

Minutes Park & Rec Meeting City Hall Tuesday January 17th, 2023 - 5:15 PM

www.oelweinparks.org

Call to Order: 5:23pm

Park and Recreation

Roll Call: Bouska, Burkhart, Gearhart, Johnson, Jorgensen, Lenz, Meska, Stasi

Attending: Bouska, Gearhart, Johnson, Jorgensen

Absent: Burkhart, Lenz, Meska, Stasi

Approval of Minutes

• Consideration of a motion approving the minutes of the November 9th, 2022, meeting

Motion:	Jorgensen	2 nd :	Bouska
Aye:	All	Nay:	None

Guest: Jake Blitsch asked about the front sign for city park when it would be installed. Johnson stated that the city is working on a time to meet with the foundation regarding their proposal as no funding has been allocated for any of the projects. Jake asked about the electrical service for the podium at Woodlawn. Johnson stated that the old service to the podium was incorrectly hooked up to the service line. Johnson stated that Alliant ran a new service to the storage buildings from a different angle so the old line to the podium was eliminated. Johnson stated that he has already talked with an electrician and is looking into options.

Recreation Update

Burkhart was absent.

Trails Update

On Wednesday, Johnson traveled to Decorah to attend the Upper Explorer land meeting to discuss trail funding. Johnson stated that he is working on several other grants to purchase an RRFB system for trail segment 1 crossing of Highway 3. Johnson stated that he applied to the RJ McElroy trust and Fayette County Community Foundation for funding to complete this project. Johnson provided pictures of what the RRFB units look like and noted that there is a set of them by the Sportsplex in Waterloo. Discussion about using 5th or 6th street continued. Johnson stated that they have still not heard back from the Destination Iowa grant proposal from the state for trail funding for segment two. This grant proposal would fund \$270k of the project that Johnson jumped in on this grant proposal through Upper Explorer land.

Tree Board Update

Johnson stated that this month Emma Hannigan, the urban forestry coordinator for the Iowa DNR forestry department, notified him that they have all the city's work documenting all the city trees on their website. In 2018, the park department helped the forestry department utilizing GPS units to gather information on street trees in the boulevards throughout the community. These are city owned trees that the city maintains. This past summer Johnson arranged for the forestry department to gather the information on park and cemetery trees as well. Janessa and Emma gathered the

information with GPS units on trees in the main park areas as they obviously did not tag the trees in the heavily wooded area of the parks. This is fantastic information to utilize as the city moves forward with diversified tree plantings throughout the city properties. Anyone can access this information at <u>www.iowadnr.gov/urbanforestry</u> as Johnson stated he posted a link on the department website as well, <u>www.oelweinparks.org</u>. Johnson showed the board how to utilize the website. Johnson stated that he applied for the Tree City Growth award was submitted this last week for the work completed on the tree survey he had completed this summer. Johnson stated that they also have submitted the Tree City application in as well to Trees Forever.

Parks/Cemetery Update

The gates at City Park were repaired and closed for the season. This past month we prepared several full burials at Woodlawn. The spoil pile at Woodlawn were pushed up before everything started to freeze to keep the area clean. The new disc golf basket signs arrived this past month for the City Park course. Nate has been working on the maintenance of the equipment. A new bumper was installed on P3 that has been needing replaced that was damaged when they got there, and grill was given a fresh coat of paint. Johnson has been working on various grants as well as the department year-end report. Johnson also spent some time this past week updating the cemetery burial application and foundation order forms. Two steel plates were ordered for the cemetery sign that the school is working on this semester to wrap the project that has been ongoing. Updates to the park webpage were completed this week as well. The new low board diving stand was picked up from Carrico Aquatics which is a CIP item that will be installed in the spring at the pool. Nate and Dion started putting up the skate rink at diamond 1 which they will soon put the liner in and fill. Nate went around and straightened up a few of the trees that we planted this year in the street boulevards. This month the Pearl Harbor ceremony was held at Veterans Park on Wednesday morning. I have been working on the CAT grant for the pool filter project this week. I also have been developing the new season passes for the aquatic center with the new fee schedule. I also sat in on an online meeting to learn more information about a mini-pitch system. I have also been working on various trail projects and talking with landowners about future trail possibilities.

Nate and Dion finished putting up the skate rink at diamond 1 as they put the liner in and started to fill. There have been a couple of burials at Woodlawn this week. I had they guys utilize the new cribbing to dig the graves that is much safer and quicker. On Tuesday evening we had our trails monthly meeting where we all signed thank you letters to landowners that have given use easements for trail development. I am wrapping up the CAT grant this week to send out for the pool filter project. I am also wrapping up other grants for trail funding by the end of the year. I have been working on updating several forms for the new year and the year-end report. We also sent thank you letters to a few of the people that helped our department that were not planning on working this summer but did so to help. With the winter storm over the extended holiday weekend, we had a lot of drifting at the cemetery and along the trails to contend with. Nate finished up all the sidewalks on the numerous city properties as well. Nate also assisted the community development department with clearing some delinquent sidewalks that were not cleared of snow in the NW. The ice rink is filled and ready to go as we are working with the school with the skate rentals.

Nate has been working on maintenance of equipment and installed disc basket signage. Our grant proposal was submitted to the Fayette Community Foundation for a trails project last week. I finished the annual park and recreation brochure we distribute every year and wrapping up the yearly department report.

This past week in the park department we have been busy with various projects. Nate finished up with snow removal, cleaning off the skate rink at Wings Park and completing more maintenance on cemetery equipment. The employees were in to dig a grave for a Monday burial and a cremation burial for next week. Johnson turned in a grant proposal to the RJ McElroy trust for a trail project this week. Monday night was the department presentation to council for all budget items. Tuesday, Nate attended safety meetings at the Fire Department on asbestos awareness, silica and concrete safety, and welding safety. At 10am Johnson attended the regional park and rec meeting at the Decorah city hall. At 1:30 Johnson attended the new budget software meeting at City Hall with other department heads. Johnson finished up the Park Department annual report and turned it in as well as sent out the agenda for Mondays Park and Rec meeting. Johnson also signed up Nate and himself for their annual certified pool operator continuing education class in two weeks, required for pool maintenance.

Board Member Updates: None

Adjournment: 5:52pm Next Meeting: February 20th @ City Hall



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TREE BOARD UPDATE:





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DISC GOLF SIGNAGE

BUMPER REPLACED



MAINTENANCE

ICE RINK INSTALL





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BURIAL

TRAILS

TREES

PEARL HARBOR



CAT GRANT



SEASON PASSES

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MINI-PITCH







MAINTENANCE

www.oelweinparks.org ICE RINK



ICE RINK READY

GRAVE PREP

SNOW REMOVAL



GRAVE PREP

DISC BASKETS

SNOW REMOVAL





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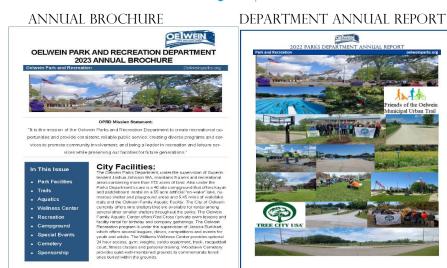
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TRAIL GRANT



here for good.





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REGIONAL PARK AND REC MEETING



TRAIL GRANT PROPOSAL

REGIONAL MEETING



MAINTENANCE

BURIAL

ICE RINK





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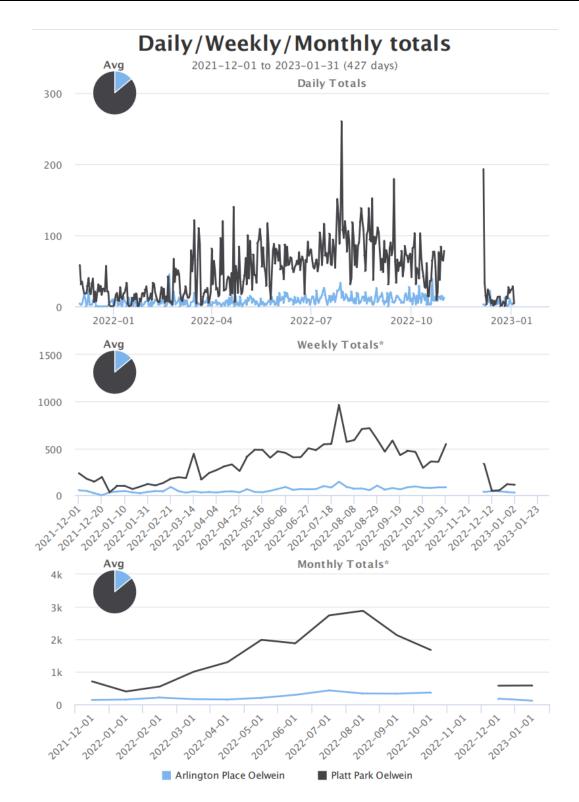






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Daily Activities

- Clean/organize shop and equipment
- Pick up garbage downtown
- Checking/maintaining parks, cemeteries
- Maintenance on equipment
- Order supplies for all departments
- Safety meetings

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- Meet with contractors
- Retrieve & upload trail count data
- ✤ Trail clearing
- All snow removal
- Woodlawn burials

Progress on Projects

- Website updating
- Trail easements/grants
- Work on Park and Rec master plan
- CIP pricing/budget
- Disc Golf Signage installation
- Snow equipment ready

- www.oelweinparks.org
- New cemetery cribbing in use
- Park and Rec brochure published
- Ice rink installed
- FCCF grant submitted
- Growth Award application submitted
- CAT grant submitted
- RJ McElroy grant submitted

Next Month and Future Projects

- Remove old well houses at City Park
- Drinking fountain install Platt Park
- Replace decking on old bridge
- Grant writing
- Ash tree removal
- Pool filter project
- Pool drain project
- Prairie planting
- Diamond 3 in-field fencing

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- Equipment maintenance
- Trail Segment 2
- Trail Segments 4/5 alignment
- Playground mulch at Wings
- Disc golf signage install
- Aquatics work

JOSHUA JOHNSON OELWEIN PARK SUPERINTENDENT