

Attendance: Mike Clendenen, Steve Harants, Leon Davis, Bruce Bestul, Tonya Faupel, Teresa Hatten, Joe Guise, Nick, Goranson, Angela Daniel, Shelia Berning

Guests: Colleen Simons, Jeff Turner, Steve McMichael, Deb Smith, MYAC

PARK BOARD MEETING

Minutes

Monday February 1, 2021

6:00 P.M.

Location: **New Haven Community Center**

1. Call to Order

Leon Davis called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

A. Please Silence Cell Phones, Pagers, and Electronic Devices

B. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Minutes

- Bruce Bestul made a motion to approve the January 4, 2021 minutes. Tonya Faupel seconded. Motion carried.

3. Approval of Claims

- Tonya Faupel presented the 2/1/2021 claims as follows:
Monthly Claims: \$16,079.46
Payroll on 1/4 and 1/19 totaling \$55,596.11
Prepays totaling \$6,212.92
Grand total of Claims: \$77,888.49

Mike Clendenen explained two of the claims paid this month: MKM Architecture \$1,020.00 for Marylands Farm Master Plan, Etica Group \$2,725.00 for Werling Park Master Plan

Tonya Faupel made a motion to accept the claims. Bruce Bestul seconded. Motion carried.

4. Special Guests: Mayor's Youth Advisory Council

MYAC has been meeting since October 2020. They requested permission to upgrade the gazebo at Canal Landing Park as their project this year. They will work with Nick Goranson for supplies and equipment. Bruce Bestul made a motion to allow MYAC to update the Canal Landing Park gazebo. Tonya Faupel seconded. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Marylands Farm Discussion

Mike Clendenen said that they are finalizing the Master Plan to bring to the Park Board in March. The deed to the farm has been finalized.

2. Werling Park Master Plan Presentation

Mike Clendenen presented the Master Plan for Werling Park. He feels that a plan is needed so that we might take advantage of any opportunities for financial support, etc. that may present themselves in the future. He also explained that the Bradford Pear trees at the park were cut down. These trees are invasive and detrimental to native species. They will be replaced with trees that are better for the ecosystem.

3. Community Center Park Agreement

Mike Clendenen stated that the bids for the park are out. We should receive them back by 2/11/2021. The park is being financed as part of the Stellar Communities Program. An interlocal agreement has been drawn up between the Parks Dept. and the City of New Haven stating that the City will help pay for construction of the park and equipment used there and the Parks Dept. will maintain and insure the park. Tonya Faupel made a motion to accept this agreement. Bruce Bestul seconded. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. 2020 Annual Report

Mike Clendenen presented the 2020 Annual Report commenting that the entire report is online on the Parks Dept. website. He discussed the Parks' finances for 2020 and said, "We had a very good year for what we had to deal with. We will keep being good stewards."

2. Truck Purchase

The Parks Dept. currently has 12 vehicles, 5 of which are from the 1990's. Mike Clendenen passed out an inventory of the vehicles that prioritizes replacement times. He recommends purchasing a new 2020 4-wheel drive ¾ ton pickup truck from O'Daniel for approximately \$31,000 to replace a 1990 2-wheel drive, ¾ ton pickup now being used by our Maintenance Dept. Both Chevrolet & Ford have cutoff 2021 truck orders, this is one in stock from a local dealer. Discussion followed. Tonya Faupel made a motion to accept the recommendation. Teresa seconded. Motion carried. A motion was also made by Bruce Bestul to have the 1995 S10 Chevy truck declared to have no value and scrapped. Teresa Hatten seconded. Motion carried.

3. 2021 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Forms

Two Disclosure Forms were presented: Angela Daniel's husband, Joshua Daniel, works for Lee's Outdoor Power and Natalie Rider's husband, Rob Rider, works for Service Electric. The Parks Dept. does business with both. Bruce Bestul made a motion to accept these Disclosure Forms. Teresa Hatten seconded. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- Mike Clendenen announced that the Citizens' Academy will begin meeting on March 1, 2021 at the Community Center for a 12-week session. This is a very informative class. Anyone interested in attending, can sign up on the City's website. Mike recommended that the electric boxes located at Schnelker Park be fenced because they present a danger to children playing and have been hit by vehicles during events held at the park. The quote from R & C Fence is \$7,890.00. Bruce Bestul moved to accept the quote from R & C Fence. Tonya Faupel seconded. Motion carried.

OFFICE MANAGER'S REPORT:

- A Resolution was presented: Received \$227.33 from St. Joseph Community Health Foundation in compensation for the Healing Seeds Grant. Angela Daniel explained that the Parks received a \$1,000 grant in 2020 to provide Healthy Meal Kits with 3 meals each for 50 seniors and 50 school age children. This is compensation for the additional money spent to provide these meals. Bruce Bestul moved to accept this Resolution. Teresa Hatten seconded. Motion carried.

RECREATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Angela Daniel reported that the 2021 programs are getting off to a good start. Busy Bees, Daddy Daughter Dance are planned and happening. The Mother Son Nerf War is rescheduled from 2020 for March 27, 2021. Hopefully, we will be able to hold this event. It depends on COVID restrictions as it will be hard to social distance. The Program Guide for January to April 2021 is

online on the Parks' website. Have been printing and mailing the senior bimonthly newsletter, The Hickory News. Motor Coach trips are being well received. We are partnering with Diamond Tours this year. Angela has an intern, Bree Bestul, from Purdue. She is doing well and has been a big help.

MAINTENANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Nick Goranson reported that Maintenance has been keeping up with the following issues among other things: Working at Jury to get ready for the pool season; cutting invasive trees down at Werling; answering questions about the baseball, football, soccer fields and this week plowing and clearing snow. The New Haven Reforestation (Miyawaki) Tree Project is getting national publicity and all the trees to be planted there have been purchased.

FITNESS MANAGER'S REPORT:

- Joe Guise reported that the new fees have been implemented and are so far being accepted. Pickle ball reservations can now be made online and classes for Pickle ball will begin in March. Child Watch began today. The new Fitness brochure is under construction.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- No report

GUEST COMMENTS:

- Collen Simons commented that more information about the Miyawaki Tree Project can be found online on New Haven Tree Commission's Facebook page. Jeff Turner, City Councilman for the 2nd District, introduced himself. He will be the liaison between the City and the Parks for this year. He said that he is passionate about parks. Mayor Steve McMichael thanked Mike and the staff for meeting the challenges of COVID. He especially commended Angela for being creative in designing programs during this time. He also thanked the Board members for their time commitment.

BOARD COMMENTS:

- None

ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Attested by: _____ Signed by: _____