

## **KASSON PARK BOARD MINUTES JULY 19, 2016**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a meeting of the Kasson Park Board was duly held at Kasson City Hall on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of July at 6:00 P.M.

**THE FOLLOWING PARK BOARD MEMBERS WERE PRESENT:** Roger Franke, Janet Sinning, Greg Kuball, Terry Meyers and Chuck Coleman

**THE FOLLOWING WERE ABSENT:** Liza Larsen and Jason Farnsworth

**ALSO PRESENT:** Doug Buck, Parks & Rec Supervisor Ron Unger and Deputy Clerk Jan Naig

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M. by Unger.
- II. **Approve minutes:** Motion by Sinning and second by Franke, with all voting Aye, to approve the minutes of the May 2016 Kasson Park Board Meeting.

**III. New Business:**

**A. Kasson Aquatic Center updates.** Unger reported that attendance at the Aquatic Center has been great this summer. There have been buses from Austin, Rochester and Byron at the facility.

There have been around 10 incidents of vomit and fecal matter in the pool this summer. This has caused overtime hours for Anderson and Carstensen to monitor the water conditions. It has also required extra chemical to maintain the proper balance in the water and this is an extra cost. Luckily, with the separate pools, the entire facility has not been shut down for these incidents.

Unger reported that the employees have been good. Concession sales are very good. Kuball asked if there the City considered raising the cost of concessions to help with the profit margins. Unger indicated prices are reviewed at the beginning of the season. Overall, there have been good comments about the facility.

**B. Park surveillance cameras.** Unger attended a meeting with a representative of All Systems Installation to talk about the City's security needs by department. An upgrade of \$12,700.00 will be needed on the parks surveillance system in two to three years. This includes licensing, software and a recording server. The cost to do the necessary upgrades at the Dodge County Arena is \$21,000.00. Unger will have more detailed information for budgeting purposes. Unger was asked if there are other options for security systems. All Systems has done the cameras at City Hall, K.P.D., the new

library and in the parks. They have been very responsive to our needs and it would be difficult to make a switch at this time since they are servicing multiple city buildings on this system.

**C. Ice Arena.** Unger reported the floor was installed over the ice for the Dodge County Fair. The ceiling and insulation work are done. The building should be more energy efficient. The compressors are already running less frequently. The dehumidification system comes next. Arena Manager Howarth is looking at pricing for a refurbished electric Zamboni.

Meyers reported that the improvements to the Arena have been a nice step forward. Unfortunately, the Arena building was not utilized well during the week of the Fair. Howarth will be talking to the Fair Board and County Commissioners about making use of the building while the floor is installed.

**D. Festival in the Park.** Unger will contact Tom Gilbertson and Mallory Fjerstad to see if they are willing to do the garbage collection in the park again. Otherwise, the park should be ready for the Festival.

**E. KAC Donation request – Kim Lewis benefit.** Unger had a request for a donation for a silent auction to benefit Kim Lewis. Her daughters, Kris and Kassie Poffenberger, have both worked at the pool in past years. Motion by Kuball and second by Meyers, with all voting Aye, to donate a book of 10 single day admission passes for the Kim Lewis benefit auction.

The Chamber of Commerce is putting together a “welcome packet” for the new K-M School staff. There are 15 to 17 packets given each year. There was some discussion about donating single day admission passes for the Aquatic Center for the packets. Kuball stated the deadline for donations is August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Since the Aquatic Center closes on August 26<sup>th</sup>, the Board did not take any action. Meyers asked about donating a pass for public skating at the Ice Arena. Sinning asked about having wooden nameplates made for the new hires. The Board recommended that the Chamber include a map of the City which highlights the parks, playgrounds, ballfields and other City facilities.

**F. 2017 Budget.** Unger indicated it is time to be thinking about the 2017 budget and any capital expenditure requests.

-2017 will be the third year for funding the large parks mower (replacement of the 1997 mower). Unger may have the dealer bring a mower in September so that his staff can try it before purchasing one in the spring.

-Kasson Meadows subdivision park. Budget for phase 2 of the modular. There are three phases to complete the structure.

- Small ZTR mower. In two years we need to budget for a mower to replace the 2005-2006 ZTR Toro mower.
- Historic planter in Veterans Park. The limestone that makes up the historic planter is crumbling. A contractor has pressure tested the stone. It may need to be replaced with a reconstructed planter. Kuball asked that the Board consider the long term use of the park in determining the placement if a new planter is constructed. Sinning stated the flowers make the park look welcoming.
- Tennis courts/pickleball courts. Unger has been told by companies that repair tennis courts not to put any more funds into repairing the old courts. The courts are nearly 50 years old and are beyond repair. It costs around \$60,000.00-\$70,000.00 to construct a single court with fencing. This may be something that needs to be budgeted in phases.
- Doug Buck asked if Unger had looked into any programs where a mower is traded every year. Many dealers will work with these programs and it would be more feasible since the old mower would still have trade-in value.
- Cemetery fence. The old fence and pillars along the front of the cemetery will be removed. It will cost approximately \$27,000.00 to replace the fence and pillars.
- Cemetery burial vault. Unger reported that he will budget to reshingle the roof on the burial vault. Kuball asked if a rubber or steel roof has been considered.
- Lions Park improvements. Install the 9 hole disc golf course. Add lighting in the parking lot. Install signage. Add a picnic shelter.

Unger will put together a list that the Board can prioritize at the August meeting for budgeting purposes.

#### **IV. Old Business:**

**A. West Shelter – Veterans Park.** City crews put down 900 rolls of sod around the new shelter in Veterans Memorial Park. The extra sod will be taken to the Northeast Park to help prevent dirt from washing onto the street.

The electrical work is done. The cement work came in under budget, but there was additional cost for rock to build up the northeast corner in preparation for the cement. The steel serving counter is ordered. City crews will install the ceiling.

**B. Park signage update.** Unger is having Abel Signs make the sign for the Co. Rd. 34 entrance to Lions Park. The K-M Lions are working on a 4' X 6' sign to place along Hwy 14. McNeilus Steel cut and powder coated that sign. Abel Signs will complete the finish work. Meyers recognized Ashley Abel, a Leo Club member, for her assistance in the design of the sign.

**C. Movies in the Park update.** There were about 200 people at the first movie – The Goonies - thanks to the extra promotion by the Just Like Home and Empower You Wellness sponsors. There were 75-100 people at Happy Feet on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The third movie will be on July 29<sup>th</sup>.

**D. Parks projects update.** Unger listed off the park projects that are in process or yet to be done:

- complete west shelter in Veterans Park
- Lions Park signage
- install modular in Kasson Meadows subdivision park
- seed and aerate around new Library in early August
- install baskets for disc golf course in Lions Park
- tear out old bleachers in West Park
- move West Park old concessions building to Veterans Park
- construct batting cage in Veterans Park

Clearwater Recreation will be reconstructing the modular in West Park in August.

**E. Other.** Unger has not heard much from the youth baseball and softball associations this summer. There are tournaments scheduled on July 30<sup>th</sup> – KMBA and August 6<sup>th</sup> – KMGSA. Adult Softball leagues should be complete on August 11<sup>th</sup> – Mens League and August 19<sup>th</sup> – CoRec League. Kuball asked if KMBA or KMGSA have made any donations back to the parks department for all of the work that has been done for their programs over the summer.

Kuball asked about the red umbrellas on the lifeguard chairs. He noticed the wires were pulling through the fabric. Unger indicated that those umbrellas are new this year.

Franke asked about placing some benches in the playground area of Veterans Memorial Park. The moveable benches are gone. Unger has benches. They need to be installed.

Roger Anderson's family has donated 2 benches to place near the Library.

**V. Correspondence:** Unger had a thank you letter from Jason and Deidra Halvorson. The Kubbing to Kick Cancer Nerds Team has raised \$36,673.61 in donations for the American Cancer Society through 2015. They appreciate being able to use the park for their tournaments and the work City crews do to prepare for them.

**VI. Adjourn:**

Motion by Kuball and second by Sinning, with all voting Aye, to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 P.M.

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Acting Chairperson

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Deputy Clerk

The next scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.