



**Lincolnwood Park and Recreation Special Board Meeting**  
Lincolnwood Village Hall – Council Chambers  
September 25, 2017

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 P.M.

**PRESENT AT MEETING**

Park Board Members: Laura Tomacic, Art Lovering, Reese Gratch, Carol Georges Oraha  
Parks and Recreation Department Staff: Laura McCarty, Katie Gamroth, Melissa Rimdzius  
Village Board Liaison:  
Village Staff: Village Attorney Hart Passman  
Audience: Jesal Patel, 3730 W. Devon;

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion on the Recommendation of the Award of the Central Park Playground Installation Bid**

**McCarty-** Presents recap of Central Park Playground installation bid process

- Both playground option one and option two were bid out
- Four additional alternates were a part of the bid
- Four bids were received and opened on Tuesday, September 12
- One bid, Elanar Construction was disqualified due to not submitting a complete packet

**McCarty –** Recaps September 12, 2017 Park Board discussion about installation of the Central Park Playground:

- Board voted on playground option two with the additional of alternate #1,2, and 3
- Outside source presented information on Hacienda Landscape not being the lowest responsible bidder and other organizations opting not to use Hacienda
- Board voted to use The Kenneth Company, second lowest bid and preferred vendor by Burke, for the installation of Central Park playground

**McCarty –** Presents findings of staff investigations of Hacienda Landscape since the last meeting:

- Staff contacted 13 agencies, some on Haciendas reference list and some that were cited in documents presented by the outside source
- Positive feedback was received from those who worked with Hacienda
- One agency did not work with Hacienda because of a past experience, however said they are better suited for smaller projects
- One agency who did not work with Hacienda said it was due to timeline conflicts
- Staff worked with Hacienda for the installation of G.G. Rowell this past April and had a positive experience

**McCarty –** Notes that with the information collected after the last board meeting staffs opinion is that Hacienda is the lowest responsible bidder.

**Passman-** Provides research results of claims that were presented by the outside source at the September 12, 2017 Park Board meeting:

- Among the allegations made against Hacienda Landscape is that they are a break off of a separate company named Fuerte Systems
- Documents provided previously show a federal complaint that alleges Hacienda and Fuerte Systems are the same company with shared equipment and employees.
- Research completed on the two companies did not show much of a connection between the two companies; different addresses, both organizations have bid on the same project, no overlap of officers, etc.

- Connections found are the allegation in the federal complaint and both companies using the same filing agent.
- Cannot say that they are or are not the same company

**Passman** – Notes that there is no obligation to approve the lowest bidder, but look for the lowest responsible and responsive bidder. Because we cannot verify the claims made by the outside source we cannot say that Hacienda is not the lowest responsible bidder.

**Rimdzius**- Provides comments received while checking references

- Hacienda was fantastic with paperwork, hit all deadlines
- Completed the project ahead of schedule at request of the park district
- Good project management, documents were in order and kept up prevailing wage
- Received positive comments on their concrete work
- Timely, within budget and completed work on time
- Multiple organizations have worked with them multiple times
- Very flexible timeline depending on when equipment was able to be delivered
- Negative feedback, completion took a little longer than projected. Staff had to follow up with some of the smaller details

**Board Discussion:**

- Questions if anything needs to be done with the previous motion
- Comments on staffs research not sending out any red flags
- Notes staff previous positive experience with Hacienda
- Wants staff to remain involved during the project

On motion Tomacic/Oraha Move to Approve a Recommendation to Award a Bid for the Installation of Playground Equipment and Implementation of Alternates 1,2 and 3 at Central Park in the Amount of \$39,700 to Hacienda Landscaping of Plainfield, Illinois. 4-0, motion passed

**B. Recommendation on the Televising Parks and Recreation Board Meetings**

**McCarty**- Provides follow up information on the televising of Parks and Recreation Board Meetings.

- No additional expense for equipment needed for televising the meetings
- Additional \$650 for staff time, no new staff would be needed
- Broadcasting would be all meetings or no meetings, cannot air only some

**Board Discussion:**

- Comments on how the following might be different from the Village Board, Traffic Commission or Zoning Board
- Notes that the Park Board is an advisory board and questions if other advisory boards are being televised
- Notes meetings can be short
- Questions if it is worth the money to do it
- Questions the value of televising

**McCarty** – Comments that all boards and commission are being requested to be televised

**Passman** – Notes that other boards are advisory boards as well

**Patel** – Provides reasoning for the request:

- Record keeping, more insight can be gained from watching the meeting opposed to reading the minutes
- History of decision and discussions can be easily reviewed to answer questions that arise later on
- Valuable for the Plan Commission and Zoning Board
- Can be tested out for a year and revisited

On motion Lovering/Tomacic Move to Approve a Recommendation in Favor of Televising Parks and Recreation Board Meetings. 4-0 motion passed

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:57 A.M.

Park Board Minutes prepared by: Katie Gamroth, Superintendent of Recreation

Park and Recreation Board President:

  
Signature

10/10/17  
Date