

Minot Park Board Meeting

October 18, 2022

The Minot Park Board met on October 18 at 6:30pm in room 203 of the Minot Municipal Auditorium. Members present: Ken Kitzman, Justin Hammer, Mike Schmitt, Perry Olson and Cliff Hovda. Ron Merritt and Elly DesLauriers were also present.

Personal Appearances:

Rod Wilson from the Downtown Business Association thanked the Minot Park Board for the flowers downtown. Wilson also expressed the DBPA support for the idea of a campground near Roosevelt Park and downtown. Wilson expressed concern for Logger Fest and the Fall Downtown Festival being held on the same day. Wilson stated that they have a new website with a calendar of events for the year ahead. Wilson would have hoped if Minot Parks would have known about the date of the Downtown Festival that they would not have held Logger Fest on the same day. Wilson hopes for collaboration in the future. Denise from Gourmet Chef stated that Oak Park Village is full and there is no extra room for parking for Minot Park events being held at Oak Park. Denise also would like to work with the Minot Park Board on more events for the community to enjoy but not overlapping with Downtown events.

Motion by Olson, second by Hammer to approve the minutes from the September 20 Minot Park Board meeting and the minutes from the October 4 Special Meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Schmitt, second by Hovda to approve the bills in the amount of \$ 2,166,191.24. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Motion by Hammer, second by Olson to approve the salaries in the amount of \$347,355.61. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Department Reports

Director of Operations, Jarrod Olson presented the snow removal plan for Corbett Field. Commissioner Olson appreciates the staff having a plan in place and believes the user groups will appreciate this as well. Commissioner Schmitt asked if there were concerns about the equipment on the turf. J.Olson stated they will space out their removals to avoid damage to the turf.

J. Olson presented bids for the restroom at the Souris Valley Golf Course. There was one bid from CXT in the amount of \$89,455.00.

Motion by Olson, second by Hovda to approve the bid from CXT in the amount of \$89,455.00. On roll call, all members voted yes.

Commissioner Olson thanked Junior Golf for their donation towards the restroom. Commissioner Schmitt asked if the current back restrooms would be removed. Executive Director, Ron Merritt said the budget will be close to get the restroom complete so the back restrooms will stay at this time.

Souris Valley Golf Course Superintendent, Mike Chrest reported the last day for the Souris Valley Golf Course will be October 30. Roosevelt Park Zoo Director, Jeffery Bullock had nothing to add to his written report. Commissioner Olson, commended Jeff on his great articles with the Minot Daily News. Maintenance Superintendent, James Burns reported the liner project for the Roosevelt Park Pool is underway. Adult Recreation Coordinator, Tom Landsiedel reported the Minot Y's Men Rodeo went

extremely well and the crew did a great job. Youth Recreation Coordinator, Ann Nesheim reported the Archery program filled up fast with only three spots remaining. Tennis Pro, Marc White reported that Cameron indoor has been steady with programs. Open Pickleball had 60-70 players this past week.

New Business

Mindy with Brady Martz reviewed the 2021 audit.

Commissioner Hovda asked Executive Director Merritt if there was a plan in place to stabilize our fund balance. Merritt reported they have a plan in place that will stabilize the fund balance while not being a burden to the taxpayers.

Commissioner Olson along with local pickleball players presented a plan to renovate Roosevelt Park tennis courts to 10 pickleball courts. Olson did visit with local tennis officials, and they stated those courts currently get used a very limited number of times throughout the year for tournaments. Local pickle ballers thanked the Minot Park District for their investment in Riverside Park and are excited for the possibility of Roosevelt Park. They travel to tournaments around the state, and they believe this has the potential to be the best pickleball facility in North Dakota. Merritt reported the staff has been working on some estimates and they will bring those along with a plan to the November board meeting.

Directors Report

Executive Director Merritt asked Bullock for an update on the leopard exhibit. Bullock reported that the electrical is near completion and asphalts walkways are in place. A-Z is working on getting the vertical poles set for netting and the guard rail fencing is nearing completion. Merritt also reported Minot Parks had been contacted by a property owner with three lots adjacent to Corbett Field they are looking to sell. Commissioner Hammer believes it is something Minot Parks should get more information on because of its location to the field. Commissioner Schmitt also believes it is something to look further into.

J. Olson gave an update on South Hill Complex. The building is well underway with siding, roofing and windows. They will be able to work inside until this is complete. Olson reported they switched netting companies and are waiting to approve design. It has been stressed to them this project needs to be completed for tournaments in the spring of 2023.

Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Hovda is pleased to hear of the proposed renovations at the Roosevelt Park tennis courts. He believes it will be a great return on investment.

President Kitzman believes the pickleball court renovations would be a great improvement to the parks system and engage new users.

Commissioner Hammer congratulation Cammi Campbell and Shannon Paul on their Eagle Awards through the Minot Chamber EDC.

Motion by Hovda, second by Olson to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Ken Kitzman, President

Elly DesLauriers, Clerk

