

**GRAYSLAKE COMMUNITY PARK DISTRICT  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

November 5, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Ryan. Upon roll call the following were:

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Anderson, Deal, Kennedy, Ryan. (Absent: Larson, Rodas). Staff; Regnier, VanZant, Muhr, Raven

**MOTION:** by Deal that the Park Board of Commissioners approve the November 5, 2025 Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda as presented. Second by Kennedy. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye” No nays. Motion passed.

Public Comment: None

Board Members reviewed the final draft of the annual Financial Report and management letter report for Fiscal Year ending May 31, 2025.

The board will officially approve and adopt the audit at the November 19, 2025 Park Board Meeting.

Board Members reviewed the draft of the Park Districts Treasurer’s Report. This is a comprehensive document prepared from the annual audit to ensure transparency and accountability regarding the district’s financial activities. This report provides the public with detailed insights into the district’s revenue and expenses over the past fiscal year, breaking down where funds were collected and how they were allocated.

Also included is a summary statement of operations for all funds. This statement must be subscribed and sworn to by the public officer preparing it and, within six months after the close of the fiscal year, filed with the County Clerk of the county in which the public officer resides.

This will be brought back to the November 19, 2025 Park Board Meeting for approval.

Board Members reviewed the draft of the 2025 tax levy ordinance to receive property taxes from Lake County for next year.

The tax cap law in Illinois (PTELL) which went into effect in 1991 limits the increase of receipt of tax dollars to local governments to either 5% or the CPI, whichever is lower. CPI for Levy year 2025 is 2.9% Last year it was 3.4%.

The proposed 5% increase in our tax levy is essential to meet the evolving needs of our community, maintain and improve our park facilities, and continue providing valuable services to our residents. We are committed to fiscal responsibility and will ensure that the additional funds are used prudently and transparently. This increase will contribute to the betterment of our community, increase housing values, and make Grayslake a more attractive and enjoyable place to live.

The final levy will be brought back to the November 19<sup>th</sup> Park Board Meeting for approval and adoption.

Split has been reviewing and updating all of our policy manuals as well as our Comprehensive Plan.

The Park Board Policy manual was last amended in 2017 and covers the existing policies of the district as they apply to the Board of Commissioners. In addition, it outlines the Board Members duties, functions, and responsibilities.

There are a few new sections that have been added and recommended by IAPD to be implemented in the new manual.

This will be brought before the board for approval at the November 19<sup>th</sup> Park Board meeting and all board members will need to sign off they have read and understand the policies contained within the manual.

Regnier stated the Recreation Department is pleased to recommend Jim Starwalt for the Friends of the Park Award. For the past five years, Jim has been a generous sponsor of the George Weinert Fishing Derby, but his contributions extend far beyond his sponsorship.

Each year, Jim volunteers countless hours to ensure the event's success. He not only provides financial support but also donates a number of fishing supplies and prizes, helping to make the experience special for every participant. On the day of the derby, Jim can be found right alongside the families-baiting hooks, helping kids learn to cast, and taking fish off lines. His hands-on involvement and enthusiasm create lasting memories for children and foster a true love of fishing and outdoors.

Jim's commitment to our community and to sharing his passion for fishing exemplifies the spirit of the Friends of the Park Award. His generosity, volunteerism, and genuine care for others make him an outstanding ambassador for our parks and programs.

Regnier stated approximately two months ago, she issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the replacement of Brittany Park Playground to four vendors: Team REIL Inc., Burke (PLAY Illinois), NuToys, and GameTime. Each company was asked to provide two playground design options-one suitable for ages 2-5 and another for ages 5-12. All vendors submitted their proposals by October 10.

After a review the eight submitted designs, staff narrowed the selection to two final finalists. These designs were shared with the community through a Facebook survey to gather public input. The district received 206 responses along with valuable feedback from park users. Staff selected the playground design that offers the most diverse and inclusive play opportunities for children of all ages.

At this time, staff respectfully requests the Board's consent to proceed with the purchase of the selected playground equipment for Brittany Park. GameTime has been selected as the vendor, with equipment costs totaling \$84,932.02 and spring installation costs of \$75,640.00, bringing the total project cost to \$160,572.07. Additionally Kids Around the World has agreed to accept the large playground structure currently in place, which helped reduce expenses related to playground removal. This project has been budgeted at \$165,000.

Regnier received the board's consensus to move forward, this will be brought back to the November 19, 2025 meeting for approval .

Splitt updated the board about the College Trail Dam Permit. Splitt received a request from the State of Illinois regarding a permit application that was started in 2006 for the College Trail Lake Dam that was never completed. The dam needs to be permitted per state statute. It was determined that the park district did apply for a permit in 2006 but failed to get the necessary inspection and develop a maintenance plan. Splitt reached out to the Village and asked for their assistance with this issue since the dam is part of their stormwater infrastructure. The Village requested a proposal with Gewalt Hamilton to conduct the inspection and create a maintenance plan. The estimated fee for these items is \$5,200, of which the Village has agreed to split with us.

Upcoming Village Projects on District property:

Splitt had a meeting with Peter Riggs, Director of Public Works & Engineering from the Village to discuss 2 projects that the Village has planned that will occur on or affect park district property.

-Lake Street/Doolittle Park Pond Dredging Improvement: The Village is looking at dredging a portion of the Doolittle pond/wetland area to improve stormwater drainage in that area. This project will be bid as an alternate with other wetland projects and if approved will be taking place in early 2026.

-Millcreek Park/Intersection Improvements at Washington/Atkinson.  
The Village will need to add some compensatory water storage/Swales as a result of the improvements to the intersection of Washington and Atkinson. This project will not occur until summer of 2027.

The annual IAPD/IPRA State Conference will be held January 29-31 at the Hyatt Hotel, Chicago. Board Members should let Splitt know if they will attend.

Ryan announced the November 19, 2025 Park Board Meeting will be at 7:00pm.

**MOTION:** by Kennedy to adjourn at 8:03pm. Second by Deal. Upon roll call all Park Board Members voted “aye ” No nays. Motion passed.

Adjourned 8:03pm.

Ray Larson, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners