



MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMITTEE

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2018, 4:30 PM
CITY HALL, ROOM 207**

A. ROLL CALL.

Ald. Chris Wery, Ald. Jesse Brunette, Ald. Brian Johnson, Excused - Ald. Andy Nicholson
Others Present: Dan Ditscheit

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Brian Johnson to approve. Motion carried.
Yes- Brian Johnson, Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, No- None, Abstain- None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Brian Johnson to approve. Motion carried.
Yes- Brian Johnson, Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, No- None, Abstain- None

D. REGULAR BUSINESS.

1. Consideration with possible action on the request by the Kennedy Park Neighborhood Association to install a neighborhood sign in Kennedy Park.

Moved by Ald. Brian Johnson, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to approve. Motion carried.
Yes- Brian Johnson, Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Consideration with possible action on the request by Wisconsin Public Service for a 12' wide utility easement in Colburn Park.

Moved by Ald. Brian Johnson, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to approve contingent upon the review and approval by the Law Department. Motion carried.
Yes- Brian Johnson, Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, No- None, Abstain- None

E. INFORMATIONAL.

1.

Director's Report on updates and recent activities of the Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Brian Johnson to receive and place on file. Motion carried.

Yes- Brian Johnson, Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, No- None, Abstain- None

2. The next Park Committee meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2018.

F. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ald. Brian Johnson, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to adjourn. Motion carried.

Yes- Brian Johnson, Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, No- None, Abstain- None

VERBATIM MINUTES

- Nicholson is excused. Can I have an approval of the agenda? Motioned by Alderman Brunette seconded by Alderman Johnson. Any changes? Those in favor?

- [All] Aye.

- Opposed? Motion carried. See, approval of the minutes. Let me know if I am goin' too fast.

- [James] Who made that motion?

- [Chris] Brunette, Johnson. Move to approve?

- [Dan] Second.

- [Chris] Motion by Alderman Brunette seconded by Alderman Johnson to approve the minutes. Those in favor?

- [All] Aye.

- [Chris] Opposed? Motion carried. Under regular business, first item is consideration of possible action on the request by the Kennedy Park Neighborhood Association to install a neighborhood sign in Kennedy Park.

- [Dan] So I included a two agenda item attachments. One shows the neighborhood association proposed sign and then the other attachment shows the location of the park where they would propose to place it. In the past any neighborhood sign that was proposed to be in any city park, we did bring it forward to park committee. Usually we're in favor of it but once in a while there's an issue that comes up. In this situation at Kennedy Park we would have no concerns placing that neighborhood association sign at that intersection there.

- [Brian] Is this like a inactive neighborhood association?

- [Dan] It's a new association that's totally brand new.

- [Brian] Okay.

- [Dan] So my recommendation would be motion to approve. But if you want more discussion on it we can.

- [Chris] Any questions? Motion to approve? Motioned by Alderman Johnson seconded by Alderman Brunette. No discussion. Those in favor?

- [All] Aye.

- [Chris] Opposed? Motion carried. Number two. Consideration with possible action on the request by Wisconsin Public Service for a 12 foot wide utility easement in Colburn Park.

- [Dan] So again I have an attachment in the agenda package showing where the proposed easement would go. It would be located in the North

-East corner of Colburn Park. The WPS is proposing a 12 foot wide utility easement to run an electric line underground. So there is a house located right at the Southern end of that proposed easement. They want to install an underground electric service to their house. And the only way to do that, because of all the trees here, would be to come down that section of the park. There are the same trees there but they are able to bore the line underground without affecting any of the trees. And so as the staff we're supportive of this request, the only thing I would mention is just make it contingent on the Lot Department review and approval of the easement. Which is typical of how we, the language is very similar from easement to easement, so really as long as nothing else changes they would just approve it compared to all our other easements that we've recently approved.

- [Chris] With an easement we would maybe, just couldn't build anything permanent in structure there?

- [Dan] Correct, there would be underground utility lines within that easement so it would prevent us from putting a building on top of it. We could do a sidewalk or a parking lot or something like that, but anything with a footing we wouldn't be able to put over that easement. But in that location of where it is there is really nothing that we would build over there anyway. It's just too close to the property line and we all would like to have that tree buffer in between the houses and the parks.

- [Jesse] Underground layer, how deep does that typically go?

- [Dan] I think it varies, I don't know the answer to that. But any time any digging would happen we always call the diggers hotline any time we dig in the parks.

- [Jesse] For parks right for our department, but I'm saying kids, goofing off in the park, you know, that would be my big concern. I was a kid once, I dug holes. That's what I'm saying, how deep do you know?

- [Dan] Well it's usually several feet I mean whether it's three to five feet, or over five, I don't know that off hand. I haven't asked that question for this particular location but it's going to be several feet down, not just a foot down.

- [Jesse] Yeah just like any residential neighborhood. But so if I was going to dig on my property, I would call diggers hotline.

- [Dan] Correct.

- [Jesse] So I could understand where the line is, but what I'm saying is if it's a public park and you have people goofing off. You see what I'm saying? I'm not overly concerned about it, it's just something to consider.

- [Brian] Okay, I move to approve with the contingency that Lot Department review before finalizing.

- [Jesse] Second.

- [Chris] Motioned by Johnson seconded by Brunette. Discussion? Those in favor?

- [All] Aye. Opposed? Motion carried. Directors report, recent activities.

- [Dan] Yeah, so there are few items on here that I did want to point out to you. One is the 9/11 Memorial Fundraising Plan. So at the last park committee which was about a month ago you had requested that we bring this item back to the park committee in 30 days to review and discuss it. Just want to let you know the status of that. So Alderman VanderLeest has been in contact with the donor, or not the donor but the major fund raiser, who has been working on this project previously. Her name is Barb Jack. The two of them met about two weeks ago. We discussed different approaches that they could take towards the fundraising effort. They were going to prepare that plan and once it's done we will bring that to the next park committee meeting then. So their fundraising plan is not completed yet, that's why we didn't put it on this park committee agenda. But it's in the works. So when the plan comes back, we'll know how they're going to approach it. We're going to know who's on their committee and we're going to know what their timeline is associated with the fundraising plan. Next thing I wanted to talk about is Bay Beach Amusement Park and the Ferris wheel. Previously we had talked about getting pre-approvals for the different funding sources, so when the bids came in we could award the bid. So the bids came in last week on October 16th and the low bid was from Lumber Construction for a grand total of \$1,445,451.50. Now that's all of the site work that's associated with the Ferris wheel, it's not actually installing the Ferris wheel itself. But when we approved the funding. We mentioned that you wanted to know how much of the different funding sources were going to be spent on this project, so we have about 800,000 from excess revenues at Bay Beach Amusement Park for last year or this year's season. So that's how much excess revenue will be going towards this project. The friends of Bay Beach Amusement Park will donate \$250,000 to go towards the footings for the Ferris wheel, and the remaining \$400,000 would

come out of the \$5 million that we bonded for the beach and the pier construction. As you recall there's a portion of the boardwalk in pier that we have to build in relation to the Ferris wheel. So they have to be built jointly. Because once the Ferris wheel is in place we can't build that portion very easily. So we we're able to calculate that out based on the bid items, and that comes out to about \$400,000 that would come out of that account.

- [Chris] The bid's where we thought they would be? Higher or lower?

- [Dan] They're right in line with what the engineers estimated. We're very close to that.

- And we're okay?

- Yeah, and it was a competitive bid so. I want to let you know that we are currently working on two other separate grant applications for the beach pier and boardwalk project. So on November 2nd we will be submitting a \$75,000 grant application through the fund for Lake Michigan. And \$150,000 for the Wisconsin Coastal Management program. So those are due this Friday with the recreation division. The hunt and chase race was held last Friday, in Bay Beach and the wildlife sanctuary, great race. Attendance was not as large as it has been in previous years, but I think everyone out there had a lot of fun and it was a nice day for it. So hopefully you made it to that. And then at the sanctuary, the Halloween event took place on October 20th and the attendance was also down at that, due to the weather. That was a very cold kind of snowy day if you recall plus that was a game day also. But it was a good event and everyone had fun. And finally the other thing I want to mention as it relates to the sanctuary is we did have a wolf that received a foot injury out there, and it's a visible injury, it's a cut. And we are getting a lot of comments from the public on that but the wolf is receiving adequate medical treatment from the veterinarian, and we are monitoring it and everything's okay but you might get a call or questions from the public on that. But everything's going well with the recovery for the wolf. And that concludes my director's report. Questions?

- [Brian] In the report you talk about the release of two eagles on October 3rd. Is that something that, I mean is there like a celebration that goes along with that?

- [Dan] There is no celebration that goes along with it. A lot of times we like to tie these releases in with an event. There just wasn't one happening around that time. So we will notify the press and let them know that this is happening so the news media will be able to attend. And they will be notified, but there is no event that goes along with this particular one.

- [Brian] Okay, and then I also had a question about the Pocket Park. I see that was delayed because the weather's too cold. What was the reason for the delay?

- [Dan] The delay was due to the owner kind of delayed signing the lease agreement which allows us to build that. Now the lease has been signed, nothing has changed really from what you originally approved with that lease agreement. He just had to work with his condo association to make sure everyone was okay with that lease. So it took a little longer than we thought it would. But that being said, today we actually kicked off some of the construction. So our plan is to remove some of the concrete this year, do some of the concrete work and the grating and then we'll put some sod down to green it up as a temporary measure. And then next spring we'll come in and actually put down the rubberized surfacing.

- [Brian] Does our contract have that price locked in? Will there be any potential for price increase because of the delay?

- [Dan] There will not. The only thing that we're contracting out is a little bit of concrete work, which we're quoting out now which will be done separate. And then the rubberized surfacing they're holding their price until next spring.

- Good.

- All the other work will be done by park staff.

- [Jesse] Is it true the eagles names are Dan and James? Or did I hear that wrong?

- [Dan] I think you heard that incorrectly.

- [Chris] Any other questions?

- [Brian] Like to turn it into a motion? To name the eagles Dan and James?

- [Chris] Officially name them Dan and James.

- [Jesse] That's fine. Motion to receive a place on file.

- [Chris] Motioned by Alderman Brunette Seconded by Alderman Johnson to receive a place on file for the director's report. Those in favor?

- [All] Aye. Opposed? Motion carried. Have to deal with it in the next committee meeting November 14th. If it comes up, thanks.

- [Brian] Move to adjourn?

- [Chris] Seconded to adjourn. Johnson? Brunette? In favor?

- Aye. Opposed? Motion carried.