

Park Board Meeting – August 23, 2023

7:00pm

Warrensburg Community Center – Multi-Room BC

445 Gay St, Warrensburg, MO 64093

1) Call to Order

Jason Duffey called to order the regular meeting of the Warrensburg Parks & Recreation Board at 7:02pm on August 23, 2023 at the Parks & Recreation Department, 445 E Gay St.

2) Roll Call

Carrie Battles conducted a roll call. The following members were present: Jason Duffey, Ernest Graydon, Brandon Campbell, Erica Collins, Joshua Greene, Shawnacy Johnson, Claude Owen.

The following members were absent: Dawn Gauvin, Travis Hume

Others in attendance were:

Danielle Dulin, City Manager

Chris Deal, WPR Director

Brandon Maberry, WPR Business & Information Specialist

Damon Ervie, Park Maintenance Superintendent

Carrie Battles, WPR Office Manager

Morgan Hebensperger, WPR Recreation Supervisor of Programs & Events

Josh Roglon, WPR Recreation Supervisor of Sports

3) Approval of Agenda

Erica Collins moved to approve the Agenda. Brandon Campbell seconded. Jason Duffey – Yes, Ernest Graydon – Yes, Brandon Campbell – Yes, Erica Collins – Yes, Shawnacy Johnson – Yes, Joshua Greene – Yes, Claude Owen – Yes Approval: 7-0

4) Approval of Minutes

Joshua Greene moved to approve the July 26, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes with the correction of approval of minutes to adjournment on last paragraph. Brandon Campbell seconded. Jason Duffey – Yes, Ernest Graydon – Yes, Brandon Campbell – Yes, Erica Collins – Yes, Shawnacy Johnson – Yes, Joshua Greene – Yes, Claude Owen – Yes. Approval 7-0

5) Announcements

Chris Deal welcomed Damon Ervie as the new Parks Maintenance Superintendent.

Damon thanked the Board for the opportunity to join the staff and make some improvements to our Parks facilities.

6) Employee Appreciation Award

Postponed until September meeting.

7) Committee Reports

a) Finance Committee Report

Joshua Greene noted that Chris Deal has provided a detailed financial report to the Board and final budget proposal. Chris noted there will be salary grade increases based on a new Pay & Classification Study completed by the City of Warrensburg in June. The Recreation Superintendent position has been eliminated. The Business & Information Specialist position will be combined with the past Recreation Superintendent position, creating one position with the title of Assistant Director. This position will be filled by Brandon Maberry. The Pay & Classification Study showed that the responsibilities of the Office Manager needed to be upgraded, to be in line with other like positions with these types of responsibilities. The new title for this position is Recreation Services Manager, which will be filled by Carrie Battles. The other full-time positions will have increases as well with the intent of bringing all staff up to the new salary levels. The appropriate amount has been budgeted to cover these increases.

Chris provided an explanation of changes to the budget for wages, maintenance, recreation & community center expenses.

The Board asked for clarification on expenses for insurance. Chris Deal & Danielle Dulin provided clarification on the cost along with what is covered by the City as a benefit to their full-time employees.

Joshua Greene moved to approve the 2023 – 2024 budget as presented. Erica Collins seconded. Jason Duffey – Yes, Ernest Graydon – Yes, Brandon Campbell – Yes, Erica Collins – Yes, Shawnacy Johnson – Yes, Joshua Greene – Yes, Claude Owen – Yes. Approval 7-0

b) Building & Grounds Committee Report

Jason Duffey noted that he asked Chris Deal to put together a presentation covering the accomplishments along with a list of planning items for the 2023-2024 budget year.

Chris Deal presented a recap of the 2022-2023 accomplishments along with the help of Warrensburg Public Works Department to include: Blind Boone Park – clearing of brush which made the park visible from the road, indoor & outdoor pool renovations, Hawthorne Park playground surface installation, Cave Hollow restroom renovations, entrance signs for all parks, assistance with the transition of Tennis Courts to Pickleball Courts at Grover Park, renovations & new fitness equipment at the Community Center fitness center, new ramp for the indoor pool, and the purchase of two new mowers & a sports field liner for maintenance.

Chris Deal provided a list of 2023-2024 projects to include: replace gymnasium pulley system for the basketball goals, parking lot repairs for Big Brothers Big Sisters, Lions Lake Christmas light decorations, building repairs within our park system, Community Center repairs, new Park Maintenance mower, and tree cameras for vandalism control.

Chris Deal noted that some of the goals for Parks & Recreation include Sensory Garden/Trail at Hawthorne Park, develop a 5-10 year Capital Improvement Plan, Input from all staff on future park needs, Review Master Plan, Discuss 1/8th cent sales tax to add to the current 3/8th cent sales tax for the future department growth and Parks & Recreation services for the City of Warrensburg.

Jason Duffey and other Park Board members questioned where the creek is located at Hawthorne Park and if a barrier of some sort would need to be provided to protect patrons if a sensory trail was added to the park. Jason noted that he has asked Chris Deal, Brett Penrose with the City of Warrensburg and Johnson County Board of Services to check if the park is in a flood plain or what accommodations needed to consider the placement of a sensory trail at Hawthorne Park.

c) Recreation Committee Report

Ernest Graydon noted the Recreation Committee met with the recreation staff to go over programs & projects that have been done this year as well as what is planned for the next budget year. The committee was excited about some of the new programs for this next year.

The recreation staff provided updates on their areas as noted in the Director's report.

8) Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

9) New Business

No new business.

10) Director's Report

Chris Deal reported that Nassif pool hours have been extended for weekends only through Labor Day. Scott Holmberg continues to work on the new park entrance signs landscaping project. He noted that mulch is placed around the bottom of the signs at Cave Hollow & Grover Park. Scott will begin planting when the weather gets cooler. Chris thanked the Park Boards approval of the budget & noted that City Council will have two final readings in September for final approval.

Jason Duffey asked for an update on the Pickleball courts. Chris noted that the posts have been removed & work will begin on the resurfacing soon. The timeline is to have it completed by the end of September. Chris also noted that the cracks in the seams at the skatepark will be filled as soon as possible.

11) Appearances to the Park Board not listed on the Agenda

No appearances to the Board.

12) Park Board Comments

Joshua Greene stated that he appreciated the transparency of the budget process. Brandon Campbell stated that he appreciated working with Chris Deal for swim practice times at the Community Center for the high school as he is the new high school swim coach. Jason Duffey thanked everyone for their hard work.

13) Adjournment

Jason Duffey made a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 610.021 RSmo.' Relating to (1) Legal actions, causes of action or litigation involving a public governmental body and any confidential or privileged communication between a public governmental body or its representatives and its attorneys.

Adjournment (at the conclusion of the closed session)

Jason Duffey – Yes, Ernest Graydon – Yes, Brandon Campbell – Yes, Erica Collins – Yes, Shawnacy Johnson – Yes, Joshua Greene – Yes, Claude Owen – Yes. Approval 7-0



Jason Duffey, President



Submitted by Carrie Battles