

MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE
on WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10th, 2026 @ 5:30 P.M. in the City Hall Council Chambers

1. The Parks and Recreation Meeting was called to order by Superintendent Wusterbarth.
2. Roll Call: Frank Bowman, Ryan Destache, Violet Hornick, Diane Motiff, Kim Reifsteck;
ALSO: Superintendent of Public Works Jeremy Wusterbarth, and Alderperson Lori Stenstrup
3. **Wusterbarth called for the election of Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Committee 3 times. Motiff motioned to nominate Kim Reifsteck and to close nominations, Hornick seconded. (5 Ayes)**
4. **Election of the Vice Chairperson was called by Reifsteck 3 times. Motiff motioned to nominate Frank Bowman and to close nominations, Hornick seconded. (5 Ayes)**
5. **Motiff motioned for approval of Agenda; Hornick called second. (M/C)**
6. **Approval of Minutes from 4/15/2026 was placed in motion by Motiff with a Hornick second motion. (M/C)**
7. Public Input: None.
8. Correspondence:

****Parks updates**

- **Copper Culture/Hornick-** Superintendent Wusterbarth stated that we are in our last year of the contract with the State. Our labor and operation of the museum and property has been continuously underfunded: we total a need of approximately \$12,000: this has been tracked and the estimate is “on spot”. To continue maintenance, the cost must be met by the DNR as presently it is only ½ that. Note that last year the park had almost 1,800 visitors. Wusterbarth will negotiate the City of Oconto needs.
- *****The DNR is offering funding for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) trees that must be removed: Wusterbarth applied for \$20,000.**
- **City Park and Campground/Destache–** Members liked entering the park from the opposite entrance: this will require new signage in the future. Arbor Day planting with the 6th graders and City crew has received multiple compliments: about 20 new trees were added. The beach has been improved by pick-up, benches, and umbrellas added into the environment. Last summer there were several upgrades. If possible, dredging will help our boulder build up. The City crew continues to pressure wash the ground equipment twice a year.
- **Freedom Park/ALL-** This area remains appealing with Summer (note the Women’s Club planting), and winter decor.
- **Holtwood Park and Campground/Bowman-** Three Ash trees still need to be removed now, and approximately 25 more this Winter.
- ***** We will be taking out our mini-golf course due to lack of revenue and necessary repairs: in its place Wusterbarth hopes to place a huge fire pit, a horseshoe pit, and cornhole games. Movies could also run out there. Seasonal campers (surveyed) tell us what is needed. They would like a music venue with a 1- or 2-member band during the day a couple times during the Summer**

months. They let us know that our blacktopping is a big improvement. Also, Wusterbarth has updated the lift station.

- *** Holtwood Sporting Complex will soon be having its Summer tournaments. Wusterbarth also intends to start advertising our latest pavilion: The John Bostedt, Jr. Pavilion which is a complete shelter with a concession stand.
- *** A dog park is still desired, however location of land on the outskirts of the City has to be found: money for the land, fencing, benches, dog stations, maintenance, garbage, and public upkeep of their dog and park are necessary.
- **Sharp Park/Reifsteck-** Wusterbarth tells us minor work awaits in the skate park, paint on the side of the ramps. Pressure washing will be accomplished and the tennis court updated. The forest needs more attention. He will be permitting a firewood cut with a City liability form of anything that is dead/down.
- **Bond Park/Motiff-** Wusterbarth states that minor work will be accomplished including pressure washing all playground equipment: a new spring for the duck is in process.
- **Breakwater Park/City Docks/Motiff-** Summer college help is making improvements throughout the property.

(Members of the Committee were once again assigned park observance.)

9. Approval of Accounts Payable from April 8, 2026 to June 4, 2026 in the amount of: Parks \$5,571.14; and Holtwood Campground \$32,937.79 was placed in motion by Motiff with a Reifsteck second. (5 Ayes)

10. Revenue & Expenditures Guidelines from 2026 & Revenue and Expenditure Histories were reviewed by the Committee with no additions.

11. Next Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, July 8 @ 5:30 p.m.

No Agenda Items at this time.

12. Follow-up list: None.

13. Motiff summoned adjournment @ 6:33 p.m. Destache witnessed the second. (M/C)

Minutes submitted by Susan K. Seidl