

## MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2025 @ 5:30 P.M.

City Hall Council Chambers

1. The August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting was called to order by Chairman Sue Anderson.
2. Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Violet Hornick, Diane Motiff, Kim Reifsteck, Casey Sowle; Superintendent of Public Works & Parks Jeremy Wusterbarth
3. **Reifsteck motioned for approval of Agenda; Motiff called second. (5 Ayes)**
4. **Approval of Minutes from 7/9/2025 with the amendment of Violet Hornik as excused was issued by Motiff with a Reifsteck second. (M/C)**
5. Public Input: Hornik clarified that she did call the City Office to be excused from the July meeting before the event.
6. Correspondence: None.
7. **Discussion/Action/Recommendation on the Following:**
  1. (Updates from Jeremy) These were inserted according to the Parks Update which follows.
8. Parks Update: ALL tree trims have been updated and playgrounds pressure-washed once or twice a year. The certified wood chips will be renewed throughout.
  - a. **City Docks** – Diane Motiff +
  - b. **City Park & Campground** – Casey Sowle has been watchful of storms in the area making sure the equipment on the beach gets stowed properly by citizens. One plastic dome on the children's playground has been taken down and buffed out: the others will follow. Two umbrellas need a stem fix. Wood replacement bordered around the wood chips remains necessary. Sowle will continue with his "Wish List" next month: He also suggested we get @ least 1 of our "Tunes on Tuesday" @ City Park, perhaps a meeting with Tourism, Parks and Rec., and Steve Peterson will be arranged. Wusterbarth stated that the public has expressed multiple compliments on this park. Some vandalism was created by a recent City Park B pavilion renter including the vents to the door. The defibrillator box was damaged. Wusterbarth and the crew will attend to damage payment and these needs. Three Ash trees need to be removed. It has been observed that some beach activities have been planned. Note that on the web an "Oconto Blaze" & "Banana Crawl" have been planned on the beach: City Hall should be made aware of such events. Our wooden teeter toters need updating as does that of metal. Update of the signs will occur in 2026.
2. Oconto used to have other permanent entertainment at this park. Anderson placed a Hopscotch on the property for one of our events, but a permanent one could be placed with the help of Kim McDonald, yet in August or possibly in Spring: pavers set in the property (by the kids' equipment) by the City crew that Sue would paint accordingly.
3. Discussion of what was on the City Park site in the past: could some equipment of these kids' activities be renewed? Does anyone have any of the old equipment that we could revitalize....
  - c. **Copper Culture State Park** – Violet Hornick - Wusterbarth reports that the DNR called about an old dumpsite on the west side: we need to keep that area from overgrowth... However, more State monies are necessary to attend to the work out there as we have long since spent their support seasonal stipend (\$6,500): we must renegotiate. The area also has a new sign (Garter snakes). In 2026 the State plans to update the bathrooms.

- d. **Freedom Park** – All Recently a sign indicating the flower trough by the Women's Club has been added. The trough has been broken on the bottom and will be repaired.
  - e. **Holtwood Park/Sporting Complex** – Sue Anderson reported attention to some young adults causing problems with their golf cart rentals. Anderson and Wusterbarth stated that the diamond gravel does have some larger stones and cutting issues, yet it was donated by the Little League. The 2 bottom diamonds are Grant intended for more professional gravel, and a scoreboard. Adult Leagues have started. The Campground and boat launch have had gravel updates. It is intended with a GRANT that October/phase 1 (the inner roads) will hold Campground road work: next year will be phase 2 (the outer roads). The sign for the J. Bostedt, Jr. Pavilion has been ordered. Wusterbarth will check out the sewage smell: the dump/lift station?
  - f. **Sharp Park** – Kim Reifsteck reported a piece on the skate park ramp is in need of repair. There too is one tree down on the walking path. Wusterbarth will advertise wood cutting permits that have been previously established. With Police presence, vandalism is down.
  - g. **Bond Park** – Diane Motiff - Wusterbarth noted the removed weeds by the sign and certified wood chips (approx. every 2-3 years) will soon be added.
9. **Sowle motioned for Approval of Accounts Payable from July 2, 2025 to July 30, 2025 in the amount of Parks \$12,212.19, and of Holtwood Campground \$6,895.63. Motiff called second. (5 Ayes)**
10. Revenue & Expenditures Guidelines from 2025 & Revenue and Expenditure Histories were reviewed, discussed, and accepted.
11. **Next Meeting Date/Time/Agenda Items: Wednesday, September 3 @ 5:30 p.m.**
12. Follow-Up List: None.
13. **Motiff issued an adjournment @ 6:53 p.m. with a second summons of Sowle. (M/C)**

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl