

# PARK BOARD

## CITY OF WABASHA

Minutes of the Wednesday, August 19, 2015:

BOARD MEMBERS	:	Mickey Nelson	Dan Aitken
		Sue Gillespie	Sylvia Klas
		Betsy Wharton	Lynn Schoen
		Larry Udstuen	
STAFF PRESENT:		Michael Mroz	Assistant Public Works Director
		Tony Johnson	Public Works Director

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at City Hall and was called to order by Mike Mroz at 4:30.

Roll Call found members Nelson, Gillespie, Wharton, Aitken, Klas, Schoen, and Udstuen present.

Members Gillespie and Udstuen moved to approve the minutes of 7/15/15 as presented. Adopted unanimously.

Additions/changes to agenda:

The Assistant Public Works Director Michael Mroz added two items to the agenda. The first item was concerning a scout project at Parkside Point. The second was to discuss a lease agreement with Xcel Energy.

Public Comments:

Diane Scholberg wanted to go on record and support the City of Wabasha Pool. She continued to give ideas on how to improve the aquatic experience which included the replacing of the kiddie pool with a splash pad area.

General Business

1. **Pool improvement task force** – John Oschner, Kathryn McMahon, and James Concidine led a discussion on improvements they would like to see at the pool. The task force has done some research on area pools, including a tour of the new Plainview pool. Other main discussion points included setting up a special fund through the city which would allow people to make donations towards pool improvements as well as offering free swimming to kids 10 & under. It was determined that Chad Springer should contact the task force and organize a plan to follow through on the donation fund. The board and task force was also informed by Tony Johnson that the city is planning on investing \$60,000 into the pool over the next year. The money would come out of the capital improvement plan and would go toward new amenities like a slide, basketball hoop, and seating as well as general maintenance of the facility.

No motion was needed

2. **General Pool Discussion** – Board member Schoen led the group on a discussion of management issues at the pool. She strongly encouraged that the city look for an adult to direct the pool next season which would alleviate many of the problems. The director would also develop programming

and market the pool to increase attendance. The city has budgeted a salary increase of \$4.00 per/hr. for the director's position to draw in a more potential applicants.

No motion was needed

3. **Malone Park BBQ pit**– Tony requested the board to consider removing the BBQ pit and shelter at Malone Park due to a crack in the pit, rotten boards, and poor shingles. It was determined that the pit only gets used once or twice a year and that the money used to fix the shelter and pit would not be a good investment. There is also a similar pit in Izaak Walton Park that people may use.

Board Members Schoen and Gillespie moved to take down the BBQ pit and shelter due to lack of use and deterioration. Adopted unanimously.

4. **Municipal Boat Slip Fee Increase**- After a lengthy discussion on both seasonal and transient slip fees, the board determined that the City was very low on fees compared to others in the market. The current seasonal slip fee is \$840.

Board Members Schoen and Wharton moved to increase the seasonal slip fee up to \$1000.00. Adopted unanimously.

Furthermore, the board discussed how much the transient slips are used and if there is a waiting list for seasonal slips. It was determined that there is a demand for more seasonal slips. Additionally they board reviewed the transient slip fees and how effective the ½ day slip rental was. Michael informed the board it was hard to police ½ day rentals because he cannot be there 24/7 to see when the boaters register.

Board Members Schoen and Wharton moved to convert two of the four transient slips into seasonal slips, as well as increase the transient slip fee to \$25.00 per day and eliminate the ½ day transient slip rental. Adopted unanimously.

5. **Campground electrical code**- Mike informed board members that the campground had been cited by Xcel Energy for failing to have 3 feet of clearance in front of the electrical meters, which are mounted on the posts. Mike would like to see an addition made to the 2016 campground lease agreement stating that all campers, including slide outs must have 3 feet of clearance in front of the electrical meter.

Board Members Udstuen and Nelson moved to amend the campground lease agreement. Adopted unanimously.

6. **Campground Docks**- It has become increasingly difficult for staff to monitor the private dockage at the municipal campground. The city has also been contacted by the local marinas because we are taking business away from them by allowing the use of dockage in our campground. The current rules/regulations states, "temporary dockage" is allowed however one person's view on a "temporary dock" is different than the next. This has led to some disagreements between staff and campers over the removal of certain docks. In order to eliminate this grey area, staff would like to remove all dockage from the campground and amend the 2016 campground rules/regulations to state that absolutely no docks will be allowed in the campground.

Board Members Klas and Schoen moved to amend the campground rules/regulations. Adopted unanimously.

7. **Xcel Energy lease agreement-** The board was notified by Tony that Xcel energy would like to enter into a temporary storage site lease agreement with the city. The site would be used to house equipment for electrical work to be done in the area. The land would include the tennis courts and parts of the overflow parking area. The contract is for \$7,500 and would be from September 1 to January 31.

Board Members Aitken and Gillespie moved to enter into contract. Adopted unanimously.

#### Old Business

Tony updated the board on the following projects:

1. Geese cull – Tony has contacted the DNR a couple times to see if they have any relocation programs and the city is waiting for a response.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 4:30 at City Hall. Having no other business, members Gillespie and Udstuen moved to adjourn at 5:50 pm. Adopted unanimously.

Minutes by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Mroz, Public Works Assistant

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Patty Heraty, Deputy Clerk