

**Burr Ridge Park District
Regular Meeting
May 8, 2023**

REGULAR MEETING

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, Lawrence, Paulius, Quigley
Absent:	Malloy
Also present:	Jim Pacanowski, Director Jamie Janusz, Superintendent of Finance Members of the Public

Jim Lawrence was sworn in as Board Commissioner for the six year term of office.

Approve May 8, 2023 Agenda

Item VIIA New Business, Hard Surface Courts Discussion, was moved to after Item III Open Forum in order to accommodate members of the public in attendance.

Approve April 13, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Caplis moved, seconded by Paulius and approved by roll call vote to Approve the April 13, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.

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

Approve April 13, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes

Caplis moved, seconded by Paulius and approved by roll call vote to Approve the April 13, 2023 Executive Session Meeting Minutes.

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

OPEN FORUM

No Open Forum

NEW BUSINESS

Hard Surface Courts Discussion

Pacanowski provided the Board with email correspondence regarding the condition of tennis courts at Woods Pool and Stevens Park. Aerial photos of both parks were also provided, along with a summary of the conditions of courts at both parks and discussion regarding the repeated yearly attempts to repair the courts using flexible caulk and concrete fill. The cracks at Stevens Park and Woods Pool are not safety hazards, however the cracks probably affect quality of play.

Caplis added that one of the cracks running East/West at Woods Pool may turn into a safety hazard as it is expanding into a North/South running crack.

Pacanowski suggested that it would be possible to add a bid for Woods Pool tennis courts repairs at the same time Harvester Park tennis court resurfacing bids are being put out. Another possibility would be to research a company that replaced cracks at the courts at Sunshine Park in Tri-State and get an estimate for Woods Pool. Sunshine Park crack maintenance by this company has held up for approximately 5 years. It is unknown if that would cost more than \$25,000 at Woods Pool and therefore could be performed without going to public bid. It would cost approximately \$150,000 to resurface Stevens Park, and \$200,000 to resurface Woods Pool court. Research would need to be done at Woods Pool regarding possible drainage issues as drainage was installed prior to moving the courts at Woods Pool which did not prevent the cracks from reappearing.

Pacanowski stated that there is a budget available in fund balance, however, 50% needs to be maintained to cover half a year operation. There is a balance in Capital Improvements as well. Along with the resurfacing of Harvester Park, there are 5-6 years left before refinancing would need to be re-considered.

Pacanowski summarized the pickle ball court location at the west end of Harvester. A four court pickle ball area is being planned for the west end, however, the sale of CNH property has placed this project on hold. There is a Village owned water line running directly below the court location that will be deactivated after the sale of the CNH property which will remove any potential future issues that would deem it necessary to dig up the court in order to reach the water line. This court construction is on a holding pattern until the CNH property is sold.

Caplis asked when money was previously received from Lyons Township that was used to resurface the tennis courts.

Pacanowski responded that it was approximately 10-15 years ago.

Caplis asked if the courts were resurfaced entirely at that time.

Pacanowski responded that the Woods Pool court was actually moved and was therefore resurfaced entirely. The crack that is now appearing is in the section that was previously in the old area of the court, not the new section. In addition, drainage was installed in order to prevent cracks from forming which did not work.

Caplis added that the cracks may not be a safety hazard, however, the courts are not in the condition of the normal high caliber of the Burr Ridge Park District and would like to repair them as soon as possible.

Paulius added that she would like more information and pricing form the company that repaired the courts at Sunshine Park in Tri-State.

Pacanowski responded that this type of repair would not be recommended for Stevens Park. Caplis asked when the last time Stevens Park was resurfaced. Pacanowski responded 20+ years ago.

Quigley asked the Board Members if there was consensus to make any repairs to the 2 courts.

Paulius stated that she would like more information and pricing from the company that repaired the courts at Sunshine Park.

Lawrence stated that Stevens is the worst of the two and needs to be addressed.

Pacanowski added that Harvester is worse than Stevens.

Caplis asked if the contractor could look at Woods Pool when they come out.

Pacanowski stated that they could.

Caplis asked when that would be.

Pacanowski replied the timing of that is June.

Lawrence asked if the process could be started.

Pacanowski responded that only if pricing does not exceed \$25,000. If it exceeds \$25,000 it must go out to public bid.

Caplis suggested tabling this subject until the next June Board meeting.

Quigley opened questions and comments to the public.

Belinda Gargano, 9 Tartan Ridge Rd., Burr Ridge, stated she lives near the park and that is an under utilized park but it is a great park. The cracks are significant and would like the courts both striped for pickle ball and the cracks fixed sooner rather than later. Burr Ridge is behind in getting started with pickle ball but it looks like things are getting started.

Lawrence responded that the crack is significant for ball play.

Belinda Gargano added that the Board begin the process for fixing the cracks as soon as possible as pickle ball is already late getting started at Burr Ridge courts. Any quick fix would be appreciated.

Joe Petrich, 8700 Wedgewood Drive, Burr Ridge, stated that the courts at Burr Ridge Park District are an embarrassment and it is disappointing that the park district has to go out to bid for cracks, painting and striping of the courts. In addition, it is not clear if the Board is in favor of striping 2 courts at Woods Pool and would like to hear discussion on that.

Caplis stated that there was not an objection raised by the Board for 2 courts to be striped. In addition, it is a state statute requiring that any project goes out to bid when the project is over \$25,000. If it is under \$25,000 it does not have to go out to bid if funds are available. The Harvester Park resurfacing project is over \$25,000 and requires going out to public bid.

Joe Petrich stated that timing is of the essence.

Pacanowski responded that the start time for the Harvester Park project is August.

Caplis added that due to the nature of the pandemic, it is difficult to get projects scheduled.

In addition, this project is less expensive when scheduled in the off season.

Joe Petrich stated that with all due respect if I want something done at my house I make a call tomorrow.

Pacanowski responded that all factors were considered; previous meetings, budget considerations, and many other factors were considered and carefully planned when scheduling this project between August and October.

Belinda Gargano asked if cracks could be filled as soon as possible in order to still save the season for a quickly growing sport.

Pacanowski responded that crack repair can be accomplished within the next several weeks. In addition, there could be 2 courts striped at Woods Pool within the next couple weeks if so directed.

Lawrence stated that 2 courts should not be striped at Woods Pool without input from surrounding neighbors.

Pacanowski responded that letters could go out to neighbors by the end of the week.

Belinda Gargano asked why letters need to be sent to neighbors since they have purchased a home next to a park, which will of course bring noise and lights to the area if you live near the park.

Lawrence responded that it is a change to the current landscape of the park and as a courteous neighbor it is the right thing to do.

Paulius added that as a general rule Pickle Ball starts early in the day which is disruptive to surrounding neighbors.

Pacanowski added that although the Board has notified neighbors of possible changes to the parks, the Board has made decisions to move forward regardless of negative feedback. As a courtesy to the neighbors it is our practice to hear any concerns neighbors may or may not have and get their feedback.

Belinda Gargano asked if notice was previously given for striping the court.

Pacanowski stated that it was not. There is a difference between striping for one court and striping for more than one court.

Belinda Gargano asked how long it takes to send out communication and receive responses.

Pacanowski responded that letters will go out the end of the week, responses will be taken until the next Board meeting in June.

Joe Petrich stated that there is not much noise and formal communication should not be necessary. It seems as though the park district is creating animosity between pickle ball players and the residents. Time is of the essence.

Mr. Jones, no sign in available, stated that the process for installing pickle ball courts at Burr Ridge Park District is frustrating. Mr. Jones stated that he has played at several courts in several different towns and when he asks those residents what the process is for installing the courts, the response is that there is no process. The courts are installed with no notification to the public until after they are installed.

Sue Genovese, 6460 Hillcrest Drive, stated she is discouraged by the process and that there are no other courts being built.

Lawrence responded that this is not true. In addition, Lawrence stated that he hears the pickle ball community, and is an advocate of pickle ball. In addition, pickle ball courts were planned to be built at the current Harvester Park tennis location until the neighbors came out and emphatically stated it was not welcome. There currently is a beautiful plan for a 4 court pickle ball court on the west end of Harvester Park. There is nobody on the Board that does not want to give the community a pickle ball court. It is unfortunate that the speed with which it is occurring is not to the satisfaction of the pickle ball community.

Caplis added that the park district does not own the earth. There is not any place to put a 4 court pickle ball court except in the area on the west end of Harvester Park. That area is being pursued but is in a hold situation pending the sale of CNH property and due to the Village water line in that location. Once the CNH property is sold and moves forward, it will be a win, win for the 4 court pickle ball project, but there is no park district control over the timing. The Village of Burr Ridge and the Burr Ridge Park District are separate and distinct governing bodies. These things take time, so Caplis apologized that an instant pickle ball court can't be provided.

Caplis added that the park district would not move forward with a project such as a pickle ball court without the courtesy of notifying the direct neighbors.

Belinda Gargano stated that she lives next to the tollway and there was no notification to the neighbors that the tollway was being expanded.

Caplis responded that the tollway sent many notifications of the expansion, including public meetings. They moved forward with the expansion regardless of public negative feedback, however, there was plenty of notification given to neighbors of the expansion project.

Joe Petrich asked that the park district fill in the cracks and stripe the courts for pickle ball. Mr. Petrich stated that he has an issue with going to the neighbors to discuss striping of an additional court.

Paulius stated that it may not be an issue at all with the neighbors, however, it is a courtesy that will be extended to the neighbors regardless.

Petrich stated that is an incremental change and unnecessary to discuss with neighbors.

Lawrence stated that this additional striped court is a game changer and there will be notification to the neighbors.

Pacanowski asked for verification in summary:

1. Short term crack fills will be performed.
2. Permanent solution for Woods Pool will be explored.
3. Stevens court will be crack filled and striped at least one pickle court.
4. A letter will be sent to the neighbors regarding a second pickle ball court at both Stevens and Woods.

Vito Abbate, 1513 Evergreen Ct., Darien stated that there is a new material available for sound abatement that is placed on the fence perimeter and will forward that information to Pacanowski.

Berlinda Gargano stated that any pickle ball courts added are key because people are looking for courts to utilize.

CORRESPONDENCE

Nothing further was added to the written report.

REPORTS

Director of Parks & Recreation

In addition to the written report, Pacanowski notified the Board that with the resignation of Carrie Navins from the Village of Willowbrook, in order to enhance opportunities for resident Seniors, Pacanowski will look to negotiate offering trips through Carrie Navins new business. Burr Ridge residents may get a reduced fee. In return, marketing opportunities may be available to Carrie and on occasion a trip may leave and return from the Burr Ridge Community Center. In addition, Burr Ridge will likely coop the soft programming (bingo, cards, theater, etc.) with Willowbrook with Lavonne Campbell assisting.

Superintendent of Finance

Nothing further added to the written report.

Recreation Division

Nothing further added to the written report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No Unfinished Business

NEW BUSINESS

Appoint Committee for the Local Government Efficiency Act

Caplis moved to appoint the Burr Ridge Park District Board of Commissioners, Jim Pacanowski, Jamie Janusz, and residents Barbara Dohrman and Sherry Stednitz as the Committee for the Local Government Efficiency, seconded by Lawrence and approved by roll call vote.

Ayes: Caplis, Lawrence, Paulius, Quigley

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Approve FY 23/24 Budget in Tentative Form

Pacanowski previously provided a Recap Sheet of the FY 23/24 Budget in Tentative Form.

Caplis moved to Approve FY 23/24 Budget in Tentative Form, seconded by Lawrence and approved by roll call vote.

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

Set FY 23-24 Budget & Appropriations Public Hearing Date

The FY 23-24 Budget & Appropriations Public Hearing date was set for June 12, 2023 at 6:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Caplis asked for verification of salt for \$320.

Pacanowski responded that this is for ice melt for the parking lot and sidewalks.

Caplis asked for verification of JD service kit bill.

Pacanowski responded that this is for the tractor.

Caplis asked for verification of a bench purchase.

Pacanowski responded that this is for a backless bench near the tower to block passage.

Caplis asked for verification of a rainoutline for \$399.

Janusz responded that this is an annual fee for weather rainout information.

Caplis asked for verification of Andy's \$726 bill.

Pacanowski responded that this was for hard surface courts, wind screen installation, tennis and volleyball net installation, sand addition for volleyball court.

Caplis asked if the pancake breakfast bill will be reimbursed.

Janusz responded that it will be reimbursed by Kiwanis.

Caplis asked for verification of the muffler maintenance statue bill.

Pacanowski responded that this is a deposit which will be reimbursed by Malloy.

Quigley asked for verification of the topographic bill.

Pacanowski responded that this is for the alternate pickle ball site bill.

Quigley asked for verification of the fire sprinkler repair bill for \$1500.

Pacanowski responded that the sprinkler system failed the test because it would not trip during testing.

Lawrence asked why the mileage bill for Tomany of \$235 is so high.

Janusz responded that mileage was accumulated for a period of 1 year for weekly trips to the bank in Burr Ridge.

Paulius moved, seconded by Lawrence and approved by roll call vote to Approve the May bills.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Caplis moved, seconded by Lawrence and unanimously approved to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sherry Stednitz
Recording Secretary

[h/jamie/board/minutes/brpd minutes May 8 2023](#)