BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING

NOVEMBER 21, 2022

 Commissioners present: Baker (arrived at 6:18pm), Breen, Patterson, Remhof, and Vincer.

 Commissioners absent: none.

 Staff present: Brown, Brunner, Dahlberg, deOliveira, Gerke, McCammond, Tucker, and Wombacher.

 Guests present: Kevin Wills, Bernardi Securities.

 The meeting was called to order at 6pm.

 Executive Director Tucker suggested removing Agenda Item 14B, Executive Session 2(C)(5).

 REMHOF MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – ABSENT, AND VINCER – YES.

 President Vincer opened the floor to Kevin Wills of Bernardi Securities, the District’s bond counsel. Kevin explained that this bond sale is “business as usual” for the District. Byron Bank provided the lowest interest rate of 3.25%. Kevin stated that rates are going up. They are higher today than this time last year. There aren’t that many banks buying bonds right now. More retail clients are buying bonds. Kevin stated that Byron Bank’s rate is a fair, reasonable, and competitive rate. Brief discussion followed.

 PATTERSON MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 22-4 PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2022, OF THE BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AND FOR THE LEVY OF A DIRECT ANNUAL TAX SUFFICIENT

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TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST ON SAID BONDS. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – ABSENT, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 BREEN MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 17, 2022. REMHOF – YES, BAKER – ABSENT, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 The correspondence was noted.

 REMHOF MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR OCTOBER 2022. BAKER – ABSENT, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 On behalf of the City of Byron Public Works Department, President Vincer apologized to the staff for the recent water issues at PrairieFire. The City will be implementing a plan so this issue will not happen again.

 Commissioner Baker arrived at 6:18 pm.

 The board and staff discussed the City of Byron proposal regarding acquiring land from the District to build a public works building. It was stated that the City only needs 1.5 acres instead of the 3 acres that was initially requested. The land would be near the City’s current pump station and the Golf Maintenance Department buildings. The path that crosses the driveway to the City building was discussed. It was asked what the District will get for allowing the City to use District land. Putting the clubhouse and pavilion on City sewer for free when it is installed along German Church Road was

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discussed. It was noted that all of these things can be in the agreement, which will be brought to the December board meeting.

 The Bike Path situation was discussed briefly. Commissioner Remhof stated that he will reach out to the land owners now that harvesting is completed for the season.

President Vincer opened the floor to District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports.

Todd Tucker, Administration Services Department-6:48-7:01pm-He informed the board that the District received notification of a neighbor changing his zoning from Ag-1 to Residential. The Board and staff agreed that this isn’t a problem for the District. Todd updated the board on a clubhouse staff situation. Playdays at PrairieView were briefly discussed.

 Janet Dahlberg, Education Department-7:01-7:08pm-She reported that homeschool classes have been going well. She received a call regarding another homeschool group of 75-80 students who want to start have classes. She said that the observatory has had a lot of people attending the public viewing nights. The Byron High School Astronomy Class will be bringing students to the observatory a couple times per week.

 At this time, the board signed the bond sale documents for Kevin Wills.

 Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-7:17-7:27pm-He reviewed photos with the board. There were Halloween on the Prairie photos along with photos of his crew assisting with projects for the Byron Park District, Byron Lions Club, and the Byron Chamber of Commerce. He also had photos of the Bald Hill Barn cleaned up, repaired and in use for storing equipment.

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 Scott deOliveira and Jason Wombacher, Golf Operations-7:27-7:44 pm-The golf course closed no November 10th. End-of-the-year tasks are being completed at the clubhouse. A local bank has booked their Christmas party at the pavilion at $39/person for a steak dinner. PrairieFire is really booked up for Christmas parties along with family and corporate parties. The PF leagues are full and started on November 1st. The PF Invitational went very well with $19,000 being donated to 28 charities. Commissioner Remhof asked if the new facility being opened in Rockford would be much competition. The facility is another simulator facility so it will offer a really different experience than what PrairieFire offers. Simulators tend to attract more golfers than non-golfers due to the technology. Non-golfers and golfers alike enjoy PrairieFire because it’s an actual driving range that has technology for those interested. Commissioner Baker asked about there being 37,720 rounds in 1997 and the other years aren’t even close to that. Scott stated that it could have been the Tiger Woods affect at that time. Director Tucker also explained that with the computer system at that time, there could have been some discrepancies in the record keeping.

 Mike Brown, Golf Maintenance Department-7:44-7:49pm-He informed the board that he and his staff are winterizing the course with blowing out the irrigation lines and aerating the course. They are also getting the equipment ready for spring. He reviewed his photos with the board.

 Director Tucker informed the board that the bid limit for the District has increased to $30,000. This was discussed at the recent legal symposium that he and Shawn attended. The District’s current policy states that the limit is $25,000. Staff recommends that the Bid Specifications Policy be changed to

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state that the limit will be whatever the current legal limit is for the District. If the board approves, the policy won’t have to be changed each time the limit changes.

 REMHOF MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REVISED BID SPECIFICATIONS POLICY AS PRESENTED. BREEN – YES, PATTERSON –YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 BREEN MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION DESIGNATING TODD TUCKER AS THE DELEGATE AND SHAWN MCCAMMOND AS THE FIRST ALTERNATE TO THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF THE ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PARK DISTRICTS TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2023, AT 3:30PM AT THE SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS CONFERENCE HELD AT THE HYATT REGENCY CHICAGO. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 BREEN MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2022 TAX LEVY ORDINANCE AS CONTAINED IN ORDINANCE NO. 22-2. REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 REMHOF MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2022 BUDGET & APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AS CONTAINED IN ORDINANCE NO. 22-3. BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 BAKER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION AT 7:54 PM TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER SECTION 2(C)(1) FOR THE PURPOSE OF Discussion of the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees,

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specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the District or legal counsel for the District, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a

specific individual who serves as AN independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer of the District or against legal counsel for the District to determine its validity AND UNDER SECTION 2(C)(11) FOR THE PURPOSE OF Discussion of litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the District has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the District finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. BREEN –YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 BAKER MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:17 PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 BREEN MOVED AND BAKER SECONDED A MOTION AT 8:18 PM TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Chris Remhof, Secretary

 Board of Commissioners

CR/mg