

PARK AND REC.
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.
OCONTO CITY HALL IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

- 1.) Chairman Sue Anderson called the meeting to order.
- 2.) Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Todd Hearley, Bob LeBreck, Diane Motiff
Excused: Lori Stenstrup
Also Present: Mayor J. Panetti, Director of Park, Rec., and Forestry John Bostedt
- 3.) **Hearley motioned approval of Agenda; Motiff called second. (4 Ayes)**
- 4.) **Approval of Park & Rec. Meeting Minutes from August 10th, 2022 was placed in motion by Motiff with Hearley issuing second. (4 Ayes)**
- 5.) Public Input: 8/8 – 9/13/22 Harbor Camera views were @ 12,526
10/30 marks Trick or Treating in Oconto
- 6.) Correspondence:
 - “Holtwood Campground Rip Rap 50/50 Grant” is being researched by Administrator Bickel who is filling in needed applications: grant given on a 1st come 1st served basis, stated Mayor Panetti.
 - He also looked into drain tiles @ Holtwood and found rather lowering or widening the ditch will have the effect we need: the DNR needs contact to obtain a permit necessary. (The area has yearly flooding creating a camping loss of income.) Our staff can accomplish the work. Mayor Panetti will see what he can do by contacting the DNR.
 - Anderson sent Thank You cards to those who helped us have a 1st time Oconto Fun Day: this included several service clubs.
- 7.) **Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the Following:**
 - a.) **Parks & Recreation**
 - i. Bird City—Director Bostedt informed that Saturday was Bluebird Day: 26 – 30 appeared to be in attendance.
 - ii. Copper Culture State Museum roof/Fall hours were distributed. Once again, the roof still needs maintenance: although the DNR makes the final call, Rod Barta and Pete Stark are in charge from this end. It seems Barta sought and delivered contractor quotes to the State; however, this Committee, after inspection, felt that a Silver Dollar coating would be the better solution. Anderson will invite Barta to the next meeting to get the roof issue in motion.
 - iii. 2022 Park Pavilion Rentals— 90 to date- Sept. 30 last reserve date
 - iv. 2022 Park job openings— There has been an open position since March: we now have 3 applicants: background checks are in process. Once Director Bostedt has interviewed, the Park and Rec. Committee will have a brief meeting to recommend and confirm the results: See 10.
 - v. 2022 Movies in the Park were fun... but we had a limited schedule, stated Anderson. Community clubs have been helpful. Next year we hope to have a more established calendar.
 - Anderson also that our concessions will take care of the Cross Country run 9/27/22.
 - vi. Seymour Splash Pad Tour Group— Anderson viewed the facility on her own and approved of what she saw. Seymour has memorial brick-sponsorship, she reported. A theme for the park had been established. There remains no monitoring of the area: and it works. She will keep this project in the limelight as it is in our potential future.
 - b.) **Ageson Pool property** As discussed, the memorial plaque will remain. Mayor Panetti complimented Bostedt’s crew who did a credible cleanup job of the property.

c.) **Holtwood Campground**

- i. Seasonal Sites for 2023-- \$100 deposits are in process. One person is not returning as to date.
- ii. 2022 Camping Reservations— It has been noted that 3 homeless campers, who are-or-the-church paying, are presently on the property.
- iii. 2022 Monthly Campsites— Four sites are left: this weekend 2 sites are available... for the Fly in.
- iv. Campground main sanitary pit— The needed part arrived: the pit will be in repaired operation for 2023.
- v. Manager’s monthly report, handed out @ the meeting, was seen by Hearley as “fantastic”. As reported, campers are coming with their own kayaks, etc. these days. P.R. is on the City website. It would be ideal if local residents were using more of the equipment: Administrator Bickel could check with L. Hearley to get availability posted on Tourism’s new website.
- vi. The Yard property seems to be going up for sale: we are waiting for an update on the process.
- vii. 2022 Fall office hours were given to the Committee on a handout.
- viii. 2022 BOGO has been established: note also on a handout. Campers are taking advantage. We hope to include P.R. on next year’s camper information.
- xi. 2023 Holtwood Campground prices— Note: Holtwood Campground brochure with prices was utilized for this process. A lengthy dialogue followed volleying if to make those changes now... as 50% of camper’s have already registered: in the future this discussion should be in March or April. Utility prices however are announced later than that. Mayor Panetti stated that “People are willing to pay for value.” Site rates were reconfigured. Do we go up a reasonable 8%? Are we considering Oconto business owners? This will need some group thinking time, determined Bostedt, who suggested we wait until our October meeting to solidify. **LeBreck moved we table prices to our October Budget meeting: Hearley seconded. (M/C)**

d.) **City Park/City Park Campground**

- i. Reservations— One camper remains through tomorrow: and 1 is there for the weekend.
- Bostedt’s crew was complimented by Motiff who was pleased to see the steps and railing repair on the pavilion property. There are also new lights in the parking lot.
- ii. Family Fun Day Fundraiser— Mother Nature gave a rain day, but it was held with children having fun, making it a success. A total of \$635 was made. We now need storage for the bounce house, pallets, etc., stated Anderson: as yet, it must be established.

e.) **Holtwood Sporting Complex**

- i. Field Improvements—The batting cage matting is on the cement; holes are dug; fence guarding around the outfield is up.
- ii. Field usage— Two fall leagues remain throughout October.
- iii. Disc Golf Course— Borderline landscaping boulders will now protect the area.
- iv. Adult Volleyball League is complete.

8.) Parks Update:

- a.) City Docks – Todd Hearley: “BUSY.”
- b.) City Park & Campground – Diane Motiff: “PERFECT.”
- c.) Copper Culture – Lori Stenstrup: Members see the area as up to date.
- d.) Freedom Park – All: It looks good: Monday Tourism is decorating Main St. for the Harvest season.

e.) Holtwood Park – Sue Anderson: Discussion throughout 7. c.

f.) Sharp Park – Bob LeBreck: It has been determined that marked trees will bring some money to Oconto. Franks is compiling a couple bids reflecting the type of work the City wants to see completed. The DNR will be approached concerning the Buckthorn.

g.) Bond Park – Diane Motiff states that the area is full: busy. Bostedt reported that the Scout pavilion is still in paper status.

9.) Park Special Events: Update

a.) Free installed smoke detectors- Oconto Fire & Rescue Department – with any questions or to set up an appointment to install call (920) 834-7775

b.) Oconto Airport Fly In 9/17/2022 9a.m. to 4 p.m.

c.) Harvest Fest 9/24/2022 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Lack of food in 2021)

d.) OHS/OMS cross country meet @ Holtwood Sporting Complex 9/27/2022 teams arrive 2:30 p.m. race starts @ 4 p.m.

e.) MWC World Championship Walleye Tournament 9/29/2022, 9/30/2022 & 10/1/2022 @ Breakwater Park & Harbor

10.) Next Meeting Date/Time: **Thursday, September 22 @ 5 p.m.**

This meeting will establish 2023 Campground prices AND Employee hiring.

REGULAR MEETING: **Wednesday, October 12 @ 6 p.m.**

Invited Rod Barta

11.) **Hearley summoned adjournment @ 8:20 p.m. Motiff witnessed approval. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by
Susan K. Seidl