

Chikaming Township Park Board Regular Meeting – APPROVED

December 13, 2021

Chikaming Township Large Meeting Room

The December 13, 2021 regular meeting of the Park Board was called to order at 6:33PM by Chair Arthur Anderson. Also present were board members Kathy Sellers, Sherri Curry, Steve Ellis, Garth Taylor, Jill Underhill and Shelly Taylor, along with members of the community both in-person and via Zoom.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM:** Led by Anderson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** No objections, Approved

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Joseph Reed – would like confirmation that park board is seeking Site Plan Approval from Chikaming Township Planning Commission as well as Special Land Use Permits for outdoor music venue construction, and wants to know when the park board will seek these required approvals.

Don Bridgman – Erosion at Harbert under stairs goes back 4 feet. Sand tube system \$18,000 would do a good job.

Pius Stoncius - Thanks for quick response to emails from Donna, very appreciate of phone call.

Lydia – parking at beach concern regarding Union Pier parcel, curious of zoning change.

Marius Stropus – thank you for contacting wife Saturday.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION:** Enrico Heirman sharing experiences and insights

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Caroling – Sherri, Kathy, Shelly, Harbor Country Singers, Alex, Dave Johnson, Franchesca, Greg Nelson. Josh and Alex worked on lighting at the parks.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** November Regular Meeting Minutes, No objections, Approved

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** \$57,300.25 is current balance.

**REPORTS:** In packet

Manager Alex – Lights are up and he’s addressing issues from inspection report with Josh.

Donations – digital donations, Alex recommends Venmo and PayPal, Separate checking account for these.

Harbert Community Park – Due diligence and conversation around contract, Rich Sullivan will send names of contractors for platform work at dog park.

Ice Rink – Amy Baumgartner has connection to get skates sharpened for \$3 a pair, Sherri and Alex will box up skates, advertise more about free skates - lettered onto banner, River Valley Elementary newsletter, signs at township, Alex will talk to Rennie about learning how to set up rink to potentially do it next year with Josh.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** In packet, marked as read.

Scott Watson – master plan at next meeting so we have a vision

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Motion by Underhill to ask Abonmarche to draw up contract with Green Construction, Supported by Sellers.

Roll Call Vote:

S. Taylor – yes

Sellers – yes

Underhill – yes

G. Taylor – yes

Anderson - yes  
Ellis - yes  
Curry - yes

7 yes, 0 no, Motion Carried

2022-2023 budget - question about Alex being paid \$30,000 a year (\$18 per hour) and Josh being paid for 800 hours at \$14 an hour.

Motion by Anderson to budget \$30,000 for Parks Employee, Supported by Sellers.  
6 yes, 1 no, Motion Carried.

Motion by Underhill to reduce Josh's 800 hours but hire him if we need more hours and give him \$.75 raise so he makes \$14, Supported by Sellers.  
7 yes, 0 no, Motion Carried.

Anderson moved to open elections for upcoming year, starting on January 1, Supported by Underhill.

Chair - G. Taylor nominated Anderson, no objection to closing chair position, No objection to acclamation, Dually elected as incoming chair.

Vice Chair - Sellers nominated Underhill, no objection to closing, Motion to approve Underhill, No objection, Motion carried.

Treasurer - Underhill nominated Sellers, no objection to closing, Motion to elect Sellers by acclamation, No objection, Motion Carried.

Secretary - Underhill nominated S. Taylor, no objection to closing, Motion to elect S. Taylor by acclamation, No Objection, Motion Carried.

Union Pier Parcel - let owner know no bank shot basketball, Altamanu will sketch ideas for concept at park, doesn't want it to be a vacant lot so Chikaming Open Lands probably wouldn't be a good fit.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

MParks Conference March 2022 in Traverse City, let Arthur know if interested.

#### **QUESTION AND ANSWER:**

Enrico Heirman - Can park board get on board with Code-Red Alert for announcements?

Joseph Reed - Seeking approval plan from planning commission, yes, will do. Special Land Use permits needed to construct music venue, Anderson thinks Abonmarche will seek permits.

Rick Augustiniak - wants to buy Mr. Witt's property. He still wants to donate property or donate proceeds. Mr. Witt said money may be better served besides in the park district.

Pius Stoncius - commented the meeting was a fascinating lesson in small government civics.

Lidja - if you park there, can you use the beach? Anderson said owner could take it out of deed or township could remove. This would go through zoning process.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next regular meeting is January 24, 2022.

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:33PM with no objections.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelly Taylor