



Approved

Park Commission

Regular Meeting

April 10, 2025

Minutes

Guests: Adam Buck, Dallas Brown

Absent: MaryJo Wiatrak

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30pm

1. Commissioner Olinger called the meeting to order.

1a. Pledge of Allegiance

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1b. Roll Call

Commissioners in attendance; Kaylen Olinger, Dan Lydon, Dan Charpentier, Nate Stackhouse, Julie Kochevar, and Bill Mack. Council Liaison Marie Rivers and Parks Superintendent Doris Zacho were present.

2. **APPROVE AGENDA: April 10, 2025.**

Commissioner Olinger asked if there were any additions to the April 10th agenda. Zacho would like to move up the discussion Water Tower Park: Bike Skills Park-BMX. Commissioner Mack made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Lydon seconded; all ayes the motion was approved.

3. **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: March 13, 2025.**

Commissioner Olinger asked if there were any corrections or additions to the consent agenda for March 13, 2025; Commissioner Mack was present at the meeting virtually. Commissioner Olinger made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Kochevar seconded; all ayes the motion was approved.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

5. **COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS AND PETITION**

5a. City Council Liaison Report- Marie Rivers

Rivers gave an update on the March 25th Council meeting. Council conducted a workshop on April 8th to discuss the police department and the water and sewer

opportunity down Highway 8 with the new road construction. There was a request from Fund 23 for the Fire Department for a water rescue program and equipment. A proposed variance amendment for 8920 275th street IUP was approved. The IUP for the Solar Garden amended tree heights and screening measures. The Old Towne Rd Trail project bid was awarded, and an RFP will go out for Municipal legal services as Miller Stevens is no longer able to represent the city.

5b. Parks Superintendent Report

Zacho has been working on the Easter Hunt, that will be on Saturday the 12th at 2pm.

6. PUBLIC HEARING

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8a. 2025 Priority List

1. Ojiketa Park

Dallas Brown addressed the commission regarding the forestry plan for Ojiketa Park. Zacho wanted him to discuss with the commission the plan and prioritize what may be important to the commission. The new trail system that will be ending at the park will be an area to discuss. Ojiketa has a lot more land mass and forestry, there are going to be more and more people using the park. Brown would like to set up a plan to have the park serve the area for future generations. Rivers asked about disease prevention. Brown spoke about the research and types of prevention and treatment he performs; each tree is specific. Stackhouse asked if the long-term forestry plans are based on current research taking into account the past ailments. Mack asked about soil management. Commission asked questions and discussed the forest floor and canopy at Ojiketa.

Zacho gave the commission an update on a sewer leak that happened at the end of March at Strom Hall. The city did have to make an insurance claim, and the basement of Strom was completely cleaned out and the haunted house was taken down. Zacho would like to be finished with the haunt, and this could be a reason to scale it back or end it.

2. Rotary Park: Peace Trail and Poles

Mack gave an update; he handed out a drawing of what the peace garden will look like. The area where the poles will be installed will be mulched and maintenance free. The poles are between 4ft and 6ft tall. April 26th will be a rotary workday. Thursday May 22nd will be an opening event and dedication. The poles are themed and designed by local artists, businesses, and

schools. The poles will be placed in the garden area and down the walking trail.

3. Chuckie Lundquist: Repairs

The top repair and resurfacing of the skate equipment will be done during the week of April 21st. It should take about a week, after that the concrete repair work will be done. Zacho is looking at possibly having the concrete pad for the pavilion done at the same time.

4. Water Tower Park: Bike Skills Park-BMX

Adam Buck from Pathfinder Trails out of Afton, MN was present at the meeting to discuss a concept for the BMX trail at Water Tower Park. He visited the site prior to the meeting, he thought it was a great site with a lot of community around it. The area has scrub brushes and not too many trees that would need to come down. There would be good access for equipment to get in and out of the site.

Zacho asked about a timeline, he stated that booking for construction would be in 2026. The design phase is a year in advance. Mack asked about similar tracks, there is an indoor track in Isanti. Buck stated that the area is larger than he anticipated, and it could accommodate a BMX track and Mountain Bike trail with skills. Lydon asked about the other tracks in the area. Kochevar asked about designing something that the community wants and what type of age this would appeal to. Buck stated that the track would accommodate 8–10-year-olds all the way to adult. Commission discussed all the different types of possibilities available at the site. Kochevar asked if the site would be self-operating and used at own risk. Buck discussed the type of signage that is used. Rivers asked about the size of the area, Zacho stated that they have about 2 acres that could be utilized, and there is money available in the park dedication fund to use.

5. Old Towne Trail Extension

Zacho met with the engineers, there will be no fencing or panels needed along the trail. The start date should be May 5th with completion by the end of June. The project was awarded with the lowest bid to Dresel Contracting. Zacho stated that the end of the trail at the old Ojiketa entrance will have boulders.

6. Lake Ave. Access

Zacho contacted Great River Greening, their mission is to inspire, engage and lead local communities in conserving and caring for the water and land that enrich our lives. She is hoping that they will help with some of the engineering for the project. Zacho will have the area surveyed so that definite boundary and property lines will be clear.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURN

Commissioner Kochevar made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Charpentier seconded; all ayes the meeting unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alisa Bodell
Executive Assistant