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**NILES PARK DISTRICT**  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
Tuesday, January 20, 2026  
6:00 pm

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Board Members present: Jim Hynes, President  
Ronnie Strzelecki, Vice President  
Scott O'Brien, Commissioner

Staff Members present: Tom Elenz, Executive Director  
Heather Petrie, Executive Admin. Coordinator  
Scot Neukirch, Finance Director  
Robin Brey, Recreation Programs  
Jackson Theil, Tam Tennis Manager  
Chris Czajka, Grounds Superintendent  
Marty Stankowicz, IceLand Manager  
Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director  
Julie Jentel, Marketing  
Peter Dubs, Golf Course Club House  
Eric Aguayo, Golf Course Superintendent

Jamie Baer, Attorney

1. **Call to order**  
President Hynes called the regular board meeting to order on Tuesday, January 20th at 6:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call**  
Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll. Treasurer Genualdi and Commissioner LoVerde were absent.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**  
President Hynes led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.
4. **Changes to the Agenda**  
Staff would like to move agenda item 9.E. to before approval of the consent agenda.

**E. Discussion/Approval of a plaque honoring Oak School**

Alumni from the Oak School Committee were present to ask for a plaque to be placed at Oak Park honoring Oak School. The cost of the plaque is being covered by a Go Fund Me campaign organized by the alumni. The alumni committee thanked the Board for considering their request.

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Brien and seconded by President Hynes to approve the installation of a commemorative plaque at Oak Park for Oak School. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien      Yes

Vice President Strzelecki     Yes  
 President Hynes                Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**5. Consent Agenda Approval**

Minutes of the 2025 Budget Workshop; Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, November 18, 2025; and Voucher List as presented November 30, 2025 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$114,633.92
Recreation	\$131,946.40
Ice Rink	\$20,277.93
Swimming Pool	\$74,507.40
Golf Course	\$26,019.87
IMRF	-
Debt Service Fund	\$475.00
General Liability	\$15,161.00
Paving & Lighting	\$34.53
Police Protection	\$108.00
Handicapped	-
Capital	-
Audit	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$383,164.05</b>

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O’Brien to accept the minutes of the 2025 Budget Workshop; Regular Board Meeting of Tuesday, November 18, 2025; the Voucher lists as presented, November 30, 2025; and the voucher list as presented, December 31, 2025 – summary by fund:

General Fund	\$113,451.32
Recreation	\$173,544.59
Ice Rink	\$55,722.21
Swimming Pool	\$20,809.34
Golf Course	\$26,009.42
IMRF	-
Debt Service Fund	-
General Liability	\$207,538.00
Paving & Lighting	\$286.80
Police Protection	\$803.00
Handicapped	\$47.65
Capital	\$330,788.20
Audit	-
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$929,000.53</b>

Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O’Brien        Yes  
 Vice President Strzelecki    Yes  
 President Hynes                Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

6. **Treasurer's Reports**

Finance Director Neukirch read the treasurer's reports for the months ending November 2025 and December 2024.

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to accept the November 2025 treasurer's report. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to accept the December 2025 treasurer's report. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

7. **Reports of Park Officials**

**A. President's Report**

There was no President's report, but President Hynes congratulated and acknowledged Marty Stankowicz for the tournament win that Iceland had over the weekend.

**B. Attorney's Report**

There was no Attorney's report.

8. **Board Reports**

**Robin Brey, Programs Supervisor**

- Winter Break camp was well attended over the holiday break at both Oasis and Howard.
- K pop dance camp was held on 1/19 for the holiday with both a morning and afternoon session.
- Preschool Open House will be February 4th from 5-7pm at both Howard Leisure Center and Oakton Manor. Registration will open that evening. Marketing the program will be ongoing from now until the start of the school year in August.
- Upcoming Special Event, the Little Ladies Dance will be held on two nights 2/7 & 2/8.

**Jackson Theil, Tam Tennis**

- Classes are well underway and going strong. We had our winter signups on December 6th. They went smoothly. We expanded our Holiday camps for the two weeks between class sessions and they were popular. So we plan to run them similarly in the future.
- Budget o Revenue increase to finish the year compared to 2024 is up \$70,183. We have made our budget for the year.
- Revenue Increase from 2024 o Private Lessons: \$13,733 o Junior Tennis: \$23,500 o Fitness: \$10,475 o Non-Resident Memberships: \$7,988 o Court Fees: \$18,539

- Junior Programs ○ Class signups happened with high enrollment and satisfaction. Our Thanksgiving camps were received warmly. We ran a Junior Holiday camp during the Christmas and New Year's Weeks which also was well received. 93% enrollment in classes
- Adults Programs
- Class signups happened with high enrollment and satisfaction. We added a new Thursday class due to the demand. 98% enrollment in classes
- Private Lessons ○ Private lessons continue to be very popular with it being cold outside.
- Memberships ○ Fitness and Tennis enrollment continues to be up compared to last year.
- Fitness Programs - General increases were given.

### **Marty Stankowicz, IceLand**

- Our winter sessions for skating and hockey classes started January 3rd. and run 10 weeks until mid March. All skating classes are again full and the ice is at max capacity.
- During the holiday break Iceland was busy every day. Both indoor and outdoor rinks were used every day for Public, open hockey, Ranger practices and rentals.
- Public skates on Saturday and Sunday in January have been very busy. The ice is at max capacity and rental skates are nearly sold out.
- This year I again have partnered with Ultimate tournaments, renting them ice for outdoor hockey tournaments played at Iceland and Rosemont. All weekend ice on the outdoor rink has been contracted.
- The Holiday Ice Show and New Years Eve skate were a big hit. The Holiday Show had over 660 spectators for two shows.
- Registrations are currently being accepted for our skating competition, Sweetheart Open schedule for February 7th and 8th

### **Chris Czajka, Superintendent of Grounds**

- Brought in all garbage cans and picnic tables for repairs and painting / They are currently back in all our parks
- Took down our holiday displays and stored them away for next season
- I'm currently getting price quotes for bulk turf for our ball fields / Also getting price quotes for wind screens for our pickle ball courts and back stops at our ball fields
- Snow removal and salting in our parking lots and park paths as needed
- We removed Washington, Greenwood and Oakton manor park signs and brought them back to our shop for restoration
- Cleaning and organizing shop in preparation for our new shop flooring
- Working on all our equipment for next season
- Cleaning up and reorganizing our back yard
- Playground inspections and repairs

### **Scot Neukirch, Finance Director**

All the necessary paperwork has been filed with the County concerning the Park District's tax levy and appropriation ordinances. All the required debt service payments have been made and the abatement ordinances as well. Staff has started collecting the documents for the 2025 audit with Sikich. Required year end documents such as W 2s, 1099s and other routine financial year end and new year department responsibilities and various financial subsystems are either completed or well under way.

### **Jim Majewski, Park Services**

- Grennan gym fire exit doors, Tam Golf cart storage doors, and two front doors at Iceland have been replaced
- The Howard lower-level multipurpose room floor was sanded down and refinished over the Holiday break
- Working on pricing for the Howard Leisure center Generator
- Working on bids for upcoming spring and summer paving and tennis court projects

#### **Carl Steffen, Park Patrol**

- One officer was added to help cover open gym during winter break at Golf View and LoVerde.

#### **Julie Jentel, Marketing**

- I am currently in the early stage of putting together the 2026 Summer Camp Guide and Summer Fun Guide. Staff is updating their sections.
- Supporting departments with daily marketing needs and promoting upcoming classes and events.
- Due to the number of spring programs, I am developing a schedule so flyers, emails, and socials can be sent out efficiently.

#### **Kenny Krueger, Athletic Director**

- Session 1 of our Indoor Soccer and Flag Football league just ended. There are no breaks between sessions and we pick up with Session 2 team meetings/jersey pass-out and practices last weekend and this upcoming one.
- Winter Basketball registration ended 2 weeks ago. We're putting together rosters and schedules for the league which begins February 7<sup>th</sup> and runs through mid-April.
- Dodgeball started on Friday, January 9<sup>th</sup>. We have 106 teams and over 1400 kids coming through the GH, GV and LV gyms on Friday nights.
- Other programs that have either completed or are just getting started are Small Shots Basketball, VTBT, pickleball lessons and our Strikers FC winter trainings.
- We've already begun planning for spring programs, intern interviews and summer sports camp field trips.

#### **Peter Dubs, Golf Course Club House**

- Off-season tasks are in full swing. We have already begun taking out deposits for the coming summer.
- Our seasonal printed golf guide will be available by the end of the month.
- Our website has been updated with 2026 rates and spring instructional programs...Our full season of class schedules will be added in the coming weeks.
- League and permanent tee time contracts will be sent out to group coordinators by the end of the month.
- We'll be assessing our staffing needs and adding any personnel in the next month or two in order to be ready for our upcoming opening, which if the weather is on our side, will hopefully be sometime in March.

#### **Eric Aguayo, Golf Course Maintenance**

- Winter maintenance is in full swing, our reel mowers got sharpened and adjusted and are ready for the start of the golf season.
- We are currently servicing all our golf carts, mowers, tractors, and any piece of equipment that needs to be serviced.
- We are attending winter workshops and seminars for continuing education.

- Planning and ordering materials for the upcoming season.

9. **New Business**

**A. Discussion/Approval on Swimming Pool Fees**

The current pool fee structure has 3 tiers: youth, adult and senior. Many pools are going to a 2 fee structure for general admission for ages 3 – 61 and a senior fee. We are also having issues with parents saying their children are in the 3-12 age range when they're not. Staff is proposing to keep the senior rate and eliminate the youth rate.

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to approve the two-tier pool rates for general admission for ages 3-61 and senior rate 62 and over.

Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**B. Discussion/Approval of Oak Park Band Shell concept**

Staff is asking the Board for input and approval for the band shell concept at Oak Park. Staff has contacted Wight to design the band shell and they have provided two options. The actual structure does not change from plan to plan, it's just a matter of how much concrete is used for sidewalks and a dance area. Currently, there is a stage but no cover, sidewalks or dance area.

A motion was made by Commissioner O'Brien and seconded by Vice President Strzelecki to approve the band shell concept design minus the dance floor, option B for the Oak Park band shell. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**C. Discussion/Approval of Post Issuance Tax Compliance Report**

This is an annual requirement that the Finance Director certifies for the Park District's debt service that the Finance Director has all the information required under the policy and at this time the District does not have any rebate liability to the U.S. Treasury. Also at this time each issue of the tax advantage bonds complies with Federal tax requirements applicable to such issues. The IRS has not commenced an examination of any issue of the tax advantage bonds. The Finance Director is attesting to all of those as part of the yearly requirement.

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to approve the Post Issuance Tax Compliance Report. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**D. Discussion of an IGA with Morton Grove Park District for resident rates**

The Park District was approached by Morton Grove Park District to offer resident rates for Tam Tennis in exchange for resident rates at their two pools. The rates at our pool and the Morton Grove pools are very similar, theirs being slightly higher for daily admission. The Park District has had reciprocal agreements in the past with Morton Grove.

After some discussion, the Board asked Staff to discuss at the next meeting with more information.

**E. Discussion/Approval of a plaque honoring Oak School**

See agenda item 4., Changes to the Agenda.

**10. Old Business**

The berm was removed at Golf Mill Park. Once the weather improves the sidewalk will get finished and more irrigation will be added. A grand opening will be planned for sometime in May.

**11. Miscellaneous**

There were no miscellaneous items.

**12. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**13. Executive Session**

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to convene into executive session under 2 (C)(21) to discuss release of minutes of executive session meetings and discuss possible approval of the destruction of executive session audio recordings. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll.

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**14. Return to Open Session**

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to adjourn executive session and return to the open board meeting. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien	Yes
Vice President Strzelecki	Yes
President Hynes	Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**A. Approval of the release of Executive Session minutes**

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to approve the release of the June 17, 2025 executive session minutes. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien      Yes  
Vice President Strzelecki      Yes  
President Hynes      Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**B. Approval of the destruction of Executive Session recordings**

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to approve the destruction of the audio recordings from the Executive Sessions dated 1/16/2024, 2/20/2024, 4/16/2024, 5/2/2024, and 7/16/2024. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien      Yes  
Vice President Strzelecki      Yes  
President Hynes      Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

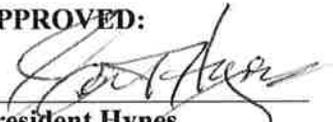
**Adjournment**

A motion was made by President Hynes and seconded by Commissioner O'Brien to adjourn the regular board meeting. Recording Secretary Petrie called the roll:

Commissioner O'Brien      Yes  
Vice President Strzelecki      Yes  
President Hynes      Yes

The motion passed 3 – 0.

**APPROVED:**

  
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President Hynes  
Board of Commissioners  
Date: January 20, 2026

  
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Board Secretary