



Buffalo Grove Park District Workshop
Monday, March 11, 2024
Alcott Center – Room 24
6 pm

WORKSHOP AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Roll Call
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Introduction of Guests
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Topics from the Floor
Discussion on topics from the audience will be limited to 10 minutes. Presentations before the Park Board should be scheduled through the Executive Director's office no later than 5 pm the Wednesday prior to the Park Board meeting.
- VI. Correspondence
- VII. Finance (HW)
 - A. Administrative Salary Schedule
 - B. Fiscal Year 2024/25 Budget Workshop
- VIII. Executive Director's Report
- IX. President and Commissioners' Reports
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Executive Session for the Purpose of:
 - A. Imminent Litigation
 - B. Personnel
 - C. Land Acquisition
- XIII. Action to be Taken from Executive Session
- XIV. Adjournment

"Enriching life and community through premier parks, programs and facilities."

Ice Rink At Willow Stream South Parking Lot Discontinued

By Journal Staff
on March 01, 2024

The Buffalo Grove Park District will no longer continue to build and maintain an ice rink on the Willow Stream parking lot.

The park district has built and maintained an ice rink at the Willow Stream south parking lot yearly until this winter when the lot was being reconstructed.

According to park district officials, building and maintaining the rink takes a great deal of time and resources to ensure that it is safe and usable. Because of investment and the increasingly milder winters, staff was instructed to gather information on the maintenance and labor to upkeep the rink.

Officials said the process of building the rink takes time, which includes covering storm sewer drains (to prevent the water from running down the storm sewers), barricading off the entire area, and beginning to flood the area with water. Once fully flooded, the process moves into the maintenance phase.

Once open for the season, two staff members work on the ice rink daily, for roughly 16 hours a week. Maintenance includes cleaning off the rink, adding water to smooth the ice, cleaning up the surrounding area of debris, and handling any vandalism that may arise. Additionally, if it snows, staff must also brush/remove the snow off the rink. Depending upon the snowfall, it can take anywhere from 2-5 hours per week.

It takes 45,000 gallons to fill the area used for the ice rink. The village charges \$7.50 per 1,000 gallons of water used. Besides the initial water usage, staff must maintain the rink once it is up and running. They estimate that they use between 4,000-8,000 gallons of water per week to maintain proper levels of ice. The number of gallons varies due to a number of different issues including amount of usage, vandalism (such as patrons cracking the ice and taking chunks out of the ice), weather, and absorption into the ground.

Staff works on the rink from early to mid-December up to early March (weather pending). With how challenging the weather has been in the last 10 years, the schedule of the ice rink has been sporadic. If temperatures are above freezing for longer than a week, there is a great chance that the park district will lose the entire ice rink, officials said, and because of the resources needed to rebuild, they do not attempt to rebuild the rink once the initial rink is "lost."

According to park district officials, it has cost the district over \$20,000 to have the rink up and running for a 12-week period during "ideal" weather conditions and there is no large return on investment. Additionally, in consulting with civil engineers, turning a parking lot into an ice rink has negative impacts on the infrastructure's lifespan because standing water seeps into the asphalt and into the base, which degrades over time. Once degradation begins, the pavement loses its structural support which results in potholes, cracking, indentations, and low spots. Since the park district just invested \$953,718 into the reconstruction of the lot, along with spending significant time and cost to have the rink, it was decided by park commissioners Feb. 12 to discontinue the rink moving forward.

Buffalo Grove Park District Ends Willow Stream Ice Rink Tradition Due to Rising Costs, Climate Challenges

The Buffalo Grove Park District's closure of its seasonal ice rink marks a significant shift, reflecting on financial and environmental sustainability.

Wojciech Zylm

01 Mar 2024 16:04 EST



Buffalo Grove Park District Ends Willow Stream Ice Rink Tradition Due to Rising Costs, Climate Challenges

The Buffalo Grove Park District's longstanding tradition of constructing and maintaining a seasonal ice rink at the Willow Stream parking lot has come to an end. Faced with escalating maintenance costs and the unpredictability of milder winters, the decision marks the conclusion of a cherished community activity. This move reflects broader concerns over resource allocation and environmental sustainability in recreational planning.

Assessing the Impact

The decision to discontinue the ice rink was not made lightly. Park district officials highlighted the substantial commitment required to keep the rink operational, including the initial use of 45,000 gallons of water and ongoing maintenance efforts. Daily upkeep by two staff members, combating vandalism, and weather-related challenges contributed to operational costs exceeding \$20,000 for a

12-week period. Moreover, the rink's presence was found to have detrimental effects on the parking lot's infrastructure, accelerating wear and tear on the pavement.

Environmental and Financial Considerations

The changing climate has rendered the maintenance of outdoor ice rinks increasingly difficult. With temperatures frequently rising above freezing, the viability of keeping the ice rink frozen has become unpredictable. Such conditions not only risk the loss of the rink but also necessitate additional resources to attempt reconstruction, without guarantee of success. Financially, the investment required to maintain the rink has proven unsustainable, particularly when juxtaposed against the limited return and the negative impact on the parking lot's lifespan.

Community Response and Future Prospects

While the discontinuation of the Willow Stream ice rink represents the end of an era, it also prompts a reevaluation of how outdoor recreational spaces can adapt to changing environmental conditions. The Buffalo Grove Park District remains committed to providing engaging and sustainable recreational opportunities, with the hope of exploring alternative activities that better align with current climate realities and financial constraints. The loss of the ice rink opens the door to innovative approaches to community recreation, ensuring that public spaces continue to serve the evolving needs of the community.

The decision by the Buffalo Grove Park District underscores the broader challenges faced by communities in maintaining traditional outdoor winter activities amid shifting climate patterns and financial considerations. As the community reflects on the ice rink's legacy, the focus shifts towards embracing new traditions that honor the spirit of outdoor enjoyment while addressing the realities of our changing world.



February 29, 2024

Mike Terson
Buffalo Grove Park District
530 Bernard Dr
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Dear Mike,

Stevenson High School is renowned for providing world-class academic, co-curricular, and wellness resources for its students, the vast majority of whom can take full advantage of all that SHS has to offer. However, students who face financial hardship often lack the essentials they need to access those opportunities and fully engage in the school day. Even worse, a higher education can feel out of reach for low-income or first-generation students, and only 5% will ultimately earn a college degree.

The Foundation is dedicated to *Empowering Students to Reach Their Full Potential* through vital programs like One Family, Stevenson to College (S2C), the senior Scholarship Program, and our Alumni Association. With your tax-deductible, in-kind donation of a 30-day Fitness Center membership, Willow Stream Pool family pass for the entire 2024 summer, and four (4) complimentary visits to the Buffalo Grove Golf Dome, made on February 5, 2024, in support of our Online Raffle & Auction, you provide crucial resources that students need to succeed at Stevenson and beyond.

To learn more about our programs and the impact of your contribution, please visit our website at StevensonFoundation.org. If you have questions or would like to hear firsthand the difference your gift is making, please contact me at LKnapp@StevensonFoundation.org or 847.415.4147.

By providing meals, much-needed resources, or the life-changing opportunity to earn a college degree, you are investing in students' lives right here in your community. On their behalf, we extend sincerest thanks for your generosity, partnership, and support.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Linda Knapp".

Linda Knapp
Executive Director

Two Stevenson Drive · Lincolnshire, Illinois · 60069 · StevensonFoundation.org

This letter serves as a receipt for your gift, for which no goods or services were provided.
The Stevenson High School Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, FEIN: 36-3963828.

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Job Title	Grade	Minimum	FY 2023-24		FY 2024-25 2.6% Increase		
			Mid-Point	Maximum	Proposed Min	Proposed Mid	Proposed Max
Director of Business & HR	Director	\$116,736	\$145,920	\$175,104	\$119,771	\$149,714	\$179,657
Director of Parks & Planning	Director	\$116,736	\$145,920	\$175,104	\$119,771	\$149,714	\$179,657
Director of Recreation & Facilities	Director	\$116,736	\$145,920	\$175,104	\$119,771	\$149,714	\$179,657
Superintendent of Comm. & Marketing	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Superintendent of Facilities	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Superintendent of IT	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Superintendent of Parks	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Superintendent of Recreation	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Superintendent of Revenue Facilities	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Superintendent of HR & Risk	Super	\$80,905	\$101,131	\$121,357	\$83,008	\$103,760	\$124,512
Planning & Development Manager	10	\$73,819	\$92,274	\$110,728	\$75,738	\$94,673	\$113,608
Facilities Foreman	9	\$67,354	\$84,192	\$101,030	\$69,105	\$86,381	\$103,657
Human Resources Manager	9	\$67,354	\$84,192	\$101,030	\$69,105	\$86,381	\$103,657
KEPT OPEN FOR FUTURE USE	8	\$64,527	\$80,659	\$96,790	\$64,527	\$80,659	\$96,791
Customer Service Manager	7	\$58,876	\$73,595	\$88,314	\$60,407	\$75,508	\$90,610
Executive Assistant	7	\$58,876	\$73,595	\$88,314	\$60,407	\$75,508	\$90,610
Museum Curator	7	\$58,876	\$73,595	\$88,314	\$60,407	\$75,508	\$90,610
Parks Foreman	7	\$58,876	\$73,595	\$88,314	\$60,407	\$75,508	\$90,610
Aquatics Supervisor	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674
Facilities Supervisor - Golf Dome	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674
Facilities Technician II	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674
Fitness Floor Manager	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674
Group Exercise Manager	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674
Mechanic	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674
Recreation Supervisor/Recreation Manager	6	\$53,719	\$67,149	\$80,579	\$55,116	\$68,895	\$82,674

Job Title	Grade	FY 2023-24			FY 2024-25			2.6% Increase
		Proposed Min	Proposed Mid	Proposed Max	Proposed Min	Proposed Mid	Proposed Max	
Accounts & Front Office Manager	5	\$49,014	\$61,268	\$73,522	\$50,289	\$62,861	\$75,433	
Facilities Technician	5	\$49,014	\$61,268	\$73,522	\$50,289	\$62,861	\$75,433	
Head Custodian	5	\$49,014	\$61,268	\$73,522	\$50,289	\$62,861	\$75,433	
Museum Registrar & Public Educator	5	\$49,014	\$61,268	\$73,522	\$50,289	\$62,861	\$75,433	
Parks Supervisor	5	\$49,014	\$61,268	\$73,522	\$50,289	\$62,861	\$75,433	
Athletic Field Technician	4	\$44,721	\$55,901	\$67,081	\$45,884	\$57,354	\$68,825	
Facilities Engineer	4	\$44,721	\$55,901	\$67,081	\$45,884	\$57,354	\$68,825	
Marketing Specialist	4	\$44,721	\$55,901	\$67,081	\$45,884	\$57,354	\$68,825	
Natural Areas Technician	4	\$44,721	\$55,901	\$67,081	\$45,884	\$57,354	\$68,825	
Partnerships & Comm. Specialist	4	\$44,721	\$55,901	\$67,081	\$45,884	\$57,354	\$68,825	
Recreation Specialist	3	\$40,804	\$51,005	\$61,206	\$41,865	\$52,331	\$62,797	
Building Custodian	2	\$38,374	\$47,968	\$57,561	\$39,372	\$49,215	\$59,058	
Facilities Specialist	2	\$38,374	\$47,968	\$57,561	\$39,372	\$49,215	\$59,058	
Parks Specialist	2	\$38,374	\$47,968	\$57,561	\$39,372	\$49,215	\$59,058	
Registration Specialist	2	\$38,374	\$47,968	\$57,561	\$39,372	\$49,215	\$59,058	