

**OAK FOREST PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Charles Wolf, Vice-President
James Katula, Secretary
Roy Pruitt, Commissioner
Joseph Pilch, Commissioner

OTHERS PRESENT

Joseph Cainkar, Attorney
Joseph McDonnell, Treasurer
Kirstin Dahm, Director

ABSENT

James Emmett, President

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Wolf called the regular meeting to order at the Oak Forest Park District Community Center, 15601 S. Central, Oak Forest, IL at 7:00p.m.

ROLL CALL

Upon a roll call Commissioners Wolf, Katula, Pruitt, and Pilch were present.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2026 COMBINED ANNUAL BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE # 648.26

Attorney Cainkar opened the Public Hearing on the 2025 Combined Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance 642.25.

Attorney Cainkar requested the record reflect a copy of the Budget & Appropriation Ordinance has been on file for 30 days and notice of the Public Hearing was posted in the Southtown Newspaper on March 2, 2026. Attorney Cainkar asked if the Board of Commissioners had any comments, at which there were none, and with none from the public, the public hearing was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12, 2026 AND FEBRUARY 19, 2026

Commissioner Katula made a motion for the Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2026 and February 19, 2026; seconded by Commissioner Pilch.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch - Yes

Motion approved

PUBLIC SESSION

Commissioner Wolf opened Public Session, no one was present

COMMUNICATIONS

Director Dahm informed that the annual Oak Forest Fleadh parade took place on March 7 and was a well-attended event. The Fleadh Family Fest took place immediately following the parade and had a great turn out.

PRESENTATION OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS, PRESENTATION OF OAK FOREST PARK DISTRICT FLAG FOOTBALL AND CHEERLEADING COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2026 SEASON , AND PRESENTATION OF OAK FOREST PARK DISTRICT GIRLS SOFTBALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE 2026 SEASON.

CONSIDERATION OF BILLS – VOUCHER DATE FEBRUARY 26, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,704.08 AND VOUCHER DATED MARCH 12, 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$71,759.56

Commissioner Pilch made a motion to approve the bills-voucher date February 26, 2026 in the amount of \$28,704.08 and voucher dated March 12, 2026 in the amount of \$71,759.56; seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf – Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch - Yes

Motion approved.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING REPORT

A. Directors Report

Director Dahm informed that the outside maintenance department is in need of a new park maintenance truck. This has been budgeted for, and will be a topic of new business at the next meeting. Director Dahm reported that the park vehicle that we are looking to replace is a 2005. Director Dahm informed that the Heritage Park Playground and shelter are completed. Director Dahm reported that the City of Oak Forest will be hosting a community meeting at the Don Gorman Rec. Center on Wednesday, March 18th at 5:00pm. The City has invited the Park District to talk briefly about the OSLAD project taking place Don Gorman Park. Director Dahm stated that Cook County is holding a community input meeting on April 8th at Markham Courthouse at 5:30pm to discuss the proposed plans for the Oak Forest Hospital site, and she will be attending along with other Park District staff. Director Dahm informed that SSSRA will be hosting their Ricky's Ride Trivia Night here at the Park District again this year. This event will be held in the lower level on Saturday, March 28th.

B. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer McDonnell presented the February Financials to the Board and informed that total cash and investments as of February 28, 2026 are \$4,908,284.75. As reports shows, we received revenue from property taxes, programs, and the fitness center. Treasurer McDonnell informed that we received the bond proceeds from the 2026 Series A Bond in the amount of \$375,965.00.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of Ordinance No. 648.26; An ordinance for providing a Budget and Appropriation for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026 for the Oak Forest Park District, Cook County, Illinois

Commissioner Katula made a motion for approval of Ordinance No. 648.26; An ordinance providing a Budget and Appropriation for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2026 and ending December 31, 2026 for the Oak Forest Park District, Cook County, Illinois; seconded by Commissioner Pruitt.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

B. Approval of Ordinance 649.26 an Ordinance establishing rules permitting an official to attend a public meeting remotely

Commissioner Pruitt made a motion for approval of Ordinance 649.26 and ordinance establishing rules permitting an official to attend a public meeting remotely; seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

C. Approval of Oak Forest Park District Financial Policies

Commissioner Pilch made a motion for approval of Oak Forest Park District Financial Policies; seconded by Commissioner Katula. Commissioner Katula inquired about current Park District Financial Policies. Attorney Cainkar informed that the previous policies were extremely outdated, and the new policy reflected best practices in line with most recent rules and guidelines.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

D. Approval of Semmer Landscape, low bidder for the Oak Forest Park District 2026 Areas to Be Mowed with alternate bids for 2027 and 2028

Commissioner Katula made a motion for approval of Semmer Landscape, low bidder for the Oak Forest Park District 2026 Areas to Be Mowed with alternate bids for 2027 and 2028; seconded by Commissioner Pilch.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

E. Approval of Matthew Paving, Inc., low bidder for the Oak Forest Park District Heritage Park Pathway and Parking Lot Replacement

Commissioner Pilch made a motion for approval of Matthew Paving, Inc., low bidder for the Oak Forest Park District Heritage Park Pathway and Parking Lot Replacement; seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

F. Approval of BTS Contract for Oak Forest Park District phone system management

Commissioner Wolf made a motion for approval of BTS Contract for Oak Forest Park District phone system management; seconded by Commissioner Pruitt. Director Dahm reported that she had done an in-depth cost analysis of the existing contract with Comcast and the new contract with BTS. It was found that moving phone services to BTS could save the District upwards of \$300.00 per month.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

G. Approval of Professional Services with RVI for Don Gorman Park Final Design for OSLAD Grant Award.

Commissioners Wolf made a motion for approval of Professional Services with RVI for Don Gorman Park Final Design for OSLAD Grant Award; seconded by Commissioner Pruitt. Director Dahm gave a breakdown of the different phases that the contract entailed, and the different parts of each phase.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

H. Approval of purchase of Vermeer wood chipper in the amount of \$22,114.00

Commissioner Pilch made a motion for approval of purchase of Vermeer wood chipper in the amount of \$22,114.00; seconded by Commissioner Katula.

Roll Call Vote: Wolf- Yes, Katula – Yes, Pruitt – Yes, Pilch– Yes

Motion approved

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Katula made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Wolf.

On a voice vote, the motion to adjourn at 7:29 p.m. was approved.

APPROVED:


James R. Emmett, President

ATTEST:


James Katula, Secretary