

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners

Tinley Park-Park District

Tinley Park, Illinois

Held on February 23, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Tinley Park-Park District scheduled to be held in the Rickerson Meeting Room of the Bettenhausen Recreation Center on February 23, 2026, was called to order by Commissioner O'Donovan at 6:00pm.

Commissioners Present: Lisa Butler
Bernie O'Boyle
Lisa O'Donovan
Ashley Rubino
Marie Ryan

Others Present: Shawn Roby, Executive Director
Ryan Veldman, Superintendent of Parks
Mandi Vinsen, Facilities Manager
Meghan Fenlon, Superintendent of Recreation
Patricia Peccia, Business Manager
Burt Odelson, Attorney
Kelly Jones, Board Secretary

Additions, Clarifications, Corrections or Deletions to Agenda

none

Public Comments on Agenda Items

none

Staff Reports

Executive Director, Shawn Roby reported on:

- Resolution 26-R-06 is the approval of FOIA Officer update
- Resolution 26-R-07 is the annual authorization of the Financial Institutions the Park District uses for investments and banking.
- Draft of the Budget may be available next month.
- Shawn Roby and Ryan Veldman met with the Master-Plan Facilitator to make sure the budget aligns with what was discussed at the Commissioners' recent Retreat.
- Power outage on Friday, February 20th. Building opened at noon.
- Accessibility Audits continue, with more staff training this week.
- There was a public meeting for the Fitness Zone in Centennial Park. An updated more modern circuit will replace the current worn out one.

Superintendent of Parks, Ryan Veldman gave an update on the Property:

- Things are moving along very well.
- Brandenburg has begun demolition starting with Building #2, Maple Hall. That building has about 2 more weeks to go.
- The permit for Building #3 ("the round building") has been applied for. Abatement is finishing now and Demo will begin in Mid-March.
- The Powerhouse, Water Treatment Plant, Cedar Hall and the Garage building, have all been abated and are awaiting demolition permits.
- The Lyme pits are currently being remediated and are very close to being done.

Commissioner O'Donovan reported on the Site Remediation Program:

Commissioner O'Donovan explained:

- The Site Remediation Program (SRP)
- No Further Remediation letters (NFR)
- The Comprehensive Site Investigation (CSI) Plan
- The Park Districts goals and objectives.

Commissioner O'Donovan's stated all updates and financial information are available on the Tinley Park-Park District website.

Executive Director Shawn Roby added that the TPPD has two NFR letters already associated with the property.

Executive Director, Shawn Roby reported on the Fourth of July

Mr. Roby stated for the last 40+ years the Park District has been proud to host its traditional fourth of July Celebration.

The Village of Tinley Park and the Tinley Park-Park District had 2 meetings to discuss the planning of the July 4th, 2026, Celebration.

They discussed a joint event at McCarthy Park and the possibility of a 2nd location for a firework show on July 4th.

On January 27th the Park District was informed that the Village approved a permit for a separate three-day event, July 3-5, at the 80th Ave train station and that the Village will be hosting fireworks on July 3rd and would no longer share in the traditional 50/50 cost sharing arrangement with the Park District. The Village said they will pay for the fireworks on July 3rd and the Park district would pay for the fireworks at McCarthy Park on July 4th. The Village also requested use of the mental health center property for shooting off fireworks for the July 3rd show.

-Executive Director Shawn Roby stated It is estimated that the Park District would spend about \$100,000 on fireworks and related expenses for the event. The question for the board is, is it best for our residents to host two events at the same time less than two miles apart both with music, food, vendors and family-friendly events?

-Commissioner Butler stated she thinks it is worth it because it's the 250th Celebration which is a big deal. She said she believes the residents would like 2 events. Commissioner Butler also stated she attended 2 meetings where two events were discussed when she was working as Executive Assistant to the Mayor and not representing the Park District at the meetings.

-Commissioner Rubino said she is fine with two firework shows but she really wants to see fireworks at McCarthy Park because that is what is most important to the residents. She asked about the fee for a typical firework show.

-Commissioner Ryan suggested a trolley to alleviate parking issues.

-Commissioner O'Donovan asked what is the benefit to the Village and taxpayers of having the Country Fest event on the fourth of July, rather than having it on another weekend? She stated The Village will be using taxpayer funds to purchase another firework display.

- Commissioner O'Donovan asked how the Village will ensure there will be adequate staff members, police presence, and emergency personnel available to safely and effectively support both events? Commissioner O'Donovan's stated her main concern is the safety, the logistics, and the overall event quality are not compromised. She stated that this will take clear communication and planning to ensure that both events can run successfully.

- Commissioner O'Donovan asked is the plan for two events only because this year is the 250th year? Will next year's celebration be back to normal at McCarthy Park? Commissioner Butler confirmed that this is correct.

Approval of consent agenda items

Commissioner Ryan moved to approve the consent agenda items seconded by Commissioner Rubino and carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Items approved:

- a. Minutes of the January 26, 2026, Special Meeting Longevity Recognition
- b. Minutes of the January 26, 2026, Special Meeting
- c. Summary of Funds for the period of January 22, 2026 - February 4, 2026, in the amount of \$277,859.76
- d. Summary of Funds for the period of February 5, 2026 – February 18, 2026, in the amount of \$1,316,386.23
- e. Resolution 26-R-06 approval of FOIA Officer update
- f. Resolution 26-R-07 approval of Annual Authorization of Financial Institutions

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Covered in consent agenda

Public Comment- Non-Agenda Items

Melanie Furman, a seasonal water park employee of five years, informed the Board that due to the Tinley Park-Park District's anti-nepotism policy, she is no longer able to work in her customary front gate position because her daughter would be her direct supervisor. She has requested that the Board reconsider the policy as it applies to her situation.

Resident, Tom Roesner is looking forward to having a nice walking path and lots of green space at the property. He read an article about taking a break from the noise and having a place to just breathe and how not everything meaningful requires a ticket. There are many valuable activities that are free in Tinley Park such as the Vogt Visual Art Center and the Historical Society. He stated sometimes the best invitation is an open door.

Mayor Glotz said the Park District is trying to twist the fourth of July costs and that there were more than three meetings about the fourth of July and at each meeting a second firework location was discussed. He stated that Country fest will be a private event and will not cost taxpayers any money. He stated that there are two people on the Remediate 280 committee that are not Tinley Park-Park District taxpayers. He stated not all Commissioners are being treated equally as there were pictures on Facebook from the IAPD conference that excluded Marie Ryan.

Resident of Tinley Park, Don Cuba stated an extra event celebrating 250 years is a nice idea, but we must be careful not to let it turn into an annual thing because then we are doubling the costs having two events. He stated McCarthy Park is such a great location because there are subdivisions on the North, East, West and South side of McCarthy Park- thousands of homes, resulting in tens of thousands of people watching with their friends and families safely from their homes and driveways creating no traffic. So, moving it anywhere else on a regular basis would be creating a traffic headache.

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner O'Boyle asked, with the collaboration between the Village and the Park District, will the Park District be getting the salt and fuel contracts back? Commissioner O'Donovan responded they have not heard back from the Village on this issue.

Commissioner O'Donovan noted that communication between the Village and the Park District has been a common thread in meetings and at the Commissioner's retreat. However, in the case of July 4th the Park District has made repeated efforts to communicate with the village regarding the event. It appeared meetings have been held without the Park District staff present or informed, and decisions were made without discussion and input from both sides.

-Commissioner O'Donovan read from an email she received from Mayor, Mike Glotz today. Commissioner O'Donovan stated Executive Director Roby is and always has been able to perform his duties.

-Commissioner O'Donovan stated as a Park District we remain steadfast in our focus on what is best for our residents. Working collaboratively with all stakeholders is always in the best interest of our community. We stand prepared to meet Board to Board at any time. And are remaining hopeful that the Village Board will accept this invitation so we can move forward together for the benefit of those whom we are elected to serve

-Commissioner Ryan stated we are on the right track.

-Commissioner Rubino invited Commissioner Butler and Commissioner Ryan to attend the Remediate 280 meetings as they are public meetings and open to all.

Commissioner Butler asked if it was true that the 280 committee has people on it that don't live in Tinley? Commissioner O'Donovan indicated No.

-Commissioner Butler congratulated Commissioner O'Donovan on her award and asked about Park District Facebook posts.

-Commissioner O'Donovan stated the purpose of the IAPD Facebook post was to celebrate the awards that were received that day. She stated we are hopeful and optimistic that next year all five of us will be up there.

Adjourn

Commissioner Ryan moved to adjourn to the March 16, 2026, regular meeting seconded by Commissioner O'Boyle and carried by a unanimous roll call vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

Lisa O'Donovan

President

[Handwritten Signature]
Secretary

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