



**Minutes
Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 23, 2026, at 6:30 P.M.
Johnston Recreation Center**

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order/Roll Call

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

(Commissioner Frank Saverino notified the Board in advance of his absence.)

Recognition of Visitors

There were no visitors in attendance.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to establish the Consent Agenda. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

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 – January 26, 2026
- B. Acceptance of Financial Reports – January 2026
- C. Approval of Directive to Pay – February 23, 2026

The Board approved the Consent Agenda of the February 23, 2026, meeting as presented. On voice vote the motion was approved 4-0.

New Business

Approval of Board's Multi-Day Travel Expenses for 2026 IAPD/IPRA Conference

The Board reviewed multi-day travel expenses of Board Members attending the IAPD/IPRA Soaring to New Heights Conference January 29-31, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Chicago in Chicago.

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to approve Board Member travel expenses from attending the IAPD/IPRA Conference January 29-31, 2026, in Chicago. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

Approval of Johnston Recreation Center Custodial Bids

The director of parks and planning reviewed results of a bid opening held February 10, 2026, for similar but more specific janitorial services at the JRC. Based on competitive pricing and relevant experience, the staff recommended awarding the janitorial services contract to Best Quality Services in the amount of \$6,850 per month. The Board had no further questions.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis, to approve the bid from and award the janitorial services contract to Best Quality Services for \$6,850 per month. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

Approval of Application Process to Enter IAPD's Distinguished Agency Process

Staff sought Board approval to begin the distinguished agency process with the Illinois Association of Park Districts. The director of internal services acknowledged the large amount of work required of the certification but believes the District is well prepared. All employees registered for the IAPD/IPRA conference in January are required to attend a DA preparatory session. A check for \$600 will accompany the approved request letter, and funds will be budgeted for travel costs for assigned mentors as well as attorney fees.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to approve the District's letter requesting entry into the IAPD's distinguished agency process. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

Other Items to be Brought Before the Board

Capital Project Review

Staff presented a capital projects update and thanked all other departments for providing necessary information. Approximately 50% of intended capital improvements have been completed. The staff continues to use excess funds from completing some projects under budget to fund other improvements.

Utility Usage Update

Provided to the Board was the District's annual energy usage report, which when monitored and analyzed, helps staff make informed decisions and prompt adjustments to optimize utility usage. A discussion was held on the partial conversion to LED lighting at Springfield Park and its impact on usage and costs.

2026 IAPD/IPRA Conference Review

BPD staff continues to work on summary material from conference session attendance. This educational information is collected and used to share acquired knowledge with others who did not attend the same sessions. Overall, Commissioners and staff enjoyed sessions on legislative updates and the teen takeover trend. They are grateful the agency sends a good number of attendees and consider the associated networking and team building to be worthwhile.

Discussion of Executive Director Annual Review

The process the Board uses for evaluating the Executive Director was reviewed. In the past, the Board has used a specific form to evaluate the Director and reviewed the Director's self-evaluation. The Board agreed to use the same process again this year during the Executive Session at the April meeting. Staff will distribute appropriate materials to the Board.

The Board congratulated the director of administration on having earned the National Recreation and Park Association's certified park and recreation professional designation.

Staff Reports

Executive Director Potts discussed an upcoming meeting with President Marshall and the Village to address The Grove, the processes of grants from the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development and the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and the capital projects report that he will be distributing to legislators in hopes of securing project funding. He also made the Board aware of the Garden Club's annual plant sale and a suggestion from a resident about adding a roof over The Oasis.

The director of marketing and communications updated the Board on the progress of the Old Town Park pavilion dedication event for former Commissioner Buzz Puccio, including invitation and public communication details, a watercolor pavilion puzzle for attendees of the pre-dedication event, the evening's band, the sign and plaque for the structure, the speaker lineup and staff to-do lists. Board Members will be notified of any help needed for the event.

Also covered were two task forces on which Executive Director Potts is serving. The Western DuPage Special Recreation Association's task force is focusing on solutions to the rising costs of inclusion services for members. The topic of inclusion funding will be covered at the next Park Board Meeting. The Lake Park High School task force is working on a possible upcoming referendum potentially addressing issues such as building layouts and a new field house and pool.

Other conversations stemming from staff reports were break even points for adult variety programs such as Pinot's Palette, interactive classes at the Museum, departing staff, timing of Oasis construction and opening for the season and several potential solutions to a concern from a Resident Roundtable attendee about speeding traffic coming to and from the pool and JRC.

Executive Session

Commissioner Olson moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis, to not enter into Executive Session. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

Adjournment

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

Respectfully submitted,


Joe Potts
Board Secretary