

**PARK DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS
PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 3, 2013**

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

The Board of Park Commissioners met for their monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 3, 2013, in the Park District Board meeting room, 1210 7th Avenue South, at 6:00 p.m. Present were Commissioners Barta, Panzer, Skarperud and Soeby. Commissioner LaDouceur was not present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 6, 2013 AND AUGUST 27, 2013

A motion was made by Commissioner Barta to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2013 and August 27, 2013 Board meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

None.

DELEGATES TO APPEAR BEFORE THE BOARD

None.

PUBLIC HEARING 2013 PROPERTY TAX LEVY

Commissioner Panzer opened the public hearing. No one from the public was present to comment at the public hearing. Public hearing was closed.

FOR DISCUSSION

SIDEWALK ACCESS AT CHOICE HEALTH & FITNESS

Director Bill Palmiscno stated that he visited with the City in regards to the easement. A letter will be sent to the two property owners on each side of the easement notifying them of plans to install the sidewalk. The two property owners will be invited to the October 1, 2013 Board meeting to voice any comments or concerns. If no concerns the sidewalks will be installed next spring.

FOR ACTION

FINAL 2014 BUDGET

No changes from preliminary budget. Zero mill increase. Reallocated 1.82 mills between funds. Reallocated mills to other funds, but overall mills will remain the same.

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the Final 2014 Budget. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

RESOLUTION OF ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS AND TAX LEVY FOR 2013 - ORDINANCE 176

Tax amount of \$6,685,515.00 will be submitted to Grand Forks County to be levied. A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the Resolution of Annual Appropriations and Tax Levy for 2013 – Ordinance 176. Seconded by Commissioner Skarperud; motion carried.

HEALTHY FOOD / CONCESSIONS

Commissioner Soeby is asking for an ordinance on the food being offered at Park District facilities. This ordinance is based on recommended standards from the *Institute of Medicine's (IOM) Committee on Nutrition Standards for Foods in Schools*. Approximately 70% of food served by the Grand Forks Park District at pools, hockey arenas, and special events, will conform to the IOM recommended snack nutrition standards for healthy eating and will meet their criteria as per information provided. We have already done a lot of the changes needed to meet these standards.

A discussion took place on what exactly needs to be done. Commissioner Skarperud stated that this would be a great program that would benefit the community. Several concerns were expressed though as to what guidelines would have to be followed should the Park District lease space to another company in the future and if this would affect Eagles Crest as a restaurant. The nutritional needs of the athletes need to be addressed also. Recovery foods with a combination of carbohydrates and protein need to be available. Board members want to see what we are offering before making their decision. Palmiscno stated that many nutritional changes have already been made at our concessions and revenue has stayed about the same. An ordinance would help to standardize our food offering at all our facilities.

A decision to put together a meeting with two Board members, Choice Health & Fitness employees and nutrition experts to finalize the changes needed and present it to the Board as a policy for voting.

PENSION PLAN 6TH AMENDMENT

The pension plan is reviewed every five years by the IRS. If this amendment is approved the tax status will remain favorable. A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud to approve the Pension Plan 6th Amendment. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

TERMINATE SPROUTS CAFÉ AGREEMENT

Termination of Sprouts Café agreement as of August 21, 2013. A motion was made by Commissioner Soeby to approve the termination of the Sprouts Café agreement. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

BILLS TO BE APPROVED FOR JULY 2013

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud, to approve the bills for August in the amount of \$603,056.50 for the Park District. Seconded by Commissioner Barta; motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENTS' REPORTS

All reports were accepted as presented.

Superintendent Cam Tweten provided the Board with a membership overview report of Choice Health & Fitness. The membership numbers are very strong and expected to continue to grow. The fall programs are filling up fast also. A birthday bash is planned for the week of September 23rd. The celebration will be on September 25th. There will be a birthday cake and events outside. Free passes to the community for the week also. The bumper curbs in the family locker room will be installed to prevent the water from spilling out into the common area. The lights in the racquetball courts must be replaced due to a warranty issue. The steamers in the men's and women's locker rooms will be replaced to stop the excess steam build up on the walls. Fall hours have started, Friday closing time has moved from 11pm to 9pm, Saturday and Sunday has moved from 10pm to 9pm.

Superintendent George Hellyer stated he spoke with the interested party in regards to the purchase of the 1/2 acre of land by Red River Valley Gymnastics, which is currently designated as park and open space. The interested party offered \$500, the plotting, title work and lawyer fees related to it. The interested party is maintaining the land and always has. The Park District does not want to maintain the land. Hellyer and Palmiscno will visit with the City Assessor to determine the fair market value.

The general parks are maintaining and starting to fertilize. The splash park at Choice Health & Fitness is started and will be going in this month. The parking lot at Masonic Park is being finished. The arena had dirt delivered, there were some issues with hitting a clay and black dirt mixture so testing will need to be done to determine if clay needs to be brought in.

The pool report in recreation showed the numbers were down this year but still within the average range.

Gambucci Arena has started making ice and Eagles Arena will be started next.

King's Walk Golf report showed 21,273 rounds of golf sold through August of this year. It also showed 385 memberships sold to date. Lincoln Golf report showed 14,100 rounds of golf sold through August of this year.

Forestry reported 156 request calls answered, along with 1,210 trees pruned, 37 DED removals, 37 non DED trees removed and 137 stumps removed. Forestry crew also spent 14 days scouting for DED. Emerald Ash borer traps collected- all negative. Landscaping has started at Choice Health & Fitness.

BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Soeby provided the Board with an overview on a grant wrote for \$20,000 to do two surveys on smoking in the parks. A grant was received for \$5,000. A decision will need to be done on what to do as the \$5,000 is not enough to do the full surveys. Additional funds are needed for the complete project. If approximately \$2,000 in funding is available a portion of the survey can be completed. Commissioner Soeby will request the \$5,000 to do a portion of the survey.

No parking signage has been added around the Choice Health & Fitness building. Customers are still parking there so a sign will be posted on all entrances to alert customers of the parking changes and the reason for the changes. A decision was made that if customers continue to park in the no parking zones a note will be put on the vehicles prior to any tickets being issued. Should customers continue to park in the no parking zones a ticket will be issued by either the security company or the Grand Forks Police Department. We are going to speak with the City to see if parking on the east side of 11th can be allowed.

Commissioner Panzer stated that there are going to be some letters to the editor in regards to the new ice arena being built and requested the Board to sign the letter showing their support.


Director Bill Palmiscno stated that John Staley's retirement open house will be at Choice Health & Fitness in the community room on November 2, 2013. The time has yet to be finalized.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Skarperud at 6:57 p.m. to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Soeby; motion carried.


Bill Palmiscno, Clerk


Jay Panzer, President