

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners held on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at approximately 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Village Hall, New Lenox, Illinois.

GENERAL FUNCTIONS:

Call to order President Schulz called the January 21, 2026, meeting to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance President Schulz led the Board, Staff, and all others present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call President Schulz directed the Recording Secretary to take roll call. Upon taking roll call, the following were present, Commissioners: Ott, Fischer, Larson, and President Schulz.

Also in Attendance Executive Director Greg Lewis, Director of Parks – Maintenance Ken Stephens, Director of Golf Bob Schulz, Associate Executive Director Lea Pipiras, Director of Recreation Olga Viano, Director of Business Services Jason Braglia, Recreation Supervisor Amy Maher, Guest Services Supervisor Melissa McGrath, and Attorney Angelo Vitiritti.

Treasurer’s Report President Schulz quoted the totals from the monthly Treasurer’s Report as presented for December 31, 2025. President Schulz requested any questions or comments regarding the monthly Treasurer’s Report for December 31, 2025. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented for December 31, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Payment of Bills President Schulz quoted totals from the Payment of Bills as presented for December 31, 2025. President Schulz requested any questions or comments. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented for December 31, 2025. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Special Guests Aaron Gold from Speer Financial the results of the district’s General Obligation Bonds sale, highlighting the competitive bids and the final winning bid from Old Plank Trail Community Bank at 3.1% net interest cost. He noted that the bonds will be issued on February 4, 2026, with a final maturity on December 15, 2028.

President Schulz made a motion to amend the agenda to move Resolution #26-03 to the Special Guests Section. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #26-03 – Honoring the Bullstangs Varsity National Championship Team

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #26-03 of the New Lenox Community Park District Honoring the Bullstangs Varsity National Championship Team. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Recreation Supervisor Maher read the resolution out loud to the public and congratulated the players, coaches and Bullstangs Varsity National Championship Team. President Schulz congratulated everyone and noted it was a great accomplishment!

Communications

President Schulz noted that we received the 2025 Annual Report from IAPD labeled “The Formula for Success” and is in the packet to review.

Approval of Minutes

Approval for the Regular Minutes of December 17, 2025

President Schulz requested any questions or comments on the Regular Minutes of December 17, 2025. Hearing no questions or comments, President Schulz requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Committee & Staff Reports

Business Services

Commissioner Ott congratulated Aurora Abbott on being promoted to Recreation Supervisor overseeing IT and welcomed Natalie Norkiewicz as the new Marketing/PR Coordinator. Commissioner Ott highlighted the increase in registrations from 2024 to 2025, indicating the strength of the district’s programming.

Commissioner Ott highlighted that the overall registration from year 2024 to year 2025 increased 12.7% which he feels speaks to the strength of our programming by the recreation department.

Director of Business Services Braglia reported that he and Executive Director Lewis as well as Aaron Gold from Speer Financial met with Moody’s in regard to the increase that will come for our rating. He noted that the meeting went very well and there will be no cost to us for the rate increase. Commissioner Ott stated that with receiving this increase, it just shows the strength of the district when it comes to our financials.

Facilities / Planning

President Schulz reported that there is a lot of ongoing general maintenance going on. He stated that as the village advances plans for the future fieldhouse, Executive Director Lewis and Associate Executive Director Pipiras continue to participate in the planning meetings to provide input and consultation.

Golf Course

Commissioner Larson reported that the cold weather during December did hurt the golf sales a bit but the gift card sales increased from last year. The range exceeded the sales of the previous year by \$169K. He noted that the Penguin Open will take place on January 31, 2026, asking the golfers to bring a nonperishable food item for the New Lenox Food Pantry.

Commissioner Larson stated that the Food and Beverage was down a bit with the cold weather, but we did have two small parties that helped revenue. He noted that Gaming had a decent month. The Food and Beverage staff is down due to winter months. The clubhouse will start to get fresh paint prior to the Penguin Open.

Commissioner Larson reported that winter maintenance of the equipment is ongoing with only minor issues. He noted that some of our part-time employees have been helping out with plowing due to still be shorthanded.

Director of Golf Bob Schulz reported that the tractor is expected to be delivered on January 22, 2026.

Parks/Development *Athletic Associations/Sites*

Commissioner Larson mentioned that registration has started for the New Lenox baseball, softball, and soccer associations. He noted that the president for the Soccer Association has stepped down and the vice-president will become the president.

Contracted Services

Commissioner Larson reported that Berry Landscaping will be mowing for the 2026 season, this will be their last season on the contract. He noted that McCloud Aquatics will be doing the 2026 pond maintenance and the Portable Services went out to bid on January 14, 2026, with Service Sanitation being the lowest qualified bidder.

Fleet and Equipment

Commissioner Larson stated that all fleet vehicles have received their yearly oil change and six-month lane safety checks have been completed. He noted that some of the vehicles received new brakes and tie rod replaced as well as all vehicles were waxed.

Out in the Parks

Commissioner Larson reported that the Ice rink is now open at Haines Park.

Crossroads Sports Complex

Commissioner Larson stated that the staff have been working on equipment for the upcoming season. He noted that Field 8 has an area that sank due to a pipe that was left during construction and it will be repaired as soon as possible as well as multiple areas of concrete have resurfaced issues.

ADA Assessment Transition Plan

Commissioner Larson noted that there was a kickoff meeting on January 12, 2026. He stated that the WT Group will go to all 45 sites and check items dealing with accessibility. This is part of our accreditation process.

Development Update

Sharon's Bay Park Redevelopment- OSLAD Grant

Director of Parks Maintenance Stephens reported that work will resume in April/May.

Teerling Lakes

Director of Parks Maintenance Stephens noted that all work on the park site will resume in the spring and will share updates at the February meeting.

School District Playgrounds

Director of Parks Maintenance Stephens reported that the playgrounds for Nelson Ridge and Nelson Prairie have been ordered, and the project will begin in June once everything comes in.

Recreation

Special Recreation Update

Associate Executive Director Pipiras reported that LWSRA hired a new facility maintenance staff, Andrew Farkas, and they have a new intern, Sandy Garcia, from University of Francis. She noted that LWSRA had a resident stop by with a donation check of \$10,000. Associate Executive Director Pipiras stated that they did have an audit presentation, which was approved and their distinguished agency accreditation has been pushed back until 2027 due to having to find a new mentor.

Recreation Update

Director of Recreation Viano reported the Ice Rink recap from the Christmas in the Commons during December. She stated that unfortunately, this year we had some extremely cold weekends which affected sales, but we were still able to make a profit. We were open for 55 hours, which was down from 2024's 60 hours. She stated that we are appreciative of our partnership with the Village of New Lenox during Christmas in the Commons.

Commissioner Fischer moved on to athletic programs, highlighting the Children's Basketball League. There are 46 teams practicing weekly with games played on Sundays at Lincoln-Way West. A thank you was made to Burns Photography, who conducted team and individual pictures for the league.

Commissioner Fischer reported that on December 3rd a group of 23 participants attended our holiday bus trip to Paramount Theater in Aurora to have lunch and see a production of "White Christmas" and on December 16th we had 21 participants experience a North Shore Chicago Christmas Bakery Bus trip where they visited four bakeries and sampled a variety of delicious sweets and treats.

Commissioner Fischer reported that on the evenings of December 9th, 10th, and 11th, Kiddie Kampus held their annual Christmas Program where they performed a variety of Christmas songs for parents. On December 15th and 16th, they had their parent teacher conferences, which went extremely well.

Commissioner Fischer noted that on Tuesday, December 30th we hosted our annual Noon Year's Eve party with over 150 people in attendance.

New Business

Resolution #26-01 – Execution of Agreement with TRIA Architecture (Current Wastewater Treatment Plant)

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution #26-01. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #26-01 Execution of Agreement with TRIA Architecture (Current Wastewater Treatment Plant). Motion made by Commissioner Fischer, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #26-02 – Execution of Agreement with Loomis Armored US, LLC

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Resolution #26-02. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to approve Resolution #26-02 Execution of Agreement with Loomis Armored US, LLC. Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Larson. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously

Ordinance #26-01-01 – An Ordinance providing the issue of approximately \$698,256 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the Building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the Park District and for payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof

President Schulz asked if there were any questions regarding Ordinance #26-01-01. Hearing none, President Schulz requested a motion to adopt Ordinance #26-01-01 - An Ordinance providing the issue of approximately \$698,256 General Obligation Limited Tax Park Bonds, Series 2026, for the payment of land condemned or purchased for parks, for the Building, maintaining, improving and protecting of the same and the existing land and facilities of the Park District and for payment of the expenses incident thereto, providing for the levy of a direct annual tax to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof Motion made by Commissioner Ott, seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Bid Results – Portable Services

President Schulz requested a motion to approve Service Sanitation, Inc in the estimated monthly cost not to exceed \$4,730.00. Motion was made by Commissioner Larson and seconded by Commissioner Fischer. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Community Events

Commissioner Fischer reminded the Community about the Lion’s Club Blood Drive on February 13th. This will be held in the All-Purpose Room at 701 W. Haven Avenue from 1pm to 4pm.

President Schulz announced the New Lenox Chamber Annual Dinner will be held February 26, 2026, at the American Legion Post 1977. He additionally recognized the 2025 Chamber Award winners.

Adjournment

At approximately 6:40 p.m., President Schulz requested a motion to adjourn the January 21, 2026, Regular Board Meeting of the New Lenox Community Park District Board of Commissioners. Motion made by Commissioner Larson, seconded by Commissioner Ott. Upon a roll call vote, all were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Recording Secretary – Melissa McGrath