

Chikaming Township Park Board Regular Meeting - APPROVED

November 23, 2020

Electronic meeting via Zoom and In-Person

The November 23, 2020 meeting of the Park Board was called to order at 6:32PM by Acting Chair Arthur Anderson. Also present were board members Shelly Taylor, Kathy Sellers, Sherri Curry, and Garth Taylor, along with members of the community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by Anderson

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Moved by Anderson to approve the agenda as amended, Supported by G. Taylor. Roll call vote:

G. Taylor - yes

Curry - yes

Sellers - yes

Anderson - yes

S. Taylor - yes

5 yes, 0 no, motion carried

NEW MEMBER SHORT STATEMENT:

G. Taylor - Has driven by HCP everyday for 35 years, head of Music School in Three Oaks, looking to build a cooperative team and he's all-in to work together.

Curry - Harbert resident, frequents Cherry Beach and the dog park. Looking forward to working with all members and thanks to those who have already served.

S. Taylor - born and raised here, now raising a family here and loves to serve in this capacity for her community. Thanks to those who voted for her to be on for a second term.

Sellers - Has already served 8 years on the board and is looking forward to another good 4 years, she has learned a lot from mistakes and looks forward to being in agreement on what we can spend.

Anderson - thanks to all who voted for him, hopes to serve everyone well, and welcome to new members.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

John Chipman was involved in the changes in Union Pier, linear parkway is coming to Harbert, loves Chikaming Park and Preserve. He'd like to endorse Steve Ellis as an appointed park board candidate. They've done lots of riding together and would bring tremendous value in connecting all efforts. Encourages the board to appoint him.

Jill Underhill hopes the new board carries on the Christmas décor at Harbert Community Park and also the flowers in the summer.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Nomination

Anderson nominated by Curry

S. Taylor nominated by Anderson - declined.

Roll Call vote:

G. Taylor - yes

Curry - yes

Sellers - yes

Anderson - yes

S. Taylor - yes

5 yes, 0 no, motion carried

Vice Chair Nomination

Motion by Anderson to postpone this position nomination until we have full board, Supported by S. Taylor, no objections, Motion Carried.

Secretary

S. Taylor nominated by Sellers. Motion by Anderson for S. Taylor to be secretary, Supported by G. Taylor, no objections, Motion Carried.

Treasurer

Sellers nominated by S. Taylor. Motion by Anderson for Sellers to be named Treasurer, Supported by G. Taylor, no objections, Motion Carried.

Motion by Anderson for each member of the board to give a recommendation of two names to be appointed to the board – Frank Tomecek, Joseph Reed, Jocelyn VerLee, Steve Ellis. Supported by Sellers, no objection, Motion Carried.

Those present were invited to make a statement.

Steve Ellis – Volunteered for years in an organization similar to Chikaming Open Lands, member of Shorewood Hills, consumer of services and land in Chikaming Township, interested in connection of all of the properties with other townships.

Jocelyn VerLee – Invested in the area, looking at protection, maintenance, and growth. She has fresh eyes on what new people are seeing here, admires our passion and sees a great team that is forming.

Roll Call Vote:

S. Taylor – Steve & Jocelyn

Anderson - Steve & Jocelyn

Sellers – Jocelyn and Joseph

Curry - Steve & Jocelyn

G. Taylor - Steve & Jocelyn

4 votes Steve, 1 vote Joseph, 5 votes Jocelyn. The Park Board recommends Steve Ellis and Jocelyn VerLee. All 4 letters of interest will go to board of trustees now, and we will send Steve and Jocelyn as our recommendations. They should be voting on Dec. 10 at 6:30PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: No objections, Minutes Approved

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Sellers reviewed report - \$324, 532.16 balance, with placeholder of \$250,000. So, currently have \$74, 301.95, with bills coming in. We should stop spending on March 1, and is glad to talk to anyone at another time if anyone has questions.

G. Taylor had questions about what is included in broad categories – can email Sellers or Anderson.

Verlee curious about changes of amounts from year to year, will have access to One-Drive soon to look over past budgets.

REPORTS

Previously approved minutes are in folder

Proposed township minutes are in folder

Josh's work report is in folder

No parks and beaches reports

Ice Rink – S. Taylor has corresponded with Rennie and he is on track to set it up again for us this year, as soon as this week. We will re-open it without party days to avoid any large gatherings. G. Taylor wondered how we monitor that, and also inquired as to how many days it is open and how many people use it, would like this tracked going forward. Rennie has this data from years past.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Deborah Hall-Kayler was acknowledged by Anderson for getting things going for him as he steps into roll of Chair. Anderson also acknowledged the outgoing board members for all the work they've done the past 4 years.

G. Taylor acknowledged the 2025 plan, saying it is a great document and the reason he wanted to be on the park board.

CORRESPONDENCE: All correspondence was marked as read

OLD BUSINESS:

Possibly repair stairs at Harbert Beach – estimate by Joe Sipek in amount of \$10,000. Pier St. Stairs could be repaired for amount of \$5,000. Need to see if any work needs to be done on Cherry after winter months.

TCU donation can be carried over into next year.

HCP - New trees are needed at the playground to block sun and vegetation is needed along the pond to detour children from going in.

G. Taylor inquired about budget meeting and thinking about fundraising in the future.

Parks Manager position closed on Nov. 19 and we have one known applicant – Lanny Ross. Lanny is finishing his degree tonight in Outdoor Recreational Leadership Management. He'd like to further everyone's enjoyment

of nature and parks. He has a construction background, can do repairs, and paint. He is available to start right away if hired, besides an upcoming knee surgery and a scheduled FL trip. He can possibly make a 2-year commitment to part-time but very possible if it goes to full-time.

A small interview committee will need be formed. Anderson moved to appoint an interview committee of 3 board members, Supported by Curry. No objections, Motion Carried. Volunteers for interview committee are G. Taylor, Curry, and Anderson.

Rubber Stops at Cherry Beach – Anderson moved to purchase 27 rubber stops with in-ground spikes from Traffic Safety Store, in amount of \$1,800 which includes shipping, Supported by G. Taylor. Curry suggested we wait until Spring. Road commission has already been talked to about caring for them. It's in the budget for this year already so we should buy those now at this price and store in the shed.

Roll Call Vote:

S. Taylor - yes

Anderson - yes

Sellers - yes

Curry - yes

G. Taylor - yes

5 yes, 0 no, Motion Carried.

Re-staining the pavilion at Lakeside Triangle Park needs to be postponed now since Christmas decorations are up. Discussion will be put off for a future meeting because of this. No objections to postponing vote and discussion.

Motion by Anderson to change the date of the next meeting since it is schedule for an inconvenient time, between Christmas and New Year. Could be either Dec. 14 or 21. The 21st gives us more wiggle room with budget prep. Moved by Anderson to change the scheduled December meeting date from the 28th to the 21st at 6:30PM, Supported by Sellers, No objections, Motion Carried.

QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

Fran Wersells attended the Coastline Resiliency Meeting and has a link to the video in her report, which Anderson will forward to us. Says it was brilliant and David should be commended for it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The scheduled Christmas Caroling event is cancelled, due to COVID. Curry suggested we relocate it to HCP since its larger, this is something we will discuss further.

Verlee suggested the consolidation of other groups to help an effort that the Park Board would like to make. Sellers suggested a "Friends of the Park." Might be a good thing and she is for the idea. G. Taylor agrees on building a broader group, will be a good strategic discussion to have. Sellers will discuss with Bunte. Verlee is anxious to meet and move forward on securing donations.

ADJOURN MEETING: The meeting was adjourned at 8:04PM with no objections.

Congratulations was given to the new members.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelly Taylor