

**DRAFT**

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

Date/Time: May 1, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. Location: Council Chambers, City Hall

Members Present: Dawn Herbst (c), Lou Larson, Tom Kilian, Carol Lukens

Excused: Sarah Watson

Others Present: Jamie Polley-Parks Director, Eric Lindman – Public Works Director

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 – April 3, 2023 – **Motion** by Larson, second by Kilian to approve the Park and Recreation Committee draft April 3, 2023 minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.
4. Discussion and Possible Action Approving Sylvan Hill Bike Park Improvements – Polley explained CWOCC has submitted a proposal to complete maintenance work to Sylvan Hill mountain biking trails. Improvements include maintenance to high volume traffic trails that include Bad Rabbit and Sylvan’s Loop. A Request For Proposal was sent out to three companies and advertised on April 10<sup>th</sup>. One proposal was received from Main Line Trail Construction. CWOCC will fund these improvements and is not requesting any funding from the City. **Motion** by Lukens, second by Kilian to approve the work to be completed and authorize staff to execute an agreement with Main Line Trail Construction. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.
5. Discussion and Possible Action Supporting the 2024 Capital Improvement Request – Polley brought projects for Committee’s review. She provided pictures and discussed the projects which include Sylvan Hill and Riverside Park parking lot reconstruction, tennis court resurfacing, River Highlands playground replacement, Athletic Park elevator replacement, and Athletic Park stone wall and pillar maintenance. Questions were answered and members discussed what projects they viewed as priorities.
6. Educational Items
  - A. Park Updates – Park Maintenance – Barker-Stewart bridge decking replacement is nearly complete. Playground inspections have been complete for the spring opening, daily maintenance. Preparing pools to start filling in 2 weeks. Scholfield Parking lot resurfacing with road base is completed. Water meters are being installed and staff is starting up park restrooms and shelters. Tennis nets installed at Oak Island. Spring/Summer Recreation Guide – The Spring/Summer Recreation guide is now 100% digital and can be viewed on the department website. To date the department has received positive feedback of this new change. The digital version allows staff to update the information as needed so that the most current information is available to the community. Athletic Fields – Ballfield use has begun. Boileau outfield fence is done along with turf work in the ball diamond. Athletic Park-video board is near complete, waiting on netting, power to scoreboard will be in this week, working to install Pace of Play Clocks. Urban Forestry – Earth day fruit orchard planting complete in 10<sup>th</sup> Street Park (17 fruit trees), tree planting has started in the boulevards and parks, EAB is being identified in all areas of the city, removals continue.
  - B. Skate Park Update -The skate park design is close to completion. On September 13, 2022 the City Council approved the contract with Spohn Ranch to complete the skate park design. The design process began in January of 2023. Public input meetings were held on February 2, 2023 and March, 2023. In addition, two public surveys were available for community members to provide their input online. The resounding feedback from the community members that completed the surveys and/or attended the meetings was to make the skate park have a street skating feel meaning that the park would have ramps, stairs, rails etc. and include elements for all abilities and ages. The feedback also showed a strong desire to include the current skate park equipment with new concrete features. The existing skate park equipment will need most of the surfacing replaced. Staff and members of the skateboard community are currently working with Spohn Ranch to hone in the design and cost estimate. Based on final design, additional fundraising may be necessary prior to bidding the project for construction.

C. Riverside Park Remediation Update – The City Council approved the budget amendment to fund the remediation work on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. The City Engineer will work with the contractor to establish the schedule for completing the work. Lindman answered questions from Kilian. Kilian discussed why he felt this work was important for the community and a positive step forward.

7. Future Agenda Items – none brought forward

8. Next Meeting Date – The next regular scheduled meeting will be Monday, June 5, 2023 at 4:30pm in Council Chambers at City Hall, 407 Grant St., Wausau WI 54403.

9. Adjournment – **Motion** by Larson, second by Kilian to adjourn at 5:05pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 4-0.