



**Approved**

## **Park Commission**

**Regular Meeting**

**June 13, 2024**

**Minutes**

### **Guests:**

**Absent:** Dan Charpentier

**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 were Bill Mack, Julie Kochevar, Nathan Stackhouse, Kaylen Olinger, MaryJo Wiatrak, Dan Lydon. Parks Superintendent Doris Zacho was present, along with council member Nicki Battles.

2. **APPROVE AGENDA: June 13, 2024.**

Commissioner Olinger asked if there were any additions to the June 13th agenda. Commissioner Mack made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Kochevar seconded; all ayes the motion was approved.

3. **APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA: May 9, 2024.**

Commissioner Kochevar made a motion to approve the consent agenda for May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024; Commissioner Lydon seconded; all ayes the motion was approved.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

5. **COMMUNICATIONS, REPORTS AND PETITION**

**5a. City Council Liaison Report**

Battles reported on the council meeting that was held on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Council heard from the Lakes Center for Youth and Families representative Linda Madsen she presented the 2023 participation and demographic information from the annual report. Craig Meyers was trained for the Local Board of Appeal. Administrator

Pechman's contract was renewed for an additional four-year term. Mike Siemsen submitted his letter of resignation to the Cable Commission.

John Chouinard, a resident of Pioneer Rd, addressed the council with concerns he has about the condition of Pioneer Rd and asked what improvements the city could make. Battles stated that the city's portion of the road would be included in the Highway 8 project so there is no need to spend money on it now when it will be replaced once the project is started. A speed study is being conducted by Wyoming and that will be shared with the city to come up with a unified speed limit.

Council also discussed the public safety funds for the joint police department, the city of Lindstrom did not want to split the funds 50/50 and wanted to contribute a lesser amount since they have a slightly lower population than Chisago City. This funding was for hiring bonuses and retention of officers. Everything prior to these funds have been split 50/50, and shared. Council decided to give the original amount that was agreed upon of \$115,000.

Council discussed the Highway 8 project and underpass, or bridge at Jennifer Ct. with such a high price to construct the underpass, the grade change issues, the loss of residential homes, and the maintenance required for the city the council felt the at grade crossings were acceptable for the project. Olinger asked if the at grade crossing would have lights, Battles stated it would not and it would just be a paint marked crossing. There are a lot of concerns with crossing the highway and there is not a great option as of right now. Mack asked about implementing cross walks in roundabouts, Battles stated it is required by the state to have crosswalks in roundabouts.

### **5b. Parks Superintendent Report**

Zacho updated the commission, there will be a wrestling event on Friday night of Ki-Chi-Saga days. The Uncommon Loon will host the event from 7-9pm; tickets will be sold at a minimum fee. The kid's area during Ki-Chi-Saga days will host a ninja warrior course, Polaris is sponsoring the course. There were two seasonal parks positions hired. The Farmers Market will be opening July 5<sup>th</sup> Malory will be at the next meeting to discuss some volunteer opportunities. Zacho has received close to 40 applications for the Park Maintenance position. Applications have been scored and 16 individuals have been interviewed and then 3 applicants received a final interview yesterday.

Battles asked about the Triathlon, Zacho attended the meeting last week. The kid's triathlon will be held the day prior on Saturday of the weekend. Gloria West with Dutrirun has incorporated the business in the area with coupons and

advertising. She has changed the parking and is meeting the police department's requests. Battles would like to make sure the triathlon sticks to their proposal and items that were agreed upon do take place. Gloria should be attending the next park commission meeting to give an update.

## **6. PUBLIC HEARING**

## **7. GENERAL BUSINESS**

## **8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **8a. 2024 Priority List**

#### **1. Ojiketa Park: Old Towne Trail Extension Project**

The project was reworked and by eliminating the retaining wall and the archeological study there would be approximately \$100,000 in savings. The project will be moving forward. The trail fund will be used to pay for the project.

#### **2. Rotary Park: Path & Overlook**

Commissioner Mack put together a presentation for other Rotary clubs and organizations. It is labeled as the Rotary Peace Trail. The initiative for Rotary over the next three years is making peace visible in the world. He shared the presentation with commission members. Commission disused the concept plan and shared ideas on the peace poles and trail.

#### **3. Girl Scout Projects: Bug Houses**

Alexis Kampi addressed the commission regarding the bug houses that have been built for the parks. Zacho brought up installation and maintenance of the houses and what the upkeep will involve for the parks department. The houses were built to last around 5 years, and there is very minimal upkeep. Kochevar asked about signage to explain what the houses are and what they do, Zacho will work on ordering an explanation sign.

Commissioner Lydon made a motion to accept the donation of the bug houses to be used in the Chisago City Parks; Commissioner Mack seconded; motion approved.

#### **4. Lake Avenue Access-Paddle Club**

Mack is working on this and has met with Cassy Theil from the county. He will work on preliminary plans.

#### **5. Hard Surface for Ice Rink-Asphalt Pickle Ball Court**

Zacho has received four quotes to asphalt the ice rink.

**6. Wildcat Woods Disc Golf Signage**

Stackhouse was in contact with the representative of the disc golf course, he wanted to update the commission on the purchase of the main sign. He showed the commission a picture of the signage and the material list. Zacho asked what the recognition of the park commission would look like on the sign. Zacho would like some acknowledgement that the park commission purchased the sign for the course. The park commission did already approve \$1000.00 towards the sign.

Commissioner Stackhouse made a motion to approve \$1250.00 toward the purchase of materials for the Wildcat Woods Disc Golf Course kiosk/sign with acknowledgement of the Park Commission; Commissioner Mack seconded; all ayes the motion was approved.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

Zacho updated the commission on the new apartment complex that will be going in off North Ave. \$232,925 in park dedication fees and \$54,450 in trail fees will be accrued with this project. The complex will include a pool and dog park, there will be 121 units available.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Mack made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Lydon seconded; the meeting unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alisa Bodell  
Executive Assistant