquisition Development Grant (OSLAD). The village of Williamson was the only recipient in Madison and St. Clair counties. This project would have helped fund a new restroom and concession building near the Universal Playground in Wilson Park.

Joint Review Board

Today, I attended the annual Joint Review Board Meeting held at City Hall. This annual meeting provides taxing bodies with an update on all TIF districts within our boundaries. We received a surplus check for \$17,032.46 which represents the remaining surplus from the downtown TIF and another surplus check from the Re. 203 TIF for \$97,926.87.

Illinois Association of Park Districts Conference

Next Wednesday, I, along with four others from our leadership team, plan to attend the IAPD conference, which is packed with classes and a tradeshow. We will return late Friday evening.

Here are a few samples of some of the educational opportunities our team will attend: Beyond Access: Inclusion Standards for Meaningful Engagement; The Art of Dealing with Difficult People in Youth Sports; Managing Playground Surfacing, Beyond the Playground; What Millennial Parents Really Want, Handling Parent Complaints Like a Pro; Creating a Safety Plan; Mitigating Risks and Ensuring Safety; Beyond Access: When Accessible Falls Short of Fun; Mastering Communications for Park District Success; Know Your Rights in Public Spaces; Legal and Legislative; and From Classroom to Day Camp- Strategies for a Successful Day Camp

All business concluded, Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Matt Jones. Meeting adjourned at 6:18 PM

/srk