

News

Hinsdale speeds effort to add platform tennis

By **Melissa Rubalcaba**

Staff writer

Hinsdale Park and Recreation commissioners have served up a plan that could bring more platform tennis courts to the village sooner than expected.

Commissioners adjusted their five-year budget, putting expenditures for four new platform tennis courts and a warming shelter at Katherine Legge Memorial Park into the 2004-05 fiscal year. The costs are estimated at \$347,218 and were initially scheduled for 2006-07.

"This is a sport that's continuing to grow nationwide in addition to the Chicago area," said Commissioner Andy Stephens. "It makes sense to us to move this up in the master plan."

Platform tennis is considered a winter sport, with the season beginning in late fall. Today, Hinsdale has two courts with heated decks and lights at Burns Field.

The Park and Recreation Commission's plan was narrowly approved Jan. 6 by the Village Board 4-3 as Village President George Faulstich Jr. cast his vote to break a tie. Trustees Robert Lennox, Laura Johnson and Cindy Williams voted against the commission's budget change.

Johnson and Williams said they understood the greater interest in having more paddle tennis courts. But they expressed concerns about costs and how the village was allocating funds.



Staff photo by Julie Astrowski