DES PLAINES PARK DISTRICT
REGULAR PARK BOARD MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 22, 2026

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**
President Erin Doerr called to order the regular meeting of the Park Board for September 22nd, 2026 at 6:00 PM. Commissioners answering present to the roll call in person were Commissioner Grady, Vice President Jana Haas, Commissioner Alan Osinski and President Erin Doerr.

Staff present were Executive Director, Donald Miletic; Director of Revenue Facilities and Recreation, Brian Panek; Director of Parks & Planning, Aurelio Marquez; Director of Business, Nahid Khumawala; Director of Administration & HR, Nicole Dale and Superintendent of Administration, Liz Vinakos.

Guests Present: Sydnee Marks from Lauterbach & Amen and guests as listed on sign in sheet.

2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – Vice President Haas made a motion to change Agenda Item 9-A, with Lauterbach & Amen, to after Agenda Item 5, Approval of the Consent Agenda.**

Second by: Commissioner Grady

All in Favor, Opposed
Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1
Motion Carried: 4-0-1

3. **PRESENTATIONS** – None

4. **COMMENTS FROM THE COMMUNITY**
James Carl: Discussed the letter read at previous the Board meeting by Commissioner Grady and questioned why it was read by Commissioner Grady, mentioning he was absent from that meeting. Questioned why notes from community are shorter and more vague from the community compared to responses from Commissioners.

Commissioner Grady voluntarily provided response that the letter was prepared in response to clearing up information that has been misconstrued and inaccurate, he wanted to show concerns are taking seriously.

5. **APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA**
A. REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – August 18, 2026
B. EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES – August 18, 2026
C. SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – None

D. VOUCHER BILLS:
August 14, 2026 $ 679,708.29
August 28, 2026 $ 498,691.38
E. PAYROLL:
August 07, 2026 $ 534,252.60
August 21, 2026 $ 453,652.16

Motion by Commissioner Osinski to approve the Consent Agenda for September 22, 2026, as listed.
Seconded by: Commissioner Grady

Discussion: None

Roll call: Commissioner Haas, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, NP; Osinski, Aye
Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1
Motion Carried: 4-0-1

6. **NEW BUSINESS**
A. Action Item 9 – A: Approval of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for fiscal year ending April 30th, 2026

Sydnee Marks from Lauterbach & Amen summarized the ACFR for the Board of Commissioners including discussion of the GFOA award in financial excellence, that an independent financial report was conducted, and that the Park District received an unmodified opinion. An unmodified opinion means that there are sound internal controls, the reports were free of concerns, and it is the highest level to award. She went on to discuss the debt service and short-term payoff of GO bonds showing strong financial strength, IMRF is well funded at 100.14 %, management letter comments, and provided the Board with information regarding upcoming GASB standards.

Commissioner questions included what the client threshold for a large capital asset is considered.
Director Khumawala described the increase in net position, decrease in debt, and the overall healthy financial position of the District. Executive Director Miletic described the IMRF pension fund and how full-time employees are required to participate in IMRF as regulated through the State, not through the Park Board as the public might think. He also reiterated the comments by the auditor that we are funded at 100.14% and yes our debt is very low which will allow the new Executive Director to do projects for the community.

Motion by Vice President Haas for the Des Plaines Park District Board of Commissioners to approve the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for fiscal year ending April 30th, 2026, as presented.

Second by: Commissioner Grady

Roll call: Commissioner Haas, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, NP; Osinski, Aye
Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1
Motion Carried: 4-0-1

7. **M-NASR REPORT** - None

8. **MONTHLY REPORTS**
A. Executive Director:
Executive Director Miletic discussed plans for a possible future project pertaining to the building of gymnasiums at Prairie Lakes Community Center. He discussed two models; one included an open area between gyms and community center due to a drainage pipe. Mentioned challenges District has with available space for programming. Discussed beginning talks amongst staff regarding comprehensive master plan and additional programming space. Stated he directed Staff to think at a high level for future projects as the next Executive Director will value that information as he or she takes over. The second concept discussed included a south building connected by a small vestibule, allowing access to the underground pipe. Executive Director Miletic stated the pipe helps mitigate flooding and the Park District has detention ponds for this as well. We work with the City for flood mitigation while other groups like the school districts do not. In addition, he stated schools need to use their gyms for their own programs and rightfully so need to maintain high level of security for the students. These are major factors, along with not being able to program on the weekends for the Park District to build gyms for future growth. Executive Director Miletic applauded staff on the amazing effort for Fall Fest. Summarizing summer operations, Arndt pool was open an extra week and Mystic Waters was open through Labor Day for its second year. We generated 30k over weekend at Mystic Waters. Looking at restoring slides to extend useful life at Mystic. Executive Director Miletic discussed that initial research showed a replacement cost of approximately $1,000,000 proposed by vendors for the slides. However, since the slides are structurally sound, the alternative

restoration project may only cost $100,000 and extend the useful life by 20 years. A new liner in deep well pool. Looking at mechanical replacements as well. Stated pipes are biggest issue for repairs every year before we open, but the City helps with the use of their vactor Truck. Finally stated that he is meeting with Rivers Casino for a possible grant opportunity for scoreboards and we are working on the Oakwood conceptual design that will be coming.

Commissioner Comments: None

B. Facilities and Recreation:
Director Panek discussed the pools, as hours were extended. A survey was conducted for pool openings, Des Plaines Park District had the only pool open 7 days a week through Sept 13th. Stated he was appreciative of staff for making it happen. Stated for the Board that direct costs for pool staff include over $600 a day for Arndt and Mystic is approximately $2,000. There are some more indirect cost. Stated swim lessons expanded by 190 more slots. Mentioned that District Fall programming began. Summarized soccer and dance increases, all numbers are looking good and 37 dance classes are being held 6 days a week. Finally preschool numbers are up. Sent out surveys for camp, looking at updates to benefit residents for next year.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioners inquired about the new event Tie-Dyed pool party asked if there is interference with pool schedules. It was mentioned most events are after pool hours. Closed with discussion on IGA with Glenview Golf Center allowing resident rate reciprocity.

C. Director of Parks and Planning:
Director Marquez stated that the special projects team has been installing new memorial benches and concrete pads. Staff has been working on sound baffling options for the studio at Prairie Lakes Community Center. Discussed looking at installation of benches for swim lessons at the aquatic center. Further discussed the demolition and improvements of new hardscape at the Golf Center. Netting has been replaced in the batting cages at Mountain View. Finally, regarding Fall Fest, stated team has been getting pretty good at it, and the Recreation team helped break down the set together with his team.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner inquired about the vendors and the weather, as well negotiations about the use of the Abbott parking lot for event parking. Executive Director Miletic commented we only need to pay for two officers to patrol Abbott lot now, that is a savings.

D. Business: Director of Business:
Director Khumawala opened by thanking former Director Curtis for giving transition days during her onboarding and thanked Executive Director Miletic for giving her this opportunity. Director Khumawala stated that the closing of August financials has been going well. Gave kudos to her team for their work and wanted to acknowledge how fantastic each member is. Mentioned TeeUp and that they are working on the redesign of log in and registration pages and these enhancements will be released. Discussed ability to do partial refunds, and full refunds through TeeUp and these releases are coming in November. Discussed team cross training and that Old National Bank will have an enhanced online platform; Des Plaines has been selected for their pilot program. Stated this will be able to streamline processes and account reconciliation solutions. Stated that the audit went well. BS&A cloud implementation is upcoming with November 2026 and will work on the training program for users. Further stated that preliminary data has been extracted and everything should migrate easily on cloud. Finally stated Fall Fest went well, kudos to staff and team members, mentioned the diversity of the Staff and Board and that we should take pride in our District.

Commissioner Comments:

None

D.1 Financial Reports

Motion made by Commissioner Osinski to approve the financial report for September 22, 2026, and place a copy on file subject to audit.

Second by: Commissioner Haas

Commissioner Comments: None

Roll call: Commissioner Haas, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, NP; Osinski, Aye
Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1
Motion Carried: 4-0-1

E. Director of Administration & HR:
Director Dale stated that the team will be working on the expansion of PayCom modules. This includes a new learning management system, performance management, asset management, and surveys. They are starting with configuration of the learning management system. There will be better reporting and the ability to track electronically through PayCom. Stated that she hosted the IMRF all staff semiannual meeting and training. Don, Liz, Adam and Nicki presented content to staff. Also mentioned the Steps Challenge that runs across multiple districts and provides donations to local food pantries. Finally mentioned the team is working on PDRMA goals including confined entry inventory in October. Stated Fall Fest was great despite rain.

Commissioner Comments: None

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
A. Algonquin Road Bridge – No comments

10. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Self Help Closet and Pantry Thank You
B. Pool Staff thank you from community members

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

President Doerr:
President Doerr stated that Fall Fest is a tradition in Des Plaines, rain or shine. Recognized the hard work and wet feet of staff and that this was Don's (Executive Director) last Fall Fest before retirement. Stated that this was a good year for camaraderie. Thanked everyone for the hard work.

Vice President Haas:
Vice President Haas stated that Woodlawn Park looks really good. Stated that there should be a check mark next to Owen from the aquatics department, he is always responsive and smiling. Stated that Fall Fest takes a lot of time and effort and people come from all over the suburbs to see what we do in Des Plaines. Thanked everyone for all the hours last weekend.

Commissioner Osinski:
Commissioner Osinski gave a shout out to swim staff for opening up more slots for swim school. Stated that the social media post for Fall Fest was great and there also was a good strategic follow up to the posts. Gave a shout out to the marketing team. Also gave a shout out to the team for the OSLAD grant, stated he is thankful for the effort put into the submission

Commissioner Grady:
Commissioner Grady stated that Friday was good at Fall Fest and there was a slowdown Saturday. Continued that patrons have been saying the TeeUp system is great. Stated that staff did a great job being there in the mud and rain and those who showed up had great time for Fall Fest.

12. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**
Motion by Vice President Haas at 7:09 to enter Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(6) for the purposes of discussing the setting of a price for sale or lease of property owned by the Park District and pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) for the purposes of discussing personnel matters.

Second by Commissioner Grady

Roll call: Commissioner Haas, Aye; Doerr, Aye; Grady, Aye; Williams, NP; Osinski, Aye
Ayes: 4, Nays: 0, Absent: 1
Motion Carried: 4-0-1

13. **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:**
Motion by Commissioner Grady to close Executive Session and return to regular session at 8:02 pm.
Second by Commissioner Osinski

All in Favor, Opposed
Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1
Motion carried: 4-0-1

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by: Vice President Haas at 8:02 pm to adjourn

Second by: Commissioner Grady

All in Favor, Opposed
Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Absent: 1
Motion carried: 4-0-1

MINUTES APPROVED
October 20th, 2026

President

Secretary