

**MINUTES  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
APRIL 18, 2019**

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

Present: Akenson, Josephson, Koster, Lee, Lombardi, Reeves, Sinclair; Public Works Director: Reed; Planner: Riedesel; Town Board Supervisor: Ruzek.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Additions/Deletions):** Koster moved approval of the agenda as submitted, with the addition of Summit Lane as agenda item 13A. Akenson seconded. Ayes all.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2019:** Koster moved the approval of the Minutes of March 21, 2019, with the correction of Town Board Supervisor: Ruzek, and Sinclair marked present, and the correction of one typo. Sinclair seconded. Ayes all.

**TOWNSHIP DAY / MOVIE IN THE PARK:** There was discussion regarding planning of Township Day and Movie in the Park. Lisa Beecroft was present to discuss her updates on finalization of dates, times, and other specifics. Jake Nelson and Pandora's Other Box will be performing and the drumline has confirmed. There is still discussion on raffle verses a silent auction, and Beecroft will need to know by the May meeting in order to get a permit for the raffle. She will have a list of all vendors coming up in May.

Beecroft will be reaching out to marketing and advertisement opportunities for Township Day. It is the 20<sup>th</sup> year of *Town Life* in 2019, so ad size was discussed for the early to mid-May issue. Between options of a 4" color ad for \$385, 5" ad for \$415, and a 10" ad for \$695, it was decided that the 10" ad would be the most effective given the audience reach and special circumstance of the anniversary. Beecroft shared a new contact for billboard advertisement through Clear Channel. More discussion on that will be held in May.

Other advertising methods were discussed. More research and progress will be made by Beecroft and there will be more discussion at the meeting in May. Riedesel and Beecroft will be meeting independently to discuss an ATM machine and other logistics.

**FOUR SEASON PARK – RCWD PROJECT:** At the March Town Board Executive Meeting, Kyle Axtell, Manager at the Rice Creek Watershed District discussed a project for Bald Eagle Lake. RCWD works hard at constantly improving water quality of Bald

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Eagle Lake, for example the Alum Treatment. They have spent about \$2 million to keep water quality at its highest. The main tributary, Ramsey County Ditch 11, to the lake has little to no stormwater treatment. They have obtained a \$392,000 grant from the Clean Water Fund from the Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources for this project. The proposal is to partner with the Town to have .75 acre to build a stormwater treatment pond near this tributary. This project location is noted on the map in the packet. RCWD sketches, concept layout are in the packet.

This project would be a surface project. These ponds look similar to golf course sand bunkers, but the ponds will pump water from the ditch and filter it. These ditches remove phosphorous and sediment, so clean water runs to the lake. The proposed work schedule for this agenda item is spring 2020 through fall 2020.

There was discussion about boundary easements versus access agreements. There was discussion on power. Axtell noted that the small pump would be powered electrically through a single control panel, like a single lift station. It was discussed that the Town Attorneys should review the property records regarding acquisition and use of this Town property.

Axtell explained that these ponds would be running with virtually no upkeep for about 20 to 25 years, save landscaping. In 25 years, this project would need some improvements. There was a question regarding timing. Axtell stated that the first requirement is to obtain agreement with the Township. If this proposal were to be approved in the upcoming months of 2019, RCWD will be spending the rest of the year designing, in communication with staff, bidding over the winter, and then constructing in 2020. Construction will take about the month, though electrical and minor things will take a couple months.

There was discussion of safety, Axtell ensured safety, as the ponds are shallow. Public Works Director stated that RCWD is responsible for maintenance for 25 years, and only then will the Township be required to maintain and upkeep the pond. It is also paid for by RCWD.

Lee motioned to approve the next step and show support for this project for Bald Eagle Lake. Reeves seconded. Ayes all.

**TREE TRUST – PRESENTATION:** Karen Zumach was present to report on the number of trees the Township and surrounding areas get to plant since Water Gremlin's settlement. It was previously stated by the Township that \$1.5 million worth of trees are to be planted, but Zumach stated that \$750,000 worth of trees, totaling 1,500 trees, will be planted, and \$750,000 of settlement will be going to the University of Minnesota to conduct research in order to find alternatives to TCE.

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Tree Trust began in 1976 as a Youth Employment Training Program, employing 300 youth across the metro area. Tree Trust also has a professional contracting company which it uses for projects.

Zumach stated that Tree Trust makes lemonade out of lemons for situations like the one the Township residents are in. Volunteers help plant every Saturday in the spring and the fall. The Township will have 3 years to plant trees, and the Tree Trust will care for the trees for the first 2 years of their lives.

Riedesel and Zumach have been in communication and they want to get 25 trees planted on April 30<sup>th</sup>: 5 in Apple Tree Park and 20 in Columbia Park. Swamp white oak, Kentucky coffee, Norway spruce, Siouland poplar, Boulevard linden, Honeylocust, and Triumph elm are to be planted at the 2 parks.

Some citizens were concerned with whether or not some trees would be planted on Water Gremlin's soil. It was stated that 40 trees will go on Water Gremlin property, but it will be to the Township residents' benefit.

In past meetings, the Park Board had discussed removing Ash trees affected or potentially affected by the Emerald Ash Borer beetle and planting trees in their stead. This is an excellent opportunity, though the Township would be financially responsible for removal and disposing of those trees.

Ruzek mentioned that school ground can be included and that it could be an excellent opportunity for community education. The only stipulation for the planting of the trees is that it has to be on public property.

It was the consensus that Riedesel and Zumach will work to get the 25 trees planted at Apple Tree Park and Columbia Park.

**BRANDLWOOD PARK:** Brandlwood Park is on the Town's improvement list for 2019. A budget of \$80,000 was approved by the residents at the Annual Budget Meeting. Funding for the improvements is being transferred from the 2018 General Fund to the 2019 Park Improvement Fund. Improvements to the Bellaire Beach building in 2019 are also included in the transfer.

These costs should be deducted from the \$80,000 budgeted for the park upgrade. At the Town Board Meeting on April 1, 2019, it was moved to authorize advertisement for bids opening Tuesday, April 16, 2019 @ 1 p.m. A bid came in at \$70,000 from Northland Recreation LLC. Included in the bid are the Little Tikes Custom Kid Builder Play structure \$32,820.91; an 8" by 12" concrete border \$9,060.00; 220 cubic yards of Certified Woodfiber Resilient Surfacing-Installed \$7,287.50; 9 3' by 5' Rubber Wear Mats under swings and slides \$1,468.75; Install Little Tikes play equipment \$12,762.84; and Excavate site and remove existing play equipment \$6,600.00; totaling \$70,000.00.

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Listed in the proposal are a couple of additional options including: 640 square feet Concrete sidewalk to swings with tapered edges \$5,088.00; Poured in Place rubber resilient surfacing under 4 swings \$8,250.00; Backfill black dirt behind new concrete border \$1,125.00; 30' by 30' Concrete Basketball Pad with Post, goal & net \$8,950.00; 12' by 12' Shelter with concrete pad installed \$18,292.00; and Sand Volleyball Court with nets and standards \$5,525.00.

Mike Dorsey of Northland Recreation was present to report and answer questions. There was discussion on each of these items and adult exercise equipment. Placement of equipment was discussed. Riedesel reached out to the neighbors who had input at the public hearing. It was the consensus that they liked it.

Since the Park Board has estimated \$80,000, there is \$10,000 of wiggle room.

It was the discussion that adult fitness equipment would be added on as an extra \$5,000.

Jacobsen suggested removing the track ride and one other piece to see if the Township would have more room for additional items. Without inquiring about the removal of those 2 items, it was discussed that the Park Board would potentially end up a little less than \$4,000 over budget.

It was the consensus that Staff would question Northland Recreation in regard to removing those 2 pieces. There will be more discussion at the May meeting.

**POLAR LAKES PARK – UPDATE:** **The fitness court:** A fitness court has been suggested for Polar Lakes Park. The location is set at just west of the administrative offices for the fitness court, which will include an estimated cost of \$2,000 for grading work. The court is proposed to be 38' x 38'. A \$30,000 grant is provided by National Fitness for equipment on the court. A restroom is also being considered in this location. Romtec Inc. drew up a map of the potential restroom. **Restrooms:** Sierra IV Restroom includes 10 toilets, 5 each; 640 sq. ft.; mechanical room; drinking fountains; and an ADA floor plan. Capra Utilities was contacted for an estimate to provide a sewer line to the considered restroom location. As of March, the discussed locations are near the flag pole, and south of the central soccer field. The Sierra IV Restroom will require \$10,000 to \$15,000 to extend the sewer. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has grant opportunities. **DNR Grant:** The Park Board's needs have potential to be eligible for a few areas listed in the Outdoor Recreation Grant Program Manual. The total cost of the grant will be determined upon the application's acceptance. The application was turned in at the end of March.

Staff has been working on ways to find sponsorship for the fitness court project; Allina Health has a small grant, for example. It was stated that the grant may cover 50% of the cost of the construction of a perimeter trail around the park and the restroom. The desired time to begin construction would be after Township Day.

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Riedesel put together the 2019 Outdoor Recreation Grant Program Proposal and submitted it in March. The awarded applicant will be notified in June. Ben Anderson is no longer the president of the Soccer Club, but the Soccer Club is still interested in adding fill to the middle soccer field to increase their size.

**SAPUTO SHELTER:** Saputo will donate approximately \$25,000 for a shelter facility which includes a bike repair station. The shelter is proposed to be 14' by 30'. The shelter is a legacy project and will have Saputo signage on the structure. Originally there were two locations being discussed and the staff was leaning towards Rutherford Park in December 2018. In January 2019, Town Board approved the location of the Saputo shelter at Bellaire Beach rather than Rutherford.

Bellaire Beach will have more expense in grading and some cement work, but Mike Brooks with the Lake Links says it will get more use at Bellaire and will be beautiful. He advised the staff to simply move forward with the application process with Saputo. There may also be a big "media day" with the Saputo shelter drawing people from Canada. Combined with that support the cost to the Township is estimated to be low.

A public forum isn't needed as there should be no pushback in replacing an older shelter with this new shelter. Estimated construction would begin in fall of 2019. The Planner will be in contact with Saputo and the staff as Park Board proceeds with the Saputo application. There was discussion on placement in relation to the existing structure.

The Planner met with Mike Brooks and Steve Wogamot who is working with Larson Engineering. There has been work done on the design of the trail. Larson Engineering has certified plans for construction, and Larson will come back after a grading plan is complete. There will be more discussion at the May meeting.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR REPORT:** The Public Works Director reviewed Park Projects as outlined in the Public Works Department Activity Report for March 2019. **Water Meters:** The Town Board approved purchasing the new water meters for the replacement beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. **Park Projects:** The trails along White Bear Parkway, Hammond Road, Centerville Road, Otter Lake Road, Polar Lakes Park, and Columbia Park will be sealcoated in 2019. The Public Works Director is working on specifications for the project to be approved by the Town Board. With the wet weather, Public Works hasn't gotten much of a chance to be in the parks. **Bellaire Beach:** Bellaire Beach beach house is due for rehabilitation. The interior and exterior painting has been awarded to Fresh Paint and the work will be completed before May 31<sup>st</sup>, pending weather. Plumbing improvements along with the door and door frame replacements have also been completed. The stall dividers have arrived and have been put in the restrooms.

**PARK TOUR 2019:** The Park Board annually tours several parks as part of a monthly meeting. It was determined that the members will think about parks to visit and will

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reconvene at the May meeting with the final list. Among the parks in consideration are Columbia Park, Fox Meadow, and Four Seasons. Staff will circulate a list of parks to the members.

**BENSON AIRPORT – POLLINATOR PROJECT:** Town staff have been working with Beth Artner, member of the Town’s Planning Commission and EDAB, to coordinate a bee and butterfly seeding program at Benson’s Airport.

The Town was successful in getting approval of the grant. Now the planning and preparation begins. There are two ways to prepare these three acres: either find a farmer to plant soybeans, or spray Round Up to the whole area to kill the grass. There was discussion of coordinating with school districts or Pheasants Forever. There will be more to discuss at the next meeting.

**ADDED AGENDA ITEM – SUMMIT LANE PARK:** For health reasons Roger Carlson can no longer unlock or lock the gate at Summit Lane Park. As of now, it is the Town’s policy to keep it locked until May 1<sup>st</sup>. The Town is looking for another volunteer to man the gate daily. There will be three kayaks at the rack at Summit this year, Josephson will speak to them about gate key duties. It was the consensus that park rules for Summit Lane will be reviewed at the May meeting.

Josephson moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. Sinclair seconded. Ayes all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Megan R. Cavanaugh  
Recording Secretary