

MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING – OCTOBER 10, 2023

Call to Order: Chairman Bob Knueppel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Trustees Present: Bob Knueppel, Ken Westphal, and Jay Huncosky

Trustees Absent: None

Others Present: Laurie Buchanan, Roger Zubke, Nathan Schoenike, Cheryl Smith, Doug Belows, Pam Roeseler, and Ross Roeseler

Discuss/Approve Minutes from the 5/23/2023 Committee Meeting:

Jay motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Ken. The motion carried.

Discuss Concession Stand with Astros Representatives:

Ross and Pam would like to replace the existing rotted cabinet, wood shelving, and uncleanable OSB board backsplash. He said occasionally on his job he comes across good cabinets that are being replaced and thrown out that he felt he could salvage and upgrade our existing cabinets. He would like to replace the wood shelving with vinyl shelving that he felt he could find discounted at one of the major home improvement stores. He would like to replace the OSB board with a white board that would be washable. The committee was in favor of letting him proceed with his ideas. He would donate his labor and any cost, unless he was unable to get discounted materials. If necessary, he would approach the Astros or Village for some help with the costs. He will work with Roger going forward on this project over the winter.

Ross suggested constructing a concrete sidewalk from the concession stand to the parking lot for people with walkers or any other disabilities so they could have access to the facilities easier. He suggested a sidewalk from the existing handicap parking spots, on the southwest corner of the parking lot, towards the restrooms to meet up with the existing sidewalk. Roger said that slope is too steep for a handicap sidewalk and would have to wind back and forth multiple times to meet the 12 to 1 handicap rule. Roger has already worked with Dean Mueller of Mi-De Construction to locate an area that would best meet the need to put this sidewalk. The best solution is from the concession stand to the southeast corner of the parking lot. The slope is almost perfect and we could add one or two handicap parking stalls in that corner of the lot.

Roger got a quote of \$3,600 from Red Westphal for installing the sidewalk, with him donating his labor because it is for handicap access. This project would not happen until next year, and concrete is going up the beginning of the year, so we are estimating about \$4,000 for this project. This cost would be split three ways, the Village, the Astros, and the Rec Dept. The committee was in favor of this project and will include this in next year's Village budget.

Discuss/Recommend Budget Proposals for 2024:

The following items are points of suggested change:

Revenues:

Public Charges for Services:

1. No change from last year.

Expenditures:

Firemans Park:

1. \$200 increase in Electric/Water/Sewer
 - a) More realistic
2. \$650 increase in Repair & Maintenance Supplies
 - a) Extra cost for new scoreboard controller and scoreboard parts
3. \$2,325 increase in Contracted Services
 - a) \$1,000 for K&B tree trimming
 - b) \$1,325 for Mr. Green Jeans ballfield crabgrass treatments
4. \$100 increase in Capital Outlay-Big JD
 - a) Equipment costs have gone up
5. \$100 increase in Capital Outlay Tractor
 - a) Equipment costs have gone up
6. \$400 increase in Capital Outlay – Zero Turn Mower
 - a) Equipment costs have gone up

Parks:

1. \$225 increase in Contracted Services K&B
 - a) Increase in tree trimming
2. \$100 increase in Capital Outlay-Big JD
 - a) Equipment costs have gone up
3. \$100 increase in Capital Outlay - Tractor
 - a) Equipment costs have gone up
4. \$400 increase in Capital Outlay – Zero Turn Mower
 - a) Equipment costs have gone up

Cheryl and Doug, representing the Lions Club, mentioned during our discussion of tree removals and trimming that the Lions want to donate \$3,000 for bringing in some large established trees into the parks. The trees would be 6-8 inches in diameter and 20 feet high. They would get them free from John Davey of Red Green Nursery near Rubicon. We would have to pay for a tree mover with a large spade capable of moving them. That would cost about \$250/hour and the Lions Club is willing to donate the \$3,000 towards this. Roger thought we could use about 9 trees like this between several parks and the mover could possibly do 3 trees per day. At that rate it would take about 3 days at \$2,000 per day, so \$6,000 total. Roger thought we have some funds left this year in the Cemetery mowing account that could help cover this expense. There would be another large expense of possibly \$4,000 to remove the two large trees in Lions Park first. Cheryl mentioned that there is a 50/50 DNR grant due in October for removing trees so we will have clerk Kim Hopfinger check into this. Laurie mentioned that the Beaver Dam Hospital Foundation had just contacted her about giving the Village some money for whatever we might need yet this year, so we thought maybe we could use that for this. Laurie will check into this. The committee was excited about all of this and are hoping to possibly move some trees in this fall yet. Roger will gather quotes and meet with the necessary people to find out if and how this could be accomplished yet this fall and if we have funding to do all or part of this project.

Bob asked Cheryl and Doug about the condition of the pavilion in Lions Park. LSA had mentioned to Bob that the poles are old and unsafe. The roof is very old also. He asked if the Lions had any thoughts about replacing it or if they cared if a business paid for replacing it and putting their name on it. They had no objection to the business doing that. Bob will also check with the Watertown Health Foundation to see about a collaborative grant for this project.

Adjourn

With no further business, Jay made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ken. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Bob Knueppel, Parks and Recreation Chairman