

Mandan Park District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
August 24, 2016

The Board of Park Commissioners duly met in regular session on Wednesday, August 24, 2016 at Ed "Bosch" Froehlich Meeting Room. Those present were President Arenz, Vice President Knoll, Commissioners Keller, Hatzenbuhler, and Meschke.

President Arenz called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00pm, CDT. President Arenz asked Accounting Manager to present an overview of the 2017 budget prior to opening the public hearing on the 2017 preliminary budget. Heide Delorme, Accounting Manager presented the 2017 budget for the proposed tax levy of \$2,247,727.60 which is a 5% increase from 2016. We are recommending a decrease in mills from 30.12 to 27.50. Total revenue for 2017 would be \$6,201,603.00; Total expense for the 2017 is \$6,412,404.00. The deficit budget is due to onetime expenses for the Starion Sports Complex which could be paid for out of construction budget if contingency dollars are available.

President Arenz stated the board of the park commissioners of the city of Mandan ND, Section 1 were hereby appropriated the following sums of money for so much thereof may be necessary for the purpose of paying expenditures parks and recreation district in the city of Mandan for the fiscal year commencing January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2016

- General fund \$4,692,679
- Park share special assessment \$156,100
- Mandan baseball boosters \$212,350
- Capital improvement \$381,775
- Raging Rivers Water Park \$753,000
- Refunding of the improvement bonds of 2009 \$172,500

**Public Hearing:**

President Arenz opened the public hearing on the first reading of the 2017 budget.

Jason Blostsky questioned the board how long have we had a deficit budget, what is our current fund balance, and why did we drop mills. President Arenz stated that we have a combination of decreasing mills, increases property taxes 5 %, deficit spending the fund balance, and tightening less spending on capital outlay items.

Joel Newgaard opposes the tax increase, his home valuation increased 21% and Park District does not have vital services.

Steven Hirsch wanted an explanation of the mill value and was confused on how we can drop mills, but take a 5% increase. Director Higlin explained the process of the valuation of a mill and how it equates to the citizen.

Linda Olson opposed higher property taxes.

Damian Huettl from the Mandan Baseball Club stated that no property taxes are used to subsidize the baseball program. Mr. Huettl also stated that he predicts a \$50,000 profit for 2017.

President Arenz asked three times if anyone else would like to speak during the public hearing, no one appeared; hearing was closed. Motion by Commissioner McPherson and seconded by Vice President Knoll to approve the 2017 first reading of the budget; motion passes 5-0.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

