

**Burr Ridge Park District
Regular Meeting
May 19, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Burr Ridge Park District was called to order at the Burr Ridge Community Center at 6:30 pm by President Quigley.

Present:	Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley
Absent:	Lawrence
Also present:	Jim Pacanowski, Director of Parks and Recreation Jamie Janusz, Superintendent of Finance

Newly elected Park Commissioners Caplis and Paulius were sworn into office.

APPROVE

Approve May 19, 2025 Agenda

No changes were made to the Agenda.

Approve April 14, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

Caplis moved, seconded by Malloy and approved by roll call vote to approve the April 14, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

Approve April 14, 2025 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Paulius moved, seconded by Malloy and approved by roll call vote to approve the April 14, 2025 Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

Ayes: Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

OPEN FORUM

Quigley opened the meeting up to those in attendance and asked that issues raised not be repeated.

Ms. Niemic, 109 Chestnut Hills Circle, stated that she works from home and her home office overlooks the tennis courts lined for pickleball. She attended previous meetings with pickleball on the Agenda and was encouraged that it was understood that the pickleball courts would be invasive to the community and the pickleball courts would be located further from the Chestnut Hills homes. Ms. Niemic stated that currently when players are on the pickleball lined courts, the noise can be heard even when the windows are closed and the noise is louder than when tennis is played. She stated that she can, however, hear tennis

players and their conversations on the courts as well. Ms. Niemic stated that it was disappointing to receive park district brochures promoting pickleball camps and classes which will encourage people to play pickleball on the tennis courts. Ms. Niemic stated that the Park District did not speak to any of the homeowners at Chestnut Hills prior to offering these camps and classes. Ms. Niemic stated that she realizes pickleball is important to some people, however, this is where she lives and works and pickleball will have an impact on her quality of life.

Donna Ryan, 113 Chestnut Hills, stated that she resides across from the pickleball lined tennis courts and is speaking on behalf of the Chestnut Hills Community. Ms. Ryan stated that she felt there was an understanding that Chestnut Hills did not want any pickleball due to the proximity of the courts. Ms. Ryan stated that there has been no notification of an acoustical study being done and it is her responsibility as a Chestnut Hills Board Member to ensure that quality of life and property values are maintained. Ms. Ryan stated that there is currently no plan for the Park District to install abatement for noise levels and now camps and classes are being offered, some at the time that homeowners will be out on their decks which are 300 feet away with an impact of noise from the pickleball classes. There have already been instances of impact of noise from pickleball play: April 14, 8 pm – foursome, April 15th – 2 players playing with a soft ball, April 16, 6 pm, 2 players, May 2 – 6 players --4 pickleball and 2 tennis, May 18, 4:30 pm pickleball. This noise will be worse when the players start playing until 10 pm with no noise abatement. The Chestnut Hills Community would like to know what the plan is going forward for the pickleball lined tennis courts, noise abatement plans, and if there are plans to erase the pickleball lines on the tennis court in the near future.

K. Harmon, 114 Chestnut Hills Circle, stated that her home faces the wetlands and in addition to the noise from the pickleball players, there are surgical lights from the baseball fields. In the summer and fall there are loud baseball bats as well. Ms. Harmon appreciates everything the park district does, however, the individuals in the park district work here and then leave to go to their homes. The Chestnut Hills Community lives here 24/7. Ms. Harmon felt that the Park District and Chestnut Hills were on the same page regarding pickleball but now there is pickleball on the tennis courts.

L. Videbeck, 101 Chestnut Hills, stated that she would like to know if the location of the pickleball on the tennis courts is temporary until the new pickleball courts are completed.

Quigley responded that this subject is not on the current Agenda.

Pacanowski added that the 4 new pickleball courts are scheduled to be completed October 1st.

Ms. Niemic asked if it can be placed on the Agenda to remove the lines on the tennis court. Caplis stated that the conversation regarding the pickleball lines on the tennis courts was had at a previous Board Meeting in which he stated that the pickleball lines would not go on the tennis courts; however, the bottom line is that the Board authorized one court to be lined for pickleball on a temporary basis. The majority of the people that would play pickleball on the tennis court would be a pick-up game. It is most likely going to be a situation where the park district staff and Board waits and sees how much activity is on the pickleball lined tennis court. Some players may feel intimidated going to the new pickleball courts with the more

seasoned players, and any other situations that may arise. Regardless, the Board will put this on the Agenda for review.

Pacanowski added that the adult pickleball evening classes are not being held. The only classes will be one week in June and one week in July for 8- to 12-year-olds with a maximum of 10 children held during weekdays in the mid-morning.

Caplis asked when the lights are turned off in the park.

Pacanowski responded that the latest the lights are turned off is 10 pm.

A. Meyer, 118 Chestnut Hills Circle stated that she has bones of contention which are that there are times the lights do not go off at 10 pm and are on later than that, Chestnut Hills residents were told there would be no pickleball on the tennis courts, and Chestnut Hills residents were told that when the path in the wetlands was put in too close to the homes it would be landscaped beautifully and would not interfere with residents' personal space. Ms. Myers feels there is no element of privacy in resident's homes and Chestnut Hills residents were deceived.

Caplis asked the resident if she knew who were owners in this area first.

Ms. Meyer responded that Chestnut Hills was.

Caplis responded that this is incorrect. The Park District owned the land prior to Chestnut Hills and homeowners of Chestnut Hills bought their homes when there was already an existing park. The park district did not put a permanent facility next to homes, Chestnut Hills put permanent homes next to a park. Caplis added that as to the landscape in the wetlands, there was a lot of money spent on landscaping only because of the Chestnut Hills homeowner's requests. Caplis asked how much money the homeowners would like the park district to spend for their view.

A resident stated that the park district was here, however, the park district has grown in size, and therefore noise has also increased.

Caplis asked if the lights in the park district are on timers.

Pacanowski replied that the lights are being replaced by the end of summer with LED lights which will help reduce light pollution, and will also be on new remote operated timers to ensure that they are off no later than 10 pm. The new pickleball courts will also have the same type of lighting.

Caplis asked when this will occur.

Pacanowski responded that it is estimated to occur in August for ball fields and October for activated pickle ball.

J. O'Connell, 117 Chestnut Hills Circle, stated that her daughters play pickleball and informed her there are different types of balls and rackets that make less noise. Can the park district make these mandatory to use on the courts?

Pacanowski replied that those types of balls and rackets are more expensive and controversial and it would be impossible to enforce the use of them on the courts.

Ms. Niemic asked if they can be made mandatory for the camps.

Pacanowski will look into it.

Caplis asked that the hours for lights at the new pickleball courts be placed on the next Agenda.

E. White, 133 Chestnut Hills Circle, asked that with all of the concerns regarding pickleball would it have been enough to say it is coming in 2025.

Quigley responded that there has been pickleball lined tennis courts for several years now. It used to be 2 pickleball lined tennis courts and has been cut down 50%. What has prompted all this concern now when it has been lined for pickleball for several years.

Ms. Niemic stated that it is because the brochure offered pickleball camps which promotes pickleball play.

Pacanowski responded that there were previously camps offered for pickleball and it is not a new offering.

Quigley asked why is it different this year for the residents.

Donna Ryan stated that the residents don't like pickleball on the tennis courts.

Pacanowski responded that there are a couple residents from Chestnut Hills who do play pickleball and use the pickleball courts. It is not fair to say that nobody from Chestnut Hills likes the pickleball court on the tennis courts.

It was unanimously agreed to put the pickleball lined tennis courts on the Agenda for the June meeting and lighted operational hours for the new courts.

CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing further added to the written report.

REPORTS

Director of Parks & Recreation

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski notified the Board that the new playground element at Woods Pool looks fantastic. Whittaker is in the process of being completed.

In addition, Pacanowski notified the Board that another pinhole was found in the overhead plumbing and was leaking air. It was found due to the compressor going off more often than normal and Pacanowski noticed the sound of the compressor going off more often while in his office. Fortunately, the pinhole was found before any water damage occurred. The repair is estimated at \$5,500.

Caplis asked if the Community Center reimbursement from the rental sprinkler damage is being put through PDRMA.

Pacanowski responded that it is.

Superintendent of Finance

Nothing further added to the written report.

Recreation Division

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski reported that the summer athletic staff is being trained. The pool pump and heater had issues on startup but is fixed. Lifeguard training was held over the weekend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss Culvert Collapse on ComEd Property Bordering Harvester Park

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski reported that the Village is being kept in the loop regarding communication between Park District Attorneys and ComEd. Pacanowski will continue to push for a solution and a renewed agreement with ComEd for use of the access road.

Quigley asked what would be the detriment if access to the road is not given by ComEd. Pacanowski responded that the only other access is with a golf cart over the bridge. At very dry times, some access can be had in the back corner of the wetlands.

Caplis stated that the park district does not own the land that the access road is on. Secondly ComEd is not demanding payment for repairs to the culvert in a letter. Additionally, ComEd needs access to the high power lines which is more important than the access that Burr Ridge needs to the back of the wetlands. If there is an emergency with their lines, they will not be able to access it without repairs being completed on the culverts. Fire Department vehicles would not be able to access the area without the culvert repair. Caplis added that the road was in existence previous to 1987.

Quigley asked for verification that the attorney letter is being sent tomorrow.

Pacanowski responded that the letter is being mailed tomorrow upon Board consensus tonight. Additionally, our Attorney's opinion is ComEd does not have the ability to withhold access to the property.

Caplis added that if a property is considered landlocked, there is an easement by prescription law. Additionally, the maintenance agreement for the access road with the park district expired in 2001 and must be enforced within a 10 year period which has expired.

NEW BUSINESS

Take Action on Public Bids for Harvester Park Recreation Improvements

Pacanowski asked for a motion to reject all bids and to rebid the Harvester Park Recreation Improvement Project.

Caplis moved to reject the Harvester Park Recreation Improvement Bids and to discuss the potential for changes in order to pursue a rebid which will save taxpayer money, seconded by Malloy and approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

Approve Going to Public Bid for Harvester Park Recreation and Interpretive Improvements OSLAD Grant

Pacanowski presented architectural drawings which showed a change in the design of the pickleball court removing the center 12' corridor in the center of the courts. This will enable the courts to be moved east and prevent building a 180 foot retaining wall to hold the courts in place. In addition to the saving of the material and construction of the retaining wall, there will be a removal of a few gates and some fencing, thereby saving material and labor in the estimated amount of \$150,000. The center corridor was originally put in place for spectators to place a couple foldable chairs to watch the pickleball games. There are other areas in order for spectators to watch the games so there is minimal negative impact on removal of the center court.

Caplis asked if OSLAD would need to be made aware of this change.

Pacanowski responded that this change has no impact on the site usage plan and would not need to be made through OSLAD

Caplis moved, seconded by Paulius and approved by roll call vote to Approve Going to Public Bid for Harvester Park Recreation and Interpretive Improvements Contract.

Ayes: Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

Approve FY 25-26 Budget & Appropriations in Tentative Form

Pacanowski notified the Board that there were only a few minor changes to the budget, which includes the incorporation of salary decisions. There will need to be a discussion regarding refinancing in the next few months.

Malloy moved, seconded by Caplis and approved by roll call vote to Approve FY 25-26 Budget & Appropriations in Tentative Form.

Ayes: Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

Schedule FY 25-26 Budget & Appropriations Public Hearing Date

Caplis will verify availability for a June 23, 2025 6:30 pm Public Hearing Date in order to assure a quorum. Based on verification, the June Board Meeting will be held June 23, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Caplis asked for verification of the soil and material bill for \$4,600.
Pacanowski replied that this is for the OSLAD project site.

Caplis asked if there was a lot of material found on the site.
Pacanowski indicated that the boring samples did not look promising and compression tests will be performed after taking the lot down to the gravel. The fact that there is a water main on the site may actually prove to be a positive thing.
Malloy asked if Pacanowski had any idea how much a soil issue may cost.
Pacanowski responded that there is no way of knowing, however, cost savings found with the removal of the center corridor will hopefully help minimize any issues with soil.
Paulius asked when the results will be known for the soil.
Pacanowski responded that it will be known very soon because grading starts shortly after bid is approved.

Quigley asked for verification of a purchase of 4 tables.
Pacanowski responded that this was for stock replenishing of tables at BRCC.

Caplis asked for verification of Free tickets for Kiwanis for \$475.00
Janusz will have to discuss with Campbell and get back to the Board.

Caplis asked for verification of the three entries for egg stuffers for \$1,970.
Janusz responded that this was for the items that were placed inside the eggs given out at the egg hunts and not staff labor.

Caplis asked for verification of the fire inspection.
Pacanowski responded that this was the regularly scheduled fire inspection.

Caplis asked for verification of the cowbell bill.
Pacanowski responded that a cowbell was purchased for \$10 as they get broken and need replacement throughout the year.

Caplis asked for verification of the attorney's bill for \$624.
Pacanowski responded that this is for the tax objection.

Caplis asked for verification of the pool plumbing.
Pacanowski responded that this was for new shower and toilet fixtures.

Caplis asked for verification of the Homer mulch bill.
Pacanowski responded that this is special playground mulch which meets ASTM standards and is more expensive than regular mulch.

Pacanowski informed the Board that an invoice for Beary Landscaping will be coming through for 4 mowings at \$2,100 each, and \$8,000 for landscaping and gained authorization to issue the check prior to the June Board meeting.

Caplis moved to Approve May, 2025 bills, seconded by Malloy, and approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Caplis, Malloy, Paulius, Quigley Nays: None Abstain: None

ADJOURNMENT

Caplis moved, seconded by Malloy and unanimously approved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Stednitz
Recording Secretary

h/jamie/board/minutes/2025/brpd minutes May 19 2025