

\*\*\* All present are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with our City's Core Values \*\*\*



## OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

### AMENDED

of a meeting of a City Board, Commission, Department Committee, Agency, Corporation, Quasi-Municipal Corporation or Sub-unit thereof.

Notice is hereby given that the Park and Recreation Committee of the City of Wausau, Wisconsin will hold a regular or special meeting on the date, time and location shown below.

Meeting of the: **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE OF THE CITY OF WAUSAU**  
Date/Time: **Monday, February 6, 2023 at 4:30pm**  
Location: **City Hall (407 Grant St, Wausau WI 54403) - Council Chambers**  
Members: **Dawn Herbst, Carol Lukens, Tom Kilian, Lou Larson, Sarah Watson**

AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION (All items listed may be acted upon)

- 1 Call the Meeting to Order
- 2 Public Comment or Suggestions
- 3 Approve Minutes - December 5, 2022
- 4 Discussion and Review of the 2022 Parks, Recreation & Forestry Department's Year In Review
- 5 Discussion and Review of the 2023 Parks, Recreation & Forestry Work Plan
- 6 Educational Items
  - A. Park Updates (Eau Claire River Conservancy, Ice Rinks, Sylvan Tubing, Urban Forestry and Yawkey Park)
  - B. Riverside Park Remediation Update
  - C. **Skate Park Design Survey Open Until February 20, 2023**
- 7 Future Agenda Items -
- 8 Next Meeting Date - March 6, 2023, 4:30pm, 407 Grant St, Wausau WI 54403 - Council Chambers
- 9 Adjournment

Jamie Polley, Director

Members of the public who do not wish to appear in person may view the meeting live over the internet on the City of Wausau's YouTube Channel <http://www.tinyurl.com/WausauCityCouncil>, live by cable TV, Channel 981, and a video is available in its entirety and can be accessed at <https://tinyurl.com/WausauCityCouncil>. Any person wishing to offer public comment who does not appear in person to do so, may e-mail [Jamie.polley@co.marathon.wi.us](mailto:Jamie.polley@co.marathon.wi.us) with "Parks Committee public comment" in the subject line prior to the meeting start. All public comment, either by email or in person, if agendaized, will be limited to items on the agenda at this time. The messages related to agenda items received prior to the start of the meeting will be provided to the Chair.

In accordance with the requirements of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), the City of Wausau will not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities on the basis of disability in its services, programs or activities. If you need assistance or reasonable accommodations in participating in this meeting or event due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please call the ADA Coordinator at (715) 261-6590 or [ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us](mailto:ADAServices@ci.wausau.wi.us) to discuss your accessibility needs. We ask your request be provided a minimum of 72 hours before the scheduled event or meeting. If a request is made less than 72 hours before the event the City of Wausau will make a good faith effort to accommodate your request.

This Notice was posted at City Hall and transmitted to the Daily Herald newsroom on 2/2/2023 @ 2:45 p.m. Questions regarding this agenda may be directed to Jodi Luebbe, Park Office (715) 261-1560.

Distribution List: City Website, Media, WSD-Admin, Alderpersons, Mayor, Polley, Dept. Staff, Maryanne Groat, Brad Lenz, Eric Lindman, Lance Leonhard, Wisconsin Woodchucks, Wausau Events, Public Access, Wausau River District

**DRAFT**

**CITY OF WAUSAU – PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Date/Time: December 5, 2022 at 4:30 p.m. Location: Council Chambers, City Hall

Members Present: Dawn Herbst (c), Carol Lukens, Sarah Watson, Lou Larson

Members Excused: Tom Kilian

Others Present: Jamie Polley-Parks Director, Mark Macdonald-Wausau Woodchuck owner, Ryan Treu-Wausau Woodchucks General Manager

1. In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. A quorum was present and the meeting was called to order by Chair Herbst at 4:30pm.
2. Public Comment or Suggestions – none brought forward
3. Approve Minutes – November 7, 2022 – **Motion** by Watson, second by Lukens to approve the Park and Recreation Committee draft November 7, 2022 minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 3-0.
4. Discussion and Possible Action Approving the Installation of Infield Synthetic Turf at Athletic Park – Polley explained that the Wausau Woodchucks have submitted a proposal to install Astro Turf in the infield and infield foul territory sections of Athletic Park. Additionally, they propose to bring a Division Collegiate Summer Softball team to Wausau (Woodchuck version of Softball) in the summer of 2024. Polley discussed the pros and cons of changing the field to synthetic turf. Staff had checked with all the users of Athletic Park and overall, the organizations support the change and do not see it negatively impacting their usage. Polley said along with the turf that the Woodchucks would also purchase the recommended groomer/sweeper to maintain the field. The infield areas should last ten to twelve years with proper care. Currently, Athletic Park is not considered high usage so it is anticipated that the life expectancy could be longer.

Larson arrived at 4:45 p.m.

Macdonald felt this would be a very good opportunity for the Wausau area and would give women college age athletes the same opportunity as the men. It would also benefit other outside users. Lukens while supportive also raised some concerns about the environmental impacts of artificial turf. She was interested in how it affected the landfill. Macdonald and Treu spoke about the Astroturf product itself and some things that are done with turf waste. **Motion** by Larson, second by Watson to move the project of the installation of infield synthetic turf at Athletic Park on to City Council. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.

5. Educational Items

A. Park Updates – Snowmaking – snowmaking has started at Sylvan Tubing Hill, if the temperature cooperates for the continuation of snowmaking, we hope to be open by December 16th. Holiday Trees – Holiday trees are up downtown. City Hall will be up as soon as the City staff installs the stand. Playground Surfacing – New playground surfacing has been installed at River Highlands and Westview Terrace. Athletic Park Video Board Prep – Prep work is complete for the videoboard installation next spring at Athletic Park. Memorial Bench – A memorial bench was completed at Fern Island.

B. Riverside Park Remediation Update – Waste determination and excavation boundary analytical results for the landfill waste determination and the initial excavation boundary samples information was provided. Additional samples were taken on November 23<sup>rd</sup> and the City is waiting on those results. As long as the area is defined with the latest round of sampling then the project should be able to be bid in Jan/Feb 2023.

C. Native Planting Project on Barker Stewart Island – Marathon County Conservation, Planning and Zoning Dept has received a Wisconsin Lakes Grant to assist in shoreland restoration efforts on Barker Stewart Island. A shoreland restoration project began in 2019 and will continue in another area in 2023. Staff will work with CPZ on this small area in 2023. In the future if the project becomes larger in scope a separate proposal may be brought to the Parks and Recreation Committee for review.

6. Future Agenda Items – none brought forward

7. Next Meeting Date – **Motion** by Larson, second by Lukens to cancel the January meeting unless any actionable items arise. **Motion carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0. The next regular scheduled meeting will be Monday, February 6, 2023 at 4:30pm in Council Chambers at City Hall, 407 Grant St., Wausau WI 54403.

8. Adjournment – **Motion** by Watson, second by Larson to adjourn at 5:20 pm. **Motion carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.

## **AGENDA SUMMARY**

4. Discussion and Possible Action Approving the 2022 Department Year in Review Report  
2022 was an extremely busy year with high park usage and a number of projects. Staff has gathered information on the work completed in 2022 and is providing the Committee with an overview.

No action is requested.

5. Discussion and Possible Action Approving the 2023 PRF Department Workplan  
The 2023 work plan for the department is attached. The Committee is asked to review and provide comments on the work plan.

No action is requested.

6. Educational Items

6A. Park Updates

- Eau Claire River Conservancy – 2 of three boardwalks have been installed
- Ice Rinks at 400 Block and Thom Field are open and in good condition
- Sylvan Tubing in good condition. Continued staffing difficulties
- Urban Forestry: Cleaned up from ice damage in December
  - Additional EAB finds, primarily on the west side of Wausau
  - Finding evidence of treatment working. Have removed healthy trees that were treated and found evidence of old borer damage
- Yawkey Park – Cleaning statue

6B. Riverside Park Remediation Update

The area of needed remediation has been fully delineated, both vertically and horizontally. REI is preparing the plans and specifications for bidding the remediation work. Work will include clearing and grubbing of all trees and brush within the delineated area, removal of contaminated soil to the landfill, removal of the stormwater culvert, use of clean fill for backfilling and landscaping, necessary riprap and seeding and mulching. Once this plan is prepared and approved by the WDNR, the plan will need to be brought to finance and council for a budget modification and approval. At this time there is no timeline from REI or the DNR, however we anticipate bidding this project in the spring.



# Wausau & Marathon County Parks, Recreation & Forestry



## 2022 Year in Review

In 2022 our parks saw a significant increase in usage for a third year in a row compared to years prior to COVID-19. During the COVID-19 pandemic our citizens continued to explore our 3,401 acres of parkland and 30,714 acres of County Forest to recreate.

**-Our department has 44 FTE and 150+ seasonals.**

**-General operating budget of \$7,150,384 in expenditures and \$2,754,948 in revenues**

**- SUCCESSFUL FIRST ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT APRIL 16, 2022**

**- SECURED 5 YEAR SPONSORSHIP BY FESTIVAL FOODS FOR THE PLAYGROUND OF PEOPLES SPORTS COMPLEX**

**- PLANTED 403 TREES, REMOVED 437 NON-ASH TREES (MANY FROM STORM DAMAGE) & 312 ASH TREES, TREATED 873 ASH (1/3 OF CITY)**

**-NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IN RIVERSIDE PARK, BIG EAU PLEINE PARK AND DELLS OF EAU CLAIRE PARK**

**- PARTICIPATED IN THE UPDATE/APPROVAL OF THE RIB MOUNTAIN STATE PARK MASTER PLAN**

**- 896 SHELTER RENTAL DAYS BOOKED AND 280 DAYS BOOKED (INCLUDING SETUP AND TEAR DOWN) FOR EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**- MOWED 308.5 ACRES AND 81,920 FT OF TRAILS**

**- 2433 TOTAL SEASON PASSES SOLD (DISC GOLF, BIKING, BOAT LAUNCH, SKI, RANGE, ETC)**

**- BEGAN WINTER SWIMMING LESSONS AND WATER EXERCISE AT THE NCHC INDOOR POOL**

### TIMBER SALES

9 sales sold totaling 623 acres with  
19,661 cords

**\$790,176.00**

Gross revenue

\$553,124 Net Revenue to County



### CAMPING

Camping had another busy  
season

Gross Revenue \$267,684

**9%** 

Increase in revenue over what was  
budgeted.

### NEW ROAD @ BIG EAU PLEINE



**3.4 Miles**

### WESTSIDE MASTER PLAN

Community input and year long  
planning process





## 2022 Year in Review - Projects

### CITY PARK PROJECTS

- 34 PARKS, 26,000 STREET TREES
- RECEIVED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FOR LINCOLN TOT LOT PLAYGROUND
- VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AT BARKER STEWART ISLAND 
- PREPARED FOR ATHLETIC PARK VIDEO SCOREBOARD INSTALLATION
- RECEIVED BALANCE OF CATASTROPHIC STORM GRANT \$15,374.50
- CITY DOG PARK SHELTER COMPLETED, SPONSORSHIP SIGNS INSTALLED
- 9 MEMORIAL BENCHES INSTALLED
- MOVIN WITH THE MAYOR EVENTS – BOLLYWOOD DANCE PARTY, SNOW TUBING, DOG WALK
- 751 SWIMMING LESSON STUDENTS, ADDED EVENING LESSONS (50% INCREASE AGAIN)
- SERVED APPROXIMATELY 38,565 PATRONS AT POOLS, SOLD 791 ANNUAL SWIM PASSES
- ADDED ESPORTS PROGRAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH NTC ESPORTS – 67 PARTICIPANTS
- RESTRUCTURED ADOPT A PARK PROGRAM
- HELD TWO POP UP SPLASH PADS WITH THE WAUSAU FIRE DEPARTMENT
- HOSTED 1ST SKATE JAM IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CENTRAL BOARD SHOP
- INSTALLED ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICE AT THE 400 BLOCK
- REPAIRED THE 400 BLOCK STAGE PILLARS
- CO2 INJECTOR SYSTEMS INSTALLED AT THE POOLS
- ENGINEERED WOOD FIBERS WERE INSTALLED AT RIVER HIGHLANDS & WESTVIEW TERRACE
- MASONRY WORK COMPLETED AT STEWART PARK ON THE WALLS AND STEPS
- PARTNERED W/ CITIZENS TO REMOVE INVASIVE SPECIES ON BLUFF OF MEMORIAL PARK
- WORKED WITH CITIZENS TO PLANT TREES AT MEMORIAL PARK FOR EARTH DAY

### COUNTY PARK/FOREST PROJECTS

- 17 COUNTY PARKS AND 10 COUNTY FOREST UNITS
- INSTALLED BIG EAU PLEINE VAULT TOILET
- LIGHTING UPGRADE IN ICE RINK 1 OF THE ICE ARENA
- VESTIBULE HEATERS INSTALLED AT ICE ARENA
- ICE ARENA BRINE PUMP REPLACED
- ICE ARENA ROOF MEMBRANE REPAIRED
- PAVED THE ROAD OF MISSION LAKE PARK
- PLANNED AND ORDERED PLAYGROUNDS FOR CHEROKEE, BLUE GILL BAY & MISSION LAKE
- COMPLETED UPDATE TO SUNNYVALE SOFTBALL COMPLEX FENCES, CONCESSION, ETC.
- SUCCESSFULLY PARTNERED WITH THE FAIR TO PROVIDE FAIR OPERATIONS
- ACQUIRED 39.085 ACRES OF COUNTY PARK LAND TO ADD TO BROKAW PARK
- NEW DECKING ON DELLS OF EAU CLAIRE HIGH BRIDGE
- REPLACED ROOFS OF CATTLE BARN 1 & 2
- PICKLEBALL FENCE REPAIRED
- PERRY'S FIRESIDE MEMORIAL AND WILCOX MEMORIAL INSTALLED AT NINE MILE
- IMPLEMENTED TRIAL FAT TIRE BIKE SEASON AT NINE MILE





# Wausau & Marathon County Parks, Recreation & Forestry

## 2023 Work Plan

### County CIP Projects



- DC Everest Restroom Replacement
- DEC Beach Parking Lot Paving
- Marathon Park Water System Update
- BEP Parking Lot Paving South Area

#### County Small Projects

- Blue Gill Bay dock replacement/redesign
- DEC group campground shelter removal
- DEC manger cabin update
- MPB lighting update
- Extend cart path at Peoples Sports Complex

#### Playground Replacements



- Lincoln Tot Lot
- Blue Gill Bay
- Cherokee
- Mission Lake
- Amco
- Marathon Park Campground

Coordinate and implement ARPA project(s) if approved



Plan 5 year CIP

### Forestry Work Plan

- Administer 22 timber sales on 1737 acres
- Site preparation for red pine planting
- Establish and advertise 600-625 acres of timber for sale
- Evaluate trial season of fat tire winter biking



#### Other Projects



- Install new drinking fountains
- New well at BEP
- Big Rapids dam repair or removal
- Press box replacement (SunnyVale & Brockmeyer)

Treat & remove ash trees  
-plant 400 + trees

Expand Recreation Programs & Events



Plan department consolidation



#### City Small Projects

- River Edge Trail paving and culvert replacement
- 3M trail construction
- Stewart Park west wall tuckpointing
- Pleasant View shelter roof
- Riverlife Sign installation & playground surface sealing
- Install final signage at dog park

#### City CIP Projects

- Redesign and build Skatepark
- Replace Oak Island Restroom

Nine Mile  
-Garage renovation  
-Boiler line replacement

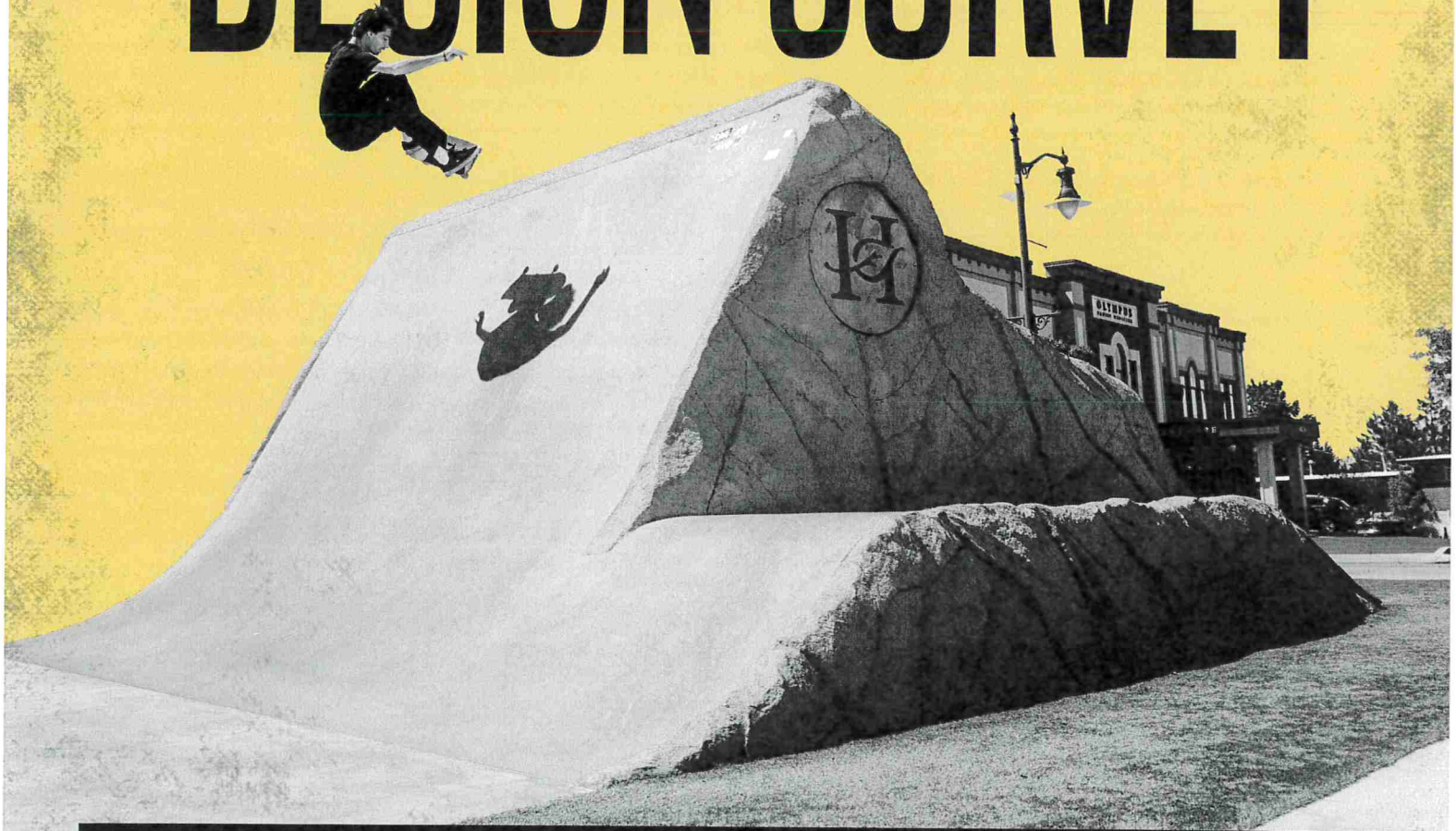
#### Plans to Complete

- Levy Support Analysis (Sustainability)
- Rib Falls Master Plan
- Ice Arena/Indoor Sports Feasibility CIP Request



Secure Field Sponsors  
PSC

OAK ISLAND PARK WAUSAU, WI  
**SKATEPARK  
DESIGN SURVEY**



**HELP SHAPE THE REDESIGN OF THE WAUSAU SKATEPARK**

***TAKE THE ONLINE DESIGN SURVEY***

**SURVEY LIVE  
THURSDAY FEB 2ND THRU  
MONDAY FEB 20TH**



**OR VISIT:  
*BIT.LY/WAUSAUSKATEPARK***

