



Agenda

Park & Rec Meeting
Wings Park – North end by playground
August 17th, 2020 - 5:15 PM

Call to Order: 5:33 Taylor

Roll Call: Burkhart, Cantrell, Gearhart, Johnson, Jorgensen, Meska, Stasi, Stewart, Taylor

Attending: Burkhart, Cantrell by phone, Gearhart, Johnson, Jorgensen, Stasi, Taylor

Absent: Meska, Stewart

Approval of Minutes

1. Consideration of a motion approving the minutes of the July 20th, 2020 meeting

Motion: Jorgenson 2nd: Gearhart
Aye: All Nay: None

Cemetery Block Signs - Johnson stated that he has been working with Jake Blitsch the past few years to replace the block signs at Woodlawn Cemetery. The funds have been raised, the signs will be 12x18” aluminum signs placed in corners of the blocks. Johnson showed the board of possible locations and the layout of the signs.

Reaves Memorial Bench - Johnson stated that met with Penny Reaves and they looked at three different locations to place a possible memorial bench. Johnson said their first choice would be at the complex facing the ball diamond, but was not on the trail and in the school area. The second location was by the drinking fountain at diamond one that is going to be replaced with a new fountain. Johnson showed Penny the third location along the trail overlooking diamond two that the board has already approved. Gearhart motioned to approve the complex location upon approval of the school due to its location near the baseball field. Gearhart stated that the diamond 2 location along the trail would be the second location for placement if the school does not want the bench near the baseball field.

Motion: Gearhart 2nd: Stasi
Aye: All Nay: None

Trails Committee - Matt construction came in this past month to address the two drainage areas along the trail at Wings Park as well to finish the project. Johnson stated that Wings Park has had a lot of activity along the new trail segment this season and they have heard many compliments. This past week, Johnson met with the trails committee and they went over updates on fundraising and easements for our next projects. Johnson said that they have all the easements except for the railroad easement. Johnson stated

that Iowa Northern purchased the rail line this year and they have been working with them to get an easement for the trail. Johnson stated that they sent the City a contract that they now want a fee to place the trail on the property so they are trying to get that worked through. Johnson sent the cities REAP grant proposal to the Iowa DNR this week as well after getting it back from the county with their approval.

Tree Board - Johnson stated that On Tuesday he met with the Tree Board at Wings Park as they reviewed where they have areas picked out that they want to plant trees in October. These trees will be purchased with the \$5,000 grant they received from Trees Forever for street trees. Johnson stated that board members talk with homeowners to ensure that they want the trees planted, as there are enough open areas to plant throughout town. The group developed a brochure to hand out to homeowners if they were not around to talk about the trees that they could leave behind and call Johnson. Johnson invited the board to take a look at the website as he has made several more updates including links to EAB information and posted information about the Branching Out program. Johnson said they met at the north end of Wings as well to view the damage to the ash trees that the emerald ash borer is doing to the community. The board is inviting the paper to the next meeting to bring awareness to the community what this invasive species is doing to the community. The board will also have their picture taken for receiving the Tree City recognition for 2019.

Parks/Cemetery Report - Johnson reported that every morning the employees have been going through their daily routine of cleaning and sanitizing their area, equipment and vehicles. Johnson shared that Jared Stewart has completed work on the new cemetery sign; the department and Dave Sondrol have heard many great compliments on the new addition. Jay took some dirt out the complex trail bridge to fill the area in as it has washed out over the years. The supplies came to finish work on the Wings trail to take care of the drainage problem. The Wings Park trail extension is now completed as Johnson sent in the final Well mark foundation report and council closed out the project with final payment. Jay started work on the pool area to finish that project and diamonds are being prepared for little league games. Jay and Tim have been working on the road at City Park that washed out with the heavy rain. Signage was replaced at the tennis courts and Platt Park for the land and water conservation grant that the City needs to keep posted and updated. Johnson stated this was a grant that the City received over 40 years ago that has a perpetual reporting every 5 years. This past month the City experienced a windstorm on a Thursday afternoon, which created a mess at all the Cities properties. In all, the city lost six trees in the parks and trails with many branches down in all the parks and cemetery. There is still many branches and trees down at City owned lots and houses that they continued to work on cleaning up for two weeks, along with turning in storm damage reports. Last Friday someone kicked in a storage room door at Wings Park so Johnson called the PD and had them file a report. The park employees boarded up them room, until we can get a new door in as they kicked the door off the hinges and busted the frame. While there, they removed the siding on the east side that was getting soft and replaced it with new siding that we primed and stained the week before. The employees also cleaned out the building that others have accumulated a bunch of junk over the years.

The park employees went to the library in July and helped move shelving back into place with the carpeting project that they are completing. Johnson applied for a grant to the RJ McElroy trust for additional funding for Red gate Park to stretch our funding. Johnson stated that he still waiting on bids for the shelter project and the electrical project at City Park. Johnson stated that contractors are so busy that he is looking to surrounding areas to get these projects going. With the dry weather, the employees were able to give the mowers a break and continue completing some projects. The bulk of the week was spent at diamond one where the employees trucked in limestone screenings and smoothing out the infield and around the bleachers. The employees spread approximately 70 ton of lime to build the diamond area back up from the flood event we had this season. This week the mosquito sprayer representatives where in the area so Johnson asked them to stop in to calibrate the fogger to keep in in good working order. Johnson stated that he does not plan to spray this year as the mosquito count has been down this season.

At Woodlawn, we had a full burial on Monday with Geilenfeld funeral home and have been working on some extra trimming and installing smaller foundations. The new slide for the aquatic center finally showed up this week while will be installed in the zero entry to give the kids another feature to utilize. The employees also took up the two additional permabrellas to the pool that will be installed when we can get to them. Johnson explained that these are the large 20' diameter umbrellas that where CIP items. The employees have also been working on other projects at the pool this week, which include filling in areas with black dirt, assembling the slide top canopy that was purchased through a grant from the RJ McElroy Trust that Johnson received this year.

Jay takes the skid loader and swept the bike trails on both sides of town on a regular basis. The park employees took the power sprayer to the mowers this week to make sure all grass and oils were cleaned off the engines and pumps to ensure they are running efficiently. Lisa has been working on painting doors and trim at the aquatic center. This week we will shut off the chemical to the pool and will let it set a day to dissipate the chlorine and start to drain. The cemetery employees have a cremation burial and a full burial for Geilenfeld funeral home this Saturday the 15th, which they are preparing today. This will bring the cemetery total to 22 full burials and 17 cremation burials for this year. The department is still short an employee as one has been off for the past three weeks that was hurt on his own time. The bleachers at diamond one sustained some vandal damage that Jay repaired right away.

Diamond 1 repairs have been completed from the flooding event with anchors and bases in place ready for men's league if they chose to use it. The cemetery employees smoothed out the dirt work where bushes were removed because of tornado damage and have been working on foundations. Johnson stated that the grinding would hopefully be in the next couple of weeks to grind up the tree pile at the cemetery from the tornado damage. Johnson stated that they were going to grind the pile back in May but their equipment exploded into flames in the middle of the night so they did not make it out to the cemetery that round. Johnson said that the told him they would complete that pile first then grind up the yard waste site second this time.

Recreation Report – Burkhart stated that they completed the 80 miles in 80 days challenge. They had a drawing, gave out gifts, and had 30-40 people participate. Burkhart stated that in two weeks she will sign up for the healthiest state initiative and will apply for a mini grant to help. Jorgenson asked if it would be held at City Park and Burkhart thought so. Burkhart stated that her and Liz completed their CPR and BLS trainings, along with their daily cleaning and sanitizing. Burkhart stated that flag football, soccer and volleyball registrations will go out shortly, and Burkhart stated that she was unsure about volleyball attendance. Burkhart stated that they are allowing day passes and working out scheduling with the school with the weight rooms. Burkhart stated that they lost approximately \$4k worth of little league equipment in the flooding event the City went through. Burkhart stated that Liz proposed that she conducted a fundraiser with Liz running on a treadmill every hour for twelve hours possibly in October. Burkhart stated that with school starting they are having school memberships coming in.

Board Member Updates - None

Adjournment

Motion: Stasi	2 nd : Gearhart
Aye: All	Nay: None

Next Meeting: September 21st, 2020