

**MINUTES
PARK BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 17, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Present: Archer, Kennedy, Nasvik, Peterson, Swisher; Town Board Liaison: Ruzek;
Public Works Director: Reed; Planner: Riedesel.

Absent: Lee and Lombardi with notice.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Additions/Deletions): Peterson moved approval of the agenda as submitted. Kennedy seconded. Ayes all.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20, 2016 MINUTES: Peterson moved approval of the October 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes. Kennedy seconded. Ayes all.

POLAR LAKES PARK: Town Hall Site: The Planner reported that work is being done on the Town Hall site. The retaining wall is in, steps in place, and hydro seeding done. In the spring, landscaping will be done. The next step is work on the building. Roof repair and soffit work will be done. It was suggested that the Park Board think about a mutual project with the City of White Bear Lake for the Town Hall site. **Baseball Fields:** Grass seeding has been done on Field #1; mound is in on Field #4; and the irrigation is in. **Fence Posts:** The Public Works Director reported that a price has been acquired to lower the fence posts which are rising out of the ground. The posts will be placed in concrete for stability. **Annual Meeting:** It was suggested that there be a slide show of Town parks at the Annual Meeting, before and after upgrades.

Kennedy moved to recommend to the Town Board that before and after photos of upgrades to Town parks, including costs be included in the Annual Meeting presentation to let the citizens know how their parks are being maintained. Peterson seconded. Ayes all.

APPLE TREE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING: There was discussion regarding a neighborhood meeting for the neighbors of Apple Tree Park to ask for their input for upgrade to the park. Playground equipment is planned as well as providing handicap access. It was noted that kids like a variety of play equipment. There are some trees that are not quality park trees. They could be removed and new ones will be put in their place.

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Kennedy moved to schedule a neighborhood meeting for neighbors of Apple Tree Park for Thursday, January 19, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. at Heritage Hall, 4200 Otter Lake Road. Swisher seconded. Ayes all.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The Planner reported that an updated Comprehensive Plan is due in 2018. The Comprehensive Plan is a long range guide for Township development and is required by the Metropolitan Council. The Chapter on Park and Open Space Plan of the Comprehensive Plan was provided for review and comment. He noted that the Township has a trail plan chapter incorporated into their Comprehensive Plan. The Town will hire a consultant to assist in the upgrade of the Plan. In the current situation the Park Board will review the Park and Open Space Plan before the consultant reviews it. It was noted that the Park Board would like direction in policy regarding where the Town would like to go with the parks. The members will review the Park and Open Space and Trail Plan and provide the Planner with their comments.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT: The Public Works Director reviewed the Public Works Department Activity Report for the month of October 2016 as it relates to parks. **Eagle Park:** The adult fitness equipment will be installed next week. **Longville Park:** As part of the tennis court rehabilitation the new tennis nets have been ordered. **Polar Lakes Park:** The baseball field #4 irrigation addition and seeding of the infield and warning tracks will be completed in the spring of 2017. **Parks in General:** Drinking fountains have been shut down for the year. Areas of the parks not normally mowed have been mowed.

There was discussion regarding ice rinks in parks. There are only about three parks where rinks are flooded. It takes time to build an ice base and the rinks are not used much. It was suggested to have a sizable rink at Polar Lakes Park if it does not compromise any grassy surface which would be used of ball games or soccer.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan J. Clemens
Recording Secretary