

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
GRANITE CITY PARK DISTRICT, MAIN OFFICE
2900 BENTON STREET
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2025 5:30PM**

I. ROLL CALL

President Harris called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Commissioners answering Roll Call were Craig Sykes, Linda Ames, Chris Mitchell, and Don Harris. Commissioner Matt Jones was not in attendance. Employees in attendance were Director of Parks and Recreation Justin Brinkmeyer, Superintendent of Operations Bradley Boone, Recreational Programming and Communications Coordinator Megan Dittman, Recreational Programming and Security Coordinator R.P. Phelps, Gardens and Memorials Supervisor Freda Bolling, 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 MAY 7, 2025 (Pages 28-33)

Motion to approve the Minutes and Attachments of the Regular Park Board Meeting of May 7, 2025, as presented, was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Chris Mitchell. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Page 34)

- 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 35-48)

Motion to approve the Finance Report, as presented, was made by Commissioner Linda Ames, second by Commissioner Craig Sykes. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT (Pages 49-67)

Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, as presented, was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Chris Mitchell. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Request to address the Board

None

B. Request for use of facilities

None

C. Other

None

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution 25-19 authorizing execution of a contract with Output Unlimited for the 2025 Fourth of July Celebration (Pages 68-73)

This is the same price as 2024.

Motion to approve the Resolution, as presented, was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. All commissioners present voted "aye." Motion carried.

2. Resolution 25-20 approving the change order payment to All Weather Courts Recreational Surfacing (Pages 74-75)

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

IX. RECOMMENDED NEW HIRES (Pages 76-77)

X. PARK OPERATIONS REPORT (Page 78)

XI. RECREATION REPORT (Page 79)

XII. FACILITIES REPORT (Page 80)

Pool Report (Page 81)

Ice Rink Report (Page 82)

Concessions Report (Page 83)

XIII. GOLF COURSE REPORT (Pages 84-85)

The Gardens Department has been cleaning up and replanting in and throughout parks.

XIV. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Disc Golf Course

The course will remain closed until we can get a few of the high hanging branches removed by a tree trimmer with a bucket truck. Additionally, due to the equipment used for the cleanup process we have numerous ruts throughout the park. The maintenance team has done an incredible job with the cleanup. We appreciate all of the help from the Department of Public Works and the resources and staffing they've provided to assist with the cleanup.

Tennis, Pickleball, and Basketball

The project is nearing completion. We are awaiting the remainder of the interior fencing and the leveling of the ground around the courts. The garden team will begin working on the area between the walking trail and the courts. Gardens and Memorials Manager Freda Bolling is working on a landscaping plan that will give the project a finished look.

Surfacing on the basketball court has been completed as part of one of our 2025 PEP grant projects. The parking area from the basketball courts to the entrance of the main office is scheduled to be completed next week.

Worthen Park

The project is still on schedule to be completed in August. There are a few items that have lead times that could impact this date, but as of right now, that is not expected. The contractor finished the parking lot last week and is scheduled to install trusses this week. They continue to await the arrival of the splash pad fixtures, and they will begin the installation of the actual splash pad when the fixtures arrive. The new parking lot didn't include the installation of new parking blocks, but the contractor agreed to install new precast parking blocks for \$2,346.00, to be invoiced directly to the district. This will be funded by our Appropriation.

Grant Opportunity

IDOT released \$400 million dollars of grant funding. This is a one-time, unique opportunity for which Park Districts are eligible to apply, due to the recent ITEP funding awarded for the project, which includes the City of Granite City and the Park District's connection to the bike trail. Last week's award of the ITEP funding gives us an opportunity to highlight that project with the addition of more bike/pedestrian access, which gives us the potential to score well on this grant. Unlike most grants this doesn't require any matched funding for eligibility or as part of the award.

I am planning to apply for a shared-use path along Benton Street to connect to the ITEP grant and connect to the sidewalk at Yale Drive on the Park District Property. In addition, the project would complete a shared-use path along State Street to connect to the ITEP Grant and down 29th Street to connect near the new Playground and Trailhead. The reason for adding a trail along 29th Street is to help tie the project to the Universal Playground. Placing the trail along State Street from 29th Street isn't feasible unless the existing trees are removed. This grant opportunity is due June 1st.

25/26 Appropriation Ordinance

Work continues on the 25/26 Appropriation Ordinance. The draft will be on the agenda for our June 11th meeting.

Our AT&T services are currently being upgraded from analog to fiber. This upgrade, which was of no cost to the Park District, will cut the bills of our six office phone lines by more than half. We have paid more the past year for services because we are still on an older type of phone line. This payment reduction should be significantly noticeable in the upcoming budget year.

Services for water and sewer have more than doubled for all of our properties during the last fiscal year.

Plant Theft

The garden area continues to be targeted by plant thieves. Additional cameras have been installed to combat theft.

Registration Software

We have been forced to continue with in-office registration for summer programs, as we are still experiencing issues with the software correctly applying charges to both residents and non-residents. Our receptionist, Lisa Veizer, has done an outstanding job entering the required data and working directly with Civic Rec to ensure the proper adjustments are made before we go live. We still plan to launch in the near future.

The Ice Rink siding damage, in addition to the cap issue, will be covered under an insurance claim. We may have a proposal at the next meeting for repair.

All business concluded, Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Craig Sykes, second by Commissioner Linda Ames. Meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM
/srk