



**Minutes**  
**Bloomington Park District Board of Commissioners Meeting**  
**November 17, 2025, 6:30 P.M.**  
**Johnston Recreation Center**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board, visitors and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Regular Meeting of the Bloomington Park District Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Jerry Marshall at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Bryen Travis, Andre Burke, Gerace Olson, Frank Saverino and Jerry Marshall and staff members Joe Potts, Jennifer Vale, Lonna Converso, Chris Tompkins, Mesha Hadzic, Mark Goode and Jackie Tithof Steere.

**Recognition of Visitors**

Bloomington Artists Association members Bev Petrosius, Eileen Platt, Lynn Cieslewicz, Janice Henry, and Judy Kinal were present to be acknowledged by the Board for their contributions to the community. Beth and Mike Orlik were present to be recognized for Mike's 35 years of service to the District. The Board welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to establish the Consent Agenda of the November 17, 2025, meeting as presented. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Burke, Olson, Travis, Saverino, Marshall
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

The following Consent Agenda items were considered by the Park District to be routine and were enacted in one motion with no separate discussion.

- A. Approval of Minutes – October 20, 2025
- B. Acceptance of Financial Reports – October 2025
- C. Approval of Directive to Pay – November 17, 2025

By voice vote the Consent Agenda was approved 5-0.

## **New Business**

### Recognition of Bloomingdale Artists Association

The Board and staff recognized the BAA for being a vibrant part of the parks and recreation world for 35 years and recently winning the IAPD “Best of the Best” Arts in the Park Award. In addition to presenting the group with a certificate of appreciation, the Board complimented the BAA on their artwork on display in the JRC hallways in addition to the creative exhibitions and hands-on programs offered to the entire Bloomingdale community. BAA members thanked the Board and staff for use of the Museum, which has enabled them to raise funds for scholarships they award to talented students yearly.

### Observation of 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of BPD Employee Mike Orlik

The Board and staff thanked Mike Orlik for being crucial to BPD operations over the past 35 years. During this time, Mike has been a pleasure to work with, always contributing and helping wherever needed, such as serving as Santa’s helper and driving the tractor during fall festivities. Mike is appreciated for his accountability, trustworthiness, and strong work ethic.

(All visitors left the meeting at 6:42 p.m.)

### Approval of Board of Commissioners 2026 Meeting Schedule

The 2026 Board Meeting Schedule presented by staff reflected the Board’s standard schedule of meeting on the third Monday of the month unless the date fell on a federal holiday or conflicted with public availability of a legal document, in which case meetings are scheduled on the fourth Monday of the month.

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to accept the Bloomingdale Park District Board of Commissioners 2026 Meeting Schedule as presented. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Saverino, Burke Travis, Olson, Marshall
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

### Approval of Budget Schedule for FY 2026-2027

The Board considered the proposed schedule for the budget fiscal year 2026-2027. Staff noted it is similar to past years and meets all legal requirements.

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis, to approve the Budget Schedule for FY 2026-2027. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Saverino, Travis, Burke, Olson, Marshall
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Approval of Resolution No. 2025-09: Tax Levy

Staff informed the Board that because the Park District is levying an amount less than 105% of the previous year's extensions, a Truth in Taxation Hearing is not necessary. Other than increasing the audit fund in anticipation of audits for grant purposes, the levy contains nothing out of the ordinary. Following approval of this resolution, staff will present a tax levy ordinance for approval at the next Board Meeting.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to approve Resolution 2025-09: A Resolution Determining Funds to be Raised by Taxation for the Year 2025, Fiscal Year 2026-2027, to be Available for 20 days. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Burke, Saverino, Travis, Olson, Marshall  
Nay: None  
Absent: None

Approval of Bid for The Oasis Exterior Project from Superb Steel, \$400,270

Staff sought approval for a bid to address safety concerns related to the existing EIFS architectural element and aging roof on The Oasis. The apparent lowest-responsible bidder was Superb Steel and Construction Inc. for \$400,270 to include a parapet extension, roof replacement with a TPO roof membrane with a 20-year warranty, design and planning fees, and construction and labor costs. Questions were answered concerning an expected upcoming change order.

Commissioner Travis moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to approve the bid for The Oasis's exterior renovation project for \$400,270 from Superb Steel and Construction Inc. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Travis, Burke, Olson, Saverino, Marshall  
Nay: None  
Absent: None

Approval of Bid for Old Town Park Gazebo from E. Hoffman Inc., \$34,440

A discussion was held on the Old Town Park's light support cable system project. Staff requested approval of the lowest responsible bidder, E. Hoffman Inc., for the cable system to support year-round decorative lighting, amounting to \$34,440. The District has already procured lights for the project.

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to approve the bid for Old Town Park's gazebo improvement project – installation of a light support cable system for \$34,440 from E. Hoffman Inc. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Saverino, Olson, Travis, Burke, Marshall  
Nay: None  
Absent: None

## **Other Items to be Brought Before the Board**

### Park Tour Input Survey Results

The staff compiled survey results captured following the onsite evaluation of District parks and facilities on October 11, 2025, and is grateful to everyone who attended. The overall report and its contents were discussed. The staff is open to suggestions on how to improve tours in the future.

### Review of New Hire Reporting Policy Draft

As part of the upcoming IAPD Distinguished Agency process, the staff has documented its procedure on reporting new and re-hired employees to a state Directory of New Hires. This requirement was adopted by Congress and the states to increase child support collections on both state and national levels and reduce fraudulent unemployment and workers' compensation payments. Currently under review by attorneys at Ancel Glink, the policy is expected to be brought back to the Board for approval at the December meeting.

### Review of Organ Donation Leave Update Policy Draft

Submitted to the Board was a draft update to the District's Organ Donation Policy to reflect changes in Illinois law. Effective January 1, 2026, part-time employees will also be eligible for paid leave for the purpose of organ donation. The policy is currently under review at Ancel Glink and is expected to be presented for Board approval in December.

### Review of Nursing Mothers Break Time Update Policy Draft

A draft of the Nursing Mothers Break Time Policy was presented to the Board for review. In accordance with legislative updates, the policy clarifies nursing breaks are paid at regular rates of compensation and are not to be considered part of a leave of absence. Once approved by Ancel Glink, the policy will come before the Board for their approval.

### Review of Bid Limits Update to the Financial Guidelines Draft

The District's bid limits within its Financial Guidelines have been updated to reflect changes in Illinois law. Specifically, competitive bid limit thresholds have been raised to \$30,000 for labor and \$60,000 for supplies and materials. Ancel Glink has approved these amendments, along with bid clarifications elsewhere in the document. The policy will return to the Board for approval at the December meeting.

At this time, staff and the Board discussed the DA process, including the March application timeframe, completing the legal section first, the Executive Director's role in the process, simple file storage systems, and the possibility that IAPD will limit the number of agencies accepted into the process.

### Discussion of Plans for 2026 IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference

The Board and staff discussed attendance at the IAPD/Illinois Park and Recreation Association's Soaring to New Heights Conference held January 29-31, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. Early bird registration ends December 19. Staff will register Board Members and adjust hotel stays as instructed. Extra tickets will be available for Commissioners interested in attending the social event on Saturday.

## Staff Reports

The Board and staff discussed the selection of Wight & Co., due to its affordability and past successes, over Hitchcock Design for the BPD's latest OSLAD proposal; realization that many professional services groups are outgrowing small agencies like the BPD; possibility of bringing back Fruitful Yield as a Park District sponsor; holiday social gathering following the December meeting; Festival of Lights details; and development of the Buzz Puccio event in Old Town Park.

Leslie Park's Little Library vandalization was addressed. Upper-level mischief caused by frozen paint balls resulted in the Police Department posting a trail camera and increasing their patrolling of the park. The Marketing Department will show the public what happened on social media and request help finding the culprit. It was considered a waste of taxpayer dollars to repair and clean the library, which was donated by an Eagle Scout candidate.

Construction of The Grove's new indoor community center, the Yard, begins in February. It is slated to open at the end of 2026. Since the facility offers a lot of the same services, Park District staff has begun researching how other Yard locations have affected park district communities. It is expected the Bloomingdale Yard will have higher prices but will still attract a fair number of new people; however, there may be opportunities to cooperate with them on indoor field space, for example, especially during winter.

Executive Director Potts relayed to the Board his recent discussion with Village Administrator Peter Scalera about The Grove and the proposed luxury apartment complex within it. To attract developers, the Village has removed requirements for impact and permit fees. This incentive will cause residents, schools and the BPD to eat those fees (an approximate loss of \$500,000 for the BPD alone). The legality of the situation was debated. The development may have space for a small park to serve nearby residents of an area that is already underserved, according to National Recreation and Park Association standards. The Village will provide an updated plan of the site soon.

## Executive Session

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to not enter into Executive Session. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Burke, Saverino, Travis, Olson, Marshall  
Nay: None  
Absent: None

## Adjournment

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:59 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Saverino, Burke, Travis, Olson, Marshall  
Nay: None  
Absent: None

Respectfully submitted,



Joe Potts  
Board Secretary