

**STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF DUPAGE  
DARIEN PARK DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING**

**December 11, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Simester called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the City of Darien Council Chambers, 1702 Plainfield Road, Darien, Illinois.

**ROLL CALL OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Upon roll call the following Commissioners were present:

**PRESENT:** Neil Christensen, Shari Gillespie, Richard Simester

**ABSENT:** Nancy Campagnolo, Frank Noverini

**Staff:** Stephanie Gurgone; Executive Director, Chris Katsougris; Assistant Director, Della Deldin; Superintendent of Finance, Robert Strickler; Superintendent of Parks, Matt Henderson; Sportsplex General Manager, Judith Kolman, Attorney

**Guests:** Ray Jablonski, Darien

**Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to appoint Commissioner Dick Simester as President Pro Temp.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES:** Christensen, Gillespie, Simester.

**NAYS:** None

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**A. Public Hearing for Tax Levy Ordinance #2006-07-04**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the public hearing is to address any questions regarding the Darien Park District's proposed 2007 Tax Levy Ordinance. She stated that once all questions were answered that the public hearing would be closed.

**Commissioner Gillespie made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to open the public hearing for Tax Levy Ordinance #2006-07-04.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Gillespie, Christensen, Simester.**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Darien Park District has complied with the qualifications of the Truth in Taxation Act. She stated that the District determined at the Monday, November 13<sup>th</sup> meeting that the District would levy at the 20% new growth rate which is equivalent to a 22% increase in operating funds and a 0% increase in debt service for a combined total increase in property taxes of 13%. Executive Director Gurgone reported that the District is levying at a high amount in order to capture all new growth in the community.

Acting President Simester opened the meeting for any wishing to present public testimony. There was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

**At 7:02 p.m. Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to close the public hearing.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Simester.**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

**B. Public Hearing concerning the intent of the Board of Park Commissioners of the Darien Park District, Dupage County, Illinois, to sell not to exceed \$900,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds.**

**Commissioner Gillespie made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to open the public hearing.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Gillespie, Christensen, Simester.**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the public hearing is conducted to receive comments on the proposal to sell in the amount of not to exceed \$900,000 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds 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 the District, for the payment of principal and interest on outstanding general obligation alternate revenue bonds of the District, and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, and

explained that all persons desiring to be heard would have an opportunity to present written or oral testimony with respect thereto.

Executive Director Gurgone stated that the reason for the proposed issuance of the Bond is for payment on the District's 2000 bond issue, and improvements to the District's parks and facilities, as per the District's capital asset replacement plan.

Acting President Simester opened the meeting for any wishing to present public testimony. There was no one in the audience wishing to speak.

**At 7:05 p.m. Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to close the public hearing.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Simester.**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

### **C. SEASPAR Presentation**

Ms. Susan Friend, Director of SEASPAR thanked the Board for allowing her to speak on behalf of SEASPAR. She presented a thumbnail sketch of the organization and distributed packets to each Commissioner. Ms. Friend stated that the Darien Park District is one of the founding members of SEASPAR and stated that Executive Director Gurgone is an asset to the organization and is always well prepared. She thanked the Board for honoring the Special Olympic athletes and their families.

Acting President Simester questioned if SEASPAR shares expenses with the Downers Grove Park District.

Ms. Friend stated that SEASPAR pays no rent and has a good savings on utilities. She stated that the money paid by members goes towards programs.

Commissioner Christensen stated that SEASPAR currently serves 10 communities and questioned the impact if another member was to join.

Ms. Friend stated that she did not feel at this point that adding another member would have any dramatic impact on the 10 member communities. She thanked the Board and stated that their goal is to provide a Board Member packet and that she welcomed any words of wisdom.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **OFFICER REPORTS**

**A. President** – No report.

**B. Vice President** – No report.

**C. Secretary** – No report.

**D. Treasurer** –Commissioner Christensen presented the Treasurer’s report ending November 30, 2006.

**Commissioner Christensen made a motion, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Treasurer’s Monthly Report for the month ending November 30, 2006.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Simester**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

## **COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE REPORT**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed the options for a recreation center for the District. She reported that the consensus was to continue to look at all options for the District, and wait to see what happens with Fairview school.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that General Manager Henderson discussed the Sportsplex financials and reported that the ice numbers were down slightly and that November should look better. She reported that staff discussed a draft of projects for the 2007 bond issue, and current capital projects. She further reported that staff also discussed the current District financials stating that so far 96% of tax dollars have been received.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that the Board discussed remote participation at Board meetings and agreed not to allow remote participation at Committee meetings. She reported that the majority agreed not to allow remote participation at Board meetings and due to the disagreement, the item was placed under Unfinished Business on the agenda.

Executive Director Gurgone reported that there was discussion regarding the 2007 meeting schedule for the District and that it would be posted on the District’s website. She reported that staff announced that there would not be a Committee meeting in December but that the District’s next Board meeting was scheduled for January 8, 2007 at City Hall.

## **ATTORNEY’S REPORT**

None.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **A. Executive Director/SEASPAR**

Executive Director Gurgone reported that there would not be a Committee meeting in December and that the next Committee meeting was scheduled for January 22, 2007 at Marion Hills. She reported that staff would be providing an update on the Community Center plans.

### **B. Assistant Director**

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that staff is continuing to work on the Needy Family Project. She reported that unwrapped gifts will be accepted and delivered to 130 families on Saturday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that registration for residents for the winter programs is underway. She reported that the postman had enough brochures to deliver to every household on their route but if anyone had not received a brochure they should contact the post office to voice their concerns. She further reported that additional copies were available at Marion Hills, Sportsplex, City Hall and the Library.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that Pottawatomie Bingo Casino trip is scheduled for Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup> and includes transportation and a buffet luncheon. She reported that the deadline for registration is January 4<sup>th</sup> and is \$27 for residents and \$32 for non-residents. She further reported that Kenny Rogers in Concert at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora is scheduled for Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Assistant Director Katsougris announced that the deadline to register is December 14<sup>th</sup> and the cost is \$59 for residents and \$64 for non-residents.

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that there are a variety of programs being offered over Christmas break and can be found in the brochure or by visiting the website at [www.darienparks.com](http://www.darienparks.com).

### **C. Superintendent of Finance**

Superintendent Deldin reported that the Active for Life program officially ended on November 17<sup>th</sup> and that the District placed 5<sup>th</sup> out of 57 teams. She stated that overall there were 27,030 life points of activity met and that Assistant Director Katsougris was the overall winner at the District with a total of 7,580 life points.

### **D. Superintendent of Parks**

Superintendent Strickler reported that the Parks operations are going well and that staff will be doing a tree inventory District wide. He reported that Community Park was completed and that there are 245 trees in good shape.

### **E. Sportsplex General Manager**

General Manager Henderson reported that there are 104 teams for the fall session. He reported that there were a few issues concerning the league and that staff is working on correcting but that the overall season was a success.

General Manager Henderson reported that the Board received the Soccer League Financials and that the actual revenues should be over the budgeted amount.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Resolution 2006-07-07; A resolution prohibiting remote participation at Board of Commissioner Meetings or Committee Meetings, and repealing a previously adopted resolution.**

The Board agreed to table the item until all Commissioners were present.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no one in the audience wishing to present public comment.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:**

**Warrants, November 13, 2006 Meeting Minutes, November 27, 2006 Committee Meeting Minutes and the Tax Levy Ordinance.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Simester**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Property Annexation Ordinance #2006-07-06**

Assistant Director Katsougris reported that the City of Darien is annexing certain property and that it is appropriate that the District to the same. She reported that the property is located along north Frontage Road and that a map was provided to the Board.

**Commissioner Gillespie moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Christensen to approve ORDINANCE NO 2006-07-06, AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING CERTAIN PROPERTY TO THE DARIEN PARK DISTRICT, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS (09-34-302-019).**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Gillespie, Christensen, Simester**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

**B. Sportsplex Compressor One Overhaul**

General Manager Henderson reported that the Board received a summary of the repairs that need to be addressed on the Ice Plant immediately. He reported that currently the plant is running 2 compressors with no back up. He stated that the system is set up to run on 2 compressors and the third as back up. General Manager Henderson stated that if one breads down it would be difficult to keep both of the sheets of ice frozen thus resulting in lost business and additional expense of labor and supplies.

**Commissioner Christensen moved duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie to approve the Sportsplex Compressor One Overhaul in the amount of \$8,995.**

**Upon roll call the following Commissioners voted:**

**AYES: Christensen, Gillespie, Simester**

**NAYS: None**

**Acting President Simester declared the motion carried.**

**CLOSED SESSION**

**A. 2(c)21 Review & Release of Closed Session Minutes**

**a. Approval of 10/9/06 Minutes**

**b. Review & Release of Closed Session Minutes**

The Board agreed to table these items until all Commissioners were present.

**ADJOURN**

**There being no further discussion, Commissioner Christensen moved, duly seconded by Commissioner Gillespie that the meeting be adjourned. Upon roll call vote the Motion was thereby carried and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**

---

Richard Simester, Acting President  
Darien Park District

---

Richard Simester, Secretary  
Darien Park District