



## REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

### Board of Park Commissioners

March 9, 2026

7:30 PM – Village Hall Council Chambers

#### Present

**Commissioners:** President Patrick Lahey, Vice President Allison Frazier, Julie Adrianopoli, Julia Goebel, Cecilia Clarke, Mike Murdock (via phone)

**Absent:** Commissioner Patrick Duffy

**Secretary/Executive Director:** Chris Lindgren

**Visitors:** Alan Golden, Walter Keats

#### 1.0 Meeting Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

Commissioner Adrianopoli moves and Commissioner Clarke seconds a motion to bring Commissioner Murdock into the meeting via phone. By a voice vote; **motion carried.**

#### 2.0 Consent Agenda

Commissioner Clarke moves and President Lahey seconds the motion to approve the Consent Agenda of March 9, 2026.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent, Duffy; **motion carried.**

#### 3.0 Communications and Correspondence

There are emails in the packet which the board has responded to.

#### 4.0 Public Comment/Recognition of Visitors

None.

#### 5.0 NSSRA Update from NSSRA Executive Director Craig Culp

President Lahey introduces NSSRA Executive Director Craig Culp. Executive Director Culp gives his presentation to the board.

Commissioner Goebel asks what the park district can do to help further amplify what NSSA does. Craig answers that the number one need of their organization is staff. He emphasizes they pay the same way the park district pays. Commissioner Adrianopoli asks if there is a certain age range served.



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Craig answers that NSSRA serves all age ranges, all abilities. They are all about getting rid of barriers. They are about 49% youth, 51% adult in the number of individuals they serve.

President Lahey asks Director Lindgren to highlight his role with the NSSRA. Director Lindgren answers he sits on the board of NSSRA. Craig highlights the partnership Wilmette Park District has with NSSRA, along with their 12 other partners.

### **6.0 Staff Reports**

#### **6.1 Director's Report**

Director Lindgren gives his report to the board.

#### **2025 Financial Audit**

The District put out a request for proposal in November 2025 for audit services covering the years 2025-2027. The contract was awarded to Lauterbach and Amen in December. The auditors were in our offices the second week of January to test internal controls and returned to our offices earlier this week to complete substantive testing and compile support to issue our 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. We anticipate we will see a draft of the financials by mid-April and will have the final draft out to the Board mid-May in order to have a discussion with the auditors at the May Committee of the Whole meeting. This will give us the time we need to have the financials approved at the June Board meeting.

#### **Vehicle Purchase Resolution**

There is a resolution attached for approval to allow staff to purchase our multipurpose F-450 truck through an off-the-lot purchase, giving the District flexibility to build the truck components independently and bypass a lengthy process to have it all completed through the factory. Specialty vehicles and the upfitting parts have longer lead times and would prevent us from using the vehicle right away. We are confident that this approach will come in within our budget and be available for use sooner. This is a critical vehicle for our daily operations and thus the need to go through an alternative route to accomplish our capital need.

#### **Outdoor Ice Rinks**

Outdoor ice rinks are closed for the season. We operated three outdoor ice rinks this winter at Mallinckrodt Park, Thornwood Park, and Gillson Park. Thank you to our Parks team, who worked around the clock in sub-zero temperatures to build and maintain the ice. This is a very labor-intensive process, and their efforts made it possible for the community to enjoy this amenity.



**Centennial Cooling Tower Update**

Staff continue to work through the suggestions and discussions from the February COW Meeting where we covered the cooling tower replacement at Centennial. This project went through the Village’s zoning commission in February with 7-0 favorable vote for the zoning relief of 13.5’ for the fence height needed around the new cooling tower for sound dampening. Staff are working internally on new renderings that explore public art and potential landscaping options that will be incorporated in a new submittal package for the Village’s consideration and final approval in April.

**NSSRA Update**

I want to thank Craig Culp with NSSRA for coming out to the meeting tonight to give an update on NSSRA’s partnership with us. NSSRA provides the much-needed additional care to those with a need for inclusion services alongside our program staff. This is an invaluable service for the community and we are grateful for this key relationship.

**Staff Reports**

You will see a little shift in how we are presenting staff reports tonight and I hope that this helps streamline our Regular Board Meetings and keep the focus on strategic items where Board action is taken while we utilize the Committee of the Whole Meetings for discussion on matters of the district.

We will continue to have staff reports in the packet so people can read the operational updates we put in those reports.

**6.2 Parks & Planning Report**

Superintendent Wallace gives his report to the board.

**Gillson**

The engineering firm is still finalizing the MWRD closeout. This is anticipated to be completed by the end of April this year. The paving company will be finishing in March. The landscape will be finished by May 22, 2026.

**Langdon**

The engineering firm is still finalizing the closeout documents with MWRD and will be concluded by the end of April.

**Hibbard**

The construction is substantially complete. Over the next several months they will be replacing the punch list items and replacing the surfacing at the ECC playground, weather dependent.



**CRC Reconstruction**

We have reached substantial completion with the construction company. Staff is completing the front desk and entryway.

**Parks**

Ice rinks were open for 16 days this year. Staff monitored the ice and resurfaced as needed. They also did a lot of snow and ice removal and continue to do tree maintenance throughout the district.

**Building Services**

Staff have continued work in the pump room at the pool to prepare for pool season. Fifty ADA compliant faucets were installed at the CRC and West Park this month.

All West Park Staff came together as a team at 5:00 a.m. to The Lawn, the golf restaurant, to refresh the paint prior to the restaurant opening that day. Because the team was able to all come together and help out, the restaurant was able to open on time that day!

Vice President Frazier asks if there is a number of days the ice rinks are typically open each year. It fluctuates every year based on the weather. Vice President Frazier compliments the staff who has worked on the renovation at the CRC. She was at a birthday party in room 107 and said it was a great re-working of space for rentals. Commissioner Adrianopoli asks if there is a way to calculate the cost of labor and water for the ice rinks this year and moving forward. Superintendent Wallace states that cost was tracked this year and we will track each year going forward. Commissioner Clarke asks if staff has considered sustainability when considering liners for ice rinks. Superintendent Wallace adds that in addition to looking into the sustainability aspect of the ice rink liners, staff has looked into the requirements of fencing as well.

**6.3 Golf Report (written report)**

**6.4 Recreation Report**

Superintendent Merrill gives his report to the board.

**Registration**

The number of registrations were about what we expected on registration. Anxiety levels were high going in, as is typical, but families felt supported by Katelynn Putonen, Recreation General Manager, put together a camp open house for families to come in and explore their options, ask questions, and generally get prepared for registration. Our IT team put a system in place that works really smoothly. Also, with increased capacity, more people are getting into the camps of their choice.



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President Lahey congratulates Superintendent Merrill for the changes his staff have made over the past three years to make registration better families. Vice President Frazier says that the tone of the conversation has changed and anxiety has decreased. She applauds the receptiveness of the Recreation Department to feedback.

One of the Zambonis was sent off for repairs and has returned in top shape. The other machine will also be sent off for similar repairs, which means we will not need to purchase a new Zamboni this year.

Commissioner Murdock asks about the two new summer camp programs which filled quickly during registration. Superintendent Merrill explains that we have 2 camps: Wilderness Adventures and Change Her. Change Her is a girl-focused camp put together by our Sports Supervisor, Kathy Chuckas. Wilderness Adventures is camp put together by Coach Max which will be an outdoor adventure camp. They will do some hiking and fishing to get them out into nature.

### **6.5 Operations Report (written report)**

### **6.6 Finance Report**

### **7.0 Unfinished Business**

### **8.0 New Business**

#### **8.1 Consideration of CRC Carpet Installation**

Commissioner Goebel moves and Vice President Frazier seconds a motion to approve the CRC carpet installation for a total of \$34,900.

Director Lindgren explains that some carpet has been replaced as part of the reconstruction, which was covered by insurance. There are some areas with old carpet that will be replaced to match the new carpet. We budgeted \$350,000 in this year's capital improvement plan to take care of items such as this.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent, Duffy; **motion carried.**

#### **8.2 Consideration of Truck Purchase**

Vice President Frazier moves and President Lahey seconds a motion to approve the purchase of an F-350 truck off the lot.



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Commissioner Clarke asks for clarification about the two trucks being purchased. Director Lindgren explains that this is a traditional Ford F-350 truck that we are able to purchase off the state purchasing contract and get it right away. The district is replacing a 13-year-old truck.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent, Duffy; **motion carried.**

### **8.3 Consideration of Dump Truck Purchase Off the Lot**

Commissioner Adrianopoli moves and Vice President Frazier seconds a motion to approve Resolution 2026-R-2, approving the emergency expenditure of funds without competitive bidding for the purchase of an upfitted dump truck for the not-to-exceed amount of \$150,000.

By a roll call vote, voting *Yes*, Commissioners: Adrianopoli, Goebel, Clarke, Murdock, Frazier and Lahey. Voting *No*, none. Abstain, none. Absent, Duffy; **motion carried.**

### **9.0 Adjournment**

Vice President Frazier moves and Commissioner Goebel seconds a motion to adjourn the Regular Board meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners, this March 9, 2026.

**Minutes Approved on: April 13, 2026**