

Chikaming Township Park Board Regular Meeting – APPROVED

May 23, 2022

Chikaming Township Large Meeting Room

The May 23, 2022 of the Park Board was called to order at 6:30PM by Chair Jill Underhill. Also present were board members Garth Taylor, Steve Ellis, Sherri Curry, Kathy Sellers, and Shelly Taylor, along with members of the community both in-person and via Zoom.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Moved by Ellis, Supported by G. Taylor to adopt agenda as presented
All in favor: 6, Opposed: 0. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2022 PARK BOARD MEETING: Moved by Sellers, Supported by Ellis to approve minutes with adjustments made.
All in favor: 6, Opposed: 0. Motion Carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Balance is \$122,612.80.

Moved by Curry to approve \$350 for dog park event, based on past experience 2 years ago, No Support, Motion failed.

Moved by Underhill to approve \$200 for dog park event in June. Items requested will be sent to Alex in the form of a list and he’ll order from Amazon. Supported by Sellers. Discussion: Curry talked with TCU at Easter Egg Hunt. \$2,500 from TCU is a follow up from Curry’s ask. Ribbons cost \$175, bags of biscuits were purchased at Meijer.

All in favor: 5, Opposed: 1. Motion Carried

CORRESPONDENCE: In packet, marked as read.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Janet Schrader – Request open public meeting to address disconnect between park board and township board. Research dissolving board and making it appointed. Need public meeting or it will be on the ballot regardless. Thank you to all board members for their service.

OLD BUSINESS:

Harbert Community Park Phase 1

Moved by Sellers to approve Abonmarche’s \$1,000 change of scope plan, Supported by G. Taylor.

All in Favor: 6, Opposed: 0. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation Program Application – Reynolds family tree, township doesn’t allow cremated remains.

Moved by G. Taylor to plant tree in honor of deceased daughter, Supported by Ellis.

All in favor: 6, Opposed: 0. Motion Carried.

Park Board Image – Sellers does not want to see board dissolved. We have done amazing things without millage, and our image is damaged outside of meetings. Members need to stay quiet and not discuss negativity with public. When a motion is carried, let it be.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Janet Schrader – her comments were not a reflection of who serves but rather how the board is structured, and feels the park board should be an appointed board.

Joseph Reed – waited several months for response, none yet. Is there a timeline as to when Attorney Hilmer will respond? No transparency, and board has ended communication with Reeds. Very unnerving that he hasn’t heard back, would like answers and wants to know when he’ll hear back.

Underhill responded that Attorney Hilmer is working on letter, FOIA request has taken time.

Josh Higgins -Josh is very proud to be working for us, it's been a productive last 3 years, stairs were destroyed and then fixed, board is progressing.

Fran Wersells - no one is held accountable if board is appointed, please remain elected body.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Saturday, June 4 is Mountain Bike Trail clean-up from 10am-12pm. Bring your tools, bottled water and sports drinks provided.

June 27, 2022 is next regular meeting.

ADJOURN: Moved by Sellers, to adjourn at 7:27pm, Supported by Curry, No objections.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shelly Taylor