

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Minutes of Wednesday, December 6, 2023

7:00 p.m.

City Hall

- CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Workman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Was recited
- ROLL CALL:** Was taken by Amy Fuller
- MEMBERS PRESENT:*** Chairman Workman, Vice Chair Selbig, Commissioners Bila, Horton, and Smith.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:*** Commissioners Rodman and Maginity.
- OTHERS PRESENT:*** Amy Fuller, Assistant City Manager and Logan Workman
- APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** COMMISSIONER HORTON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 6, 2023. MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** COMMISSIONER SMITH MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 25, 2023 WITHOUT CHANGES. MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER HORTON. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Amy Fuller shared a request from Casey Lambert to organize a cardboard sled race at the sledding hill. The Commission discussed and asked Amy to follow up with Mr. Lambert.
- Chairman Workman introduced Logan Workman who was attending the meeting to earn an eagle scout badge.
- OLD BUSINESS REPORT:**
- Amy Fuller reported on delays in installing water at the Dog Park and Community Garden.
- Amy Fuller reported that hand dryers were installed at Bennett Fields and the painting project was complete. She also stated that the softball association would prefer the commission not install trees near the fields, citing concerns the trees would die, be hit by cars, and drop debris on the fields. Amy shared costs and a draft for a new sign for the concession stand building. MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SMITH TO ORDER THE BENNETT FIELD SIGN WITHOUT THE SOFTBALL ASSOC. LOGO. MOTION SUPPORTED BY HORTON. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- There was a discussion regarding where to plant trees. MOTION BY COMMISSIONER SMITH TO SPEND UP TO \$1,700 FROM THE 208 MILLAGE ACCOUNT ON TREES FOR HUGH PARKER SOCCER FIELDS. MOTION SUPPORTED BY SELBIG. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.
- Amy Fuller reported that she had submitted the application for the Curwood Grant to paint a mural on the amphitheater and that there was funding in the state budget to continue the CIS trail into Owosso. City staff will be working with Senator Singh's office to move that project forward.
- ITEM OF BUSINESS:**

Millage: There was a discussion on asking the voters for another parks millage. MOTION BY HORTON TO REQUEST CITY COUNCIL APPROVE AND PLACE ON THE AUGUST BALLOT A MILLAGE REQUEST FOR .5 MILLS (\$.50 PER \$1,000.00) TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO MAINTAIN, IMPROVE AND UPGRADE PARKS, TO BE LEVIED FOR TWO YEARS BEGINNING WITH THE 2025 TAX LEVY YEAR AND RUNNING THROUGH THE 2026 TAX YEAR. MOTION SUPPORTED BY SMITH. AYES, HORTON, SMITH, SELBIG, WORKMAN. NAYS, BILA. MOTION CARRIED.

Dog Park: There was a discussion on the waste bags at the dog park. It was decided staff would order bags and Commissioner Smith would stock them. Staff to investigate if there is a key to the waste bag station, as city staff have not filled those bags previously.

DNR Grant: Amy Fuller asked if the Commission would support applying for a Recreation Passport Grant from the State of Michigan DNR to expand the splash pad at Bentley Park. She cited the community survey completed as part of the Parks and Recreation 5-year plan, where over 53% of respondents listed a splash pad as the park facility they would like to see more of, followed by comments requesting a larger splash pad with accessories. The grant would request \$150,000 with \$50,000 in matching funds requested from the General Fund. MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HORTON TO HAVE STAFF APPLY FOR THE GRANT, MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SELBIG. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2024, at 7:00 PM at City Hall.

PUBLIC/COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: COMMISSIONER HORTON MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 8:15 P.M. MOTION SUPPORTED BY COMMISSIONER SMITH. AYES ALL, MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted by:
Amy Fuller, Assistant City Manager