BYRON FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING

OCTOBER 16, 2023

Commissioners present: Baker, Breen, Patterson, Remhof, and Vincer.

Commissioners absent: none.

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

Guests present: none.

The meeting was called to order at 6 pm.

President Vincer stated that Agenda Items 15B and 15C Executive Session can be removed from the agenda.

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

President Vincer opened the Public Hearing pursuant to the requirements of Sections 10 and 20 of the Bond Issuance Notification Act of the State of Illinois, as amended on the plans to issue General Obligation Bonds, Series 2023 in the amount not to exceed $1,775,000. There were no comments from commissioners or oral or written testimony from the public. President Vincer announced that all persons desiring to be heard have been given an opportunity to present oral or written testimony with respect to the proposed issuance of bonds.

BREEN MOVED AND BAKER SECONDED A MOTION AT 6:03 PM TO ADJOURN THE PUBLIC HEARING. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

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REMHOF MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2023, AND THE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 2, 2023. REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – ABSTAIN, AND VINCER – YES.

The correspondence was noted.

President Vincer opened the floor to Shawn McCammond to discuss the Financial Reports. He explained that the tax drop that the District recently received was a little short due to the ComEd agreement. He noted that it will be resolved soon and we will receive the balance due. He stated that the general and golf funds are doing very well. Brief discussion followed.

BREEN MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2023. BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

There was no President’s report.

President Vincer opened the floor to District Department Heads to present their Staff Reports. Director Tucker was not in attendance to report due to having shoulder surgery. Janet Dahlberg, Education Department-6:14-6:23 pm-She stated that Preschool is going well. They took a field trip to the apple orchard, and they recently celebrated Fire Prevention Week. She noted that she hired more part-time staff, and they helped her lead many field trips over the last few weeks. Observatory

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attendance has been okay; the weather has not been very good for public viewing. She reviewed her photos with the board.

Russell Brunner, Restoration/Maintenance Department-6:23-6:33pm-His crew is working on brush projects since weed season is over. They are preparing for burn season. He noted that Commissioner Remhof’s volunteer project was rained out. Commissioner Remhof noted that his company will be installing a solar panel field. Since they will be removing trees, maybe he can convince them to make a donation for tree plantings through the Ogle Natural Areas Alliance. Russ reviewed his photos with the board.

Scott deOliveira and Jason Wombacher, Golf Operations-6:33-6:53pm-Scott reported that there have been many tournaments and events. The season is winding down for the course. The pavilion has been busy with facility rentals. Weekday golfers have increased at PrairieFire. Holiday parties are being booked, several returning from last year. The new shed is almost complete. Scrambles at PrairieFire will begin soon and they will be doubling the amount from last year. President Vincer asked about “speed golf” being promoted by Mark Wahlberg. Commissioner Patterson asked about winter leagues. Brief discussion followed. Scott reviewed a few photos with the board.

Mike Brown, Golf Maintenance Department, was not in attendance to present a verbal report.

There was no discussion or action regarding the City of Byron Public Works building site.

President Vincer stated that the board will act on the director’s search by the end of this year.

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The board decided to table any action regarding the IAPD Credentials Certificate until the November meeting.

BAKER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION AT 6:58 PM TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER SECTION 2(C)(1) OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION OF THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES, 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. HOWEVER, A MEETING TO CONSIDER AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION TO A SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE OF THE DISTRICT THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT WAGE INCREASE TRANSPARENCY ACT MAY NOT BE CLOSED AND SHALL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND POSTED AND HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT. BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

BREEN MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION AT 7:46 PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – YES, BAKER – YES, BREEN – YES, AND VINCER – YES.

REMHOF MOVED AND PATTERSON SECONDED A MOTION TO MODIFY THE DIRECTOR’S CONTRACT AS PRESENTED IN PAY STRUCTURE A. REMHOF – YES, BAKER – NO, BREEN – NO, PATTERSON – NO, AND VINCER – NO.

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VINCER MOVED AND BREEN SECONDED A MOTION TO MODIFY THE DIRECTOR’S CONTRACT AS PRESENTED IN PAY STRUCTURE B. BAKER – NO, BREEN – YES, PATTERSON – YES, REMHOF – NO, AND VINCER – YES.

BREEN MOVED AND REMHOF SECONDED A MOTION AT 7:50 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