

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2019  
City Hall Council Chambers  
301 W. Main St. Owosso, MI 48867**

- CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Espich called the meeting to order at 7: 14 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 Nick Seabasty, and Andrew Workman.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioner Woodworth and 2 vacant seats.
- OTHERS PRESENT:**
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** VICE-CHAIR SELBIG MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR JULY 24, 2019 AS IS.  
**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:  
**ON THE BOTTOM OF PAGE 1 CHANGE THE WORDING TO FROM “THEY HAVEN’T BEEN UNABLE TO” CHANGE IT TO THEY HAVEN’T BEEN ABLE TO.**  
**MOTION SUPPORTED COMMISSIONER SEABASTY.**  
**AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.**
- PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMISSIONER COMMENT:**  
Chairman Espich introduced Chris Owens in the audience and shared that Mr. Owens would be joining them on the commission next week after approval by council He also thanked Mr. Owens for coming to the meeting.
- COMMUNICATIONS:**  
None
- BUSINESS:**
- Skate Park**  
Chairman Espich explained that the Grand Opening will be Saturday August 3rd at 2:00pm and that the Masons will be there and will be giving the building a fresh coat of paint prior  
Mr. Adams and commissioners discussed details for the grand opening.

### **New Commission Members Joining in August**

Chairman Espich explained that there will be 2 new members at the August meeting after approval by the city council on August 5, 2019.

### **Future Check Register Review**

Chairman Espich explained that Mr. Adams, Commissioner Woodworth set in for Vice-Chair Selbig and himself had a meeting with City Manager Henne He also reported that in the future Mr. Adams will be supplying the commissioners with a check register to review. This will give the commissioners the opportunity to see how the Parks and Recreation budget is spent. He further went on to explain that City Manager said the total budget is \$230, 000.00; \$107, 000.00 is salary and benefits; \$62,000.00 is in equipment rental.

### **Baseball Field Lights**

Mr. Adams reported that the DPW will be looking at the lights at the Kiwanis Fields and the Bennett Field. There are significant issues, some poles are rotted, and lights are old. Glenn Chinavare is going to be looking at the cost estimates. Mr. Adams asked the commission if they felt that should be there first capital improvement. Mr. Adams suggested checking with Consumers Energy to see what grants are available. Mr. Adams also shared that the City Manager and DPW agree that is probably the most outstanding issue that the parks have at this time.

Mr. Adams and Commissioners discussed the process of spending the millage money and also how the parks and recreation budget is spent.

### **National Fitness Campaign Grant**

Mr. Adams reported to the commission that he did apply for the grant per the commissioner's instruction and they did receive it. It is a \$120,000.00 project they have given a \$30,000.00 grant. It would be up to the commission to raise the \$90,000.00 to complete it. Mr. Adams also reported that they have used it other parts of the state and used a patronicity grant.

Mr. Adams also reported that Commissioner Woodworth suggested contacting the hospital and they may be interested in being involved. Also the 3 or 4 cross fit gyms in the area would be great support for this project.

Chairman Espich stated the project is \$125,000.00 and would be \$95,000.00 that would have to be raised.

Mr. Adams reported that he has to respond to by July 29, 2019. He also reported it would have to be done by the end of the fiscal year of 2020. Mr. Adams reported he would let them know it is tentative upon council approval. Mr. Adams told the commissioners if they didn't want to pursue it he would deny it.

Mr. Adams told commissioners he would let the company know there are a lot of connections to be made until they can commit to the grant.

### **Lend-a-Pole at Hopkins Lake**

Chairman Espich stated the Ryan Lamerouex dropped off the box to the DPW and they are just waiting for the sign that had been ordered by Mark Mitchell. Once the sign is received Chairman Espich asked Mr. Adams let him know so at that Mr. Lamerouex will deliver the poles and tackle to the box. Chairman Espich reported that per Mr. Lamerouex he is going to maintain the box and poles.

### **QR Codes for Parks and Equipment**

Mr. Adams reported per the Cheryl Grice, Finance Director, that QR Codes would be appropriate; however, Ms. Grice nor himself are not certain the technology. Ms. Grice suggested using the URL from the City website where the Polar Plunge is and change it to a Parks donation button. The commissioners discussed using both the PayPal and the QR Codes. Mr. Adams said he will pursue it with the finance department.

### **Park Maintenance Sponsors – Make a List**

Mr. Adams reported DPW was okay with private sponsors to maintain the parks. He suggested commissioners think of a list. Mr. Adams wants to see if there are interested parties and once there is a list would write a 3 year contract.

Chairman Espich asked for clarification for the record. This would be similar to adopt a highway. This wouldn't mean the park would have a name change.

Mr. Adams responded to Chairman Espich and explained that the private entity would agree to maintain and they would contract for mowing services. There would be a sign posted stating a certain private entity is maintaining the park and the contract would spell out their responsibilities for adopting the park.

### **Disc Golf – Maintenance an Pad Install**

Mr. Adams stated that the DPW will weed whack around the baskets in their routine but they can't install the pads this year. Putting the pads in would be a capital improvement but does the commission want to use the dollars for that?

Chairman Espich stated weed whacking around the baskets is great but the problem is that the weeds from the Tee pad to the baskets are overgrown.

Mr. Adams stated he would ask Glenn Chinavare for clarification on where they will do the weed whacking.

### **Master Plan Priority Setting – Next Month**

Mr. Adams suggested waiting until September so the new commissioners will be on board. Mr. Adams stated he didn't think it would take that long to update it.

### **Nex Meeting August 28<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m.**

All commissioners present agreed to meet August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS/COMMISSIONER COMMENT:**

Mr. Owens asked about the cost of maintaining a park.

Mr. Adams stated that it would depend on the size of the park and then discussed the layers of liability.

Mr. Owens asked if the schools used the baseball fields. Mr. Adams responded the Owosso organizations

Chairman Espich reminded everyone Saturday Is the River Cleanup at various locations starting at 9 a.m. He also reported that the Masons will be painting the Holman Pool Building on Saturday.

### **VICE-CHAIR SELBIG MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:10 P.M.**

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