



MINUTES OF THE PARKS COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2019, 6:00 PM
CITY HALL, ROOM 207

A. ROLL CALL.

Ald. Chris Wery, Ald. Jesse Brunette, Ald. Mark Steuer

Excused - Ald. Andy Nicholson, Ald. Brian Johnson

Others Present: Ald. Kathy Lefebvre, Dan Ditscheit, James Andersen, Rick Jensen

B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

D. REGULAR BUSINESS.

1. Request approval to purchase a 33,000 GVWR Cab & Chassis from Truck Country for \$75,399.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Request approval to purchase a 26,000 GVWR Cab & Chassis from Truck Country for \$69,970.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

3. Request by Ald. Dorff to consider adding a playground area separate from the Baird School Playground in Baird Park. For security reasons the school may not allow the public to use the playground during school hours. The former playground belonged to the city and the residents of the area are requesting to have a playground they can use.

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

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

4. Request by Ald. Lefebvre to review the Forestry policy for tree removal in the downtown as I have noticed dead trees in the downtown area, in particular the 100 block North Adams, plus other streets downtown.

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

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

5. Request by Ald. Lefebvre for the Wildlife Sanctuary to reinstate the deer management program. The herd needs culling.

Moved by Ald. Jesse Brunette, seconded by Ald. Mark Steuer to refer to staff to gather additional information on the request by Ald. Lefebvre to reinstate the deer management program at the Wildlife Sanctuary and also look at this issue Citywide and report back to the next Park Committee for further discussion. Motion carried.

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, 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. Mark Steuer to receive and place on file. Motion carried.

Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

2. The next Park Committee is scheduled for September 25, 2019.

F. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Ald. Mark Steuer, seconded by Ald. Jesse Brunette to adjourn. Motion carried.
Yes- Chris Wery, Jesse Brunette, Mark Steuer, No- None, Abstain- None

Verbatim Minutes

- Uh uh, all right, Parks Committee will come to order, we'll note Alderman Brunette, Alderman Wery here. Alderman Johnson and Alderman Nicholson are excused. Thank you Alderman Steuer, Mr. Presidente for joining tonight, much appreciated.

- You're welcome.

- Can we have an approval of the agenda?

- Moved to approve.

- Second.

- Motion by Brunette, second by Steuer. Those in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? Motion carried. C is approval of the minutes.

- Move to approve.

- Second.

- Motion by Brunette, second by Steuer. Discussion? Those in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? Motion carried. D regular business. Number one, request approval to purchase a 33,000 GVWR cab and chassis from Truck Country for 75,399. Hello sir.

- [Rick] We issued NRQ for this cab and chassis. We received I think five different proposals from four vendors. Recommending the low vendor, the award to Truck Country on a Freightliner for 75,399 dollars I believe. It's amazing how close these bids are on that big a piece of equipment between Freightliner and International. But at any rate, we are recommending the low bid.

- Just pardon my ignorance what is, who and what department would this be?

- [Rick] This is going to Forestry I believe Dan. Both of these are, this is a truck that will have a chipper box mounted on the chassis.

- Okay.

- Questions? Move to vote. Motion by Alder Brunette.

- Second.

- Second by Alder Steuer. Discussion? Those in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Opposed? Motion carried. Number two, request approval to purchase a 26,000 GVWR cab and chassis from Truck Country for 69,970.

- [Rick] Again, issued the RFQ. Received three bids. Recommending the lowest bid to Truck Country. This particular vehicle is also for Forestry and it's a flatbed body that will go on the chassis.

- Questions?

- I do have one question. Maybe it's for the Director, so was it as a point where we just needed a new vehicle or what's the story behind it?

- For this one, we are replacing a truck that had a life expectancy of, it's just an old truck, so the unit is no longer in service so it's replacing unit 20 which is a 20-ton truck with a dump truck on it. So it just, it's an old truck. We have to replace it with something new. So all we're proposing is to replace it with a flatbed truck that also dumps.

- What's the life expectancy, supposedly, on that?

- Usually our vehicles are 15 to 20 years is usually what we get out of them.

- Okay.

- That's good, thanks, so Alderman Brunette?

- I do have a question, just thought of it. This is a 2020 vehicle, so it's brand new, never been--

- [Rick] Yes, yes.

- Like, I mean, have we ever, what's your thoughts on getting a vehicle that's a 2018 or 2019?

- We have received proposals on that type of equipment before, both new and used on

occasion occasionally a dealer will have a nice piece of used equipment and so, yes, we're open to those ideas.

- They depreciate so I would imagine like, was it just like any other vehicle it depreciates quite a bit of costs the first year or two?

- [Rick] Yeah, yeah I guess. I mean I'm not an expert on the industry, but there generally is some savings. And one of the hidden savings in that scenario is a lot of times this older piece of equipment may be on the ground. They don't have to order it, so we may be able to put that unit into service three to six months sooner than if we ordered, you know, a brand new vehicle.

- I see.

- [Rick] So to answer your question, I think, yes, we do entertain those opportunities when they come up.

- I think from just any car on the street, not necessarily a city or industrial type car, you know, you lose so much of the value the first year or two and I'm just thinking that if these vehicles depreciate by 15,000 the first year, we'd be better off to, But you know what you're doing, so--

- [Rick] Yeah, yeah.

- I have no doubt about that, so.

- I just have one thing to add. So in response to Alder Steuer's question, so the second vehicle on the agenda is replacing a 1998 Ford F800 flatbed truck. So it's over 20 years old. It's up for replacement.

- I suppose, I mean with all the vehicles that you have, I'm sure you're looking at life expectancy and just trying to figure it out as far as when to bring those on board.

- So this vehicle needs new brakes and suspension and the body and flatbed are in pretty poor condition too so.

- All right, that's all I have.

- Moving to approve.

- Motion Alder Brunette, second by Alder Steuer. All in favor?

- [Both] Aye.

- Opposed? Motion carried, thank you.

- [Rick] Thank you.

- Thank you.

- Three, request by Alderperson Dorff to consider adding a playground area separate from the Baird School Playground in Baird Park. For security reasons the school may not allow the public to use the playground during school hours. The former playground belonged to the city and the residents of the area are requesting to have a playground they can use. I didn't hear from the alderperson. Director, I don't know if you have?

- Uh no, I have not heard. She's not here so I don't know if you wanna take action or just refer this to the next committee, but let me give you a little background information here. So in 2015, the city did bond 80,000 dollars to replace the playground at Baird School. At the time, that was with the old park configuration where the school had their on playground and it was on school property. They purchased it and maintained it. And then the city had a second playground closer to the tennis courts where we owned and maintained that one. So at one point there were two playgrounds on the site. Shortly after we bonded for it, but before we could actually purchase the equipment, the school district came forward with the proposal to rethink the property boundary so that they could build the new school. So about a year and a half ago we did bring that, but bring that forward to the park committee. This is, if you look at your agenda packet, this graphic is in there which shows the new property boundaries and also the concept that was approved at the time for the layout. So as you can see on that concept, if you can pull it up on your screen, there is one playground on the site which is in the middle. Previously, the two playgrounds were kinda off to the sides. So this one was centralized in the middle of the park school, to be most advantageous to share services between the school and the parks. So how our agreement works with the school district is if the playground is installed on school property then they maintain it. The school district maintains it and owns it and they do not allow the public to use the playground during hours of operation that the school's in session, but in the evenings and weekends and during the summer the public can use it without any cause for concerns. Now there are other park school sites where the playgrounds are on the park site and in those instances we allow the schools to play on those during recess, but the schools cannot control who is on that playground. So they can't tell a family or a resident to leave the playground if the playground is on city property. So that's how the agreement works. So we have very few schools, park school locations where we have two playgrounds anymore, it's just for efficiency as we just don't do that very often and I don't know if there are any. I think the only one right now that has that is maybe Wilder. I'm trying to think if there's anymore. So anyway in this concept what was decided on was one central location for the school and one in. So I know, I did speak to Alder Dorff prior to this when she told me that the concern is from residents, because they'd like to use the playground during the day and the school district won't let them when the school is in session in this configuration. So they are requesting a second playground be installed using the money that we bonded in 2015. My only concern with that is if you look at the configuration and the property boundaries, there really is no location where a playground would be suitable, it wouldn't really fit.

- There's really no other parks in the area either.

- The only other parks where we can look at doing a playground would be Arnie Wolff Sports Complex, or we do have another park which isn't a developed park, yet it's more of a greenway. But just south of this park there is McKenzie Lane Park where right now there's just a stormwater management pond and a restored prairie on the property. Those are the two closest parks.

- Alderman Brunette, okay.

- I'm curious how many families and small children actually use that park, or want to use that park during the school day. We might need to think about that then. Alder Dorff might have that information, but when you think about the number of hours during the entire year that the school is in operation versus when it's not in operation and the park is accessible within daylight hours. I don't know if it's that much of an inconvenience. And then I guess my second thought is that for good reason people shouldn't use a school type park during school hours for safety reasons. And I think, I dunno if there's any formal rule, to me it's always been sort of an unwritten rule, even my own personal life, if I wanna take my kids to a park when they were younger I wouldn't go on a school playground. There's just something about that that's a little off. It might be an unwritten rule. Maybe no one else follows that, but I have a feeling most people do. So I think we might be, and I'd have to hear from Alder Dorff, but thinking that, it's an awful big expense for probably a very minuscule demographic that would use that park during hours that the school's in operation.

- Alderman Steuer, thank you.

- Thank you Chair. Well just in my neighborhood, my children went to Keller School and it's a school, but I was under the understanding that it was a bit of a park as well. So I'm just talking from my personal experience that, you know, there might have been some citizens in that area that maybe used that playground as well, but there's really no numbers that I can really see on that, but I would entertain the thought of looking at McKenzie Lane which isn't all that far away for that. Have you had much talk from citizens that are concerned that, hey, I wanna use this playground? I mean what are you getting from them?

- This is the first time it's come up. Part of it too, is you know, it's a change so some people might have to get used to the change. But as far as I know, the only concern has come through Alder Dorff and I won't know how--

- Is--

- Many complaints she--

- Now is this fenced in at all?

- No this would not be fenced in.

- It's still open, okay.

- But like I said, with all school locations, my understanding is, or at least park school locations, I can't speak for just school locations, but for any park school location, most playgrounds are open to the public on the off hours and weekends.

- Well then I don't know if you have signage to that effect, you know, I mean is there, is that to be understood or is that--

- Well, typically, I mean, we have this issue in all of our park school locations and usually

what happens is if there's a family that comes to a school location or a park school and plays on it, basically the recess supervisors will ask them to leave and then they'll do it once and it won't happen again. Sometimes I receive a complaint about it. I'm not specifically talking about this location, I'm talking about all the park school locations, 'cause I do get occasional calls throughout the city on all the park school locations regarding that. So, but then I also get complaints or concerns the other way where if the playground is in a park, on the park property, people would have kids that go to the schools, they're concerned that the public is playing on it during school hours and so I've gotten concerns both ways and I would say it's probably an equal amount of concern both ways. So there really is no great solution other than having two separate playgrounds, but that's not a cost efficient solution and in this case there really is no room for two playgrounds.

- Is it a nine to three type of thing during the day? I mean, what are the hours normally?

- Every school is a little--

- A little bit different.

- Anybody else? Alderman--

- If there's no room then I think it's just kind of a moot point and so I'll make a motion to receive and place on file.

- Motion by Alderman Brunette, seconded by Alderman Steuer to receive and place on file. Any discussion? Those in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye. Opposed? Motion carried.

- Who prepared the motion and followed this, Alderman Brunette?

- Brunette does.

- I second.

- Let's book it then.

- Okay going to the next item.

- Okay number four, request by Alderperson Lefebvre to review the Forestry Policy for tree removal in the downtown as she has noticed dead trees in the downtown area, in particular the 100 block of Adams plus other streets downtown.

- [Kathy] And I apologize too, I didn't get to talk to Dan, sit down with him, after I made the request, because Dan was gone and I wanted to get it in so I made the request at the city council and park was canceled so now it's later. But we did talk a little bit about it, but I did notice, yeah, those dead trees, yeah. They probably were Ash, but they've been dead for quite a long time and I mean it's so visible, it's right down here and you

got the, your beautiful hotel now. Destination and bring people in from all over and I'm just saying, you know, to me it looks terrible to have dead trees in your downtown, you know, let's see what we can do about 'em.

- And I do have a little more information since the last time we talked. I asked and I talked to our forester to get the history of these specific trees and to talk about the downtown as a whole. So currently they have crews kind of for the east side of Green Bay and crews for west side of Green Bay and you know the Fox River is kind of the dividing point. And how they set up their crews to be most efficient is they, for the most part other than, you know, special circumstances, they plant in the fall, they remove trees in the winter, they plant again in the spring, 'cause fall and spring are the best times to plant trees and then they do stump grinding in the summer months. So their intention with these trees was always to remove them this winter. Now with these particular trees, these are actually linden trees and what happened is they started to die off kind of late spring, early summer and so with the experience that they've had with other linden trees that have been grouped together in the downtown area, this happened on Washington Street, we have the same trees there and what happened is, I mean I don't know if it's just certain weather conditions or if it's the age of the tree, but on Washington and now on Adams, that whole block kind of all died at the same time. So they wanted to give it some time to see if that would happen here, because one concern they have is they go they cut down one tree and then two weeks later they have to go back and cut a second tree and then another two weeks go back and cut a third tree. So based on their experience, that's what happens. So when the first call came in or they first noticed it there was only a couple of visible ones that were showing. Now there's eight of them that are dead and so their prediction was correct. So they have marked them all for removal. Their plan is to remove them later this winter and they'll be, you know, some of the first trees that they do remove. So that's kinda the history on that and then they will do the stump grinding next year when they gear their crews up for stump grinding. Now keep in mind that this year with all the storm damage we had in July, that set our forestry department back months, so that's, you know, that's part of the, you know, another reason that it hasn't been taken care of. So that's kind of a summary of where we're at. We're aware of it and we know what's happening. It is scheduled, but to kinda keep with our standard practice of we try to group our work accordingly, because it's hard to switch the gear out and switch the trucks out to do things differently. So we try to avoid that as much as possible. So my recommendation would be obviously, just continue with the process that we have and if there is special circumstances where there's, you know, where we have to take one down for an emergency we'll take care of that, just like we do with storm damage. But this is kinda consistent with what we do with our policy. Now we're going to have to address that with ash trees downtown, because if you look outside City Hall, a lot of those trees are ash trees and those are all, prior to next year all of those ash trees, they're probably going to all die at one time. They're already showing the signs. So we'll have that in the downtown too. And ash trees are a whole nother issue, you know just trying to keep up with the removals and doing them all in a timely manner is where we're going to run into a problem with the ash trees because now it's really spread throughout the entire city and it's going to be tough to take those down in a timely manner if they all die at the same time.

- [Kathy] Yeah I can understand some of the efficiency and everything. I'm just concerned with making sure that downtown doesn't look like it's just neglected, you know dead trees around, that maybe too that they should do more of a routine of going

through and looking at the trees downtown and really seeing, you know, 'cause once in awhile a tree is going to die right? And it could be pollution, it could be all kinds of reasons that a tree dies, excuse me, but kinda keep an eye on what's happening downtown. I know it's hard to bring crews in, but try to keep it so, I'm just saying it'll look better than having these dead trees sitting there for months and months and months.

- Alderman Steuer.

- Thank you Chair. Dan I was going to ask, what are the species that are being planted? Did I miss that?

- We haven't, they haven't selected, the trees, yet. But they wouldn't plant a linden anymore. That's the non-edible fruit tree because they have a pretty big root system that just isn't great for a downtown site, but, you know, there are other trees that work really well. Ginkgos work great in the downtown area so we've been planting those, but there--

- Did the research on--

- There's certain maple varieties too. You don't wanna plant all maples, but there are a few varieties that work well.

- Okay.

- You know, there's some options out there.

- [Kathy] And the thing is too none, oh I'm sorry, and not to plant, like they did streets all one kind of tree. And then, you have the problem with dying, so you have to make sure that you mix 'em up.

- Now one thing we are going to look at when it comes time to replacing these particular trees is I do know that Downtown Green Bay, Inc. is in the process of looking at the streetscape vision for the downtown area. So obviously, we want to make sure that before we just plant something, you know, it's not going to get ripped up five years from now when they work out a streetscape, you know, changing the streetscape. So before we plant anything we'll definitely have some conversations with Downtown Green Bay, Inc. and see where that process sits and then we'll plant accordingly from there.

- [Kathy] Sure, makes sense.

- Anything else?

- [Kathy] No, nope.

- Committee? Your wishes?

- It seems like Dan's got a pretty good handle on that. Motion to receive and place on file.

- Second.

- Motion to receive and place on file, Alderman Brunette. Second Alderman Steuer.
Discussion? Those in favor?

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Thanks for bringing that forward. Sounds like it's underway.

- [Kathy] Okay. I stand here for the next one.

- Okay, to that we'll say we are good. All right, number five, request by Alderperson Lefebvre for the Wildlife Sanctuary to reinstate the deer management program. The herd needs culling. We'll hear from--

- [Kathy] Well--

- Go for it, go for it.

- [Kathy] Yeah, I think Chris knows we've lived on our piece of property there, I think 1971 we bought it, so we've been here 48 years this June and I'd say the last six, seven years we started having deer coming in. And unfortunately, I have a lot of trees so deer love all the stuff that you plant, in shade basically. Even stuff they don't like, they eat. They've been eating everything and I'm not the only one. So I'm representing myself and my neighbors. There's a whole bunch, all the way along on East Shore Drive people are having the deer coming in. And it's not just one or two, you can get, I mean a herd that comes in. They come in during the day. They've been jumping in my fence, in my garden, which I next year, I didn't have of a garden this year. Going to have to put a bigger fence up. But it just, it's becoming expensive to try to figure something out. I buy this product that you can put down and it kinda helps, but you gotta put it down every few days. You say, oh just a few times a year, but look, you gotta put it down every few days, it gets expensive. You know, like I don't know what to do. For me personally, I can't do much with the deer. But I do feel there's too many and they're also, they have been hit and killed out there. I'm surprised more haven't been hit because I've seen 'em, they're running in my yard and all of a sudden they're running right across East Shore Drive and cars are coming and I'm just afraid more people, it might hit cars and damage too. And so something's gotta be done.

- Okay, what's, do you have any questions for Alderperson who knows this?

- Well I mean, when you see a lot of deer, I mean what I'd like to know is maybe the numbers that are out there right now. And I guess that's--

- [Kathy] I dunno.

- Somehow a Director remark. I mean I dunno--

- Director?

- Yeah, I can give you a little bit more information. So over the years at the Wildlife Sanctuary we have managed the deer on and off. So when the herd gets to a level where staff is concerned about it we have thinned it out through the archery programs and the bow hunting program, the citywide one and that has been done in the past, successfully, out at the sanctuary. But like I said it's been a number of years since we've done that though. So there are benefits to looking at resuming the deer management program. One, it would help decrease the overpopulation of the deer which would prevent illnesses that could arise from too many deer in one location. Also, it would decrease the amount of damage to the Sanctuary vegetation along with residences. And later in the winter month's food sources do become minimal for them, then they do begin eating non-preferred food sources 'cause there's no other options. So they might start eating the cedars which isn't a typical food source for them, but if they're out of options they might look at doing that. If there is a shortage of food out there, it could cause a situation where some deer would struggle to survive in the long winter months when food is scarce. And then in addition, the other advantage to controlling the herd would be the danger to vehicles. So East Shore Drive is a pretty busy drive as is Danz. There have, I'm sure, been accidents documented due to the deer out there. So those are the advantages and those are not just the advantages just for the Sanctuary, those are advantages overall and the reason why the archery program or deer management program is currently in place for the city. So moving forward I think as a staff we have noticed that the herd has gotten bigger. Is it to the point where we're concerned about the health and safety of the deer? I dunno if I can answer truthfully to that. I think we have never really been documenting it. We have no way to document the number of deer on the site, but we've been seeing more deer than we typically do, so that much I can say. The biggest concern with implementing the program, again, if we're going to consider doing that is the 4K program that's out there. There is a no weapons ban within a 1,000 feet of the 4K building, so that's kinda the policy that's out there and so if we were to allow it, I definitely would be hesitant and I would not be in favor of hunting within that boundary zone for the safety of the 4K students, yeah.

- Uh, I was going to ask--

- Alder Steuer?

- Oh thank you, I was making sure. Okay so, I understand that setback area, so to speak, 1,000 foot, is the 4K building always going to be utilized? I guess my question would be, if it's closed on the weekends or such that maybe that you could have a hunt then.

- We could possibly look at that. I would have to defer to the city attorneys and the attorneys with the school district to see if that's an option.

- I don't know if that's possible on weekends and evenings or weekends and Friday evenings. I'd have to look into it. The other option is east of Danz Avenue, the 4K students don't go east of Danz Avenue. So that's a pretty natural area that is we don't get a lot of users out there. My other concern is not just the 4K program, but we get a large number of public in the area west of Danz Avenue, so it's not just the 4K, it's also all the animal exhibits, but it's the people walking on the trails, because walking on the trails west of Danz Avenue and east of Danz Avenue. So I wouldn't have very many

concerns if we were to implement it east of Danz Avenue. If we were to look at west I would have concerns and I would have to have further discussions with the school district and the city attorneys to see if that's even a viable option.

- And the deer, I mean east of Danz Avenue, I mean that's all fenced, but they can still get out?

- Those are not, A, there's openings in the fences so they can get through during the days. In the evenings we lock the fence, but those are not, the deer can get past the fence. They can jump the fence and those are not deer protection fences. They need to be much taller than they are, so I dunno how many deer jump the fence, but I mean theoretically they could because those are not, those fences aren't built to prevent the deer from going back and forth. It's to prevent people from going back and forth.

- And I think that there'd be some kind of handle on, it's not a huge area, and you'd think that there'd be some way to get a head count as to how many deer are out there.

- Well it's tough for the staff to do it, because, you know, you get a head count and how many of the deer--

- They don't stand in place.

- Pass the same trail.

- Yeah you're right.

- It's hard to distinguish which ones are which.

- Deer photos.

- But there are two ways to approach this. So one way would be, if you're interested, one way would be to hire a professional to come in and do it for the city. What that cost would be, I did not look into that. I don't know what those costs would be, but we could theoretically hire a professional to thin the herd population. We can look into that and get you numbers if you want. The other option is just to include it in the archery program. And if we did do that, what we would do is we'd kinda implement some of the same rules that were previously in place and we would just basically put them for here. So what we would do is, what I would recommend if we proceed with incorporating that, it would only be east of Danz Avenue would be my recommendation. The hunters involved in the management would be hand-selected by staff. So there's a pool of hunters that sign up for the program and we work with the hunters to find a location for them to hunt throughout the city. We would definitely pick the ones that have not caused any problems in the past, the ones who are very responsible and we've worked with in the past and those will be the ones hunting at the Sanctuary. I would also recommend that the majority of the deer harvested would be kept there for food for the wolves. So we could do maybe the first two deer that they would remove, those would stay at the Sanctuary as a food source for us and then they could keep the third deer, so we could look at that. We would also look at maybe requiring them to shoot an antler-less deer first before they could shoot a buck and then we could as part of it also select a target number of animals that would be our target goal per year and then we would reevaluate it again next year. So this would not be a plan that we would just

say, okay we're doing this every year indefinitely, it's we would evaluate it year by year. When the herd gets thin then we could hold off on it again. So those are kinda the two options. Either implement the bow hunting program with the rules that I've kinda set forward, or you know, hire a professional to do it. But I would strongly not agree with hunting on east of Danz Avenue. I know that that's a concern.

- [Kathy] That's one area yeah, yeah.

- But I would be--

- [Kathy] that's half the households are. Then they're going to still--

- Okay, just one second.

- You said west right?

- I'm sorry, east I'd be fine with. East of Danz Avenue.

- [Kathy] The other way down.

- Anything west I would have some concerns and those are safety concerns for the public and for the foresters. Now is there some leeway to that? I would really have to defer to the attorneys from both the school district and the city.

- [Kathy] I would, right, I would like you to look into that, but you know the first, uh, the uh, what's the one, um, I can't think of it.

- Reforestation.

- [Kathy] Reforestation Camp, they do a hunting and that has, you know, they just close the trails down at that time. So you don't have people wandering, you know, when they're doing it. And the public is aware then, they put it out, you know, they're doing it this time. But I think more the deer are coming out on, more of the people this side, than they are down a little further. They do have some issues down there too, but not like we're having down by us. I dunno why, but they seem to conjugate more on this side, I dunno, but yeah, but I do know, someone told me later on there was a deer that was on the highway got hit, over, went over. It was laying on the other side of the overpass down on Webster, 'cause I saw it there and then I thought, oh someone hit it, took off, because the deer was just lying. This other guy stopped to direct traffic and so my neighbor said no, it was left on the highway. So I mean that's what I'm saying it's so many and it's really going to cause, somebody going to be killed, especially if it's on the highway, someone leaves it. I dunno.

- Answer questions from committee? Anything else Alderperson Lefebvre?

- Well--

- Chew it over?

- Yeah.

- Sure.

- [Kathy] Yeah.

- Okay.

- [Kathy] Yeah, yeah I would like, yeah, just I thought you should know the situation, what's going on. And yeah, I'd like to work with the Sanctuary on that, but I do feel too it's also inhumane if you got too many in one section. And they're going to come out and look for food right? And unfortunately it's all our yards and--

- Okay, we'll why don't we discuss and go from there. Questions Alderman Brunette?

- I think when we were talking specifically about all their feeds area, but I know in my district there are quite a bit of woods in the far west side and I can't say that I've noticed an increase in deer any other time of the year. In fact on my side of town I've had a neighborhood meeting and there's some coyote in my district believe it or not that I think they needed more possibly predators that could cull the herd too so--

- [Kathy] Yeah.

- I think if we look at it as a citywide thing, not just an over time of the year, but overall might be something that the city would have to develop a little more comprehensive focus and that think we should refer to the parks department to maybe it can come up, 'cause I know, it's hard to know if it's a true problem. How do you constantly determine if it's an actual thing, because I think the public backlash, this happens all the time when we're talking about geese remediation and all of a sudden you have a game officer, whoever, shooting geese, so I mean people get upset by that kind of stuff if there's not a identified man to do it and it's verifiable. So I'm just not comfortable making a recommendation outside of referring to the city and the city staff to--

- [Kathy] Right, to look into the whole thing.

- Over this specific area, but I agree with Alder Brunette that we should look at it. 'cause there's other areas in the city that have animals.

- [Kathy] And overrun.

- Anything else Alderman Steuer.

- No that's all.

- So a motion to refer to staff to report back in two weeks.

- Motion by Alderman Brunette to refer this to staff. Would that be to potentially look at the legality of hunting in the wood side?

- Yeah, something, I mean and Dan did a great job. Something a little more that we can deal--

- I think just refer to staff and bring back to the committee for further discussion I think would be an appropriate thing.

- Yeah, I mean for my district, for example, 'cause you really should look at citywide. But in my district, if there is an issue, the was the police shot a deer in Sandstone that was lame and that came up in July, but in my district specifically I'm sure that the Oneida's would have some input that whatever we decide out there 'cause a lot of their land is protected natural resources so anyway, a little bit more.

- Little more--

- All right, well--

- There's a motion.

- Was there a second?

- Now this is just for this particular period correct?

- That is our--

- And city?

- That is our--

- That's, I mean then we have to stick to that? I mean if we wanna go further we can open that up later, but I would--

- Oh I see what you're saying, um.

- So what's your motion?

- We can put it on.

- Yeah.

- Probably the motion, yeah, well my motion would be to refer to staff to look at reinstating the deer management program at the Wildlife Sanctuary, but also look at whether the issue is citywide. That's right.

- [Kathy] Oh and you should direct also to work with the school district.

- Okay well that's--

- [Kathy] Okay, that's part of, okay, okay.

- I'll second. I'll second that.

- There's a second to that. I know, wait, when I was on counsel years ago it seemed like

every year or every other year, we'd have like a report. It was like a, do you remember that Dan?

- You know, I definitely remember the report and it's probably, you know the program's been in place probably you know, 12, 15 years would be my guess.

- Like we'd get a report of how many were culled every year and I think that was back when Fred Graves was on the cull, and he would really drive this hunting, you know.

- Back then that was a new program that was just instated. But you know it's been a successful program. I mean we have a lot of participation. There's a lot of interest to be enrolled in the program. We do take quite a few. Deer are controlled on a yearly basis through this program. So it's been a real success, but like I said, at the Sanctuary it's been on and off. I mean it is a sanctuary it is a wildlife sanctuary, but if the herd gets too big, there's problems that go along with it, not just for the residents, but also for the deer themselves. So sometimes although it's a sanctuary, sometimes there's a need to do it. That's why it hasn't been done every single year out there.

- Before you speak, it was my suggestion and Alder Lefebvre didn't like this, but I think we got the predators out one weekend a month. Just kinda warn everybody.

- Up.

- Just stay in a watch a movie.

- [Kathy] Stay in a watch a movie.

- I was just going to ask Dan what the deer, you mentioned that on the pass that giving the first two deer for the wolves et cetera and then the hunters will get to keep the deer?

- At that point, the third deer they could either keep or donate it.

- I was wondering about donation.

- Sure, to Paul's Pantry or something. A lot of the deer that are managed through this program are actually donated to Paul's Pantry.

- That's what I just wanted to know. That's good for resources.

- [Kathy] I just wanna put one other thing too, I'm not leaning this towards, say, oh there's a sanctuary and there are deer there and I moved in here and now they're eating my stuff. No, I'm saying it like I've been there 48 years, I mean, and just the last six, seven years that kinda tells you and all my neighbors will say this too that there's too many deer.

- I can vouch for that after next year. There's numerous times there's been a change.

- [Kathy] Yeah.

- So do we vote? Do we vote?
- Yes, let's set to vote on the referral. Those in favor?
- [Both] Aye.
- Opposed? Motion carried. Director's report.
- [Kathy] Dan's on.
- All right, so we have coordinated with the neighborhood associations, several of them, one, to install an oversized Adirondack chair at Navarino Park, so that's a pretty neat fun project and we installed a Gaga Pit at Fritsch Park so that was just put in last weekend.
- A what?
- It's a Gaga Pit.
- [Kathy] Yeah, what's a Gaga?
- Lady Gaga?
- It's a fun sport. My children love that sport. It's kind of like low-impact dodge ball where kids of all ages can compete against each other and play in it and a five-year-old kid could beat a 15-year-old kid or an adult. So it's really a fun sport, but it's our first Gaga Pit in the park system. They're now, I mean there's probably a bunch of them all over the city at different school sites and I know, but this is the first one in a park.
- Go ahead.
- I don't mean to interrupt, Dan, speaking of which I was in contact with Randy Griswold and Will Peters posted something on the Neighborhood Leadership Council and I don't know if he had been in contact with you, but they're trying to get the word out so if you could post something or have something posted in the city park site that would be great. If you have Randy Griswold's number, reach out to him, 'cause he kinda prepared some statement that could possibly be used. But if we get, like you said, it's the only one so far and it's low cost so if we can get a little public notification. The Neighborhood Association did this with their resources, a grant they had received. So it's a low-cost. The city doesn't require a lot of labor to do so--
- So let's run with it.
- Council versus administration.
- I do have a photograph of it on my phone that I can show you after the meeting.
- Basically a big round, kinda how tall the wall? Two or three feet?
- It's about like that tall.

- We have 10, 12, 15 people in it and one ball and you throw the ball and you say Gaga ball and you can't grab it, but you can hit it. And if you hit it off of someone they're out. The ball goes flying around and you go--

- What if you catch it?

- Yeah what if they catch it?

- If someone hits it you can catch it and they're out.

- Uh, you're not allowed to catch it.

- Oh all right. I've only played it at Scouts.

- If it hits anything below your knees you're out. And all you can do is kinda slap the ball. You can't touch it. You can't hold onto the ball. All you do is it rolls around and you slap it.

- Is it also the ball is really a dodge ball I believe?

- No, I answered about that before, but maybe.

- Sounds pretty dangerous.

- Uh keeping now with the report here. So at Colburn Park we did install a drainage line to assist with the removal of some snow melt next spring adjacent to a property owners property. Stump removal has begun along the streets and parks. So the storms this summer added 200 stumps to our current list of stumps, so we're going to be behind for a while with stumps. Emerald Ash Borer, the treatments have been completed for 2,300 street trees this season, so we did quite a few of them. Renovation work has officially begun at Colburn Pool. So if you go out there you'll see them working. Over at East River Optimist Park our contractor has started work on the parking lot construction there. And over at Ken Euers the contractor, Ducks Unlimited, began work on the waterfall habitat restoration project, so that's going now. In 2019 our Summer Playground Program went very well. The attendance this year was over 60,000 people came to our park program. So we keep track of every park on a daily basis, how many kids participated. Over 60,000 participations all summer long. The Going Big in the Bay Skateboarding Event took place on Saturday, August 10th at Joannes. We had over 100 participants there. That's an annual fundraising event. All proceeds go to do more work at Joannes. Bay Beach season is winding down. We're only open weekends now. We're closed on weekdays. On August 27th we did have a ribbon cutting for the new 4K addition and rental space at the Nature Center. And then there was a public open house the next day on August 28th. So and just so you know, although there was a ribbon cutting, there's still a little bit of work that needs to be done and a few final punch list items that the contractor needs to complete before we can officially open it up to the 4K program and the rentals. So in a few weeks that building will officially open to the public. We do have a Walk for Wildlife which is scheduled this Saturday, September 14th. That is our largest fundraising event, annual event for the Wildlife Sanctuary, great program and it brings in a lot of money for animal rehab. All of the proceeds go to animal rehab out at the Sanctuary. So I think last year they brought in, I think, 18,000 dollars that event, so if you make it, it's a great event. I would encourage you to be

there.

- What is the cost?

- I don't remember the registration fees. You can go on the Wildlife Sanctuary website to track that down and then it's a morning walk, I think it starts around 8:00 a.m. and it usually winds down around 11:00 a.m. That concludes my division report, director's report.

- I did have one item, thank you Dan. When Colburn reopens next year the Colburn Neighborhood Association is putting aside some money to help with like a grand reopening so if we can coordinate with them and have, so like we did with Fisk pool when it reopened. We had a big event.

- Sure.

- You blew a cannonball.

- There you go, yeah, we'll have some tag team competition. And then there happens to be a stump in front of 920 Spence Street that needs removal, I dunno who lives there.

- I will let them know.

- A little favor.

- [Kathy] I've a question for Dan, for Bay Beach, when is the boardwalk and the pier and the beach, when are they going to start?

- Yeah, so about a week ago we received the 90% engineering set from our engineer. So the city is in the process of reviewing those and giving them comments. We hope to put portions of that project out for bid in a few weeks from now for and then maybe construction would probably be sometime in October, mid to late October is when construction would start. And then that construction would be do some in the fall and carry over into spring of next year.

- [Kathy] Oh okay.

- And then we'll end up phasing it where we'll bid on a portion now, a portion this winter and another portion next spring.

- [Kathy] Oh and you didn't report on the Geezer Pickle Ball.

- No I did not.

- Wait a second. What that--

- [Kathy] Who are the geezers? Who are the geezers?

- Kemosabe?

- [Kathy] Who are the geezers?

- I thought that's just the name of their group. I have to talk to them.
- To tell you the truth I haven't seen them play yet. But I plan on going and checking it out.
- It's a lot like baseball. At Edison all the time and they're always playing pickle ball behind us.
- Well one of the things we're looking into is the sound. The neighbors might go, hey that's a bit loud so we're looking at some borders.
- Anything else? All right, motion to adjourn.
- Second.
- We'll set our, are we back to our normal schedule now, pretty much every week?
- Can we amend the motion for the Director's Report?
- Motion to receive, Brunette.
- Second.
- Steuer seconded. All in favor?
- Aye
- Opposed? Motion carried. And let's see here. We are--
- Do we meet in two weeks again? Or do we--
- Did you vote on adjourning yet?
- Oh yeah, I was looking at--
- We meet September 25th.
- Okay in two weeks, September 25th. And adjourned. Anyone?
- Motion to adjourn.
- All right we have a motion to adjourn. I don't think we need a second for adjournment do we? So those in favor.
- [Both] Aye. Opposed? Motion carried. All right two, one. Okay, that was minutes.
- What was your next question?
- hit a leadoff, nothing, I was not paying attention.