

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, February 4th, 2026 @ 5:30 P.M. City Hall Council Chambers

1. The February 4, 2026 meeting of the Park and Rec. Committee was called to order by Chairman Sue Anderson.
2. Roll Call: Sue Anderson, Violet Hornick, Diane Motiff, Casey Sowle EXCUSED: Kim Reifsteck OTHERS PRESENT: Jeremy Wusterbarth/Superintendent of Public Works
3. **Motiff called approval of Agenda; Sowle motioned second. (4 Ayes)**
4. **Approval of Minutes from 11/5/2025 were placed in motion by Motiff and then called second by Sowle. (4 Ayes)**
5. Public Input: Motiff sought clarification of the **2026 Budget** of which Wusterbarth stated that the **2026 Budget** was accepted. Members wanted him to also relay the latest on Winter Wonderland and Martin Fest. Hornick and Sowle mentioned public inquiries on a future dog park: Wusterbarth stated that there are options but donations are necessary. Upkeep is a concern. The public also has been interested in Ash Borer updates and a possible splash pad: it was noted that Grants would be most acceptable. Motiff noted that area design and fundraising would be necessary.
6. Correspondence: **Parks update** – Wusterbarth states that the winter season has kept them busy with all the little storm events and he hopes to finish these projects by the middle of March.
 - **Copper Culture, Freedom Park, City Docks, Holtwood Park, Sharp Park**
Wusterbarth is looking ahead to re-establishing the ice rink: not much else will be happening until spring. It was discussed to create a summer JAWS activity @ Holtwood or City Park.

Tree removal has started in areas of the campground and disk golf area, and **City Park**: Ash trees are still being taken down. The 6th grade Arbor Day planting event will be City Park.

7. **Discussion/Action/Recommendation on the Following:**
 - a. 2026 Candlelight Walk – February 7th from 5:30-8pm @ **Copper Culture**

The event is set to roll. Our Caretaker @ the Museum will be in charge . Volunteers are sought. A few City Crew will be involved. Anderson asserted that having the glow stick necklaces for kids is a hit.

- b. Campground Office - Remodeling work has started this week
Wusterbarth states that the rest of the blacktop shouldering is being completed. Since then he and his crew have been gutting and rebuilding the office interior. They hope to include a Campground Store. Anderson also suggested camper pictures within. Wusterbarth also thought sponsor pictures would be appropriate.

8. **Sowle called motion of Accounts Payable from October 30, 2025 to January 29, 2026 in the amount of: Parks \$12,759.03, Holtwood Campground \$110,672.45. Motiff motioned second. (4 Ayes)**

Among items discussed were the Menards charge and crushed rock, rubber blade for the loader (which Wusterbarth stated should be shared by departments), training, lawn mower repair, and cost rise of WPS in the months of Dec. and Jan.

9. Revenue & Expenditures Guidelines from 2026 & Revenue and Expenditure Histories were viewed and accepted. Wusterbarth went through the 2025 revenue/expenses ending with a statement that the Parks came in under budget. The Campground was in good shape. The south bath house is a project ahead.

10. Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, March 4 @ 5:30 p.m.

11. Follow-Up List: Wusterbarth/Winter Wonderland cleanup and 2026 List of Events

12. **Motiff summoned adjournment @ 6:10 p.m. Sowle witnessed second. (4 Ayes)**

Minutes submitted by
Susan K. Seidl