

## **Elmhurst Park District Board Meeting**

December 16, 2016  
7:02-8:24

All commissioners present

– President Ubriaco attended via audio link  
4 guests including City Manager Grabowski, City  
Engineer Burke; Andrew Payne; 8 staff  
Observers: Gianfranco Ocampo, Rebecca Lipton

**Call to order** by Commissioner Spaeth

### **Pledge of Allegiance; Roll Call**

All commissioners in attendance except President Ubriaco who was audio-linked in. Because Commissioner Ubriaco attended via electronic link, all votes were by roll call rather than by show of hands

### **Additions/Deletions/Changes to Agenda**

Item 8a deleted (Approval of 12/2 minutes, see below)  
Added to closed session item dealing with personnel issues

### **Remarks/Correspondence from visitors**

- Ms. K. Sullivan supports stormwater solutions but feels that more time to consider possible solutions is needed.
- Mr. Robert Honig spoke at least meeting in support of basketball courts; now reports that he spoke to neighbors who also did support basketball courts. Submitted 25 letters from residents in support of the courts. Stated that basketball court opponents maintain that the EPD is completely wrong and no one in Elmhurst enjoys basketball. This is totally incorrect.
- City Manager Grabowski: reported on the nearly-completed IGA to address stormwater remediation issues. He expressed gratitude to the Park Board for their cooperation in this essential process.
  1. The city accepted the park board's 79 year lease extension for York Commons Fire Station.
  2. With respect to the remaining sites under consideration, the City agrees to replacement costs of up to 1.5 times the current value of the properties.
  3. The City does not support the board's request for an automated shut off valve for York Commons for several reasons including:
    - City's analysis shows the effects of the valve would be negligible, and there would be no difference in local flood elevations with or without the valve.
    - Installation of shut valve could result in legal troubles as the city's engineers did not agree with the installation.
    - Construction would cost \$75-100,000.
    - Would increase the complexity of the measures that the City is taking to cope with stormwater issues.

### **Committee report:**

Gateway: Board approved 36 mo leasing option on a 12 passenger vehicle at the amount of \$33,621.

### **Upcoming Committee Meetings**

- a. PEP- Jan. 10, 2016
- b. Gateway- Jan. 14, 2016
- c. Stormwater task force – Jan. 14, 2016

### **Consent agenda**

- a. Approval of Dec. 2, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes was deferred until Jan. 13 until they can be corrected to add Board Policy committee discussion; per Commissioner Kies
- b. Approval of Dec. 2, 2015 Closed Meeting Minutes - carried unanimously

### **Board Business - Old**

- Approval of 2016 Budget Document, Budget and Appropriations Ordinance O-12-15  
Enacts the 2016 budget. Sets the districts legal spending limit. Director Rogers explained that any large expenditures would still come to the Board for individual approval. Passed unanimously.
- The two actions below are based on the Park District strategic plan and were reviewed by the PD Attorney Andrew Payne.
  - a) Approval of 2015 Tax Levy Ordinance O-15-15
  - b) Approval of 2015 Tax Levy Reduction Ordinance O-16-15  
Directs the county clerks on how to spread any tax levy adjustments if actual revenues come in over- or under-budget. Passed with one nay vote.

- Stormwater Management: Commissioner Graf moved and Comm Pelosi seconded to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) regarding the detention basin in York Commons Park. Director Rogers reviewed the content of the joint task force meeting last week. A lengthy discussion ensued.

- City officials suggested the district consider foregoing replacement for three sites and instead work with the city to ask IDNR to make an exception to their policy requiring equivalent replacement green space.

- Director Rogers reviewed the highlights of the York Commons IGA:

a) An extension of the parks shared used of the maintenance facility to coincide with the length of the lease for fire station 2 in York Commons through 2108.

b) Permanent easement to allow City to maintain the basin

c) Temporary easement for construction.

d) Review of agreement at regular intervals

e) The board will be told ahead of time of any necessary demolition. Pre- demo videotape will help to document needed post-construction restoration.

f) Restoration by the city after the detention basin is completed; replacement of trees on a 1-to-1 equivalence basis

g) City has ability to void the IGA if the site is contaminated. In that case the PD will have to deal with the problem.

h) IGA could be cancelled if the city does not begin repairs within two years.

- Lengthy discussion included

a) on shut off valve. One commissioner spoke against requiring the shut-off valve, but there was a general conclusion that a shut off valve is a necessary safety precaution. The City's models are based on 2010 data – these assumptions are outdated due to the large-scale construction of new, oversized homes, the loss of permeable land, etc. There could be a manual shut off valve as backup in case of a power outage. Commissioners Spaeth, Ennis, Pelosi and Kies supported the requirement for a shutoff valve.

b) board agreed to eliminate the requirement for the City to provide recreational improvements in York Commons west lobe, resulting in estimated savings of \$200,000

c) Commissioner Ubriaco posed the following questions:

Does the IGA provide for the removal of the detention basin once the City goes forward with construction a comprehensive stormwater infrastructure? No, it does not.

In other towns there has been a problem with the buildup of toxic substances in the detention basins. Does the IGA have provisions for dealing with this? According to Director Rogers, the IGA provides for annual testing and removal of contaminants. Additional remediation could be provided for as needed.

The Board ultimately approved the York Commons IGA with inclusion of the automatic shut-off valve. Vote was unanimous.

### **Board Business - New**

- Park and Facility Use Ordinance O-14-15 was reviewed for the first time since January 2010. Staff member Laura Guttman presented the following proposed changes to this ordinance which sets out the uses of parkland and authorizes the Elmhurst Police to enforce them. Changes in laws over the past 5 years also affected the regulations (parking, substance use). Sought staff input, Elmhurst Police input into these changes. PD attorney reviewed it.

a) Restrict panhandling

b) Bicycle regulations; motorized vehicles prohibited

c) Sleeping prohibited if it obstructs park use

d) Prohibits printed material being distributed

e) Prohibit all types of aircrafts (drones)

There was a wide-ranging discussion of the ordinance. Question regarding posting of regulations at park entrances – suggestion to post a scannable link to the full ordinance. Closing of parks at dusk except lit areas. Suggestion to ban smoking in the parks. Discussed; will bring it up at future meeting. Adoption of Ordinance was approved unanimously.

### **Commissioner Information items**

Announcements: Staff luncheon, Conservatory display; Wilder open house

Additions to Future agenda

1. Discuss construction of a full service senior center, per Commissioner Ubriaco

2. Possible smoking ban

**Staff Announcements**

**Adjournment** of Public session

**Closed Session**

Meeting-related documents and audio recording can be found here:

**<http://epd.org/park-board/board-meetings/board-meeting-december-16-2015>**