

Crete Park District  
Board of Commissioners  
Minutes  
March 16, 2016

President Johnson called the budget meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call: Mike Smith, Patty Wiater, Rita Piepenbrink (6:45 PM) and Linda Johnson

Others Present: Therese Hale, Secretary/Assistant Director, Patricia Polzin, Director, Mayor Einhorn (6:40 PM), Steve Johnson (7 PM), and Andy Biesterfeld, Supt of Maintenance

Director Polzin reviewed the 16-17 budget. Garret and Gordon Park will be done this year and Lion's Park was completed last year. The mailing of the brochures is done by our Park Pals nonprofit so this lowers our postage cost. Supt. Biesterfeld pointed out the Maintenance Equipment rental is for the mower we rent each year. Our tree budget for the last few years has been spent on the Oak Leaf Court property, clearing dead trees that hang over a neighbor's home and yard. Biesterfeld discussed softball tournaments and President Johnson pointed out there are a lot of fliers that come through the Jr. High. She would like to see us begin advertising there as well. Micro Soccer currently has 240 kids so our sports budget is up. We are looking into a rental situation for our Heritage Park concession stand. We haven't made much money, but have been approached by the American Legion to use our building. Director Polzin will follow up. Part of our long range plans include putting in parking lot lights for the south end of the Heritage Park parking lot. Commissioners discussed adding electrical outlets to use during t-ball season.

Commissioner Smith discussed the telephone bill and urged Director Polzin to check into the rates because the Village of Crete just saw a large jump. Smith discussed various types of phone systems and options for the park. A list of capital projects was presented for each capital line item. President Johnson asked to have the spread sheet updated. Completing Garret and Gordon Park are both on the list including concrete curbing. Installation is approximately \$15,000 per park. Director Polzin discussed a product called Porous Pave that we are looking at for the bike trail. The north end of the Bike Trail is in need of assistance. Supt. Biesterfeld said he thinks there are tree roots pushing up on the path. This new product is more expensive than asphalt, but less expensive than concrete and is said to last as long as concrete. Commissioners discussed the freeze/thaw and Biesterfeld said it is in use at Michigan State University and has held up well, stating it has also lowered their salt use.

Commissioners discussed the Handicapped Fund and Commissioner Piepenbrink stated she would not support it without it going to referendum. Commissioner Wiater and President Johnson agreed they would like to make a decision to either follow through or drop the discussion. The parks portion of this tax levy can be used for curbing, handicapped equipment, sidewalks and several other options, so the money would be put to good use. Director Polzin discussed Crete Township payments for Township Residents, excluding Crete Park District Residents. This winter season they paid SSSRA \$1600. Director Polzin is questioning why they are only paying on a portion of the residents and excluding our residents. She has left a message

with the township and hasn't heard back. Next month a representative from the school district and SSSRA will be attending the meeting. Commissioner Piepenbrink stated without a referendum she feels it is taxation without representation and she will not vote yes. Commissioner Wiater asked Director Polzin to get the dates and costs to place a question on the ballot.

President Johnson called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call: Mike Smith, Patty Wiater, Rita Piepenbrink (6:45 PM) and Linda Johnson

Others Present: Therese Hale, Secretary/Assistant Director & Patricia Polzin, Director, Mayor Einhorn (6:40 PM), Steve Johnson (7 PM) and Andy Biesterfeld

Pledge of Allegiance

**Recognition of Visitors:** Mayor Einhorn and Steve Johnson discussed the new iron filtration system and the need to place a building at Swiss Valley Park. It is a \$4.2-million-dollar project and a larger building will be needed, including some storage area. It will basically be the size of a 2 car garage. Commissioners discussed the placement of the building and moving the swings to the north side so the playground isn't so close to the building. Mayor Einhorn said they have been investigating systems for a long time and Commissioner Smith found the one they chose in Warrenville IL. It is the simplest operation and the best system for long term use. The Village will discuss moving the swings, putting in concrete curbing, mulching the area and adding a light to the building. Director Polzin also requested some storage room inside this building for Park District use.

**Piepenbrink moved and Smith seconded a motion to give the Village permission to place a building at Swiss Valley Park as discussed. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted aye.**

Director Polzin was instructed to get the new playground design together and send it to the Village. Mayor Einhorn said they hope to begin construction in the Spring of 2017.

**Smith moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to approve the Minutes from Feb 17, 2016 with corrections as requested. All Commissioners present voted aye.**

**Wiater moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to approve the Accounts Payable and Payroll as presented. Questions were answered and on a roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted aye.**

**Secretary's Report:**

Account balances and financial statements were presented. The next regular meeting will be held on April 20 at 7 PM.

**Wiater moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to approve the Meeting Ordinance number 15-16-07. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners voted aye.**

Treasurer Hale presented a draft of the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance. Attorney Lulich is currently reviewing the document.

**Wiater moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to set the Budget & Appropriation Hearing for April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. On a roll call vote all Commissioners present voted aye. Secretary Hale was instructed to place the notice in the newspaper and on the website as required by law.**

**Recreation Report:** The Egg Hunts are this weekend. We have over 10,000 eggs stuffed and ready to go. Commissioner Piepenbrink likes the addition to the report regarding the status of classes.

**Maintenance Report:** We will be interviewing for the new positions this week. We feel there are some worthy candidates. We advertised locally with Russel Publication in Crete, Beecher, Peotone and Grant Park and on social media. Supt. Biesterfeld discussed turf damage at Heritage Park.

**Long Range:** We are in the process of updating the long range list and Director Polzin will present it next month.

**Personnel/Finance:** Wiater asked to move this to executive session.

**Attorney's Report:** None

**Director's Report:** Director Polzin discussed grants she is applying for, passed out Crete maps and IAPD Cards. She is researching SCORP to help us with outdoor grants. Commissioner Piepenbrink requested a written report on this.

Director Polzin said the Wi-Fi expansion prices came in and Crete is \$7000 and Heritage is \$12,000. She explained how much information we can gather through these gateways. This would allow us to choose our advertising to meet the interests of our customers. The internet service in our building is not constant and lowers drastically from 2:30-3:30 PM. We will be looking into other alternatives.

Comed information was mailed as directed. Director Polzin met with ICRMT about safety and was able to take some classes she will be forwarding to Supt. Biesterfeld.

Pictures of Gordon and Garrett playgrounds were presented. Also, putting an addition on the WWPC has been part of our long range plans since 2004. The last expansion was large and the estimate was \$2 million. We would like to try again and add just the office space we need right now, adding 1500 square feet to the west. This will give us a waiting room, and all the employees will have an office. Commissioner Smith suggested we look into cubbies. Director Polzin would like to see the office walls removable so if we ever get a recreation center the space can be used for meeting rooms. She also discussed adding another driveway to the west of the building giving us a circle drive, one way in and one way out. Biesterfeld pointed out there is a deep hill that makes it difficult to pull in and out on the east side. Commissioners

asked that Director Polzin begin looking into prices to get drawings. Commissioner Piepenbrink agreed we need the expansion.

**Wiater moved and Johnson seconded a motion to get an RFP for drawings to expand the building. They would like to see us get prices with and without a basement. All Commissioners present voted aye.**

President Johnson would like to see an updated Long Range Plan. She would like to see our vision regarding a rec center. Director Polzin feels frustrated that we are offering open gym and barely anyone is attending. Additional advertising was discussed. Polzin said we are also looking at flooring for the building. Director Polzin said we are looking at renting out Heritage Park Concession space for parties. It is now used for storage. It might be a nice addition to the shelter rentals, giving them a refrigerator and microwave and limited indoor seating. The shelter seats between 80-100 people and building only 25. Director Polzin talked with Speer Financial and Attorney Lulich regarding the ability to bond and different kind of bonds. We discussed borrowing \$2 million and not doing our annual issue. Speer Financial would like to come out and speak with the board.

We will be having some changes in our preschool staff this fall. Shareen Smith will still be the Director and 4-year-old teacher, Kerry will be the 3-year-old teacher with Jill and Veray will be assistants.

Next month we will have SSSRA and an employee from the school district coming to give us more information. Commissioner Piepenbrink requested a report in writing, not with names, but addresses of where these 200 people live that are in our District and in need of this service.

**M. Smith moved and Wiater seconded a motion to grant the easement as requested by Comed. On a roll call vote, all Commissioners present voted aye.**

**Presidents Report:** President Johnson thanked the staff for all their hard work.

Wiater moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to move into Executive Session at 8:28 PM for the purpose of 2 ©1, the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. All Commissioners present voted aye.

Wiater moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to move out of Executive Session at 10:10 PM. All Commissioners present voted aye.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** The Park Tour was scheduled for June beginning at 5 PM.

**Smith moved and Piepenbrink seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:12 PM. All Commissioners present voted aye.**