



**Bourbonnais Township Park District  
Committee of the Whole Meeting  
Exploration Station... a children's museum  
1095 W Perry Street, Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
February 22, 2023 at 5:30 pm**

On February 22, 2022, President Zinanni called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 5:30 pm with the following people present:

**Commissioners Present:** Jeff Mullinax, Brian Hebert, Anthony Settle, David Zinanni, William Bukowski

**Appointees Present:** Dr. Ed Piatt- Executive Director, Amanda Langlois- Board Secretary, Rob Romo- Board Treasurer

**Staff Present:** None

**Visitors:** Kelly O'Connor, Valerie Cuddy, Paul Schu, Tammy Marcotte, Kourtnee Thompson, Jen Blair, Pam Clark, Erika Young, Don Kaderabeth, Don Barber, Elizabeth Lubben, Jared Gingerich, Todd Gereaux, Brent Bunnell, Kris Bunnell, Jeremiah Schleeter, David Sadler, Amie Byren, Beth Rieger, Nicole Gladstone, Michaline Tomich, Mayor Mike Watson, Jana Knight

**No public comment**

**Finance:** Rob Romo handed out projected expenses and stated he would be having budget meetings with staff next week. He also noted he would like to go over the projected expenses sheets at the end of the meeting but wanted the people that had presentations to make to talk first.

**Personnel:** nothing to not on.

**Facilities:** Amanda Langlois handed out 2 proposals for Four Seasons Tree Care Inc. Piatt explained that one proposal was river clean up and the other was river clean up and park clean up. He also added that the Department of Natural Resources is coming to show what we can and can not remove down by the river area. Settle asked if the quotes were prevailing wage? They are checking on that.

Piatt then handed the meeting over to Todd Gereaux from MG2A. He explained that they had bid opening and from the 4 bidders, Advantage Paving Solutions was the lowest bidder at \$82,653.53 for the paving project at Perry Farm. There was discussion on whether or not to use the lowest bid or local bid. Keeping the project local would be the best option.

Piatt introduced Nicole Gladstone and Michaline Tomich from mix designs. They gave a hand out and discussed ways on how they could help tell the story of the Exploration Station in an agricultural way, through educational experiences. Romo explained this is a great way to expand the museum since we know it has been losing money in the past and rumors are still out there

that it is closing, when in fact, we are looking at ways to help improve it. There would be additional ways for partnership opportunities that will come with it as well.

At this time, Piatt acknowledged Mayor Watson and let him have the floor to talk. Watson handed out a Resource Guide. He explained the advantages of annexing with the Village of Bradley. The police and fire protection, the grant opportunities, etc. The park district would continue to run as is, the village would not have anything to do with the board or running it. During the summer months, their resource officer from the school could be a patrol officer at the park to give some extra security to the park.

**Equipment:** nothing to report.

Zinanni then went back to Romo to finish his reporting with the finance. Romo said he had handed out the first ever capital plan. He wanted to plan out for a new building for the future. He briefly went over some the capital items from each facility and some of the equipment items as well. He asked if there were any questions because he covered so much. There was a motion by Settle to end the meeting at 6:23 pm and seconded by Mullinax, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:23 pm.