

Park Board Meeting Minutes
Jackson City Hall
12/13/2022

Attendees:

- Attendees: Michael Haeffner, Matt Skaret, Neal Carlson, Jerry Palmer, Luke Ewald, Lynne Anderson, Phil Markman, Mike Gruhlke.
- Absent: Michael Gilbert, Mike Eddy.
- Guests: John Weland (Garden Presenters), Phil Perro (Garden Presenters), Wes Brown (Bolton Menk), Troy Nemmers (Bolton Menk),

Community Garden Expansion Update:

- John and Phil shared a portfolio design for the garden expansion; the design will help expand the current gardens in Zimmerli Park and also include ADA-compliant garden beds for folks who have mobility issues; new fencing and perimeter modifications will be made to help make mowing easier for seasonal/park staff; the goal is to build an additional six garden beds inside the perimeter and up to 36 boxes going around the perimeter in Zimmerli Park; we currently have six garden beds that might have to be moved to accommodate the space for the 42 new beds; this proposed design would take the greenspace between the street and the playground; the fencing would come in a fifty foot roll from Menards; it would be ideal to put gravel/asphalt rock.
- There was concern brought up regarding garden upkeep and overgrowth—this would be remedied by having folks register through the city.
- The estimated cost for the expansion is an estimated \$5,400.
- The design can also be used for future garden designs in other parks/areas of Jackson.
- Motion is to table this until January 2023.

Veterans Memorial/Plaza Update:

- Matt has not heard anything from the veterans regarding the memorial plaza; there has been talk in the past if the Legion group doesn't get going that the Park Board could take over this project.
- Luke will check with the Jackson County Veteran Services Officer to see if he has any connections to the current steering committee or where things are at.

Hydration Stations:

- The Chamber in Balaton is the one that ordered the outdoor hydration station for their trails. They ordered it from Global Industrial and it cost \$3700, which we didn't fund the full amount. Here is the website: <https://www.globalindustrial.com/p/global-industrial-8482-outdoor-bottle-filling-station-bi-level-fountain-w-water-filter-ss>. The system does have some anti-theft and vandalism safety features to it.

- If we have questions about these hydration stations, we can connect with Balaton and see about upkeep, cleaning, changing filters, graffiti, vandalism.
- Jackson currently has four drinking fountains; majority of them need to be replaced.

Albertus Fields:

- Matt shared the finance committee agreed to not move forward with rebuilding the complex; the focus would be building a new complex on the north-end of Jackson; the land located in north-end of Jackson is not owned by the city so they would need to acquire it; a resolution would need to be approved by the city council and sent to the state to move forward with local options sale tax; if we get legislative approval, we would then need to get voter approval which would not be able to take place until the 2024 election season; the construction would not be able to take place until 2025.
- The goal would be to have a few baseball fields available for tournaments to help attract teams from out of town.
- Matt will reach out to Chris Scholten to see if he would like to attend a January 2023 park board meeting.

Dog Park Update:

- Brief discussion was brought up regarding dog parks; the City of Fairmont has three dog parks, Lakefield has one dog park; determining a location is still on our radar.

Skating Rink Updates:

- The total order for the EZ came to \$20,000; it will be installed hopefully before the end of the year; the skating rink gear is ready go once the skating rink opens for folks to use.
- Wes shared the soil boron report; there are seven feet of fill located in the Memorial Park area where the current skating rink is located; overall, the location is not suitable to lay asphalt, however there are options we can take to remedy this issue; the total cost for this project would likely be \$450,000 (similar project took place in the City of Aitkin).
- The DNR Outdoor Recreation grant could help fund this project; the due date is 3/31/2022; max funding is \$350,000 and requires a 50%-Match; the grant would delay building the project in 2024 with the grant funding (if awarded) being good through 2025; the grant will likely require us to install ADA-compliant parking spaces in the area.
- The Park Board is supportive of this grant.

Seasonal Help Update:

- There has been one applicant so far.

Safety First Quotes/Musical Instrument:

- . Matt reported that the musical instruments have been ordered through Percussion Play. The thought is they would go in Ashley Park where the sandbox is.

Phil/Neal Report:

- Phil said everything they have has already been covered.

Next Meeting:

- 1/10/2022 at 530pm.

Motion made by Luke, seconded by Lynne, to adjourn the meeting, all in favor, motion carries.