

**Mahomet-Seymour
COMMUNITY UNIT DISTRICT NO. 3
Champaign County, Illinois
Meeting of the Board of Education
Joint Meeting with the Village of Mahomet**

Held in the Cornbelt Fire Protection District Training Center

Date: September 13, 2021

7:00 Joint Meeting with the Village of Mahomet Board of Trustees

1. **Call to order**

The Joint Meeting was called to order by Board of Education President Max McComb at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed all present to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

Attending from the Village were Trustees Bruce Colravy, Andy Harpst, Becky Preston, and Brian Metzger, Village President Sean Widener, and Village Administrator Patrick Brown. Attending from the Board of Education were Max McComb, Dr. Jeremy Henrichs, Ken Keefe, Justin Lamb, Sunny McMurry, Dr. Colleen Schultz, and Meghan Hennesy. Also present were Parks & Recreation Director Dan Waldinger, Mahomet-Seymour High School Athletic Director Matt Hensley, Superintendent, Dr. Lindsey Hall, Chief School Business Official Heather Smith, and Board Recorder, Dawn Quinley. Village of Mahomet Trustees Bill Olinger & David Johnson were absent.

President McComb welcomed new Board of Education members Sunny McMurry and Justin Lamp. Village President Sean Widener welcomed new Village Trustee Becky Preston.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

President McComb asked those in attendance to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion was made by **Preston**, seconded by **Keefe**, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

5. **Public Participation**

There was no public participation.

6. **Joint Discussion on Shared Tennis Facilities**

President McComb asked Village President Sean Widener to open the meeting discussion. President Widener expressed his appreciation for several recent Mahomet events including the Sangamon River Music Festival, Dawgapalooza, and Night Under the Stars which was a fundraiser for Barber Park.

President Widener explained that the Village of Mahomet is often asked what the plan is for 13 Acres Park. He said there isn't a plan right now because the Village does not own it. He appreciates the District's willingness to work with the Village on a maintenance plan, and Parks and Recs efforts to plan the use of the space. It is in desperate need of some drainage and parking lot work, and master planning.. The Village would like to improve 13 Acres and would like to see its use as a park continue. President Widener shared that the village has received a 725,000 grant from Senator Chapin Rose's office to promote partnership between the Village and the School District to enhance the community. At the time of receiving the grant, the Village was in the process of finding land to build a recreation center and the purchase of about 17 acres of land near Middletown Prairie for that purpose. They have been tasked with figuring out what to do with the grant money, and one idea that kept coming back to the top was to bring tennis courts to the community. The purpose of the meeting tonight is to

discuss the idea of shared tennis facilities. The Village believes that the best spot for tennis courts is the old Mahomet Middletown location, Middletown Park. They would also like to build pickleball courts at 13 Acres and would like to see the drainage and parking issues addressed. President McComb said that in order to partner with the Village on this project, the district would need to provide the land to the Village.

Mahomet-Seymour Athletic Director Matt Hensley explained his vision for the addition of tennis courts that could be used by the current Girls Tennis Team and would allow for the addition of Boys Tennis at the High School. Tennis Courts would alleviate the need to travel to the University of Illinois daily for practice and matches and would allow the District to host postseason play. Parks & Recreation Director Dan Waldinger shared that the Village of Mahomet wants to provide programming for adults and could see both the tennis and pickleball courts serving that need.

President McComb said that there have been some questions about how 13 Acres and Middletown Park fit into Bulldog Blueprint and he asked Architect Damien Schlitt to talk about how the two parks work into the plan. Mr. Schlitt explained that one of the core pieces to solve is that 13 Acres Park is not congruent to anything the district owns. The Transportation Department could fit there, but he was unsure that anyone would want to put the Transportation Department in the middle of a residential area. He doesn't see anything that could fit there that would be something of value to future plans.

The Board asked several follow up questions. During the discussion it was shared that the grant funds will need to be spent by a certain date and there is some pressure to provide some plans. There hasn't been enough planning done yet to know how far the grant funds will go in building both sets of courts. The tennis courts would be on a different parcel of land than the adjacent parking lot, so a share use agreement would be needed. In order to address the scarcity of parking, the District would need to avoid scheduling soccer and tennis on the same night. An intergovernmental agreement between the District and the Village would govern the shared use and would be revisited each time the agreement reaches its expiration date.

Senator Chapin Rose was able to join the meeting and Village President Widener thanked him for the generous grant. Senator Rose thanked the joint boards for their work together on the joint use agreement for the Field House and said he is hoping that the joint boards will find a way to work together on the tennis project.

President Widener asked the Board of Education to consider a response to the Village's ideas. He said the Village would like to have an answer within a month.

7. Adjournment

Motion was made by **Metzger**, seconded by **Harpst**, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Max McComb, President

Ken Keefe, Secretary

Submitted by Dawn Quinley, Board Recorder