

**BATAVIA PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 17, 2024
CIVIC CENTER – BARTHOLOMEW ROOM**

REGULAR MEETING – The regular meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by President Callahan.

ROLL CALL – President Callahan called for the roll. Commissioners in attendance were Bell, Tilmon, Gray and Callahan. Larson was absent.

Staff in attendance were Director of Finance Brent Strumpf; Director of Facilities and Trades Josh Wyant; Director of Talent and Culture Lynn Boerman; Director of Community Recreation Brittany Meyer; Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Katie Burgess; Executive Director Allison Niemela and Executive Assistant Lindsey Williams.

Legal Counsel Erin Monforti and Batavia Parks Foundation member Erin Pittman were also in attendance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEMS REMOVED/ADDED/CHANGED ON AGENDA – President Callahan motioned to move Item 15A-Executive Session between Item 13-Old Business and Item 14-New Business.

CONSENT AGENDA – President Callahan entertained a motion to establish the Consent Agenda as presented which included approval of the following: Approval of Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting held on November 19, 2024; Approval of Minutes from the Executive Session held on November 19, 2024; Approval of Minutes from the Special Board Meeting held on December 3, 2024; Approval of the Paid Expenditures; Approval of the Expense Approval Report; Approval of the Investment Summary; Approval of the Income Statement; and Approval of Purchases. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray to establish the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as established. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray to approve the Consent Agenda. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

GUESTS - MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC – None.

MATTERS FROM COMMISSIONERS – Commissioner Bell welcomed Director of Finance Brent Strumpf back to the Batavia Park District. Commissioner Gray gave kudos to everyone for the new skate and bike park at the Clark Island Recreation Area.

BATAVIA PARKS FOUNDATION – Foundation Vice President Erin Pittman shared the following updates: 1) Thank you to outgoing Board members: Mike Burke, Nikki Kazadi, Adam Thorne, Laura Basil, Dawn Moecher - Treasurer, Sarah Ryerson - Secretary, and Britta McKenna -

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President. New members were welcomed to the Board: Amy Ogden, Matt Williams, Lindsey Redmon, Nisreen Wakileh, Jamie Lesk - Secretary, and Lindsey Williams - Treasurer. Erin Pittman is the Vice President and Katie O'Brien is the President; and 2) The Peace Projects Fund has been established with the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley. This fund was established for maintenance of the peace projects and any future peace projects. Approval of expenditures will be by a committee of past and present Batavia Parks Foundation Board members and the current Foundation President.

PRESENTATIONS –

A. Hall Quarry Beach Master Plan Conceptual Design

Andrew Caputo and Julia Suriano from Williams Architects and Leon Younger and Paul Parnin from PROS Consulting presented the Hall Quarry Beach Master Plan Conceptual Design.

B. Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operating Budget

Director of Finance Brent Strumpf presented the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operating Budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Burgess shared the following announcements: 1) The popular, winter break, sanity saving, Youth Open Basketball Gym is back from 10 AM to 1 PM on December 23rd, 26th, and 27th for kids ages 12 and under. The cost is \$3 per person. Running, yelling and bouncing balls indoors is encouraged by all; 2) If Santa brings you a new paddle for Christmas, show off your skills during Pickleball Open Gym on December 26th, 27th and 31st from 1 to 4 PM. Evening play is available from 7 to 9 PM on the 29th. All play takes place at the Civic Center. Drop-in fees apply; 3) New this year! Noon Year's Eve Dance Party on December 31st, dancers ages 5-12 are invited to spend the morning learning party dances like the Cha Cha Slide, the wobble and other popular dances. There will be a countdown at noon followed with a balloon Drop Dance Party! Yes! You can drop your kids off for this three-hour supervised event. The cost is \$40 per dancer; 4) The weather outside may be frightful, but historical research is always delightful! If spending time with family this holiday season has you thinking about your roots, schedule some time to do some research at the Gus! The Gustafson Research Center within the Depot Museum is open Monday-Friday 2 to 4 PM by appointment only now through March 1. Call the front desk to secure your time; 5) We've seen your questions on social media- and yes there will be skating on the Depot Pond this year if the temperatures and weather conditions cooperate. You can find the notices for the skating conditions at the pond with the safety flags. When skating becomes available, the District will post on social media and our website; and 6) As a final reminder – Park District programs begin the second week of January. If your New Year's resolution is to get fit, try something new or return to something you love, there is still time to enroll in winter programs. The Fun Guide is available online at bataviaparks.org or as a hard copy at the Batavia Civic Center.

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STAFF REPORTS – Director of Finance Strumpf shared he is working on the 2025 budget and the audit kick-off meeting is scheduled for later this week.

Director of Facilities and Trades Wyant shared the skate park and pump track opened last week and has been highly used. The construction at the Callahan Community Center is progressing with an elevator shaft, interior framing, electrical and plumbing installed. Drywall work will begin within the next few weeks.

Director of Talent and Culture Boerman shared open enrollment has been completed and year-end performance reviews are wrapping up. Seasonal positions for 2025 have been posted including internships. The first round of marketing intern interviews will start later in the week.

Director of Community Recreation Meyer shared Hall Quarry Beach season passes and outdoor rentals will go on sale January 2nd. Meyer also highlighted new contractors for programming including a new theater group for youth and adult theater programming and a new fishing contractor for programming at Clark Island.

Director of Creative Development and Community Engagement Burgess shared the following updates: 1) The Marketing Department has been supporting the District for the new year with updating forms and handbooks; 2) Advertisement support is underway for the Winter Fun Guide program; 3) The Spring Fun Guide is being prepared; and 4) The Marketing Department is preparing to participate in the annual Agency Showcase at the Illinois Park and Recreation Association (IPRA) and Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) state conference in January.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Executive Director Niemela shared a year in review including: 1) Batavia Park District was awarded Distinguished Accreditation at the 2024 IPRA/IAPD State Conference; 2) The District was awarded 1st Place in Large Format Marketing for the mural in the Civic Center and 2nd Place for Best Brochure Series for the Fun Guide at the IPRA/IAPD State Conference; 3) The Fox River Corridor Master Plan was completed in cooperation with the City of Batavia; 4) New carpeting and a refreshed wooden floor were completed at the Batavia Depot Museum. These projects were done in-house by our Facilities and Trades Department; 5) The Batavia Park District provided staff assistance to the City of Batavia to help notify residents of the Mahoney Creek spill; 6) The Facilities and Trades Department assisted with basketball hoop installation at Batavia Apartments. This was funded by CHIP IN Batavia and Batavia Activity and Athletic Foundation (BAAF); 7) The Recreation Department launched our in-house soccer league, Energy City Soccer. The Marketing Department created the new logo for it; 8) The Batavia Depot Museum held a ribbon cutting for the Living History Garden featuring vegetables and perennials historically grown in Batavia with interpretive signage; 9) The Batavia Park District received a Kane County Fab Fox! Grant for the Clark Island canoe launch. This will be started in the spring and will provide boat launch access south of the dam; 10) The construction and grand opening of West Main Community Park's pickleball courts and shelter was completed. There will be instruction, tournaments and events scheduled at these courts next year; 11) The District celebrated park dedications for Peter

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Frieders Park and Coventry Hills Park on August 24th; 12) The District has received a new mini bus with a branded wrap. This bus will be used for summer camp, trips and senior programming; 13) The Marketing Department re-imagined an enhanced sponsorship plan resulting in 78 sponsors in 2024. The Marketing Department has also received a re-organization with Community Engagement Specialist Carolyn Potosnak focusing on sponsorships and the website and Executive Assistant Lindsey Williams picking up social media including Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn; 14) The Peace Rock Garden is complete at the South Riverwalk Plaza. The community can place rocks in the garden. Thirteen organizations checked out rock painting kits from the District and over 1,000 rocks were donated to be placed in the garden. This was a partnership between the Batavia Park District and the Batavia Parks Foundation; 15) A lightning detection system was installed at the Hall Quarry Beach. The close proximity of the detection system also works for events at the Peg Bond Center; 16) The playground at Clark Island was donated to the Kids Around the World Organization; 17) The new outdoor fitness court is open at the Clark Island Recreation Area. The court was part of a fitness grant received by Blue Cross Blue Shield and the National Fitness Campaign. The fitness court is free to the public and you can scan a QR code with your smart phone to download a workout. In the spring, there will be fitness programming at the court; 18) The new skate and bike park at the Clark Island Recreation Area had a soft opening this project was part of a \$600,000 Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) Grant the District received. A new bike repair station will be installed at this location in the spring; this is a partnership with the City of Batavia's Active Transportation Commission. The Grand Opening will take place on April 12th along with the Egg Hunt; 19) A new fishing outcrop station has been installed and is now open at Clark Island with limestone steps; 20) The Facilities and Trades Department completed a paint refresh at the Peg Bond Center; 21) The Peg Bond Center received a new standing seam metal roof; 22) Construction is underway at the Patrick J. Callahan Community Center with Williams Architects and Bear Construction; 22) Payne Woods Park received a winter clean-up with our Parks Department removing invasive species and planting native seeds to enhance the natural beauty of the park; 23) Batavia Park District was named a 2024 Chicago Tribune Top Workplace. This is the fifth time the Park District has received this award. Batavia Park District staff has come together in many ways this past year to support each other; 24) One of the oldest forensic genetic genealogy cases was solved by the Kane County Coroners Office. This was based on a skull donated to the Batavia Depot Museum back in 1979; 25) Tonight the Park Board will have the opportunity to approve the Hall Quarry Beach Master Plan; and 26) Executive Director Niemela wished the Batavia community Peace on Earth and Happy Holidays.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – President Callahan entertained a motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:54 PM. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray to adjourn to Executive Session. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

Regular session resumed at 8:57 PM

OLD BUSINESS – None.

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NEW BUSINESS –

- A. Approval of Ordinance #421: An ordinance providing for the issue of \$411,960 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2024B, and \$411,955 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2024C, of the District for the payment of land for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on the bonds, and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchasers thereof.**

Aaron Gold from Speer Financial presented the bond information to the Board and entertained any questions.

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve Ordinance #421: An ordinance providing for the issue of \$411,960 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2024B, and \$411,955 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2024C, of the District for the payment of land for parks, for the building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the District and for the payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on the bonds, and authorizing the sale of the bonds to the purchasers thereof. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

- B. Approval of Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operating Budget**

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Operating Budget as presented. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

- C. Approval of Ordinance #422: Fiscal Year 2025 Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance**

President Callahan entertained a motion to make Ordinance #422: Fiscal Year 2025 Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance available for public inspection. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

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D. Approval of the Hall Quarry Beach Master Plan Conceptual Design

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the Hall Quarry Beach Master Plan as presented. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

E. Award of Contract for HVAC Preventative Maintenance

President Callahan entertained a motion to award the contract for HVAC Preventative Maintenance to One Source Mechanical, Inc. of DeKalb, Illinois for the total amount of \$14,950. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

F. Approval of Updated Video Surveillance Policy

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the updated video surveillance policy as presented. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

G. Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Batavia for Blanket Easements for Surveillance Cameras

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Batavia for Blanket Easements for Surveillance Cameras as presented. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

H. Approval of Resolution #309: Fiscal Year 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule

President Callahan entertained a motion to approve Resolution #309: Fiscal Year 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule with the amended July date. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

I. Approval of Resolution #310: Semi Annual Review of Executive Session Minutes

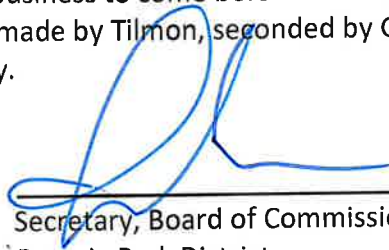
President Callahan entertained a motion to approve Resolution #310: A Resolution Regarding the Release of Closed Session Minutes and Authorizing

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the Destruction of Audio and/or Video Recordings of Certain Executive Sessions as presented. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. The roll was called. Ayes: Tilmon, Gray, Bell and Callahan. Nays: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Larson. Motion carried.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD – None.

ADJOURNMENT – With no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:16 PM. Motion was made by Tilmon, seconded by Gray. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.



Secretary, Board of Commissioners
Batavia Park District

Line prepared by:
Lindsey Williams, Executive Assistant