

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2019
City Hall Council Chambers
301 W. Main St. Owosso, MI 48867**

- CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Espich called the meeting to order at 7: 00 p.m.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was recited.
- ROLL CALL:** Was taken by Deputy City Clerk Roxane Cramer
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Mike Espich, Vice-Chair Jeff Selbig, Commissioners Rick Morris, Nick Seabasty, Randy Woodworth and Andrew Workman.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioners Jerry Hebekeuser.
- OTHERS PRESENT:** **Robert Doran-Brockway, Director Owosso Historical Commission; Main Street/DDA Manager; Josh Adams.**
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** **COMMISSIONER WOODWORTH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JUNE 26 2019 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGE:**
- ADD CHAIRMAN ADDRESS AFTER APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**
- MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER WORKMAN**
- AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.**
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** **COMMISSIONER WOODWORTH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 29, 2019 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:**
- CHAIRMAN ESPICH CLARIFIED THAT COMMISSIONER HEBEKEUSER IS NOT REISGNING HE IS NOT RENEWING HIS TERM WHICH EXPIRED IN JUNE.**
- MOTION SUPPORTED BY VICE-CHAIR SELBIG**
- AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.**

CHAIRMAN ADDRESS: Chairman Espich took the podium and addressed the commissioners He stated that he was so proud of each and every one of the commissioners. Chairman Espich shared his thoughts with the commission on the things the commission has done together topping it off with the biggest project, the skate park for the kids. He also shared that the Argus Press asked for a comment and he told them he was very proud of the community noting had the commission not have been there the skate park would not have been built. Chairman Espich thanked Parks and Recreation Commissioners, ones serving today as well as former commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Marsha Ladd, 735 Lingle Avenue, she explained that she was the Parks and Rec Chairperson quite a few years ago. She is here today to share that her and her students are very excited about the new skate park. She is concerned about where the millage dollars are going to be spent. She also stated that she had posted on Facebook about it but had not received any responses. Ms. Ladd stated that she was happy to see the bathrooms at Bentley Park will be open.

Commissioner Woodworth responded to her explaining that he did respond to her Facebook Post with a link to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. He also explained that the millage is for Capital Improvements and can only be used for those improvements. He also stated that her input would be appreciated. Commissioner Woodworth also thanked her and her

students for the help with the skate park fundraiser.

Robert Flynn, Pine Street, Mr. Flynn stated he has a few things for the commission. The trail riders haven't been able to trim the Hopkins Lake Trail as of today because of the mud, he also asked if the city could give them a hand to mow the one end that goes north of the cell phone tower to clear it out one time. He also explained that there is the directional signage at Hopkins Lake. Each one of the poles has a number on it which corresponds to a map at fire station. Mr. Flynn said that he worked with the young man for his Eagle Scout Project. Mr. Flynn also reported that there are problems with people riding on the James Miner Trail with motorized vehicles. He would like some signs put up reflecting that. Mr. Flynn stated there is a problem on the James Miner Trail with people camping along the trail between Young Olds (formerly Harrelson's) and Gould Street Bridge.

Commissioners discussed problems with motorized vehicles on all trails.

Vice-Chair Selbig asked if one of the open spots on the commission has been filled. Mr. Adams reported that Mayor Eveleth has a couple of people in mind to fill those open spots.

Mr. Flynn also stated that there is a repair job done on Oakwood Street Bridge with stop signs turned over and they are very slippery when it rains and need to be replaced with wood.

Commissioner Morris stated that the long Kiwanis Foot Bridge at Hopkins Lake is missing a plank.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None

BUSINESS:

Skate Park

Chairman Espich reported that the skate park came together faster than what he expected. He reported Mr. Adams got a report that the skate park would be done on the 28th of June. Officially the park isn't open but the Argus Press reported that it is open. The builders did the close out with City Manager Nathan Henne on Thursday or Friday. They gave an update and put the sealant on Friday and suggested waiting until Monday for the sealant to dry but patrons weren't waiting until Monday. Chairman Espich wanted to go on the record that he felt bad about the interview for the Independent Newspaper because he did not intend to give the Independent wrong information they (Mr. Adams and himself) were going by what they were told by the builders when the skate park would be done.

Naming of the skate park: Commissioner Rick Morris created a Facebook page with several name possibilities entered on the page the commission then filtered through the ideas and settled on two, those were, "The O-Zone and The Owosso Skate Park"; Then Commissioner Seabasty put a survey online and over 600 people responded and respondent overwhelming chose "The O-zone". Commissioners present all agreed they liked the name "The O-Zone".

COMMISSIONER WOODWORTH MADE A MOTION TO NAME THE NEW PARK "THE O-ZONE STREET PLAZA".

MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER WOODWORTH.

AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioners discussed recognizing all the donors that gave money by listing them on a sign. They also discussed the ribbon cutting ceremony and the details for that. Commissioners set the date August 10, 2019.

Master Plan Priority List

Commissioner Woodworth shared he need to understand the budget better. He shared that it's hard to spend the money if we don't know how it is already being spent.

Mr. Doran-Brockway suggested the commissioners get an approved 19-20 budget, request a revenue and expenditure report every month, you can see exactly what your numbers are. Approve all the expenditures for the month.

Mr. Adams reported that he had a conversation with Mr. Chinavare about corporate sponsors and Mr. Adams said they would be on board Mr. Chinavare thought that it would be a good idea just sponsor for at least 3 years.

Marsha Ladd shared about when she was on the Parks and Recreation Commission. She also suggested being very diligent about spending the money so voters could see how the money is improving the parks.

July Meeting:

Commissioners agreed to meet on July 24th at 7 p.m.

Commissioners agreed to have an ad-hoc committee meeting with City Manager Nathan Henne.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

Commissioner Woodworth reported he has a \$1,000.00 donation for pickle ball and asked Mr. Adams to stop by and pick the donation up.

Ms. Ladd commented on the master plan the only thing she didn't agree with is they should not have a playground at Fayette Square.

Commissioner Workman asked if Mr. Adams had checked on the QR codes. He had not.

VICE-CHAIR SELBIG MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:30 P.M.

**MOTION SUPPORTED BY. COMMISSIONER WOODWORTH
ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**