

**Glen Ellyn Park District
Board of Commissioners
Workshop Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2025
185 Spring Avenue**

I. Call to Order

President Nephew called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call of Commissioners

Upon roll call, those answering present were Commissioners Cornell, Stortz, Ward, Durham, and President Nephew. Commissioner Crickmore was absent.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Cornell, Stortz, Ward, Durham, and President Nephew.
 Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Staff members present were Executive Director Dave Thommes, Deputy Executive Director Cinquegrani, Director of Recreation & Facilities Lim, Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia, and Board Secretary & Directors' Assistant Dikker.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

President Nephew led the pledge of allegiance.

IV. Changes to the Agenda

None.

V. Public Participation

Martin Johnson of Brandon Ave. in Glen Ellyn spoke of a safety concern along his street on property owned by the Park District. Johnson shared that two trees seemed to be dead or in severe distress and he felt posed a safety risk to individuals. Johnson would like to see staff address those trees. Director of Planning Troia reported he would have someone out to assess and provided contact information to Mr. Johnson.

VI. Voucher List of Bills Totaling \$343,667.06

Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Stortz, to approve the Voucher List of Bills totaling \$761,682.56.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Stortz, Cornell, Durham, and President Nephew.
 Nay: None

Motion Carried.

VII. Appointment of New Commissioner

Board Secretary Dikker announced that Jeremy Boynton has been selected to fill the vacant Board of Commissioner's position at the Glen Ellyn Park District. Jeremy has lived in Glen Ellyn for fifteen years with his wife and four children who have attended Glen Ellyn schools.

Boynton will serve on the Park Board of Commissioners for approximately two years until the next Park District Commissioner election, which will take place on Tuesday, April 6, 2027.

Commissioner Stortz moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to appoint Jeremy Boynton as Commissioner for the Glen Ellyn Park District to serve a term until May 2027.

Roll Call: *Aye:* *Commissioners Stortz, Ward, Cornell, Durham, and President Nephew.*
 Nay: *None.*

Motion Carried.

VIII. Oath of Office – Jeremy Boynton

Board Secretary and Directors' Assistant Dikker administered the Oath of Office for newly appointed Commissioner, Jeremy Boynton.

IX. Accupaving Pay Application – Ackerman Ring Road

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia presented the payout request for the Ackerman Ring Road. He shared that this final payout represented the bioswale plantings installed in September, which were originally planned for Spring but delayed due to availability. Troia shared that the widening of the limestone perimeter path would be performed in house and was not part of their contract. Commissioner Stortz inquired about the timing and width of the limestone path and Troia replied that it would be approximately 6' wide and would be addressed either late Fall or in Spring of 2026. Following, Commissioner Durham moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to approve AccuPaving's final pay application for the Ackerman Ring Road in the amount of \$92,253.99.

Roll Call: *Aye:* *Commissioners Durham, Ward, Cornell, Stortz, Boynton, and President Nephew*
 Nay: *None*

Motion Carried.

X. Lenox Road Garden Plots Pay Application #4

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia shared that staff publicly noticed invitations for bid on February 19th, requesting contractors to provide proposals for improvements at the Lenox Road area of Ackerman Park. This was Phase 2 of the Ackerman Park Lenox Site Addition OSLAD project. This scope of work represents material and labor for September and is the final pay application. The remaining work includes landscaping on the north side which will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

The Park Board held a brief discussion with Commissioner Nephew inquiring about the sign up for garden plots, number available and how allocation will be addressed. Troia shared that allocation will be held via lottery as a stipulation per the OSLAD grant and believed the pricing would be comparable to garden plots at Village Green.

Following, Commissioner Durham moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward , to approve Daybreaker's final payout request for the Lenox Road Garden Plots in the amount of \$133,811.43.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Durham, Ward, Cornell, Stortz, Boynton and President Nephew
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

XI. Commemorative Tree & Bench Discussion

Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia along with Directors' Assistant Dikker reviewed our current long-standing Commemorative Tree and Bench program. Dikker shared that currently staff has begun researching new Commemorative opportunities for the District as many of the District's parks have either run out of space or have become highly saturated with Commemoratives. Staff reviewed several of the Parks highlighting the numerous commemorations and discussing some of the logistical issues, maintenance issues, and other problems resulting from past commemoratives that were instituted in the past with very limited terms.

Staff asked for direction from the Park Board if they would like to see the program ceased, paused or if there was a different direction to guide this program. Staff discussed implementing a brick paver program and possibly introducing this program during the Lake Foxcroft Park renovation as its pilot program. Staff shared preliminary details of the program and its possible rollout. The Park Board held a discussion and would like a Commemorative Program to continue and to possibly implement this program within the Downtown Community Park. Commissioner Stortz relayed that he was familiar with these opportunities and said it would be nice to offer to the community. Staff shared that they would explore this opportunity further and would bring an updated policy and/or information before the Board for further review and/or approval.

XII. Place the 2025 Tax Levy of File

Deputy Executive Director Cinquegrani stated that consistent with previous years, staff is recommending a tax levy ordinance for 2025 that encompasses the maximum amount of tax dollars allowed under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL). Staff recommended levying an increase of 4.9% to allow the District to capture new growth within the community, which is determined once the final property assessment numbers are available in April of 2026. Cinquegrani discussed the parameters of the 2025 tax levy, the prior tax levies of the District and answered questions from Park Commissioners. After a brief Board discussion, Commissioner Ward moved, seconded by Commissioner Durham, to approve Resolution 25-02 "Truth in Taxation Law".

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Durham, Cornell, Stortz, Boynton, and President Nephew
Nay: None

Motion Carried

Commissioner Ward then moved, seconded by Commissioner Stortz, to place on file Ordinance 25-04 for the levy and assessment of taxes for the year 2025.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Ward, Stortz, Cornell, Boynton, Durham, and President Nephew
Nay: None

Motion Carried

XIII. Long Range Capital Projects Discussion

Deputy Executive Director Cinquegrani provided an update on the Long-Range Capital Project Forecast. Cinquegrani led the Board through the timeline of the budget process sharing that discussion will continue and a draft of the Budget will be shared at the October 21, 2025, Regular Meeting with final approval after a public hearing scheduled for the December 9, 2025, Regular Meeting. Cinquegrani then presented the Capital Project Forecast from 2025-2037. Commissioner Stortz asked questions regarding the Downtown Park surrounding funding, costs and timing of payments. Cinquegrani reviewed the funding, expenses paid to date, and cost estimates of the project along with reviewing the timing of future non-referendum bonds. Staff reviewed the funding of the Downtown Park as it pertained to payments from the Village, legislative funds and funding through future non-referendum bonds while also utilizing current fund balances. Cinquegrani stated the Park District does have the financial flexibility to use current funds however, the Park District would be below the Board's minimum Fund Balance Policy requirements in the short-term; however, utilizing funds on-hand would save on borrowing costs at a time when interest rates are elevated. Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia also shared the timing of bidding the Downtown Park project later this year into early 2026.

Cinquegrani discussed in further detail the issuance of non-referendum bonds to fund some of the long-range capital projects along with the possibility of using surplus funds, should the Board decide to go below minimum fund balance policy requirements in the short-term.. Staff discussed fund balances of capitals and revenues, and President Nephew inquired if our surplus was coming in as expected. Cinquegrani explained that as will be shown at the next Board Meeting, barring any significant changes to the budget, operating surplus should be approximately \$1.5 million for 2025. Cinquegrani further explained the strategy and timing of the non-referendum bond issuance which will take place in January of 2026. Following Director Thommes shared that this evening was to discuss long-range capital projects over the next few years and the funding mechanisms over the next few years as well. Thommes shared that more discussion will be held at the next few meetings, and he encouraged Commissioners to review the handouts that were provided just this evening and let staff know if more questions arise.

XIV. Staff Reports

Executive Director Thommes provided that the annual InterFaith Prayer Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, October 29th at 7:30am at the Abbingdon in Glen Ellyn. Thommes also shared that staff met with the Village of Glen Ellyn and the Glen Ellyn Police department to further discuss E-bike usage within the community. Thommes shared that after the discussion; to lessen the confusion of enforcement within our Parks it would be best to ban E-bike usage within the Parks. Thommes shared that the Village will be reviewing their Ordinance as well and that staff will be working with the Village and the Police to work on an Intergovernmental Agreement regarding enforcement of Ordinances within the District. Director of Planning and Natural Resources Troia shared that the US Bank demolition is close to being completed and all went well and was under budget.

XV. Commissioners' Reports

Commissioner Durham provided feedback from Lakers parents and shared that improvements should be planned for upper Ackerman to address irrigation. Durham inquired why it was necessary to rent a field at Redhawk and if that was the most cost-effective plan. Director of Recreation and Facilities Lim shared that due to the size of the tournament we needed to rent field space. Lim shared that football had the use of all fields at Newton Park and that space was not available elsewhere. Commissioner Stortz was happy to see the demolition of the US Bank Site and the start of that project. Commissioner Cornell was also impressed with the demolition and enjoyed her attendance at Oaktoberfest, and the Glen Ellyn has Talent talent show. President Nephew attended the mini golf Foundation fundraiser and enjoyed her time as the event was well attended.

XVI. Adjourn

There being no further business, Commissioner Cornell moved, seconded by Commissioner Ward, to adjourn the Meeting at 8:41 p.m.

Roll Call: Aye: Commissioners Cornell, Ward, Durham, Stortz, Boynton, and President Nephew
Nay: None

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Dikker
Board Secretary & Directors' Assistant