

**GRAYSLAKE COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT
PARK BOARD MEETING**

July 16, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Ryan. Upon roll call the following were:

PRESENT: Commissioners Anderson, Larson, Rodas, Ryan. (Absent: Deal, Kennedy) Staff: Splitt, VanZant, Regnier. (Absent: Muhr, Recording Secretary Shari Raven.)

MOTION: by Larson that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the July 16, 2025 Park Board Meeting Agenda as presented. Second by Anderson.

President Ryan read a nice thank you letter that was received from Charlotte Renehan regarding the Taste of Grayslake and how it is a great community family friendly event. In addition, Ms. Renehan made a donation to the Park District in memory of her birth place – Central Park.

MOTION: by Rodas that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the Consent Agenda to include:

- The Payment of Bills and Payroll from 06-19-25 thru 07-16-25 in the amount of \$730,757.98
- Approval of the June 18, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Second by Larson. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays
Motion passed.

MOTION: By Larson to approve pay request #2 from Chicagoland Paving Contractors, Inc. for a total of \$121,150.31 for the Alleghany Park Tennis, Pickleball and Basketball Court renovation project.

Splitt informed the board that the courts are complete and open to the public. There are a few remaining punchlist items that need to be completed along with the installation of the player benches for the pickleball courts. The contractor should be completing those items in the next few weeks.

Second by Rodas. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No Nays, Motion passed.

Splitt discussed the recent news that Avon Township Youth Baseball Association has made the difficult decision to permanently cease operations of their baseball and softball leagues at the conclusion of the 2025 summer season. Declining participation numbers, lack of volunteer involvement and the stepping down of the current ATYB

president with no one willing to assume the duties all lead to this decision. Participants have been notified and given several options for nearby baseball organizations that they can play in. As far as the property goes, this 10 ½ acre baseball park is owned jointly by the Grayslake Community Park District, Round Lake Area Park District and Avon Township. Splitt has been in conversations with the other owners to discuss a short-term plan and long-range planning for the facility. In the short term, conversations have been initiated with local baseball organization about potential field use in 2026. Those conversations will continue this fall. Long-range planning to develop this park into a community park with multiple different amenities have been discussed and will continue. Splitt will continue to update the board as both the short term and long-range plans progress.

The board reviewed the report of the Executive Director.

Splitt mentioned the Grayslake Summer Days Parade is Saturday, August 16th. Board members should let Splitt know if they can attend.

Splitt updated board members on the Tooterville Bridge. The Village Engineers from Gewalt Hamilton have submitted the permit application to the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Office of Water Resources. The permit requests that this project get turned over to Lake County Stormwater Management Commission for final permitting as it is in their regulatory floodway. The project is still on schedule to be completed sometime later this fall.

Splitt updated the board regarding a projected large increase in Health care benefits for 2026. PDRMA Health's preliminary projections indicate a potential 13% increase for PPO plans and a 10.5% increase for HMO plans. If the projected increases hold, the Park District will need to evaluate options to offset the additional costs. Splitt and VanZant will keep the board updated as this progresses.

The board reviewed the Superintendent of Recreation report

Regnier presented a recap of the Annual Taste of Grayslake and Fireworks event. According to the Placer.ai program, the total visitors throughout the event located in Central and Gelatin parks were 18,790, the peak attendance times were 8 – 10 p.m. and the visit count at 9:00 p.m. for the fireworks was 14,867. The event ran extremely smooth this year, the new layout, additional barriers, moving handicap parking and working closely with Police and Fire all were factors that helped the event run safely and smoothly. Next years event is scheduled for Saturday, June 27th.

Staff are currently developing programs for the Fall Program Guide and will begin entering program materials into Rec Trac towards the end of June. Fall Program Guide will launch online August 5th.

The Golf course had 2,196 rounds of played in June. The first session of Jr. Golf Camp ran very well with wonderful feedback from the parents. Second session already has over 30 golfers enrolled.

Splitt reviewed the Superintendent of Parks report in lieu of Muhr's absence.

After meeting with the Parks Team regarding the Taste of Grayslake event, it was stated that the event was one of the smoothest ran events thus far from their standpoint of set-up, security and clean-up. Preparation for the event was done earlier in the week, additional snow fence was installed to keep people out of the woods and from entering the fireworks area, additional trash receptacles and an extra dumpster, plus additional staff all helped make the clean-up go quickly.

The Parks team planted 6 new trees for the Foundation in three different locations: Jones Island, Sunrise, and Central Park.

The Parks team have been preparing ball fields for the annual AJR Baseball Tournament run thru GYBA. Fields at 5 different parks will be used for the tournament which begins on July 17 and runs until July 20.

The board reviewed the report of the Business Manager.

Camp revenues are on target and projected to exceed budget expectations again this year. Expenditures are currently in line with planned budgets along with higher capital spending which peak in June with the start of our fiscal year.

VanZant mentioned that the entire front office staff is new this year and are all performing exceptionally well. Even though they are all new to their positions, they are working as a strong, effective team.

Ryan announced the August 20, 2025 Park Board Meeting will be at 7:00pm.

MOTION: by Rodas to adjourn at 7:35pm. Second by Larson. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted "aye" No nays. Motion passed.

Adjourned 7:35pm

Ray Larson, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

